



Open Board of Governors Minutes

Algoma University - Board of Governors

Apr 28, 2022 at 5:30 PM EDT

@ Virtual

Attendance

Members Present (Remote):

Irene Barbeau, Melanie Borowicz-Sibenik, Cecilia Bruno, Paul Dupuis, Rebekah Gwynn, Cheyanne Herder, Sonja Kosuta, Rose Linklater, Mike Moraca, Elaine Pitcher, Mark Pitcher, Hugh Stevenson, Mario Turco, Asima Vezina

Members Absent:

Jake Pastore, Shelley Schell

Guests Present (Remote):

Shannon Brooks, Philip Landon (Universities Canada), Craig Fowler, Paul Quesnele, Donna Rogers, Kramer Rousseau

Guests Absent:

Mary Wabano-McKay

1. CALL TO ORDER (Presenters: Mike Moraca)

M. Moraca, Vice-Chair, will serve as Chair for the meeting given that S. Schell, Chair, sent her regrets.

1.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

We wish to acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek Nation. We also acknowledge that we are on sacred lands set aside for education as envisioned by Chief Shingwauk for our children and for those as yet unborn.

1.2. Meeting Chair's Opening Remarks

The Vice-Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that the Chair was not able to attend and sent in her regrets in advance. He highlighted the presentations included in the agenda for this meeting in the areas of EDI as well as the 2022-23 budget.

1.3. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

None.

2. APPROVALS OF MOTIONS MADE IN CLOSED SESSION (Presenters: Mike Moraca)

Motion:

To approve the motions made in the Closed Session.

Motion moved by Elaine Pitcher and motion seconded by Mario Turco. Carried.

3. CONSENT AGENDA (Presenters: Mike Moraca)

Motion:

That all items listed under the 'Consent Agenda' be approved as recommended.

Motion moved by Irene Barbeau and motion seconded by Mark Pitcher. Carried.

3.1. OPEN Agenda for Board Meeting

 [Open Board of Governors Agenda - Apr 28, 2022.pdf](#)

3.2. OPEN Minutes for Previous Meeting

 [Open Board of Governors Minutes - Mar 31, 2022.pdf](#)

4. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT - N/A

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1. Universities Canada Presentation: Indigenization, equity, diversity and inclusion at Canadian universities (Presenters: Philip Landon, Chief Operating Officer - Universities Canada, Elaine Pitcher)

 [Universities Canada Presentation to Algoma U Board of Governors - Philip Landon.pdf](#)

E. Pitcher advised that the Board has conducted numerous important conversations over the past few months related to the Board's role as leaders in the organization as we move through the journey of Indigenization, equity, diversity and inclusion. E. Pitcher introduced P. Landon, Chief Operating Officer for Universities Canada, to present on Indigenization, equity, diversity and inclusion at Canadian universities. P. Landon provided an overview of Universities Canada, the role of universities in IEDI, the work of university boards on IEDI, and the role that university Boards can play. He outlined that boards can help put the principles into action. Board committees and task forces can be used to advance IEDI, make investments in dedicated positions at the senior leadership level, and introduce cluster hire initiatives to ensure that people from equity deserving groups are supported as they enter. He also advised that increased diversity and equity for research at the faculty can be done. Further, Board composition can have a tremendous impact, the composition of the board should reflect the community and diversity of voices in that community. Additionally, he advised

training for boards is important to help them lead and enable conversations across the institution, setting the tone for IEDI across the campus. He advised that change takes time and must be done right, respectfully and with relational trust. The Board discussed options for training that Boards can access related to IEDI, noting that in-person training is preferred for this subject matter. The board also discussed methods of removing barriers for equity deserving groups who may want to consider membership on a Board. P. Landon advised that direct, personal outreach could be a great option.

5.2. 2022/2023 Budget Presentation (Presenters: Senior Executive Team)

 [Board Open, 2022-23 Budget Overview Slides- April 28, 2022.pdf](#)

The President and Vice-Chancellor provided an overview of the strategic focuses throughout the pandemic that helped build considerable momentum leading to this budget was provided. She outlined that critical and record investments in people, programs and processes are being made to provide a world-class cultural learning environment for a growing employee and student body. The Senior Executive Team and K. Rousseau proceeded to provide an overview of the 2022-2023 fiscal year budget as approved by the Board of Governors. The The President and Vice-Chancellor thanked the Board for strong governance and strategic planning, as well as all members of the AU community who contributed to the success of Algoma U. The Vice Chair thanked the management team for their relentless strategic focus in the operating and capital budgets to advance the university's mission and lead the university toward new goals.

6. BUSINESS ARISING - N/A

7. ITEMS FOR DECISION / DISCUSSION

7.1. Board and Committee Calendar 2022/23 (Presenters: Elaine Pitcher, Paul Quesnele)

 [BOG Calendar 2022-23 \(DRAFT\).pdf](#)

 [BOG Calendar 22-23 Rationale \(DRAFT\).pdf](#)

E. Pitcher provided an overview of the comprehensive Board and Committee Calendar for 2022/23 along with the rationale for the chosen dates. She advised that the cadence established for committee meetings will ensure proper review and flow of information. She also requested that all continuing Board members

mark their calendars for all dates as ongoing attendance for board members on a continuous basis is crucial given that meetings tend to build upon each other.

