

PUBLIC MEETING/BOARD OF GOVERNORS
4:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 30, 2007
SMED Boardroom MA317, Heritage Hall

CHAIR: Mike Begin

GOVERNORS PRESENT: Al Browne
Morgan Chetty
Frank Duffin
David Jones
Irene Lewis
Bev Longstaff
Bob Pierce
Beth Reimer-Heck
Clare Rhyasen
Cisley Robinson
Bernie Slogotski
Matthew Solberg
Lyndal Turner

GOVERNORS EXCUSED: Ivan Bernardo
Bill Lingard

RESOURCE PERSONS: Michael Dyer, Vice President Employee and Student Services
Wayne King, Vice President Finance and Chief Financial Officer
Guy Mallabone, Vice President External Relations
Gord Nixon, Vice President Academic
Keith Pedersen, Vice President Administration
Clint Berg, Director/Internal Audit

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT: Gail Pearce

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the public meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA

MOVED by Bev Longstaff and **SECONDED** by Morgan Chetty that the agenda for the October 30, 2007 public meeting of the Board be approved as circulated, with the addition of Agenda Item 6.1, Welcome from the SAIT Trojans.

MOTION

Carried

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Chair asked the Board members if any member had a direct or indirect conflict on any agenda matter and no member advised they had a conflict.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Irene Lewis, President and CEO, reported on the following:

- 2007 WorldSkills Competition in Japan - mid-November 2007 – Preparations are underway to attend this event which will allow an opportunity to cheer on the students competing on behalf of SAIT, to participate in the other planned events and to prepare for the WorldSkills competition to be held in Calgary in September 2009. She indicated that the schedule will be very demanding. She provided examples of the activities in which she and others will be participating including (1) several meetings with respect to WorldSkills competitions, the support and legacy required, and state-of-the-art methods to promote the image of the skills; (2) a function at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo; (3) a tour of the competition site; and (4) attendance at the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.
- Global Relations: A Conversation with Tony Blair - a wonderful opportunity, as a guest of Deloitte, to attend a luncheon event at the Telus Convention Centre and hear Tony Blair, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, make a presentation to an audience of about 2,500 individuals.

Gord Nixon joined the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

5. SAITSA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

David Jones reviewed his report as distributed with the Agenda and provided additional information. He indicated he will be attending the "Best Practices for Student Leaders Conference" in Ontario. He indicated he will be making a presentation with respect to improving relationships with administration. Following that, he will be participating with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (a federal lobby organization) to lobby the federal government on post-secondary education issues and hopefully meet with the Prime Minister. SAITSA is also looking forward to beginning the planning work for the next intake of students.

6. UPDATE ON ICE ARENA RENOVATION

Keith Pedersen reported that the SAIT ice arena, which was showing its age and required significant upgrades, was renovated this past summer. He reviewed some of the work completed on the project; i.e. replacement of the existing sand bed with a concrete floor and a new refrigeration system, construction of a new addition to house the Zamboni and the ice-making infrastructure, replacement of the bench seating with 500 individual stadium seats and installation of a state-of-the-art scoreboard. The work has resulted in one of the best facilities in the city. According to Ken Babey, coach of the Men's Trojans Hockey Team, *"The new building has a great feeling to it. You can sense the pride that SAIT has in the Trojans, in the intramural clubs that play in the facility and in the facilities themselves."* The 800 students who participate in arena hockey at night are also benefiting from the arena upgrades.

6.1 Welcome from the SAIT Trojans

Billy Rae Busby, Marketing and Communications Coordinator, SAIT Trojans and Sport Services, was in attendance to address the Board with respect to SAIT Trojan activities. On behalf of SAIT Trojans organization, she distributed copies of the Trojans 2007-08 Schedule and other promotional items and invited those present to attend all Trojan games this season. She indicated that this Friday's hockey game has been designated as "Red Alert Friday" where everyone is encouraged to wear red in support of the Trojans.

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

7. APPRENTICE ENGAGEMENT

This item was deferred to be addressed in conjunction with Agenda Item 9.

8. ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP – BOARD REPRESENTATIVE ON ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Gord Nixon provided background information and reported that Carmel Robbins recently changed positions with the School of Business and moved from a SAFA position to a Management position. She has been one of two SAFA representatives from Division III on Academic Council and, because of the change in status, is no longer eligible to sit as a faculty member. The Board of Governors is requested to appoint her as a Board-appointed representative on Academic Council.

MOVED by Lyndal Turner and **SECONDED** by David Jones that the Board of Governors accept the following Board appointment to Academic Council – Carmel Robbins, School of Business - to be appointed for a three-year term effective October 31, 2007 to June 30, 2010.

MOTION

Carried

9. UPDATE ON OCTOBER 2007 MEETING OF ACADEMIC COUNCIL

No discussion on September 18, 2007 meeting. Approved minutes for the September 18, 2007 Academic Council meeting were included in the agenda package.

Gord Nixon reported that Academic Council has selected three priorities to address this year:

1. Apprenticeship engagement - a team will be working this year to address how to engage apprentices during their time at SAIT and also as alumni of SAIT. SAIT is currently training about 2,600 more apprentices than the previous year (for a total of 11,600) and, following recent discussions with the Apprenticeship Board, the expectations are that the apprenticeship numbers will increase by an additional 1,016 in 2008/09.
2. Articulation - Facilitating students who wish to pursue their lifelong learning after completing their programs at SAIT. We received a number of comments from the Learner Exit Survey in the past from students that they felt blocked in trying to pursue further learning options and university degrees. To address this issue, we have hired a full-time Articulation Coordinator whose job it is to formalize pathways with other institutions for our learners who wish to continue their life-long education. Since being hired, we have had great success in increasing formal articulation agreements for our learners (76% increase in the last year) and now there are only a handful of programs that do not have pathways for our students. Our goal is to first look for pathways with local institutions (i.e. University of Calgary), next look at regional and national institutions and finally formalize paths for our students to continue their studies internationally. All of these pathways are identified on our SAIT website.
3. Learner Satisfaction with Non-Academic Issues – we have done a great job in improving our overall learner satisfaction over the past five years. Upon reviewing our latest survey results, we have noticed that there is a high level of student dissatisfaction with some non-academic related issues (i.e. parking and food services). An investigation and recommendations will be provided on how to improve learner satisfaction in these areas.

In response to a question with respect to space requirements to meet the projected apprenticeship numbers, Gord Nixon indicated that those needs are currently being reviewed. Past practice has been to accept all apprenticeship students since they are part of SAIT's core business and key to Alberta's economic success, but the projected increase in numbers will further stress the organization as was the case this year.

DATE, TIME, PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Public and In-Camera Meetings: 4:00 pm, Tuesday, November 27, 2007 - SMED Boardroom MA317, Heritage Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Beth Reimer-Heck and **SECONDED** by Lyndal Turner that there being no other business, on the motions duly moved and seconded, the October 30, 2007 public meeting of the Board adjourn at 4:18 p.m.

MOTION

Carried

Chair

President and CEO