



UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE SENATE APPROVED MINUTES

Friday, February 9, 2024
1:30 p.m., AH100 & Zoom

- Present:** T. Whitehead (Chair), F. Baskerville, M. Booyens (Virtual), V. Boras, T. Boulet, N. Buis-Deering, M. Campmans, D. Colwell, K. Colwell (Virtual), R. DeGagne, J. Doan, R. Doria, A. Ebenmelu (Virtual), B. Galts, K. Godfrey (Late), M. Helstein, D. Jayas, H. MacBeath (Virtual), G. Mankee, D. McKenna (Virtual), A. Mercader, S. Mintz, E. Mundell, J. Oldfield, H. Ortega Arango (Virtual), T. Petriw, D. Piper, M. Qazi (Virtual), K. Rabbit-Young Pine, T. Rempel, T. Saunders, B. Scott, J. Shriner, B. Simpson, S. Sjovold, L. Spadavecchia, B. Spenceley, M. Thomas, B. Tucker (Virtual), N. Walker (Virtual), M. Watson, L. Wyton (Virtual), D. Yellow Horn
- Regrets:** A. Boras, J. Dempsey, M. Gettman, K. Greenwood, C. Gillespie, T. Grindle, B. Hughes, L. Kolk, S. Koppe, A. Mardon, T. Panczak, S. Parmar, U. Patel, R. Preston, M. Watson, F. Wright
- Other:** G. DeSteur, J. Gallais

Oki. The chair opened the meeting with the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement and a moment of silence for Senator Isabell Russell who passed away in December 2023. New and departing Student members were also recognized.

Dr. Jon Doan, Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences, presented to the Senate on Faculty of Health Sciences. The presentation was followed by a brief question period.

1. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the Senate Meeting Agenda – February 9, 2024
- 1.2. Approval of the Senate Meeting Minutes – December 1, 2023

MOTION: sen.2024.02.01

Shriner/Mintz

That the Senate approves the Consent Agenda for February 9, 2024.

Motion: Carried

2. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

T. Whitehead highlighted a few things in his enclosed report:

- Continued work on the Food Sovereignty with Senior Leadership and meaningful progress has been made. There will be more to report on this topic soon.
- The Senate Plan has been developed and is in the first draft phase. The Plan will be brought to Senate for approval in April.
- If Music Be the Food of Love Fundraiser will be taking place on Thursday, February 15, 2024, at South Minister United Church at 7:30 pm. This will support The Students' Union Foodbank, The Lethbridge Foodbank, and the Interfaith Foodbank. Senate is encouraged to attend.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

D. Jayas highlighted a few items within the enclosed report:

- Rebecca Schiff was appointed our new Deputy Provost. Rebecca will be joining the UofL from UNBC in May.
- Continued meetings with campus groups and community members with Provost, Michelle Helstein.
- Strategic Planning process consultation is still underway, and we have had a few World Cafes and events on both the Lethbridge and the Calgary Campus.
- The Federal Government is implementing a cap on study permits for all of Canada. President Jayas spoke on some of the details of the allocation of these permits as per province populations. Alberta's population allows us to still increase International Students rates, leaving the University with opportunity for growth.

A question about compensation for financial reduction in terms of International Students rates based on provincial allocations. President Jayas noted that we are anticipating an increase in Study Permits allocated to the UofL. In terms of compensating for budget reductions it would be a similar process for creating any balanced budget.

4. REPORTS

4.1. Board of Governors

T. Boulet highlighted a few items from the enclosed report:

- The Fees and rates have been discussed and the Board approved.
- The Institute for Geospatial Inquiry, Instruction, and Innovation hosts 17 institutions on our campus and this Institute brings in more scholars, debate, and more papers written.
- Nancy Walker was appointed to the Universities Academic Pension Plan as the trustee for the UofL

A question arose on the cost difference between international student and domestic student fee rates. It was noted that international students are not subsidized by the Campus Alberta Grant and must pay the entire cost of the program. Our fees are often less than other institutions and the International Student fees are not governed by provincial tuition fee regulations.

4.2. General Faculties Council

B. Hughes was not present, and the report was enclosed.

4.3. Alumni Association

D. McKenna reported on the enclosed report and highlighted a few things:

- Play Day 2024 – ULAA is hosting the Cardboard Playroom – Please let Gage DeSteur know if you know where we can get cardboard for this event.
- Alumni Association Strategic Planning Events are upcoming. If you are interested in attending these please reach out to Gage and he will connect you with Michael Gale, Alumni Relations Officer.

