



**University  
of Victoria**

**UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
Tuesday, March 31, 2015, 11:00 a.m.  
Senate and Board Chambers**

**OPEN BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Dr. Erich Mohr (Chair), Mr. Nav Bassi, Prof. Jamie Cassels, Ms. Ida Chong, Mr. Bradley Cranwell, Ms. Beverly Van Ruyven, Mr. Michael Kennedy, Ms. Isobel Mackenzie, Mr. Peter Gustavson, Dr. Ana Maria Peredo, Ms. Shelagh Rogers, Dr. H el ene Cazes, Ms. Lindsay R. LeBlanc, Ms. Kayleigh Erickson, Dr. Julia Eastman (Secretary)

**Regrets:** Ms. Tracy Redies

**By Invitation:** Dr. David Castle, Ms. Gayle Gorrill, Dr. Valerie Kuehne, Ms. Samantha Watkins

**1. Approval of Agenda**

The Chair indicated that the presentation on the UVic Difference project could be postponed to a future meeting. The agenda was approved, as amended, upon motion (K. Erickson/S. Rogers).

**2. Minutes**

**a. Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 27, 2015**

**MOTION (K. Erickson/S. Rogers):**

*THAT the minutes of the open session of the regular meeting of January 27, 2015 be approved.*

**CARRIED**

**3. Business Arising**

There was none.

#### **4. Remarks from the Chair**

Board Chair Erich Mohr thanked everyone for attending. He said the Board appreciated the importance of diverse voices being heard, and he acknowledged the presence of those in the gallery.

#### **5. Correspondence**

- a. Email from Divest UVic, dated February 5, 2015**
- b. Letter from Divest UVic, dated March 16, 2015**
- c. Letter from University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS), dated March 13, 2015**

Dr. Mohr noted there were three items of correspondence on the agenda. He said the Finance Committee had considered the letter from the University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) on residence fees in its deliberations on the Planning and Budget Framework and this would be discussed under the Finance Committee section of the agenda.

Dr. Mohr said the Board appreciated the input it had received from Divest UVic and had considered the information. He said the Board shared the concern that climate change is a pivotal issue facing all of society. Dr. Mohr said the Board had duly noted the results of the March student referendum and continued to be receptive to receiving new information. He noted that, at the Board's request, the university had held a climate forum to facilitate dialogue on ways to address climate change, which Divest UVic had helped organize and which had been well attended.

Dr. Mohr said the Board recognized UVic's commitment to sustainability through research and teaching. It also respected the jurisdiction of the University of Victoria Foundation which oversaw the university's endowments.

He recalled that the Foundation had recently joined the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment and said the Board respected the Foundation's decision not to divest from fossil fuels at this time.

Dr. Mohr emphasized that the matter was not closed and that the dialogue would continue. He said endowment returns were an important source of revenue supporting student scholarships, teaching and research. He said the Board would continue to educate itself about alternatives and encourage the Foundation to do so as well. He invited comments from other Board members. There were none.

#### **CONSENT**

#### **6. Operations and Facilities Committee (M. Kennedy)**

- a. Status Report on Capital Projects BOG-Mar31/15-06**

**b. New and Revised Awards BOG-Mar31/15-13**

**MOTION:**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the following new and revised graduate and undergraduate awards:*

