MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF REGINA SENATE HELD FRIDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2019 IN THE BOARDROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, ADMINISTRATION-HUMANITIES BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF REGINA


GUESTS: J. Hindley, A. Opseth, M. Rennie, D. Sydiaha

RESOURCES: S. Stewart, G. Sylvestre

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. and introductions were made.

President Timmons introduced the Minister of Advanced Education and the Deputy Minister of Advanced Education, who were in attendance at the meeting.

The Honourable T. Beaudry-Mellor noted that she and the Deputy Minister have been visiting the various post-secondary institutions in the province. She is committed to continued contact with the University of Regina and attending meetings as she is able.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Smadu - Hawryluk

Moved approval of the agenda.

CARRIED

3. Approval of the Minutes of 13 October 2018 – circulated with the Agenda

A typographic error was noted in Item 4.2; it should read “Alumni Crowning Achievement.”

Ellis - Gregory

Moved approval of the minutes as amended.

CARRIED
4. Business Arising from the Minutes – None.

5. Optional Reports

5.1 Chancellor, Verbal Report

5.1.1 2018 Senate Survey Results, For Information, Appendix I, Pages 3-6

J. Tomkins noted that the survey results were generally very positive.

Following the update on survey results, Chancellor Tomkins presented his verbal report:

Thank-you to all Senators who are attending the Cougar’s Basketball Family Night tonight.

The 2019 Annual Spring Convocation will be held from June 5-7, 2019. All Senators are encouraged to attend.

All Senators were reminded to submit nominations for Honorary Degree Recipients. Nominations are to be submitted by March 31st for consideration at the next meeting of the Joint Committee.

The Senate Nominating Committee will be meeting to fill vacancies on Senate Committees and to name Senate representatives to the Faculties. Please complete a nomination form by March 29th if you are interested in serving on these Committees.

The next Senate Election will be held on May 24th. The deadline for nominations is April 15th.

All Senators are encouraged to submit their Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment form at the end of this meeting, if they have not already done so.

5.2 President

President Timmons presented a verbal report to Senate.

We have had a number of losses in the University community recently, including Dr. Jack Boan and Mr. Jerry Orban. These individuals have contributed so much to our University and will be sadly missed.

Thank you to the community for the outpouring of public support for the family of Promise (Max) Chukwudum. This has meant a great deal to his family and friends. Special thanks were given to Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Dr. T. Chase, Associate Vice-President (International), L. Castellanos, and the Chief of the Regina Police Service, Chief Evan Bray for their assistance during this time.
Our student enrolment continues to defy demographic projections. Enrolments are up over 5% from the same time last year for the Winter term. The Associate Vice-President (Student Affairs), John Smith is continuing to look at new enrolment strategies for our campus.

Collective bargaining with the Faculty Association continues, and we continue to make progress.

The President provided updates on recent media attention, and University events.

We recently had two Faculty members appointed to the Royal Society of Canada, Dr. Peter Leavitt and Dr. Raymond Blake. These individuals are a strong reflection of the quality of scholarship being undertaken at the University.

Recently the President’s Community Award was presented to Chili for Children. We provided funding for 2,100 lunches to young students in Regina. We are looking at ways to further support this program.

Following President Timmons’ verbal report, Senators were invited to ask any questions of the administration. Discussion followed and all questions were addressed.

The President’s written report will be circulated to Senators following the meeting.

5.3 University Secretary

5.3.1 2019 Senate Election, District Vacancies, For Information, Appendix II, Page 7

G. Sylvestre reported that the Senate election date is scheduled for Friday, May 24, 2019. If Senators know of anyone who is interested in becoming a member of Senate, have them contact the University Secretariat Office.

5.3.2 2019 Chancellor Election, For Information, Appendix III, Page 8

G. Sylvestre reported that Dr. Jim Tomkins’ second term as Chancellor will be completed on June 30, 2019. All members of Convocation are eligible to nominate candidates for Chancellor. Nomination forms are online.

It was clarified that nominees for Chancellor must be a member of Convocation, which can include individuals graduating from the University of Saskatchewan prior to the University of Regina obtaining degree granting status.

6. Reports from Senate Committees and Other Items for Discussion

6.1 Senate Nominating Committee, Appendix IV, Page 9

J. Bumbac presented the report on behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee.
Moved that Senate approves the recommendation from the Senate Nominating Committee to appoint Darrell Sydiaha, as representative from District 1 (Moosomin-Estevan) from February 1, 2019 – June 30, 2019.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

7. Items for Approval/Information from Executive of Council, Appendix V, Pages 10-40

President Timmons presented the report.

7.1 Council Committee on Academic Mission

7.1.1 Faculty of Arts

7.1.1.1 Amalgamation of Departments

Timmons - Kleer
Moved that the Department of Religious Studies and the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies in the Faculty of Arts be combined and renamed the Department of Gender, Religion, and Critical Studies, effective 2019-20.

