

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS
REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES**

**Emily Carr Institute
Boardroom**

**Wednesday, April 16, 2008
1:00 pm**

Attendance:

Voting Members

George Pedersen, Chair	Meghan King	Ruth Beer	John McLean
Tracy Calogheros	Art Perret	Debra Hoggan	Gaye Fowler
Glenn Entis	Philippa Mennell		

Regrets: Noel Best, Rick Griffiths

Non voting members

Ron Burnett, President John Wertschek, Chair EdCo

Administration

Michael Clifford, VP Finance + Administration Monique Fouquet, VP Academic
Wendy Wait, Executive Assistant

Guests: Graham Case, Board Member elect; Lori MacDonald, A/Executive Director Student Union
Tom Hsu, Student Union Rep; Jayshree Chhatbar, Student Union Rep (1:00 pm – 1:45 pm)

I. ADMINISTRATION / PRESENTATIONS

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Dr. George Pedersen called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

The Board welcomed Graham Case, new Board member, as a guest. (Mr. Case's term will commence May 1, 2008.) Dr. Pedersen indicated that this would be Philippa Mennell's last Board meeting and thanked her for her valuable contributions to the Board, and wished her well as she graduates from Emily Carr.

2. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

**MOVED/Seconded to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting of
February 21, 2008 as circulated.**

Carried

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOVED/Seconded to adopt the agenda as circulated.

Carried

4. PRESENTATION

Dr. Pedersen introduced Lori MacDonald, Executive Director of the Student Union, and two students, who had requested time to make a presentation to the Board about tuition fees at Emily Carr Institute.

(Presentation attached – Appendix 1 -- for information).

The Board thanked the students for a professional and interesting presentation.

II. BUSINESS

1. Presentation of ECI Draft Budget 2008/09

Michael Clifford presented the draft budget for 2008/09, and indicated that the tuition bylaw amendment and transfer of funds from the “Special Purpose Fund” to the “Operating Fund” would have to be taken into consideration in order to balance the budget for 2008/09. A detailed review and discussion took place.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION – 2/3 majority required

MOVED/Seconded that the Emily Carr Board approve amendment to *Appendix A* of the *Board Bylaws*, reflecting an increase in tuition by 2% as attached to the minutes as “Appendix 2”.

Carried
8 “For”
2 “Against”

Philippa Mennell and Meghan King wished to have their names recorded in the Minutes as voting “against” the motion.

MOVED/Seconded to transfer \$557,701 from Special Purpose Fund to the Operating Fund in the 2008/09 draft budget.

Carried

MOVED/Seconded to approve the 2008/09 Emily Carr budget as presented, reflecting Revenue of \$21,091,863, expenses of \$21,649,564, and transfer of \$557,701 (as approved above) for a net balance of (\$0.00)

Carried

III. REPORTS

1. Academic Report

Dr. Monique Fouquet presented the “Academic Report” for information to the Board.

2. Education Council Report

John Wertschek presented information on the most recent Education Council meeting. There were no referrals to the Board.

The Board AGREED that Art Perret will be the Board representative to Education Council.

3. Chair's Report

Dr. George Pedersen indicated that with the resignation of Dr. Inkster from the Board, that the position of Vice Chair of the Board was vacant, and as outlined in the Board Bylaws, an election could take place to replace that position.

After a brief discussion, and because there will be only one Board meeting until the September Annual General Meeting when elections will take place for all Executive positions, **it was agreed to leave the Executive at 4 members until the September AGM.**

Correspondence received as attached to the agenda was reviewed.

John McLean volunteered to be the Emily Carr representative to the new PSEA Compensation Committee that is being formed.

4. Awards

Tracy Calogheros presented the Board Awards Committee report. It was suggested that an email would be sent to all members of the Emily Carr Community requesting suggestions for names for the 2009 Honorary Degrees in order to expand their list of potential candidates.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm, and an "In Camera" session called.

Hello and thank you for the opportunity to present to the board today.

