Minutes of the OPEN Session of the
Board of Governors
June 24, 2014

Present: P. Bovey, Chair
J. Leclerc, Secretary
D. Barnard  A. Berg  R. Dhalla  N. Halden  S. Jesseau  R. Kunzman
B. Passey  H. Reichert  L. Rempel  M. Robertson  H. Secter  J. Taylor
R. Zegalski

Regrets: T. Bock  J. Embree  D. Jayas  J. Lederman  D. Sauer
S. Senkbeil

Absent: A. Dansen  A. Turnbull

Assessors Present: C. Morrill  B. Stone

Officials Present: J. Blatz  J. Doering  S. Foster  S. Gottheil  T. Hay
J. Kearsey  J. Keselman  P. Kochan  G. Pasieka

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair announced that this was the first meeting for Jeff Taylor, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, elected by Senate to serve on the Board. She also noted that there would be no break for dinner because of the barbeque at the President’s residence following the meeting.

2. PRESENTATIONS

2.1 Strategic Enrolment Management

Dr. Keselman noted that this update on the Strategic Enrolment Management Plan had been promised at an earlier meeting. Susan Gottheil, Vice-Provost (Students) began the presentation with an update on the development of the strategic enrolment goals. She explained that there were broad goals related to the shape, size, and composition of the student population at the University over the next five to ten years. She noted that resource constraints necessitate integrated planning and intentional thinking to manage enrolment.

Ms. Gottheil noted that 32,000 students will be the target for the next five years, that the University currently has 29,000 students, and that this is almost at the undergraduate target.
She explained that the graduation rates after six years present a challenge as only one half of undergraduate students have graduated after six years, and the U15 average is 73% and the University’s goal is to reach 60%.

Ms. Gottheil invited Dr. Jay Doering, Vice-Provost (Graduate Education) and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies to present the data related to graduate student enrolment, which has grown to 12.9% of the student population. He noted that this University is third from the bottom among U15 institutions and that the Université de Montréal has the largest graduate student population. This University has set a goal to be in the middle of the peer comparator graphs, rather than in the bottom third. Dr. Doering observed that research productivity is impacted more by doctoral students than by master’s students and the University has a lower proportion of doctoral students than other U15 institutions. Dr. Doering stated that the major challenge for this University is improving the number of years to completion for graduate students as our maters students currently take an additional two terms to graduate and the University must get graduate students through more quickly.

Ms. Gottheil presented figures related to Indigenous enrolment, stating that the number of self-declared individuals of Aboriginal descent has risen slightly to 7.8% of the undergraduate student population. She explained that the targets are 10% of the undergraduate student population and 5% of the graduate student population, so there remains work to be done in this area. Regarding International students, enrolment is currently at 11.4% of the undergraduate student population and 25.4% of the graduate student population. She added that targets have been surpassed in this area. Ms. Gottheil commented that the high number of Voluntary Withdrawals and repeated courses must be addressed and that the next step will be to integrate these enrolment goals with other University planning.

2.2 Internationalization Strategy

Ms. Bovey invited Dr. James Blatz, Associate Vice-President (Partnerships) to present the new Internationalization Strategy. Dr. Blatz stated that this strategy has already been presented to Senate. He explained that the Office of Research Services had been overwhelmed with the volume of partnerships and globalization, with over 700 agreements in place between this University and others throughout the world. He explained that the University cannot be productive in a meaningful way with so many different agreements, so the purpose of this strategy is to focus international activities and become more efficient.

