



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors  
Open Session  
January 29, 2008**

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The meeting was held at 4:00 p.m. in Room 160, Extended Education Complex.

Present: T. Sargeant, Chair  
J. Leclerc, Secretary

J. Anderson	A. Berg	A. Black	P. Bovey
R. Dhalla	R. Eyford	G. Hatch	R. Heinrichs
J. Lederman	M. McLean	H. Milan	W. Norrie
D. Ruth	R. Sigurdson	M. Sitter	G. Sran
T. Strutt	E. Szathmáry	E. Gordon	S. Van Schie

Assessors Present:

B. Austin-Smith (for T. Booth) J. Sealey

Officials Present:

R. Kerr	J. Keselman	S. Foster	C. Keachie
E. Goldie	D. McCallum		

Regrets:

D. Ward T. Booth

Absent:

S. Hennessey

1. Announcements

Mr. Sargeant announced that Cheryl Keachie, the Board of Governors Specialist with the Office of the University Secretary, will be leaving the University for a position with the Department of National Defense. As such, this will be her last Board of Governors meeting. Mr. Sargeant thanked Ms. Keachie for her hard work and dedicated service to the Board over the years and wished her well in future endeavours.

2. Minutes

2.1 Open Minutes

It was moved by Ms. Lederman, seconded by Mr. Black:

**THAT the minutes of the November 20, 2007 Open Session meeting be approved as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

2.2 Business Arising - none

Dr. Anderson asked whether there was any follow up regarding the panel on the transfer of non-regulated laboratories. Dr. Keselman indicated there was no follow-up but she expected more information in the budget.

**PRESENTATION:** Dr. Robert Kerr, Vice-President (Academic) and Provost - Navitas-International College of Manitoba

Dr. Kerr made a presentation to the Board on an agreement that the University had entered into with Navitas that provides for a pre-university program which consists of courses evaluated in advance by the relevant University academic department as being equivalent to first year courses it offers. In effect, it is designed to prepare ICM students for success in specified UM degree programs.

Dr. Kerr noted his regret that Navitas had made advertisements before the Board of Governors and the Senate had been informed of the agreement. Dr. Kerr apologized for the miscommunication which occurred in his office and resulted in a great deal of concern throughout the University Community. He did re-state his belief that this arrangement will enable to University to recruit a stream of well-prepared international students who will be able to succeed in studies at the University of Manitoba.

Mr. McLean expressed concern that the Senate of the University had not had the opportunity to consider the agreement with Navitas and that it should have.

It was moved by Mr. McLean, seconded by Ms. Heinrichs:

**THAT the Board of Governors refer the contract between the University of Manitoba and Navitas to Senate and its appropriate committees for review.**

The Board of Governors discussed the motion at length. A number of points were made including:

- Because the University is playing a key part in setting the curriculum and course direction, transfers of credit from this institution are much different from those from other institutions from which we accept transfer credit. On this basis, some Board members felt that the Senate has a duty and obligation to be involved.
- It was noted that Engineering has a 20 year agreement with Sedaya College in Malaysia which is very similar to the Navitas agreement, the only difference being that Sedaya College operates from a location not on the University of Manitoba campus. It would seem that the Navitas agreement would be completely acceptable were it to be located off campus. In addition, the authority to decide who can and cannot lecture on campus, at least in the case of the Faculty of Engineering, has in effect been delegated to the Dean, if not to the Department Heads.
- Perhaps the agreement could be referred back to Senate simply for information purposes.

- Senate has delegated the authority related to the clauses in the University Act to which Mr. McLean referred, to the committees of Senate and the academic departments of the University.
- It was felt that the issue at hand is whether the administration of the University has willfully or carelessly exceeded its authority and therefore contravened the University of Manitoba Act. It was noted that the administration has been consistent with what the University Act requires because over the years Senate has delegated its powers over some academic issues to the relevant faculties and departments. The issue before the Board is whether to hand over a legal contract to Senate to determine whether the University administration has in fact contravened the Act. The Board member felt that it is not the business of Senate to review legal contracts which have been entered into legally.
- There are significant concerns related to the contract from several faculty members. ~~including a motion of concern approved by the Faculty of Arts Council.~~
- The idea of the program is to ensure the success of those international students who would be admitted subsequently to the University of Manitoba. It was noted that the University seeks to recruit international students and the University works with agents elsewhere to bring students to the university. It was noted that the University should not be aiming to recruit these students if in fact it cannot help them to succeed. The University cannot afford to provide this program which was why the Navitas agreement was entered into. If it is known that international students will succeed at the University, the University will be better able to recruit international students.
- There is no committee of Senate to which this contract has been or could be referred. It was felt the Board should accept the University administration's assurance that this contract was entered into legally. The contract has been established for a defined period to allow the University to evaluate how well it works. The details of how it will operate have not yet been determined. This is a limited contract for limited purpose. What is to be gained by sending it Senate to review as it is not established to review contracts?
- A Board member expressed the opinion that it would not be good governance to refer matters to Senate simply because it is a collegial thing to do.
- Because there are resource implications, some felt that the proposal should be reviewed by the Senate Planning and Priorities Committee.
- There are many unknowns about the contract because it has not been reviewed by Senate. For example, access to services for these students have not yet been negotiated and provisions for renewal of this contract are unknown.
- This is a legally binding agreement so there is no valid purpose in sending the contract back to Senate as it cannot be undone. There is no benefit to reviewing the legalities of a legally binding agreement that cannot be changed. Assurances have been made that there will be input from the departments and that the communication will be stronger.

