

September 24, 2015
Open Session

PRESENT:	J. Day, Chair D. Atkinson, President E. Barichello, Vice Chair S. Digweed, Faculty Association Member (arrived during the Faculty Association presentation) C. Graham, Public Board Member W. Grieve, Public Board Member D. Halliwell, Public Board Member R. Harris, Public Board Member, via conference call (arrived following the approval of the Consent Agenda) E. Hurley, Vice Chair A. Rhoads, MacEwan Staff Association Member B. Pitruniak, Students' Association Member
Vice Presidents:	J. McGrath, Vice President Integrated Information and Communication Services and Chief Information Officer M. Plouffe, Vice President, General Counsel B. Quinton, Vice President, Finance and Administration
Board Office:	M. Baptista, University Secretary (Recording secretary) G. Jones, Executive Assistant (Recording secretary)
Guest(s)	A. Canto Ellis, Executive Director, Alumni and Development M. Chisholm, Associate Vice-President, Human Resources C. Davis-Herbert, Director, Student Affairs R. Ellis, Associate Vice President, Finance and Chief Investment Officer J. French, Executive Director, Faculty Association B. Horan, Director, Internal Audit M. Leathem, Chief of Staff A. Skye, President, Faculty Association K. Warkentine, Secretary, Academic Governance Council
Absent, with regrets	M. Fyfe, Public Board Member J. Gillespie, Public Board Member S. Hamilton, Public Board Member

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION

1.0 Call to Order and Introduction of Guest(s)

Day called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m. Before proceeding with the agenda, he reported on the tour of the new Centre for Arts and Culture site tour held prior to the meeting. Indicating the group e found the tour worthwhile, he encouraged other Board members to attend any future tours of the site.

Day also introduced Marg Leathem, the recently hired Chief of Staff for the President's office who was attending her first Board meeting.

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

No Conflicts were declared.

1.2 Approval of Agenda/Consent Agenda

01-09-24-2015/16 Moved and seconded to approve the agenda and consent agenda as circulated.

- 1.2.1 Previous Meeting Minutes: May 28, 2015, July 8, 2015 (Special), August 5, 2015 (Special Electronic Vote)
- 1.2.2 President's Newsletter: June and September 2015 (Atkinson)
- 1.2.3 Correspondence
- 1.2.4 Students' Association of MacEwan University
- 1.2.5 MacEwan Staff Association
- 1.2.6 Faculty Association
- 1.2.7 Academic Governance Council (AGC)
 - 1.2.7.1 AGC Report
- 1.2.8 Audit Committee Report
 - Terms of Reference
- 1.2.9 Campus Planning Committee Report
- 1.2.10 External Relations Committee Report
- 1.2.11 Governance and Human Resources Committee Report
- 1.2.12 Standing Board Committee Membership
- 1.2.13 Items approved 2014-15
- 1.2.14 Policy Approvals
 - 1.2.14.1 D3710 Contracts Review and Signing Authority (NEW) (
 - 1.2.14.2 D8030 Technology Management (NEW)
 - 1.2.14.3 B2300 Board Bylaws (REVISED)
 - 1.2.14.4 B2340 Communication with the Board of Governors (RESCIND)
 - 1.2.14.5 B2410 Board Honoraria (RESCIND)
 - 1.2.14.6 B2420 Indemnification (RESCIND)

2.0 Business Arising From Previous Meeting(s)**2.1 Letter of Intent**
Bachelor of Health Promotion

Corlett was unable to attend the meeting due to a prior out of town commitment and Atkinson briefed the Board regarding the matter. He noted the process of receiving Board approval for any letter of intent ensures the development of the proposal is consistent with the University's Integrated Strategic Plan. In this case, the development of a degree in Health Promotion will allow students in various diploma programs in the Faculty of Health and Community Studies (massage therapy, hearing aid practitioner and therapist assistant) to transition into a degree program. Atkinson reported that the Faculty of Health and Community Studies has done a lot of work on this degree, to respond to demand as a current and evolving market for community health leaders in a variety of fields. Pending Board approval of the Letter of Intent, the proposal will be further developed by faculty and move through internal processes involving Faculty Councils and AGC. Requests related to budget will come forward as part of the institution's financial plan. It was noted the name of the degree is subject to change and that similar programs exist at a number of universities across Canada.

02-09-24-2015/16 Moved and seconded that the Board of Governors approve the Letter of Intent (LOI) for the Faculty of Health and Community Studies to develop a full Part A proposal for Ministry consideration.

3.1 Policy D1215 Sexual Violence (Plouffe, Chisholm)

- Presentation, including video
- Approval of Policy

Plouffe and Chisholm indicated the development of the policy and the educational program has been through significant consultation as noted in the agenda materials. The promotional campaign began at the start of the school year and has been very well received. After viewing the “No Place Here” video, the Board commended administration on the work done on the policy, the program and this video. Jill Green and Michelle Plouffe were singled out by Atkinson and given recognition for their work in developing the video. In addition to sharing this video, the campaign roll-out included references to the “I Believe You” campaign, which is an initiative of the Alberta Government and the Association of Alberta Sexual Assault Centres. Plouffe advised that Shaw Communications has approached the University to be involved in an upcoming program about sexual assault. She added that she believes the program is making a difference and that students are aware of the program. Next week, senior administration will participate in training sessions offered through the Sexual Assault Centre. Plouffe commented that similar training could be arranged for Board members as well.

