



Board of Governors meeting highlights

Issued October 14, 2015

The University of Saskatchewan Board of Governors held its regularly scheduled board meeting and its annual strategy session from October 7-9, 2015. The following is an update on the highlights of the meeting and strategy session.

Senior administrative appointment

The board appointed Dr. Kent Stobart as the inaugural vice-dean, medical education for the College of Medicine. Dr. Stobart has been appointed to a five-year renewable term.

Presidential transition

The board received an update from the Presidential Transition Advisory Committee on activities to date and plans leading into 2016.

The public presidential announcement occurred on July 9, 2015 and was followed by a series of receptions with key dignitaries, including government officials, the mayor and key donors, and the university community.

Transition activities to date have focused on preparing Incoming President Peter Stoicheff through information briefings, tours and key stakeholder introductions, and providing direction on topics such as the presidential announcement and advice on early presidential priorities.

With regard to celebrating the contributions of our outgoing interim president, Gordon Barnhart, the board hosted a public reception on October 7th from 4:30-6:00 pm at Marquis Hall with approximately 215 people in attendance. A short program consisted of internal and external individuals bringing greetings and thanks. To commemorate Gordon's time as interim president, a scholarship has been named in his honour and he also received a lifetime membership to the Physical Activity Complex (PAC).

The board would like to express its sincere appreciation to Gordon for his leadership over the past 17 months and wish Peter the best of luck as he is installed as the 11th president and vice-chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan at Convocation on October 24th.





Saskatchewan Program for Nuclear Imaging

To realize the opportunity of the Saskatchewan Centre for Innovations in Cyclotron Science, the U of S and the University of Regina have created the Saskatchewan Program for Nuclear Imaging (SPNI). SPNI will consist initially of an interdisciplinary team of scientists affiliated with the university, with expertise in nuclear physics, radiochemistry, radiopharmacy, human/animal imaging and plant imaging, to leverage and catalyze Saskatchewan's momentum in nuclear imaging research, development and training. In support of this initiative, the purchase of the Preclinical microPET/SPECT/CT Imaging System, plus associated renovation costs for room 134 of the facility formerly identified as the Animal Resources Centre (adjacent to the Cyclotron), was approved by the board.

Investments

The board approved the revised statement of investment policies and goals for the long-term diversified strategies investment pool. This revision provides the framework for managing the assets of the fund and supports the university's goal of financial stability.

The board also approved the appointment of CBRE Global Investors to manage the global real estate mandate, along with changes to the statement of investment policies and goals to reflect this appointment. These changes support the university's sustainability through the continued diversification of the long-term pool. In addition, they increase returns and reduce overall risk, providing a more stable funding source to the university.

On an annual basis, the statement of investment policies and goals for all investment pools are reviewed by the board to see if any changes should be made. For 2015-16, there are no changes to the current fixed income pool policy.

LaBorde Chair in Engineering Entrepreneurship

The board approved University Council's request to establish the LaBorde Chair in Engineering Entrepreneurship, an endowed chair that will provide academic leadership in the engineering entrepreneurship option for the College of Engineering and partner with the Edwards School of Business to deliver courses relevant to the option.



Sustainability annual update

The Campus Sustainability Plan presents a unified strategy for embedding sustainability across all areas of campus life—research, education, operations, community engagement and governance. The board received an update on progress towards this plan. A few highlights in the update include:

- an initiative facilitated by the School of Environment and Sustainability with the Colleges of Arts and Science, Agriculture and Bioresources and Engineering to integrate programmatic activity across all undergraduate environmental programs.
- the approval of the [Energy and Water Conservation Policy](#).
- the launch of [Work Green](#) by the Office of Sustainability to encourage colleagues to collaborate to adopt practices that reduce the use of resources and minimize waste.
- the launch of [Green Pack](#), a sustainability volunteer corps that brings together people with a passion for sustainability, to help with initiatives that engage the campus community with sustainability.
- a collaboration between the Office of Sustainability and Huskie Athletics on a revamp of recycling infrastructure and education at Griffiths Stadium.
- the publication of two issues of [Of Land and Living Skies: A Journal on Place, Land, and Learning](#) by the Sustainability Education Research Institute, in collaboration with the University of Regina and the Saskatchewan Outdoor and Environmental Educators Association. This publication focuses on research, policy and practice in sustainability and environmental education, and the journal is being used as a textbook in two U of S classes.

Policy oversight committee annual report

The board received an annual report from the policy oversight committee on new policies approved and existing policies amended or deleted between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015. The policy oversight committee consists of the vice-provosts, associate vice-presidents, the director of corporate administration and representatives from University Council and Deans' Council. The new policies approved by governing bodies in 2014-15 are as follows:

- [Fraud Deterrence policy](#) (operations and general administration)
- [Safe Disclosure policy](#) (operations and general administration)
- [Energy and Water Conservation policy](#) (health, safety and environment)
- [Eligibility to Apply for, Hold and Administer Research Funding](#) (research and scholarly activities)
- [Articulation and Transfer Credit policy](#) (academic affairs)
- [Financial Reserves policy](#) (operations and general administration)



- [Smudging and Pipe Ceremonies policy](#) (health, safety and environment)
- [Logo and Secondary Logo Use](#) (operations and general administration)

A full report of policy changes has been included as an attachment to the board highlights.

Additional items

In addition to those outlined above, the board reviewed items related to the university's total compensation and rewards strategies, received an annual report on the university's intellectual property policy and management activities, approved the terms of reference for the honorary ambassador role, and discussed mineral rights for land owned by the university.

The board also appointed board representatives to the joint nomination committee for the chancellor, the search committee for the provost and vice-president academic, and to three decanal search committees.

Annual strategy session

The board holds an annual strategy session in conjunction with the October board meeting. This year topics discussed included Aboriginal engagement, where we have been and where we are going, measuring our impact and resourcing our plan. In addition, executive director of the U15, Suzanne Corbeil, attended to provide an overview on the external landscape in post-secondary education and Julie Cafley of Canada's Public Policy Forum attended to present on the success of a president.

Where relevant, more information will be shared on the outlined approvals and initiatives in future communications. The next scheduled Board of Governors meeting will be held on December 14 and 15, 2015.

