



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on Monday, December 14, 2009 [Public Session]

- PRESENT:
- C. Williams, Chair
 - B. Damps, Recording Secretary
 - L. Black
 - M. Delorme
 - J. Giesbrecht
 - K. Hewson
 - N. Kenward
 - B. MacKenzie
 - D. Marshall (via Skype)
 - T. McIntosh
 - B. Pinney
 - R. Ramsden-Wood (by telephone)
 - R. Shaw
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- R. Fisher, Provost and Vice-President, Academic
 - R. Roberts, Vice-President, Administrative Services
 - H. Wight, Vice-President, External Relations
 - B. Fleming, Executive Director, Student Affairs and Campus Life
 - J. O'Connor, Executive Assistant to the President
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- D. Anderson, Associate Vice-President, Finance, Planning and Risk Services
 - E. Delamont, Vice-President, Academic, Students' Association of Mount Royal University
 - P. Dornian, Director, Conservatory
 - S. Gottheil, Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Management
 - M. Humphries, Assistant Professor of History, Department of Humanities
 - R. Jones, Vice-President, External, Students' Association of Mount Royal University
 - E. Sweeney, Vice-President, Student Life, Students' Association of Mount Royal University
- ABSENT:
- J. Diakiw
 - D. Farrell

2.1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by K. Hewson, seconded by N. Kenward:

THAT the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

- 2.9.2 Conservatory/Performance Hall – to be discussed during the Confidential Session of the December 14, 2009 meeting
- 2.10.2.1 Investment Policy – removed from the agenda.
- 2.10.2.2 Endowment Management Policy – removed from the agenda.

CARRIED

2.2 PRESENTATIONS

2.2.1 Dr. Mark Humphries, Assistant Professor of History, Department of Humanities

Dr. Mark Humphries, Assistant Professor of History, Department of Humanities, made a presentation to the Board entitled "War's Long Shadow: Psychologically Traumatized Veterans and the State in the Interwar Period".

2.2.2 Students' Association: Students' Interests

The Board of Governors received a presentation from the Students' Association entitled, "Students' Interests". The presentation emphasized what students are passionate about at the present time on campus, and how these interests are being encouraged and developed. Students' interests are travelling (to volunteer, study), volunteering and getting involved in co-curricular activities, sustainability, parking and public transportation access to the campus, and affordable housing. The presenters were Robert Jones, Vice-President, External, Erin Delamont, Vice-President, Academic, and Eily Sweeney, Vice-President, Student Life.

2.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.3.1 Regular Meeting, Public Session, October 26, 2009

Moved by M. Delorme, seconded by L. Black:

THAT the minutes of the Public Session of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Governors held on October 26, 2009 be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

2.4 CHAIR'S REPORT

- a. The Board Chair reported the following:
 - The Annual Board Dinner and the Foundation Annual General Meeting were held on November 23, 2009; both were very successful events.
 - The Alberta Association of Colleges and Technical Institutes (AACTI) Board Chairs' meeting and Annual General Meeting were held on November 4 and 5, 2009. Board Chairs met with the Minister, Advanced Education and Technology, who reported on the fiscal environment and the need to draw on all possible resources, and indicated that education is a priority. Institutions should receive word in January 2010 about government funding. A report on International Education has been received and D. Marshall has requested the University's Director of International Education to analyze the document from Mount Royal's perspective.
- b. The Board of Governors received the Chair's Report for information.

2.4.1 Board of Governors' Priorities: 2009-2010

Moved by M. Delorme, seconded by R. Shaw:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Board Priorities for 2009-2010, as presented.

CARRIED

2.5 EXECUTIVES' REPORTS

2.5.1 President

- a. In addition to the contents of his written report, D. Marshall:
 - Advised the Board that budget development for 2010-2011 and beyond has been delayed until the University receives word from government about funding.
 - Reported that Robin Fisher has been appointed for a second term as Provost and Vice-President, Academic, and commented on the process and its outcomes.
 - Reported that a book based on a Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO) study has been published extolling the virtues of undergraduate universities and indicating that there should be more instructionally-focussed undergraduate institutions. It was noted that Mount Royal University is an instructionally-focussed undergraduate institution.
 - Thanked Board members for their support and contributions to the vision and the progress of Mount Royal during 2009.
- b. The Board of Governors received the President's Report for information.

2.5.2 Provost and Vice-President, Academic

- a. R. Fisher, Provost and Vice-President, Academic, reported the following:
 - He is excited to be staying at Mount Royal University as Provost and Vice-President, Academic.
 - The University is awaiting information from government about the budget before engaging in further conversations with the Ministry about implementing new degrees. Advanced Education and Technology has approved the suspension of the applied degree programs in Business and the movement of students from the applied degrees to the Bachelor of Business Administration.
 - A committee is reviewing Open Studies with a view of more strategically managing enrolment in that area.
 - A new scheduling system is being implemented to make more efficient use of classroom space and result in improved scheduling for students.

