

**THE GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE
OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

**APRIL 13, 2015
CASA LOMA CAMPUS, 160 KENDAL AVENUE, TORONTO, ROOM E421
5:30 P.M.**

Present:	Joe Zenobio, Chair Jim Daku Paul Clifford Shivam Kumar Khullar	Kevin King Joshua Li Anne Sado Bob Richardson	Martha J. Tory Laurel Walzak Mike Williams
Guests:	Adrienne Galway Laura Jo Gunter Leslie Quinlan	Paul Ruppert Karen Thomson Mark Nesbitt	Robert Luke Cindy Gouveia Ric Ho
Observers:	n/a		
Regrets:	Mark Guslits	Wing Ki CHan	
Minutes:	Mona Modaresi		

1.0 Did you know presentation – Building Information Modeling (“BIM”) Lab followed by demo – Petro Karanxha and Alena Konovalova

Board members were invited to the College’s BIM lab where they learned about the BIM initiative including: the BIM management program offered to students; BIM Technology process adoption support; BIM projects and partners, and the future plans in support of growth of BIM. They also received a demo of the state-of-the-art 3D visualization system in the BIM lab.

2.0 Chair’s Report

Chair Zenobio confirmed the time and location details for the board retreat being held the following day.

Chair Zenobio advised members that Pawandeep Singh has been elected as the new student representative of the board, effective September 1, 2016 for a one year term. He thanked Shivam Khullar for his efforts as the current student board member.

Chair Zenobio reminded members that the next board meeting would be held on June 8th at 4:30 and would be followed by the Honorary Recipients Dinner at 6:00 pm at the Chefs’ House restaurant. He also requested that members notify M. Modaresi regarding the convocation ceremonies that they wish to attend from June 13-17 at the Sony Centre.

3.0 Consent Agenda

Chair Zenobio reviewed the items on the consent agenda. The 2016-17 proposed student fee increases were reviewed in detail:

Tuition Fees: M. Nesbitt advised the Board that the proposed increase to student tuition fees comply with MTCU’s tuition framework which permits a per annum increase of 3% and up to 5% for high demand programs; this is the last year of the three-year MTCU policy. The weighted-average tuition fee increase from the proposed schedule is 3%.

Material Fees: M. Nesbitt advised that these fees reflect the actual costs of materials to deliver the programs; the Finance Department works closely with the Academic divisions in arriving at each program's material fee, and the year-to-year changes are highly variable.

Ancillary Fees: For the past several years the College and the Student Association have approved a series of enhanced technology fee increases bringing the College's technology fees more in line with that of other Colleges and improving services to students. In Sept. 2015 the Student Association Board of Directors approved an increase of \$31/year for 2016-17. Consistent with the 2012 agreement between the College and the Student Association, other ancillary fees were adjusted based on the CPI increase of 1.12% for 2016-17.

A discussion ensued about the increase in fees. It was suggested that a presentation be made by management to the Student Association to ensure that they are aware and are aligned with the increase in fees. The Board was in agreement with the change in fees as presented.

There were no further comments or questions raised with regards to the Consent Agenda. The following motion was passed:

MOTION 16-02-01

THAT the Board of Governors approves the consent agenda for the April 13, 2016 meeting which includes the following items:

- **Approval of the Board of Governor Minutes – February 10, 2016**
- **Approval of the new Sound Design and Production Post-graduate Certificate, Centre for Arts and Design and Information Technology;**
- **Approval of the new Honours Bachelor Digital Experience Design program, Centre for Arts and Design and Information Technology;**
- **Approval of 2016-2017 Child Care Fees**
- **Approval of the following Student Fees:**
 - **Approval of the 2016-2017 Student Tuition Fees**
 - **Approval of the 2016-2017 Student Material Fees**
 - **Approval of the 2016-2017 Ancillary Fees**

Moved: Bob Richardson

Seconded: Paul Clifford

CARRIED

4.0 Foundation Update – Cindy Gouveia

C. Gouveia, President of Foundation provided a Foundation update to the board including an update on the "Success at Work" campaign initiative; Foundation's highlights of 2015-16, the budget for 2016-17, and information about various fundraising events.

Some highlights for 2015-16 include: The Foundation has raised \$36 million of the \$60 million dollar goal for the success at work campaign so it has surpassed the halfway mark toward meeting its goal. The college received the single largest donation in history of Ontario's Colleges on May 12th from Jack Cockwell as a tribute to his mother Daphne Cockwell. The Foundation was founded in 1984 and last year, it raised more revenue than its entire history. Other key achievements noted were as follows:

- Surpassed budget- achieved \$12 million over \$4.5 million budget;
- Developed new partnerships with Brookfield Partners Foundation, Coca Cola, Redpath, TBM, National Bank;
- Held 7 cheque presentations;
- Hosted 25 donor stewardship & prospects events;
- Recruited 3 new board members; and,
- Established a stronger collaboration with College, Divisions and Awards Office.

