



UNIVERSITY OF REGINA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Meeting of the Board of Governors
Tuesday, March 8, 2022
AH 527 or Video Conference (Zoom)

Present: M. Smadu (Chair), L. Bellegarde, G. Bosgoed, D. Chow, C. Delorme, J. Keshen, P. Klein, M. Lang, C. Londoño Sulkin, A. Opseth, H. Tait

Resources: D. Button, d. Gregory, K. McNutt, G. Sylvestre

Recorder: P. Daniels

Guests: D. Farenick, L. Mitchell

1. Call to order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and acknowledged that the University of Regina is situated on Treaty 4 lands with a presence in Treaty 6. She also noted the importance of recognizing that March 8th is International Women's Day.

2. Approval of the Agenda

A request was made to add 8.6 Indigenous Procurement to the agenda.

Opseth – Bellegarde
Moved approval of the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

3. Governor Conflict of Interest

The Chair asked Board members to declare a conflict of interest should they have one with any of the agenda items. No conflicts were declared.

4. Minutes

Londoño Sulkin – Klein
Agreed to move items 4.1 - 4.3 as an omnibus motion as follows:

4.1 Approval of the Minutes of December 7, 2021

4.2 Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes of January 17, 2022

4.3 Approval of Minutes of Email Vote of February 10, 2022

An amendment was requested for the Minutes of January 17, 2022 to note additional discussion related to previous decisions related to increased capacity for student housing on campus.

The question was called on the omnibus motion, including the amendment to the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of January 17, 2022.

CARRIED

5. Business Arising

A question was raised whether a formal response from the Ministry of Advanced Education had been received in relation to the most recent MOU funding submission January 31, 2022. Management noted that a response had not yet been received.

6. Strategic Presentation – ‘Institutional Identify Project’, presented by D. Farenick, Dean of Science and L. Mitchell, Associate Vice-President, University Advancement & Communications

J. Keshen introduced D. Farenick and L. Mitchell to the Board and commended them for the hard work that has gone into this project.

Discussion followed and included:

- The University’s history with experiential learning and co-operative education opportunities is appropriately reflected in the proposed taglines and associated material
- Ensure alignment of institutional reputation and identity with the University’s Strategic Plan
- Mix of focus groups and wide consultation provide a diversity of views regarding strengths and taglines
- Timing is important to build momentum to the University’s 50th anniversary and re-opening of Darke Hall, and coordination with other provincial initiatives
- This work on identity is important to meet our goals for enrolment growth. It would be beneficial to hear from students who did not choose to attend University of Regina
- Additional feedback provided by Board members related to our long-standing work on Reconciliation ahead of other institutions, including our partnership with First Nations University of Canada and our unique connection to Treaty 4 territory, having urban reserve land on the University campus
- Environmental sustainability should resonate with stakeholders including the business community as it also shifts focus to respond to environment, social, governance expectations
- Appreciation that the University’s identity should be aspirational yet achievable, and substantive given current strengths

The Board requested receipt of the draft tagline and associated material prior to finalization.

The Board Chair thanked D. Farenick and L. Mitchell for their presentation.

The presentation is [appended to the official file](#).

(D. Farenick and L. Mitchell withdrew from the meeting at 9:14 a.m.)

7. Chair’s Report

The Chair provided an update on activities and meetings, including:

- Various meetings and communications with President Keshen and the Board Vice-Chair
- Retreat planning and Board preparatory sessions
- Attendance at training sessions on board governance topics
- Attendance at the February Senate Meeting
- Woodrow Lloyd Lecture presented by the Faculty of Arts featuring Dr. Allan Downey
- March 2 – Inspiring Leadership Forum

- Women’s March with the U of R Champions of Change

8. Strategic Items

8.1 2022 University Risk Register (A&RM)

Lang – Bellegarde

That the Board of Governors approve the 2022 University Risk Register (Attachment A), as amended.

M. Lang introduced the item to the Board and noted the two changes to the circulated material based on Audit & Risk Management Committee feedback:

- Risk #8 – addition of COVID-19 mitigation in relation to Health & Safety risk
- Notation at the bottom of the Risk Register in regards to emerging risks

Discussion followed and included:

- Agreement with the risks related to Information Technology
- There is risk related to the power differential inherent in research relationships involving graduate students
- Specific activities underway related to objectives for Truth and Reconciliation, including an inventory of actions and continued development of an Indigenous engagement strategy

The Board agreed with the proposed risks and their rankings, but recommended the following adjustments to specific risks identified in the proposed Register:

- Risk #6 Research Oversight – change wording so that it doesn’t suggest that research success is a risk
- Risk #7 Student, Faculty, and Staff Mental Health and Risk #8 Health & Safety – change risk likelihood from Possible to Likely
- Risk #14 Campus Violence - specifically include sexual violence as part of the risk description and increase the likelihood from Unlikely to Possible

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

The final version of the 2022 Risk Register is [appended to the Official File](#).