- Discussions are occurring with Alberta Health Services and other Ministries concerning nursing education and the future for nursing graduates.
 - The Faculty of Health and Community Studies has received funding from the Ministry of Justice to continue research on crime and justice issues in Calgary and Alberta. This is significant and a major success story. An announcement will be forthcoming from Minister Redford's Office.
- b. The Board of Governors received for information the Report from the Provost and Vice-President, Academic.

2.5.3 Vice-President, Administrative Services

- a. R. Roberts, Vice-President, Administrative Services, reported the following:
- The budget development schedule is being adjusted to ensure that accurate information is available before engaging the University community in a detailed budget process. An update will be provided to the Board at the February 1, 2010 meeting.
 - University representatives met with officials from Alberta Advanced Education and Technology and Alberta Infrastructure recently concerning the Library and Learning Centre. The purpose of the meeting was to share information about the facility, obtain feedback regarding the functional plan, and gain government support for the project.
- b. The Board of Governors received for information the Report from the Vice-President, Administrative Services.

2.5.4 Vice-President, External Relations

- a. H. Wight, Vice-President, External Relations, reported the following:
- 2010 is Mount Royal's Centennial Year and a list of related events will be forwarded to Board members.
 - The Capital Campaign Case will be presented to the Board of Governors in February 2010. The campaign is ramping up rather quickly.
- b. The Board of Governors received for information the Report from the Vice-President, External Relations.

2.5.5 Executive Director, Student Affairs and Campus Life

- a. B. Fleming, Executive Director, Student Affairs and Campus Life, reviewed his written report on the following aspects of the operation: the addition of a psychiatrist to Health Services, influenza clinics, men's soccer results, Western Senior Student Affairs Association (to which the Executive Director has been appointed as Mount Royal's representative), Student Learning Services (formerly Learning Skills Centre), and Volunteer Fair.

- b. The Board of Governors received for information the Report from the Executive Director, Student Affairs and Campus Life.

2.6 GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL

2.6.1 Report from General Faculties Council

- a. The Board of Governors received for information the written report on the November 19, 2009 General Faculties Council meeting.
- b. The Board heard that, henceforth, L. Black, the Board's representative on the General Faculties Council, will be providing a report on Board activities to the Council.

2.7 ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2.7.1 Committee Report

- a. L. Black, Chair, Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the Committee met on December 14, 2009 to deal with a number of academic-related matters, including the Access Plan, tenure recommendations, an enrolment report for Fall Term 2009, and the Institutes' Annual Report.
- b. The Board of Governors received for information the Report from the Academic Affairs Committee.

2.7.2 Enrolment Report: Fall Term 2009

- a. Overall, there is a 9.1% increase in enrolment over Fall Term 2008; course registrations have increased more dramatically by 13%. Student head counts fell slightly but exceeded the targets because students are taking more courses, reflecting the changing nature of the University's students. Approximately 56% of Mount Royal students are enrolled in degree programs. A great deal of work has gone into organizing course sections more efficiently and increasing the course fill rate.
- b. The Board of Governors received for information the Enrolment Report for the Fall Term 2009.

2.7.3 Institutional Access Plan: 2010-2011 to 2012-2013

- a. Moved by L. Black, seconded by K. Hewson:

THAT the Board of Governors approve Mount Royal University's Institutional Access Plan: 2010-2011 to 2012-2013, as amended by the Academic Affairs Committee to strengthen the section relating to EPE funding for the coming years, and to include a statement pertaining to the University's funding principle (i.e., that students in degree programs must be funded at a level appropriate for the particular degree).

During discussion of the motion (item a., above), members heard the following:

- b. R. Fisher is working with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Technology on revisions to the institutional mandate statement for approval by the Board at the February 1, 2010 meeting. Mount Royal's principles, programs and directions, as articulated in the present mandate statement will not change. When the mandate statement was developed and approved in 2006, the intent was that the statement would serve Mount Royal going forward with only a name change to "university". As it transitions from a college to a university, the institution wants to retain the qualities and characteristics that students value and which relate to access and contribute to student success. Related initiatives include the review of Open Studies and the development of a Strategic Enrolment Plan which will come to the Board through the General Faculties Council. In addition, the Faculty of Teaching and Learning is engaged in a qualitative assessment process with Dr. Richard Light from Harvard University. Dr. Light will be speaking at Mount Royal in January 2010 and information will be forwarded to Board members.
- c. There was an inquiry about the future of advisory committees. R. Fisher responded that advisory committees are extremely valuable to the institution and its programs and there is no intention to phase-out advisory committees.
- d. Voting on the motion (item a., above):

CARRIED

2.8 AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

2.8.1 Committee Report

- a. R. Shaw, Chair, Audit and Finance Committee, met on December 14, 2009. In addition to those items which appear on the Board's agenda for the December 14, 2009 meeting, the Committee dealt with several matters including the Committee Charter, Investment Performance Report to September 30, 2009, Investment Policy, and the Endowment Management Policy.
- b. The Board of Governors received for information the Report from the Audit and Finance Committee.