A question was raised on the grouping of these two departments, as they both have unique research areas. Dr. R. Kleer, Dean, Faculty of Arts clarified that these departments have a long history of cooperation and this was seen as providing administrative efficiency for these programs.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

7.2 Council Committee on the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

7.2.1 Faculty of Business Administration

7.2.1.1 Program Admissions Suspension

Timmons - McNutt
Moved that admissions to the MBA Specialization in International Business be suspended, effective 2019-10.

A question was raised regarding the reason for program suspension, given the number of international students studying at the University. Dr. M. Rennie, Associate Dean (Undergraduate) in the Faculty of Business Administration clarified that interest in this program is low but international students are completing other programs.
It was clarified that by suspending a program, it may be reinstated at a later date.

The question was called on the motion. CARRIED

7.2.1.2 Program Admissions Suspension

Timmons - McNutt
Moved that admissions to the MBA Specialization in Engineering Management be suspended, effective 201910.

The question was called on the motion. CARRIED

7.2.1.3 New Program

Timmons - Mougeot
Moved that the Masters Certificate in Labour Relations be created, effective 201930.

A question was raised whether this program would be offered online. Dr. M. Rennie, responded that this program is offered for students who may be working or off campus through alternate delivery methods i.e.) week long intensive courses.

Further questions were raised regarding the consultation process of this program. Dr. K. McNutt, Associate Vice-President (Research) and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and Dr. M. Rennie responded that this program is relates to a University research cluster and that consultations were conducted.

A Senator inquired as to why this program would be offered through Business Administration rather than the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy. Dr. K. McNutt noted that the certificate is comprised of courses already offered by the Faculty of Business Administration.

Some Senators noted that this program would be beneficial for individuals across many sectors, including health and education.

The question was called on the motion. CARRIED
7.2.1.4 Admission Requirements

Timmons - McNutt
Moved that the admission criteria for the Master of Science in Organization Studies as outlined in Appendix I, Page 13 be approved effective 201910.

The question was called on the motion. CARRIED

7.2.1.5 Admission Requirement Change

Timmons - McNutt
Moved that the Executive MBA Admission Requirements be modified, as outlined in Appendix V, Pages 14-15 effective 201930.

A question was raised regarding the expected impact of removing the “mid to senior management or leadership requirement. Dr. K. McNutt, Associate Vice-President (Research) and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research responded that this was removed to open the program to more individuals and allow for more applicants. Dr. M. Rennie, Associate Dean (Undergraduate) clarified and noted that the Faculty will still assess each applicant’s individual expertise prior to admission.

The question was called on the motion. CARRIED

7.2.2 Faculty of Education

7.2.2.1 Program Suspension

Timmons - Cranston
Moved that the School of Librarianship Masters program be suspended until further consultation occurs, effective 201910.

A question was raised regarding the content of this program. Dr. J. Cranston, Dean, Faculty of Education responded that courses have not been offered in this program for a number of years, which is the reason for the suspension.

The question was called on the motion. CARRIED
7.2.3 Faculty of Science

7.2.3.1 Reinstate MHIM Program

Timmons - Farenick

*Moved that the Master of Health Information Management (MHIM) program be re-instated, effective 201930.*

A question was raised on the process of creating or reinstating programs. Dr. D. Farenick, Dean, Faculty of Science responded by outlining the process for creating the MHIM program, including identification of a niche opportunity (this will be the only graduate-level program of its type in Canada), completion of a business/study case, as well as a brief description of the academic approval process.

The question was called on the motion.  

CARRIED

7.3 Council Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Studies

7.3.1 Registrar’s Office

7.3.1.1 Academic Recovery Program

7.3.1.1.1 Revision to Content of SSW ACT

Timmons – D’Arcy

*Moved to increase the contact hours for Student Success Workshop - Academic Transition (SSW ACT) from 7 hours per week to 9 hours per week by combining the content with SSW 010, effective 201920.*

The question was called on the motion.  

CARRIED

7.3.1.1.2 Academic Recovery Program Revision

Timmons – D’Arcy

*Moved to require a minimum of 3 credit hours in each term of the Academic Recovery Program, effective 201920.*

The question was called on the motion.  

CARRIED
7.3.2 Faculty of Arts

7.3.2.1 Arts Transition Programs

7.3.2.1.1 Revisions to the Arts Transition Program

Timmons - Kleer
Moved that changes be made to the Arts Transition Program as outlined in Appendix V, Pages 17-18, effective 201920.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

7.3.3 Faculty of Education

7.3.3.1 Bachelor of Dance

7.3.3.1.1 Bachelor of Dance Admission Suspension

Timmons - Cranston
Moved that admissions to the Bachelor of Dance be suspended, effective 201910.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

7.3.3.2 Les programmes de Baccalauréat en education française

7.3.3.2.1 Bac en Éducation Après Diplôme (BEAD) élémentaire, secondaire ou français de base Admission Requirements

Timmons - Cranston
Moved that the Faculty of Education's Elementary, Secondary and Core French after degree (BEAD) Program admission requirements section of the Undergraduate Calendar be updated as outlined in Appendix V, Page 19, effective 201920.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED
7.3.4 Faculty of Science

7.3.4.1 Bachelor of Environmental Health and Science Programs

7.3.4.1.1 Bachelor of Environmental Health and Science Program Suspension

Timmons - Farenick
Moved that the Department of Biology, in conjunction with First Nations University of Canada, moves to cease admissions to both the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health and Science Program and the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health and Science After Degree Program, effective 201920.

