

**Algoma University, Board of Governors  
Meeting of November 27/2014 – 2014  
Doc Brown Lounge**

**Open Session**

**Present:** A. Plastino (Chair) T. Lavoie, R. Myers, W. Johnston, R. DeRosario, S. Roach, C. Chevrier-Cachagee, R. DeRosario, L. Bell-Murray, P. Boniferro, M. Muncaster, C. Sayers, R. Linklater, Mark Nogalo, A. Vezina, W. Barnes, D. Mitchell

**Absent:** P. Nolan, A. Avery, G Walsh, S. Shoemaker, C. Denomme, J. Caicco

**Guests:** S. Dwyer, N. Landon, R. McCutcheon

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:46 pm.

The Chair welcomed Dr. Rick McCutcheon as a guest at the meeting. Rick, who will begin his term as Academic Dean in January 2015 was formally introduced to the Board by Dr. Myers.

**Chairs Comments**

The Chair noted that he, along with R. Myers, T. Lavoie and A. Vezina has attended a Council of Chairs of Ontario Universities (CCOU) conference in Toronto on November 7 & 8/2014. The conference focused on Board Governance. Keynote speakers included the Minister of MTCU, Lloyd Axworthy, former President of University of Winnipeg and former Federal MP and Harvey Weingarten, President and CEO of Higher Education and Quality Council of Ontario.

The Presidential search is progressing according to the established timeline. The Search Firm has reached out to prospective candidates across Canada and the Northern USA. There have been close to 30 expressions of interest. The Presidential Search Committee will review the candidate profiles on Dec. 11, 2014. Following this review a short list of six to eight candidates will be established. These candidates will be interviewed in early January 2015.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

The Chair noted that a consent agenda format was being introduced for the first time.

The Consent Agenda is a tool for improving governance by making efficient use of available time. A consent agenda is a bundle of items that is voted on, without discussion, as a package and differentiates between routine matters not needing explanation and more complex issues needing explanation. Typical items on a consent agenda includes minutes of previous meeting, committee reports, informational materials, approval of agenda and routine correspondence.

Any item can be removed from the consent agenda if a Board member has a question or wants to discuss an item

It was noted that R. DeRosario was absent from the Sept 25, 2014 meeting. The minutes will be corrected and this item is removed from the consent agenda.

**MOTION:** Mitchell/Lavoie

To approve the OPEN consent agenda of November 27, 2014 as amended.

**Carried.**

**MOTION:** Cachagee-Chevrier/Linklater

To approve the minutes of the September 25/2014 meeting as amended.

**Carried.**

### **BUSINESS ARISING**

**Strategic Planning Committee** – The Board reviewed the Board Note on Strategic Planning as presented by R. Myers. The draft Mission Statement as proposed by the SPC will be sent to all stakeholder groups for feedback.

The terms in Bill 80, (the Act establishing Algoma University) that specifies the special mission of Algoma University were used to arrive at the five mandates in the Mission Statement.

VeZina questioned how this mission statement would be articulated to the general public in a more concise fashion.

Myers noted that the draft document lays out the five critical principles that should serve to guide the strategy of the University.

Muncaster noted that a Mission Statement should be a quick way to articulate where you want to be. It could be one statement (easy to remember) with guiding principles.

Some alternative suggestions were discussed. Myers recommended that Board members send him ideas for a more concise statement for consideration.

VeZina questioned if there would be a Vision Statement as well.

Myers noted that there already is a Vision Statement for the University. The Vision and the Mission will in combination guide the Strategic Direction.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**A written report for the Board was distributed.**

Under the Marketing and Communications report Bell-Murray noted there are current government restrictions related to salaries when performing job re-evaluations. It was noted that the positions mentioned were required to be reviewed by a joint group of Admin and Staff personnel and will be re-evaluated using the Hay System.

## **NEW BUSINESS / ITEMS FOR DECISION**

### **Finance Committee**

**Operating Statements-** The Board reviewed the Operating Statements and Board Note as provided by the VP Finance & Administration of the September 30<sup>th</sup> Operating Statements.

**MOTION:** Bell-Murray/Johnston

The Finance committee recommends to the Board of Governors the acceptance of the draft Operating Statements as of September 30-2014.

**Carried.**

### **2013-2014 Draft Audited Financial Statements**

The Board reviewed the Draft Audited Financial Statements and the Board Note as provided by the VP Finance and Administration.

