

**SAIT POLYTECHNIC**

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS – PUBLIC MEETING**

**May 5, 2009**

**SMED Board Room MA317, Heritage Hall  
1301 16 Avenue NW - Calgary, Alberta**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

**CHAIR:** Mike Begin

**GOVERNORS:** Gary Bentham  
Ivan Bernardo  
Morgan Chetty  
Craig Hopkins  
Irene Lewis  
Bill Lingard  
Bev Longstaff  
Steve Olson  
Cisley Robinson  
Bernie Slogotski  
Paul Storwick

**RESOURCE:** Wayne King, CFO and Vice President Corporate Services  
Gord Nixon, Vice President Academic  
Gail Pearce, Executive Assistant Board of Governors

**REGRETS:** Wayne Henuset, Member, Board of Governors  
David Jones, Member, Board of Governors  
Joe Lougheed, Member, Board of Governors  
Clare Rhyasen, Member, Board of Governors  
Michael Dyer, Vice President Employee and Student Services  
Guy Mallabone, Vice President External Relations

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

## **2. REVIEW AGENDA**

**MOVED/SECONDED – LINGARD/STORWICK:**

**THAT the Agenda for the May 5, 2009 public meeting of the Board of Governors be approved, as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

## **3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

## **4. CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair reported on the following:

- Congratulations to Irene Lewis and Lee Haldeman, Associate Vice-President, Academic Development, who were named recipients of the 2009 International Exemplary Leader Award from The Chair Academy. The award represents a leader or team of leaders in post-secondary institutions worldwide who have modeled best practices to advance academic and administrative leadership development.
- June 8, 2009 - Special speaking engagement – Sir Ken Robinson, an internationally renowned expert in the field of creativity and innovation in business and education – Board members who wish to attend should advise the Executive Assistant to the Board asap.

## **5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

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

- Graduation celebration for 39 Angolans graduating from an Operations and Maintenance Program designed for LNG (liquefied natural gas) facilities;
- Graduation celebration for 9 Syrians graduating from an Operations Program based on the SOLIS Project;
- Status of planning for attendance of the Afghanistan delegation at SAIT Convocation – June 1/2, 2009;
- Status of 2009/10 budget and business plan reviews;
- Annual employee survey – distributed April 29, 2009 for completion by May 22, 2009;
- Ministry announcement on SAIT campus about the Applied Research Voucher Program;
- Meetings of the President and CEO and Vice-Presidents with employees across campus to share information, ideas and concerns.

## **6. SAITSA PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Chair indicated that copies of the SAITSA President's Report were distributed under separate cover and at the meeting. Craig Hopkins provided additional information on the SAITSA Awards Banquet which celebrated the culmination of a successful year.

**7. MINUTES – FEBRUARY 10, 2009 AND MARCH 10, 2009 MEETINGS – ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

Gord Nixon stated that the approved Minutes of the February 10, 2009 and March 10, 2009 meetings of Academic Council were included in the Agenda package. He referred to the February 10, 2009 Minutes, Section 6.3.3, with respect to issues and trends in disabilities services. He reviewed the current practices in place at SAIT to assist students with disabilities; i.e. extra exam time, adaptive software, special fonts on computers, provision of readers and scribes, classroom supports, sign language interpreters, instructor’s notes, special tutors, note-takers, counseling services, etc. These services are provided at all three campuses. It is estimated that 10-15 percent of the SAIT student population has a disability which includes learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, deafness, psychological issues, brain injury, low vision, blindness and others. He noted that there is an increased demand for such services while government funding is shrinking which means that SAIT is shouldering more of these costs.

**8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Chair requested that any suggestions for future Agenda items be provided to him or to the Executive Assistant to the Board.

**9. NEXT PUBLIC MEETING**

Fall 2009 (date to be determined) – 4:00 p.m. – SMED Board Room MA317, Heritage Hall

**10. ADJOURNMENT – 4:28 p.m.**

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Chair

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President and CEO