



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**APRIL 27, 2023 – OPEN SESSION**

The meeting was held at the Western Interdisciplinary Research Building, Room 3000 and on Zoom.

PRESENT: Keith Gibbons, Chair  
Amy Bryson, Secretary

Kenisha Arora	Stephen Pitel
Susan Bennett	Geoff Pollock
Wade Boye	Stephen Poloz
Arzie Chant	Cecil Rorabeck
Ethan Chen	Effie Sapuridis
Greg Dick	Alan Shepard
Lori Higgs	Sarah Shortreed (Vice-Chair)
Beth MacDougall- Shackleton	Michael Surkont
Marlene McGrath	Sam Trosow
	Ken Yeung

Regrets: Michelle Banik, Susan Clarke, Linda Hasenfratz, Josh Morgan, David Simmonds

By Invitation: Althea Blackburn-Evans, Bill Chantler, John Doerksen, Paul Eluchok, Louise Koza, Lynn Logan, Eric Mallory, Bryan Neff, Jane O'Brien, Jeff O'Hagan, Terry Rice

Secretariat Resource: Bonnie Brown

Chair K. Gibbons called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Land Acknowledgement**

W. Boye offered a land acknowledgement.

K. Gibbons, on behalf of the Board, congratulated E. Sapuridis for being awarded the Graduate Award of Merit by the Senior Women Academic Administrators of Canada. He also spoke to the success of the Engage Western event held April 11, 2023.

Moved by G. Pollock, seconded by S. Shortreed:

That the agenda for the open session be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

BG.23-42 **Approval of the Open Session Minutes of the Meeting of February 2, 2023**

Moved by C. Rorabeck, seconded by M. McGrath:

That the open session minutes of the meeting of February 2, 2023 be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

None.

BG.23-43 **Report of the President**

A. Shepard, President & Vice-Chancellor, reported on recent activities and events including the Engage Western event and the announcement of the new electric vehicle battery plant in St. Thomas. With respect to the latter, A. Shepard highlighted the strength of Western's research as a contributing factor leading Volvo to locate the plant in St. Thomas.

A. Shepard continued his report by describing the various donations to the University that have been announced recently.

In concluding, A. Shepard reported on the successful year and noted planning is already underway for Orientation Week. In response to a question, he confirmed the plan is to implement similar measures as those in place this past September.

On invitation of A. Shepard, B. Neff, Vice-President (Research), described Western's current contribution to the space program.

**AGENDA**

**COMMITTEE AND SENATE REPORTS**

**REPORT OF THE PROPERTY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**University Operating and Capital Budgets and Tuition Fees for 2023-2024**

On behalf of the Property and Finance Committee, G. Dick presented for approval Western's operating and capital budgets and tuition fees for 2023-24.

BG.23-44 **2023-24 University Operating and Capital Budgets**  
BG.23-45 **2023-24 Program Specific Fees and Other Supplemental Fees**

F. Strzelczyk, Provost & Vice-President (Academic), presented an overview of the 2023-24 operating budget.

F. Strzelczyk provided an overview of the budget context. Contextual factors such as projected student enrolment numbers, provincial operating grants, and domestic/international tuition fees were outlined. She further reported the operating budget was guided by the strategic plan priorities, faculty academic plans, and support unit operational plans. She advised the plan supports students, faculty, and staff; and ensures fiscal health and financial stability.

F. Strzelczyk provided an overview of key budget investments informed by the strategic plan and described their alignment to the three main themes of the strategic plan.

F. Strzelczyk provided a summary of the operating budget outlining the revenues and expenditures for 2023-2024.

L. Logan, Vice-President (Operations & Finance), provided an overview of the capital budget noting it supports Western's Long-Range Space plan and the strategic plan priorities. She described the major capital projects underway, those in the advanced planning phase, those soon to start, and those in various other planning stages. Expenditures for the 2023-2024 capital budget were outlined.