- *Costco Canada Undergraduate Entrance Bursary (new)*
- *Sybil Verch Woman in Business Award (new)*
- *University of Victoria German Club Jubilee Award (revised)\**
- *Sharon Higgins Scholarship in the School of Nursing (new)\**
- *Mrs. Matilda M. Schill Scholarship (revised)\**
- *Faculty of Humanities Undergraduate Research Travel Award (new)*
- *David Johnstone Chabassol Bursary in Education (new)\**
- *UVic Bookstore Scholarship in Writing (new)*
- *Dax Gibson Memorial Scholarship in Gender Studies & Anthropology (new)\**
- *Dax Gibson Memorial Award in Gender Studies (revised)\**
- *Pat Koster Essay in Early Women's Writing (revised)\**
- *Myrna McEwen Daniels Scholarship (new)\**
- *Terry Daniels Scholarship (new)\**
- *CAPP Public Engagement Scholarship (revised)*
- *Michael and Olga Zachary Scholarship in Ukrainian Studies (new)\**
- *Emil and Lynette Hain Scholarship in Ukrainian Studies (new)\**
- *Victoria Joint Scottish Council Travel Award (revised)*
- *LaFarge Canada Scholarship in Civil Engineering (new)*
- *Pat Koster Scholarship in Early Women's Writing (revised)\**
- *CFUW Victoria Anniversary Science Scholarship (new)\**
- *Geraldine and Peter Shostak Scholarship in Ukrainian Studies (new)*
- *UVic Residence Bursary (new)*

*\* Administered by the University of Victoria Foundation*

**c. Minor in Visual Arts BOG-Mar31/15-01**

**MOTION:**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the Minor in Visual Arts effective immediately.*

**d. Procedures for the Selection of the Registrar BOG-Mar31/15-18**

Operations and Facilities Committee Chair Michael Kennedy reported that the recommended procedures had been amended to reflect the fact that this position was no longer a term appointment.

**MOTION:**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the updated Procedures for the Selection of the Registrar (GV0400) as amended, subject to approval by Senate.*

**7. Finance Committee (L. LeBlanc)**

**a. Short Term Investment Report to December 31, 2014 BOG-Mar31/15-05**

**b. Collection & Remission of Student Fees for University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) BOG-Mar31/15-11**

**MOTION:**

*THAT the Board of Governors collect and remit the fees as approved by the UVSS members and as outlined in the letter of March 16, 2015 from the Chairperson of the UVSS to Jim Dunsdon, Associate Vice-President Student Affairs.*

**c. Collection & Remission of Student Fees for Graduate Students' Society (GSS) BOG-Mar31/15-12**

**MOTION:**

*THAT the Board of Governors collect and remit fees for the GSS in 2015/16 as outlined in the letter of March 9, 2015 from the Executive Director of the GSS to Gayle Gorrill, Vice-President Finance and Operations.*

*Pro Forma Motion (B. Cranwell/L. LeBlanc): That the above items be approved by the Board of Governors by consent.*

**CARRIED**

**REGULAR**

**8. Operations and Facilities Committee (M. Kennedy)**

**a. Enrolment Projections for 2015-16 BOG-Mar31/15-16**

Mr. Kennedy reported on the enrolment projections submitted to the Committee by the Vice-President Academic and Provost. He said the projections were very robust and briefly listed takeaways beyond the details within the report.

**MOTION (B. Van Ruyven/K. Erickson):**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the projected annualized working enrolment target of 18,163 FTE for the 2015/16 academic year, subject to revisions in the event of new information regarding mandated growth, funding levels, and application rates, as approved by Senate at its meeting on February 6, 2015.*

**CARRIED**

**9. Finance Committee (L. LeBlanc)**

**a. 2015-16 to 2016-17 Planning and Budget Framework BOG-Mar31/15-04**

Finance Committee Chair Lindsay R. LeBlanc reported on the Planning and Budget Framework. She said the Finance Committee had discussed the framework at its meeting the previous day and had reconvened that morning to discuss it in more detail. She provided background on the overall revenue and expenditure figures.

Ms. LeBlanc reported that in approving the overall budget framework the Board also approved changes in fees. She said the Committee had had lengthy discussions about

the proposed increases in residence fees. She said the Committee had taken into account the letter received from the UVSS attached to the Open agenda under correspondence.

Ms. LeBlanc outlined a number of considerations discussed by Committee members including the condition of residences, safety concerns, affordability and accessibility. She noted the Finance Committee was a Committee of the whole and all members had been given an opportunity to voice their opinion.

