

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Meeting of the Board of Governors
Tuesday, April 29, 2025
AH 527

Present: C. Delorme (Board Chair), L. Bellegarde (via videoconference), A. Cameron,
M. Deters, K. Howlett, J. Keshen, M. Lang, A. Russell

Regrets: K. Addison, M. Ahmad, P. Klein

Resources: L. Campbell, D. Ford, d. Gregory, G. Sylvestre, C. Yost

Guest: T. Kishchuk

Recorder: S. Nelson

1. Call to order and Introductions

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

1.1 Reconciliation

The Chair acknowledged that the University of Regina and its federated colleges are on Treaty 4 and Treaty 6 — the territories of the nêhiyawak, Anihšīnāpēk, Dakota, Lakota, and Nakoda peoples, and the homeland of the Michif/Métis nation.

2. Approval of Agenda

Cameron - Howlett

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. No conflicts were declared.

(All resources and guests with the exception of G. Sylvestre withdrew from the meeting at 8:08 a.m.)

4. In Camera Session

The Board held an *In Camera* session with resources excused.

(All resources and guests returned to the meeting at 8:16 a.m.)

5. Minutes

5.1 Approval of Minutes of March 11, 2025

Cameron – Russell

Moved approval of the minutes of March 11, 2025 as circulated.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising

None

7. Strategic Presentation – “Global Institute for Energy, Mines and Society (GIEMS)”

The Chair invited Chris Yost and Tom Kishchuk to share the presentation.

At the conclusion of the presentation, discussion followed and included:

- Possible future coordination / collaboration with out-of-province entities / events
- Intention to prepare for Canada First Research Excellence Fund application
- Provincial government support for GIEMS
- Linkages to applied research and commercialization
- Importance of collaboration between post-secondary institutions
- GIEMS will work closely with Indigenous communities

All questions were addressed by management.

The presentation is appended to the [Official File](#).

(T. Kishchuk withdrew from the meeting at 8:59 a.m.)

8. Strategic Items

8.1 2025-2026 Tuition and Fees (A&RM)

Lang – Howlett

That the Board of Governors approve the following tuition and fee actions effective in the Fall 2025 semester:

- *Tuition for undergraduate credit hours increased by 4.0%.*
- *Tuition for the Master of Public Administration from the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JSGS) increased by 6.0%, and all other JSGS programs increased by 4.0%.*
- *International students pursuing Master of Public Administration, Master of Public Policy or Master of Health Administration be assessed a tuition multiplier of 1.91 as opposed to the current 1.75.*
- *Graduate programs in the Levene School of Business increased by 4.0% however the EMBA program has no tuition increase.*
- *Graduate tuition for all other Master’s and PhD students increased by 4.0%.*

- *Tuition for courses in the certificate programs in the Centre for Continuing Education increased by 4.0%.*
- *Undergraduate international differential multiplier (3.0) remains unchanged.*
- *Co-op fees increased by 4.0%.*
- *Graduate International Surcharge increased by 4.0%.*
- *Student Services, Health & Wellness fees increased by 4.0%.*
- *Academic Technologies fee increased by 4.0%.*
- *Introduction of a \$500 refund for international graduate and undergraduate students who have paid the \$1000 non-refundable international student deposit but received a study permit rejection from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)*
- *Tuition and fees are rounded to the nearest \$0.25 after percentage increases are applied*

M. Lang introduced the item to the Board and noted discussion was held at Committee regarding comparator tuition levels and the international student multiplier.

J. Keshen provided further information regarding U of R comparatives and consideration of a small increase to the international student multiplier in the future.

Discussion followed and included:

- Some provinces have frozen tuition for domestic students
- Institutional rankings are a major factor when universities are being chosen by potential international students
- JSGS Master of Public Administration rate increase of 6% is reasonable, as the current tuition is well below comparator rates

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

8.2 2025-2026 Comprehensive Budget Plan (A&RM)

Lang – Russell

That the Board of Governors approve the attached Comprehensive Budget Plan for 2025-2026.

M. Lang introduced the item to the Board and noted the budget was developed following a consultation process with the various University Faculties and departments. There has been a 2% overall budget reduction with a balanced budget achieved without return of carry-forward funds.

Discussion followed and included:

- Consideration of investment in domestic versus international recruitment efforts, given similar overall enrolment revenues
- Plans for additional focus on recruitment of Indigenous students, and improving processes for recognition of transfer credit

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

8.3 10 Year Capital Plan (I&I)

Bellegarde - Cameron

That the Board of Governors approve the development projects listed in Figure 1 for submission to the Ministry of Advanced Education for incorporation into the Province Wide 2026-27 Integrated Capital Plan.

