



DATE: 27 November 2017
TO: ALL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
FROM: Glenys Sylvestre, Executive Director and University Secretary
RE: **FALL MEETING OF COUNCIL AGENDA**

A meeting of Council will be held on Wednesday, December 6, 2017 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. in the Education Auditorium, ED 106, as follows:

9:30 a.m. – Council Registration Opens
10:00 a.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
 - 6.1 Council Agenda Committee, Appendix I, Page 2
 - 6.2 Council Committee on Budget, Appendix II, Pages 3-5
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 BUDGET**

ITEM FOR APPROVAL

Subject: Revision to the Terms of Reference for the Council Committee on Budget

Motion: Revision to the Terms of Reference

To revise the Terms of Reference for the Council Committee on Budget as follows:

As a voice of Council on the [academic mission budgetary matters](#) of the University, the Council Committee on Budget shall advise the President on matters relating to the University budget and its allocation with respect to practices, policies, planning and priorities.

Membership:

8 members of Council, [employed by University of Regina](#), with no more than 2 members representing a Faculty or Academic Unit

2 students, appointed by URSU and GSA, respectively

Ex officio: Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Vice-President (Administration) and Vice-President (Research)

Resource: Vice-President (Administration) office

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. [In cases where the Council Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Studies, the Council Committee on the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research or Executive of Council is not satisfied with a Unit's response to resource issues, or one of these bodies determines that implementation of a new program or program change requires resources](#)

beyond those currently available to the Unit(s) offering the program, Council Committee on Budget will evaluate the proposal for recommendation to Executive of Council.
~~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.

Rationale: The first change was discussed in CCB in September 2016. It is very likely that the current language “academic mission” was inadvertently carried over from the ToR of the CCAM when both Council Committees were first created. The change to “budgetary matters” captures the essence of CCB mandate and responsibilities.

The second change was discussed in June 2016. University of Regina and Federated Colleges hold a valuable partnership in achieving their academic missions. This is expressed in the joint responsibility of delivering many academic programs and the dedication of all partners to provide the best possible student experience in our campuses. However, it is important to note that the budgeting processes of the University and the Federated Colleges are independent and separate. As a result, unlike some of the other council committees that deal with issues of common interest, CCB is solely responsible for the University of Regina Budget and not the budgets of the Federated Colleges. In other words, only University of Regina employees (faculty/staff etc.) are directly affected by budgetary matters deliberated and decided at CCB. To ensure the proper voice and representation in decision making pertaining the University’s budgetary issues, the proposed change opens CCB membership to those members that are directly affected, namely University of Regina employees.

The third proposed change is in light of recent revision to “Academic Program Approval Process” as it was proposed by CCAM and approved at the Executive of Council on September 27, 2017. It is important that the CCB’s Terms of Reference are aligned with the process in effect. In addition, the proposed language provides more clarity on the order of business - i.e., CCB considers the budgetary implications of new and substantially revised programs once the Council Committees responsible for programming (CCUAS and CCFGSR) have deliberated and decided on their academic merits.

Council Committee on Budget Report For Information Fall 2017

At the time this report was submitted (Nov 22, 2017), CCB has met in September and October. Approved minutes of CCB meetings are available at <https://www.uregina.ca/president/governance/council/CCB.html>

CCB is pleased to report the following issues of interest for the members of Council.

As reported to Council in April 2017 and to the Executive of Council in June and Sep 2017, last year CCB has discussed in a number of occasions the surpluses carried forward on Special Purpose Accounts. All money in these accounts is designated and committed for specific projects, most of it earned by the individual units/faculties. CCB has decided that the balances of these accounts are reported to CCB annually, at its September meeting. To that effect CCB received the report for Fiscal Year 2016-17 in September. This information is publicly available, as part of minutes of Sep 25, 2017 CCB meeting.

The Budget Team has advised and discussed with CCB the approach on University's Borrowing Plan. More specifically, the University is looking at best ways to consolidate the existing debt (mortgages) as a cost saving measure. Upon KPMG's advice, solicited through an RFP open process, the use of a Bond instrument versus a traditional mortgage, presents a number of advantages in terms of lower interest rates and payment flexibility. As a result, University will be proceeding with consolidating the debt, using Bonds as a borrowing instrument.

The Budget Team has advised and discussed with CCB, University's move into negotiations with respect to acquiring the buildings at Regina Research Park that are currently owned by SOCO on behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan. The university will only proceed with the acquisition if the rate of return is suitable for the University.