

THE GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE
OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

JUNE 7, 2017
290 ADELAIDE ST EAST, TORONTO
4:30 P.M.

Present:	Wing-Ki Chan Paul Clifford Jim Daku Mark Guslits Julia Deans	Kevin King Joshua Li Bob Richardson (via phone) Anne Sado Pradeep Sood	Martha Tory Stephen Upton Laurel Walzak Mike Williams Joe Zenobio, Chair
Guests:	Suzanne Dwyer Adrienne Galway Gerard Hayes Ric Ho	Norman Javier Mark Nesbitt Leslie Quinlan	Cory Ross Joe Stapleton Karen Thomson
Regrets:	Riddhi Modi		
Minutes:	Diane Fantinato		

1.0 **Chair's Report**

After reviewing the results from the recent poll to members regarding the 2017-18 schedule, the Chair confirmed that the majority are in agreement to keeping both the Board and Committee meetings in the evening. Diane will send out a draft schedule of dates asking you to note any conflicts. He once again stressed the importance of members attending meetings in person vs via teleconference.

The Chair advised that Anne Sado has received the Colleges and Institutes Canada Association (CICan) Presidents' Leadership Network Distinguished Service Award on May 2 at a ceremony in Ottawa. She was honoured for her leadership on the expansion and evolution of George Brown College and for championing work-integrated learning for students.

2.0 **Consent Agenda**

MOTION – 17-05-01

THAT the Board of Governors approves the Consent Agenda for the meeting held on June 7, 2017 which includes the following items:

- **Approval of the Draft Board of Governor Minutes – April 12, 2017**
- **Approval of the Career Development Practitioner Graduate Certificate Program (School of Social and Community Services, Centre for Community Services and Early Childhood)**
- **Approval of the reappointment of the following as officers of the College with immediate effect:**
- **Vice President, Academic**
- **Vice President, Corporate Services**
- **Controller**

THAT this authority remains in effect until the June 2018 meeting of the Board of Governors unless otherwise determined by the Board.

- **Approval of the reappointment of the following as authorized signing officers for the College's bank accounts with immediate effect:**
- **President**
- **Vice President, Academic**
- **Vice President, Corporate Services**
- **Controller**
- **Manager, Finance Services**

THAT this authority remains in effect until the June 2018 meeting of the Board of Governors unless otherwise determined by the Board.

Moved: Julia Deans Seconded: Stephen Upton CARRIED

3.0 **“Did you know” Presentation: Student Leadership Academy**

Gerard Hayes, Director, Student Experience introduced Joe Stapleton, Manager, Student Life and Norman Javier, Student Life Specialist. He provided background on the Student Leadership Academy noting its start in 2008 as a two-day leadership retreat evolving into an Academy providing a full year experience. It has grown from 55 participants to well over 400 (first year students) but with over 600 active participants. Gerard reviewed the strategies used for ensuring involvement and provided details of the various initiatives carried out during the year. It was noted that there is a good representation of students across all programs and the most growth is around creation of clubs. At the leadership retreat, highly engaged participants tend to become active all year round. Gerard shared future plans highlighting the Student Life Co-curricular Experience (SLiCE) pilot project, on-campus Leadership Days and soft-skills workshops.

Norm also noted that he will be cycling from Toronto to Ottawa to attend a conference and as such, will be taking advantage of this opportunity as a personal challenge and to raise funds for the George Brown College Foundation's Family Campaign. Several Board members and GBC executive team generously made a commitment to support his fundraising campaign.

4.0 **Audit and Finance & Property Committee Report**

Martha Tory advised the Board that a robust dialogue took place around the finances of the College. Anne Sado, Mark Nesbitt and the Finance team have ensured delivery of a clean audit. Martha highlighted the significant variances which contributed to a strong financial result leading to the College's significant surplus. It was noted that retirement benefits are managed through the Colleges Employer Council and the number in the financial statements is provided by Mercer Canada.

MOTION – 17-05-02

THAT the Board of Governors approves the college reserves for 2017-18 as follows:

General contingency: \$18.0 million

Capital projects: \$41.5 million

Total: \$59.5 million

Moved: Martha Tory Seconded: Mark Guslits CARRIED

MOTION – 17-05-03

THAT the Board of Governors approves the transfer of \$0.5M from internally restricted reserves to unrestricted.