L. Bellegarde introduced the item and noted that the government has changed from requesting a 10 year plan to a plan that covers a 5 year horizon. D. Ford provided further details on the top projects.

J. Keshen provided further information regarding the Saskatoon campus space being added as the highest priority.

Discussion followed and included:

- Ministry of SaskBuilds and Procurement prioritization and rationale to move from 10 year to 5 year plans
- U of R alignment of proposed projects with the Saskatchewan Growth Plan

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9. Administrative Items

9.1 2025-2026 Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (PMR) Plan, Including Future Commitments (I&I)

Bellegarde - Cameron

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 2025-26 and advance commitments for future years of funding for select projects.

L. Bellegarde introduced the item and noted the Committee had deferred recommendation of this item pending receipt of additional information regarding changes to the initial funding request.

The revised 'Table 1' is appended to the [Official File](#).

D. Ford noted that large projects are sometimes completed in phases due to the minimal amount of PMR funding available for each project.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.2 2026-2027 Strategic Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (SPMR) Plan (I&I)

Bellegarde - Cameron

That the Board of Governors approve the following four projects for Facilities Management's (FM) submission to the Ministry of Advance Education for consideration of funding through the 2026-27 Strategic Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (SPMR) Program.

1. *University Drive North Roadway Replacement*
2. *Library Switchgear Replacement*
3. *Education Building Elevator Replacement*
4. *Substation Building Expansion – Phase II*

J. Keshen provided additional context on the projects and government funding. Each project is capped at a contribution of \$500K from the government. Each year, we may receive government approval of 1 or 2 projects (maximum). Higher cost projects are normally split into phases given the contribution cap.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.3 Faculty of Arts Student Services Hub – Level 2 (I&I)

Bellegarde - Cameron

That the Board of Governors approve a \$265,000 budget with Level Two Approval (approval to complete the full design) for the creation of the Faculty of Arts Student Services Hub including enhancements to the Classroom Building main entry.

L. Bellegarde introduced the item and noted this is a Faculty-driven project to provide centralized services for students, provided in an easily accessible and highly visible location.

J. Keshen added that, prior to construction beginning, management will ensure that the funds to complete the project are available.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.4 Faculty of Arts Administrative Hub – Level 1 and 2 (I&I)

Bellegarde – Cameron

That the Board of Governors approve a \$55,000 budget with Level One and Two Approval (approval to complete the full design) to renovate CL 343 into a hub that consolidates the administrative support for multiple departments.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.5 Faculty of Education Sessional Hub – Level 3 (I&I)

Bellegarde – Cameron

That the Board of Governors approve a \$325,000 budget with Level Three Approval (approval to tender the project) to renovate rooms ED 386 and 387 into a sessional hub and meeting space for the Faculty of Education.

L. Bellegarde introduced the item and indicated that this was to create a ‘hotel style’ area for sessional instructors. L. Bellegarde noted that the Committee had deferred recommendation of this item pending receipt of additional information regarding suitability of limited space for instructors to meet with students.

d. Gregory reported that Dean Nahachewsky confirmed that the design will meet the Faculty’s needs, and that there is adjacent private space nearby if needed for additional student meetings.

D. Ford confirmed that the project will be fully-funded by the Faculty of Education.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.6 ED 619 and 621 Classroom Audio-Visual (AV) Upgrades – Level 1 and 2 (I&I)

Bellegarde - Russell

That the Board of Governors approve a \$25,000 budget with Level One and Two Approval (approval to complete the full design) to update the AV equipment and supporting infrastructure for ED 619 and 621.

D. Ford confirmed that this project aligns with the University’s desire to modernize classrooms and is fully-funded by the Faculty of Business Administration.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.7 Artificial Turf Field Facility Site Servicing – Level 3 (I&I)

Bellegarde - Deters

That the Board of Governors approve a \$580,000 budget with Level Three Approval (approval to tender the project) for site servicing that will support future seating, press box and amenities for the artificial turf field (ATF).

L. Bellegarde introduced the item noting these upgrades are required to meet U SPORTS commitments. The site-servicing will prepare the field area for future upgrades.

Discussion followed and included:

- Importance of athletic activities in supporting student recruitment
- Potential for donor support of athletics and recreational venues and activities

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.8 Policy Update – EMP-030-005 – Compensation for Out-of-Scope Employees (HR)

Howlett - Russell

That the Board of Governors approve the revised policy EMP-030-005 Compensation for Out-of-Scope Employees.

