



May 20, 2014,

Hope all Councilors and Executives are both working hard and enjoying their positions! Pursuant to section 16(d)(iv) of the *Post Secondary Learning Act* (“the Act”), in order to become a voting member of the Board of Governors, all members of the Board of Governors (the “Board”)- including the 2 student undergraduate representatives- must be appointed by the Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education. This is done through a parliamentary procedure known as Orders in Council. President Lau and I have yet to receive our Orders in Council. Consequently, we were not able to vote on any matter(s) that required a vote at the Board.

In an enormous sign of good faith and trust, Board Chair, Doug Goss, allowed President Lau and I to both attend and speak in closed and in-camera sessions. Mr. Goss did not need to grant us these privileges, as technically neither President Lau nor I are currently Board members. It is my hope that as students we can continue to build on the significant work done by President Kusmu at the Board to build trust and strong working relationships in order to achieve positive outcomes for students which help lead the University to become a leading world-class post-secondary Institution.

NTD: As a voting member of the Board, I have a fiduciary obligation to the University of Alberta (the “institution”) and furthermore must keep certain matters confidential, therefore I apologize in advance if I am unable to provide a thorough report or adequately answer your questions.

Athletics and Recreation Fee

The item was originally on the consent agenda, based on my understanding this means that discussion on the issue is limited. With the support of the Board Chair and the consent of the entire Board, President Lau and I were able to remove the item off of the consent agenda and open the Athletics and Recreation Fee for discussion. Both President Lau and I spoke on the manner. This passed unanimously. While I could not vote on the issue, I spoke in favor of the Athletics and Recreation Fee. This decision was solely based on what I believed to be the best decision for the University of Alberta. The factors that I considered in coming to my decision included [**NTD: But were not limited to**]:

1. The case outlined by the Faculty of Physical Education;
2. The potentially enormous long-term benefits to students as well as the Institution;
3. The unprecedented level of consultation conducted by the Faculty of Physical Education;
4. The support of the 2013-2014 Students’ Council and Executives.

In my speech in favor of the decision, I touched on all of these factors and further emphasized the enhanced positive outcomes for the Institution when Faculties and the

administration are: transparent, forthright, include students in the process from the beginning, and seek mutually beneficial options.

University Philanthropy and Advancement Report

The Open Report notes that the fundraising achievement was “disappointing” under the previous year. This is despite the growth in the number of total donors and the growth in alumni. As a student, this is deeply concerning and something that I will continue to monitor throughout my academic term.

New Board Members

On May 14, 2014, the Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education approved the appointment of three new Board members: Dr. Ray Muzyka and Mr. Michael Ross for three year terms effective May 14, 2014; and Mr. LeRoy Johnson for a three year term effective October 22, 2014. All three are also University of Alberta Alumni.

Dr. Muzyka holds degrees in Science and Medicine from the Institution. He was the co-founder of BioWare and is currently the founder and CEO of Threshold Impact Ltd., a company focusing on sustainable, profitable impact investing in disruptive information technology, new media, education and medical innovations.

Mr. Ross holds a degree in Commerce and Business Administration from the institution and serves on a variety of professional, industry and community boards and is also the recipient of numerous awards and achievements.

Mr. Johnson holds a degree in Education from the Institution. He is a resident of Camrose, and has served as a trustee and Chair of the Camrose Public School Board and as a member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. He has also previously served in administrative positions at the Augustana University College.

We can expect further appointments to the Board in the near future with new representatives from the Alumni, Academic staff and the Senate representatives, after the retirement of Don Fleming, Wayne Renke, and Bernd Reuscher. While I was only able to attend one meeting with these three gentlemen, it was enough to sense their extraordinary passion for helping build a world-class Institution. Mr. Reuscher has already announced an endowment in the name of him and his wife. Professor Renke is moving to the position of Acting Vice Dean in the Faculty of Law. Based on my understanding, all three were both loved and extremely respected by previous student leaders. Their insight, passion and dedication to the Institution at the Board will be extremely missed.

Meetings

I have already met with roughly a third of Council; I hope to meet all of you for coffee prior to the end of the summer. I have also met with representatives from the Augustana Students Association and Law Students' Association. I also hope to meet with representatives from each Faculty Association by the end of September in order to have a thorough understanding of issues facing students. Finally my meetings with members of the Board commence this week, with the goal of meeting the majority if not all the members by the end of the summer.

For further inquiries please feel free to ask me anything during Question Period, or contact me at: hansra@ualberta.ca.