

DATE: 10 April 2017
TO: ALL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
FROM: Glenys Sylvestre, Executive Director and University Secretary
RE: **WINTER MEETING OF COUNCIL AGENDA**

A meeting of Council will be held on Monday, April 24, 2017 from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. in the Education Auditorium, ED 106, as follows:

2:00 p.m. – Council Registration Opens
2:30 p.m. – Call to Order

AGENDA

1. Introduction
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting 9 December 2015– *circulated with the Agenda*
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
5. Report from the Chair of Council
6. Reports to the Council Agenda Committee
 - 6.1 Council Agenda Committee, Appendix I
 - 6.2 Council Committee on Academic Mission, Appendix II
 - 6.3 Council Committee on Budget, Appendix III
 - 6.4 Motion from Council Members, Appendix IV
7. Adjournment

Note: Council members have access to all minutes and agendas of Executive of Council at <http://www.uregina.ca/president/governance/council/eofc-meetings.html>

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA COUNCIL
COUNCIL AGENDA COMMITTEE

ITEM FOR APPROVAL

Subject: Revision to Section 2.2.1 of the Council Rules and Regulations

MOTION: Meetings of Council

To revise Section 2.2.1 (a) of the Council Rules and Regulations, regarding Meetings of Council as follows:

A meeting of Council shall be convened by the University Secretary: a) At the call of the President, who will ensure that there is a meeting once per year, each April.

This motion would become effective in 2018.

Rationale: In the period after the resurrection of an active Council during a time of considerable controversy and debate, initial Council meetings were well-attended as members actively engaged in debates about key issues clarifying and re-asserting the role of Council in the University's governance. At that time Council opted to meet twice each year, in both the Fall and Winter semesters. An active Council in the University's governance has now become more regularized and better established through the creation by Council of the Council Committee on Academic Mission (CCAM) and the Council Committee on Budget (CCB). Meeting twice a year has proven unnecessary to deal with the Council's business. As a result, recent Council meetings have experienced difficulty in achieving quorum. Therefore it seems wise to reduce Council meetings to once a year to ensure its continued relevance in the University's governance by enjoying a significant engagement by members of Council. April seems the most logical time for an annual meeting since it would occur after the government tables the province's budget and the University budget plan has been clarified.

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA COUNCIL
COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC MISSION

ITEM FOR APPROVAL

The Council Committee on Academic Mission (CCAM) has approved the following, and hereby recommends for approval:

MOTION 1: Academic Mission Vision Statement

CCAM recommends to the President to adopt the Academic Mission Vision Statement (as described below) with the understanding it be included in the University's future 5-year Strategic Plans.

Academic Mission Vision Statement: (revised by CCAM Mar 7, 2017)

"The Academic Mission of the University of Regina is to nurture a culture of deep understanding and discovery based activities through its creative, research, teaching, and other scholarly efforts, among students and faculty. Our resources and efforts as a university community are centered on our Academic Mission. Knowledge developed through research and creative expression should flow through our teaching into the local, national, and international community."

(end of motion)

Rationale: CCAM proposes that the University Council adopt an Academic Mission Vision Statement to guide its leaders in their future decision-making efforts, and offers the draft statement above for Council's consideration. This definitive statement of the Academic Mission of the University will serve to focus our core activities and purpose over the long term. It is the opinion of CCAM members that the Academic Mission Vision Statement should be incorporated into the future Strategic Plans of the University.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The remainder of the report is received for information.

1. CCAM Annual Report to Council

It is in the CCAM Terms of Reference that it report annually to Council or Executive of Council on its activities and on the University's progress with regard to the objectives of its Strategic Plan. There are a few things CCAM has to say regarding

- (i) completion of the first three Academic Unit Reviews we've had in many years;
and
- (ii) the response to the five items of Transformational Change.

Report from CCAM regarding items (i) and (ii):

(i). Academic Unit Reviews were completed for three units in AY 2016/17: the newly combined Department of Philosophy and Classics (first review in 14/15 years); the Department of Physics (first review in 18 years); and the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (first review since onset). All of the documentation and follow-up written communication with regards to the External Reviews are available on the Academic Unit Reviews website. CCAM has learned from these first AUR experiences and have worked closely with the Provost's office to ensure we have a fair process in place that leads to useful outcomes.

Site visits are currently underway for five Academic Units: the Faculty of Education, the Library, the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, the Department of Computer Science, and the Department of Biology. The official schedule for Academic Unit Reviews is available at the Academic Unit Reviews Website.

