



MINUTES - **APPROVED**

BOARD OF GOVERNORS — OPEN SESSION

Thursday, November 28, 2024
Beginning at 1:00 p.m.
Board Room E23155 and via Zoom

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members:

Parnian Anaa, Student-elected Board Member
Don Avison, Board Chair
Rebecca (Becky) Bair, Faculty-elected Board Member
Brenda Crabtree, Board Member
Gaye Fowler, Staff-elected Board Member
Trish Kelly, President + Vice-Chancellor
Steve Kinsey, Board Member
Mary Macaulay, Board Member
Eknoor Matharoo, Student-elected Board Member
Lindsay McIntyre, Faculty-elected Board Member
Lorcan O'Melinn, Board Vice-Chair and Chair, AFC
Harv Phandal-Dhanda, Board Member
Natasha Tony, Board Member
Sung Van, Board Member

Regrets:

Carleen Thomas, Chancellor

Administration and Employee Resources:

Diyan Achjadi, Interim Vice-President, Academic + Provost
Mark Douglas, Executive Director, Financial Services
Natasha Himer, University Secretary
Justin Langlois, AVP Research + Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Alexander Muir, IT Support
Viktor Sokha, Vice-President, Finance + Administration

Guests:

Linda Riestra, Second-year Industrial Design, ECSI Communications
Coordinator (*for item 5.2*)
Yan Wei Lu, Fourth-year Illustration, ECSI Chairperson (*for item 5.2*)

Recorder:

Bessie Chow, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

With quorum present, the Board Chair called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

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2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT + WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged that Emily Carr University is situated on the unceded, traditional, and ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

3. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Chair invited Board members to disclose any conflicts of interest related to the agenda items. With none declared, the Chair proceeded with the meeting.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

The following resolution was moved, seconded and **CARRIED**:

THAT, the Board of Governors approve the items included under the Consent Agenda.

4.1. Agenda

4.2. Minutes of the Board Open Session of September 26, 2024

4.3. Minutes of the Board Annual General Meeting of September 26, 2024

4.4. Q2 Forecast

5. BUSINESS + PRESENTATION

5.1. Chair's Remarks

Don Avison welcomed Eknoor Matharoo, Student-elected Board Member, to her first Board meeting. It was noted that E. Matharoo will also serve as the Board liaison to the Senate. Guest speakers from Emily Carr Student Union (ECSU), Linda Riestra and Yan Wei Lu, were also welcomed to the meeting. D. Avison remarked that during his recent travels to Australia, Africa and London, he visited a number of galleries which inspired reflections on colonialism, reconciliation and repatriation of Indigenous and other works.

5.2. Student Presentation

L. Riestra, Second-year Industrial Design Student and ECSU Communications Coordinator, and Y. W. Lu, Fourth-year Illustration Student and ESCU Chairperson, delivered a presentation on food insecurity on campus, which prompted comments on:

- Interest in the perspective shared and continued dialogue with the ESCU
- The potential to further explore partnerships/opportunities for external support on initiatives addressing food insecurity on campus
- The importance of engagement with the ECSU on food security strategies as part of the development of the 2025/26 Budget.

*D. Avison, T. Kelly, D. Achjadi and H. Phandal-Dhanda agreed to follow-up on the partnership opportunity and other potential solutions.

L. Riestra and Y. W. Lu were thanked for their presentation and the ECSU was acknowledged for all the efforts on this initiative.

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6. REPORTS

6.1. President + Vice-Chancellor's Report

Trish Kelly highlighted the following from the report included in the agenda materials:

- *National Network of Canadian Art and Design Universities (UAD4)* – ECU joined the Alberta University of the Arts (AUArts), Ontario College of Art + Design University (OCAD) and Nova Scotia College of Art and Design University (NSCAD) in joint federal advocacy efforts. Emphasis was placed on the specific economic and cultural contributions of art and design universities to the country.
- *Senior Leadership Recruitment* – Searches for a permanent VP, Academic + Provost and Director, Advancement + Alumni Relations are underway.
- *Ministry Changes* – Minister Anne Kang and Deputy Minister Trevor Hughes were confirmed on November 18. T. Kelly and D. Avison commented on initial contact with the new Minister and new DM, and the unique role of ECU.

6.2. Interim Vice-President, Academic + Provost's Report

Diyan Achjadi highlighted the success of National Portfolio Day under the leadership of Marcia Guno, Vice-Provost, Students, and with the support of ECU students, staff and faculty. Positive feedback was received from participating institutions and potential students, raising ECU's international profile.

In response to a request, D. Achjadi described the Shumka Centre for Creative Entrepreneurship and explained its significance in demonstrating the professional development of art and design students as they transition to the workforce. On the impact of the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)'s withdrawal of a support for ECU's student professional practice programs, Justin Langlois, AVP Research + Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, underlined the ECU's commitment to finding ways to continue supporting the program despite funding pressures.

6.3. Vice-President, Finance + Administration Report

Viktor Sokha highlighted preparations for Budget 2025/26.

In response to a question, he noted that the University received \$480K in Shared Recovery Mandate (SRM) funding from the province, related to salary increases for all staff.

The following additional information was provided in response to questions:

- Regarding the capital allocation, the University is using donated funds that have been restricted for the purpose of replacing end-of-life capital equipment in 2024/25 and 2025/26, freeing up resources to support other operational requirements.
- The overage of \$1.4 million in salary expenses to budget will have no effect on the deficit due to offsets by the provincial SRM funding and higher domestic enrolment. It was noted that the amount includes a number of ad hoc items such as unbudgeted retirement/early retirement agreements, payroll settlements, new positions and position reclassifications; as such, there will be no effect on future budgeting.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised.

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8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Governors will be held February 6, 2025.

9. CONCLUSION

With no further business, the open session of the November 28, 2024 Board of Governors meeting concluded at 1:45 p.m.