Dr. D. Farenick, Dean, Faculty of Science noted that this program was created to bring more Indigenous students into the sciences. It has been discovered that Indigenous students are choosing the typical science streams. This program does not currently have the human resource capacity to be offered.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

7.3.5 Faculty of Social Work

7.3.5.1 Indigenous Social Work Programs

7.3.5.1.1 Admission Application Deadlines

Timmons - White
Moved to change the deadline dates for application and admission to the Certificate in Indigenous Social Work (CISW) and Bachelor of Indigenous Social Work (BISW) programs, from March 1 to March 1 and November 1, effective 201920.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

7.3.5.1.2 Revision to Admission Averages

Timmons - White
Moved to increase the minimum UGPA required for admission to the Indigenous Social Work Qualifying Program to 70%, and the minimum PGPA required for admission to the Certificate in Indigenous Social Work (CISW) and Bachelor of Indigenous Social Work (BISW) programs to 70%, effective 201920.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED
7.3.6  Centre for Continuing Education

7.3.6.1  Certificate in Local Government Authority

7.3.6.1.1  Program Revision

Timmons - King

*Moved to add three credit hours to the Certificate in Local Government Authority as outlined, effective 201930.*

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

The remainder of the report was received for information. For further information on these items, please view Appendix V, Pages 24-40 of the Agenda.

Following the approval of items from Executive of Council, discussion followed regarding the Senate’s role in the academic approval process. Discussion included the following:

- Senate is similar to a Board of Governors, in that there is reliance on the experts and materials brought forward by University officials
- Senate has the right to oppose motions, or to send motions back to Executive of Council for further consultation
- Senators are encouraged (required) to ask questions if they would like further clarification or are curious about a particular motion
- Final approval by a body like Senate, with a large external membership, makes the bodies preparing the motions consider and prepare the material much more carefully
- Senate provides valuable insights from outside the institution that are often considered in future recommendations

Thanks were given to the faculty and staff at the University for their hard work on the various motions that are presented at Senate.

(There was a break at 10:35 a.m. and the meeting reconvened at 10:52 a.m.)

8.  Briefs, Submission or Recommendations from Elected or Appointed Senate Members

8.1  Board Members Elected by Senate, *Verbal Report*

A. Opseth and M. Smadu provided a brief update on the activities undertaken by the Board of Governors which included the following report:

The Board of Governors met in December for its regularly scheduled meetings. At the December meeting, the Board approved a number of capital projects including:

- Language Institute Remediation Work
- College West – CW 215, Catering Space Renovation Budget
- Faculty of Education Teaching Labs

The Board also received regular updates on other capital project work, including the Central Testing Facility and the Darke Hall renovations.

The Human Resources Committee received the annual 2018 Workforce Demographics Report and the Board approved minor changes to the Statements of Investment Policies and Goals for the University's Pension Plans.

The Board approved the Provincial Auditor’s Audit Planning Memorandum for 2019-2020, and also met with the Provincial Auditor and her staff.

Two policies were reviewed under the normal review schedule and minor amendments were made to the Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment Policy, and the Records and Information Management Policy.

The Board and its Committees received regular updates on the progress of the strategic plan, the status of internal audit recommendations and an update from the Vice-President Research. A special thanks was given to Yulia Yevlanova, Internal Auditor, for her strong work and commitment to the University.

Congratulations were given to Shawn Wiskar as he was elected as President of the University of Regina Students’ Union and will be attending the March Board meeting.

The next regular meetings of the Board of Governors are scheduled for March 11 and 12, 2019 and May 6 and 7, 2019.

9. Academic and Administrative Reports

9.1 Presentation by Dr. D. Farenick, Dean, Faculty of Science

The Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Dr. T. Chase introduced Dr. Farenick, D. Farenick provided an overview of recent activities and accomplishments within the Faculty of Science. The presentation is appended to the official file.

Discussion followed and all questions were addressed by management.

The Chancellor thanked Dr. Farenick for the presentation.

9.2 Winter 2019 In-progress Report of Registration and Graduation, For Information, Appendix VI, Pages 41-55

The Chancellor requested J. D'Arcy to present the report.

J. D'Arcy, Registrar presented the report for information and provided a brief overview of the Winter 2019 In-Progress Registrations and Graduation Information.
Discussion followed and included:

- The success rate of students completing off-site course classes as opposed to on-site courses
- The notable enrolment decrease in the Faculty of Engineering
- The current enrolment success of the Faculty of Media, Art and Performance, and career options available to these graduates

10. In Camera Session – None.

11. Adjournment - Nobert (11:42 a.m.)

Glenys Sylvestre
Executive Director (University Governance) and University Secretary