

## University Board Public Minutes – December 2023

December 11 & 12, 2023

Emmett Hall Boardroom – PMB 238

**Present:** Shelley Brown (chair), Keith Martell, Joy Crawford, Nadeem Jamail, Ishita Mann, Grant Devine, Herb McFaull, Grit McCreath, Peter Stoicheff, Marty Seymour & Louise Simard

**Regrets:** None

**Also in Attendance:** Airini, Greg Fowler, Devan Mescal, Baljit Singh, Cheryl Hamelin, David Stack, Dara Hrytzak, Julian Demkiw (secretary), and Anna Okapiec (recording secretary)

**Guests:** Piotr Luszczuk, Director of New Products and Services at CURIE (agenda item 15), and Janelle Hutchinson, Chief Sustainability Officer (agenda item 17)

### 1. Board only with the president (in-camera)

### 2. Chair's remarks

The chair called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

The Chair started with the land acknowledgment, she welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for participating and serving on the board. The Chair went over the agenda for the two days of meetings.

### 3. President's statement

The President thanked all board members for attending. He noted that it's exam season on campus right now and discussed this year's increase in student enrollment at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

The president also provided updates on the following topics:

- The two Rhodes Scholars awarded in the past year.
- VIDO was selected by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) foundation as one of the top labs.
- USask working with a food security program in Bangladesh, with a strong relationship to Canada.
- Research relationship with the University of Bonn and the recent visit to Germany.
- COP 28 UN Climate Conference in Dubai and the importance of Saskatchewan's presence there.

### 4. Declaration of conflict of interest

Nadeem Jamali declared a conflict with anything faculty-related.

**5. Approval of the agenda**

The agenda is approved as distributed.

**Board Adjourned – Standing Committees Commenced**

**6. Audit and Finance Committee**

**7. Governance and Executive Committee**

**8. Land and Facilities Committee**

**9. Human Resources Committee**

Separate sets of meeting minutes are provided for each committee.

**Board Meeting Reconvened on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am**

**10. Chair’s remarks**

The Chair briefly commented on the last night’s holiday reception and proceeded with the agenda items.

**11. Approval of Board minutes from October 2023 (regular & public)**

The regular and public minutes were approved as presented.

**12. Business arising**

There was no business arising.

**13. Approval of the consent agenda**

**13.1** Committee decision items

Committee decision items were presented via consent agenda.

**Audit and Finance Committee**

**6.17.1 Discussion of Chief Audit Executive Contract**

Motion: *The Audit & Finance Committee exercises its option for a final 3-year renewal of the internal audit and risk services with Deloitte.*

**Governance and Executive Committee**

**7.4 Annual work plans and terms of reference approval**

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Governance and Executive Committee, the Board of Governors approves the proposed amendments to the Board and Committee's annual work plans for 2023/24 and to the Committee terms of reference effective immediately.*



## **7.6 Board representative appointment to searches**

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Governance and Executive Committee, the Board of Governors approves the appointment of Ishita Mann to the Vice-Provost, Strategy Realization search committee effective immediately.*

## **Land and Facilities Committee**

### **8.7 VIDO Animal Care Facility and VIDO Renovation**

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities committee, the Board of Governors provides final approval of the VIDO Animal Care Facility and Renovations to Existing Building, (total estimated capital cost of \$99.398 million and incremental operating cost based on full operation of \$821,000 annually), subject to the confirmation of final funding.*

### **8.8 Cyclotron Facility – second beamline installation**

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves the purchase and installation of a second beamline at the Saskatchewan Cyclotron Facility at an estimated capital cost of \$1.09 million, subject to the confirmation of funding and approval from the Fedoruk Centre Board of Directors.*

### **8.9 CFI Proposal: HAWC satellite mission**

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors provides:*

*(1) Conditional approval for acceptance of a \$17,581,141 CFI Innovation Fund award for HAWC satellite mission: High-altitude Aerosols, Water Vapour and Clouds (CFI-IF) project, subject to the finalization of an agreement with the Canadian Space Agency and meeting the award finalization requirements of CFI.*

