

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

Wednesday, February 24th 2021

at 4:30pm via Zoom

Present: Rev. M. Sargent (Chair), D. Malloy, J. Major, A. Jardine, F. Cheong, N. Brennan, G. Balfour, C. Chovaz, F. Galloway, G. Hardman, G. Hegedus, A. Jolliffe, K. Lakhotia, B. Leschied, C. MacDonald, J. Macklin, P. Marques, M. Mason, M. O'Hare, K. Regan, L. Staudt, M. Thuss, L. White-Eye, P. Wilkinson, P. Wilton

Regrets: B. Kitching, K. Mequanint, H. Mostafa

Guests: Rev. M. Bechard, A. Co-Dyre, J. Horne, J. Henry, J. Antoniak, L. Melnyk Gribble, J. Gordon, T. Jory, G. Miller (Federation for Humanities and Social Sciences), D. Ross (KUCSC)

1. Opening Prayer

Chair, Rev. M. Sargent opened with a reflection.

2. Approval of the agenda

MOTION

That the agenda of Wednesday, February 24th, 2021 be approved.

M/S

F. Galloway/N. Brennan

Carried

3. Conflict of Interest Declarations

There was no conflict of interest declared.

4. Presentation: Gabe Miller, Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Principal, D. Malloy introduced Gabriel Miller, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Federation for Humanities and Social Sciences, to present on the advantages of a liberal arts education.

G. Miller discussed the challenges and opportunities faced by King's and other liberal arts postsecondary institutions in Canada. Education at King's empowers its graduates to adapt and be sensitive to the constantly evolving global work environment. The attainment of a liberal arts education was likened to a passport that opens up opportunities to meaningful destinations of one's choosing.

An observation was made from the Board that a liberal arts education, particularly in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition (CIT), cultivates creative problem solvers. It was also noted that individuals with the flexibility to think outside of their own realities are more resilient with managing the inevitable uncertainties of life. G. Miller noted that there is a pressing need to equip individuals to assimilate the vast amount of data and information now readily available due to technological advances.

G. Miller explained that the province is progressively doing more to support an emphasis on career preparedness skills in universities. Principal D. Malloy shared that a King's alum, Dr. D. Finch, had conducted a study on the factors that influence a successful transition for graduates to their chosen careers. It was suggested that the research paper be shared with the Board.

Concerns were expressed that the pandemic would further deter the pursuit of a liberal arts education in favour of the sciences or more technical areas of study. G. Miller advised that there lies an opportunity to remind everyone that in addition to the sciences, there is an equal need for individuals with skills provided by the liberal arts that can improve the lives of all in our communities.

G. Miller was thanked for the presentation and excused from the meeting.

5. Consent Agenda

Chair, Rev. M. Sargent provided a quick overview of the Consent Agenda.

MOTION

That the items on the Consent Agenda report be received or approved by the Board of Directors by unanimous consent.

M/S P. Wilkinson/P Marques Carried

6. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.

MOTION

That the minutes of December 2nd, 2020 be approved.

M/S F. Galloway/K. Regan Carried

7. Business arising from minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

8. Report from the Principal

Principal D. Malloy presented the distributed report.

The Board reviewed and agreed to the format of the tracking tool utilized to track progress of the *Priorities and Goals for 2020-2021* identified back in September 2020.

There was a discussion on Huron's recent announcement of its plan to cease affiliation with Western. The potential impact and/or opportunities for the remaining two affiliates - King's and Brescia – was discussed.

The circumstances that led to Laurentian University's dire financial situation were examined. There are concerns that the situation may prompt the province to assert increased involvement in the postsecondary sector.

Vice-Principal Enrolment Services and Strategic Partnerships M. Mason provided an update on enrolment numbers.

At the Principal's request, Dean of Students J. Henry shared that King's has to date no positive cases of COVID-19 on campus. King's intends to return fully to on-campus classes and services in the fall; however this plan will be dependent on directives from the province and the public health authorities.

