

USask Board of Governors Public Minutes – April 2024

April 8 & 9, 2024

Emmett Hall Boardroom – PMB 238

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

Regrets: Ishita Mann (absent on April 9th)

Also in Attendance: Airini, Greg Fowler, Devan Mescall, Baljit Singh, Dara Hrytzak, Julian Demkiw (secretary), and Anna Okapiec (recording secretary)

Guests: Jennifer Beck, Chief Resource Allocation & Planning Officer; Vince Bruni-Bossio, Interim Associate Vice-Provost, Strategic Priorities; Scott Walsworth, Vice-Provost Faculty Relations; Nancy Turner, Associate Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning; Marilyn Baetz, Interim Dean of College of Medicine; Alex Foster, Director, Government Relations; Heather Persson, Associate Vice-President and CCO, Strategic Communications; Kevin Smith, Legal Counsel and Manager, Contracts and Legal Services; Brad Havervold, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health; Colleen Quinlan, Executive Director of Mental Health and Additions, SHA; Jamie Miley, Executive Director, Newstart Foundation, and Christina Basedow, COO, Edgewood.

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

2. Chair's remarks

The chair called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The Chair started the meeting 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 spoke about the provincial budget outlining the funding commitments from the government.

The president also provided updates on the following topics:

- Collective push by Canadian universities to increase research funding at the federal level.
- Changes to the international student visa program and the impact on USask.
- The recent trip to Singapore and the role USask research in plant proteins plays in food security worldwide.
- The significant move in university rankings for USask.

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 Committee Commenced

6. Audit and Finance Committee

Separate sets of meeting minutes are provided for each committee.

Board Meeting Reconvened at 11:30 am

7. Briefing: Provincial government visit regarding the proposed lease of 113 Seminary Crescent

Alex Foster, Heather Persson and Marilyn Baetz joined the board to provide a briefing regarding this item and to answer any questions the board members had in preparation for the visit from the Ministry of Health, Saskatchewan Health Authority and Edgewood officials under item 8 on the agenda.

8. Proposed lease of 113 Seminary Crescent

Brad Havervold, Colleen Quinlan and James Miley joined the board meeting in person, and Christina Basedow joined via Zoom to discuss the proposed lease of 113 Seminary Crescent to open a treatment facility on campus.

Board Adjourned at 2:45 pm – Standing Committees Commenced on Tuesday, April 9th at 8:30 am

9. Governance and Executive Committee

10. Human Resources Committee

11. Land and Facilities Committee

Separate sets of meeting minutes are provided for each committee.

Board Meeting Reconvened at 10:00 am

12. Chair's remarks

The Chair called the meeting to order.

13. Approval of Board minutes from December 2023 (regular & public)

The regular and public minutes were approved as presented.



14. Business arising

14.1 CURIE: reinsurance schedule and structures

Kevin Smith presented this item on David Stack's behalf as he was unable to attend. Kevin spoke about layered insurance and its structure, noting that there are two other reinsurance companies involved (CURIE A and CURIE B).

15. Approval of the consent agenda

15.1 Committee decision items

Committee decision items were presented via consent agenda.

Audit and Finance Committee

6.10 Internal audit charter

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Audit and Finance Committee, the Board of Governors approves the Audit Services Charter as presented effective April 8, 2024.*

6.11 Proposed 2024-2025 internal audit plan

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Audit and Finance Committee, the Board of Governors approves the 2024-2025 Internal Audit Plan and budget as presented effective April 8, 2024.*

6.14 2024-2025 University budget

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Audit and Finance Committee, the Board of Governors approves the 2024/25 comprehensive budget as presented in the attached schedules.*

Human Resources Committee

10.7 Renewal, tenure, and promotion recommendations

Motion 1: *It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the award of Renewal of Probation, Tenure, and Promotion to faculty who received positive recommendations effective July 1, 2024.*

Motion 2: *It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the award of Renewal of Probation to the one faculty member who received a positive recommendation effective July 1, 2023.*

10.8 Appointment change to Associate Professor AP

Motion: *It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the change in career path for faculty member Carlos Egydio de Carvalho from tenured Associate Professor to a tenured Associate Professor Academic Programming, retroactively to July 1, 2023.*

Land and Facilities Committee

11.2 Dental clinic building renovation



Motion: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors provides final approval of the project program, design, and capital cost of \$21.7 million for the Dental Clinic Building Renovation project.*

11.3 Steam Capacity Replacement: boilers 3 & 4

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors provides preliminary approval for the purchase and installation of a high-pressure boiler unit to replace the nameplate steam capacity of Boilers 3 & 4 in the Central Heating and Cooling Plant at an estimated capital cost of \$12.79 million.*

