

AGENDA**2:30 p.m. Thursday, September 16, 2021**

The Zoom link information is located at the bottom of the agenda.

Please note the following steps for the September 16th meeting:

- **Thursday September 16th from 2:30 – 4:30 pm:** We will host a virtual Zoom meeting with access to the link provided, you do not need a Zoom account to join the meeting. The virtual meeting will have access to both video and audio with everyone's microphones automatically muted. Video will be enabled for the **presenters of the Council Meeting use only**. Please be sure to turn your video off to ensure our meeting can run with no technical issues. If you are called on by the chair to speak, you will need to unmute your microphone. Please mute again once you have finished speaking.
- **Motions:** Only voting members can move or second a motion. Please use the 'Chat' function to move or second a motion so that it can be recorded in the meeting minutes. There will be a Polling feature enabled after each motion is presented. The Chair will give instructions on the voting process.
- **Questions or Comments:** If you have a question or comment after a report, please use the chat function to indicate the same. The Chair will call on the speakers in the order that they appear on the list in the chat. **Please do not type your question or comment** directly into the chat dialogue box.
- **Attendance and quorum** will be determined by the list of participants at the virtual Zoom meeting.

In 1995, the **University of Saskatchewan Act** established a representative Council for the University of Saskatchewan, conferring on Council responsibility and authority "for overseeing and directing the university's academic affairs." The 2021/22 academic year marks the 27th year of the representative Council.

As Council gathers, we acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of our gathering place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

niyanān onīkānēwak kā māmawī apiyāhk, nikiskēhtiyinān ōma nikotwāsik kihci tipahamātowin askiy ēkwa mīna ēta āpihtowikosānak kā wīkicik. nikihcēyimānānak kahkiyaw iyiniwak ēkwa āpihtawikosānak osci ōta askīhk ēkwa kāwi ta kiskēhtamahk kiwahkohtowiniwa.

Kaa maashakoonitoochik li koonsay, ni kishkayhtaynaan aen ayaahk sur li tayrayn di li traytii sis pi iita kaa wiikichik lii Michif. Li rispay ni miiyaanaanik lii Praamyayr Naasoon pi ni waahkoomaakaanuk lii Michif iita kaa maashakoonitooyaahk pi ni shoohkamoonihtaanaan ka ishi waakoohtooyaahk.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Tributes (none)**
3. **Adoption of the agenda**
4. **Chair's Opening remarks**
5. **Approval of Minutes of the meeting of June 17, 2021**
6. **Business Arising from the Minutes (no items)**
7. **Report of the President**
8. **Report of the Provost**
9. **Pandemic Response and Recovery Team (PRT) Verbal Report** – presented by Darcy Marciniuk, Associate Vice-President Research, PRT Chair

10. Student Societies

- 10.1 Report from the USSU - Tasnim Jaisee, USSU President
- 10.2 Report from the GSA - Rifat Zahan, GSA President

11. Nominations Committee

- 11.1 Request for Decision: Acting Vice-Chair of Council

It is recommended that Dirk de Boer be appointed as Acting Vice-Chair of Council effective immediately until a new Council Chair is elected.

- 11.2 Request for Decision: Council and USFA Collective Agreement Committee Nominations 2021/22

It is recommended that Council approve the nominations (as attached and highlighted) for Council committees and USFA Collective agreement committees, effective immediately.

12. Planning and Priorities Committee

- 12.1 Report for Information: Financial Update (Q4 results, budget 2021-22) and Strategic Planning

13. Governance Committee

- 13.1 Notice of Motion: Revisions to the Council Bylaws

It is recommended that Council approve the proposed revisions to the Council Bylaws Part Two Sections I and V (as per Attachment 2), effective October 21, 2021.

