

October 26, 2017
Open Session

Grant MacEwan University - Governors' Boardroom 7-218 City Centre Campus

Board Members:	I. Challborn, Chair D. Saucier, President C. Barr, Public Board Member S. Budnarchuk, Public Board Member A. Fisher, Public Board Member, via conference call L. de Gara, Public Board Member M. DeRoo McConnan, Public Board Member S. Nedoshytko, Student Member J. Piercey, Public Board Member A. Rhoads, MacEwan Staff Association Member A. Skye, Faculty Association Member S. Tokar, Public Board Member
Vice Presidents:	J. McGrath, Vice President Information & Communication Services J. Corlett, Provost & Vice President Academic M. Plouffe, Vice President, General Counsel & Compliance Officer
Board Office:	M. Baptista, University Secretary G. Jones, Governance Assistant (Recording secretary)
Absent, with regrets	B. Montgomery, Public Board Member J. Nuthall, Public Board Member
Guests:	K. Boros, Director, Employee and Labour Relations A. Canto Ellis, Executive Director, Alumni and Development M. Chisholm, Associate Vice President, Human Resources R. Ellis, Associate Vice President, Finance and Chief Investment Officer E. Elford, Dean, School of Business J. French, Executive Director, Faculty Association A. Gilliland, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications C. Hancock, President, Faculty Association B. Horan, Director, Internal Audit Services C. Hunting, Director, Faculty Relations M. Leathem, Chief of Staff F. McGinn, Dean, Health and Community Studies D. McGugan, Dean of Libraries D. McLaughlin, Executive Director, Institutional Analysis and Planning E. Patterson, VP Operations & Finance, Students' Association of MacEwan University J. Ross, Director, Risk and Assurance Services R. Tootoosis, Indigenous Knowledge Keeper D. Winqvist, President, MacEwan Staff Association

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION**1.0 Call to Order and Introduction of Guest(s)**

Challborn called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Introductions were made around the room and the meeting was opened by Tootoosis with a smudging and prayer.

1.1 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest and Commitment (Real, Potential or Perceived)

No conflicts were declared.

1.2 Approval of Agenda/Consent Agenda

01-10-26-2017/18 Moved and seconded to approve the agenda and items on the consent agenda as circulated. Carried.

1.2.1 Previous Minutes: September 28, 2017

1.2.2 Correspondence

1.2.3 Students' Association of MacEwan University (SAMU)

1.2.4 MacEwan Staff Association

1.2.5 Academic Governance Council (AGC)

1.2.5.1 AGC Report from September 19, 2017 Meeting

1.2.5.2 Board Appointee (Support/Supervisory Staff - Krista Hanscomb) to AGC – **approved**

1.2.5.3 AGC Membership – approval regarding extra number of faculty members for AGC – **approved**

1.2.6 Campus Planning Committee Report

- Terms of Reference – **approved**

1.2.7 Naming of Research Chair – **approved**

1.2.8 SAMU Building Project

- Monthly Status Report

2.0 New Business**2.1 Association Presentations**

- **Grant MacEwan University Faculty Association (GMUFA)**

Hancock's presentation regarding the current work being done by the Faculty Association discussed the many partnerships of the Association, including the Board, the MacEwan Staff Association, the Students' Association of MacEwan University as well as Alumni, Administration and a number of external organizations. He shared information about the Association's mandate, and spoke about current membership, which includes 409 tenured and tenure-track members as well as those on full-time contract and the sessional members. The Association is member driven with decisions made by the members through committees and/or general meetings or special meetings of all members.

The Association operates under a number of guiding documents, including the Post-secondary Learning Act, the Labour Relations Code, the Faculty Association Constitution and its Policies and Procedures.

Hancock reported that there are ongoing discussions regarding the determination of Faculty Association members. At the present time, the definition of a member is contained within the Post-secondary Learning Act, however, with the recent introduction of Bill 7, all

other matters are determined by the Labour Relations Code. The Faculty Association is also grappling with the issue of when an academic staff person should be considered a member of the association.

Hancock referenced the recent approvals and ratification of the Collective Agreement for 2017-19. He commended all for the hard work that went into the development of the agreement by administration and the faculty association's bargaining team.

Hancock listed off the following other connections of the Association: CAUT (Canadian Association of University Teachers), ACIFA (Alberta Colleges and Institutes Faculties Association), CSAE (Canadian Society of Association Executives) as well as Public Interest Alberta. He added that the Association has given notice to ACIFA of their intention to leave the organization which represents colleges, NAIT and SAIT.

