

Western Alumni

The Alumni Association of The University of Western Ontario

Acts of The Directors 2020 - 2021

Resolution #580, Electronic Vote - October 1, 2020

MOTION: That the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association of the University of Western Ontario put forth Mark Brown and David Simmonds as their designated representatives to the university's Strategic Planning Steering Committee.

MOVED: Melanie Peacock

SECONDED: Warren Bongard

CARRIED

Resolution #581, January 20, 2021

MOTION: That The Board approve the Executive Committee's recommendation, as amended, to contribute \$400,000 for the funding of the Labatt Lounge. These funds would go towards refurbishing of the physical space and basic technology requirements such as sound system and video screens to make it a more useable space. The naming of the lounge is yet to be determined and will be discussed at a future board meeting.

MOVED: Sandra Datars Bere

SECONDED: Trisha Beausaert

CARRIED

Background: The Labatt Lounge is in the TD Stadium where we host football donors and various alumni events. The Labatt Lounge needs an extensive overhaul of the physical space and technology requirements. When a named space requires a major renovation, the University policy indicates that the original donor has the first right of refusal. The original donor can contribute more funds to keep their named space or agree to have their name removed from the space. The Labatt Corp declined this option and agreed to have the Labatt Lounge name removed from the space.

The Labatt Lounge will be renamed to reflect the new donor. Renovations will include replacing windows for improved sightline of the football field, replacing the flooring, increase seating capacity and improve microphone and video requirements. The goal is to create a more open space with new furnishings, lighting, and a fresh coat of paint.

Resolution #582, January 20, 2021

MOTION: That The Board approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to fund \$500,000 to name the second-floor event space in the new entrepreneurship building. This naming opportunity will be recognized with a plaque prominently displayed inside the event space. The space will be available to the Western Alumni Association Board for meeting and planning purposes, allowing our

alumni leadership to benefit from the generosity of creating such a purposeful and meaningful named space.

MOVED: Sandra Datars Bere

SECONDED: Promod Sharma

CARRIED

Background: Western will have a new entrepreneurship building and a new entrepreneurship ecosystem strategy. The new entrepreneurship building will be located between the Law building and the back of Weldon Library. This new building will create an integrated experience for the entire Western community (students, alumni, faculty, and staff). The Legacy Committee was presented three different naming opportunities within the building, all at the \$500,000 level.

The new Entrepreneurship building will cost \$50 million to build. It's a 100,000 ft², four storey building designed for all students, faculty, staff to use the building. The internal floorplans are finalized but the outdoor images are still in draft form. The renderings are not final, but it provided the committee with an idea of the possible design. With the \$50 million building costs, Western is committed to raise \$7.5 million. \$1 million has already been raised. Timing of the building opening is fall 2022.

There is a second-floor event space which accommodates 100 guests. It is 1800 ft² that overlooks the main floor event space. Out of the three options presented, the Legacy Committee felt this option had the most appeal and visibility.

On the main floor of the building there will also be a glassed enclosure that will be a large event space that will seat 400 guests for a sit-down meal. This space is currently being offered to several key alumni to name but it is at the \$1.5 million naming opportunity.

Resolution #583, March 16, 2021

MOTION: That the Executive Committee approve, in principle, the formation of the Western Alumni Wrestling Chapter "Cauliflower Ear Club" (CEC).

MOVED: Matt Helfand

SECONDED: Ashley Rowe

CARRIED

Resolution #584, March 16, 2021

MOTION: That the Executive Committee approve, in principle, the formation of the Black at Western Alumni and Indigenous Alumni Chapters.

