

**Brandon University Board of Governors
(Open Session)**

**Saturday, January 26, 2019
Louis Riel Room
8:30 a.m.**

Present: S. Robinson; D. Stewart (Chair); S. Chambers; H. Mumin; M. Malazdrewicz; J. Shannon; E. Simon; K. Auriat; J. Gobeil; M. Archibald; J. Galvin; M. Decter (via teleconference); T. Corbett; B. Zander (via teleconference); T. Rourke

Resource: M. Serfaty; S. Lamont; K. Fisher; M. Lamontagne (Recorder)

Regrets: K. Kerkowich; G. Jackson

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

2.0 AGENDA AND MINUTES

2.1 Approval of Agenda of January 26, 2019

Motion: Moved and seconded (H. Mumin/E. Simon)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda of the January 26, 2019, Board of Governors meeting (Open Session) be approved.

**012 Jan19
CARRIED**

2.2 Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Robinson/H. Mumin)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- a) **Minutes of November 24, 2018 (Open Session)**
- b) **Report from the Vice-President (Academic and Provost)**
- c) **Report from the Vice-President (Administration and Finance)**
- d) **Report – Transactions of \$25,000 or More – November 9, 2018 to January 4, 2019**
- e) **Revisions to Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy**

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CARRIED

3.0 DELEGATIONS

3.1 Presentation by Dr. William Ashton, Director, Rural Development Institute

The Chair welcomed Dr. Ashton to the meeting.

Dr. Ashton introduced himself as Director of the Rural Development Institute as well as members of his team who were present including: Aimee Coueslan, Mikael Akimowicz and Wayne Kelly.

Dr. Ashton shared a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Rural Development Institute. The following is a summary of the presentation:

- RDI was first established in 1989 noting that the Board of Governors approved it two years prior;
- Dr. Ashton arrived to RDI in 2009;
- Institute has 5 Strategic Research Directions which include: Rural Immigration; Regional Economic Development; Governance and Capacity Building; Rural Infrastructure and Services; and Rural Innovation.
- RDI operates like an NGO (not a consultant) and falls under BU's Collective Agreements, Board of Governors Policies, Senate Policies and BU ethics;
- RDI hires three students per year and has contributed \$380k to student wages (over three years);
- Engages in a number of off campus initiatives including Community Futures Westman; MARIC; New Researcher's Forum; Rural Policy Learning Commons; National Policy Conference; and the International Comparative Rural Policy Program (noting this will be hosted in Brandon next year);
- Institute has a network across Canada with standing meetings at organizations which provide the ability to share results and expertise;
- Current research includes: Soya – Supply Chain & Community Readiness; Indigenous Economy; Rural Digital Youth; SME & newcomers;
- Recent research includes: Rural Food Processing Innovation; Dynamics of Rural and Northern Manitoba; Rural Challenges & North Opportunities; and Capacities of 29 Western Canada Immigrant Settlement Agencies;
- Every dollar that the University invests, RDI returns at 2.18 x and has generated over \$6M since Dr. Ashton arrived.

Dr. Ashton shared a video regarding the recent Indigenous Contributions to the Manitoba Economy report. He stated that this is also BU's accomplishment for allowing the branding of the report.

The Chair opened the floor to questions.

Dr. Ashton asked members if there were any issues in regards to the report that were not covered.

Member commented that mining and exploration is one area of opportunity noting that Look North is looking into this. Dr. Ashton stated that research would need to be an interest of theirs to get involved in a potential initiative.

Member commented that as a student, they were not aware of the positive work that RDI is doing and asked how RDI is promoting their success. Dr. Ashton stated that research updates are provided regularly, however, he would be open to conversations and suggestions on how to better promote RDI to reach students.

Member asked if RDI would be involved in a new provincial education study. Dr. Ashton stated that he would be able to provide research expertise, however, their focus is on regional economic development.

4.0 REPORTS

4.1 Governance and Nominating Committee

a) Report from the Governance and Nominating Committee (J. Gobeil)

The Governance and Nominating Committee met on Friday at 4:30 p.m.

Two items of Continuing Business were discussed including an update on the Board Policy Review and a review of the new draft Board By-Law which focuses on the general procedures of the Board.

Three items of new business were discussed with motions recommended to the Board of Governors in regards to a revision to the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy, Rescinding of the Athletics Budget Policy, and revisions to the Safety and Health Policy.

There was also discussion about Crown Services and the possibility of their bringing their training and development opportunities to Brandon. Offerings range from liability, financial essentials, risk management, and roles and responsibilities. The Governance and Nominating Committee identified risk management as a particularly relevant topic. The Crown Service training schedules will continue to be shared with members. Members are encouraged to attend, particularly sessions in Brandon, to demonstrate that there is interest.

4.2 Finance and Audit Committee (K. Auriat)

a) Report from the Finance and Audit Committee

The Finance and Audit Committee met on Friday at 5:15 p.m.

