

Western Alumni

The Alumni Association of The University of Western Ontario Acts of The Directors 2022 - 2023

Resolution #597, September 14, 2022

MOTION: That the Board approve the Executive Committee’s recommendation to contribute \$300,000 for the naming of the multipurpose gathering space on the foundational floor of the new Indigenous Learning Centre be named to honour Western’s Indigenous alumni.

Background: Western has demonstrated a deep commitment to increasing Indigenous spaces and resources to advance Indigenous learning opportunities for all students. In 2019-20, Western unveiled plans to repurpose the former Education Library for an Indigenous Learning Space that includes indoor and outdoor spaces. The stand-alone building offers a unique, circular architecture with three floors and more than 10,000 square feet including a mezzanine area, a skylight, and elevator. The approach to architectural design uncovered four overarching design principles that have driven the re-design process. The principles are:

1. Welcoming and inclusive space;
2. Supportive of Indigenous epistemologies and pedagogies;
3. A hub for socio-cultural programming; and
4. Inspired by Indigenous expressions.

Construction of this important new space is nearly complete, and the building is expected to open by mid- September.

There is a unique opportunity for the Alumni Association to support this important project as a demonstration of Western Alumni’s commitment to Indigenization and to recognize its Indigenous alumni. An amount of \$300,000 is requested to provide funding for this project and it is proposed that the multipurpose gathering space on the foundational floor of the Indigenous Learning Centre be named to honour Western’s Indigenous alumni. The new Indigenous Alumni Chapter will be invited to engage in a process to name the space in a collaborative and inclusive way, resulting in a named space that will resonate with Western’s Indigenous and non-Indigenous alumni, and provide public recognition for the Alumni Association and its Indigenous members. Funds will be used to support a number of needs including capital costs, program funding for activities in the space, Indigenous art to be included in the space, and other priorities as directed by the Office of Indigenous Initiatives.

Moved: Sandra Datars Bere
Seconded: Shannon MacDonald

Carried

Resolution #598, September 14, 2022

MOTION: That the Board approve the Executive Committee’s recommendation to contribute \$34,000 for the additional expenses for the Alumni Lounge.

MOVED: Sandra Datars Bere

SECONDED: Danny Matthews

Carried

Background: The Alumni Lounge in the Western Alumni Stadium has undergone an extensive overhaul of the physical space and technology requirements. Renovations included replacing windows for improved sightline of the football field, replacing the flooring, and increasing seating capacity. The goal was to create a more open space with new furnishings, lighting, and a fresh coat of paint. The renovation also included new HVAC as well as rewiring of electrical requirements for the room. New A/V system was also installed including four screens, Mersive Solstice software system for conference and Zoom capabilities, and new sound system.

There were several added expenses to this renovation project due to higher product costs due to Covid as well as unanticipated costs once the walls and ceilings were exposed. This resulted in a slight increase in cost from the original \$400,000 budget for the project. Total additional cost is \$34,000.

Resolution #599, September 14, 2022

MOTION: That the Board approve the Executive Committee’s recommendation to sponsor \$5,000 for The Western Mustangs Sports Hall of Fame Dinner taking place during Homecoming Weekend on Friday, September 23, 2022.

MOVED: Sandra Datars Bere

SECONDED: George McAuley

Carried

Background: The Western Mustangs Athletic Alumni (WMAA) is a chapter of the Alumni Association. The induction ceremony was formerly done in concert with the Alumni Association’s Alumni Awards of Merit Dinner. However, due to the size of the event and the direction the WMAA Executive wanted to take it, in terms of numbers of inductees, dictated that the WMAA hold their own event. In 2018, 450 attended the inaugural event at the London Convention Centre.

The 2022 dinner will honour: eight individual athletes (four men and four women), team inductees and two lifetime achievement award inductees: Mary Riezebos and Darwin Semotiuk (Posthumously).

Recognition of the \$5000 sponsorship includes:

- A table for eight;
- Acknowledgement in the program;
- Acknowledgement during the induction proceedings; and
- Displaying the Western Alumni banner at the dinner.

The 2022 Hall of Fame inductees will be recognized at the Western Mustangs Sports Hall of Fame dinner. As of today, we have 170 guests registered for this dinner but anticipate 300 guests closer to the Friday, September 23rd date.

The Legacy Committee sponsored a table in 2019.

2022 Inductees

Lifetime Achievement Awards:

- Mary Riezebos, BA'74 Phys Ed, DipEd'75, MA'80
- Darwin Semotiuk, (Posthumously)

Individual inductees:

Duane Forde, BA'92 – Football

Jeremy Jonckheere, HBA'01 – Volleyball

Adrian Jordan, BSc'99 – Track and Field

Josie Josten, BA'81 – Builder/Athlete – Diving & Women's Gymnastics

Josip Mrkoci – Builder/Athlete – Wrestling

Paula Schwan, BA'93, BEd'94 – Cross Country and Track and Field

Michelle Weber, BA'09 – Field Hockey

Wendy Wiebe, BA'87 – Rowing

Team inductees:

Doug Hayes Era of Mustangs Women's Basketball – 1971-72, 1972-73,

and 1973-74 OWIAA Championship Teams

1966 and 1997 Men's Rugby Turner Cup Champion Teams

Resolution #600, March 25, 2023

MOTION: That the Board approve the findings and recommendations of the Sub-Committee: Alumni Association Committee Structure.

MOVED: Melanie Peacock

SECONDED: Nathan Ho

Carried

Resolution #601, March 25, 2023

MOTION: That the Board approve the updates to the Constitution and Bylaws as recommended by the Governance Review Committee for presentation at the June 1 Alumni Association Annual General Meeting.

MOVED: Danny Matthews

SECONDED: Shannon MacDonald

Carried

Resolution #602, March 25, 2023

MOTION: That the Board approve the Draft Slate of Directors and Appointees: 2023 – 2024 as recommended by the Nominating Committee for presentation at the June 1 Alumni Association Annual General Meeting.

MOVED: Amy Bi

SECONDED: Mark Brown

Carried

Resolution #603, Electronic Vote - May 16, 2023

MOTION: That the Executive Committee approve the Ivey Alumni Network for the 2023 Spirit of Western Award, as recommended by the Alumni Engagement Committee, for presentation at the June 1 Alumni Association Annual General Meeting.

MOVED: Melanie Peacock

SECONDED: Mark Brown

Carried

Resolution #604, May 24, 2023

MOTION: That the Board approve the agenda and plans for the June 1, 2023 Alumni Association Annual General Meeting as recommended by the Executive Committee.

MOVED: Laura Spero

SECONDED: Nathan Ho

Carried

Resolution #605, May 24, 2023

MOTION: That the Board accept the terms of reference for the 2023 – 2024 academic year Alumni Association committees as presented, with minor edits noted for the Governance Committee.

Chairs were selected for the following committees:

- Avis Favaro, Recognition
- Nathan Ho, Outreach
- Daniel Matthews, Legacy Fund

MOVED: Melanie Peacock

SECONDED: George McAuley

Carried

Resolution #606, May 24, 2023

MOTION: That the Board approve the Acts of the Directors 2022 – 2023 for presentation at the June 1 Alumni Association Annual General Meeting.

MOVED: Laura Spero

SECONDED: Danny Matthews

Carried