The Association is developing initiatives on the following topics:

- Equity and diversity
- Indigenous matters
- Cyber crime
- Advocacy
- Member engagement
- External relations.

- **MacEwan Staff Association (MSA)**

Winqvist thanked the Board for the invitation. She gave a brief history of the association which began in the 1980's as the Non-academic Staff Association. The name was changed in 2001 and official union certification was given in 2006.

Winqvist gave an overview of the current executive, noting they serve on a rotating basis and ½ of the positions expire each year. There are currently 3 staff members in the Association's office.

The MSA Goals and Objectives are:

1. Act as the bargaining agent for MSA members and enter into collective agreements concerning terms and conditions of work and employment
2. Interpret, administer and protect the terms and conditions of the Collective Agreement
3. Encourage advancement of MSA members by supporting fair and just recruitment and selection practices
4. Educate and communicate MSA mission, goals and objectives to its members to foster member support
5. Promote a healthy and safe work environment
6. Build stronger recognition of MSA as valued stakeholder in the University community
7. Promote harmony, dignity and goodwill among MSA members and the post-secondary community
8. Promote and enhance professional development for MSA members
9. Promote social activities for MSA members

In the coming year, the MSA will continue to work through jurisdictional issues involving student workers, Out of Scope workers and contractors/dependent subcontractors. Winqvist commented that since the institution moved to a University, the MSA's ability to participate as a stakeholder has been impacted. Going forward, the Association will be looking for ways to increase their participation to assist the University as it develops into a world-renowned teaching university.

- **Students' Association of MacEwan University (SAMU)**

Nedoshytko began her presentation with an image of the SAMU executive and explained that in addition to the executive members there are 14 student councilors who are elected to those positions. Together they pass the Association's budgets and develop initiatives to enrich the student experience. SAMU's mission statement is that they are led by students for students. They aspire to keep student needs at the forefront of all decision-making. In follow up to a recent student survey, the Vice President Academic is leading a campaign on the price of textbooks and the team is advocating to the government about tuition fees.

SAMU's programs and services are run by staff and volunteers and some of these were highlighted by Nedoshytko, including Fall Fest, Peer Support, Food Bank, Breakfast Club and Paws for a Study Break.

Externally, SAMU is involved with the Edmonton Student Alliance, the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) and the Canadian Association of Student Associations (CASA). Each of these organizations have annual priorities including financial aid, tuition and open educational resources. Nedoshytko added that she and her team have met with over 30 MLAs and MPs in the last few months.

For the recent municipal election, SAMU hosted an advance polling station to encourage and provide students with an opportunity to vote. On October 19, they hosted "Add Your Voice", which allowed students to speak about sexual violence through song and spoken word. SAMU sponsors a number of volunteer run clubs that engage students in many areas, and some include opportunities for international travel and conference participation.

The SAMU speaker series is well-known to students and brings in celebrities to present on various, hot topics.

In closing, Nedoshytko spoke of the current building project which has been over 10 years in the making. It is expected to open in 2019 and will enable SAMU to expand their current programs and services.

Challborn thanked all presenters, noting it was evident that they are all passionate about their organizations and their roles within those organizations.

2.2 Audit Committee Report

As Montgomery was not able to attend the meeting, DeRoo McConnan reported to the Board regarding the outcomes of the October 23, 2017 Audit Committee meeting. All motions noted in the written report were passed. The recommendation to approve the Audited Financial Statements for the Foundation was provided to the Foundation Board of Directors who approved those statements following the Audit Committee meeting.

2.3 Finance Committee Report

DeRoo McConnan also gave the report regarding the discussions at the October 23, 2017 Finance Committee meeting. The Finance Committee is recommending that the Board approve the annual trust agreement. The Financial Report for the University as well as the Audited Financial Statements were received as information by the Committee.

2.4 Foundation Board of Directors' Report

DeRoo McConnan indicated that all motions indicated in the written report were passed by the Foundation and that the Foundation Financial Report was received as information.

2.5 2016-17 Audited Financial Statements and Internally Restricted Accumulated Surplus

As mentioned previously, the Audited Financial Statements have been reviewed by the Audit Committee which is recommending approval. The Finance Committee was also given an opportunity to view and discuss the statements.

Ellis directed the Board to the Internally Restricted Assets. These amounts were previously approved by the Board, including the surplus funds that were allocated to the Campus Development Fund. The amounts allocated to the Student Technology Fee will be directed to specific projects as determined by the Student Technology Fee Committee. He added that the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) will be issuing an unqualified report. At the Audit Committee, there was some discussion with the OAG regarding the loan receivable related to the sale of the South Campus and those concerns have been addressed.

