

Board Meeting Highlights

The Sept. 28, 2017, Board of Governors' meeting was held at our Barrie Campus.

The board received a number of reports, including:

- Health and Safety Report
- Access and Privacy Report
- Strategic Mandate Agreement Update
- Legislation Compliance Report
- Enrolment Management Reports
- Annual Program Advisory Committee Report

Motions were passed by the board to approve:

- The 2018-19 Budget Development
- Appointment of the Foundation Board
- IRDI Financial Statements
- Reappointment of the External Auditors

Strategic Mandate Agreement

On March 7, 2017, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD) announced the beginning of the second Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA 2) cycle which would outline Georgian's and the ministry's commitments from 2017 to 2020. The SMA 2 process began in April and has continued throughout the summer. There has been a series of discussions with MAESD as well as the drafting and refinement of documents including a draft pre-populated SMA template, metrics dictionaries and most recently the provision of a detailed, multi-year metrics workbook to provide system-wide and institutional-level metrics and targets.

Georgian's draft SMA 2 aligns with our 2016-2021 Strategic Plan. It includes metrics and targets, *Georgian's aspirations for the next three years, the college's enrolment plans for domestic, international and apprenticeship students, as well as the college's differentiation areas of focus and fiscal sustainability challenges.*

Georgian also worked in collaboration with Lakehead University to develop a joint SMA. The ministry has consolidated this document into an addendum to be included with each of the institution's SMAs. Institutional feedback was incorporated into the ministry's document and it is currently under review at the ministry. The ministry has the final drafts of Georgian's SMA, the Lakehead and Georgian addendum and the Lakehead and Georgian partnership funding request for review. The ministry will provide its final SMA documents in September/October.

Annual Program Advisory Committee reports

The Chairs of Georgian's Program Advisory Committees (PACs) submit a report once a year as per provincial governance requirements. This year, the approach to our report changed slightly; we built upon work that was done at our college-wide PAC dinner in November 2016, when we had the PAC Chairs respond to questions about our strategic plan by using on-the-spot polling technology.

In May, in an attempt to gather data for this report, the PAC Chairs were asked to respond to an online survey that had questions related to their year's accomplishments and priorities, but all within the context of the strategic plan and the responses received at the November dinner. This year's report is a compilation of the data received from the survey. Recommendations on how the college can support PACs in future will be given full consideration by the academic team.

2018-19 Budget Development Process

College staff members begin to work on the development of the next fiscal year's budget early each fall. The Finance and Audit Committee and the board are provided with regular updates on this process. Board approval of the annual budget is required.

Effective resource planning is becoming increasingly important given the ongoing fiscal challenges being generated by changing demographics. The Ontario Ministry of Finance is predicting that from 2017 to 2022, the overall population aged 15-24 will decrease by 2.5 per cent. In Central Ontario, the decrease in this age group is expected to be even greater at 5.5 per cent over that time and is not forecasted to begin increasing again until 2024 and return to 2017 levels until 2034.

The planning process will continue with a second round of budget meetings in early 2018 to review the 2017-18 forecast and finalize the draft 2018-19 budget. Finance and Audit Committee will vet the budget on March 19 and make its recommendation to the Board of Governors on March 29, 2018, with regards to the approval of the final 2018-19 budget.