2.8.2 Annual Report: 2008-2009

- a. The Audit and Finance Committee reviewed the draft 2008-2009 Annual Report on December 14, 2009 and is recommending the Report for approval by the Board of Governors with the following amendments: the section on partnerships with other post-secondary institutions will be reworded to clarify that it pertains to new or emerging partnerships with institutions in southern Alberta relating to the new degrees; rewording of the section relating to the Foundation's Capital Campaign; and, inclusion of reference to AUCC membership as a "subsequent event".

- b. Moved by R. Shaw, seconded by J. Giesbrecht:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2008-2009 Annual Report, as amended by the Audit and Finance Committee.

CARRIED

- c. Members should forward additional comments regarding the Annual Report to R. Roberts.

2.8.3 Tuition Fee Consultation Committee Report and Recommendations for Tuition and Fees: 2011-2012 to 2013-2014

- a. R. Shaw, who facilitated the Tuition Fee Consultation Committee process, reported that the administration and students engaged in a very positive consultation process. The recommendation is that tuition be increased by 1.5% for 2010-2011, the maximum permitted as prescribed by the Alberta CPI. Under the government's Tuition Fee Policy, the Board is also required to approve an estimate of the tuition fee increases for the three subsequent years (2011-2012 to 2013-2014), which will be communicated to students for planning purposes only.
- b. There was an inquiry about attempting to forecast or predict the CPI. R. Roberts explained that the Post-Secondary Learning Act is opened up from time to time and that students should forward a proposal to the Board so that the next time the legislation or the regulation is opened up, feedback would be available to forward to government.
- c. In response to an inquiry about what would happen in the event of negative COLA, R. Roberts indicated that institutions would likely receive direction from Advanced Education and Technology because government will desire consistency across the province.
- d. Moved by R. Shaw, seconded by B. MacKenzie:

THAT the Board of Governors approve an increase to the credit course based fee for 2010-2011 of 1.5% and to approve an estimated CPI increase of 0%, 0% and 3% for 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014, respectively.

CARRIED

2.8.4 Revised Budget and Borrowing Requirements for Vehicle Parkade

- a. R. Shaw reported that the budget for the vehicle parkade project has been revised to reflect the results of the tender award that was reported and approved at the Campus Development Committee meeting on October 26, 2009. The revised budget for the project of \$24.447 million is 39% lower than the original budget of \$40 million. This is due to factors such as a reduced concrete price changes in the labour market. Consequently, the required financing for the project is much lower than originally planned. The University will now borrow \$21

million from Alberta Capital Finance Authority (originally intended to borrow \$32.5 million). The interest rate remains unchanged at 4.8675% for 25 years. The balance of \$3.447 million will be funded from the parking and transportation reserve fund.

- b. The Board of Governors received for information the revised budget and borrowing requirements for the Vehicle Parkade Project.

2.9 CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

2.9.1 Committee Report

- a. M. Delorme, Chair, Campus Development Committee, reported that the Committee met on December 14, 2009 and discussed matters relating to the Conservatory and Performance Hall, the revised budget and borrowing requirements for the vehicle parkade, and received a report on the University's major capital projects.
- b. The Board of Governors received for information the Report from the Campus Development Committee.

2.9.2 Conservatory/Performance Hall

Discussion occurred during the Confidential Session of the December 14, 2009 Board of Governors' meeting.

2.10 CONSENT AGENDA

2.10.1 Items Removed from Consent Agenda for Discussion

There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

2.10.2 Consent Agenda

Moved by T. McIntosh, seconded by K. Hewson:

THAT the Board of Governors approve or receive for information, as recommended, the Consent Agenda items for the December 14, 2009 meeting of the Board of Governors.

2.10.2.1 Investment Policy

Removed from the agenda.

2.10.2.2 Endowment Management Policy

Removed from the agenda.

2.10.2.3 Operating and Capital Budget Report to October 31, 2009

THAT the Board of Governors receive for information the October 31, 2009 Operating and Capital Budget Report.

2.10.2.4 Major Capital Projects Report

THAT the Board of Governors receive for information the Major Capital Projects Report.

2.10.2.5 General Faculties Council Minutes, October 15, 2009 Meeting

THAT the Board of Governors receive for information the minutes of the General Faculties Council meeting held on October 15, 2009.

2.10.2.6 Institutes' Annual Report: 2008-2009

THAT the Board of Governors receive for information the Institutes' Annual Report: 2008-2009.

2.10.2.7 Student Centre Liaison Committee Annual Report: 2008-2009

THAT the Board of Governors receive for information the Student Centre Liaison Committee Report: 2008-2009.

CARRIED

2.11 OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items of business.

2.12 NOTICES OF MOTION


There were no Notices of Motion.

2.13 MOTION TO RECESS

Moved by L. Black, seconded by B. Pinney:

THAT the Board of Governors' meeting recess.

CARRIED


Cathy Williams, Chair


Date