Ms. LeBlanc reported the Committee was recommending the motion be approved by the Board.

Ms. Mackenzie said that she agreed and supported over 99% of the budget, but she could not support the residence fee increase and would vote against it. She agreed the residence improvements needed to be done and the work needed to be paid for, but in her view, a 13% increase was not reasonable. She suggested the magnitude of the increase might signal to students unpredictability about future fee increases.

Ms. Erickson commented on the importance of dealing with deferred maintenance issues and safety and said she didn't think the money needed to come from students. She said students' questioned why the university spent millions of dollars on new facilities but didn't have money for deferred maintenance in residences. She said students deserved a tenancy act and that fees should not be increased more than 3 or 4%.

President Cassels said that the debate and advice of the Board was much appreciated. He said that he was sensitive to concerns raised with respect to affordability and access and that the university's goal was to provide healthy, safe, affordable residence spaces. He said that a bursary program would be created to assist students in need with the fee increase. He said the university would continue to ensure that residence fees were appropriate and modest in comparison to other universities.

A number of other Board members shared their perspectives, commenting on issues including:

- the importance of financial assistance for students in need;
- the impact that taking funding for deferred maintenance from other areas of the university would have on them;
- the potential impact of the increases on student stress; and
- the need for safe residence accommodation.

There being no further comments, the Chair called for the vote.

**MOTION (L. LeBlanc/M. Kennedy):**

*THAT the Board of Governors – taking into account PART I of the 2015-16 to 2017-18 Planning and Budget Framework summarizing the results of the integrated planning process – approve PART II of the 2015-16 to 2017-18 Planning and Budget Framework, including the tuition and fee increases contained therein, and authorize the President to develop and implement the detailed operating budget for the 2015/16 fiscal year.*

**CARRIED**

Ms. Erickson and Ms. Mackenzie requested that their opposition be noted.

**b. Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) – UVic Proposal BOG-  
Mar31/15-15**

Ms. LeBlanc said that the Finance Committee had received an update from the Vice-President Research.

**c. Rescind Policy FM#5110 – Policy on Strategic Alliances and Revision of  
FM#5105 – Purchasing Services Policy BOG-Mar31/15-08**

**MOTION (N. Bassi/K. Erickson):**

*THAT the Board of Governors rescind Policy #5110-Policy on Strategic Alliance, and that Policy #5105- Purchasing Services Policy be amended to delete references to strategic alliances.*

**CARRIED**

**10. President's Report**

Prof. Cassels reiterated his thanks to other Board members for the information, perspectives and debate over the last few days. He provided his report.

Items of campus news included:

- The very successful conclusion of the Vice-President Academic and Provost search. Prof. Cassels thanked Dr. Valerie Kuehne for her willingness to continue to serve in this role.
- The Joint Senate and Board Retreat had taken place on February 28 and speakers had provided insight into universities' roles in their regions.
- The Catalyst Conversation, a dialogue between university and local municipal officials would take place in June.
- Congratulations to Vice-President Research David Castle and his team on a very successful Ideafest. Dr. Castle provided a brief update on follow-up to Ideafest.
- A faculty and staff donor appreciation breakfast would take place early in April.
- Minister of Advanced Education Andrew Wilkinson would soon be coming to visit the campus.

Referring to research and awards:

- Prof. Cassels announced he had received notice that UVic had been awarded another Canada Research Chair bringing the total to 39.
- Prof. Cassels reported that Vice-President External Relations Carmen Charette had been appointed to the Board of the Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences.
- He announced that Jin-Sun Yoon of the School of Child and Youth Care had been awarded the prestigious 2015 3M National Teaching Fellowship.
- He announced that Sandra Meigs of the Department of Visual Arts had received a Governor General's award for lifetime achievement in visual and media arts.

**11. Other Business**

Dr. Mohr thanks all Board members for their engagement and commitment, and members of the executive team for all their work over the course of the previous two days.

## **12. Adjournment**

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

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