9. Report from the Students' Council

D. Ross, Executive Assistant to the KUCSC President, presented the report on B. Kitching's behalf. The KUCSC Presidential election was held last month with a better-than-expected voter turnout. Holly Clarke will be the new President and will be assuming the role as of May 1, 2021.

King's Political Science Association and Western's Black Students Alliance will host a speaking panel. KUCSC Vice-President Student Affairs, Z. Al-Jaiashi organized the KUCSC Annual Speaker Series with a virtual address by Martin Luther King III to take place later the same evening. In addition, Z. Al-Jaiashi will collaborate with a Western Senate member on a White Paper to address the treatment of BIPOC at Western. More details on the White Paper will be forthcoming.

An online concert featuring musical performances by Russian and Iranian artists will be held in lieu of a graduation ball. KUC Vice-President Student Events, C. Santaguida is collaborating with counterparts at Huron, Brescia and Western to organize this event.

10. Committee Reports

a. Finance and Investment Committee Report

Finance and Investment Committee Chair G. Hardman presented the report. Vice-Principal Finance and Support Services J. Major summarized the review process for the allocation of the forecasted 2020-2021 Budgetary Operating surplus that transpired at the recent College Council meeting.

Principal D. Malloy elaborated on the King's Research Excellence Award (KREA). Vice-Principal and Academic Dean G. Balfour clarified that the intention of KREA is therefore, to provide an additional tier of support in funding accessibility for researchers otherwise challenged by the Tri-Council funding limitations.

A request was put forward that King's Research Activity Committee (KRAC) provide a progress report to the Board after two or three KREA cycles to determine the effectiveness of the award program.

That the motion tabled at the last Board meeting to allocate \$4.4M of the expected surplus towards debt extinguishment be withdrawn.

M/S P. Wilkson/B. Leschied Carried

That up to \$3.4M of the remaining surplus be used to reduce the existing debt related to the acquisition of the Diocesan lands.

M/S P. Wilkson/B. Leschied Carried

That \$1.0M of the expected surplus be internally restricted for the funding of up to \$60,000 as King' Research Excellence Awards (KREA) to be paid annually until the fund has been extinguished.

M/S P. Wilkson/B. Leschied Carried

b. Governance Committee

Governance Committee Chair F. Galloway presented the report and explained the policy review process.

That the following list of policies be amended or approved as reviewed with no amendments:

- 1) **Governance Policy 1.1.1 Definitions**
 - 2) **Governance Policy 1.1.2 Conformity and Alignment**
 - 3) **Governance Policy 1.1.6 Board of Director Eligibility and Term Limits**
 - 4) **Governance Policy 1.1.7 Succession, Nominating, and Orientation Programs**
 - 5) **Governance Policy 1.3.2 Board Policy Approval Process**
 - 6) **Governance Policy 1.3.3 Governance and Board Policy Notices, Motions, and Monitoring Formats**
 - 7) **Governance Policy 1.3.4 Existing Governance and Board Policies Reviews**
 - 8) **Governance Policy 1.4.3 Planning Cycle and Evaluations**
 - 9) **Board Policy 1.6.1 Fundraising and Donations**
- M/S F. Galloway/N. Brennan Carried

c. Employee Relations Committee

A request was made to move the meeting *in camera*.

MOTION

That the meeting go *in camera*.

M/S F. Galloway/K. Regan Carried

Remaining guests were excused from the meeting. Non-voting Directors who were members of employee associations at King’s were excused from the meeting.

MOTION

That all motions discussed *in camera* be approved.

M/S F. Galloway/N. Brennan Carried

After the *in camera* session, the meeting resumed in regular session.

11. Other Business

There was no other business discussed.

12. Adjournment

MOTION

That the meeting be adjourned.

M/S Acclaimed Carried

Respectively submitted,



Andrew Jardine
Secretary to the Board



Fiona Cheong
Recording Secretary