MOVED: David Simmonds

SECONDED: Ashley Rowe

CARRIED

Resolution #585, March 24, 2021

MOTION: That the Board approve the Draft Slate of Officers: 2021 – 2022 as recommended by the Nominating Committee:

PRESIDENT & PRESIDENT-ELECT

Mark Brown MBA'95, <i>President</i>	2 year term, 2020-2022
Melanie Peacock MBA'90, <i>President-Elect</i>	1 year term, 2021-2022

DIRECTORS

NEW

Chantel Smith BA'10	3 year term, 2021-2024
George McAuley MEd'10, BEd'98, BSc'96	3 year term, 2021-2024

RENEWALS

Kant Chong BA'03	3 year term, 2021-2024
Matt Helfand BA'13, MA'14, JD'18	3 year term, 2021-2024
Melanie Peacock MBA'90	3 year term, 2021-2024

EXISTING APPOINTMENTS

Amy Bi BA'07	3 year term, 2019-2022
Trisha Beausaert BA'11	3 year term, 2019-2022
Mark Brown MBA'95	3 year term, 2019-2022
Warren Bongard LLB'91	3 year term, 2020-2023
Sandra Datars Bere BA'87, MPA'06	3 year term, 2020-2023
Shannon MacDonald BA'90	3 year term, 2020-2023
Susy Martins BA'01, BA'03, MBA'08	3 year term, 2019-2022
Daniel Matthews BSc'09, JD'14	3 year term, 2020-2023
Farah Perelmuter BA'91	3 year term, 2020-2023
Lisa Richards BA'06	3 year term, 2020-2023
Patrick Searle BA'11	3 year term, 2020-2023
David Simmonds BA'07	3 year term, 2019-2022
Laura Spero BA'95	3 year term, 2020-2023

BOARD OF GOVERNORS (4 YEAR TERM)

RENEWAL

Sarah Shortreed BESC'89	To December 31, 2025
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EXISTING APPOINTMENTS

Greg Dick BSc'93	To April 30, 2022
Keith Gibbons BA'76	To December 31, 2023
David Simmonds BA'07	To December 31, 2023

UNIVERSITY SENATE (2 YEAR TERM)

RENEWALS

Anne Baxter BA'91	To June 30, 2023
Gary West BA'68, President’s Designate (1 year term)	To June 30, 2022

EXISTING APPOINTMENT

Sandra Datars Bere BA'87, MPA'06	To June 30, 2022
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HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE (2 YEAR TERM)

EXISTING APPOINTMENTS

Susy Martins HBA'01, BA'03, MBA'08	To June 2022
Christine Tabbert LLB'98	To June 2022

MOVED: Matt Helfand
SECONDED: Shannon MacDonald **CARRIED**

Resolution #586, March 24, 2021

MOTION: That the Board approve the Executive Committee’s recommendation to contribute \$5,000 to support The Austen Berlet Campout for Mental Health (ABCampout). Western Alumni will be recognized on stage throughout the whole livestream.

MOVED: Sandra Datars Bere
SECONDED: Farah Perelmuter **CARRIED**

Background: The Austen Berlet Campout for Mental Health’s (ABCampout) mission is to help solve the mental health crisis by eradicating the stigma, creating awareness, and raising donations to help the fight. ABCampout is a long-standing annual event organized by the fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta in collaboration with the Canadian Mental Health Association (CAMH), and the Western University Student Council. The proceeds from the event help fund free professional counselling at Western for eight weeks during Fall and Winter exam periods.

The event began in honour of a Western student named Austen Berlet, who abruptly took his life in 2009. He was a brother of Phi Gamma Delta, and the sudden loss was the reason they created ABCampout.

ABCampout will be hosting live musical performances, recreational activities, a silent auction and raffle, with counsellors and members from CMHA speaking about the services available and raising overall mental health awareness. Due to covid-19 restrictions, the event will be held virtually on a livestream on April 1, 2021.

Resolution #587, March 24, 2021

MOTION: That the Board approve the Executive Committee’s recommendation of the establishment of the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Working Group led by David Simmonds and Ashley Rowe.

MOVED: Amy Bi

SECONDED: Patrick Searle

CARRIED

Resolution #588, June 3, 2021

Pending approval at the June 3, 2021 Alumni Association Board meeting

MOTION: That the Board approve the Executive Committee’s recommendation to contribute \$125,000 in one-time funding to be endowed in the Western Rowing Capital Endowment Fund. The spending allocation from this endowment will provide sustainable funding to the Rowing Teams of approximately \$20,000 annually, increasing in perpetuity. These funds will be used to support the highest priority capital needs of the men’s and women’s teams equally, with a focus on boats and equipment expenses associated with competition.

