

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Meeting of the Board of Governors
Tuesday, March 9, 2021 by Video Conference (Zoom)

Present: R. Brandvold (Board Chair), G. Bosgoed, T. Chase, D. Chow, C. Delorme, P. Klein, M. Lang, G. Singh Lehal, C. Londoño Sulkin, A. Opseth, M. Smadu

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

Recorder: P. Daniels

Guests: L. Mitchell, H. Riemer, L. Robertson, R. Styles

1. Call to order

The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Londoño Sulkin – Lang
Moved approval of the agenda as circulated.

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. M. Lang noted that his firm was engaged with Information Services on a small information security project. The Board agreed that this did not result in a conflict.

4. Minutes

4.1 Approval of the Minutes of December 15, 2020

An amendment was requested to add additional information to 9.1 Presentation – ‘Pension Oversight’ to reflect the Board’s discussion regarding attentiveness to potentially problematic investments in relation to Environmental, Social and Governance considerations.

Chow – Smadu
Moved approval of the minutes as amended.

CARRIED

5. Business Arising – None

6. Strategic Presentation

6.1 “Promotion of Wellness - Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies and the Dr. Paul Schwann Centre”, Dr. Harold Riemer and Lisa Robertson

The Provost introduced Dr Harold Riemer and Lisa Robertson to the Board, and thanked them for their work in continued promotion of wellness, athlete training and physical activity during this challenging time.

Following the presentation, discussion followed. Topics included:

- The impact of the pandemic on research programs in the Faculty of Kinesiology & Health Studies
- The impact of the loss of competition season on current and potential student athletes, complexities added regarding eligibility and recruitment, and the negative impact on student athletes’ physical and mental health
- Creation of a mental wellness counsellor specializing in sport to support student athletes, with the potential to expand services to other students in the future

All questions were addressed by H. Riemer and L. Robertson.

The Board Chair thanked H. Riemer and L. Robertson for their presentation.

(H. Riemer and L. Robertson withdrew from the meeting at 8:45 a.m.)

7. Chair’s Report

The Board Chair noted that he and the Vice-Chair attended a virtual forum on cyber security, facilitated by the Ministry of Advanced Education. Highlights included the importance of security awareness training, cyber breach readiness, increased risk due to remote work, and federal government services and agencies that can assist.

The Board chair also provided an update on activities and meetings since the last Board meeting, including:

- Conversations and email communication with Interim President Chase
- Meetings with the Minister of Advanced Education, including related to updates on the presidential search
- Meetings with the Presidential Search Advisory Committee and contract discussions with the incoming president

8. Strategic Items

8.1 University Risk Register (A&RM)

Lang – Smadu

That the Board of Governors approve the 2021 University Risk Register (Attachment A).

M. Lang introduced the item to the Board and noted that the Committee was impressed with the thorough process undertaken to prepare the risk register.

T. Chase noted that pandemic response and recovery planning is key as the University re-opens the campus safely and adjusts to new expectations post-COVID.

Discussion followed. Topics included:

- Student Recruitment and Retention risk placement is similar to the prior year, reflecting that total enrolments have remained steady although recruitment of new international students will be key going forward
- IT Security and Privacy still ranks very high on the risk register, reflecting the increase in cyber-attacks on various Canadian post-secondary institutions
- Requiring proof of vaccination for campus attendance would be challenging from a legal perspective, but other safety measures (masking, sanitizing, distancing) are expected to continue
- Delivery modality for Fall (face-to-face, remote, hybrid) will be program-dependent. The University is also aware that the delayed arrival of international students might result in some pent-up demand, which could impact future international enrolments

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

8.2 Annual Internal Audit Plan (A&RM)

Lang – Chase

That the Board of Governors approve the annual internal audit plan for 2021-2022 (Appendix 1).

M. Lang introduced the item and summarized the discussion held by the Committee the day prior. He noted that the plan reflects the need for the Internal Auditor to be flexible to provide value in a consulting role or to assist with more urgent needs that may arise.

The Committee inquired whether there would be an anticipated increase in workload due to the new procedures within the Safe Disclosure policy, in excess of the time budgeted. T. Chase noted that the internal auditor did not express concerns, and is very diligent in managing her time.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

(The Board had a brief recess from 9:08 - 9:25 a.m., followed by a meeting by the Board with the Minister of Advanced Education, the Deputy Minister and Chief of Staff. The Board meeting reconvened at 10:45 a.m.)

