



**AMENDED**

**UPEI BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS COMMITTEE MEETING  
Monday, April 10, 2017  
618 University Avenue  
6:00 – 9:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Mr. Pat Sinnott, Chair, UPEI Board of Governors; Dr. Don McDougall, Chancellor (via webex); Dr. Alaa Abd-El-Aziz, President; Ms. Mary Best, Dr. Rabin Bissessur, Mr. Ryan Bradley, Mr. John Buchanan, Ms. Bertha Campbell, Dr. Gary Conboy, Mr. Michael Ferguson, Ms. Kathy Hambly via webex, Mr. Scott Harper, Mr. Ron Keefe (via webex), Mr. Nathan Hood, Mr. Ed Lawlor, Dr. James Moran, Mr. Shawn Murphy (via webex), Mr. Duncan Shaw, Ms. Shauna Sullivan Curley and Dr. Lowell Sweet

**Regrets:** Dr. Don Desserud, Dr. Brian McMillan and Ms. Margo Thompson

**Invited:** Sister Susan Kidd, UPEI Chaplain  
Dr. Robert Gilmour, Vice President, Academic and Research  
Dr. Adam Fenech, Environmental Studies  
Dr. Kathy Gottschall-Pass, Interim Dean of Science  
Ms. Charlotte McCardle, Manager of Strategic Planning

**Staff Present:** Ms. Jackie Podger, Vice President Administration and Finance  
Ms. Krista Grant, Director, Marketing and Communications  
Ms. Dianne MacLean, Administrative Assistant to the Board

Mr. Pat Sinnott invited Sister Susan Kidd, UPEI Chaplain, to provide a presentation to Board members on the services offered at the Chaplaincy throughout the year. It was a very informative presentation and provided details on the various groups that meet and activities and events that take place there.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Pat Sinnott called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm and thanked everyone for coming.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The draft minutes of the UPEI Board of Governors' meeting of January 26, 2017 were circulated to Board members prior to the meeting and the following motion was proposed:

**1) MOVED by Ms. Bertha Campbell, SECONDED by Dr. Linnell Edwards that the minutes of**

**the January 26, 2017 meeting of the UPEI Board of Governors be approved as presented.  
CARRIED**

**3. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr. Sinnott reported that exams are underway and the 3 Strategic Investment Fund projects are at various stages. He indicated that, on March 27<sup>th</sup>, he gave a talk on Applied Mathematics in Retail Supply Chains to some of the Science Faculty and students primarily from the School of Mathematics. Mr. Sinnott also noted that he's looking forward to seeing students recognized for their efforts and achievements at the Convocation ceremonies on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

**4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Adam Fenech provided a detailed presentation on School of Climate Change & Adaptation. Discussions ensued after which the following motion was proposed:

**2) MOVED by Mr. Nathan Hood, SECONDED by Dr. Rabin Bissessur that the UPEI Board of Governors approve the establishment of the School of Climate Change & Adaptation in principle. CARRIED**

President Abd-El-Aziz provided Board members with a written report but highlighted the following items:

- 1) Project Beacon and the registration process
- 2) Update on current applications – as of April 10<sup>th</sup>, there are 3551 applications which is an increase of 4% compared to this time last year. President Abd-El-Aziz will provide an update on applications to Board members every two weeks.

At this time, Mr. Pat Sinnott presented Mr. Nathan Hood with a gift of appreciation for his service on the Board. Mr. Hood's term as Student Union President expires on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**5. STUDENT UNION REPORT**

The Student Union conducted its spring elections in early March. Voter turnout was 33%, which is pretty good relative to the rest of the country. The President Elect is Hammad Ahmed, the first international student to be elected as President of the UPEI Student Union.

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) and the Union Étudiante du Québec (UEQ), a provincial advocacy group from Quebec, have both ratified a partnership agreement that would allow both groups to bolster their federal advocacy. UEQ currently represents 76,000 students, and with their observer schools they would represent 172,000 students. This partnership is quite significant, as CASA becomes the only federal advocacy group with major Quebec representation and it enables both groups to access a larger number of elected officials and government bodies with their advocacy efforts.

The Federal Budget was released last month. Investments that benefit students include:

- A new investment of \$395.5 million over three years into the Youth Employment Strategy (YES), to assist more than 33,000 vulnerable youth to develop work skills
- Expanded funding for MITACS (a nonprofit organization facilitating partnerships between work sector and educational institutions for graduate students)

- MITACS' objective is to provide 10,000 work integrated learning (WIL) placements for PSE students and graduates
  - Projected funding to be \$221 million over five years, starting in 2017–18
  - Proposal of the elimination of unpaid internships within federally regulated sectors
  - Increase of funding to Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP) with \$90 million over two years. Funding is expected to support over 4,600 students over a two-year period
- The provincial budget was released last week. Although the UPEI Student Union was happy to see some investments in post-secondary education, notably to UPEI's operating grants and a small bump up in student financial aid, the Student Union did not see movement on their advocacy priorities, which included needs-based grants, open educational resources, expanding funding of coop and internship opportunities, and a multiyear funding agreement.