A concern was shared that the policy may be too prescriptive, noting it is difficult to foresee all matters and an overly prescriptive policy may lead to confusion in the future. However, this concern was not seen by the Board as an impediment to the approval of the policy.

03-09-24-2015/16 Moved and seconded that the Board of Governors approve the new Sexual Violence Policy D1215 with an effective date of September 24, 2015.

3.2 Association Presentations

3.2.1 Faculty Association

Aimee Skye, president of the Faculty Association provided the Board with the details of the Faculty Association’s goals for the coming year which include:

1. Providing input into the process to evaluate Senior Administrators
2. Working with University administration to address and improve operational and institutional culture issues specific to Contract Academic Staff (CAS)
3. Conducting an analysis of gender-based gaps in pay and practices.

The Board questioned the role of the Faculty Association with respect to evaluation of Senior Administration, as that is a responsibility of the Board. Skye indicated the Faculty Association is looking to provide input into how the process will be developed and, in some instances, would like to be consulted about expectations for certain positions and/or to give feedback when they are directly involved with an individual.

In discussing some of the issues related to Contract Academic Staff, (also referred to as sessional instructors) the Board was provided with a couple of examples which have led to complaints from contract academic staff members. It was suggested some of the issues may be a matter for contract negotiations while it was recognized that others may need to be handled by reviewing operational processes.

It was noted the issues surrounding CAS are not unique to the University and have been a topic of conversation in other institutions. Atkinson also observed that the use of CAS has increased due to the fiscal situation at many universities and managing the related concerns has garnered significant attention throughout the province and across Canada. Skye added that the Faculty Association is also looking to adjust the ratio of CAS to permanent staff. Currently, the ratio is 50/50 at MacEwan University.

3.2.2 Students' Association

Pitruniak provided an overview of the current priorities for the Students' Association of MacEwan University (SAMU) and its overarching goal to enrich the student experience. SAMU provides a number of programs and services to students that address essential needs, including a food bank, peer support and mental health. She noted that SAMU advocates on behalf of students locally through the Edmonton Student Alliance, which represents 96,000 students. At the provincial level, SAMU is involved with CAUS (Council of Alberta University Students) and at the national level with CASA (Canadian Alliance of Student Associations). A current initiative for CASA is to encourage students to vote in the upcoming federal election. Pitruniak indicated SAMU has committed to encouraging 4000 students to make a pledge to vote. Once a student has completed a pledge, they will receive e-mails and texts reminding them to vote. For the provincial election, Pitruniak noted 2001 students pledged to vote. At the present time, 2000 students have pledged to vote in the federal election.

The Students' Association Building is a top priority for SAMU and Pitruniak advised work is underway to promote awareness and encourage participation in the referendum on October 28 and 29, including banners and an iPad station. Early surveys indicate 65% of students are prepared to approve the student levy.

4.0 Reports

4.1 Board Chair's Report

Day reported on the events that have taken place since the May 28 Board Meeting:

- **June 16-18:** Spring Convocation
- **July 8:** Special Finance Committee and Board meeting to approve the Comprehensive Institutional Plan AND the location for the SAMU Building. Thank you to everyone for making yourselves available for these special meetings.
- **August 26:** News Conference held to announce Brenda Draney as the artist to create a public art installation for the new Centre for Arts and Culture.
- **August 31:** Launch of "I believe you" campaign. Simultaneous events in Edmonton (at MacEwan) and Calgary (at Mount Royal). Thank you to Michelle Plouffe and the team at MacEwan for their work on the policy and the campaign.
- **September 5-18:** MacEwan Days. All of the welcome back events held in the first two weeks of the new academic year as well as several special events branded as "MacEwan Days" including residence move-in, new student orientation, parent orientation, campus block party, and Students' Association Fall Fest.

He highlighted several upcoming events and meetings:

- **September 25** (tomorrow evening): Faculty Association Annual Barbecue
- **October 22:** Regular Board Meeting
- **October 28-November 7:** MacEwan Theatre Production, "Nice Work If You Can Get It? A Tony-award winning musical comedy about the roaring twenties in New York City featuring the songs of Gershwin

- **November 4** – 11:00-12:00 noon: Media event to announce Bachelor of Social Work program (2nd Floor, Robbins)
- **November 7:** Annual Open House
- **November 16:** Installation Ceremony for University of Alberta President, Dr. David Turpin
- **November 17:** Fall Convocation

Day also gave some background information on the Fall Workshop to be held jointly with members from Academic Governance Council on October 30, 2015 on the topic of institutional transformation.

In closing, Day acknowledged that two former Board members, Oryssia Lennie and Tim Melton are being honored at the University of Alberta's Distinguished Alumni Awards on September 24, 2015. Congratulations from the Board has been extended to both.

5.0 Adjournment of Open Session

The open session adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Gail Jones
Executive Assistant