



University
of Victoria

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

11:00 a.m.

Board and Senate Chambers, University Centre

OPEN SESSION

MINUTES

Present: Ms. Trudi Brown (Chair), Ms. Penny Beames, Mr. Jamie Biggar, Mr. Eric Donald, Dr. Peter Driessen, Mr. John deC. Evans, Mr. Murray Farmer, Ms. Gail Flitton, Dr. Robert Giroux, Dr. Peter Liddell, Dr. David Turpin, Ms. Sarah Webb, Dr. Julia Eastman (Secretary).

Regrets: Mr. Peter Ciceri, Dr. Ronald Lou-Poy, Ms. Jane Peverett.

Invitation: Prof. Jamie Cassels, Ms. Gayle Gorrill, Dr. Valerie Kuehne, Dr. Martin Taylor, Ms. Morag MacNeil.

The Chair welcomed all back, in particular new board members, Robert Giroux, Penny Beames and Jamie Biggar. She also welcomed Gayle Gorrill, UVic's new Vice-President Finance and Operations.

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was declared approved as circulated.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 27, 2006 were declared adopted.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

4. Remarks from the Chair

- The Chair noted that the Board was in receipt of a plaque from the organizers of the Distinguished Entrepreneur of the Year Award to acknowledge the Board's support and business leadership. The 2006 recipient of the award was Dr. Gwyn Morgan of EnCana Corporation.

- The formal opening of the new Engineering and Computer Science Building would take place next Monday, October 2nd at 10 am.
- Consolidated copies of the new University Act were distributed.
- With the board looking forward to another busy year, the chair encouraged members to bring forward to her any proposals for improvements or changes.

CONSENT

5. Finance Committee

- a) **University of Victoria Staff Pension Plan Financial Statements for the Year ended December 31, 2005**

MOTION

THAT the Board of Governors approve the financial statements for the University of Victoria Staff Pension Plan for the year ended December 31, 2005

- b) **Graduate Students' Society Extended Health and Dental Plans Fee Collection for 2006/07 Academic Year**

MOTION

THAT the Board of Governors collect and remit fees for Extended Health and Dental Plans as approved by their members in the letter dated August 24, 2006 from the Graduate Students' Society to the Vice-President Finance and Operations.

6. University Operations and Facilities Committee

- a) **Due Diligence Reports – Facilities Management**

MOTION

THAT the Board of Governors receive for information the September 2006 Due Diligence Reports

Pro forma Motion (R. Giroux/M. Farmer)

That the above items are approved and/or received for information by the Board of Governors by consent.

CARRIED.

REGULAR

7. University Operations and Facilities Committee

- a) **Status Report on Capital Projects**

Mr. Donald, on behalf of the committee chair, Mr. Ciceri, who was unable to attend, reported that the committee had reviewed the report the previous day.

MOTION (E. Donald/S. Webb)

THAT the Board of Governors receive for information the September 2006 Status Report on Capital Projects.

CARRIED.

b) Sustainability Report 2006

Mr. Donald noted that the committee had reviewed the document and congratulated Mr. Robson and Ms. Webb on the report and for the progress it reflects.

MOTION (E. Donald/J. Evans)

THAT the Board of Governors receive the Sustainability Report 2006 for information.

CARRIED.

c) Appointments to Joint Senate/Board Retreat Committee

MOTION (E. Donald/P. Liddell)

THAT the Board of Governors approve the appointments of Ms. Penny Beames, Ms. Gail Flitton, and Dr. Peter Driessen to the Joint Senate/Board Retreat Committee.

CARRIED.

d) Registrar Title and Responsibilities

At Mr. Donald's invitation, Prof. Cassells explained the purpose of the motion, that is, to recognize the increasingly extensive role of the Administrative Registrar by enabling her to use the of Registrar and to associate with this position a second title of Executive Director, Student Enrollment.

MOTION (E. Donald/S. Webb)

THAT, contingent upon approval of the Senate, the Board of Governors approve the use of the title "Registrar" by the Administrative Registrar and the Board of Governors approve the following delegation of responsibilities of the University Secretary (Registrar):

The University Secretary (Registrar) of the University of Victoria shall continue to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to the Registrar under the Act and shall delegate responsibility for student records and for the production of degrees to the Administrative Registrar of the University of Victoria (now called Registrar) and may delegate other responsibilities from time to time, as appropriate.

CARRIED.

8. President's Report

The President welcomed and thanked the new board members; he also welcomed the new Vice-President Finance and Operations.

a) Preliminary Enrolment Report – Prof. Jamie Cassels

Prof. Cassels said that these numbers were preliminary and subject to considerable change. He reminded board members that there are two targets – that set by the Ministry of Advanced Education in the university’s budget letter and an internal target, which is higher. The reasons for the latter are: UVic prefers to be a little over, rather than under, target; international undergraduate students are not included in the Ministry’s target; and the Ministry target does not include enough graduate students for a university such as UVic. In this context, Prof. Cassels said enrolment was up by 400 students over last year at the same time and that it was comfortably above the Ministry’s target although 350-400 students below UVic’s internal target.