**6. SENATE REPORT TO THE BOARD**

Dr. Linnell Edwards informed Board members that the Senate Committee met twice since the last Board meeting – February 10<sup>th</sup> and March 17<sup>th</sup>. Highlights from each of these meetings are noted below:

- 1) MPHEC has approved the Bachelor of Applied Arts in Communication, Leadership and Culture.
- 2) The current semester has been extended by 3 days to make up for some of the days that were cancelled due to the weather.
- 3) The President provided senators with an update on the status of the search for the Vice President Academic and Research.
- 4) Senators approved in principle the establishment of the School of Climate Change and Adaptation.

**8. BOARD COMMITTEES' UPDATES**

- a) Finance and Audit Committee: Mr. Ron Keefe reported that the Finance and Audit Committee met on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - i) Project Beacon – Mr. Keefe reported that there are some issues with the student module but these are being addressed. There is a major rollout planned for HR and Payroll for early May. The project is 50% completed and the budget is in good shape.
  - ii) Budget Process – Mr. Keefe noted that since the Provincial Budget has been released, Administration will be providing a draft budget in the near future.
  - iii) More information was requested on the role of the Sponsorship Committee for the new Pension structure.
  - iv) A request for a loan from the Student Union was addressed. The Finance and Audit Committee approves and recommends that the Board of Governors approve this request. The following motion was proposed:

- 3) MOVED by Mr. Ron Keefe, SECONDED by Dr. Lowell Sweet that the UPEI Board of Governors approves that the University of Prince Edward Island provide a loan to the UPEI Student Union in the amount of \$365,525 over five (5) years with an interest rate of 5%. CARRIED The 2 members from the SU abstained**

b) Development, FR and ER Committee: Mr. Duncan Shaw reported that the Committee met on March 20<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Ed Lawlor chaired the meeting in Mr. Shaw's absence. The Inspire Campaign is at the \$37M mark of the \$50M goal. Marketing and Communications are still primarily focused on the recruitment campaign.

c) Governance and Appeals Committee: Mr. Shawn Murphy reported on the following items:

- i) The "Acceptable Use & Security of UPEI Electronic Information and Systems" policy was reviewed but tabled until the next meeting.
- ii) The draft "Rules of Order" document was provided to committee members but has been tabled until the next meeting of the Committee.
- iii) Patti Wheatley has been hired as the UPEI Privacy Officer.
- iv) The agenda Plans for the Board Retreat is 80% completed.
- v) A policy is currently being developed for "In Camera" meetings. This will be reviewed by Committee members at the May meeting.

d) Property and Asset Committee: Mr. Ryan Bradley provided the Committee report in Ms. Thompson's absence. He noted that the Committee met on March 21<sup>st</sup> and was provided a very detailed presentation on deferred maintenance by Mr. Greg Clayton, Director, Facilities Management. Mr. Clayton also updated the Committee on the status of the SIF projects as noted below:

- i) Steele Building – Renovations are completed
- ii) Dalton Hall – Out to tender on the schematic design
- iii) Memorial Hall - finalizing the construction design

Mr. Bradley also noted that AVC is in need of renovations.

**MOVED TO CLOSED SESSION**

e) Human Resources Committee:

**RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION**

f) Executive Committee: Mr. Sinnott informed Committee members the need to set up a Sponsorship Board for the UPEI Pension Plan. The committee was in agreement with the recommendation, and the following motion was made:

- 8) MOVED by Mr. Scott Harper, SECONDED by Mr. Duncan Shaw that UPEI Board of Governors approves that the individuals holding the following positions be appointed to the Sponsorship Board of the UPEI Pension Plan for as long as they**

**hold such positions, except in the case of the member of the UPEI Board of Governors, whose appointment shall be for three years, effective January 1, 2017, or until his/her term on the UPEI Board of Governors is complete; whichever is sooner**

**Chair, Finance and Audit Committee – Ron Keefe, Co-Chair  
Member of the UPEI Board of Governors – Andrew Bartlett  
Vice President Administration and Finance – Jackie Podger  
Strategic Planning Officer – Charlotte McCardle**

Mr. Sinnott also noted that the Executive Committee approved the Human Resources Committee mandate and recommended that it be brought to the Board for approval. The following motion was proposed:

- 9) MOVED by Mr. Scott Harper, SECONDED by Mr. Ryan Bradley that the UPEI Board of Governors approves the Human Resources Committee mandate as presented.  
CARRIED**

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.