

Public Minutes of a meeting of the USask Board of Governors

July 28, 2021
Via Zoom

Present: Joy Crawford (acting Chair), Grant Devine, Jay Kalra, Ritu Malhotra, Keith Martell, Grit McCreath, Darrel Monette, Autumn LaRose-Smith, Peter Stoicheff

Regrets: Shelley Brown

Resource Officers: Greg Fowler, Airini, Debra Pozega Osburn, Baljit Singh, David Stack, Chelsea Willness (university secretary), Sheena Tait-Rowan (recording secretary)

Guests: Jason Wandy, Kristen Young, Trevor St. John (provincial auditors)

1. Call to order and Chair's remarks

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:05 am for an in-camera session. She declared the meeting properly constituted for the transaction of business, with herself as Chair and the university secretary and chief governance officer as secretary. The Chair extended a welcome to new senate-elected member Louise Simard and a roundtable of introductions followed.

2. In-camera session – Board only

The Board met in camera for a few minutes and management then joined the meeting at 8:12 am.

3. President's statement

The president welcomed members to the meeting and commented on the university's plans for the fall term. A transitional return to campus is being planned for students, faculty and staff. The vaccination rate for the 18-29 age group is still quite low thus the need for a cautious approach to the fall term. The university will retain its mask mandate until the end of August and then review the mandate.

Additional highlights from the President's report include:

Huskies are currently planning for in-person sporting events, indoors and outdoors. They are working very closely with the university's Pandemic Response Team, and the Board of Trustees is helping to ensure alignment with the university.

Dr. Jackie Ottmann was selected as the newest president of the First Nations University of Canada at the University of Regina and will move into the role in September. The Indigenous Strategy will be gifted to the university in the fall, prior to Dr. Ottmann's departure

4. Identification of Conflicts of Interest related to the business of the meeting

None identified.

5. Briefing re Special Guest

Special Guest sent regrets

The Board adjourned and Audit and Finance committee meeting commenced at 9:07 am.

Board Meeting reconvenes

The Board reconvened at 9:47 am with the approval of the agenda

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That the Board of Governors approves the agenda as distributed.

CARRIED

As all members were present for the committee meetings and discussions, the decision items were presented via consent agenda.

#	6. Consent Agenda Items – standing committees
	As all members were present for the committee meetings and discussions, the decision items were presented via consent agenda. 8.1 Approval of the minutes, June 22, 2021
6. Audit and Finance Committee	
6.7	Approval of draft response regarding Provincial Auditor letter of University of Saskatchewan Pension Plans—Results of December 31, 2020 Annual Integrated Audit That the Board of Governors approves the draft response to the Provincial Auditor letter of University of Saskatchewan Pension Plans—Results of December 31, 2020 Annual Integrated Audit and that management be authorized to forward the response to the Provincial Auditor, with the condition that the final letter does not contain any significant changes.
6.8	Approval of draft response to Provincial Auditor letter of University of Saskatchewan Annual Integrated Audit Results The Board of Governors approves the draft response to the Provincial Auditor letter regarding University of Saskatchewan Annual Integrated Audit Results and that management be authorized to forward the response to the Provincial Auditor, with the condition that the final memorandum does not contain any significant changes.
6.9	Approval of Defined Benefit Pension Plan Financial Statements The Board of Governors approves the following draft financial statements (attached), as distributed and presented for the year ended December 31, 2020, subject to completion of the audit and receipt of the Auditor’s final report from the Provincial Auditor: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ University of Saskatchewan 1999 Academic Pension Plan;

6.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ University of Saskatchewan and Federated Colleges Non-Academic Pension Plan; ○ University of Saskatchewan Academic Employees' Pension Plan (Retirees Plan). <p>Approval of Defined Contribution Pension Plan Financial Statements</p> <p>That the Board of Governors approves the following draft financial statements (attached), as distributed and presented for the year ended December 31, 2020, subject to completion of the audit and receipt of the Provincial Auditor's final report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the University of Saskatchewan 2000 Academic Money Purchase Pension Plan (MPP Plan); the Pension Plan for the Eligible Employees at the University of Saskatchewan (Research Plan)
6.11	<p>Approval of University of Saskatchewan audited year-end financial statements</p> <p>That the draft financial statements, as distributed and presented for the year ended April 30, 2021 be approved subject to completion of the audit, and subject to approval of the financial statement format by Treasury Board and receipt of the Auditor's Report from the Provincial Auditor; and</p> <p>That upon receipt of the Auditor's Report, the financial statements be signed on behalf of the Board, and that the Provincial Auditor be authorized to forward a copy of the signed financial statements to the Minister of Advanced Education for presentation to the Legislature.</p>
6.12	<p>Approval of 2020/21 annual financial report including Management Discussion and Analysis</p> <p>That the Board of Governors approves the 2020/21 Annual Financial Report including Management's Discussion & Analysis.</p>

The following resolution was moved and seconded.

That the Board of Governors approves the consent agenda items as presented.

CARRIED

7. Appointment of the Deputy Provost

That the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Patti McDougall to the role of Deputy Provost effective September 1, 2021.

CARRIED

The Board adjourned to move in-camera at 10:30 am.

8. In-camera session – with the President

9. In-camera session – Board only