Dr. Blatz reviewed the process used in developing this strategy to date and stated that there had been an integrated process based on the University’s vision, mission, and values directly linked to strategic planning framework. Dr. Blatz explained that a new governance structure was in place and that an advisory committee populated by students/staff/faculty members had been established. He added that regional advisory groups will foster more growth and will feed into the advisory committee opportunities for partnerships, etc.
FOR ACTION

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Robertson and seconded by Mr. Zegalski:
THAT the agenda for the Open session of the June 24, 2014 Board of Governors meeting be approved as circulated.
CARRIED

4. MINUTES (Open Session)

4.1 Approval of the Minutes of the May 20, 2014 OPEN Session as circulated or amended

It was moved by Mr. Zegalski and seconded by Mr. Robertson:
THAT the minutes of the Open session of the May 20, 2014 meeting be approved as circulated.
CARRIED

3.2 Business Arising – none

4. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair asked whether any member had concern with any of the items on the Consent Agenda. No items were identified to be removed from the Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Mr. Berg and seconded by Dr. Halden:
That the Board of Governors approve and/or receive for information the following:

THAT the Board of Governors approve that a $1.00 per credit hour contribution be assessed against the students in the Faculty of Arts for a three year term commencing in the fall of 2014 as outlined in the letter from Jeffery Taylor, Dean, Faculty of Arts, dated June 2, 2014.

THAT the Board of Governors approve nine new offers, five amended offers, and the withdrawal of five offers, as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards – Part A (dated May 20, 2014).

THAT the Board of Governors approve three new offers and one amended offer, as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards – Part B (dated May 20, 2014) (subject to Senate approval June 25, 2014).
THAT the Board of Governors approve five new offers and the withdrawal of twenty-five offers, as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards (dated May 27, 2014).

THAT the Board of Governors approve a proposal for a Master of Social Work in Indigenous Knowledges (subject to Senate approval, June 25, 2014).

CARRIED

5. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

In addition to his written report included with the meeting materials, Dr. Barnard reported that another tranche of funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to support research on Mother and Child Health by researchers in Community Health Science had recently been announced. He stated that the funding was approximately $23 million Canadian dollars.

The President informed the Board that another announcement of funding support, this time from the Federal Government, was announced for research by the Manitoba Institute for Materials. He added that there was also strong support from industrial partners, and faculty members in Science, Engineering, and the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, & Resources, which will foster positive interaction between the local business community and materials researchers.

6. FROM AUDIT & RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

7.1 Presentation of Financial Statements

Mr. Robertson invited Mr. Pasieka to present the financial statements. Mr. Pasieka noted that the Office of the Auditor General was prepared to sign off with an unqualified opinion on the financial statements subsequent to approval of the statements this evening. He explained that the report of the Vice-President (Administration) on pages 73 to 87 offers a great deal of information and detail on the financial statements. Referring to page 91, Mr. Pasieka noted the draft of the Auditor’s report and provided a brief summary of the variance analysis to highlight some of the changes in the financial statements. He stated that the Accounts Receivable of $69 million is increased from $64 million the previous year due to the timing of research and capital projects, an increase in accrued investment income, a decline in WRHA receivable and a decrease in student accounts receivable as well as $2 million dollar payment related to a lease cancellation on buildings occupied by Agriculture Canada.

Regarding long term assets, the loan receivable of $178 million up from $170 million the previous year, represents the flow through to BBB Stadium and is offset by an equal amount in long term debt. He noted that the increase of $7.9 million is entirely accrued interest. He explained that the loan of $160 million was fully advanced to BBB in 2013 and the principal...
payments will begin in 2014, and the principal and interest payments will commence in 2018, as described in notes 4 and 9. Long term investments of $736 million have increased from $637 million, mainly due to very strong investment returns as well as gifts and new donations. Mr. Pasieka reported that capital assets have increased $46 million, from $961 million to over $1 billion, comprised of $98 million of additions and $52 million of amortization. Of the $98 million in additions, $65 million is for buildings, $17 million for furniture and equipment, $10.6 million for libraries, and $5 million in computer and technology acquisitions. Regarding current liabilities, the total is $96 million, down from $99 million in the previous year. The loan of $11 million (up from $5 million the year before) is a construction loan on the Active Living Centre. Total long term debt has increased by $3.3 million, for a total of $363 million, which includes the Province of Manitoba debt related to the stadium, while the University’s debt has declined by $4.6 million due to regular payments, as detailed in note 9. Regarding the Employee Future Benefits Liability of $70 million, Mr. Pasieka explained that it has increased from $63 million in the prior year as a result of an increase in the Long Term Disability (LTD) Plan whereby there are more people on the plan and they tend to remain on LTD for a longer period of time.