F. Strzelczyk responded to questions regarding out of province tuition fees, funding for student services, the impact the delay in the issuing of student visas could have on international student enrollment, the corridor funding model, and the role the three-year budget plan played in the 2023-2024 budget.

L. Logan responded to questions regarding plans for 450 Talbot and the strategies in place to monitor debt for the university.

In responding to a question, A. Shepard noted the Government Relations & Strategic Partnerships Office has an individual that covers both Ottawa and Toronto. F. Strzelczyk further advised the new Vice-Provost (International) will focus efforts on building relations with trade commissioners.

Moved by G. Dick, seconded by G. Pollock:

That the Board of Governors approve the 2023-24 University Operating and Capital Budgets (Item 4.1(a)(i)) and the proposed Program Specific Fees and Other Supplemental Fees for 2023-24 (Item 4.1(a)(ii)).

CARRIED

BG.23-46 **2023-24 Budgets for Student Fee Funded Units, Ancillaries, Academic Support Units and Associated Companies**

On behalf of the Property and Finance Committee, G. Dick presented for approval the 2023-24 budgets for student fee funded units, ancillaries, academic support units and associated companies.

Moved by G. Dick, seconded by G. Pollock:

That the Board of Governors approve the 2023-24 budgets for Student Fee Funded Units, Ancillaries, and Academic Support Units, as shown in Item 4.1(a)(iii), Table 1,

And,

That the ancillary fees collected by the University will be as detailed in Item 4.1(a)(iii), Table 2 for full-time students and Table 3 for part-time students as supported by the Student Services Committee.

BG.23-47 **Annual Report and Recommendations of the Student Services Committee**

The annual report of the Student Services Committee regarding full-time student activity fee rates was received for information in item 4.1(a)(iv).

BG.23-48 **Revisions to By-Law No. 1 and to Rules of Procedure for Meetings**

A. Bryson presented for approval the revisions to By-Law No. 1 and to the Rules of Procedure at Meetings. The amendments were described.

Moved by M. McGrath, seconded by S. Shortreed:

That on the recommendation of the Governance and By-Laws Committee, the Board of Governors approve the amendments to *By-Law No. 1* as outlined in item 4.2(a)

That on the recommendation of the Governance and By-Laws Committee, the Board of Governors approve the amendments to the *Rules of Procedure at Meetings* as outlined in item 4.2(a).

CARRIED

BG.23-49 **Revisions to Presidential Review Protocol**

A. Bryson presented for approval amendments to the Presidential Review Protocol. She advised the Governance and By-Laws Committee will review the Presidential Review Protocol each time after it is used.

Moved by S. Shortreed, seconded by S. Bennett:

That on the recommendation of the Governance and By-Laws Committee, the Board of Governors approve the amendments to *the Presidential Review Protocol* as outlined in item 4.2(b).

CARRIED

BG.23-50 **Revisions to Terms of Reference of the Senior Policy and Operations Committee**

A. Bryson presented for approval revisions to the Terms of Reference of the Senior Policy and Operations Committee. The rationale for the proposed revision was described. In response to a question, it was confirmed the change does not preclude presentations from Communications coming to the Board.

Moved by G. Dick, seconded by M. McGrath:

That on the recommendation of the Governance and By-Laws Committee, the Board of Governors approve the revisions to the Terms of Reference of the Senior Policy and Operations Committee as shown in item 4.2(c).

CARRIED

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

BG.23-51 **Campus Safety and Emergency Services 2022 Annual Report**

The annual report of Campus Safety and Emergency Services was received for information. There were no questions.

BG.23-52 **Health, Safety and Well-Being Annual Report**

The annual Health, Safety and Well-being report was received for information.

J. O'Brien, Associate Vice-President (Human Resources), responded to questions regarding enhanced mental health benefits. She advised benefit enhancements were part of the negotiations process; she further added that all employee groups have access to EAP and the Wellness team.