*(2) Approval for minor renovations to a Physics Building lab and Health Sciences 5100E to meet the project's research security requirements with a total capital budget of \$325,595, subject to award acceptance and finalization (see 1 above).*

*(3) Preliminary approval for a High-Performance Computing Facility (within Health Sciences E Wing) with a total capital expenditure of up to \$3.84 million and an annual operating budget of \$170,000.*

### **8.10 CFI Proposal: VIDO Large Animal CL-3Ag to CL4 Enhancement and Upgrade**

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves to spend no more than \$2.69 million for the purchase, transport, and installation of a Gamma-Cell Irradiator for the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO).*



### **8.11 CFI Proposal: BMO Soil Analytical Laboratory**

Motion: **Motion #1** - *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves to expend no more than \$3,417,509 for the BMO Soil Analytical Laboratory capital (\$1.9 million) and operating costs (\$1.4 million). Funds will only be expended once the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) approves the proposal. This is a final approval as per the Capital Investment Framework.*

**Motion #2** – *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves to expend no more than \$600,000 for equipment for a greenhouse gas-isotope ration mass spectrometer (GHG-IRMS).*

### **8.12 Edwards School of Business space lease**

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves to expend no more than \$2,326,000 for the total costs to execute a 7-year lease at T&T Towers located on the 6th floor of 340 3rd Ave N. for the use of the Edwards School of Business.*

### **8.16 Update on Process for Stewardship of Heritage Buildings**

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves the following updated Heritage Principles effective immediately.*

- 1. The best way to preserve buildings and sites is to ensure they have a use that meets the USask teaching and research mandate.*
- 2. The best way to preserve a building that is no longer meeting the USask mandate, is to identify a financially feasible re-use that meets the USask mandate.*
- 3. Operating buildings as museums unto themselves is not part of the USask mandate, but some buildings may be a feasible landscape feature.*
- 4. USask has reputational obligations to buildings and sites that have existing external designations but will not seek new external designations unless there are financial and usage advantages.*

## **Human Resources Committee**

### **9.4 Exempt Total Rewards**

Motion: *On recommendation of the Human Resources committee, the Board of Governors approves the proposed changes to Exempt Total Rewards, effective May 1, 2024:*

- 2.75% general market adjustment*
- 1.00% targeted market adjustment pool*
- 2.75% increase to salary range minimums and maximums*
- 3.00% one-time performance bonus pool*
- \$150 Health Spending Account allocation (January 1, 2024 effective date)*



### **9.7 Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement Appointment**

Motion: *It is recommended That the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Angela Jaime as Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement for a five-year renewable term effective December 1, 2023.*

The Board of Governors approved the consent agenda as distributed.

### **14. Comprehensive Campaign update**

Cheryl Hamelin went over a presentation providing an update on the campaign's progress.

### **15. Canadian Universities Reciprocal Insurance Exchange (CURIE) presentation**

David Stack introduced Piotr Luszczuk, Director of New Products and Services at CURIE, who went over the CURIE presentation remotely. The board members asked several questions regarding the insurance program USask is in.

### **16. Health Human Resource Expansion**

Due to time pressure, this item was not discussed. The Boar Chair noted that the materials provided in the package are very comprehensive and very informative.

### **17. Progress update on the Sustainability Strategy**

Janelle Hutchinson, Chief Sustainability Officer, went over a presentation providing an update on the USask Sustainability Strategy.

### **18. Items approved since the October 2023 meeting**

**18.1** Dr. Gerdts' Renewal – November 22, 2023

**18.2** Dr. Webb's Renewal – November 22, 2023

The university secretary noted that there were only two items approved electronically since the October meeting, which were included in the board package.

**The Board adjourned at 11:45 a.m. and moved to in-camera**

**19. Board-only session - including the president**

**20. In-camera session - without the president**