The following regular reports were received for information:

- o Financial Summary by Object as at December 31, 2018;

- Financial Summary as at December 31, 2018;
- Research and Special Purpose Funds from April 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018;
- Transactions of \$25,000 or More Report – November 9, 2018 to January 4, 2019;

In addition, the Vice-President (Administration & Finance) provided a report on the new Accounting Standards and Full Enterprise Budgeting.

4.3 Executive Committee (S. Chambers for D. Stewart)

a) Report from the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on Friday at 6:00 p.m.

Reports were received from the Governance and Nominating Committee, Finance and Audit Committee, the President, and the Vice-Presidents. The reports and all other Executive business are included on the Board of Governors agenda for discussion and approval.

4.4 President (S. Robinson)

a) Report from the Interim President

A copy of Dr. Robinson's written report was included in the package and presented. A set of key priorities have been identified and a number of corresponding activities and engagements that are in support of these priorities were noted.

Dr. Robinson provided the following highlights in addition to his written report:

- In December, PSE Presidents were invited to meet Manitoba Education & Training Deputy Minister, Grant Doak, noting a recent turnover in the position. He is a long time civil servant who has been Deputy Minister in various provincial government departments.
- Attended Review of PSE Board Governance with Manitoba Education & Training along with D. Stewart, Board Chair. This was an opportunity to discuss PSE Boards, how they are working, how they differ as well as concerns. The recent governance audit was noted and it is anticipated this report will be released soon. Members will have received two separate requests for surveys on opinions of board governance. Other institutions will receive these as well.
- Attended Universities Canada Conference with D. Stewart and K. Fisher. The title of the conference was Protecting Institutional Autonomy: Working with Board Chairs & University Secretaries. This helped generate perspective and opened doors for communication.

- Brandon University will sponsor the upcoming February Chamber Luncheon. Board members are invited to attend.
- BU Institutional Repository will be launched on January 29th. This is a digital information facility in the Library that will assist with records. Details are available on the website.
- An International Women's Day event will be held on March 7th in the Library. Board members encouraged to attend.

4.5 Brandon University Foundation (T. Corbett/H. Mumin)

T. Corbett reported the following:

- BU Management committee met on December 12, 2018 where the Office of Advancement and External Relations reported the following:
 - Annual fund appeal has raised \$93k to date which is down \$25k from the same time last year;
 - There are plans to introduce a new marketing campaign in January;
 - They are working on the development of a number of scholarships and bursaries which will be reported on once they are finalized;
 - They are purchasing a new database this year which will assist in the research of prospective donors, specifically relating to foundations and corporations with respect to projects and initiatives they have supported and their historical giving.
- A motion was passed to approve \$676,691 to BU from the BU Foundation.

Dr. Robinson added that last year was the best year for the annual fund, largely due to a campaign for BU's 50th Anniversary. The appeal may be down \$25k this year, however, it is important to note that a single donation of \$50k was made and without that, we are ahead of the rest of donations from where we were in 2017 which is a positive sign that momentum is growing.

Member requested that Dr. Robinson comment on the new marketing campaign.

Dr. Robinson stated this is in regards to a new BUilt in Brandon campaign which will be led by the Marketing & Communications Department. The department has proposed this marketing identity which has received tremendous response from test groups. There will be an attempt to link BU to a sense of identity to the wider community and be something that all community members can buy into.

Question was raised as to how annual campaign funds can be distributed. Dr. Robinson confirmed this information can be obtained from Carla Eisler in the Office of Advancement.

Member asked if there are any areas that are over-funded. Dr. Robinson confirmed this is not a problem at the moment and we are always looking at other potential areas for donor support (e.g. ERP) as well as scholarships and bursaries.

4.6 Knowles-Douglas Student Centre (S. Lamont/D. Stewart/H. Mumin)

No report. The next meeting will be in February.

4.7 Board of Trustees of the BU Retirement Plan (S. Chambers/S. Lamont)

Mr. Lamont reported the following:

- Last meeting was held on November 19, 2018 where Connor, Clark & Lunn provided a presentation;
- US extension strategy was approved for US funds;
- Working on a retirement plan booklet to express in simple language. This will be included on the website;
- Updates are being made to the Pension Plan Trust Agreement noting that legal counsel will bring it up to date.

4.8 Brandon University Senate (H. Mumin/M. Malazdrewicz/D. Stewart)

H. Mumin reported the following:

- Several new scholarships were approved including one in MELS directed towards underrepresented groups;
- Multiple course changes were approved noting the high number of changes highlights that faculty are not stagnant.

M. Malazdrewicz added that younger faculty are providing refreshing new energy to course inclusions.

4.9 Status of Women Review Committee (K. Kerkowich)

As presented in K. Kerkowich's written report included in the agenda package.

4.10 Brandon University Alumni Association (D. Stewart)

No report.