14. Academic Programs Committee

- 14.1 Report for Information: Changes to the Academic Calendar 2021-22
- 14.2 Report for Information: Academic Courses Policy Clause 1.2-Changes to Syllabi

15. Other business

16. Question period

17. Adjournment

*Next Council meeting is October 21, 2021 – Please send regrets to michelle.kjargaard@usask.ca.
Deadline for submission of motions to the Coordinating Committee: September 27, 2021.*

Via Zoom– <https://usask-ca.zoom.us/j/95552367581?pwd=VG1abIE3ODRMSHY2bi8xRXNDaUQxdz09>

Join by Telephone:

Local Saskatoon Dial-in Number: (639) 638-7474

Other Zoom Dial-in Numbers: <https://usask-ca.zoom.us/j/95552367581>

Join by Video Conferencing Device (SIP):

95552367581@zoomcrc.com

Meeting ID: 955 5236 7581

Passcode: 85804460

Telephone Passcode: 85804460



MINUTES OF UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
2:30 p.m. Thursday, June 17, 2021
Via WebEx

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:30pm.

2. Tributes

2.1 Tribute to Professor Emeritus Donald (Don) Kerr, from the Department of English, presented by Professor Emeritus David Carpenter

3. Adoption of the agenda

(Downe/Jones): *That the agenda be approved as circulated.*

CARRIED.

4. Chair's Opening remarks

The Chair of Council, Dr. Jay Wilson, acknowledged that Council meets on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis, paying respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of our gathering place and reaffirming our relationship with one another. He also noted that given the remote meeting modality, that members may be connecting from other locations and that we acknowledge our shared relations with the Indigenous peoples of this land.

Dr. Wilson noted that the President and Vice-President, Indigenous Engagement recently released statements about the discovery of 215 children's remains in unmarked graves at the site of Kamloops Residential School. He remarked that it was also important to acknowledge the tragedy at Council. He asked for a moment of silence to pay respect to the families and communities affected by the intergenerational trauma of residential schools and to honour the children.

Dr. Wilson asked if there were any media present. John Thronberg identified that he is a producer with CTV, but was attending the meeting as a Senator. Bryn Levy from the Star Phoenix also identified herself. The chair reminded those present that no video or audio recordings of the Council meeting were permitted.

The chair informed Council members of the protocols for the synchronous remote meeting. He asked that questions related to information items be deferred to question period due to the length of the Council meeting agenda.

Dr. Wilson reported on the regular monthly meeting between Council chairs and the President's Executive Committee (PEC). He reported that the discussion topics were the pandemic response and recovery, and the post-pandemic shift project.

5. Approval of Minutes of the meeting of May 17, 2021

(Smith/Rayan): *That the minutes be approved.*

CARRIED.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

6.1 Update on the University's Financial Position and 2021/22 Budget Update

In follow-up to the question posed at the May 2021 Council meeting, Dr. Airini, Provost and Vice-President Academic, reported that an update on the University's financial position and the 2021/22 budget were presented at the Planning and Priorities Committee (PPC) on June 16, 2021. An update to Council would be provided in the fall [Table 1 action item no.1].

There was a question about the Government of Saskatchewan's multi-year funding accountability report, and how Council would be informed about the reports.

7. Report of the President

President Peter Stoicheff thanked members of Council for the successful academic year even in the face of the pandemic. He thanked Dr. Carpenter for the tribute to Dr. Kerr. He thanked Dr. Wilson and Council members for paying respect to the children of the Kamloops Residential School. He remarked that it has been a challenging month across the country, as Canada has had to face acts of racism, discrimination, Islamophobia, and the legacy of residential schools. He noted the importance of the University's work on the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy and action plan, the Living Our Values Policy, the Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Committee, and Pride Week.

He reported that an update on the Post-Pandemic Shift project would be forthcoming in the fall [Table 1 action item no.2].

He also reminded Council of the recent announcement of the extra holiday on July 2, 2021.

Questions were deferred to question period.