4.4. Graduate Students' Association

J. Oldfield highlighted the following:

- Meeting of the Minds (March 23rd & 24th, 2024) and having Senate attend, judge, and volunteer. Senators to let Gage know if they want to participate or judge.

4.5. Students' Union

E. Mundell highlighted some of the items in the enclosed report:

- The ULSU attended New Student Orientation on both the Lethbridge and the Calgary Campus.
- Spring Clubs week
- Free Breakfast for 180 Students
- Copyright Campaign with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) to support educational fair dealing and preserving the current copyright laws in place.
- Hosted Stress Less Week with free Snacks all week and plenty of events.
- Foodbank and Pantry is seeing an increase in use as students are battling affordability with rising cost of living.
- The ULSU food pantry is now open as a Bodega for students and offers fresh produce now.
- The ULSU met with Universities Canada and 95 ministers to share their advocacy priorities.
- The Executive team attend a counterparts' conference through the Council of Alberta University Students in Calgary.
- Continued work advocating for students to the municipal government.

A question arose on the copyright campaign and how Senate can support that campaign. E. Mundell noted that Senate can support this by spreading awareness on this issue. There are prewritten letters that can be signed at the ULSU office (SU180) to show support for this initiative.

It was suggested that the ULSU should use more graphics to get the message across in a more meaningful way and clarity was given that CASA has graphics premade on their website.

Regarding food it was asked about the types of food Senate should bring to best support student needs for the pantry. They are now accepting fresh produce, but the best things are healthy and easy meals.

They were asked to provide more information about the Bodega that the ULSU is hosting and if there is a fridge for perishable goods. The Bodega is a test run to see how great the demand is for food. It was also noted that the Bodega does not have a fridge to store perishable foods yet. also It was highlighted that Lethbridge College had similar issues and when they got the fridge it allowed them to accept perishable food.

Some final questions were around advocacy work regarding international student visa cap and the ULSU sharing with Senate more on their work which is also accessible on their ULSU website.

M. Thomas also highlighted the Pass the Hat campaign and shared that Senate lost the annual competition between Senate, Board, and GFC.

4.6. Executive Committee

T. Whitehead reported on the enclosed report.

4.7. Engagement Committee

D. Piper reported on the enclosed report and reported the following:

- The Senate Engagement Schedule is enclosed in this agenda and D. Piper will highlight this later in the agenda.
- HDR Hosts and Citations Readers have been selected by the Engagement Committee. Senators who are interested in hosting a Honorary Degree recipient are encouraged to join the Engagement Committee. Please email Gage and we will get you signed up for the Engagement Committee.

4.8. Honorary Degree Committee*

B. Galts noted the committee has not met since the last Senate Meeting.

4.9. Volunteer Award Committee

T. Whitehead highlighted a item from the enclosed report:

- Quorum for this meeting was not met but the election of the 2024 Volunteer Award Recipient will take place via email vote.

4.10. Other Member Reports/Inquiries

**This committee has not met since the last Senate meeting*

There were no other reports.

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1. Senate Winter Activities Schedule

D. Piper introduced the Spring/Winter 2024 Senate Engagement Schedule and highlighted some required, optional, and external event opportunities for Senate. D. Piper also noted that these events are great ways to get Senate Moments to share.

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

6.1. Senate Moments

D. Piper led Senate Moments and the following was reported:

- D. Piper’s Senate Moment was the Speed Networking Night with students. This event was hosted by Career Bridge and was very successful.
- D. Piper also highlighted that E. Mundell was once one of D. Pipers students.
- K. Rabbit Young-Pine also highlighted the Speed Networking Night and the connection that she was able to make with some of the students was invaluable.
- J. Doan talked about meeting lots of UofL alumni in the medical sector at the Distant Medical Education Conference.
- T. Boulet highlighted Green Shirt Day and that a UofL Alumni has designed the shirt.
- B. Scott highlighted the Partner for Life initiative at Canadian Blood Services and this year the UofL Women’s Soccer team won the Excellence in Collaboration, Engagement, and Influence Award.
- A. Mercader attended The Future is Human event where she got to meet a lots of UofL international students at her table and they shared lots of great conversation.
- R. Doria shared her experience with the cap on International Student permits and highlighted that she was once a international student and being able to help other international students is an incredible experience.
- S. Sjovold highlighted being able to meet other neuroscience students across the province.
- S. Sjovold also highlighted that there is a large research grant that has been successful for the University and a company that will be relocating to Lethbridge. There will be more information on this coming soon as a public announcement is made.

10 Senate Moments were shared.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: sen.2024.02.02

Scott/Baskerville

That the Senate be adjourned for February 9, 2024.

Motion: Carried