Linklater questioned the "Subsequent Event" line item and the liability amount. It was noted that this line item was reviewed by both the FNCE committee and the Board Executive Committee.

Further discussion on the Draft Audited Financial Statements was moved into the closed session of the meeting.

**MOTION:** Bell-Murray/Nogalo

The Finance Committee recommends to the Board of Governors the approval of the 2013-2014 Draft Audited financial statements as at April 30, 2014.

**Carried.**

**MOTION:** Mitchell/Johnston

The Finance Committee recommends that the Board of Governors approve the restriction of the \$1.7m surplus for capital projects.

**Carried.**

### **AU Pension Plan**

The Board reviewed the Draft Audited Financial Statements of the Pension Plan and the Board Note as provided by the VP Finance and Administration.

**MOTION:** Lavoie/Johnston

The Finance Committee recommends to the Board of Governors the acceptance of the draft Pension Plan statements as of June 30-2014.

**Carried.**

### **Algoma University Foundation**

The Board reviewed the Draft Audited Financial Statements of the AU Foundation and the Board Note as provided by the VP Finance and Administration.

Myers noted that there will be a wrap of the Essential Elements Campaign. Myers is working on a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary campaign. A more detailed plan will be presented at the next Board meeting.

It was suggested that there be a formal strategy put in place for fundraising that would outline targets and objectives.

**MOTION:** Vezina/Muncaster

The Finance Committee recommends to the Board of Governors the acceptance of the Draft Audited Financial Statements of the Algoma University Foundation as at April 30, 2014.

**Carried.**

**Program Costing-Three year trending report**

The Board reviewed the report and accompanying Board Note on the Program Costing Analysis. This report is presented on an annual basis for information.

It was suggested that this report be shared with the Academic Planning Committee, as it could be useful in determining the priority for financial resources..

**Tenure and Promotions Committee**

**Sabbatical Applicants**

Bell-Murray questioned how and if these positions are budgeted for. S. Dwyer (VPFA) noted that they are budgeted for and that the vacancies are backfilled positions. Bell-Murray noted that due to the financial obligation and to improve the budgeting process the financial implications of these vacancies should be discussed at the FNCE level prior to coming to the Board for approval.

Myers explained that this is in the nature of the academic hiring process that approval for hires must be granted months before the Board receives the budget proposal.

Sabbatical leaves are an entitlement under the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The CBA states that Sabbatical leaves require Board approval.

Bell-Murray noted that under the current process we are pre-committing and pre-approving funds for next years budget without understanding the full financial obligation.

**MOTION:** Chevrier-Cachagee/Lavoie

The Peer Review Committee recommends to the Board of Governors the awarding of sabbatical leaves from July 1, 2015-December 31, 2015 (6 months) for Michelle Atkin, Nairne Cameron.

**Carried.**

**MOTION:** Myers/Vezina

The Peer Review Committee recommends to the Board of Governors the awarding of sabbatical leaves from January 1, 2016 to June 30-2016 (6 months) for Cheryl Reed-Elder, George Townsend and Robin Isard.

**Carried.**

**MOTION:** Myers/Mitchell

The Peer Review Committee recommends to the Board of Governors the awarding of sabbatical leaves from July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016 (12 months) for Dave Brodbeck, Yi Feng, Shelia Gruner, Brandon Schamp, Nicola Shaw, Howard Webkamigad, and Simon Xu.

**Carried.**

## WRITTEN REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

<b>Board Committees</b>	Board Executive	Tim Lavoie (Chair)	Sept 8/2014 minutes Oct 6/2014 minutes
	Board Finance	Lisa Bell-Murray (Chair)	No report received
	Nominating and Governance	Steven Shoemaker (Chair)	October 22/2014 mtg
	Anishinaabe Peoples' Council	Evelyn Theriault (Chair)	No report received
	Campus Development Committee	Dom Mitchell (Chair)	No meeting to report
<b>University Bodies</b>	Senate	Rose Linklater	No report received

## QUESTION PERIOD

### MOVE INTO CLOSED

**MOTION:** Mitchell/Bell-Murray

That the Board ratify any decisions made in Closed Session.

**Carried.**

### ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Roach/Chevrier-Cachagee

That the November 27, 2014 meeting of the Algoma University Board of Governors meeting be adjourned.

**Carried.**