8. Report of the Provost

Dr. Airini, Provost and Vice President Academic, thanked Dr. Wilson and Council for pausing to pay respect to our colleagues and the children whose graves were found at the residential school. She thanked Council members and the USask community for an incredible year.

Questions were deferred to question period.

8.1 Report for Information: Enrollment Reporting - presented by Patti McDougall, Vice-Provost, Teaching, Learning and Student Experience

Dr. Patti McDougall presented an infographic and briefing note on enrolment in the 2020/21 academic year. She reported that the University is on track to meet the 2025 enrolment goals. Despite the pandemic, enrolments and retention rates at USask increased. She thanked faculty and instructors for the efforts in delivering high-quality academic programming through the year, and remarked on the resilience and accomplishments of the students during the year of the pandemic. A short video was presented.

9. Pandemic Response and Recovery Team (PRT) Report

Dr. Darcy Marciniuk, Associate Vice President, Research and PRT Chair, gave a report on the work of the PRT. He reported on the following:

- Number of positive COVID-19 rates and case prevalence of infection rates.

- Streamlining of processes for approval of on-campus activities.
- The University's approach to safety precautions for the summer and fall.

Dr. Marciniuk encouraged Council members and members of the campus community to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

Questions were deferred to question period.

10. Student Societies

10.1 Report from the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU)

Tasnim Jaisee, President of the USSU, presented the report of the USSU as provided in the materials. She remarked that the USSU stands in solidarity with students affected by the Islamophobic incidents and by residential schools.

10.2 Report from the Graduate Students' Association (GSA)

Rifat Zahan, President of the GSA, reiterated support for those affected by the Islamophobic incidents and by residential schools.

She noted the importance of the student supervisor agreement, reported that the application period for GSA bursaries was open, and that fall graduate student orientation would be virtual.

11. Nominations Committee

Dr. Paul Jones, Chair of the committee, presented one request for decision and the annual report of the committee.

11.1 Request for Decision: Collective Agreement Committee Nominations 2021/22

(Jones/Singh): It is recommended that Council approve the slate of nominations to USFA Collective Agreement committees for 2021-22 effective July 1, 2021, as attached.

Dr. Wilson called for nominations from the floor. Dr. Peta Bonham-Smith, Dean of Arts & Science, nominated Neil Chilton, Department of Biology, for the vacant one-year term position on the University Review Committee (URC). Dr. Wilson reported that prior to the Council meeting he had received confirmation from Dr. Chilton of his acceptance of the nomination, and the Governance Office's confirmation of his eligibility.

AMENDED.

(Jones/Singh): It is recommended that Council approve the slate of nominations to USFA Collective Agreement committees for 2021-22 effective July 1, 2021, as amended.

[The WebEx live voting function did not work at the Council meeting. The motion was approved by Survey Monkey following the meeting.]

CARRIED.

11.2 Report for Information: Nominations Committee Annual Report 2020/21

No discussion.

12.1 Request for Decision: Living Our Values Policy

(Wotherspoon/Larre): *It is recommended that Council approve Living Our Values Policy, pending approval of the Board of Governors and the confirmation of Senate, effective November 1, 2021.*

There were questions about the importance of academic freedom for the collegium. Dr. Wotherspoon responded that the policy is in keeping with other foundational documents such as the USFA Collective Agreement.

The WebEx voting poll was posted. There was a point of order that the polling function was not working.

[The WebEx live voting function continued to malfunction for the duration of the Council meeting.]

Dr. Wilson, in consultation with the Governance Office, indicated that all motions from agenda item 11.1 on would be circulated electronically via Survey Monkey following the meeting.

CARRIED.

12.2 Report for Information: Governance Committee Annual Report 2020/21

No discussion.

12. Academic Programs Committee (APC)

Dr. Susan Detmer, Chair of APC, presented the items.

13.1 Request for Decision: Graduate Programs in Applied Computing

(Detmer / Wotherspoon): *It is recommended that Council approve the Master of Science (M.Sc.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree programs in Applied Computing, effective May 2022.*

CARRIED.

