UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Tuesday, November 24, 2015, 11:00 a.m.
Senate and Board Chambers

OPEN BOARD

SUMMARY RECORD

Present: Dr. Erich Mohr (Chair), Mr. Nav Bassi, Prof. Jamie Cassels, Dr. Hélène Cazes,
Ms. Ida Chong, Ms. Daphne Corbett, Mr. Michael Kennedy, Ms. Lindsay
LeBlanc, Ms. Isobel Mackenzie, Ms. Brontë Renwick-Shields, Ms. Tracy
Redies, Ms. Beverly Van Ruyven, Dr. Julia Eastman (Secretary)

Regrets: Dr. Ana Maria Peredo, Ms. Shelagh Rogers

By Invitation: Ms. Carmen Charette, Ms. Gayle Gorrill, Dr. Valerie Kuehne, Ms. Samantha
Watkins, Mr. Tony Eder (for part)

1. Approval of Agenda

   MOTION (N. Bassi/K. Erickson):
   THAT the agenda of the open session of the regular meeting of November 24, 2015
   be approved.
   CARRIED

2. Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 29, 2015 (attached)

   MOTION (H. Cazes/B. Renwick-Shields):
   THAT the minutes of the open session of the regular meeting of September 29,
   2015 be approved.
   CARRIED

3. Business Arising

   There was none.

4. Remarks from the Chair

   Board Chair Erich Mohr reported that the Board had received reports on and discussed a
   number of strategic issues during Committee meetings. He said Finance Committee members
   had had a full and thoughtful discussion of the Budget Approach and Assumptions, including
residence fees. He thanked all Board members for the informed and robust discussion. He emphasized the mutual commitment of all Board members and of the university’s leadership to the best interests of students and the university.

5. Correspondence

There was none.

CONSENT

6. Operations and Facilities Committee (M. Kennedy)

a. Academic Program Proposals:

i. Proposal for New Applied Theatre Concentration in Department of Theatre BOG-Nov24/15-08 (See appendix document for full proposal)

MOTION:
THAT the Board of Governors approve the Proposal for New Applied Theatre Concentration in the MA Program in the Department of Theatre effective immediately.

ii. Proposal for MA in Public History BOG-Nov24/15-09 (See appendix document for full proposal)

MOTION:
THAT the Board of Governors approve the Proposal for an MA in Public History. Once the Board of Governors have approved the proposal, the proposal must be posted on the Ministry of Advanced Education website for peer review for a period of 30 days.

iii. Proposal for Honours Program in Slavic Studies BOG-Nov24/15-10 (See appendix document for full proposal)

MOTION:
THAT the Board of Governors approve the Proposal for an Honours Program in Slavic Studies effective immediately.

iv. Proposal for Certificate in General Studies BOG-Nov24/15-22 (See appendix document for full proposal)

MOTION:
THAT the Board of Governors approve the Proposal for a Certificate in General Studies effective immediately.

b. 2015-16 Annual Report on Status of Academic Program Review

BOG-Nov24/15-34

c. New and Revised Awards BOG-Nov24/15-12
MOTION:
THAT the Board of Governors approve the following new and revised graduate and undergraduate awards:

