

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

REGRETS

The Chair noted regrets from Governors Peter Bagnall, Mike Shields, Rocky Simmons, and Doug Wilson; participant JoAnne Horruzey and senior staff Margaret Greenley, Judy Moreton, Gerry Pinkney and Terry Slobodian.

Denise Jones joined the meeting via teleconference at 6:05 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Donna McFarlane introduced Spencer McCormack, second year Journalism student, representing the Chronicle. Donna also acknowledged Terry Caputo, Assistant V.P. of Finance, Durham College, and Craig Loverock, Assistant V.P. of Finance, UOIT.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

The Chair noted the addition of Item 13.7, Beacon Update; and Item 13.8, Engineering Award Update.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

None was noted.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the 26th Regular Board Meeting of February 9, 2005 were accepted, as presented.

ACTION ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Richard Levin reported on comparable ancillary fees from other universities, stating that the numbers are much the same as ours. He noted that it is hard to compile an accurate comparison and suggested that our \$520 base fee was set at the upper end of the scale. It is not the highest, but it is high.

Richard then reported on potential reasons why the number applications for the Bachelor of Education program has increased and stated that there really is no simple explanation. He suggested that it may be that the climate between teachers and the Government is warmer, but he could not see any major changes that might affect applications.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REPORTS

Governor Patrick McNeil remarked that he was very impressed with the condition of the campus property and commended the staff on the quality of their work.

Action: Cathy Pitcher will send a congratulatory letter to Ralph Aprile re the excellent maintenance of the campus grounds.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The item on the Consent Calendar was accepted, as presented.

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Craig Loverock advised that our financial position at the end of this year looks good. We received revenue from grants that was not anticipated; the amount of salary and benefits was reduced by \$100,000, through a delay in hiring for certain positions. Craig suggested that we will have a small surplus.

Inez Pinder asked what was the budgeted enrolment and Craig responded that it was 1,889. Garry Cubitt remarked on the current environment and asked what impact, if any, there might be with a balance and surplus shown at the end of this fiscal year. Sheldon Levy responded, advising that the transition funding was considered in the balance.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

UOIT Student Applications Update

Richard Levin advised that applications are up 23% over last year and UOIT is the leader in the system for percentage increase. He suggested that programs showing negative numbers are the programs that are being affected by our new offerings.

Patrick McNeil asked regarding the status of Engineering and Richard advised that Engineering is doing well. He noted that Mechanical has been affected by the new programs, but suggested that all programs will run next year.

Federal Budget Update

Sheldon Levy reported on the general effects of the new Federal Budget on postsecondary education, noting that the Government has announced \$120M to be invested over five years to improve the Special Education Program for our Aboriginal youth and a framework for an Early Learning and Child Care initiative, in collaboration with provinces and territories. Research was identified as receiving \$375M over five years for research granting councils; \$165M for Genome Canada; \$126M over five years for the University of B.C.'s TRIUMF science facility; and \$75M over five years for indirect research costs at hospitals and universities. Sheldon noted that the budget did not address the Rae Report, OSAP, and Canada Student Loans, suggesting the only mention of postsecondary was for research.

Sheldon remarked that the Rae Report was a strong report, generating strong interest. He commented that there was very little provision for postsecondary education in the Federal Budget, which has been noted by Minister Sorbara, and suggested that the Government needs to ensure that their partner is at the table re financial aid. Sheldon commented that the province of Quebec has taken a bold step and implemented an income based system for student loan repayment.

Beth Wilson joined the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Strategic Research Plan Framework

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Nursing Simulation Lab

Donna McFarlane announced that the faculty and staff of Health Sciences for DC/UOIT have been awarded \$600,000 by the Government for a Nursing Simulation Lab.

Ontario Special Olympics – 2008 Summer Olympic Games

Gary Polonsky advised that Durham Region had been awarded the Ontario Special Olympics Summer Games and the campus will participate.

Beacon Update

Gary Polonsky reported that the Beacon Project was a huge deal and noted that the announcement generated a lot of publicity about DC/UIT. He advised that the second part of the announcement will take place in April. He is trying to get top people from both levels of Government.

Gail MacKenzie commented that the commitment of the Beacon Project will cement income for some families and Gary responded that this could possibly mean employment for 500 new people to Oshawa.

Engineering Award Update

Gary Polonsky reported on the Engineering Institute of Canada's award ceremony which took place in Ottawa on March 5, 2005 and commented that at this time in his life he avoids personal awards, but suggested that this particular award was important to DC/UIT. The event was attended by hundreds of world-renowned engineers, whose perception is that UIT is pivotally important to redress the shortage of Engineers.

Gail MacKenzie inquired if there is a marketing strategy in place which focuses on females in Engineering and Richard Levin responded "not yet". Gail also advised that Ryerson University has a girls' Engineering Camp. Donna McFarlane remarked that she has been approached by some women in engineering. Patrick McNeil reported that he is currently attending a workshop, Women in Nuclear, noting that also in attendance are two bright engineering students from UIT. He also noted that the package distributed to workshop attendees contained a brochure from UIT.

Richard Marceau added that the list of honorary members for this award is quite remarkable and quite short, and now Gary had been added to that list. Gary Polonsky stated that at the start of the award ceremony the Chair introduced the "best of the best", including Richard Marceau, Marc Rosen and Parviz Gulshani. Lyn McLeod asked if this event honoured our Engineering program and Gary responded "yes". They believe in UIT and the university as a whole was being honoured.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Upcoming Events

The Chair noted the following upcoming events: UIT Scholarship Dinner on Monday, March 14; Audit & Finance Committee Meeting on Tuesday, March 22; UIT Convocation on Friday, June 3, details tba; and the DC/UIT 2005 Legacy Gala on Saturday, September 24.

TERMINATION OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting terminated at 6:46 p.m.

Lorraine Sunstrum-Mann, Chair

Gary Polonsky, President

Cathy Pitcher, Secretary