K. Howlett introduced the item and noted this is being implemented in an effort to support employee recruitment and retention efforts. D. Kenzle noted that this also supports succession efforts and internal mobility, and impacts 46 current employees. There are approximately 6 current vacancies where this change may assist with the hiring process.

Discussion followed regarding administrative leaves and a request that future policy revisions include a requirement for repayment of compensation if employees do not follow through with their commitment to return to service.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

(Board recessed at 10:11 a.m. and returned at 10:30 a.m.)

10. Consensus Items

Howlett - Lang

Agreed to move items 10.1, 10.2, and 10.3 as an omnibus motion as follows:

10.1 Academic and Administrative Benefits Committee (AABC) Terms of Reference (HR)

That the Board of Governors approves the updated terms of reference for the Academic and Administrative Benefits Committee (AABC).

10.2 Appointment of Representative to the Academic and Administration Benefits Committee (AABC) (HR)

That the Board of Governors approves the appointment of Jan-Paul Venter as the retiree representative to the Academic and Administrative Benefits Committee (AABC).

10.3 Appointment to the Non-Academic Benefits Committee (NABC) (HR)

That the Board of Governors approves the appointment of Kurtus Bray as a CUPE 5791 representative to the Non-Academic Benefits Committee (NABC).

The question was called on the omnibus motion.

CARRIED

11. Reports

11.1 Board Chair's Report

The Board Chair provided highlights from the written report circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that the document should be dated April 2025 (typo).

11.2 Chancellor's Report

The Board Chair provided the Chancellor's report on behalf of P. Klein. The report included:

- Highlights of a recent Chancellor's Community event
- Awards provided to new Chancellor's Scholars
- Upcoming Senate Appeals hearing
- June 11 – 13 is Spring Convocation
- A new Chancellor will be elected on June 11

G. Sylvestre also noted that the September Board Dinner will honour Pam's years of service on the Board and as Chancellor.

11.3 President's Report

J. Keshen provided highlights from his written report, and also provided a verbal update on events and activities since the last meeting.

Discussion followed and included:

- The relationship with First Nations University of Canada, and the expectation that they will ultimately become academically autonomous
- The University's legal position with respect to the Students' Union, and impact on student services

The Board Chair thanked J. Keshen for his report.

11.4 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.

11.5 URSU President's Report

No report

11.6 Report from the Vice-President (Research)

In addition to the research achievements included in the written report circulated, C. Yost also reported on:

- May 7 announcement of additional funding to the Online Therapy Unit for provision of additional services
- The University of Regina will host 3MT National competition at Darke Hall in the coming year

The Board Chair thanked C. Yost for his report.

11.7 Report from the Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Engagement)

L. Campbell provided highlights from the written report circulated prior to the meeting including :

- Delivery of keynote addresses at conferences in Saskatoon and Thunder Bay
- The 2025 National Building Reconciliation Forum will be jointly hosted by the U of R and FNUUniv in May

The Board Chair thanked L. Campbell for her report.

11.8 Committee Chair Highlights

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

- Update was received on the Operating Fund, projecting a small deficit for 2025 year-end
- A draft annual report was previewed and feedback provided
- Enterprise Risk Management update included mitigation activities associated with the risks identified, in addition to including initial evaluation of the potential impacts of emerging tariff risk
- Internal audit update

K. Howlett provided an update from the Human Resources Committee, including:

- 2024 annual pension reports to members were reviewed reflecting good results overall
- Update on employee accommodation and lost-time injuries. Increased safety culture has resulted in positive impact on WCB premiums
- K. Howlett thanked D. Kenzle for stepping in to the Acting AVP Human Resources role and supporting the Committee's work

L. Bellegarde noted that the Investment and Infrastructure Committee meeting was efficient to accommodate a large agenda, including many of today's Board decision items.

C. Delorme provided an update from the Governance and Nominations Committee including:

- Strategic Plan development update
- Key messages

(Resources with the exception of G. Sylvestre withdrew from the meeting at 11:33 a.m.)

11. In Camera Session I – 11:33 a.m.

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

(J. Keshen and G. Sylvestre withdrew from the meeting at 11:53 a.m.)

12. In Camera Session II – 11:53 a.m.

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

Adjournment – 12:01 p.m. Moved by Lang.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cadmus".

Cadmus Delorme
Board Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Glenys Sylvestre".

Glenys Sylvestre
University Secretary