

USask Board of Governors Public Minutes – June 2024**June 24 & 25, 2024****Emmett Hall Boardroom – PMB 238**

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

Regrets: Marty Seymour (absent on June 25th)

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

Guests: Honorable Colleen Young, Minister of Advanced Education; Michelle Lang, Chief of Staff (agenda item 2); Sara Daniels, Associate Vice-President, Government Relations (agenda items 1 & 19); Vince Bruni-Bossio, Interim Associate Vice-Provost, Strategic Priorities (agenda item 16)

1. Briefing for Minister's visit

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:15 am.

Before the minister's visit, the President noted that he had an opportunity to meet with Minister Young already, and he indicated that Minister Young seemed very engaged.

Sara Daniels provided a short briefing for the board regarding the new Minister of Advanced Education. Minister Young is from Lloydminster, and this is her first cabinet appointment.

2. Minister Colleen Young and Chief of Staff, Jill Stroeder

Minister Young and Ms. Stroeder joined the meeting via Zoom.

The Chair did a round of introductions, welcomed the Minister, and thanked her and her Chief of Staff for joining the meeting with the board.

The Minister noted that she was happy to connect with the USask board and that the University of Saskatchewan is important to her and her family. The Minister also noted that she hopes to continue the great relationship USask and the ministry have built and she is excited to work together on the priorities for the province and the USask.

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

4. Chair's remarks

The Chair started with the land acknowledgment and welcomed everyone to the meeting. She noted that the spring convocation was very successful, and that the President and the Chancellor did a great job.

5. President's statement

The president acknowledged that this was Joy Crawford's and Louise Simard's last meeting as board members. He thanked both for all their contributions to the board over the years. He also noted that this was the first meeting for Krunal Chavda, the new USSU president.

The president also spoke about the recent spring convocation, the significant move upward in university rankings and the increase in research funding for graduate students that came from the recent federal budget announcement. He also provided an update on the visa restrictions for international students and what that means for USask.

6. Declaration of conflict of interest

Nadeem Jamali declared a conflict with anything faculty-related.

7. Approval of the agenda

The agenda is approved as distributed.

Board Adjourned – Standing Committees Commenced

8. Audit and Finance Committee

9. Land and Facilities Committee

10. Governance and Executive Committee

11. Human Resources Committee

Separate sets of meeting minutes are provided for each committee.

12. Briefing on STM and Federated Colleges

The University Secretary provided a short briefing on St. Thomas More (STM) College ahead of the reception with the STM board.

Board Meeting Reconvened at 10:00 am

13. Chair's remarks

The Chair called the meeting to order.

14. Approval of Board minutes from April 2024 (regular & public)

The regular and public minutes were approved as presented.

15. Approval of the consent agenda



15.1 Committee decision items

Committee decision items were presented via consent agenda.

Audit and Finance Committee

8.7 CLS Decommissioning Letter of Credit

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Audit & Finance Committee, the Board of Governors authorizes the periodic reduction of the letter of credit to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) for decommissioning the Canadian Light Source Inc. (CLS) to recognize the growth of the sinking fund.*

Land and Facilities Committee

9.3 Options for consideration for 114 Seminary Crescent (Lutheran Seminary)

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves the demolition of the buildings located at 114 Seminary Crescent at a cost of up to \$4.5 million in partnership with Lutheran Seminary (LTS) and recovering a portion of the costs.*

9.5 Crop Development Centre Enhanced Genomic Facility

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 \$22.969 million for the Crop Development Centre (CDC) Enhanced Genomic Selection Facility and Soil Science Field Facility project. It is acknowledged that, although all other funding is accounted for, there is a 3.5 million shortfall that will come from the USask general reserves. Any further funds received, through fundraising or other means, will go towards reducing the amount of funding required from the general reserves.*

9.6 VIDO Large Animal CL3/CL4 Enhancement and Upgrade

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors provides final approval and acceptance of the CFI award for the VIDO Large Animal CL3-Ag to CL4 Enhancement and Upgrade (CFI Biosciences Research Infrastructure Fund (BRIF)) project which has an estimated total capital cost of \$13.505 million and an operating budget of \$1.97 million.*

9.7 Enhancing GMP Manufacturing by Leveraging Analytical Tools

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, that the Board of Governors grant final approval of the program, capital (\$1,677,516) and operating (\$301,953) budgets for the Enhancing GMP Manufacturing by Leveraging Process Analytical Tools (PAT) CFI proposal.*

9.8 Naming recommendations:

9.8.1 Dr. Cecil King Student Lounge

Motion: *The President's Advisory Committee on Naming University Assets and Land Facilities committee approves the honourific naming of room EDUC 1218, Indian Teacher Education Program (ITEP) student lounge within the College of Education building, to be named the Dr. Cecil King Student Lounge.*



9.8.2 Co-op Collaborative Room

Motion: *On recommendation of the President's Advisory Committee on Naming University Assets and Land Facilities committee, the Board of Governors approves the Canada Room in the Diefenbaker Centre Canada building to be named Co-op Collaborative Room for 25 years effective June 25, 2024.*

9.12 College Quarter storm water management area

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves the terms of the Contribution Agreement with the City of Saskatoon for the development of a storm water pond at the College Quarter 14th Street location.*

9.13 Agriculture building controls renewal

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves the overall capital budget of \$3.38 million for the renewal of building controls systems in the Agriculture building.*

9.14 Annual capital projection

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities committee, the Board of Governors accepts the 2024-25 Annual Capital Projection.*

