

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

Friday, July 31st, 2020

at 12:00pm via Zoom

Present: Rev. M. Sargent (Chair), D. Malloy, J. Major, A. Jardine, F. Cheong, N. Brennan, L. Melnyk Gribble, G. Hegedus, F. Galloway, P. Wilton, M. O'Hare, A. Jolliffe, P. Wilkinson, B. Leschied, P. Marques, L. Staudt, B. Kitching, G. Hardman, M. Mason, K. Mequanint, L. White-Eye

Regrets: K. Lakhotia, H. Mostafa, M. Thuss, Rev. D. Greco, C. MacDonald, J. Malkin, K. Regan, R. Ventresca

Guests: D. Mathieson, P. Dool, J. Henry, T. Jory, A. Co-Dyre, Rev. M. Bechard

1. Opening Prayer

Chair Rev. M. Sargent invited Rev. M. Bechard to open the meeting with a prayer.

2. Approval of the agenda

MOTION

That the agenda of Friday, July 31st 2020 be approved.

M/S

F. Galloway/G. Hardman

Carried

3. Conflict of Interest Declarations

There was no conflict of interest declared.

4. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

MOTION

That the minutes of May 27th 2020 be approved.

M/S

N. Brennan/B. Leschied

Carried

5. Business arising from minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

6. Report from the Principal

The Board was informed of the media's recent reporting regarding the use of a racist slur during a reading of a novel by a King's professor in October 2019. The incident occurred in a course exploring racism in historical literature and the ethical responsibilities of studying such works.

Principal, D. Malloy verified that J. Antoniak, Manager of Communications and Media Relations, was not informed by CBC that there would be a media story on this matter. In addition, there were inaccuracies in the account reported by CBC. Both CBC and CTV have since interviewed D. Malloy following the initial press release. The father of the student and the student will also

meet with the Principal next week. It was noted that the recently formed joint King's/Brescia anti-racism group will look to address cultural and educational issues to garner a better understanding of systemic racism on campus, and implement steps to rectify it.

Acting Vice-Principal and Academic Dean, L. Melnyk Gribble detailed the steps taken by the Academic Dean's Office (ADO) when the complaint was initially brought to their attention in October. The professor implicated has also decided to omit the novel from the curriculum going forward. A need to establish a guideline for faculty instructing in sensitive historical documents was raised.

An observation was made that the narrative of this incident is problematic as it places the burden of resolution on the student. It was proposed that it would be beneficial for each member of the Board to reflect and share their thoughts to formulate a collective response. Ongoing programming within the community to help educate the King's community to deconstruct systemic racism was also proposed. The Board agreed to the Chair, Rev. M. Sargent's proposal to continue this meaningful conversation at a later time.

7. Committee Report – Finance and Investment

Committee Chair G. Hardman summarized the report and observed that it was outside of the regular budget cycle to discuss revisions in July; however, the itemized expenses were linked to immediate COVID-19 responses and thus require urgent attention.

It was noted that the request to extend the existing contingency fund is to provide flexibility in addressing needs for the remaining fiscal year. J. Major stated that expenditures from the \$250,000 contingency fund would be reported to the Finance and Investment Committee.

Vice-Principal of Enrolment Services and Strategic Relationships, M. Mason explained to the Board how the *COVID-19 Tuition Stipend for International Students* came to be formulated. The tuition increases for international students implemented by Western (and therefore required to be implemented by King's) had added to the economic hardship presently faced by students and their families in light of the pandemic.

The larger stipend value (\$2,500) for first year full-time MOS (Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies) students correlates with the fact that the first year tuition has seen the highest fee increase. It is hoped that the stipend will help students mitigate the fee increase, maintain trust, and foster goodwill between King's and incoming students. M. Mason verified that the intent of the smaller \$250 stipend for returning students is not to rectify financial hardship but an acknowledgement of it. M. Mason reiterated that the tuition stipend program be considered as an investment in King's reputation and its future and that the stipend is specific to 2020-21.

Chair, Rev. M. Sargent requested clarification on how the stipend will be dispensed. J Major noted that a fulsome application process would not be feasible on account of staffing resources to meet the August 15th deadline when international school fees are due and therefore it is expected that most international students would be awarded the stipends.

There was a discussion on whether the stipend amounts will be deemed as adequate goodwill, particularly with the upper year students. Concerns were again expressed over the disproportionate dependency on two countries for international recruitment as the Board had previously instructed King's Administration on the need for diversification in enrolment markets.

Chair, Rev. M. Sargent inquired on associated costs of faculty teaching remotely. Faculty have access to their *Professional Development Fund* (PDF) to cover additional hardware they may

require for their home offices. In addition, two campus classrooms will be set-up as production studios that can be accessed by both faculty and contract instructors. Headsets and microphones are also being provided to assist with existing home office setups.

MOTION

That the revisions to the 2020-21 Operating Budget which result in an additional deficit of \$1M be recommended for approval to the Board of Directors.

M/S

G. Hardman/P. Marques

Carried

8. Other Business

Chair, Rev. M. Sargent announced that the *In camera* session be postponed as there was insufficient attendance to constitute a quorum.

9. Adjournment

MOTION

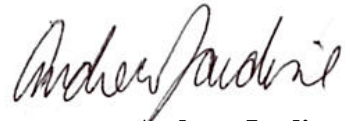
That the meeting be adjourned at 1:42pm

M/S

F. Galloway/M. O'Hare

Carried

Respectively submitted,



Andrew Jardine
Secretary to the Board



Fiona Cheong
Recording Secretary