High school applications were up even though the number of high school graduates are steady state. College transfers were down 18%, and had been down over last 3-4 years. Prof. Cassels speculated that this was because of the expansion of seats and of opportunities in the college system, and of the strong economy. Of greatest continuing concern were the areas of engineering and computer science where no planned growth had been achieved. This is a national and an international phenomenon – enrolment was down by 50% in North America over the last five years. The Dean of Engineering, the Registrar and Prof. Cassels were focusing on this issue for the coming year.

Prof. Cassels invited questions. Dr. Liddell asked whether there was a plan in BC for coping with the impending decline in the 18 to 24 year old population. Prof. Cassels pointed out that this was one of the key issues addressed in the renewal of UVic’s strategic plan and was also being addressed in the Campus 2020 exercise. In reply to a question, he noted that the number of international applications had also declined, something that was being experienced by other institutions. UVic was focusing on the attraction and retention of academically qualified students. For example, next week, there would be a leadership conference on the student experience, student recruitment, enrolment planning, and the student mix. There was a brief discussion of how UVic and other institutions were responding to the more competitive environment. Mr. Donald asked, if other institutions were finding they have excess space, should UVic be adding to its own space. Prof. Cassels replied that the new space was “catch up” space and that the “old” space needed to be retrofitted to accommodate surging graduate programs. The President noted that with the completion of the current construction projects, UVic would still be below BC Ministry standards for its number of students. He briefly described the anticipated enrolment ebb and flow over the next 15 years. Mr. Biggar asked for information about the cost of a college degree relative to a university degree. Prof. Cassels said that he would bring those figures to the next meeting.

b) Other matters

- The President described AUCC’s advocacy efforts, Industry Canada’s science and technology review, the appointment of a new president of SSHRC, and other developments at the federal level.
- Provincially, the Campus 2020 review, led by former Attorney General Geoff Plant, was to be completed by the end of December. The President described how TUPC and UVic would be participating.
- Awards

- John Borrows (Law) was appointed a Fellow of the Trudeau Foundation.
- Gweneth Doane (Nursing) has been named a recipient of the 2006 3M Teaching Fellowship Award.
- Andrew Rippin (History) and Pat Roy (History) were elected to the Royal Society of Canada (RSC).
- Other RSC awards were awarded to Cecilia Benoit (Sociology) for work in Gender Studies, and the McNeil Medal to Reg Mitchell (Chemistry).
- Ted McDorman (Law) was selected to receive a Canada-US Fulbright Award for the upcoming year.
- Harry Swain, Director of the Canadian Institute for Climate Studies, was to head an expert panel on water quality regulation options for First Nations communities.
- Adam Perry of Vancouver, who graduated from UVic with a law degree, had won the \$60,000 Queen Elizabeth II scholarship to pursue post-graduate studies in another Commonwealth country.
- UVic's Medical Sciences Building gained Canada Green Building Council awards gold level status in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building rating program.
- Norma Mickelson was awarded an honorary degree by the University of Calgary, Alan Astbury by Simon Fraser University, and Hari Srivastava would receive an honorary degree from Chung Yuan University in Taiwan.
- In August, it was announced that the Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History project, based at UVic, would receive \$492,000 from the federal Department of Canadian Heritage through the Canadian Culture Online Program to develop new website additions.
- The President reported that, over the summer, a visiting ESL student from Taiwan had tragically drowned at Thetis Lake.
- UVic had suffered a deep loss with the passing of Peter Smith, former professor of classics. Dr. Smith was author of "A multitude of the wise: UVic remembered" and had contributed to the university in innumerable ways.
- The NEPTUNE/VENUS projects had received an additional \$20 million in funding; Venus had "gone live."
- An additional \$1 million in funding for the Aboriginal Economic Development Chair had been made available by BC Hydro.
- Maclean's Rankings: Many universities had pulled out of the annual survey/ranking, but UVic would continue to participate in spite of what it believes is a flawed instrument, because the public focus on higher education is worthwhile and the university wants to continue to be accountable by making its information publicly available.
- The Centre on Aging would play a leading role in conducting research for the UN World Health Organization Global Age-Friendly Cities project, with Saanich being one of only 13 communities world-wide selected to participate.
- UVic had sponsored the extremely successful 2006 Pan Pacific Swimming Championships, considered the most significant swim competition of the year.
- Rachael Scarth had arrived to take up her position as Director of Research Services.
- Justin Kohlman, the new Director of University Marketing, would be starting at UVic on October 16.
- Andrew Weaver (Earth and Ocean Sciences) had been recognized in the Vancouver Sun as one of the authors of a new report by the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

- The Governor General's Lecture of the Royal Society of Canada would be delivered by Dr. Jeremy McNeil on *The academies of arts, humanities and sciences of Canada*.
- UVic was a lead sponsor of 'A conversation with the Honorable William Jefferson Clinton' in November. UVic was making 400 student tickets available at a subsidized price.
- The upcoming Centennial Lecture Series in partnership with Oak Bay and Saanich would include lectures by Roy Romanow (October 12), Wade Davis (November 7), and Stephen Lewis (November 17).
- The 20th anniversary gala concert of the Lafayette String Quartet would take place on September 30.
- A reminder of the call for Honorary Degree nominations. Please contact the Office of the University Secretary for nomination materials and information.

9. Other Business

There was none.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 pm.