(ii). The University's five items of Transformational Change has been an ongoing discussion at CCAM meetings this year, primarily at a special meeting devoted to this discussion that was held December 8, 2016.

Item #1: Acquiring properties adjacent to the University in the Research Park: The committee discussion focused on the need to see a convincing business case that the idea is financially feasible, something that has to date not been supplied. If financial feasibility could be established convincingly, then the committee felt the availability of new space for research activities would be beneficial.

Item #2: External review of Program Duplication: The consensus CCAM opinion was that this would not be necessary.

Item #3: Seamless Credit Transfers: The committee has discussed a draft Transfer Credit policy developed by the Registrar and reached consensus to support this approach in principle.

Item #4: Streamlining the Academic Program Approval Process has seen the most attention at CCAM since it falls entirely under the Committee mandate. CCAM has come up with a draft proposal for a Streamlined Academic Program Approval Process that is currently being discussed at the Council Committees and Deans' Council (this draft can be found in the CCAM minutes of April 4, 2017). It is our hope to have this ready to go to Executive of Council for approval in the near future. CCAM also felt that, under the University Act, it would be possible for the U of R Senate to decide to delegate its rights of program approval to Council. This would streamline the final step in the process.

Item #5: Operate as a 12-month campus: Opinions among CCAM members varied on this. Many Faculties, notably Engineering, already maintain a full-year operation. It was unclear how Faculties or Faculty members would be rewarded for teaching a non-traditional schedule - as currently this is being done through CCE. It also seemed difficult to judge what the overall impact would be on research activity in Faculties with a traditional schedule.

A. Herman, CCAM Chair, April 5, 2017

**UNIVERSITY OF REGINA COUNCIL
COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON BUDGET**

ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Subject: Annual Report from the Council Committee on Budget

The Council Committee on Budget (CCB) meets once each month. Its roles and responsibilities are noted below as an appendix. Please consider this as a summary report of CCB's recent activities. More detailed agenda packages and minutes are available at <https://www.uregina.ca/president/governance/council/CCB.html>.

Since the fall of 2016, CCB has continued to review academic program proposals and discuss their budgetary implications. All of the recent proposals have involved no additional requests for university funding and/or have received funding from outside sources. Academic units are exploring opportunities to redirect their existing resources toward programs of growth potential.

CCB discussed the fiscal year-end transfers from the fiscal year ending in 2016, and how university units and faculties carry forward funding from one fiscal year into the next as savings to support special future initiatives and projects. CCB reviewed the university policy on Operating Budget Surpluses. CCB expressed the desire to review fiscal year-end transfers each year.

CCB has focused much of its recent attention on budget requests. Two subcommittees, one for academic units and one for administrative units, were formed to review unit budget requests. The subcommittees developed questions and comments for the units, and received answers and comments back from budget managers prior to the unit budget presentations which took place mid-January. The subcommittees met following those presentations and developed a list of recommendations and priority considerations for CCB discussion. Those recommendations were then forwarded to the University Budget Team, and were highlighted in the Budget Update Forum held on March 31.

CCB will have membership vacancies as of June 30 2017 and a second call for volunteer nominations has come from the University Secretary's Office.

Submitted by Dr Stuart Wilson, Vice-Chair, Council Committee on Budget

Appendix: CCB Roles and Responsibilities

1. To review and assess budget principles, allocations and related financials, providing advice to the President from Council on the annual budget.
2. To consult with Faculty members, academic staff, staff, students, senior administrators and other resources, as required, on financial matters.
3. To consult regularly with the Council Committee on Academic Mission for continuity and effective collaboration.
4. To evaluate proposals (including budget) for new and substantially revised programs of study and recommend these to the Council Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Studies or the Council Committee on the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research for their recommendation to Executive Council.
5. To communicate regularly with the University Budget Team on allocations during the annual budget preparation process.

<https://www.uregina.ca/president/governance/council/CCB.html>

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA COUNCIL

ITEM FOR APPROVAL

Subject: Motion submitted by Council Members Darlene Juschka and Marc Spooner

MOTION: Task Force on Board of Governors Operations

Council recommends the creation of a Task Force composed of ½ Board members and ½ elected members of Council to examine accountability and transparency in the operation of the UofR Board of Governors.

Rationale: See graph on page 3 of the CAUT Bulletin for March 2017 which placed the University of Regina at the very bottom among Canadian universities with respect to the transparency and accountability of its Board of Governors.

<https://www.caut.ca/docs/default-source/CAUT-Bulletin/6403-cautbulletinacppu-march2017mars.pdf?sfvrsn=2>