Moved: Martha Tory Seconded: Mark Guslits CARRIED

MOTION – 17-05-04

THAT the Board of Governors approves the draft Audited Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2017 as presented, with the adjustment to reserves, and including any subsequently-defined edit to the treatment of the residence land.

Moved: Martha Tory

Seconded: Stephen Upton

CARRIED

5.0 2016-17 Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Results

Suzanne Dwyer, Director, Institutional Research and Planning presented results for the College. It was found that most scores were close to the provincial and GTA college averages. The College has moved up in every single Student Satisfaction “capstone” category helping us attain our highest-ever overall level of 74.5 percent. A five-year trend was provided as well as the overall College student satisfaction results, results by campus for the four capstone questions, international vs domestic student numbers, and graduate employment and satisfaction rates by Centre. Detailed reports for academic programs, student services and facilities by campus have been provided to the various divisions/departments. Finding ways to improve the KPIs is a continuous process and will remain core to College planning.

6.0 Colleges Ontario Report

Highlights from the last College’s Ontario Committee of President’s (CoP) meeting of were reviewed, including:

- **Consultations on a Vision for Higher Education** - Colleges Ontario will be developing a new vision for the college sector over the summer for discussion at CoP’s annual strategic retreat in September. This is an opportune time for this work as Ontario prepares for a provincial election in 2018.
- **Ministry Consultations on Apprenticeship Modernization** - Erin McGinn, an assistant deputy minister at the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development, spoke with presidents about upcoming consultations on apprenticeship modernization. Meetings have been scheduled for June 15 and July 25 in Toronto with the colleges’ heads of apprenticeship and others. The meetings will involve a mapping exercise of a typical apprentice’s journey through the system and development of a proposed action plan to improve the system. Both the Dean of CCET and Chair of Apprenticeship will be participating.
- **Responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission** – The presidents were advised of the work being done by the Indigenous Peoples Education Circle and others in the college sector to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. A working group has produced a draft report and is now reviewing feedback. A survey will be sent to colleges in mid-June and a report will be provided to the Ontario government in October. Our Aboriginal Education Council and team that supports our students will be participating.
- **Program Approvals** – An update was provided on the college sector’s discussions with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development on the approvals process for new college programs. A number of improvements are planned. The short-term measures include steps to streamline approvals for any degree program that aligns with a college’s strategic mandate agreement, and clarifying the data that must be provided to the ministry for the approval of non-degree programs. Other measures will include developing and implementing a streamlined review process for degree programs.
- **Education Accessibility Standards** - Presidents were provided with a description of the Ontario government’s plans to develop an accessibility standard that is specific to the education sector. The province wants to examine topics such as the challenges that students with disabilities face when they make the transition from high school to post-secondary institutions. The ministry plans to consult with students, faculty and institutions over the summer and in the fall. A survey will be sent to colleges next week.
- **Experiential Learning** - The presidents received an update on the Ontario government’s initiatives to provide experiential learning opportunities to more students. The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development has drafted a policy that provides colleges with sufficient flexibility to meet the province’s objectives. They will be developing metrics and timelines for the policy and consulting with the college sector on funding support. The funds are expected to flow this fiscal year and colleges may want to start

developing specific proposals for the funding. The College is well advanced in this area as we have been doing this for a number of years.

- **Expanding Online Resources** – There was a discussion regarding a meeting with LinkedIn on the province's plan to expand access to online resources. As part of the 2017 Ontario Budget, the province committed to provide post-secondary students with free access to Lynda.com, an online hub run by LinkedIn. Some colleges already offer access to Lynda.com. LinkedIn recently met with representatives from eCampusOntario, OntarioLearn and OCAS to explore ways to expand that access. Subject to approval, LinkedIn is looking to run some pilot projects in the fall.

7.0 President's Report

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

Financial Viability

- **Enrollment** - The College continues to meet enrollment targets. The spring target was exceeded by 12% which represents over 700 FT students. The fall is strong at 96% of our new student intake goal of just over 10K students – well ahead of same time last year. Unfortunately, a number of programs are already full with waiting lists for entry. This also limits opportunities to accept more international students. Six new programs are being launched this fall: our new degree (the first in Canada) in Culinary management and five Graduate Certificates – two in fashion, one in sound and design production and two in culinary.

