

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and welcomed Kasi Rao, Executive Director, Beacon Project and Gary Polonsky provided a brief synopsis of Kasi's career. Kasi thanked everyone for their warm welcome and stated that he felt privileged to be associated with UOIT and this project. He suggested that there is a great amount of excitement surrounding the Beacon Project and noted that he feels it is a project that will be closely watched.

REGRETS

The Chair noted regrets from Governors Pierre Hinse and Lyn McLeod and participants Aaron Keating, Paul McErlean, Patrick McNeil, Mike Shields and Gerry Warman. Regrets were also noted from Craig Loverock, Assistant V.P. of Finance, UOIT. The Chair also noted that Governors Garry Cubitt and Mark Moorcroft and participant Inez Pinder would arrive late.

Beth Wilson joined the meeting via teleconference at 6:06 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Donna McFarlane introduced John Perz, Associate Dean, Faculty of Science; and Mike Ruta, education reporter for Metroland News. She acknowledged Terry Caputo, Assistant V.P. of Finance, DC.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

The Chair noted the addition of Item 14.1i) Joint Relations Committee Meeting and Item 14.1 j) Nominating Committee Meeting.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

None was noted.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the 27th Regular Board Meeting of March 9, 2005 were accepted, as presented.

ACTION ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

A congratulatory letter was sent on behalf of the Board to Ralph Aprile re the excellent maintenance of the campus grounds.

DECISION ITEMS

Mark Moorcroft, Inez Pinder and Garry Cubitt joined the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

Master of Science (MSc) in Applied Bioscience Program Approval

Richard Marceau stated that this is an incredible moment, noting that this is the first Masters' program for UOIT. It is also the first program to be brought forward to the Board for approval, after which all programs will come to the Board for approval. He introduced John Perz, Associate Dean, Faculty of Science.

John Perz stated that this program brings all of our strengths together and will be an effective use of our research labs. This Masters program has three formal courses, a research course and a thesis that will require defending. John suggested that students will enrich the research of UOIT and will also have the opportunity to teach undergraduate students. This is a cost efficient program and will give UOIT more status within the university community.

Richard Marceau noted that this is part of our Strategic Plan for the next few years and meets the tenure part of the faculty program.

Doug Wilson asked if there is any Ontario university that does not have a graduate program? Richard responded that all Ontario universities have graduate programs, but some of them are not as strong at the graduate level.

Karen Hodgins asked if this program is planned for a September 2006 start and Richard explained that that is the plan, but there is a lot of work to be done yet. Karen then asked re the number of anticipated students. John Perz suggested that in four years we can expect twenty students per year, with possible numbers of thirty plus at any given time. John explained that these numbers match the space and faculty available, and noted that we will not be the largest such program in Ontario, but not the smallest either.

Moved by Doug Wilson

Seconded by Manon Lemonde

MOTION #U168 “That the Board of Governors of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology approve the Master of Science (MSc) in Applied Bioscience Program, as presented.”

CARRIED

Student Governor Election Results for 2005-2006 Term

Moved by Peter Bagnall

Seconded by Doug Wilson

MOTION #U169 “That the Board of Governors of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology endorse the appointment of Pierre Hinse to the Board as the full-time Student representative for a one year term effective September 1, 2005 in accordance with the election results of March 15, 2005, and that the ballots for the election be destroyed.”

CARRIED

Teaching Staff (Faculty) Election Results

Moved by Denise Jones

Seconded by Joanne Burghardt

MOTION #U170 “That the Board of Governors of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology endorse the appointment of Manon Lemonde as the full-time Teaching Staff (Faculty) representative to the Board for a three-year term effective September 1, 2005 in accordance with the election results of April 12, 2005, and that the ballots for the election be destroyed.”

CARRIED

Recognition of Student Organizations Policy

Margaret Greenley remarked that the introduction of UOIT has brought about phenomenal changes to our shared campus. She noted that previously there were approximately seventeen clubs, while this year there are currently forty. Margaret explained that there are two types of clubs: those where the goal is inclusive, and faculty organizations which are tied into the students’ programs. Margaret noted that fraternities and sororities are not recognized as institutional organizations, but are recognized as “off campus” groups.

Doug Wilson remarked that age or sexual orientation are not noted in the policy and asked if these two subjects had been debated? Margaret stated that they had not been debated and will be included in the policy. She thanked Doug for identifying them.

Moved by Peter Bagnall

Seconded by Joanne Burghardt

MOTION #U171 “That the Board of Governors of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology approve the Recognition of Student Organizations Policy, as amended.”

CARRIED

Report of the Audit & Finance Committee Meeting held March 22, 2005.

Denise Jones noted that Sheldon Levy, Terry Caputo, and Craig Loverock, as well as representatives from PIC and the Foundation, had provided very informative presentations at the Audit & Finance Meeting on March 22, 2005.

Approval of the UOIT 2005-2006 Budget

Sheldon Levy explained that the major assumption of the budget is enrolment and retention rates. He noted that without an available history base, first year student numbers are an estimate. The Rae funds were estimated conservatively at \$1M. It includes Quality Assurance funding and transitional funding, which he will explain later. He explained that our assumption with the Rae funding is that they will respond to about one-quarter of the recommendation, a conservative assumption. Sheldon suggested that the Provincial budget will have a heavy focus on post-secondary education.

