MINUTES: OPEN SESSION

Welcoming and smudging was done by Roxanne Tootoosis, Indigenous Knowledge Keeper/Facilitator, kihêw waciston.

1.0 Call to order and introduction of guests
Chair I. Challborn called the meeting to order at 4:18 p.m., with quorum present and an introduction of guests.

1.1 Declaration of conflicts of interest and commitment (real, potential or perceived)

No declarations made.

1.2 Approval of agenda/consent agenda

01-05-24-2017/18 MOTION: That the Board of Governors approve of the amended agenda and consent agenda as presented, which includes:

- approval of the amended minutes from April 26, 2018 open session
- approval the Faculty of Nursing internal reorganization that results in the creation of the Department of Interprofessional Education and Simulation Learning, effective Fall 2018
- receiving correspondence, the Academic Governance Council report and the association reports for information.

Seconded and carried.
2.0 New Business

2.1 Presentations by Deans
Debbie McGugan, Dean, Library presented regarding the MacEwan University Library.

2.2 Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP) and Budget Plan
D. Saucier initiated the discussion for approval of the Comprehensive Institutional Plan, which includes approval of financial statements and budget plan as presented.

J. McGrath directed members to the briefing notes in their agenda packages, and explained the process for approval for the CIP which included development of the budget with a separate budget committee and included approval by the Board of Governors’ Campus Planning Committee (capital plans) and Finance Committee (financials).

R. Ellis noted that there are small deficits in the projected budgets for 2019/20 and 2020/21, but explained that those deficits would be resolved with a balanced budget by the time that year’s budget was approved.

A board member commented that the definition of institutional research was well captured in the CIP document.

A board member asked for clarification regarding student enrollment, noting that there were 1500 projected for this year, and that that number dropped to 1200 going forward. The explanation given was that an enrollment strategy plan would be in place moving forward to ensure that the numbers are consistent.

A board member requested to receive information on the student demand and use of services associated with the office of Services to Students with Disabilities.

A board member asked about the opportunity for students to self-declare their aboriginal status and M. Sekulic noted that Peoplesoft systems upgrades were prioritized so students could choose to self-declare; this opportunity to self-declare was the only opportunity after students applied through Alberta Postsecondary Application System (APAS), so if a student didn’t declare in APAS, there was no method for the university to collect this information.

J. McGrath continued that there are priority capital projects for development, including funding for a new indigenous centre.

A board member asked for clarification regarding the tuition fee increase for international students. J. McGrath explained that tuition fees for international students are not augmented by provincial grants, so the cost must be entirely attributed to those students. The board member mentioned that, for some international students, the recent increase in tuition impacted their ability to pursue further studies.

A board member asked if there were any ramifications for showing a loss position in the budgets for future years. R. Ellis mentioned that, in the past, the government would review the CIP and respond noting the deficit budget and restate the need for budgets to be balanced by the time the budget for that fiscal year is passed. D. Saucier mentioned that it seemed to be more problematic for the institution to show funds that aren’t allocated.

**02-05-24-2017/18 MOTIONS:**
1. The Board of Governors approve the reallocation of the remaining Allard Hall internally restricted accumulated surplus to the Campus Development internally restricted accumulated surplus to fund the capital plan.

2. The Board of Governors approve the appropriation of the accumulated surplus from operations balance at June 30, 2018 to the Campus Development internally restricted accumulated surplus to
fund the capital plan.

3. The Board of Governors approve the 2018/19 to 2020/21 Comprehensive Institutional Plan, including the Financial and Budget information provided in Appendix A and the Capital Plan in Appendix F.

Seconded. The Chair requested a vote in favour of the motion. P. Sedighi requested that the Minutes reflect her vote against the motion. The motion was carried by majority.

2.3 Related Party Declarations from Key Management Personnel

R. Ellis presented information about related party declarations, reiterating the note from the agenda package that “all members of the Board of Governors and Executive Council at MacEwan University are required to complete the Key Management Personnel Declaration Statement. Close family members of the members of the Board of Governors or Executive Council who have reportable transactions are required to complete the Close Family Member Declaration Statement. The completed forms are to be provided to R. Ellis, associate vice-president Finance and Acting Chief Financial Officer by July 13, 2018.”

He clarified that only transactions that were not part of a competitive process, or weren’t made at fair market value would be subject to this declaration and that specifics and names would also not be made public. He added that there are other reporting requirements that request similar information on a different form, but the current forms will be kept in place for a year, with a review taking place to amend or rescind forms as necessary.

03-05-24-2017/18 MOTIONS:

1. The Board of Governors receives as information the Government of Alberta Related Party Declaration Requirements.

Seconded and carried.

2.4 MacEwan LGBTQ+ Events and Community Participation

M. Plouffe stated that there hasn’t been an update to the Board of Governors on the activities of the LGBTQ+ community at MacEwan University adding that there is an active working group of students, faculty and staff to guide discussions to help build a more inclusive environment at MacEwan University. She added that there were a few priorities for this group, including developing educational training, supporting student activities and supporting MacEwan’s Pride Week. She added that this year MacEwan University will also have a float in the Pride Parade.

M. Plouffe continued that recently an engagement and community survey was completed to provide a benchmark for further community development; M. Plouffe noted that the survey results would be brought back to the Board of Governors.

A board member asked what support this community or working group would need from the board as whole; M. Plouffe noted that members should be receptive to training and should participate in events if they are available, and added that there would be a greater effort to invite board members.

T. Suntjens added that there are specific teachings regarding two spirit people, and that they have developed a program that is the first and only in Canada.
3.0 Reports

3.1 Board Chair’s Report
I. Challborn presented her current activities, which included attendance at diversity session for chairs of public agencies and presenting MacEwan University’s position on the impact of the executive compensation and conflict of interest legislation.

3.2 President’s Report
D. Saucier discussed events she has attended, which included participating on a panel discussion at the same diversity session that I. Challborn attended. She added that at the AFTI banquet, she was approached by many attendees that commented on the leadership shown by MacEwan students. She also spoke at a Universities Canada event on academic freedom and freedom of speech, and noted that at the Dean’s Council Retreat significant work was done on risk mapping.

D. Saucier also noted that she would be engaging with presidents of first nations institutions to develop meaningful and respectful partnerships; she added that she would be attending the Blue Quills graduation ceremony with Terri Suntjens and was very honoured to be invited to this event.

3.3 Faculty Report
No report was given.

3.4 Staff Report
N. Delling reported that the MacEwan Staff Association (MSA) had their AGM the night of the Board of Governors’ meeting, and that elections for the MSA are upcoming. She invited community members to attend the MSA Pancake breakfast at 7:00am on July 20th.

4.0 Adjournment of Open Session
The Board of Governors’ open session was adjourned at 5:55 p.m. and was moved into a closed session.