

## Summary of the March 27, 2027 Board of Governors Meeting

From: Jason Lisi, Board Secretary

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**Members:** *Rajni Agarwal; Robert Arnone; Dr. Claudine Cousins; David Elliott; Thomas Kehoe; Sunil Kumar; Robert Lamb; Pauline Mickelson; Michael Nitz; Dr. Leigh Potvin; Dr. Gillian Siddall; Anna Sampson; Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay; Mark Smith (Vice-Chair); Brent Sylvester; Simran Talpade; Cathy Tuckwell (Chair); Maria Vasanelli; Yolanda Wanakamik*

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The Board of Governors held a regularly scheduled meeting on March 27, 2025 on the Orillia Campus. The agenda, materials and minutes of the open Board meetings are available at [www.Lakeheadu.ca](http://www.Lakeheadu.ca).

### OPEN MEETING

#### **Spotlight Presentation: Ecuador Partnership Project with the University of Casa Grande (Dr. Mastrangelo - Professor, Lakehead University)**

Dr. Mastrangelo's presentation highlighted the research partnership in Guayaquil, Ecuador, with Lakehead University, Casa Grande University, the MEHrit Centre, and A.S.K.

Researchers from Casa Grande University recognized the escalation in youth crime and school drop-out rates in the region and how enhancing knowledge and understanding about self-regulation could be of great benefit to Ecuadorian children and youth.

Through this partnership, researchers began to teach educators about the far-reaching positive contributions of a self-regulation framework on their well-being and the well-being of their students. The Board of Governors expressed their appreciation for the presentation and gained valuable insights into this important research.

The following items of business were dealt with during the open meeting:

#### **Executive Committee**

- Report of the March 6, 2025 meeting

#### **Audit and Risk Committee**

- Report of the March 6, 2025 meeting

#### **External Relations Committee**

- Report of the March 5, 2025 meeting

## **Finance and Operations Committee**

- Report of the March 6, 2025 meeting
- Policy Review: Trust Account Management Policy
  - MOVED to approve the Trust Account Policy, as reviewed. CARRIED
- Policy Review: Endowment Management Policy
  - MOVED to approve the proposed amendments to the Endowment Management Policy. CARRIED
- Policy Review: Statement of Investment Policies and Guidelines for Trust and Endowment Funds
  - MOVED to approve the Statement of Investment Policies and Guidelines for Trust and Endowment Funds, as reviewed. CARRIED
- Statement of Investment Policies and Guidelines for Restricted Internal Funds
  - MOVED to approve the Statement of Investment Policies and Guidelines for Restricted Internal Funds, as reviewed. CARRIED
- 2025-2026 Tuition Fees
  - MOVED that the proposed tuition fees for 2025-2026 be approved, as circulated. The Administration responded to inquiries and clarified some of the information shared. CARRIED
- Annual Report on Costs of Textbooks and Other Learning Materials

In August 2024, the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) issued a directive requiring publicly funded colleges and universities to inform students of the costs of both mandatory and optional textbooks and learning materials in course syllabi. This directive, effective for courses starting in January 2025, mandates an annual report to the Board of Governors on compliance, including the communication method and plans to ensure full compliance. After Board approval, the University must report compliance to the MCU. The Administration reported a 95% compliance rate.

  - MOVED to approve the Annual Report on Costs of Textbooks and Other Learning Materials as presented. CARRIED

## **Governance and Nominating Committee**

- Report of the March 5, 2025 meeting
- Board Bylaw Amendments

Notice of Motion - In accordance with Article 12 of the Board Bylaws, notice of motion was made at the February 7, 2025 Board meeting.

  - MOVED to approve the proposed amendments to the Board Bylaws. CARRIED

## **Learning and Liaison Committee**

- Report of the March 5, 2025 meeting

## **Other Reports and Informational Items Received**

- Chair's Report

- President's Report on Appointments:
  - External Adjunct Professors
    - Dr. Matthew Scrafford was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Natural Resources Management for the term effective March 1, 2025 to February 29, 2028.
    - Dr. O'Niell Tedrow was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology for the term effective January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2028.
    - Dr. Elaine Toombs was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Health Sciences for the term effective July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2028.
  - Acting Chair
    - Dr. Steven Jobbitt was appointed as Acting Chair in the Department of Philosophy for the term effective November 28, 2024 to June 30, 2025.
    - Dr. Sultan Siddiqui was appointed as Chair of the Department of Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering for the term effective March 1, 2025 to February 29, 2028.
- March 2024 President's Report
- Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council Report (of the February 4, 2025 meeting)
- Senate Reports:
  - November 25, 2024
  - January 27, 2025
  - February 24, 2025

### **Business Arising from the In Camera Session**

The following in camera item was reported in the minutes of the open meeting:

- Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Appointment (Dr. Gillian Balfour)
    - MOVED to approve that the Board of Governors appoint Dr. Gillian Balfour as the Provost and Vice-President, Academic, for a five-year term, commencing July 1, 2025.
- CARRIED

## **IN CAMERA SESSION**

An in camera session was held to discuss items of personnel, legal, or real estate nature, and other sensitive or confidential matters. The following items of business were dealt with during the in camera session:

### **Executive Committee**

- In Camera Report of the March 6, 2025 meeting

### **Audit and Risk Committee**

- In Camera Report of the March 6, 2025 meeting

- Annual Review of the Risk Register (Top 15 Risks)

#### **Finance and Operations Committee**

- In Camera Report of the March 6, 2025 meeting
- Collaborative Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Program Update

#### **Governance and Nominating Committee**

- In Camera Report of the March 5, 2025 meeting

#### **Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Appointment (Dr. Gillian Balfour)**

- MOVED to approve that the Board of Governors appoint Dr. Gillian Balfour as the Provost and Vice-President, Academic, for a five-year term, commencing July 1, 2025. CARRIED

#### **Other Reports, Updates and Informational Items Received**

- President's In Camera Report
  - President's Advisory Committee on Financial Sustainability Report
- Chair's In Camera Report
- 2024-25 Board of Governors Meeting Schedule

The President's report on the annual renewal and tenure/simultaneous promotion to Associate Professor was reported in the minutes of the open meeting.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Governors is April 24, 2025 from 9:30am to 1:30pm (ET).