11.4 Innovation Place lease amendment

Motion 1: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors provide management the authority to:*

- *Amend the allowable uses to include a polytechnic use as defined by the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Act, with the exception of the repair of heavy duty equipment;*
- *Amend the density provision to increase the total density by 50% to 2.4 million square feet to allow a balanced development that will result in total build out of approximately 35% polytechnic use and 65% innovation park use;*
- *Provision of an option to lease the land beyond the current end date of 2061 at market rates.*

Motion 2: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors provide management with the authority to amend the rent, due to increased density, ensuring market rates are met.*

11.5 Innovation Place development concept, process and principles for SaskPoly

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves the location of the SaskPoly development within Innovation Place as shown in Attachment #1 and the Innovation Place Guiding Principles for Development as provided in Attachment #2 that will be followed for all new buildings at Innovation Place.*

11.6 USask Revenue Parking Lot Location

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves the location and land use of a potential revenue parking lot on orphaned USask land between the Innovation Place south lease boundary and the north curb of Perimeter Road, subject to approval of an attractively landscaped and well-lit site plan and a financially feasible business plan.*



11.7 Coldwater laboratory in Canmore, Alberta

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves to expend no more than \$590,000 for the total costs to execute a 5-year lease at 200-50 Lincoln Park, Canmore, Alberta T1W 3E9 for the delivery of the Coldwater Laboratory.*

11.8 CFI award approval: predictive toxicology lab

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, that the Board of Governors grant final approval of the program, capital (\$551,118) and operating (\$139,600) budgets for the Predictive Toxicology and Chemical Safety Laboratory CFI proposal.*

11.9 GIFS: Laboratory Information Management System

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors grant approval to the Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS) to purchase a BioData Inc. (LabGuru) Laboratory Information Management System at a capital cost of \$724,113 over a 10-year period.*

11.10 Naming recommendation: The Frank & Ellen Remai Foundation Atrium

Motion: *On the recommendation of the President's Advisory Committee on Naming University Assets and Land Facilities committee, the Board of Governors approves the naming of the existing atrium space to be referred to as "The Frank and Ellen Remai Foundation Atrium" within the Vaccine and Infection Disease Organization (VIDO) Building effective April 18, 2024.*

11.11 Naming recommendation: BJ Hughes Centre for Clinical Learning

Motion: *On the recommendation of the President's Advisory Committee on Naming University Assets and Land Facilities committee, the Board of Governors approves the naming extension of the existing BJ Hughes Centre for Clinical Learning (Room 2304) to be referred to in perpetuity as "BJ Hughes Centre for Clinical Learning" within the Western College of Veterinary Medicine Building effective April 9, 2024.*

The Board of Governors approved the consent agenda as distributed.

16. Update on Generative AI work

The Provost reported that progress has been made in the AI space since the February retreat. Vince Bruni-Bossio went over draft principles and guidelines, which were consulted with Council committees. Another update will be provided at the June 2024 board meeting.



17. Proposal Regarding Department of Oncology

The Provost spoke about this item, she noted that this decision will elevate the Oncology program at USask, which was previously a division versus a department. This shift will also be crucial in the recruitment of students and professionals.

18. Recommendations from the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP)

The Provost noted that the establishment of all three of these chairs is possible through donor funds, she elaborated on each proposed chair separately.

18.1 Shklanka Chair in Precambrian Critical Mineral Systems

Motion: *Subject to the approval of University Council, the Board of Governors approves the creation of the Shklanka Chair in Precambrian Critical Mineral Systems in the College of Arts and Science, effective on the date an individual is appointed into the chair.*

18.2 Siemens EDA Chair

Motion: *Subject to the approval of University Council, the Board of Governors approves the creation of the Siemens EDA Chair in the College of Engineering, effective on the date an individual is appointed into the chair.*

18.3 CPA Chair in Accounting

Motion: *Subject to the approval of University Council, the Board of Governors approves the creation of the Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA) Chair in Accounting in Edwards School of Business (ESB), effective on the date an individual is appointed into the chair.*

The Board of Governors approved all three above chairs.

19. Comprehensive Campaign update

The Chancellor provided an update on this item on Cheryl Hamelin's behalf as she was unable to attend. The Chancellor noted that the campaign reached \$412 million as of this morning. She also asked all board members to save a date for the June 11th Be What the World Needs Campaign event in Saskatoon.

20. Stone Barn renewal options

The President provided a brief update on the fundraising committee put together to focus on raising funds specifically for the Stone Barn.

The Board adjourned at 11:55 a.m. and moved to in-camera

21. Board-only session - including the president

22. In-camera session - without the president