In recognition of the Alumni Legacy Committee’s generous gift, Western Rowing will be honoured to provide the following:

- Officially rename the Western Rowing Capital Endowment Fund to the Western Alumni Rowing Fund with terms drafted to recognize the generous support of both the Legacy Committee and our generous Western Rowing alumni;
- Western Rowing will brand all new boats purchased between 2022-2024 with the Western Alumni branding; and
- The generous gift from the Alumni Legacy Committee will be acknowledged in the event program and/or online as part of each 2021-2022 Western Rowing alumni event.

MOVED: Sandra Datars Bere

SECONDED: Warren Bongard

CARRIED

Background: In 2007, Western Rowing’s Student-Athlete Executive made the decision to start the team’s first endowment fund that would specifically target capital purchases such as boats, oars, ergometers and other capital purchases necessary for the continuation of the program. The goal was set of achieving \$500,000 in endowed funds prior to using the spending allocation from the fund to support the capital needs of the team. After 14 years of generosity from Western Rowing alumni and supporters, the fund has grown to approximately \$330,000. The challenges of the past year and those

specifically faced by sport during COVID, have highlighted the need for stable and predictable funding for the team that can only be provided through endowments.

Resolution #589, June 3, 2021

Pending approval at the June 3, 2021 Alumni Association Board meeting

MOTION: That the Board approve the Executive Committee’s recommendation to contribute \$100,000 per year for 10 years for a stadium maintenance reserve fund for regular upkeep of the stadium. In recognition of this generous donation totaling \$1,000,000, the stadium would be renamed, “Alumni Stadium” for a 10-year term.

MOVED: Sandra Datars Bere

SECONDED: David Simmonds

CARRIED

Background: Western University’s athletics stadium needs a new name. TD Stadium is home to many of Western’s athletic programs including Mustang football, soccer, field lacrosse and field hockey. TD Stadium has a CFL regulation-size artificial turf playing surface, and is bordered by an eight-lane, 400-metre running track. The stadium features modern facilities for competing and training athletes and seating for more than 10,000 spectators. In addition to Mustang athletics, the stadium also hosts large-scale global, regional and community events.

In 2000, TD Waterhouse named the stadium for a 20-year term. It was the 2001 Canada Games that was the national appeal for the naming back in 2000. In 2018, Western began discussions with TD for first right to renew the naming, TD politely declined. Other corporations, individuals and other entities were solicited to name the stadium, but all declined.

Western is moving forward with upgrades and renewals for the stadium (replacing turf, running track, energy efficient lighting system and seating upgrades). The expected costs are estimated at \$5M and will be fully funded by Western.

We would like to request a commitment of \$100,000 per year for 10 years for a stadium maintenance reserve fund for regular upkeep (currently, we do not have a source of funding for this). In return for the \$1,000,000 the stadium would be renamed “Alumni Stadium.”

Resolution #590, June 3, 2021

Pending approval at the June 3, 2021 Alumni Association Board meeting

MOTION: That the Board approve the revised Constitution & By-Laws as recommended by the Governance Review Task Force, for presentation at the Alumni Association’s Annual General Meeting taking place June 3, 2021.

MOVED:

SECONDED:

CARRIED

The executive has approved the work of the Governance Review Committee with respect to revisions to the [Constitution](#) & [By-Laws](#).

Changes, in general, reflect the following:

- Revising the previous default use of male pronouns to gender neutral;
- Revising outdated references to the division of “External Relations” and replacing them with “University Advancement”;
- Expanding definitions that encourage diversity of Board make-up from just faculty to include: gender, ethnicity and era of graduation;
- Replacement of the former “Council of Presidents” with a more inclusive and streamlined “Western Alumni Summit”; and
- Housekeeping corrections of punctuation, etc.