4.11 Brandon University Students' Union (J. Shannon/E. Simon)

J. Shannon reported the following:

- Student Holiday Dinner was held on Dec 19th. 70 students were in attendance. Mr. Shannon thanked Alumni, Student Services and the President's Office for donating funds to the event;
- First week of January Orientation events were well received and attended. This included a social held in the Mingling Area with the Forbidden Flavours liquor permit. The event was successful with over 120 students who attended which proves the space and partnership can be prosperous for social events as SUDS was in the past;
- BUSU held events at the Winnipeg Campus on January 16th in partnership with the Winnipeg Chapter Alumni Association;

- Met with the Minister of Education as a Confederation of Students member;
- Series of events have been scheduled for Mental Health Week which will embrace awareness and encourage self-care;
- Canadian Federation of Students will be holding a Town Hall on February 12th;
- Nominations for the BUSU election period will begin on December 11th. Voting will end on March 1st;
- A petition has been circulated by WUSC to decrease international fees.

Dr. Robinson provided background on the WUSC organization noting the organization assists refugee students to find secure places to study in other countries. Local sponsorship groups in Canada enable students to pursue PSE at Canadian universities noting that BU has been participating for almost 30 years. All costs are covered through donations until such time that the students are able to support themselves.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Motion: Rescinding of Athletics Budget Policy

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Robinson/H. Mumin)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve that the Athletics Budget Policy be rescinded.

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S. Lamont stated that the Athletics Budget Policy has specific application to one department and no broader university involvement. Therefore, it is recommended that it become an administrative policy. The revised policy was presented to the President's Administrative Council in December 2018 as an administrative policy, noting that members were comfortable with the revisions and this recommendation. As it is currently a Board of Governors Policy, the Board is required to rescind the policy before it can officially become an administrative policy.

Member questioned what the advantage would be to move this to an administrative policy.

S. Lamont stated that given that the Board operates at a governance level, the Board is typically responsible for cross institutional and broader community policies. The purpose of this change is to move it to an operating level which administration would normally be responsible for. It was confirmed that the Athletics Budget still falls within the operating budget of the University.

CARRIED

5.2 Motion: Safety and Health Policy Review

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Robinson/K. Auriat)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the revised Safety and Health Policy.

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S. Lamont stated that there are no significant changes to bring forward noting the policy has been reviewed by the Safety & Health Committee and Senior Administration.

CARRIED

5.3 Motion: Renaming of Master of Education in Special Education

Motion: Moved and seconded (E. Simon/S. Robinson)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the renaming of Master of Education in Special Education to Master of Education in Inclusive Education;

AND THAT the proposal be forwarded to the Education and Training Division of the Provincial Government.

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Dr. Robinson stated that the Province reserves the right to approve changes to PSE programs, including program names. Given that this change will result in a change of a credential, this change will require government approval. It is anticipated that this will be approved quickly by government as it is a very minor change noting this is more of a formality.

CARRIED

5.4 Motion: Renaming of Department of Geography

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Robinson/K. Auriat)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the renaming of the Department of Geography to the Department of Geography and Environment.

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Dr. Robinson reported that this motion is to change the name of the department only and no changes will be made to credentials. It was noted that the BU Act

indicates that approval is required by the Board of Governors to approve changes to academic departments. It was confirmed that government approval is not required for this particular change. This change more accurately reflects the concerns of the discipline of geography and will better assist students to decide what to study.

CARRIED

5.5 Dean of Arts Search Committee

Dr. Serfaty stated that Dr. Demetres Tryphonopoulos will be resigning at the end of June to take a position at the University of Alberta - Augustana Campus. Dr. Serfaty had the opportunity to meet with the Arts Faculty Council to assess their wishes regarding a search. Given that Dr. Tryphonopoulos provided enough advanced notice, it is felt that it may be possible for a new dean to be in place immediately following his departure. The Faculty of Arts unanimously approved an immediate search which will be underway in the next couple of months. In accordance with the Appointment and Review of Academic Administrators Policy, the composition of the search committee requires one Order-in-Council Board of Governors representative.

T. Rourke volunteered to let her name stand for the Dean of Arts Search Committee.

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Robinson/E. Simon)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Tami Rourke be nominated to serve on the Dean of Arts Search Committee.

Dr. Serfaty confirmed that the Faculty of Arts opted for an external search and that the search will be open to internal and external applicants. The search will begin in March. The VP (Academic & Provost) Office has extensive experience in decanal searches noting the position posting will go out directly to all important venues such as CAUT and Universities Canada and will also be advertised in the usual places. This was done for the Dean of Health Studies search with success.

Dr. Robinson stated that it is the decision of the President whether a search consultant is hired for a decanal search; however, it is important to have input from Faculty as the new dean will be their leader for a substantial amount of time. The Faculty of Arts recommended that a search consultant not be used for this search.

CARRIED

5.6 Move to Closed Session

Motion: Moved and seconded (E. Simon/J. Gobeil)

BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting move to Closed Session.

5.7 Motion(s) Raised from Closed Session

There were no motions raised from Closed Session.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

Moved (E. Simon/H. Mumin)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourn at 12:45 p.m.

CARRIED

Chair, Board of Governors

Secretary, Board of Governors