

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors **Open Session** April 27, 2009

The meeting was held at 4:00 p.m. in Room 160, Extended Education Complex.

Present:

T. Sargeant, Chair

J. Leclerc, Secretary

J. Anderson

D. Barnard

A. Berg

A. Black

P. Bovey

R. Dhalla

R. Evford

A. Glenn W. Norrie E. Gordon

G. Hatch

M. Sitter

J: Lederman H. Milan J. Sopotiuk

T. Strutt

D. Ruth M. Tripple R. Sigurdson S. Van Schie

Assessors Present:

B. Austin-Smith

J. Sealey

Officials Present:

E. Goldie

K. Inskip

D. Jayas

J. Keselman D. McCallum

A. Simms

Regrets:

R. Mahé

R. Zegalski

1. Ledermun

1. **Announcements**

Mr. Sargeant welcomed Dr. Brenda Austin-Smith to the Board as the UMFA Assessor and also welcomed Mr. Sid Rashid, president-elect of UMSU as an observer to the meeting, adding that it was the final Board meeting for Mr. Sopotiuk and Mr. Glenn.

Mr. Sargeant congratulated Ms. Bovey on her nomination for the Isbister Prize for her coauthored book "Head Space: Five Decades of Bruce Head". He also congratulated Mr. Mahé and the other members of the team from the Faculty of Architecture on winning the TD Bank Go Green Challenge which includes a prize of \$25,000.





2. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Black and seconded by Ms. Bovey:

THAT the agenda for the April 27, 2009 Open Session be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Minutes

3.1 Open Minutes

It was moved by Ms. Sitter and seconded by Dr. Anderson:

THAT the minutes of the March 17, 2009 Open Session be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3.2 Business Arising - none

4. Unanimous Consent Agenda

It was moved by Dr. Sigurdson and seconded by Dr. Anderson that the Board of Governors approve and/or receive for information the following:

THAT the Board of Governors approve that a \$1.66 per credit hour contribution be assessed against the students in the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music for a one year term commencing in the fall of 2009.

THAT the Board of Governors approve eight new offers and eleven amended offers as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards [dated February 23, 2009].

That the Board of Governors receive for information the Withdrawal of Statement of Intent to establish a M.A. and Ph.D. in Health Psychology.

Mr. Black asked why the Statement of Intent to establish the Health Psychology programs is being withdrawn. Dr. Keselman replied that the decision was based on a combination of factors including the fact that the program was one of several programs seeking funding and was lower on the list of priority programs, and the decision of the Department of Psychology to develop a Health Psychology stream within the existing structure.

CARRIED



5. Report from the President

Dr. Barnard discussed the formal announcement of the stadium project that occurred on April 2nd which involved the signing of key agreements, noting that the agreements were conditional upon formal approval of the Board of Governors.

Dr. Barnard remarked that the report of the *Commission on Tuition Fees and Accessibility to Post-Secondary Education*, led by Dr. Ben Levin, had been released earlier this month. The report contained a set of recommendations that included a total fee increase of the lesser of \$150 or 5% per student, inclusive of tuition and ancillary fees. The Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy has since announced that the government will impose a maximum 4.5% increase on all fees. Dr. Barnard noted that while the University is still clarifying the details of the government announcement, it is clear that there will be a gap between the combined revenue of the grant and fees and the anticipated operating costs for the upcoming fiscal year.

In response to a comment emphasizing the discrepancy between the requested 10.9% increase in operating grant and the 4.5% that was provided, Dr. Barnard noted that this a major challenge facing educational institutions across Canada. Mr. Sargeant commented that the Minister of Finance has indicated that the transfer payments will decrease even further next year.

Mr. Dhalla noted that in previous years where there have been cuts, they have been applied broadly across the units. He asked if there had been discussion of applying broad cuts across all units versus cuts applied only to selective units. Dr. Barnard replied that the process will be framed by creating a reallocation pool from gathering nominal amounts from all units then evaluating the impact on each unit. He added that the amount of shift in the current year will be minimal, but large enough to make a difference to some strategic areas.

Dr. Ruth expressed his feeling that he felt that it is important for the University's response to the insufficient increase in operating grant to clearly indicate to the government that the University cannot continue to function properly without adequate funding.

6. From Senate

6.1 <u>Proposal for an Aboriginal Design and Planning Option within the Environmental Design Degree</u>

It was moved by Dr. Barnard and seconded by Ms. Van Schie:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposal for the Aboriginal Design and Planning Option within the Environmental Design Degree [as recommended by Senate April 1, 2009].

CARRIED

The Board of Governors received the following items for information:

End



7. Reports

7.1 Update from the UMSU President

Mr. Sopotiuk noted that UMSU is currently transitioning to the new executive and that his last day as President would be April 30th. He added that it had been a pleasure and was a fantastic opportunity to serve on the Board. Mr. Glenn indicated that the GSA executive was also transitioning and that Mr. Abas Sabouni is the president-elect of GSA. He also noted that it had been a pleasure and honour to serve on the Board and that it had been a positive experience.

Mr. Sargeant thanked Mr. Sopotiuk and Mr. Glenn for their service on behalf of the Board of Governors and noted his appreciation for their thoughtful and constructive comments throughout the year.

Motion to Move to Closed and Confidential Session

It was moved by Dr. Ruth and seconded by Dr. Norrie:

THAT the Board of Governors move into Closed and Confidential Session.

CARRIED

Motion to Adjourn

It was moved by Dr. Ruth:

THAT the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

Chair

University Secretary

