

MINUTES BOARD OF GOVERNORS — REGULAR SESSION

Thursday, April 28, 2022 — 3:45-5:00 p.m.

Board Members + Guests: In person; Attendees: via Zoom webinar.

ATTENDANCE:

<u>Voting Members:</u>		
Keith Kerrigan (Board Chair)	Lindsay McIntyre	Keith Reynolds
Gillian Siddall (President + Vice Chancellor)	Lorcan O'Melinn	Stephanie Schneider
Megan Ellis	Alex Phillips	Charles Simon
Mary Macaulay	Esther Rausenberg	Emma Somers
<u>Regrets:</u>	Carleen Thomas, Keith Reynolds	
<u>Guests:</u>	Trish Kelly (Provost + Vice-President Academic), Mark Douglas (Executive Director Financial Services), Kevin Bird (Director, Recruitment, Admissions, International Development + Registrar), Marcia Guno (Vice Provost, Students), Sandeep Sidhu (Chief Information Officer), Andy O'Neill (General Manager, P3 Facility Operations), Heather Sanford (Interim University Secretary), Christen Downie (Associate University Secretary)	

We respectfully acknowledge that Emily Carr University is situated on the unceded, traditional and ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. Call to Order — Keith Kerrigan, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 3:55 p.m.
2. Adoption of the Agenda.

Moved / Seconded

Carried.

3. Approval of the Board Regular Session Minutes of February 17, 2022

Moved / Seconded

Carried.

II. BUSINESS

1. For information / approval: 2022/2023 Mandate Letter - Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training

The Chair reported that the circulated *Letter of Direction* from the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Training builds on the 2021/22 Mandate Letter and, together, these letters provide ECU with direction on Government's priorities and expectations for the coming fiscal year.

There was discussion, including:

- Process involved in upcoming funding formula review by Government of operating grants.
- ECU to apply for up to 40 seats that may be allocated as part of tech-relevant seat expansions.
- Recommendation by Ministry that the funding formula review be completed prior to any decisions being made regarding ECU's specific funding model.
- Inquiry regarding ECU's support to students in connecting them with industry, market opportunities.
- Inquiry about ECU's input to Ministry's Sexualized Violence Policy review.
- A Board member asserted that, under the Faculty Collective Agreement as per Article 1.03, the Faculty Association did not approve *3.6 Sexual and Gender-based Violence and Misconduct Policy*.

Moved / Seconded that the Board authorizes the Chair, on behalf of the Board, to execute the *Letter of Direction* from Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Training, Anne Kang, dated April 19, 2022.

Carried.

III. REPORTS

1. Chair's Report

The Chair highlighted ECU's ongoing discussions with Government, his recent meeting with Gillian Siddall, President + Vice-Chancellor, and Ministry officials in relation to ECU's finances, and the upcoming meeting with the Deputy Minister on the same matter. It was reported that ECU will receive one-time funding from Government this year. The process for the Presidential Review for Reappointment will begin soon, and the option of securing the services of an external consultant to support the Review is being considered.

2. President + Vice-Chancellor's Report

The President invited questions on the circulated report. There were no questions. Board members were invited to attend the upcoming Chancellor Installation and Convocation on May 11, 2022.

3. Vice President, Academic + Provost's Report

T. Kelly, VP, Academic + Provost, invited questions on the circulated report. It was reported the Quality Assurance Process Audit has commenced and personnel in the Provost's Office are working on a policy to summarize the processes followed for program review. Rather than use the term quality assurance, the Academic team refers to "excellence in teaching and learning."

An information session was recently held for the Senate Budget Committee to discuss the implications of potential deficit mitigation and revenue generation strategies.

A Board member raised for consideration the Scholars at Risk program, an international organization that offers support, relief and refuge to academics. It was suggested ECU consider signing on to the program considering the current situation in Ukraine. The Provost will look into ECU's potential involvement in the program.

4. Vice Provost, Students' Report

M. Guno, Vice Provost, Students, invited questions on the circulated report. A Board member inquired about former youth in care in relation to financial aid and awards at ECU. Board members were encouraged to attend Industry Night.

5. Executive Director, Financial Services Report

M. Douglas, Executive Director, Financial Services, provided highlights on the Financial Services Report. It was reported ECU is in the midst of the external KPMG audit, and KPMG will present their audit findings at the Board Finance + Audit Committee meeting on May 19, 2022.

Results for the 2021/22 fiscal year are very favourable: an improvement of \$1.8 million was realized through registration and tuition revenue and expenditures were reduced by approximately \$800,000. These improvements will be used in fiscal 2022/23 to offset ECU's \$5 million deficit. As a result of Government's provision of \$3 million in one-time funding to ECU and ECU's savings last year, ECU is able to fund the deficit for 2022/23.

There was discussion, including:

- Examples of COVID-related revenue savings included cost savings due to a lack of travel to conferences and unused funds for assisting students with quarantine.
- Inquiry about ECU's 100th anniversary celebration as an operational expense.
- Peter Lockie's report recommends fundraising to finance scholarships and bursaries via external sources, rather than from operational funds as is currently the case.
- Recommendation that faculty teaching load be considered in the Budget.
- Inquiry about EDI action plan in relation to funding; current fiscal situation impeding EDI and sustainability hires.

6. General Manager, P3, Facilities Report

A. O'Neill, General Manager, P3, Facilities, invited questions on the circulated report. There were no questions. It was reported the Broadway Subway Project website clearly outlines the project process and schedule, and the project appears to be on schedule.

IV. NEXT MEETING: June 2, 2022

V. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.