



FRIENDS OF UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

MINUTES of the annual meeting of the Friends of the University of Guelph, a non-profit corporation under the laws of the District of Columbia, held Saturday, April 21, 2018 in Chicago, Illinois commencing at 4:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting:

Janet Bumstead (by phone)
Jason Bystriansky
Ron Horning
Miranda Lutzow (by phone)
Rod Jendrysik (by phone)
Bert Mitchell (by phone)
Christopher Naese (by phone)
Lorne Pollard
Don Watt
Karen Bertrand

Regrets:

Cosimo Ferraro

WELCOME

R. Jendrysik, President of Friends of University of Guelph, called the meeting to order at The Chestnut Room, Room 822, The Union League Club of Chicago, 65 West Jackson Blvd, Chicago, Illinois.

C. Ferraro was unable to attend the meeting, and sent his regrets.

Meeting began with introductions of all Directors in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

R. Jendrysik called for acceptance of the agenda as presented.

Motion: To accept the agenda as presented – D. Watt

Motion seconded – L. Pollard

Motion approved unanimously

Carried

GREETINGS

K. Bertrand, A.V.P., Major Gift Advancement brought greetings on behalf of the University of Guelph.

Karen also provided an update on the completed negotiations for the Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA) and the OMAFRA contract with the Ontario government in fall 2017. Both these contracts determine strategic directions and secure funding for the University of Guelph for the next five years (ten years in the case of the OMAFRA contract). The SMA is available for viewing at

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/vpacademic/documents/University-of-Guelph-SMA-for-Publication.pdf>

Karen highlighted that the inaugural Arrell Food Summit funded by the \$20M gift announced in 2017 to establish the Arrell Food Institute will be held in May 2018. Information about the summit is available at <https://arrellfoodinstitute.ca/food-summit/>. We also welcomed the first Arrell Scholars funded by this gift this academic year.

Guelph welcomed two new Deans in the past twelve months – one to the College of Arts, and a new Dean for the College of Engineering and Physical Science.

And finally, Karen shared that U of G also received the largest ever gift to the School of Engineering in 2017 - \$5M from the Barrett Family Foundation.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 22, 2017 MEETING

R. Jendrysik called for acceptance of the April 22, 2017 meeting minutes.

Motion: To accept the April 22, 2017 minutes as presented - D. Watt
Seconded – B. Mitchell
Motion approved unanimously
Carried

BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising from the minutes of the 2017 meeting

TREASURER'S REPORT

C. Naese then presented the 2017 reports, and opened the opportunity for questions.

- 5.1 Balance Sheet
- 5.2 Comparative income statement

There was some discussion following this presentation about what triggers a transfer – size of a gift, and regular transfers to get the funds to the University of Guelph. The 2017 bank account ledger was also reviewed to see the history of transfers in 2017.

L. Pollard and C. Naese also provided a detailed list of all the specific gifts that were received in each of 2017 and 2018 year to date for the information of Directors.

Discussion about whether the Friends of University of Guelph board should be more proactive in soliciting gifts. Karen confirmed that it is consistent with the Terms of Reference for the Friends Board to be more proactive if they chose.

Board Directors confirmed that alumni could continue to give directly to the U of G, and Board members all agreed that gifts to the U of G meet the spirit of the Friends of University of Guelph bylaw that require Directors to make a \$25 gift annually.

Action:

- Reconcile all signed gift agreements with transfers to confirm transfers completed – J. Barrett
(In progress, to be completed by end of May)

**Motion: To accept the Treasurer's Report as presented - D. Watt
Seconded - L. Pollard
Motion approved unanimously
Carried**

2018 RESULTS TO DATE

C. Naese reviewed the status of bank deposits and transfers made year to date.

Action:

- Confirm possible alternative transfer arrangements – D. Watt

REVIEW OF BOARD MEMBERSHIPS AND OFFICERS

R. Jendrysik confirmed that L. Pollard will remain a Director of the Board, but will step down as an Officer for 2018.

B. Mitchell offered to stand as an Officer of the Board for 2018

**Motion: Accept the slate of Officers for 2018, with the addition of B. Mitchell as VP – C. Naese
Motion Seconded – D. Watt
Motion approved unanimously
Carried**

R. Jendrysik also acknowledged R. Horning will be retiring from the Board, and acknowledged his contributions.

**Motion: Accept the slate of Directors for 2018, with the addition of B. Mitchell as VP – D. Watt
Motion Seconded – C. Naese
Motion approved unanimously
Carried**

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion about who will assume the staff support role given the pending departure of K. Bertrand. Karen confirmed that a successor has not yet been confirmed, but the Board will be notified by the end of May.

There was some discussion about recruitment efforts for Friends of University of Guelph, and K. Bertrand circulated the communications statistics for the AGM and Midwest alumni event.

M. Lutzow offered to host an alumni event in the Bay area in California.

B. Mitchell inquired about number of hits to U of G website, and traffic through to the AA&D website, and further discussion ensued about the merits of a Friends of University of Guelph specific social media addresses or hashtags.

Action:

- Secure metrics on hits to U of G website, and resultant traffic to AA&D website – K. Bertrand
(Request advanced to communications staff April 2018)

- Review options with social media staff and peers in the sector to increase social media presence in the US, including posting alumni event on Canadian consulate in Chicago site – K. Bertrand (*Request advanced to communications staff April 2018*)
- Connect Miranda with AA&D staff to explore options for a California area event – K. Bertrand (*Done*)
- Confirm what McMaster events are held in Chicago area, and how they are promoted – D. Watt

NEXT MEETING

All Directors agreed to have the next AGM/Midwest Alumni Event on April 13, 2019 at 4:00 pm.

The location will be determined in fall 2019 in time for the Portico print deadlines.

Action:

- Consider location options for AGM/Midwest Alumni Event – J. Bystriansky

Motion: To accept the date of April 13, 2019 as the date of the next AGM/Chicago Alumni Event – L. Pollard

Motion seconded – D. Watt
Motion approved unanimously
Carried

M. Lutzow – who joined the meeting after the Review of Board Memberships and Officers - also agreed to join the Board as a Director.

Motion: To accept the amended slate of Directors for 2018, with the addition of M. Lutzow – D. Watt

Motion Seconded – C. Naese
Motion approved unanimously
Carried

Action:

- Update list of 2018 Board of Directors with two approved amendments, and recirculate with meeting minutes – K. Bertrand (*See updated Board listing circulated with AGM Minutes in April, 2018*)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting – B. Mitchell
Motion seconded – L. Pollard
Motion approved unanimously
Carried