- Lee Hayes Scholarship (revised) *
- London Drugs Undergraduate Scholarship in Nursing (new)*
- Miller Thomson LLP National Entrance Scholarship (new) *
- Viking Alumni Rugby Award (revised) *
- Edward Hammond King Bursary (new) *
- Campus Dental Bursary (revised)
- Balbir Singh Sidhu Memorial Bursary in the Faculty of Science (new) *
- Magher Singh and Basant Kaur Chima Memorial Bursary (new) *
- Hakai-Raincoast Bursary (new)
- Dr. Nora Haimberger Scholarships (revised) *
- Laura Szendrei Memorial Award (new) *
- Law Foundation of B.C. Public Interest Award (new)
- Aboriginal Health Career Bursary (new)
- John Tucker Friends of Medieval Studies Scholarship (revised) *
- MBA Leadership/Citizenship Award (new)
- Youth In Care Living Expenses Award (new)
- Urbanecology.ca Scholarship (revised)
- Corrine Lowen Memorial Award in Social Dimensions of Health (new)
- Elsa Eleonora Fagerberg & Clara Maria Fagerberg Entrance Scholarship (revised) *
- Colin Jones Prize in Canadian Public Policy (revised) *
- Leonard Laudadio Prize in Environmental Economics (revised)
- Jeto Sangara Nursing Bursary (new)
- Joyce Clearihue Scholarship in Forest Biology (new) *
- Ted Whelen Graduate Scholarship (new) *
- Ted Whelen Graduate Entrance Scholarship (new) *
- Russian Embassy in Canada Book Prize (new)
- Tectoria Video Game Industry Award for Developers (new)
- Shirley Case Memorial Scholarship (new)
- Ian & Sheila Barrodale Award in Computer Science & Mathematics (new) *
- Dr. Arne H. Lane Graduate Fellowships in Marine Sciences (revised) *
- Gregory Blue Scholarship in Global History (new)*
- Ronald F. MacIsaac Prize (revised)
- 50th Anniversary Science Entrance Scholarship (revised) *
- University of Victoria Entrance Scholarship – The Brishkai Lund Scholarship (revised)
- University of Victoria Entrance Scholarship – The Donna Thomas Scholarship (revised)
- University of Victoria Entrance Scholarship – The Dr. & Mrs. R.B. Wilson Scholarship (revised)
- University of Victoria Entrance Scholarship – The Dr. J. Waelti-Walters (revised)
- University of Victoria Entrance Scholarship – The Howard Denike Scholarship (revised)
• University of Victoria Entrance Scholarship – The Dr. Hugh Stephen Scholarship (revised)

* Administered by the University of Victoria Foundation

d. Update on Process Improvements in Facilities Management BOG-Nov24/15-31

e. Status Report on Capital Projects BOG-Nov24/15-05

7. Finance Committee (L. LeBlanc)

a. University of Victoria Staff Pension Plan, Amendment No.29 BOG-Nov24/15-26
(See appendix document for full document)

MOTION:
THAT the Board of Governors approve the attached Amendment No. 29 to the University of Victoria Staff Pension Plan and that the attached restated Plan text, consolidating all amendments up to and including Amendment No.29, be effective September 30, 2015.

b. Staff Pension Plan Governance Policy BOG-Nov24/15-27

MOTION:
THAT the Board of Governors approve the attached University of Victoria Staff Pension Plan Governance Policy.

c. University of Victoria Money Purchase Pension Plan, Amendment #13
BOG-Nov24/15-28
(See appendix document for full document)

MOTION:
THAT the Board of Governors approve the attached Amendment No. 13 to the University of Victoria Money Purchase Pension Plan and that the attached restated Trust Agreement and Plan text, consolidating all amendments up to and including Amendment No. 13, be effective September 30, 2015.

d. University of Victoria Combination Pension Plan, Amendment No. 35
BOG-Nov24/15-29
(See appendix document for full document)

MOTION:
THAT the Board of Governors approve the attached Amendment No. 35 to the University of Victoria Combination Pension Plan and that the attached restated Trust Agreement and Plan text, consolidating all amendments up to and including Amendment No. 35, be effective September 30, 2015.
Pro Forma Motion (K. Erickson/B. Renwick-Shields):
That the above items be approved by the Board of Governors by consent.

CARRIED

REGULAR

8. Operations and Facilities Committee (M. Kennedy)

a. Proposal to establish a Department of Civil Engineering BOG-Nov24/15-23

Operations and Facilities Committee Chair Michael Kennedy said there had been discussion of the business case for establishing a Department of Civil Engineering, including opportunities for students and diversity, and that the committee was supportive of this very positive development.

MOTION (M. Kennedy/N. Bassi):
That the Board of Governors approve the Proposal for a new Department of Civil Engineering effective immediately.

CARRIED

b. Establishment of Term Chair in Transgender Studies BOG-Nov24/15-11

Mr. Kennedy reported that the Term Chair in Transgender Studies would be the first in Canada.

MOTION (B. Renwick-Shields/K. Erickson):
THAT the Board of Governors approve the establishment of a term chair in transgender studies in the Faculty of Social Sciences for a five-year term commencing January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2020.

CARRIED

c. 2015/16 Enrolment Analysis BOG-Nov25/14-02

Mr. Kennedy reported that the Committee had received a presentation on student enrolment. President Cassels noted that UVic had evolved over the decades into a research-intensive university and that interest from students and potential students in programs at the graduate level was strong and increasing.