8.2 Internal Audit Plan (A&RM)

Lang – Keshen

That the Board of Governors approve the Annual Internal Audit Plan for 2022-2023 (Attachment A).

M. Lang introduced the item to the Board.

Discussion followed and included:

- Support for additional resources if needed to assist in completion of the Audit Plan, including potential graduate students or external consulting expertise
- Consulting engagements with academic units occur based on faculty/unit request
- The status of outstanding recommendations from previous audits is reported by the Internal Auditor twice/year, in accordance with the Audit & Risk Management Committee work plan
- Management has committed to increased effort to close recommendations related to the previous Health & Safety audit

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

8.3 Child Trauma Centre Research Chair (F&F)

Chow - Londoño Sulkin

That the Board of Governors approve the creation of the Child Trauma Research Centre (CTRC) Research Chair in Intervention and Prevention Approaches Supporting Child and Youth Health and Well-Being.

D. Chow introduced the item to the Board and noted that an anonymous donation has been received to support the expansion of the CTRC's operational, administrative, and research capacity.

Discussion followed on the mandate of the Research Chair, and the level of attention to trauma faced by residential school survivors and victims of lateral violence. K. McNutt noted that appointment of the new Research Chair will follow collegial process including oversight by a hiring committee.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

8.4 Renovations to Centre for Teaching and Learning

Chow - Londoño Sulkin

That the Board of Governors provide Level Two Approval (approval to complete the full design) to renovate the ED 185 lounge space to accommodate the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL). This approval provides authorization of \$75,000 to proceed with design.

D. Chow introduced the item to the Board and noted that this project will increase the visibility of the Centre for Teaching and Learning.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

8.5 Solar Photovoltaic (PV) System (F&F)

Chow - Londoño Sulkin

That the Board of Governors provide:

- Level 1 (Approval in Principle) approval for a large scale solar photovoltaic (PV) installation. Budget approval for this preliminary design and due diligence is \$200,000. Full project scope and budget for implementation is to be determined but expected to exceed \$15M.*
- Approval for submission of an Expression of Interest for the Federal Low Carbon Challenge Funding Program that could yield 50% matching funding.*

D. Chow introduced the item to the Board. He noted that the solar farm system would be on the campus "East Lands", and that matching funding would decrease the investment payback period to 6.5 years.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

8.6 Indigenous Procurement (F&F)

D. Chow summarized the discussion of the Committee the day prior.

Discussion followed and included:

- Necessity for clear targets and timelines, with accountability on progress
- Development of a comprehensive procurement strategy with embedded Indigenous procurement practices
- Whether collective procurement will unnecessarily delay progress
- Responsibility ultimately lies with the President
- Board members have expertise that can assist in furthering these objectives

A Decision Item on procurement strategy will be brought to the Board meeting in April.

(The Board had a brief recess from 10:09 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.)

9. Administrative Items

9.1 Facilities Management 2022-23 Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Projects Including Future Commitments (F&F)

Chow – Keshen

That the Board of Governors approves the Facilities Management (FM) projects listed in Table 1. This approval is for the Base Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (PMR) Funded Projects for 2022-23 and advance commitments for future years of funding for select projects.

D. Chow introduced the item to the Board and noted that the projects listed are based upon expected PMR funding of \$3.5M in 2022-2023.

It was noted that growing deferred maintenance is a significant risk to the University.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.2 Review Distinguished Service Award Nomination

Smadu – Bellegarde

That the Board of Governors approves Rob Kleisinger as the recipient of the 2022 Board of Governors Distinguished Service Award (DSA).

M. Smadu introduced the item to the Board and noted that it was a unanimous decision to recommend this individual.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

10. Consensus Items

Delorme – Chow

Agreed to move items 10.1 and 10.2 as an omnibus motion as follows:

10.1 Non-Academic Benefits Committee Appointment CUPE 5791 (HR)

That the Board of Governors approves the appointments of Carmon Perrin and Joanne Downing as CUPE 5791 representatives to the Non-Academic Benefits Committee (NABC).

10.2 Distinguished Service Award Nomination Criteria and Process (DSA)

That the Board of Governors approves the revised DSA Nomination Criteria and Process.