On the statement of operations, Mr. Pasieka reported that total revenues are $850 million, which is an increase of $55 million over last year, roughly half of which is in the operating fund and half from all other funds and restricted funds. He explained that this increase is the result of increased tuition of $9.0 million (resulting from 1.6% increase in enrolment, undergraduate fee increases of 1.6%, and summer session enrolment increases of 2.8%), a 2% ($9.5 million) grant increase from COPSE, and miscellaneous revenue of $10 million (from insurance proceeds for the Duff Roblin Building fire and a $2 million favourable experience on the Health Care Spending Account over the previous two years).

Mr. Pasieka stated that there was an increase of $26 million in Restricted Fund Revenues which contributed to the increase in total revenue for the year. He added that an additional transaction related to additional stadium financing received from the Province of $20.7 million was reflected as revenue of Research and Special Funds and was also included in expenses as those funds flowed to BBB. Without this transaction actual restricted fund revenues increased by $47 million in 2014. Mr. Pasieka stated that donations have declined by $9.6 million due to a large one time gift that had been received in 2012-2013. He added that strong investment performance in Trust and Endowment and Staff Benefits resulted in an additional $25 million being recorded in 2014, although this does not include unrealized gains of $55 million, which brings the amount to $105 million compared to $87 million reported last year. He explained that this is mainly due to strong performance of trust and endowment funds.

On the expenses side, Mr. Pasieka stated that there was a net increase of $32 million to $772 million, which is comprised of an increase in instruction costs of $18.1 million, an increase in administration costs of $6 million, an increase in plant maintenance of $6 million due to increased utility costs, and an increase of $4 million in general expenses (due in part to an $8 million increase in pension payments and a decrease in spending for ROSE projects of $4
million). He added that there was an increase of $5.8 million in Other Academic as a result of a budgeted increase in spending in IST for various projects.

Mr. Pasieka stated that the audit went quite well again this year and noted only one uncorrected misstatement which relates to a $397,000 long term liability which is recorded as a current liability. He explained that this is to prevent disclosure of additional detail that is precluded by a confidentiality agreement.

7.2 Audit Results Memorandum

Mr. Robertson stated that this document is fairly clear and he had nothing to add.

7.3 Approval of the Financial Statements

It was moved by Mr. Robertson and seconded by Mr. Zegalski:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Financial Statements of The University of Manitoba for the year ended March 31, 2014.  
CARRIED

7.4 Public Sector Compensation Disclosure

Mr. Kochan stated that this document is based on information from T4’s of those employees whose earnings were greater than $50,000 in 2013.

It was moved by Mr. Robertson and seconded by Ms. Jesseau:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Report of The University of Manitoba for the year ended December 31, 2013.  
CARRIED

9. FROM SENATE

9.5 Proposal for the Merger of the Department of Family Social Sciences and the Department of Community Health Sciences

Dr. Keselman noted that this merger is the second of a series of proposals advanced by the Faculty of Human Ecology regarding academic restructuring. She explained that these two departments have much in common that will allow for synergies between research and teaching.

It was moved by Dr. Barnard and seconded by Mr. Robertson:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the merger of the Department of Family Social Sciences and the Department of Community Health Sciences [subject to Senate approval, June 25, 2014].  
CARRIED
FOR INFORMATION

10. UPDATES

10.1 Report from the GSA President

Ms. Rempel’s report was included in the meeting materials.

MOTION TO MOVE TO CLOSED AND CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Robertson and seconded by Mr. Zegalski:
THAT the meeting move into Closed and Confidential Session.

CARRIED

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Chair

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University Secretary