Sheldon stated that our enrolments have increased 32% in first-choice applications, and the system is up by 3%. He noted that UOIT is not far behind Trent in applications. Each Faculty is doing well and enrolments are strong overall.

Gary Polonsky stated that we are currently ahead of both Nipissing and Lakehead Universities.

Sheldon continued with the operating portion of the budget, noting that flow-through items such as the laptop program are not included. He explained that the deficit is \$4.5M, which is an equal amount to our request for transitional funds, and thus, we can assume tentatively that we have a balanced budget.

Sheldon next presented a back-up plan for 2006-2007 in the event that we do not receive the transition funding, and noted that this is not a proposal, but demonstrates what could happen. The plan would be to borrow funds which have been set aside for the Engineering building, and these funds would be paid back over two years. He explained that realistically, this plan is not sustainable, and we would be back into advocacy with the Government.

Sheldon reviewed Shared Services and their net contribution and moved on to the operating risks, noting the primary risks being: meeting our enrolment target; obtaining our transitional funding of \$4.5M; the amount of funding to come from the Rae Review; and the ability of PIC and Fundraising to meet their funding obligations for the debenture. Sheldon noted that we have received an email from Bob Christie requesting additional information regarding our request for further transitional funding. UOIT has responded to Mr. Christie's email, outlining our needs. The response notes the delays with PEQAB; we would need to reduce our enrolment target, resulting in a \$4M reduction in tuition. Fewer tenure stream faculty would be necessary, at which point PEQAB could say that we have too many part-time faculty for program approvals. Sheldon explained that all these factors could result in a loss of \$6M in expected revenue. We would also realize \$1.6M of savings from loss of revenue, in relation to fewer students. Sheldon stated that the Government has received clear and persuasive information from us.

Gary Polonsky noted that Bob Christie has called but did not provide any further information.

Sheldon advised that we recently received some unexpected funding from the Government, which makes us feel positive about our request for transitional funding. He recommended that the budget be approved by the Board of Governors.

Sheldon explained to Terry Wu that he had removed anything that was flow-through from the pie chart. Terry asked for clarification why, on the table, Physical Resources was shown as \$2.7M and on the pie chart as \$2.9M. Sheldon said that he would get an explanation from Craig Loverock.

Action: Sheldon Levy will clarify with Craig Loverock the discrepancy between the table and pie charts.

Gail asked if the new programs will help with the revenue stream and Sheldon responded “yes”, noting that he feels there is a large amount of money to come for graduate degree growth. He also noted that the research record of UOIT is phenomenal.

Moved by Garry Cubitt

Seconded by Peter Bagnall

MOTION #U172 “That the Board of Governors approve the 2005-2006 University of Ontario Institute of Technology Budget as prepared by Administration and indicating revenues of \$42,343,026, expenditures of \$42,343,026, and a surplus of \$0 (nil). This Budget is based on \$4.5M of anticipated transitional funding from the Province. If this transitional funding is not received, an alternative budget strategy will be brought to the Board.”

CARRIED

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Terry Caputo reported on behalf of Craig Loverock and stated we have a variance of \$281,000 as savings in expenses have allowed a small surplus. It was also noted that due to delayed hiring of staff, salaries and benefits are under budget.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

NSERC Recovery Grants

Richard Marceau stated that last October, UOIT submitted seventeen grant requests and have had twelve approved. We have also had twenty-three out of thirty (or 77%) NSERC-eligible requests funded higher than the provincial average.

Action: Cathy Pitcher to send congratulatory letters to the NSERC recipients.

Ministry Approval of UOIT Programs

Richard Marceau reported that UOIT has received Ministry approval for the following programs: Bachelor of Health Sciences (Comprehensive Health Sciences) Degree Program; Bachelor of Engineering (Software Engineering) Honours Degree Program; and Bachelor of Engineering and Management (Software Engineering and Management) Honours Degree Program.

Ministry Intent to Grant Approval of UOIT Programs

Richard Marceau noted that the Ministry has notified UOIT of its intent to grant approval for the following programs: Bachelor of Engineering and Management (Electrical Engineering and Management) Honours Degree Program; Bridge program between the DC Business Diploma Program and the UOIT Bachelor of Commerce Honours Degree Program; Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical Engineering) Honours Degree Program; Bachelor of Science (Computing Science) Honours Degree Program; Bachelor of Science (Forensic Science) Honours Degree Program; Master of Information Technology Security Degree Program;

amendment of Bachelor of Science (Nursing) Degree Program; and mode of delivery of six Baccalaureate degree level courses in programs that currently have Ministerial Consent.

Downey Report Follow-up

Gary Polonsky noted that at this time there is nothing further to report.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Upcoming Events

The Chair noted the following upcoming events: Executive Committee Meeting on Thursday, April 14; Musical Fundraiser on Tuesday, May 10; DC/VOIT Community Open House on Saturday, May 14; VOIT Convocation on Friday, June 3; DC/VOIT 2005 Legacy Gala on Saturday, September 24; Joint Relations Committee Meeting on May 17; Nominating Committee Meeting on May 30; and a Building Committee Meeting, details tbd.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION – COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Manon Lemonde reported that DC/VOIT will be holding a Nursing information open house on May 12 for students from Grade 7 to 11. This date was chosen because it is International Nurses Day.

TERMINATION OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting terminated at 8:03 p.m.

Lorraine Sunstrum-Mann, Chair

Gary Polonsky, President

Cathy Pitcher, Secretary