



BOARD OF GOVERNORS MINUTES

Thursday February 10, 2022, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

Present: Nasik Amanullah, Shelley Boettger, Ryan Brejak, Kathie Cameron, Savvas Chamberlain, Simon Chan, Paul Elliott, Andrew Herman, Deniza Januzi, Dave Jaworsky, Mary Kelly, Lynda Hawton Kitamura, Sarah Lewis, Kristine Lund, Scott Lyons, Deb MacLatchy, Patricia McLaren, Shaun Miller, Jim Phillips, Avvey Peters, Patricia Polischuk, Marc Richardson, Joe Rooney, Ken Seiling, Cynthia Sundberg, Mark Straub, Doug Treleaven, Brandon Vale, Berry Vrbanovic

Regrets: Cameron Anderson, Pam Bryden, Chinyere Eni-McLean, Eileen Mercier, Karen Redman

Secretariat: Annika Arnold, Shannon Kelly, Anna Kornobis, Anne Lukin

A. Open Session

1. **Call to Order**, Lynda Hawton Kitamura, 2:00 p.m.

a. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest: None.

b. Movement of Consent Items to the Main Agenda

In addition to the Agenda and Minutes, a number of policies were included for approval.

Motion (Savvas Chamberlain/Paul Elliott): that the Board of Governors approve the Consent items listed for approval under Item C.1. Carried.

2. **Chair's Report**, Lynda Hawton Kitamura

The Chair noted: thanks to LGIC member and Laurier alumnus Mark Straub, whose term on the Board ends April 17th, making this his final Board meeting; welcoming two new provincially-appointed Board members, Shelley Boettger and Avvey Peters, who joined in December; proposed dates for 2022-2023 Board and Committee meetings provided in the package, urging Board members to commit these dates in their calendars; that Laurier has been named the third year in a row as one of Canada's Top Employers for Young People; and that Laurier Board was recognized by the Order of Saint Lazarus with a Random Acts of Kindness pin for its leadership role during the pandemic in supporting the students and employees of the University.

3. **Leadership Update**

a. President's Report, Deb MacLatchy

The President commented on: planned events for Black History Month throughout February; a reorganization of staffing in the President's Office, with Madison Cox being appointed ongoing Chief of Staff and

Government Relations; planning for the phased transition back to campus by the end of February, with in-person instruction resuming for some smaller-sized classes on January 31; preliminary enrollment numbers show that applications to Laurier from Ontario high school students is up 6.7%, representing the largest number of applications in Laurier's history for the second year in a row; graduate student numbers are tracking at the level of two years ago, with last year showing a large increase; and a visit in November from MCU Deputy Minister Shelley Tapp to the Waterloo campus and a January virtual meeting with the new Brantford-Brant MP Larry Brock, among other government relations outreach.

Board members discussed: student concerns about missing classwork if sick; messaging to students about accommodations and the importance of staying home if ill; and challenges for faculty in providing accommodations.

- b. Q and A on Reports of the Senior Executives
Senior leaders provided a written summary of recent strategic activity in their portfolios; there were no questions.
- c. Report on Senate Activities
Trish McLaren provided an update on recent Senate decisions and activity, including changes to policies and programs; including the extension of a Computer Science Minor to the Brantford campus; and approval of the Duolingo test for English accreditation.

4. **Strategic Plan Update, Deb MacLatchy**

The President provided a written summary of progress and commented on: the Laurier Legacy Project moving forward with academic hirings and a scholarly event planned for 2023; consultations underway for the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Strategic Plan; Heidi Northwood's appointment to a new role of Senior Executive Officer, Global Initiatives; consultation underway on the internationalization strategy; Jonathan Newman overseeing the development of an innovation strategy; progress in indigenity through a first cohort of indigenous women joining an entrepreneurship program; Lucinda House in Waterloo being retrofitted as a new centre for indigenous students; and success for Laurier students in an international Enactus competition, recognizing a pilot project of recycling plastic bags to form pavement.

5. **Academic Update: Faculty of Science, Dr. Anthony Clarke**

The Board received a presentation on recent developments in the Faculty of Science, including planning work on a future engineering program in Milton.

Board members discussed: the difference between a BA and BSc in Computer Science; what would be considered the powerhouse programs in

Science; and that the Health Sciences programs at Laurier are excellent and in demand, blending science and the social sciences.

6. Reports from the Standing Committees of the Board

a. Chair's Updates on Committee Activity

The Board received written reports on recent activity by the Standing Committees. There were no questions.

b. Finance, Investments & Property Committee

The Chair noted that the Tuition Fee Report for 2022-2023 came to the Finance, Investments & Property Committee for recommendation, but still needs to go to the Senate Executive & Finance Committee and to Senate before coming for Board approval. Therefore the Tuition Fee Report will be brought to the March 10 Executive Committee for consideration on behalf of the Board. Board members will be invited to participate in that meeting.

1. Q&A on 2021-2022 6-Month Fiscal Update

The update on Budget vs Actual financials at the six-month mark reflects an increase in domestic enrolment and higher than expected revenue from 90% occupancy in residences. These factors have resulted in a surplus. It should be noted that there are existing commitments against this surplus to support strategic investments, as well as continuing pressures from inflation, salary increases and significant capital needs.

2. 2022-2023 Budget Process Update

A multi-year forecast has been developed, including assumptions regarding a tuition framework and enrolment projections. A proposed budget will be brought to the April meeting for approval. Staff commented on draft building blocks for the budget, and noted that the objective is to present a balanced budget. Budget reduction targets have been set, with an average of 1% reduction differentiated across the University.

3. Q&A on Research Funding Update, Jonathan Newman

The Board received an update on positive trends in research funding for Laurier, including that based on Laurier's current position, as funding grows, research support grants grow.

7. Other Business: None.

B. In Camera Session

**Motion (Shaun Miller/Mary Kelly): to move the meeting *in camera*.
Carried.**

C. Consent Items

The Agenda, Minutes and items noted for Approval were approved by consent.

1. Items for Approval

- a. Agenda
- b. Minutes, Board of Governors, November 18, 2021
- c. Policy 12.4 Gendered & Sexual Violence Policy & Procedure
Motion: That the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee recommend that the Board of Governors approve Policy 12.4 Gendered & Sexual Violence Policy & Procedure, as revised.
- d. Policy 7.11, Emergency Management
Motion: That the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee recommend that the Board of Governors approve Policy 7.11, Emergency Management, as revised.
- e. Policy 7.12 Open Flames on Campus
Motion: That the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee recommend the Board of Governors approve University Policy 7.12, Open Flames and Open Air Burning on Campus as revised.

Motion: That the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee recommend the Board of Governors delegate the approving authority of 7.12, Open Flames and Open Burning Policy to the President going forward.

- f. Policy 9.5 External Information Technology and Cloud Services
Motion: That the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee recommend the Board of Governors approve Policy 9.5 External Information Technology and Cloud Services, as revised.
- g. Proposed Dates for 2022-2023 Board and Committee Meetings
Motion: That the Governance Committee recommend the Board of Governors approve 2022-2023 Dates for Board & Committee Meetings, as proposed.
- h. Policy 14.3, Administrative Staff Elections*
Motion: the Governance Committee recommend the Board of Governors approve Policy 14.3, Administrative Staff Elections, as revised.

2. Items for Information

- a. Elements of an Effective and Strategic Board
- b. Confirmation of Statutory Remittances May – October 2021
- c. Ancillary Performance Update
- d. Q3 2021 Summary Investment Performance – Hub Proteus
- e. Milton Update