

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. She welcomed new UOIT Governors Allan Furlong, and Dave Broadbent. She acknowledged Paul McErlean, former DC Governor, now the VP Finance & Strategy.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Donna McFarlane introduced Kelly Dodson, Director of International Recruitment; students Jin Shon, Shan Shan Cao, Divya Kakuzhyil, and Robert Curvo; Susan Barclay-Pereira, Director of Program Development, DC; Stephanie Ball, Dean, School of Justice, DC; Robin Pereira, Dean, Schools of Design & Communication Arts, DC; Greg Rohrauer, Professor, Faculty of Engineering & Applied Science, UOIT. Donna advised that Greg Naterer, Professor, Faculty of Engineering & Applied Science, would join us later in the meeting.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

The Chair noted the addition of item 13.4, Branding Update to the agenda.

She also noted regrets from Governors Peter Dixon, Denise Jones, Jim O'Donnell, Beth Wilson, and Terry Wu, participant Charlie Peel and Senior Staff member Craig Loverock. She also noted that Mark Moorcroft would be joining us by phone and Lyn McLeod would be arriving late.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

None was noted.

PRESENTATIONS

Lorraine introduced the topic of international students by informing the Board that she received an email from a potential student in Switzerland who had heard about Durham College and liked the Toronto area. Gary emailed the student and Richard Levin will be following up to ensure that the student receives all the information and help necessary.

International Students

Richard Levin introduced Kelly Dodson, Director of International Recruitment.

Kelly Dodson presented on the current statistics regarding international students on campus. She noted that this September we received over 800 international applications to UOIT; currently 5% of the student population is made up of international students and these students come from about 37 countries around the world. Kelly introduced four students who were invited to speak to the Board about their experience.

Jin Shon informed the Board that he is currently in 3rd year accounting at UOIT, but attended DC previously. He will be the first international student to graduate from both institutions.

Roberto Curvo came to Canada, specifically this area, to learn English. He is now a second year College student in the marketing program.

Shan Shan Cao is a second year commerce student from China. She saw UOIT and enjoyed the technology and quiet environment as being ideal for studying. She also felt that studying at UOIT would offer a competitive edge when entering the workforce.

Divya Kakuzhyil is a first year Nuclear Engineering student at UOIT from Kuwait and was the recipient of the Global Leadership Award. As UOIT is the only university that offers the program, her decision was easy. She felt that the transition had been relatively smooth with good people helping, as well as the library, lab and teaching aids making her learning experience positive.

Dave Broadbent asked Kelly whether there were organized tours for international students? Kelly replied that she has partnerships with specific schools, but also works closely with guidance counselors to make such arrangements.

Karen Hodgins asked whether there was anything the University and College could have done to make the transition easier. Jin suggested that more promotion and discussion of the location would be helpful.

Pierre Hinse asked the students what their greatest difficulty was with their transition. Divya responded that she was extremely homesick when she first arrived as she had to travel alone, but once classes began, she settled in. Jin suggested that the language barrier makes the transition difficult. He also noted that these language barriers are still in place upon graduation and it would be helpful for international students to gain work experience while they attend school.

Kelly Dodson, Jin Shon, Shan Shan Cao, Divya Kakuzhyil, and Robert Curvo left the meeting at this time.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the 31st Regular Board Meeting of September 14, 2005, were accepted, as presented.

ACTION ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Foundation Board will discuss recommendations at its December regarding the structure and number of Foundations, and move these to the Boards of Governors.

Cathy Pitcher will continue to communicate future student life events to Governors.

Susan Barclay-Pereira, Robin Pereira and Stephanie Ball left the meeting at this time.

DECISION ITEMS

Strategic Plan 2005-2010

Richard Marceau presented the full Strategic Plan to the Board. He provided an overview of why the plan was created, what questions were asked to focus the plan, the main goals, the process, the basic themes that resulted from the process, and outlined the milestones for success.

Essentially the plan has fourteen themes, fifty-eight goals, and approximately five-hundred eighty actions. The plan will be reviewed every three years to ensure that progress is being made. The three main themes of people, partnerships and quality are prevalent throughout the plan. The plan requires the support of the campus and local community in order to be successful.

Patrick McNeil asked whether the themes were organized by priority. His main concern was that finance and government issues were not as prominent in the listing as could be expected. Richard answered that no, there was no priority given when they determined the fourteen themes. Gary Polonsky asked if they were reorganized to reflect the importance of the funding, would that be acceptable? Richard replied that yes, this would be fine. Richard also noted that while financial stability is a necessary condition for the rest of the plan, it is important for him to manage the University. Paul McErlean expanded on Richard's comments, saying that Richard's plan is the Academic Plan, while Finance & Strategy's number one priority is financial stability.

Lorraine commented that it was excellent work, but suggested some changes. She suggested that the wording on page 77 under Finance & Strategy goal 8.1.4 should read "to maximize sharing opportunities" and list the Board of Governors as a partner. On page 95, goal 11.1 she suggested that wording should be changed to "access additional operating and capital funding envelopes," and should use the term "Reaching Higher" rather than referencing the Rae Review and that the Milestones/Timelines should be changed to December 2005. Finally, she suggested that on page 99 the Board of Governors should be added as partners for items 14.1 and 14.2.

Dave Broadbent expressed his pleasure at seeing the extent to which Student Accessibility is features in the Strategic Plan.

Moved by Garry Cubitt

Seconded by Dave Broadbent

MOTION: “That the Board of Governors of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology approve
#211 the Strategic Plan 2005-2010, as amended.”