I am Jayshree Chhatbar, 4th year Communication Design student and the Financial Affairs Representative on the Students' Union

TOM

I am Tom Hsu, Foundation student and Social Constituency Representative on the Students' Union.

Today this committee be reviewing the 2008/2009 operating budget for the Emily Carr Institute in the wake of a 2.6% cut to base funding across the province.

The Emily Carr Students' Union, strives to ensure that students have access to high quality affordable public education, which is the reason why we are here today.

As a student of Emily Carr, I am excited about the growth of our institution. I welcome new directions and recognize the impact that my education here can have on the prosperity of British Columbia.

From the students' union, we would like to commend the work of the administration during the drafting of the budget, as there was an attempt to ensure that the affect of under-funding on students is as minimal as possible. We recognize the work that has been done in light of our government not prioritizing adequate funding for Education across the province.

However, for the appointed board members, you are the representatives of this provincial government. We are quite shocked at the lack of foresight in committing to the goals we thought this province was aiming to achieve.

We were under the impression that the BC government intended to strive toward BC being the most educated province in the country, yet, these recent actions seem to prove otherwise.

We are lucky to see that with one time funding from the Ministry of Advanced Education, the system wide funding cuts will not affect students this year- but we fear for next year and we fear for the future.

JAYSHREE

We can speak about the fact that this year's budget presents only a 2% increase in tuition fees, but what we cannot forget is that tuition fees have doubled in the last ten years. The history of tuition fee increases is not erased from the collective memories of students. We

can talk about the fact that it is only at the rate of 2%-but what has happened is that students are now bearing the burden of these increases on top of fees that have doubled. As students, we are being viewed more and more as the most reliable source of funding for the Institution.

The most shocking information in these budget documents is the 2008-2009 Revenue Chart.

It is unbelievable that in just 10 years the funding has shifted from 72% revenue coming from provincial grants to a present underwhelming 58%.

In 1999 tuition fees contributed 26% of the operating budget. Now, in 2008/2009 they will contribute to an overwhelming 39% of the budget.

This means that the consumers of post secondary education, the students, are now providing 13% more of the total revenue to the Institute.

Over the last decade the cost of tuition has been continually shifting onto the students and we are being expected to pay more and more.

In this budget document, it also states that the 2% increase that students are expected to bear is in line with provincial guidelines. The tuition fee increase the province is expecting comes at time when there is a claim that dwindling enrolment has initiated these recent funding cuts. If we continue to follow this model, the momentum will never stop. Tuition will continue to rise and funding will continue to disappear.

Speaking to the members of this Board who have been appointed by the provincial government -it seems that there is an obvious reason why, across the province, enrollment targets are not being met and those are financial barriers.

What doesn't make sense and what is unfortunate for Emily Carr to have to deal with is attempting to create a budget in this environment. Emily Carr is continually performing above it's FTE targets, yet has still suffered through the process of the funding cuts.

We believe that students should be provided with an environment where they are able to succeed and contribute to our province being the most educated in the country. Instead, the reality of the situation is that costs are continually

a problem for many students. Student loan funding is being decreased because low and middle-income students are simply not attending post secondary education.

TOM

We wish that members of this board would be voting against tuition fee increases on principle. Financial barriers due to doubling tuition fees, the elimination of a BC grants program, and the growing average student debt in BC of 27,000 has created the enrolment decline in this province, which our government has used as its rationale for the recent 2.6% funding cut.

Our challenge to you is to take the next 12 months to assess whether there is a way to increase government funding to attempt to slow the trend that we are experiencing- That the costs of publicly funded post secondary education are expected to be financed more and more by students.

Reference: Board Bylaw #14 – Fees and Charges for Instruction

Date of resolution to the Board: May 16, 2008
 Date this bylaw amendment to become effective: August 2008

	Tuition Fees			Full time
	2007-08	2008-09	2%	30 Credits
			Increase	Per Year
Domestic tuition fee per credit	110.00	112.20	2.20	66.00
International tuition fee per credit	362.44	369.69	7.25	217.50
	Tuition Fees			
	2007-08	2008-09		
Graduate Students / Annual	10,908.00	11,132.00		224.00