

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF REGINA COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2014
EDUCATION AUDITORIUM 106**

Members: 131 present

Guests: 21 present

Attendance records are appended to the official file.

1. Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Timmons.

President Timmons thanked everyone for attending and announced quorum was established to start the meeting. The meeting will be guided by Robert Rules of Order. If quorum is lost, a motion will be required to challenge quorum at which time the meeting can be adjourned.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Johnson – Abbott

moved that the agenda be approved as circulated.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting 26 February 2014

DeCoste – Bredohl

moved that the minutes be approved as circulated.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

4. Report from the Chair of Council

President Timmons opened the meeting with comments from the Chair including highlighting the increased number of students registered for the Fall Semester, announced the new Minister of Advanced Education, the Honourable Kevin Doherty and welcomed the new President Mark Dockstator to First Nations University of Canada.

President Timmons highlighted Council's work since the February 26 meeting including an overview in response to Council's work since March 2013 when Council began meeting again.

The Council Committee on Academic Mission has been working on Unit Review planning which is on the agenda for consideration today. Thank you to the Chair, Chris Yost.

The Council Committee on Budget provided input into budgeting for 2014-15, their work regarding transparency is on the agenda today. Thank you to the Chair Tanya Dahms.

The Council Committee on Research has been providing input on recommendations from the Provincial Auditors.

Other Council Committees have been busy working on discipline and student appeals.

The Special Committee of Council was created to revise Council's rules and regulations and to co-ordinate and help in implementation of past motions from Council. A lot of work was done by that committee to modernize, make more efficient and get to a more regular schedule for Council.

Financial reporting has been shared with CCAM and CCB. Research from other Canadian universities showed the University of Regina is one of the most transparent but to enhance that transparency; travel expenses are posted online, a book of salaries is available in the library and a budget book was released in early September.

A President's Advisory Group on Liberal Arts has been created to uphold the Liberal Arts tradition. The Group is working to put forward recommendations and the Strategic Plan commits the University to this historic core.

Support for graduate students was raised as a concern that the University was not as competitive as we could have been to attract and retain graduate students. A one-time top-up of \$150,000 was confirmed for graduate students and \$200,000 has been budgeted going forward each year, plus \$25,000 GTA support, base budgeting for five research-related positions that were soft-funded before and enhanced funding to top up CRC salaries. Research recommendations are being worked on for implementation and graduate support is part of that.

The Strategic Planning Facilitation Team was very active over the summer. Council member, Wes Pearce, was elected to the Facilitation Team based on Council's recommendation.

Going forward the President continues to have an open door and is available to meet and hear concerns and suggestions. She informed Council that she always tries to address the spirit of the recommendations that come from Council. A reminder the Board Bylaws are available online and following each meeting, the agenda, the minutes and President's Report are available online.

President Timmons outlined the procedures for the meeting.

5. Report from the Council Agenda Committee

5.1 Strategic Plan

2015-2020 Draft Strategic Plan

Piwowar – Oriet

moved that Council recommend endorsement, in principle, of the 2015-2020 University of Regina DRAFT Strategic Plan with the provision that Council will receive, via email, the final version of the DRAFT Strategic Plan for final input for a period of no less than five (5) days prior to the Board of Governors receiving the final version of the DRAFT Strategic Plan for its approval, as outlined in Appendix I, pages 2-14 of the Agenda.

President Timmons spoke regarding the renewal and approval of the Strategic Plan. In honouring the spirit of the motion from the last Council meeting, for council to review and approve the final version. There are challenges with the practicality of scheduling a meeting to do this; there is the pressure of time and consultations still going on, including two scheduled town hall meetings. A final draft will be distributed to Council for input by email before going to Board of Governors this fall. An electronic vote will not take place, as the final approval will be done by the Board of Governors.

J. Piowar presented the motion and spoke to the size of the campus, the value of the federated colleges, the commitment to diversity and internationalization and the active and innovative research community. The focus on the three Strategic priorities includes student success, research impact and commitment to our communities. The members of the Facilitation Team that were present were introduced and thanked.

Discussion followed with members of Council speaking for and against the motion as well as thanking the Facilitation team for their work. Any suggestions that were made were noted by the Facilitation team and Council members were also asked to send any additional comments or suggestions to Dr. Piowar or post them online.

There was concern regarding the time line and the opportunity to provide input before the Strategic Plan goes to the Board for approval. An updated draft of the Plan will be available in early October based on all of the input received. This is the version that will be posted publicly and available for the Senate meeting on October 17.

The Chair committed to Council that the Strategic Plan will be available for discussion at the October 22, 2014 meeting of Executive of Council.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

J. Piowar announced the Strategic Plan Facilitation Team will be accepting suggestions for a name of the Plan until the end of September.

The list of accomplishments from the 2009-2014 Strategic Plan are available online.

5.2 Council Committee on Academic Mission

C. Yost presented the report.

Academic Unit Reviews – Motion 1

Yost – Chase

moved that Council recommends to the President the resumption of the academic unit review process according to the revised 10-year time table, as outlined in Appendix II, pages 15-33 of the Agenda.

Discussion followed with members of Council speaking for and against the motion. The time table is a guideline and can be adjustable. There was concern regarding unit reviews for areas that also go through accreditation reviews. This will be considered by the committee and the Chair indicated that it is for this reason that the timeline is suggestion only and will be subject to change.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

Academic Unit Reviews – Motion 2

Yost – Chase

moved that Council recommends to the President the timeline and responsibilities for unit reviews be adopted as the recommended process for unit reviews, as outlined in Appendix II, pages 15-33 of the Agenda.

Discussion followed. Council members were ensured that the timeline is a recommendation and may need to be altered to accommodate certain units.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

Academic Unit Reviews – Motion 3

Yost – Chase

moved that Council recommends to the President the template for the Academic Unit Review unit self study and the associate academic unit member curricula vitae template be adopted, starting with the 2014-2015 unit reviews, as outlined in Appendix II, pages 15-33 of the Agenda.

Discussion followed. It was suggested to the Committee that the CV Guidelines Template be revised to expand the definition of what qualifies for research. It was further suggested that when possible to minimize duplication of effort in providing CV's.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

5.3 Council Committee on Budget

T. Dahms presented the report.

Applying Transparency as a Budget Principle

Dahms – Halloway

moved that Council adopts the *Applying Transparency as a Budget Principle* document to guide the implementation of transparency as an overarching budget principle, and that such a recommendation be made to the President, as outlined in Appendix III, pages 34-44 of the Agenda.

Council was reminded the University Budget Committee is charged with developing the budget and recommending to the President a budget that she then recommends to the Board of Governors for approval. The University Budget Committee gets input from across campus, including Deans' Council, other bodies and resources. The Council Committee on Budget exists as one of these resources and was created to represent the academic voice in budgeting. The Board of Governors has the final approval for the Budget of the University.

All University employees' names and salaries are available in the library. The information was updated in August.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

Budget Principles, Guidelines and Procedures

Dahms – Dorrington

moved that Council adopts the *Budgetary Principles, Guidelines and Procedures* document as a living document that will steer the budget process, and that such a

recommendation be made to the President, as outlined in Appendix III, pages 34-44 of the Agenda.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

5.4 Report from Executive of Council

The report was received for information.

In closing, President Timmons thanked everyone for coming and Council member's continued engagement. Appreciation was expressed to the Council Agenda Committee. The next meeting of Council will take place in the winter term and will be announced by the Council Agenda Committee.

6. **Adjournment** – MacLennan - (10:49 a.m.)



Annette Revet
University Secretary