Staff/College Success

- **Colleges and Institutes Canada Annual Conference** - George Brown – and specifically our International team - won the Gold Medal of Excellence from Colleges and Institutes Canada at their recent national conference. The College was recognized for our many international and industry partnerships, field placement and study abroad opportunities
- **Dean Luigi Ferrara** – Dean Luigi Ferrara recently received the Environmental Sustainability Leadership Award, sponsored by Scotiabank, from the Italian Chamber of Commerce at their 15th annual awards

Student Success

- **Enactus** – Congratulations to the GBC Enactus team who participated in the National Championships in Vancouver in May. Out of 67 teams from across Canada, our team was one of only 20 who made it to the semi-finals. Although they didn't make it to the next stage, many of our students were individually recognized for their commitment to Enactus through volunteer hours at a gold, silver or bronze level.
- **Skills Ontario Competition** – The Skills Ontario competition was held for the first time in Toronto. It is Canada's largest skilled trade and technology competition. Our students won three medals: two silver in Plumbing and Sheet Metal and one gold in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning.

Other

- **Conferences/Events** – GBC has been hosting many conferences and events this spring including: our 18th Annual Mental Health Conference; Digifest 2017; 2nd International Association of Blended Learning Conference; 4th Philosophy of Education Conference; the Canadian Cisco Networking Academy Annual Conference; a one day Research Symposium on Refugees; and the College Sector's Academic Upgrading Programs Provincial Conference. These are wonderful learning opportunities for our faculty and staff and show our leadership in many of these areas. Also, the residence is being used to house delegates for many of these conferences.
- **SMA** – Work continues on the latest SMA building on the thoughts shared with the Board at the Annual retreat. The document will be a reflection of the strategies and direction currently underway packaged in a way to give us flexibility regarding our strategic direction over the next three years. The document is also somewhat retrospective, giving examples of our good work in many areas – from academic upgrading to Accessibility to Student Experience to Applied Research and Innovation. Anne took the opportunity of

sharing the College direction at recent town halls she hosted across the college. The SMA should be finalized during the summer and key highlights will be shared with the Board in the fall.

- **Coat of Arms** – Discussions have been concluded with the Heraldic Authority and will be proceeding to final design of the Coat of Arms. A deeper dive was done on many elements of the symbolism proposed by the Heraldic Authority – including consultations with our Aboriginal community to refine some of the symbols and ensure our Coat of Arms was reflective of some of these cultural elements. Completion is anticipated over the next few months and ready for the 50th Anniversary
- **Employment Standards Act** – Significant reforms to Ontario’s Employment Standards Act are being proposed. Traditionally the College has met or exceeded the terms. The College Employer Council will be key in analyzing the new legislation and will determine a system response sometime in the fall.
- **50th Anniversary of George Brown** – Plans have continued to be developed through our 50th Anniversary Committee. Some highlights include:
 - Designs for a mobile exhibit are underway thanks to a team of young architects from KPMB who volunteered to work with our primes. This project should provide many opportunities for staff, student and public participation in the anniversary year and for many years to come.
 - There is a lot of momentum on events including the Athletics Homecoming at the end of September and the Alumni–Employer–Community Partner event on November 29.
 - The President’s Breakfast will officially kick off our 50th anniversary on August 28 with Steve Paikin as this year’s keynote speaker. Steve just completed a book about Bill Davis – the father of the college system in Ontario. He will include a focus on the system history in his speech that morning.

8.0 **Nominations – Executive 2017-18**

All members have agreed to have their name come forward:

MOTION – 17-05-05

Board members were asked to move a motion to approve the nominations for the committee as follows:

- **Chair, Board of Governors: Joe Zenobio**
- **Chair, Finance + Property Committee/Audit Committee: Martha Tory**
- **Chair, Academic & Student Affairs Committee: Mike Williams**

Moved: Julia Deans

Seconded: Paul Clifford

CARRIED

9.0 **Retiring Members**

Anne recognized Sue Herbert’s contributions as retiring Board member and Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee. She also acknowledged Riddhi Modi for her contributions and time served on the Board and Committees. The college is losing highly dedicated members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to a private session.