L. Koza, Director (Health, Safety & Wellbeing), responded to questions of clarification regarding trends in long-term disability claims and highlighted how Western has achieved shorter claims relative to others in the sector.

In response to a question regarding strain injuries, L. Koza described efforts to proactively reduce workplace strain injuries in Facilities and Hospitality.

BG.23-53 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by G. Dick, seconded by A. Chant:

That the items listed in the consent agenda be approved or received for information by the Board of Governors by unanimous consent, save and except items 5.2(a) and 5.3(a).

CARRIED

**ITEMS FROM THE PROPERTY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

BG.23-54 **New Scholarships, Awards, and Prizes**

The report on the terms of reference approved by the Property and Finance Committee for the new scholarships, awards, and prizes was received for information in item 5.1(a).

BG.23-55 **Western University Standard and Poor's Credit Rating**

The annual Standard and Poor's Credit Rating report for Western University was received for information in item 5.1(b).

BG.23-56 **Investment Committee Membership**

A report advising the Board of Governors on the reappointment of Lee Sienna to the Investment Committee was received for information in item 5.1(c).

**ITEMS REFERRED BY SENATE**

BG.23-57 **Report of the Academic Colleague**

The report from the February and April 2023 meetings of the COU Academic Colleague was received for information in item 5.4(a).

BG.23-58 **Report of the Subcommittee on Teaching Awards (SUTA): Recipients of Western's Excellence in Teaching Awards for 2022-23**

A report on the recipients of Western's Excellence in Teaching Awards for 2022-23 was received for information in item 5.4(b).

BG.23-59 **Subcommittee on Enrolment Planning and Policy (SUEPP) Report**

The annual report on targets and processes for first-year undergraduate enrolment and overall enrolment projections for Western and its Affiliated University Colleges was received for information in item 5.4(c).

BG.23-60 **Advice re: 2023-24 University Operating and Capital Budgets**

The report advising the Board of Governors on the Senate's review of Western's operating and capital budgets for 2023-27 and their recommendation for approval was received for information in item 5.4(d).

BG.23-61 **Vice-Provost's Annual Report on Faculty Recruitment and Retention**

The annual report on faculty recruitment and retention was received for information in item 5.4(e).

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

BG.23-62 **Fund Raising Quarterly Report (Q3)**

J. O'Hagan presented the fund raising quarterly report as provided in item 5.2(a). J. O'Hagan reported the annual fund raising goal will be exceeded this year with more than \$85 million in donations expected by year end.

J. O'Hagan expressed his gratitude to the volunteers, Advancement staff team, deans and all of those involved in the raising of funds for the university.

C. Rorabeck extended appreciation to the University Advancement team.

BG.23-63 **University Discipline Appeals Committee (UDAC) Membership**

The following individuals were nominated to UDAC from the floor. The Board of Governors acclaimed their appointments:

Nicole Voskuil (undergraduate student) for the term July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024; Steven Warner (undergraduate student) for the term; Melody Viczko (Faculty) for the term July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026.

On the recommendation of the Senior Policy and Operations Committee in the report received in item 5.3(a), the Board of Governors acclaimed the following appointments to UDAC:

Chris Sherrin (faculty) to the role of Chair for the term July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024; Dana Broberg (graduate student) for the term July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024; Heidi Steeves (graduate student) for the term July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024; Randal Graham (faculty) for the term July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026; and Andrew Walsh (faculty) for the term July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026.

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS FOR THE OPEN SESSION**

None.

BG.23-64 **OTHER BUSINESS**

W. Boye shared information on a number of recent and upcoming events including the National Day of Mourning that is recognized in Canada annually on April 28; a recent event held for staff and faculty identifying as Black; and the recent success of Western's synchronized swimming team.

**ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION**

The meeting adjourned at 11:29 p.m.

---

K. Gibbons  
Chair

---

A. Bryson  
University Secretary