Ellis reviewed the net debt presentation model and explained some of the ways the financial statements are impacted using this presentation method. He pointed out that the changes to investment income are the result of cashing in some of the University's long-term investments and the gain that was realized from that transaction.

Responding to a question from the Board, Ellis assured the members that all outstanding items from the OAG's audit have been completed. The OAG requires a copy of the signed statements and acknowledgment of the Board's approval of same. Full details of all transactions of concern to the OAG were provided and a few minor corrections made to the statements.

02-10-26-2017/18 Moved and seconded that the Board of Governors approves the June 30, 2017 consolidated financial statements for MacEwan University and receives the information on internally restricted accumulated surplus as included in the approved consolidated financial statements. Carried.

2.6 Foundation Trust Transfer Agreement 2017

As per the previously established transfer agreement, approval of this motion will transfer \$2.7 million from the Grant MacEwan University Foundation to the University.

03-10-26-2017/18 Moved and seconded that the Board of Governors of MacEwan University approve the transfer of \$2,780,289 from Grant MacEwan University Foundation in accordance with the attached Transfer Agreement. Carried.

2.7 Contracts Review and Signing Authority Policy (revised)

Plouffe indicated that this policy was reviewed by the Audit Committee. Changes are required due to staffing changes within the University.

04-10-26-2017/18 Moved and seconded that the Board of Governors approve the attached revised Contracts Review and Signing Authority Policy. Carried.

2.8 Delegation of Signing Authorities Policy (revised)

Plouffe noted that this policy was reviewed by the Finance Committee. As with the Contracts policy, changes are required as a result of the changes to senior leadership. Additional changes may be proposed following a more comprehensive review of the policy. She added there will be an updated policy framework in the spring as well.

05-10-26-2017/18 Moved and seconded that the Board of Governors approve the attached revised Delegation of Signing Authorities Policy. Carried.

2.9 2016-17 Annual Report: Consultation re: First Draft

Saucier advised that this report is required by the Minister's office for submission in December. She recognized Leathem and McLaughlin for their work in creating the document and asked the Board to identify any gaps or recommend any corrections.

The Board requested clarification regarding the number of students in each major and why it is reported as less than whole numbers. McLaughlin explained that if someone is not attending full-time, they will not be reported as 1.0 FLE. It was also noted that the number of students in General Studies is being reported under the non-credential category. McLaughlin indicated he would review this classification and ensure this is appropriate and adequately explained.

The report will be presented again in December and will include the Audited Financial Statements.

3.0 Reports

3.1 Faculty Association

At the September meeting, Skye reported that the Faculty Association would be holding two special votes in October. She confirmed that both special resolutions have passed but reserved further comment on the outcome of those resolutions.

3.2 Board Chair's Report

Challborn reported on her attendance at a special dinner for the MacEwan Family following the dedication of Heather's Garden at the east end of the Campus. She noted that the next generation of the family continues to have an attachment to the University and it will be important to keep that bond strong going forward. She thanked Baptista for her work to bring this forward and plan the event.

She noted there has been a lot of other activity on campus for namings and recognition of donors for the new Allard Hall.

Earlier in the day, Challborn met with the Minister and her fellow post-secondary Board chairs. A follow up meeting will take place in February. She noted that he encouraged the Chairs to work with their institutions and find ways to collaborate. As a takeaway message, the Minister reminded everyone that students come first.

3.3 President's Report

Saucier reported that she continues to move forward on the calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, noting a process to engage in land recognition and smudging is in place. As well, the Treaty Six and Metis flags have been permanently raised alongside the University, City of Edmonton, Provincial, and Canadian flags on campus. The

Grand Chief spoke positively about the steps being taken at the University, including the hiring of Roxanne Tootoosis. Other current initiatives are around equity and diversity. She has asked the Executive team to participate in unconscious bias training. Regarding access and external relations, Saucier indicated she has met with the mayor, a number of MLAs as well as Minister Sohi and Minister Bains. She recently participated in the Universities Canada meetings where Rick Hansen made a presentation on accessibility. As a follow-up, initiatives will be developed throughout campus to support accessibility and provide educational opportunities related to accessibility topics. Recognition was given to the Provost regarding a proposal to partner with Nunavut's territorial government on educational opportunities for its community of learners.

4.0 Information

4.1 2017/18 Planning Calendar – See Diligent Resource Centre

The 2017/18 Planning Calendar was received as information.

5.0 Adjournment of Open Session

The open session adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Gail Jones
Governance Assistant