After a vote, the motion was **DEFEATED**.

3. From Executive Committee - none
4. From Finance and Administration and Human Resources Committee
- 4.1 School of Medical Rehabilitation Referendum

It was moved by Mr. Black, seconded by Dr. Anderson

**THAT a \$50 per year contribution be assessed against the students in the Physical**

Therapy and Respiratory Therapy programs in the School of Medical Rehabilitation. The allocation is to the School of Medical Rehabilitation Endowment Fund; commencing with registration for the 2008/09 academic year, collected from each student each year when they pay their fees. The term for this agreement is three years.

**CARRIED**

5. From Senate

5.1 Proposal: Establishment of a Professorship in Spine Biomechanics and Human Neurophysiology

It was moved by Dr. Szathmáry, seconded by Ms. Hatch:

**THAT the Board of Governors approve the establishment of a Professorship in Spine Biomechanics and Human Neurophysiology (as recommended by Senate on December 5, 2007).**

**CARRIED**

5.2 Report of the Senate Committee on Awards - Part A

It was moved by Dr. Szathmáry, seconded by Mr. Black:

**THAT the Board of Governors approve two new offers, four amended offers, and the withdrawal of two offers, as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards [dated October 2, 2007].**

**CARRIED**

5.3 Report of the Senate Committee on Awards - Part B

It was moved by Dr. Szathmáry, seconded by Mr. McLean:

**THAT the Board of Governors approve the establishment of the Frank and Marjorie Silver Bursary and the George Swinton Memorial Scholarship as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards - Part B [dated October 31, 2007].**

**CARRIED**

5.4 Department and Program Name Changes - Faculty of Arts

It was moved by Dr. Szathmáry, seconded by Dr. Sigurdson:

**THAT the Board of Governors approve the name change of the Department of English to the Department of English, Film, and Theatre, and THAT the Board of Governors approve the name change of the Women's Studies Program to the Women's and Gender Studies Program (as recommended by Senate on January 9, 2008).**

**CARRIED**

6. Other Business - none

The Board of Governors received the following items for information:

7. **FROM EXECUTIVE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE** - none

8. **FROM FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**  
none

9. **FROM SENATE**

9.1 Naming of the Mindermar Professorship in Human Simulation

9.2 Statement of Intent: Bachelor of Science (Honours) Forensic Science

Dr. Anderson questioned the transferring of credits from other institutions in relation to accreditation and this program. Dr. Szathmáry indicated she was not aware of any programs in Canada that are accredited. Mr. Sargeant reminded the Board that as this was the first step in developing this program there would be further opportunity for discussion and debate when the full program proposal comes to the Board.

9.3 Academic Schedule for 2008-2009

10.1 President's Report

Dr. Szathmáry highlighted several items in her report included in the agenda materials. Of note, November 1 enrolment declined from the previous year. Akosua Matthews is the University's newest Rhodes Scholar. She is a graduate in honours philosophy from the Faculty of Arts. Dr. Szathmáry reported that a delegation from U of Nairobi came to the University of Manitoba to complete an expansion of the agreement with the University to allow student exchanges and faculty movement back and forth. The President also acknowledged a number of people from diverse sectors of the University who have received Outreach Awards, which are awarded for using one's time and knowledge to benefit the community at large.

Ms. Lederman asked, with reference to the credit hours for Distance and Online Education, why they are being broken out separately and whether this is related in some way to funding thresholds. Dr. Szathmáry responded that as students pay tuition by credit hour this is how they are reported; the only intention is to report that although there is an overall decrease in enrolment there has been increases in some areas, such as Distance and Online Education.

Mr. Black drew the Board's attention the excellent musical performances at Smartpark and suggested that Board members make an effort to attend in the future. Mr. Black also suggested that a presentation on the work at Smartpark would be a good idea for a future Board meeting.

Ms. Lederman passed on kudos to the Bison Football team for winning the Manitoba Team of the Year Award. Dr. Szathmáry added that the free publicity that accompanied the Bison Football team's Vanier Cup win was extremely valuable and noted, in particular, a story about the Bison team recruiting older players and the excellent comments in the Globe and Mail from Coach Dobie. Mr. Sargeant and Dr. Szathmáry both expressed their pride in Coach Dobie's performance.

10.2 Report of the UMSU President

Mr. Sran indicated that data from a survey of UMSU members was being compiled. UMSU has met with the NDP Caucus to discuss the results and are awaiting a response from the Conservative Party and hope to meet with them soon. The Looney Line fundraiser was very successful in raising over \$9000.00 for hampers for students and for the food bank. He noted

also that one member of the community donated \$2000.00. Food Bank usage has doubled in November as compared to last year and as such UMSU is looking at ways to increase its funding.

Celebration Week received some excellent media attention. A number of excellent speakers were brought in, including Joel Cohen, Ice T, and Jack Hanna. Other events also went over well.

Motion to Move to Closed and Confidential Session

It was moved by Mr. Black , seconded by Ms. Hatch:

**THAT the Board of Governors move into Closed and Confidential session.**

**CARRIED**

Motion to Adjourn

It was moved by:

**THAT the meeting adjourn.**

**CARRIED**

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Chair

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University Secretary