



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

NOVEMBER 16, 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 | Kelly Meighen |
| Cameron Bailey | Stephen Pitel |
| Michelle Banik | Geoff Pollock |
| Susan Bennett | Stephen Poloz |
| Arzie Chant | Terry Rice |
| Ethan Chen | Cecil Rorabeck |
| Susan Clarke | Effie Sapuridis |
| Greg Dick | Alan Shepard |
| Ed Goehring | Sarah Shortreed (Vice-Chair) |
| Lori Higgs | David Simmonds |
| Marlene McGrath | Ken Yeung |
- Regrets: Beth MacDougall-Shackleton, Josh Morgan, Michael Surkont
- By Invitation: Althea Blackburn-Evans, John Doerksen, Paul Eluchok, Adele Huffman, Eric Mallory, Jane O'Brien, Florentine Strzelczyk, Caroline Whippey
- Secretariat: Bonnie Brown
- Resource:

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

K. Gibbons began his welcoming remarks by acknowledging Stephen Poloz for being awarded the 2023 National Business Award for his book, *The Next Age of Uncertainty: How the World Can Adapt to a Riskier Future*.

K. Gibbons continued his remarks by announcing the creation of the Richard H. Konrad Scholarship that was established by Western University to recognize Rick's service to the University as past Chair of Western's Board of Governors. Information about the scholarship was provided in item 5.1(a) of the agenda package.

1.0 **Land Acknowledgement**

D. Simmonds offered a land acknowledgement.

2.0 **Adoption of Agenda & Minutes**

2.1 **Adoption of Agenda – Open Session**

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

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

CARRIED

2.2 **Approval of the Open Session Minutes of the Meeting of September 21, 2023**

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

That the open session minutes of the meeting of September 21, 2023, be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

2.3 **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Business arising was addressed under item 4.1(a) of the agenda.

3.0 **Report of the President**

A. Shepard, President & Vice-Chancellor, opened his remarks by highlighting the record amount of research funding that was generated by the faculty of Western, the affiliated university colleges, and hospitals in 2022-23. He also highlighted the appointment of Western's first ever AI officer, Mark Daley, noting the appointment is the first of its kind in Canada.

A. Shepard continued his report by providing information on Western's upcoming Open House; the recent successes of Western's numerous varsity teams; and the awarding of the J. Allyn Taylor International Prize in Medicine to Dr. Nabil G. Seidah.

A. Shepard responded to questions of clarification regarding Western's approach as it pertains to artificial intelligence.

A. Blackburn-Evans, Chief Communications Officer provided an update on the branding story/Impact Project and responded to questions of clarification. While not part of the scope of the branding story/Impact Project, there were a number of comments regarding the change in Western's name from The University of Western Ontario.

Appreciation was extended to the Communications team.

4.0 **COMMITTEE AND SENATE REPORTS**

4.1 **REPORT OF THE SENIOR POLICY AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

4.1 (a) **Revisions to MAPP 1.52 – Policy on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence**

P. Eluchok, University Legal Counsel, and J. Doerksen, Vice-Provost (Students), presented for approval amendments to MAPP 1.52 – Policy on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence (GBSV).

P. Eluchok advised that the internal and external review that was conducted recently informed the changes to the policy. J. Doerksen reported that the revised policy reflects an increased commitment to GBSV education, an improved disclosure process, and changes to the appeal process.

Board members commented on the thoughtful consultation and review completed.

In response to a question, P. Eluchok advised respectful due process, while not specifically stated in the policy, is achieved through a detailed investigation and appeal process.

Moved by M. McGrath, seconded by E. Chen:

That, on the recommendation of the Senior Policy and Operations Committee, the Board of Governors approve the amendments to MAPP 1.52 – Policy on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence as outlined in item 4.1(a).

CARRIED

4.1(b) **Western Unsanctioned Street Party Taskforce Report**

The Western Unsanctioned Street Party Taskforce Report was provided for information. Board members commented on the positive outcomes of the taskforce's work.

5.0 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA**

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

That the items listed in the consent agenda be approved or received for information by the Board of Governors by unanimous consent.

CARRIED

5.1 **ITEMS FROM THE PROPERTY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

5.1(a) **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).

5.1(b) **Semi-Annual Ratio Report on Non-Endowed Funds**

The semi-annual report on non-endowed funds presented to the Property and Finance Committee was received for information in item 5.1(b).

5.1(c) **Annual Report on Underwater Endowments**

The annual report on endowments (underwater) presented to the Property and Finance Committee was received for information in item 5.1(c).

5.1(d) **Report of the Investment Committee**

The report of the Investment Committee was received for information in item 5.1(d).

5.1(e) **Investment Committee Membership**

A report advising the Board of Governors on the reappointment of Jeff Parr to the Investment Committee for a five-year term ending September 2028 was received for information in item 5.1(e).

5.2 **ITEMS FROM GOVERNANCE AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

5.2(a) **Board of Governors Election Schedule 2024**

The Board of Governors election schedule for 2024, outlining the vacancies to be filled by the election, was received for information in item 5.2(a).

5.2(b) **Revisions to Board Election Procedures**

A report recommending amendments to the Board *Election Procedures* was received in item 5.2(b). By unanimous consent, the Board of Governors approved the revisions to the Board *Election Procedures* as outlined in item 5.2(b).

5.2(c) **Canadian University Boards Association Annual Conference**

A report promoting the Canadian University Boards Association Annual

Conference to be hosted by the University Secretariat in London May 2-4, 2024 was received for information in item 5.2(c).

5.3 **ITEMS REFERRED BY SENATE**

5.3(a) **Report of the Council of Universities (COU) Academic Colleague**

The report from the October meetings of the COU Academic Colleague was received for information in item 5.3(a).

5.3(b) **Honorary Degree Recipients – Fall 2023**

A report listing the Honorary Degree recipients and the autumn convocation ceremonies at which they were awarded was presented for information in item 5.3(b).

6.0 **ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

None.

7.0 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

None.

8.0 **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

9.0 **ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION**

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

K. Gibbons
Chair

A. Bryson
University Secretary