C. Gouveia also discussed the upcoming 2016-2017 events and invited board members to attend some of these events and to invite contacts from their networks to support these events. In particular, members were encouraged to

participate in the Chancellor's circle reception being held on June 7th and the 5 to Watch Awards being held on June 9th.

Chair Zenobio thanked C. Gouveia on behalf of the board for her presentation.

5.0 Approval of the proposed 2016-18 Budget Plan and Strategic Investments – Martha Tory and Mark Nesbitt

M. Tory and M. Nesbitt sought the board's endorsement for the proposed 2016-17 Budget Plan & Strategic Investments.

M. Nesbitt advised that the Finance & Property committee had reviewed the proposed budget extensively at its April 6th meeting, including a summary presentation, budget details and notes. He explained that the college has traditionally set its budgets and tracked performance on a cash basis of accounting. However, M. Tory had raised the question as to how the proposed budget would look under normal GAAP/PSAB (accrual) accounting and reporting. The PSAB accounting of the proposed budget shows a \$3.125M deficit with expenses greater than revenue. A three-year PSAB-presentation analysis of prior budgets and actual results showed that while the college showed a deficit budget under GAAP/PSAB, a surplus was actually achieved each year. Board members agreed that the PSAB format would be useful and more progressive. Going forward, management will explore a change to using PSAB for budgeting, for implementation in the 2017-18 fiscal year.

The following key points were mentioned about the 2016-17 Budget Plan:

2015-16 Review: An operating surplus at year-end is anticipated and the College continues to be in sound financial position.

2020 Strategic Imperatives were listed; challenges and opportunities were flagged for 2016-17; key assumptions and risk mitigations were built into the proposed budget. New to the budget is the \$4M added to revenue and expenses for the new student residence, opening this year; residence expenses will be covered by residence revenue. The budget yields an operating cash surplus of \$1.7M including funding of \$8.0M for Strategic Initiatives.

The following motions were passed:

MOTION – 16-02-02

- **That the Board of Governors approves the Proposed Budget Plan and Strategic Investments for 2016-17 as presented.**
- **Recognizing the College has historically set their budgets and tracked performance on a cash basis of accounting that the Board of Governors directs management to explore a change to using PSAB (accrual accounting) for budgeting, for implementation in the 2017-18 fiscal year.**
- **Given historical actual financial performance being well better than budget, that the Board of Governors approves that a strive objective for management be established to achieve a break-even for 2016-17 using PSAB, recognizing the opportunity for the board to approve any strategic expenditures that may merit investments for the future.**

6.0 College Ontario Report – A. Sado

Highlights from the last Colleges Ontario committee of President's meeting of November, 2015 were reviewed including:

- **Task force on Tuition:** The Committee of Presidents (COP) approved the creation of a college sector task force to develop options for government on a new tuition framework. The provincial government's current tuition framework for post-secondary institutions – which covers policies such as the caps on tuition increases – enters its final year in 2016-17. It's expected the government will announce a new framework in early 2017. To help the sector develop a position in advance, the task force established by COP will develop policy

options over the spring and summer that will be considered by presidents at their strategic retreat in September.

- **Meeting with Environment Minister Glen Murray:** Environment and Climate Change Minister Glen Murray met with presidents to discuss how the colleges can help the government reduce man-made greenhouse gas emissions. Murray said there will be a role for colleges to play in training graduates for the green economy. He said there will be a demand for people with green skill sets in everything from building construction to new technology. As well, he said there may be an opportunity for colleges to work with government on retrofits and infrastructure improvements at the colleges that reduce energy use. Colleges Ontario will be following up with a framework document that will be provided to the minister next month. A working group of senior leaders from the colleges will work with Colleges Ontario on the document. Adel Essayed from George Brown College is participating in the working group
- **Provincial panel on developing a highly skilled workforce:** Presidents spoke about the college sector's challenges and strengths with Sean Conway, the chair of a provincial panel examining ways to develop a more highly skilled workforce. Conway, a former Ontario cabinet minister, said the Wynne government created his panel to look at developing an integrated strategy to respond to technology-based challenges in the economy. The panel has conducted round-table discussions and held a provincial summit on talent and skills in January that was hosted at Durham College. Conway said his panel is to provide its recommendations to the government by the end of the summer. One of the challenges facing Ontario today is the lack of good information about the opportunities in today's labour market. The province needs to develop a better understanding of what constitutes a good partnership between businesses and post-secondary institutions. Presidents supported a proposal to send a paper from the sector to Conway's panel.
- **Skills symposium in June:** The presidents endorsed a proposal from Colleges Ontario to run a June symposium in Toronto that looks at future workforce challenges. Linda Franklin, the president and CEO of Colleges Ontario, said that as Ontario puts more focus on employment outcomes for post-secondary graduates, the symposium will reaffirm the central role that colleges play in preparing people for career success. She said the government is looking to find ways to get more employers engaged in discussions about the province's workforce challenges. As part of the symposium, a report will be prepared by leading economists on labour market challenges in the years ahead. Also discussed were the Stand Alone Nursing Degrees, Funding Formula Task Force, and Apprenticeship Reforms.