The Board received for information the Report on Student Financial Aid 2014/15.

e. Final draft of the Strategic Research Plan BOG-Nov24/15-21

The Board received for information the Final draft of the Strategic Research Plan.
f. Canadian First Research Excellence Fund (CRREF) – UVic Ocean Proposal Letter of Intent for Competition 2 BOG-Nov24/15-17

The Board received for information the Canadian First Research Excellent Fund (CFREF) – UVic Ocean Proposal Letter of Intent for Competition 2 for information. Mr. Kennedy said the Board could expect a decision on funding from the federal government in the fall.

g. Due Diligence Reports – Facilities Management BOG-Nov24/15-06

The Board received for information the Due Diligence Reports – Facilities Management.

9. Finance Committee (L. LeBlanc)

a. 2016/17 Budget Approach and Key Assumptions BOG-Nov24/15-25

Finance Committee Chair Lindsay R. LeBlanc said the Committee had received a report on and discussed the budget approach and key assumptions.

She reported that a motion had been brought forward by a member at the Finance Committee to reduce the increase in residence fees for 2016/2017 to less than the 6% increase projected in the budget document. Instead, it had been proposed to align the increase for 2016/17 with residential tenancy increases. She said there had been a full discussion by the Board.

Ms. LeBlanc said members of the Committee recognized that management often had to make difficult decisions and in doing so always had the best interests of the students in mind as did the members of the committee.

She said the residence fee increases previously approved were the minimum required to address deferred maintenance and that, in order to reduce rates as intended by the motion there would need to be budgetary reductions in other areas that would ultimately affect the university as a whole. She noted that residence rates at UVic were still 30% lower than at comparable universities.

Ms. LeBlanc reported that the motion to recommend that the Board limit residence fee increases to 2 to 4 % for 2016/17 had not been approved. She said residence housing costs would continue to be monitored.

Ms. Bronte Renwick-Shields requested the Board consider the impact the increase in residence fees would have on student mental health. She noted the increase was double what was allowed by the province for residential tenancies. Ms. Renwick-Shields delivered post cards to President Cassels on behalf of concerned students.

Dr. Hélène Cazes thanked Ms. Renwick-Shields for the motion and discussion. She echoed Ms. Leblanc’s remarks about the Board and the university’s leadership seeking to make the best possible decisions for students and the university community as a whole.

Ms. Kayleigh Erickson said she understood the complexity of the issue. She said she didn’t want to jeopardize the health and safety of students by not completing maintenance. She shared what she had observed as a residence advisor and said she hoped a creative solution could be thought up before March.
Ms. Renwick-Shields suggested the Board consider the way in which the bursary to assist with residence fees was being administered. She objected to the fact that students must take out the maximum amount of financial aid for which they are eligible before receiving UVic bursaries.

President Cassels said that access and affordability were important strategic goals for the university. He said that it would be theoretically possible to reallocate money to residence facility upkeep from other areas of the budget such as from student financial aid or library acquisitions or, alternatively, that people including students who live off campus could pay more for parking or food services, but that none of these seemed appropriate and that none of the alternatives to planned residence fee increases would be easy or painless.

Prof. Cassels said the 6% increase, while challenging, if coupled with well-crafted student financial assistance, would help to achieve maintenance if not improvement of residences. He thanked Board members for continuing to promote creative solutions.

Ms. Erickson said that the relatively low number of students who had accessed the residence bursary suggested a problem with the way it was being administered. President Cassels said he would bring information to the Board on how the bursary program worked.

Ms. Mackenzie said she thought it should be possible to find the funds needed for deferred maintenance in the residences within the university’s budget and that she did not agree that users of a service should bear the costs involved.

10. President’s Report

a. Presentation on University Rankings

Mr. Tony Eder, Executive Director of Academic Resource Planning, provided a presentation on university rankings and invited questions and comments.

There was discussion of how student satisfaction had been measured in some of the rankings. Mr. Eder said that UVic surveys students and graduates in a number of ways and that they tend to rate their experience highly. Board members expressed interest in learning more about student satisfaction survey methodology and results. Prof. Cassels said that the surveys are an important tool for monitoring the student experience and for improvement.

A presentation on student orientation was deferred because of the time.

11. Adjournment

Dr. Mohr thanked Board members for their contributions. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at noon.

Original signed by Erich Mohr, Board Chair
and Julia Eastman, Secretary