13.2 Request for Decision: Changes to Admissions Qualifications – College of Nursing English Proficiency

(Detmer / Wotherspoon): *It is recommended that the Council approve the changes to the minimum standard of English proficiency for applicants to the College of Nursing, effective the 2022-23 admissions cycle.*

CARRIED.

13.3 Request for Decision: Changes to Admissions Qualifications – Master of Business Administration Program

(Detmer / Wotherspoon): *It is recommended that Council approve the change to admissions qualifications to the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program to allow either a minimum score of 500 on the GMAT, or completion of the MCAT and admission to the College of Medicine at USask, effective the 2022-23 admissions cycle.*

CARRIED.

13.4 Report for Information: Change to the 2021/22 Academic Calendar

No discussion.

13.5 Report for Information: APC Annual Report 2020/21

No discussion.

14. Research, Scholarly, and Artistic Works Committee (RSAW)

Dr. Marjorie Delbaere presented the items from RSAW.

14.1 Request for Decision: Revisions to the Responsible Conduct of Research Policy

(Dalbaere/Burshtyn): It is recommended that Council approve the revisions to the Responsible Conduct of Research Policy and associated procedures, effective July 1, 2021.

Dr. Delbaere reported that feedback was received following the presentation of the request for input to Council in May, and that appropriate amendments to the policy were incorporated.

There was a round of Q&A.

There were comments about the rules of evidence, false or malicious accusations, and timelines for hearings. Clarification was sought on the application of this policy vs. the Student Academic Misconduct Regulations for student cases. Dr. Marciniuk responded that associate deans academic and research would determine the appropriate application of the policies on a case-by-case basis at the outset, and that no student would have to go through both processes. The criteria for selection of the appropriate policy are also included in the procedures.

There were comments about the role of RSAW and the process for bringing decision items such as this to Council if changes were made to drafts of decision items. The chair ruled that the decision item was properly before University Council.

CARRIED.

14.2 Report for Information: RSAW Annual Report 2020-21

No discussion.

14.3 Annual Report from the Vice-President Research Verbal Report - Dr. Baljit Singh

Dr. Baljit Singh, Vice President Research, gave a presentation to Council (attached).

15. Planning and Priorities Committee

Dr. Darrell Mousseau, Chair of PPC, introduced the items.

15.1 Report for Information: Academic Program Approvals Process Review

Dr. Jacquie Thomarat, Director, Academic Governance, gave a presentation (attached).

15.2 Report for Information: PPC Annual Report 2020/21

No discussion.

16. Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP)

Dr. Ken Wilson, Chair of JCCP, presented the items.

16.1 Request for Decision: Beef Industry Integrated Forage Management and Utilization Chair

(Gjevre/Bedard-Haughn): *It is recommended that Council approve the Beef Industry Integrated Forage Management and Utilization Chair and recommend that the Board of Governors authorize the establishment of this chair effective July 1, 2021.*

16.2 Report for Information: JCCP Annual Report 2020/21

No discussion.

17. Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee (TLARC)

Dr. Vince Bruni-Bossio, Chair of TLARC, presented the item.

17.1 Report for Information: TLARC Annual Report 2020-21

No discussion.

18. Scholarships and Awards Committee

Dr. Tracie Risling, Chair of the committee, presented the item.

18.1 Report for Information: Annual Report to Council 2020/21

No discussion.

19. Coordinating Committee

Dr. Wilson, Chair of the Coordinating Committee, presented the item.

19.1 Report for Information: Coordinating Committee Annual Report 2020-21

No discussion.

20. Other Business

Dr. Chelsea Willness, University Secretary & Chief Governance Officer, presented the items. There was no discussion.