9. Administrative Items

9.1 Approval of Facilities Management 2021-22 PMR Projects (F&F)

Bosgoed – Chase

That the Board of Governors approves the Facilities Management (FM) projects listed in Table 1 and Table 2. This approval includes:

- 1. Base Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (PMR) Funded Projects for 2021-22 and advance commitments if required for future years of funding for select projects - Table 1; and,*
- 2. Approval of projects funded by other University sources (Centre for Continuing Education and Faculty of KH&S) – Table 2*

G. Bosgoed introduced the item and noted that the list of projects are subject to both the provincial budget allocation and Board approval of the complete budget plan.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.2 Research Institutes and Centres Policy (RCH-010-005) (F&F)

Bosgoed - Londoño Sulkin

That the Board of Governors approve the revised policy RCH-010-005 Research Institutes and Centres (Attachment A).

G. Bosgoed introduced the item to the Board and noted that the proposed revisions of the policy were completed as part of the regularly scheduled review.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.3 President and Chancellor Research Chairs (F&F)

Bosgoed – Singh Lehal

That the Board of Governors approve the creation of the new University of Regina Research Chairs titled President’s Research Chair and Chancellor’s Research Chair.

G. Bosgoed introduced the item to the Board and noted that the chairs were established to recognize scholars who have made exceptional contributions in research and community-based work.

A Board member suggested that, in future, funding for emerging versus experienced scholars could be the same.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.4 Gabriel Dumont Research Chair in Métis/Michif Education

Bosgoed – Chow

That the Board of Governors approve the establishment of the Gabriel Dumont Chair in Métis/Michif Education within the Faculty of Education.

G. Bosgoed introduced the item to the Board and noted that the chair will support research and teaching capacity in Métis/Michif education.

In response to a question about the pool of available candidates, management explained that there is an identified internal candidate for the position.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.5 Approval of Transfer – TRIUMF, Inc. (F&F)

Bosgoed – Chase

That the Board of Governors authorize:

- 1) *the transfer of assets from TRIUMF Joint Venture to TRIUMF INC., effective April 1, 2021, or such later date as may be agreed to by the Member Universities (the “Transfer”);*

- 2) *the University becoming a Member of TRIUMF INC.;*
- 3) *McDougall Gauley LLP, legal counsel for the University, and the University's members on the TRIUMF Joint Venture Board of Management to negotiate and finalize the agreements, terms of reference and policies necessary to effect the Transfer and the operations of TRIUMF INC.;*
- 4) *The President to execute and deliver on behalf of the University the following documents (the "Closing Agreements"):*
 - a. *Membership Agreement made between the Member Universities and TRIUMF INC.;*
 - b. *Amended and Restated CNSC Financial Security and Access Agreement made among the Member Universities, TRIUMF INC., TRIUMF Accelerators Inc. ("TAI") and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (the "CNSC"), and the associated Deed of Novation;*
 - c. *Amended and Restated Escrow Agreement made among the Member Universities, TRIUMF INC., TAI, CNSC and Royal Trust Corporation of Canada, and the associated Deed of Novation;*
 - d. *Amended and Restated Fund Contribution Gap Agreement made among the Member Universities, TRIUMF INC. and TAI, and the associated Deed of Novation;*
 - e. *Amended and Restated Management Agreement made among the Member Universities, TRIUMF INC. and TAI, and the associated Deed of Novation;*
 - f. *Lease Assignment, Assumption and Amendment Agreement made among the Member Universities, TRIUMF INC. and TAI;*
 - g. *Indemnity Agreement made between the Member Universities and TRIUMF INC.;*
 - h. *Asset Purchase Agreement made between the Member Universities and TRIUMF INC. (including the Joint Venture Certificate thereunder);*
 - i. *Deed of Novation for the Amended and Restated Contribution Agreement Towards the Operation of TRIUMF made among the National Research Council of Canada, TRIUMF INC. and TAI; and*
 - j. *Amending Agreement to the Amended and Restated Joint Venture Agreement made among the Member Universities.*
- 5) *the Vice-President (Research) to appoint (i) an individual to be the University of Regina's representative on TRIUMF INC.'s Members' Council, and (ii) an individual to be the University of Regina's representative on TRIUMF INC.'s Science Council.*

G. Bosgoed introduced the item to the Board and noted that this is a positive initiative that has taken a number of years to conclude, and will support an already exceptional Physics program.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

(C. Delorme withdrew from the meeting at 11:00 a.m.)

10. Consensus Items

Londoño Sulkin – Delorme

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

10.1 Community Gardens Lease Renewal (F&F)

That the Board of Governors provide approval for renewal of the current lease of land to the South Zone Recreation Board for the garden plots on Grant Road.