President's Report A. Sado

A. Sado brought forward the following items for information and discussion:

Financial Viability

1. Enrollment – we are progressing well towards our target – ie at 39% of confirmations for Fall 2016 at this point in the cycle – which is where we were last year. Spring 2016 looks good – with strong applications and confirmations, based on a 7% increase in applications. We should meet our target of just over 5600 students. We're at 94% of target vs 88% at this time last year.

Staff / College Successes

2. A group of students from Centre for Business participated again this year in the Vanier College BDC Case Challenge in Montreal in mid-February. The team was coached by Professors Tom Arhontoudis and John Hendrix and included students Patricia Tucci, Claudia Condi-Motta and Melanie Dos Ramos. This is a national competition and 32 colleges competed. Six teams go to finals – and GBC came in fourth this year. Congratulations to the team and their dedicated professors!

3. In mid-March, the GBC Enactus team competed in the Regional competitions. They brought home 3 trophies, including 3rd place in the Capital One Financial Education Challenge, 3rd place in the Scotiabank Youth Empowerment Challenge and 2nd place in the TD Entrepreneurship Challenge. Congratulations to all the students involved and a warm thank you to the faculty advisors – Deidre Fitzpatrick, Robert Goode, William Rose and Tom Supra. The Enactus National Championships is being hosted in Toronto in early May.

4. We celebrated the official opening of the Fashion Exchange in Regent Park on March 29th. This initiative was made possible thanks to a Youth Skills Connection Grant from the Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Innovation and several private partners.

5. We're into the heart of Student Award season. Each ceremony was unique to the division hosting – but all were phenomenal. A. Sado thanked Chancellor Sally Horsfall-Eaton for attending so many of the events. 214 awards were presented at the CHCA ceremonies, worth \$270,000 – which is about \$100K more than last year. We were also delighted to welcome 15 new award sponsors this year. In Business, we gave out 160 awards worth about \$150K. A. Sado thanked the Board members who have supported our scholarships in the past. At the Business awards this year A. Sado was very pleased to meet the young woman who won the Laurel Walzak Women in Sport Award. BTW – she plays for the Kazakhstani Women's National Hockey team! That evening, the Hubert and Eulalee King Scholarship – set up by Kevin King – was also awarded.

Government and other activities

1. The Federal Government tabled their annual budget on March 22nd, with a number of areas of interest for post-secondary. These include:

- \$2B over three years for a new Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund (SIF).
- A comprehensive review of all elements of federal support for fundamental science.
- Support for Post Sec-Industry partnerships for coop and other WIL opportunities. They have allocated \$73M for this over four years.
- Up to \$800M over 4 years, starting in 2017-18 to support innovation networks and clusters as part of the Government's upcoming innovation agenda.
- Reforms to the Canada Student Loans Program
- An expert panel on Youth Employment was also proposed.

2. Recent speaking engagements attended by A. Sado:

- Metropolis Conference. In its 18th year, the conference focusses on expanding knowledge about the experiences and challenges related to migration. A. Sado spoke about the work we at George Brown as part of a panel. She was proud to speak about the programs we have, including language training, entry advising, Prior Learning Assessment, the Choices Program and Build Connections Workshops...among many others. The board may also be interested in knowing that we'll soon be launching a 4 week program aimed at newly arrived Syrian refugee women.
- The Numeracy Gap – A. Sado spoke at the Economic Club on the subject of a recently published paper ... The Numeracy Gap...which outlines challenges in Ontario with the numeracy skills of students in our school system. This is certainly an issue at all colleges – including GBC - where 35 to 40% of the students we test for math placement need to be enrolled in remedial – or “foundation” level math to help ensure they will be successful in their programs of study. This is a key retention issue. The college system was involved in a 9 year study called the College Math Project. We are now trying to elevate awareness of and attention to numeracy...and make it just as important as literacy. The panel included Don Drummond, former TD Chief Economist representing the voice of the business community and universities; Gerry Connelly, Director of Policy at the Learning Partnership representing the voice of K-12 and myself representing post- secondary education. We also taped an episode for the Agenda yesterday – which will be aired on April 19th.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to a private session of the Board at 6:45 p.m.