The question was called on the omnibus motion.

CARRIED

11. Presentation – ‘Relationship between SIFC/FNUniv and the University of Regina – Past, Present and Future’, presented by G. Sylvestre

G. Sylvestre presented the information.

Discussion followed and included:

- Board of Governors’ desire to meet with the First Nations University of Canada Board
- Confirmation that FNUniv desires academic autonomy and the University of Regina will support their efforts, with future relationship expected to continue given our proximity and the beneficial connections over the institutions’ 45-year association
- Concern that the history is recounted with a perspective of negativity
- Potential collaboration with federated colleges on the provision of student housing options
- Important to build on strengths of the relationship, and not over-complicate our agreements

The Board Chair thanked G. Sylvestre for the presentation.

12. Reports

12.1 Chancellor’s Report

The Chancellor provided an update on recent meetings and activities, including:

- There was a meeting of the Senate Appeals Committee in December. The Committee upheld the decision of the Council Committee on Student Appeals
- Training with Institute of Corporate Directors and Governance Solutions on financial literacy, Board evaluations, and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) considerations
- Participation in the celebration video of Hill and Levene Business students
- February Senate Meeting, including an impressive presentation by undergraduate students on their “Project Airlock Challenge”
- The Inspiring Leadership Forum had a great turnout with amazing speakers
- Will attend the Mayor’s International Women’s Day Reception this evening

The Board Chair thanked P. Klein for her report.

12.2 President's Report

12.2.1 President's Report to the Board (GOV&NOM)

The President spoke to highlights of his report as well as updates on other plans and events.

The President congratulated P. Klein on the success of the Inspiring Leadership Forum.

A question was raised regarding the difference between dual credit arrangements and UR Accelerated courses available to high school students, with the former allowing students to receive both high school and University credit.

All questions were addressed by J. Keshen.

The Board Chair thanked President Keshen for his report.

12.2.2 Key Messages

This report is regularly provided for the Board's information. It provides a few key messages for Governors to speak to in their conversations with community members.

12.3 Report from the Vice-President (Research)

K. McNutt presented her report to the Board.

Appreciation was expressed for the dashboard reporting, and K. McNutt confirmed that progress is measured annually against the research plan.

12.4 URSU President's Report

H. Tait presented her report to the Board and highlighted the government's consultation with URSU on Saskatchewan loans, bursaries and scholarships. She also announced the planned re-opening of the Lazy Owl to in-person dining, and noted that proceeds from the Mayor's International Women's Day Reception would support the URSU Cares Pantry.

The Board Chair thanked H. Tait for her report.

12.5 Committee Chair Highlights

M. Lang provided an update from the Audit and Risk Management Committee, including:

- An update from A. Exner on the plans to increase information security awareness training
- Y. Yevlanova provided her regular update, and is the current President of the Saskatchewan Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors
- Highlights of the 3rd quarter operating fund report and budget preparation for next year, including updates on enrolment and anticipated budget reductions
- Annual insurance update
- External review of health and safety practices in research spaces

- C. Delorme provided an update from the Human Resources Committee, including:
- Four collective agreements are currently open
 - Annual Health, Safety and Wellness Report was received for information. Management committed to acting on recommendations related to health and safety practices in labs
- D. Chow provided an update from the Finance and Facilities Committee, including:
- Emergency Power Enhancement Project update
 - Major Capital Projects status update, noting that all projects are currently reporting a “green” status
 - Ancillary Fund Report with smaller loss than previously reported
 - International Activities Report, noting the visa backlog and its impact on student enrolment
 - Advancement Activity Report, noting continued positive fundraising results
- G. Bosgoed provided an update from the Governance and Nominations Committee, including:
- Annual Policy update
 - Board Retreat follow up identifying five themes to assist in future conversations and Board prioritization

(P. Daniels and the Vice-Presidents withdrew from the meeting at 11:43 a.m.)

13. In Camera Session I – 11:43 a.m.


These items are recorded in the *In Camera* minutes and are [appended to the Official File](#).

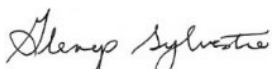
(C. Delorme withdrew from the meeting at 12:00 p.m.; J. Keshen and G. Sylvestre withdrew from the meeting at 12:22 p.m.)

14. In Camera Session II – 12:22 p.m.

The Committee held an *In Camera* session with the President excused.

15. Adjournment – 12:35 p.m. Moved by Bosgoed.


Marlene Smadu
Board Chair


Glenys Sylvestre
University Secretary