Motion:

That the Board of Governors approve the 2022/23 Board and Committee Calendar as recommended by the Nominating and Governance Committee.


Motion moved by Elaine Pitcher and motion seconded by Mario Turco. Carried.

7.2. Board Policy Revisions (Presenters: Elaine Pitcher)

E. Pitcher provided a high level overview of the policies included for revisions, identifying that the Nominating and Governance Committee has thoroughly reviewed such.

7.2.1. Policy for Expectations of Members of the Board

 [BO3 - Policy for Expectations of Members of the Board - Revised Apr 2022 - Show Markup.pdf](#)

 [BO3 - Policy for Expectations of Members of the Board - Revised Apr 2022 - No Markup.pdf](#)

 [BO3 - Policy - Policy for Expectations of Members of the Board \(current\).pdf](#)


E. Pitcher outlined the rationale to update based on a new Policy for Board Attendance, streamlined language, and to account for virtual attendance options in recognition of the tri-campus approach.

Motion:

To approve the revisions to Policy for Expectations of Members of the Board as recommended by the Nominating and Governance Committee.

Motion moved by Elaine Pitcher and motion seconded by Melanie Borowicz-Sibenik. Carried.

7.2.2. Board Agenda Development Policy

 [BO4 - Board Agenda Development Policy - Revised Apr 2022 - Show Markup.pdf](#)

 [BO4 - Board Agenda Development Policy - Revised Apr 2022 - No Markup.pdf](#)

 [BO4 - Policy - Board Agenda Development Policy \(current\).pdf](#)

E. Pitcher outlined the rationale to update given that the previous agenda setting process was cumbersome and done by the Executive Committee which has revised its Terms of Reference. The updates provide a more streamlined process, wherein the work plans drive agenda items forward along with input from the committees, then the Chair and Vice Chair would review and approve with the President.

Motion:

To approve the revisions to Board Agenda Development Policy as recommended by the Nominating and Governance Committee.

Motion moved by Rose Linklater and motion seconded by Hugh Stevenson. Carried.

7.2.3. Board Meeting Policy

 [B05 - Board Meeting Policy - Revised Apr 2022 - Show Markup.pdf](#)

 [B05 - Board Meeting Policy - Revised Apr 2022 - No Markup.pdf](#)

 [B05 - Policy - Board Meeting Policy \(current\).pdf](#)

E. Pitcher outlined the rationale to update the policy, indicated minor changes were made to position formatting, titles and contact information.

Motion:

To approve the revisions to the Board Meeting Policy as recommended by the Nominating and Governance Committee.

Motion moved by Elaine Pitcher and motion seconded by Melanie Borowicz-Sibenik. Carried.

7.2.4. Policy for E-Voting

 [B07 - Policy for E-Voting - Revised Apr 2022 - Show Markup.pdf](#)

 [B07 - Policy for E-Voting - Revised Apr 2022 - No Markup.pdf](#)

 [B07 - Policy - Policy for E-Voting \(current\).pdf](#)

E. Pitcher outlined the rationale for updating the policy, indicating that the current policy is out-dated in terms of efficiency, requiring a significant number of emails to the members. The new board portal has a streamlined approach for e-voting through the approvals feature wherein

e-votes can be established and managed fully within the board board portal, requiring significantly less emails distributed to the members.

Motion:

To approve the revisions to Policy for E-Voting as recommended by the Nominating and Governance Committee.

Motion moved by Mario Turco and motion seconded by Mark Pitcher.
Carried.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Call for Applications (Presenters: Elaine Pitcher)

The Algoma University Board of Governors is seeking individuals experienced in governance who are external to the University for positions on its Board. As a skills-based Board, we welcome applications from highly-skilled candidates who collectively will reflect the diversity of Canadian society and our students. The application deadline for candidates is May 8, 2022. More information and instructions for applicants are available here:
www.algomau.ca/bog/applications

E. Pitcher advised that the Nominating and Governance Committee has developed a robust recruitment and selection process that was launched earlier in the month with a candidate application deadline of May 8, 2022. An applications webpage was created with an outline of the desired skills and experience profiles for new candidates including those with entrepreneurial spirit, business acumen, mental health and wellness expertise along with the other attributes sought for all board members. She advised that the screening process will include a thorough review of candidate profiles, interviews, and reference checks to mitigate any reputational risks for the Board and ensure best practices. Finally, Board members were asked to refer any strong candidates to the application procedure webpage or directly the Secretary to the Board for assistance.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

9.1. Gathering at the Rapids Pow Wow - June 4 - 5, 2022

All Board members are welcome to attend.

 [Gathering At The Rapids Pow Wow - June 4-5, 2022.pdf](#)

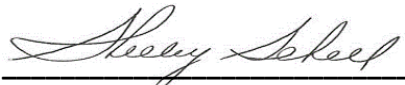
10. ADJOURNMENT (Presenters: Mike Moraca)

Motion:

That Board of Governors meeting be adjourned.

Motion moved by Irene Barbeau and motion seconded by Hugh Stevenson. Carried.

SIGNATURES



Chair



Secretary