10.2 Approval Authorities Policy (GOV-010-005) (GOV&NOM)

That the Board of Governors re-approve the unchanged policy GOV-010-005 Approval Authorities and Execution of Documents (Attachment A) and approve the revised Appendix I Signing Authority/Approval Authority Registry (Attachment B).

The question was called on the omnibus motion.

CARRIED

11. Reports

11.1 Chancellor's Report

P. Klein provided a brief update on meetings and activities since the last Board meeting, including:

- The February Senate meeting was well attended
- Senate's endorsement of the President's and Chancellor's Research Chairs supports linkage between the University and the communities we serve
- Senate approved several Indigenous language certificates and an Indigenous language guardianship certificate, created in partnership by First Nations University of Canada and the Centre for Continuing Education
- There has been one meeting of the Senate Appeals Committee. The Committee upheld the decision of the Council Discipline Committee
- The Inspiring Leadership Forum had a great turnout and the virtual delivery of the Forum was very well done

The Board Chair thanked P. Klein and L. Mitchell for the exceptional job hosting the Inspiring Leadership Forum.

11.2 President's Report

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

T. Chase highlighted items from his report, and provided other updates including:

- Spring/Summer and Fall enrolments are steady compared to last year
- There have been two recent senior appointments: Ms. Lori Campbell, Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Engagement) will begin on June 1, 2021 and Dr. Cheryl Pollard, Dean of Nursing will begin on July 1, 2021
- Rams negotiations have re-commenced
- The Western Hockey League bubble is working well, with all players on campus following very stringent safety protocols
- T. Chase will work with the incoming president to ensure a smooth transfer of responsibilities

A question was raised regarding the complexity of transitioning a new president during a pandemic. The Presidential Transition Committee will serve a role, and the incoming president will also be supported by Dr Chase and the senior leadership team.

11.2.2 Key Messages (GOV&NOM)

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

11.3 Report from Vice-President (Research)

K. McNutt presented her report to the Board and highlighted the following:

- Recent funding and research successes
- Expected launch of the Energy Transition Hub
- The research team is in the final stages of development of a Research Action Plan to support the University's Strategic Plan
- Research revenues are tracking ahead of the prior year
- The University has experienced significant growth in Indigenous graduate students, due largely to remote learning opportunities resulting in increased accessibility

11.4 URSU President's Report

The Board Chair thanked G. Singh Lehal for his service to the students and the Board and noted that this will be his last Board meeting.

G. Singh Lehal thanked the Board for the valuable experience and presented highlights from his report.

Discussion followed. Topics included:

- Opportunities for remote learning have helped students in balancing other life priorities
- New students are especially concerned about missing out on the ability to experience campus life and non-classroom activities
- Recent turnover on the URSU Board and the overall governance structure of the Students' Union
- The impact of COVID-19 on student activities and student engagement
- Concerns over remote proctoring options

All questions were addressed by G. Singh Lehal.

11.5 Committee Chair Highlights

G. Bosgoed provided an update from the Finance & Facilities Committee, including:

- Capital project updates, with three projects reporting "yellow" status due to COVID-19 impacts on timing
- College Avenue Campus subdivision update to include changes to property lines to clarify responsibility for maintenance and services

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

- Update on 2021-2022 budget preparation
- 3rd Quarter Operating Fund report – projected deficit is smaller than originally forecast
- Insurance update and changes to premiums
- Retirement announcement of the Provincial Auditor, J. Ferguson

The Board and management acknowledged that budget preparation for the coming year will be difficult due to the uncertainty related to enrolments and ancillaries. The senior leadership team is considering lessons learned and the future after COVID-19 in assessing strategic investment opportunities.

A. Opseth provided an update from the Human Resources Committee, including:

- The annual Health, Safety and Wellness Report provided information on COVID-19 measures, and reflected a decrease in typical incidents due to lack of activity on campus
- Retirement announcement of the Associate Vice-President, Human Resources, K. Kummerfield

(C. Delorme rejoined the meeting at 11:37 a.m.)

- M. Smadu provided an update from the Governance & Nominations Committee, including:
- Executive of Council report
 - Update on e-proctoring, including usage statistics
 - Annual policy update

(All resources and guests with the exception of G. Sylvestre withdrew from the meeting at 11:43 a.m.)

12. In Camera Session I

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

(T. Chase withdrew from the meeting at 11:56 a.m.)

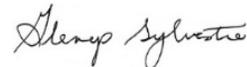
13. In Camera Session II

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

14. Adjournment – 12:18 p.m. Moved by Delorme.



Roger Brandvold
Chair



Glenys Sylvestre
University Secretary