9.15 New home of the Rawlinson Centre for Indigenous Business Students and ESB Graduate Student Commons

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors provides preliminary approval of the project program, design, and capital cost of \$780,000 for the new Rawlinson Centre for Indigenous Business Students and Edward School of Business (ESB) Graduate Student Lounge.*

9.16 Human health resources: Occupational Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology renovations

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors provides approval to proceed with construction of Early Works for the Health Human Resources – Occupational Therapy and Speech Language Pathology Renovations Project with an estimated expenditure of \$2.213 million prior to requesting preliminary approval of the project from the Board of Governors in April 2025.*

9.17 Human health resources: Clinical Psychology expansion project

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors provides preliminary approval of the project program, design, and capital cost of \$4.371 million for the Health Human Resources – Clinical Psychology Expansion project.*

9.18 IDEAS - Engineering computer lab 2B04-2B08 conversion project

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



provides final approval of the project program, design, and capital cost of \$2.197 million for the IDEAS - Engineering Computer Lab 2B04-2B08 Conversion project.

9.19 IDEAS - Engineering lecture theatre rejuvenation project

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors provides final approval of the project program, design, and capital cost of \$2.310 million for the IDEAS - Engineering Lecture Theatre Rejuvenation project, subject to finalization of the pending donor agreements.*

9.20 Traffic bylaws update

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities committee, that the Board of Governors approves the revisions to the University of Saskatchewan Traffic Bylaws (Section 100 of The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995) as described in the written meeting materials, effective July 2024.*

9.21 Mineral rights donation from John Billett

Motion: *On recommendation of the Land and Facilities Committee, the Board of Governors approves and accepts the donation of mineral rights from John Billett and that the title be transferred to the name of the University of Saskatchewan effective June 25, 2024.*

Governance and Executive Committee

10.6 Review of Committee Membership

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Governance and Executive Committee, the Board of Governors approves the appointment of members to the standing Board committees as outlined below effective July 1, 2024.*

Audit and Finance:

Keith Martell (Chair), Corinna Stevenson, Mike Marsh, Krunal Chavda, Nadeem Jamali, Shelley Brown

Land and Facilities:

Marty Seymour (Chair), Grant Devine, Nadeem Jamali, Herb McFaull, Mike Marsh, Krunal Chavda, Shelley Brown

Human Resources and Executive:

Herb McFaull (Chair), Corinna Stevenson, Grant Devine, Grit McCreath, Peter Stoicheff, Shelley Brown

Governance and Executive:

Keith Martell (Chair), Peter Stoicheff, Herb McFaull, Marty Seymour, Shelley Brown

10.7 Delegation of Authority to Vice-President, University Relations (terms of reference, agreements and bequests)



Motion: *On the recommendation of the Governance & Executive committee, the Board of Governors approves the Vice-President, University Relations to oversee and approve changes to existing terms of references as directed by the wording on the original terms from 2007 and onward.*

Human Resources Committee

11.7 Vice-Provost Strategy Realization

Motion: *That the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Vince Bruni-Bossio as Vice-Provost, Strategy Realization for a five-year renewable term effective July 1, 2024.*

11.8 Deputy Provost extension

Motion: *On the recommendation of the Human Resource Committee, the Board of Governors approves a two-year extension for the Deputy Provost, Dr. Patti McDougall, to September 30, 2026.*

11.9 Promotion and Tenure Recommendations

Motion: *On recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, the Board of Governors approves the following, effective July 1, 2024:*

The award of promotion to:

- ***Harold Bull***, to Associate Professor, Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology, College of Medicine
- ***Richard Farrell***, to Full Professor, Soil Science, College of Agriculture & Bioresources
- ***Bruce Wobeser***, to Full Professor, Veterinary Pathology, WCVM
- ***Matheus Costa***, to Associate Professor, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, WCVM
- ***Michael Szafron***, to Full Professor, School of Public Health

The award of tenure to:

- ***Matthew Links***, Animal and Poultry Science, College of Agriculture & Bioresources
- ***Mika Asai-Coakwell***, Animal and Poultry Science, College of Agriculture & Bioresources

The Board of Governors approved the consent agenda as distributed.

16. Update on Generative AI work

Provost and Vice-President Academic, Airini, provided an update on the AI Task Force and spoke to some of the highlights of the recent work. The Provost noted that the Task Force is moving at a conservative pace.

17. UPlan update

The Provost provided a brief presentation on the UPlan update, going over major successes for USask in 2023-24.



18. Comprehensive Campaign update

The Vice-President, University Relations provided an update on the comprehensive campaign activities and accomplishments since the April update. She noted that the campaign total is currently at \$428,322,860.

19. Government MOU Renewal

The Associate Vice-President, Government Relations provided an update on the MOU work with the provincial government.

20. Items approved electronically since the April 2024 board meeting

The Chair noted that two items have been approved electronically since the last meeting. One was the approval of the Dean of Engineering appointment, and the other was the approval of the Siemens EDA Chair.

21. Correspondence since the April 2024 board meeting

The Chair noted that there was a letter from the University of Saskatchewan, Faculty for Palestine which was already shared with the board and addressed. Another piece of correspondence was from the provincial government on governance training opportunities for board members.

22. Expenditures from the Greystone Heritage Trust

The President briefly spoke about this item and asked the board for approval of expenditure from the Greystone Heritage fund to help with the cost of maintenance of the Amati instruments.

The Board of Governors approved up to \$10,000 to assist with Amati instrument maintenance and repairs.

The Board adjourned at 12:45 p.m. and moved to in-camera

23. Board-only session - including the president

24. In-camera session - without the president