CARRIED

Signing Authority

Paul McErlean informed the Board that signing authority needs to be approved for RBC and BMO. He noted that the only difference from prior year is the change in title to Assistant VP, Finance

Moved by Peter Bagnall

Seconded by Manon Lemonde

MOTION: “That the Board of Governors of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology approve
#212 the Incorporated Company Certificate and Agreement for the Bank of Montreal, and the Banking and Security Resolution for the Royal Bank, as presented.”

CARRIED

Campus Accessibility Plan

Margaret Greenley informed the Board that in an effort to put the responsibility for accessibility in the hands of everyone on campus, a group with representatives from every area of both institutions met to formulate the plan. She noted that there have been a number of training sessions on campus, as well as off-campus.

One aspect of the plan is a transition program being offered in the summer for students with disabilities to come to the campus to receive training, an assessment and follow-up while in session. In research in the region, it was apparent that students did not have current assessments which are essential to attending a post-secondary institution. The on-campus assessment is performed by qualified individuals and offers a convenient, high quality, and credible means to work with students.

She noted they are also looking at new facilities, such as the athletic centre expansion, to ensure accessibility. There is an accessibility architect who will review all the drawings to ensure the needs of students are met.

There have been many success stories on campus, and currently there are 600 students with disabilities enrolled. This number is expected to grow because of these success stories.

Dave Broadbent expressed his concern about the extent of the plan, and the small budget of \$100,000 to put it in place. Margaret agreed that the funds will need to be augmented by other funds and audits are being done continually to establish priority on certain projects. She also noted that the government has made accessibility a priority but despite requests, are not providing funding.

Gary Polonsky noted the intent to increase this budget each year so as to take fewer years to complete the task.

Karen Hodgins applauded the working group on a well-written document. She asked for clarification on student representation and representation for people with these disabilities. Margaret informed the Board that there are currently five students with disabilities sitting on the group.

Joanne Burghardt asked what it means to bobby-proof a website? Donna replied that this ensures a website is totally accessible, using adaptive technology to read, view, and/or hear the content of the website.

Margaret also noted that blind students have Braille laptops. She emphasized the importance of such adaptive technology.

Lyn McLeod joined the meeting at this time, 7:22 p.m.

Aileen asked who performs the assessment, and what was the cost to students for the assessment? Margaret replied that there are assessors who work with a psychologist to ensure accuracy. The cost for the assessment is \$1600 - \$1800 and the student pays \$1400. Students who are unable to afford this will receive a bursary to cover the cost because an assessment is a requirement not an option for post-secondary education.

Moved by Garry Cubitt

Seconded by Peter Bagnall

MOTION: #213 “That the Board of Governors of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology approve the Campus Accessibility Plan, as presented.”

CARRIED

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REPORTS

CONSENT CALENDAR

UOIT Academic Council Minutes

The consent item was accepted, as presented.

Gary Polonsky informed the Board that with respect to Trent, Gary and Richard Marceau met with Bonnie Patterson and Susan Apostle-Clark November 24th to continue the partnership.

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Terry Caputo informed the Board that there was a net surplus for the month of October in the amount of \$11M. However, the forecast to year end is a surplus of about \$32,000. This means UOIT is on target for approved budget and actuals.

Greg Naterer joined the meeting at this time.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None was noted.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Branding Update

Donna informed the Board that branding sessions are taking place during the week. They hope to create a positioning statement at the end of these sessions, which will drive the rest of the branding process. Once the group is satisfied with the positioning statement, the brand promise will be developed as well as a marketing plan.

Ministry Approval of UOIT Programs

Richard Marceau informed the Board that one way to alleviate the pressure on classroom space is hybrid delivery of courses. Currently there are a number of Faculties, such as Science and Business & IT, who are offering or exploring ways of offering courses in such a manner. The delivery focus becomes based on outcomes and self-learning.

October 24 Fundraising Event hosted by RBC

David Chambers informed the Board that the RBC fundraising event was successful in making new contacts as well as fundraising. They will be following up with guests who attended to speak with them about their interests, as well as contacting those that could not attend to update them on what they missed. The following day they received a call from an individual wishing to make a donation.

Gary noted that this event will occur again next year.

Status of Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) Application

Gary Polonsky noted that UOIT has reached a milestone in applying for membership and is optimistic that it will be granted in the near future.

Canadian Millennium Scholarships

Margaret Greenley was pleased to share that seven Durham College students and one UOIT student received a Millennium Scholarship Award. There were over 1000 applications, and the award was based on academic excellence and community involvement.

Quality Improvement Fund

Paul McErlean informed the Board that the Minister invited universities and colleges to submit applications to the Ministry for funding. UOIT respectfully, outlined the space problems and expects that their submission will be reviewed equitably.

Gary noted that some progress has been made with informal conversations about funding and is optimistic that a positive formal outcome will ensue.

Potential Tuition Increase Discussions

Gary expressed to the Board his hope that the main concern remains accessibility for students in the discussions about tuition increase.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

The Chair reviewed the upcoming events: Audit & Finance Committee meeting on November 24; Arena Grand Opening on December 11; and the Boards' Annual Holiday Dinner on December 14.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION – COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

None was noted.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade 2005 Business Person of the Year

The Chair wished to publicly congratulate Gary Polonsky on receiving the Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade 2005 Business Person of the Year awards.

TERMINATION OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chair terminated the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Lorraine Sunstrum-Mann, Chair

Gary Polonsky, President

Cathy Pitcher, Secretary