Minutes of the Special Board of Governors Meeting
August 23, 2017

Minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Governors (Board) of the Ontario College of Art and Design University (OCAD U) held via teleconference at 9:30 a.m. on the 23rd day of August, 2017.

Present: Alvaro Araya, Andre DeFreitas, Sara Diamond (President), Myrna Francis, Claude Galipeau, Eric Hanson, David Holland, Vice Chair (Board Chair Designate), Raja Khanna, Lanita Layton, Charles Reeve, Mark Robert, Paul Rowan, Virginia Trieloff, Jaime Watt, Carol Weinbaum, and b.h. Yael.

In Attendance: Carole Beaulieu, Vice-President, Advancement & Board Secretary (VP A&BS); Nicky Davis, Director, Human Resources (HR Director)(items 1-3 only); Valerie De Souza, Manager, University Governance; Peter Fraser, Director of Finance (items 1-3 only); Gillian (Jill) Siddall, Vice-President, Academic & Provost (VP A&P); and, Alan Simms, Vice-President, Finance & Administration (VP F&A).

Regrets: John Albright, Salah Bachir, Bob Finlay, Sharifa Khan, Helen Kearns, Idris Mootee, Daniel Sawaya, and John Semple (Board Chair).

1. Welcome and Constitution of Meeting

David Holland, Board Chair Designate, welcomed members to the meeting, which was duly constituted with quorum present.

He noted that the Executive Committee met immediately before this meeting and reviewed all the matters on this special Board meeting agenda, which the Executive Committee recommends to the Board. He noted that the Executive Committee has been consulted and kept informed throughout the collective bargaining process and the settlement reached is within the financial mandate.
2. University Financial Context Update

The VP F&A provided the Committee with an overview of the updated multi-year financial forecast for 2017/18 to 2021/22, including key assumptions; the remedial action plan part 2, new checks and balances to enhance current process controls and to improve oversight of general expense categories, and the quarterly cash flow update from the previous and current fiscal years. The President added that some of the additional financial challenges for fiscal year 2016/2017 pertained to regular operating expenditures of a university and without much of a contingency, the University was unable to buffer these expenditures this year, but tighter expenditure controls and oversight are planned for the current fiscal year to better monitor discretionary expenditures over the current year.

The Committee discussed the University financial contest update, in particular asking questions about projected enrolment for international students and changes to the Academic Plan allocations in the budget, which were responded to by the President, VP A&P and VP F&A.

On motion made by Myrna Francis, seconded by b. h. Yael, and adopted, it was resolved that the Board of Governors take the meeting in camera at 9:59am.

3. Collective Bargaining Matter

The Board Chair Designate reiterated that the Executive Committee just reviewed and recommended this collective bargaining settlement to the Board for approval.

The HR Director explained the collective bargaining process to date, which occurred over year and a half, including all the consultations along the way with the Executive Committee. She then provided the Board with highlights of the settlement, including summary of key elements, all of which remain strictly confidential until ratified by both the University and the OCADFA bargaining unit at the end of September 2017.

The VP A&P and the President added some additional contextual comments on the matter, including expressing their support for the settlement. The Committee discussed this matter and then made a decision.

On motion made by Mark Robert, seconded by Eric Hanson, and adopted, it was resolved that the Board of Governors take the meeting out of in camera at 10:14am.
4. Ontario’s 150 Multimedia Project

The VP A&BS noted that she is presenting this matter on behalf of Dr. Caroline Langill, Dean of the Faculty of Liberal Arts and School of Interdisciplinary Studies (FOLASSIS) and Bonnie Devine, Associate Professor, FOLASSIS, Faculty of Art and Graduate Studies and Founding Chair, Indigenous Visual Culture Program, who is the lead on this project. She noted that getting Board support for this fully-funded government project is a requirement of the government funding. The Board discussed the project commending the University for taking this initiative to showcase Indigenous history and culture.

On motion made by Myrna Francis, seconded by b.h. Yael, and adopted, it was resolved that the Board of Governors approve the support of OCAD University participating in Ontario’s 150 Multimedia Project in alliance with the Royal Ontario Museum and Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

5. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

6. Termination

On motion made by Mark Robert, seconded by Andre De Freitas and adopted, it was resolved that the meeting be terminated at 10:18 am.

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Dr. John Semple, Board Chair  Carole Beaulieu,

Vice-President, Advancement & Board Secretariat and Board Secretary