20.1 Report for Information: University Council Schedule 2021-22

20.2 Report for Information: University Council Membership 2021-22

21. Question Period

Greg Fowler, Vice President Finance & Resources, reported on a question that was raised at a previous Council meeting on USask's goals for reducing emissions. He indicated that USask is participating in U15 efforts to request funding from the Government of Canada through the National Infrastructure Program. There was a brief discussion about the potential costs compared to the current replacement value of USask's infrastructure.

There was a question about access to USask databases containing information on faculty members. Dr. McDougall volunteered to work with the Council member offline to provide appropriate information and access.

22. Adjournment

(Jones): *There was a motion to adjourn.*

Table 1. Action Items

| Page | Action Item | Responsible |
|-----------|---|-------------|
| p.2 s.6.1 | USask Financial Update and 2021/22 Budget | Dr. Airini |
| p.2 s.7 | Post-Pandemic Shift Project update | President |

Appendix A: Listing of members in attendance

Appendix B: Vice President Research Presentation

Appendix C: Academic Program Approvals Process Review Presentation

Next Council meeting is September 16, 2021 – Please send regrets to michelle.kjargaard@usask.ca.

Deadline for submission of motions to the coordinating committee: August 23, 2021

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE 2020-2021

Attendance Summary - Voting Participants

Sep 17, 2020 - meetings are being held via Webex and attendance is taken as per the participant list while meeting is on.

| Last Name | First Name | Sept 17 | Oct 15 | Nov 19 | Dec 17 | Jan 28 | No Mtng | Mar 18 | Apr 15 | May 20 | Jun 17 |
|--------------------|------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| . | Airini | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | | P | P | P | P |
| Adl | Sina | A | P | P | P | P | | P | R | P | A |
| Aitken | Alec | R | P | P | P | P | | P | R | P | P |
| Akintola-student | Olusola | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | | n/ | n/a | n/a | P |
| Alcorn | Jane | A | A | A | P | A | | P | P | P | P |
| Augusta | Carolyn | P | P | P | R | P | | P | R | P | P |
| Bauman-student | Elizabeth | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | | n/a | n/a | n/a | P |
| Bedard-Haughn | Angela | P | P | P | P | R | | P | P | P | P |
| Bedard-student | Derek | n/a | n/a | A | A | A | | A | A | A | A |
| Bell | Scott | P | A | P | P | A | | A | R | A | P |
| Bhatti-student rep | Haseeb | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | | n/a | n/a | n/a | A |
| Bilson | Beth | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Boland | Mark | R | A | A | A | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Bonham-Smith | Peta | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Brook | Ryan | A | P | P | P | R. Brook Sabbatical - Jan 1 - Jun 30, 2021 | | | | | |
| Brothwell | Doug | P | P | P | P | P | | R | P | P | P |
| Bruni-Bossio | Vince | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Burgess | David | P | P | A | P | P | D. Burgess Resigned Council position Feb 4/21 | | | | |
| Burshtyn | Deborah | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Card | Claire | P | P | P | A | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Chernoff | Egan | R | R | R | P | P | | P | R | P | P |
| Chibbar | Ravindra | P | P | P | A | P | | P | P | A | A |
| Chowdhury | Nurul | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | R |
| Cooper | David | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | R |
| Cross-student rep | Emma | n/a | n/a | P | R | P | | P | P | R | n/a |
| Dadachova | Kate | P | P | P | A | P | | P | P | P | A |
| DaSilva | Keith | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Dawson | DeDe | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| de Boer | Dirk | A | A | P | P | P | | A | P | P | R |
| Delbaere | Majorie | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Deters | Ralph | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Detmer | Susan | A | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Dick | Rainer | P | A | A | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Downe | Pamela | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Flynn | Kevin | A | P | A | P | P | | P | P | A | A |
| Fotohui | Reza | A | A | A | A | P | | A | P | A | A |
| Gabriel | Andrew | A | A | P | P | A | | R | P | R | A |
| Gillis | Glen | P | P | P | A | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Gjevre | John | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | A | P |
| Gyurcsik | Nancy | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Harrison | William | A | P | A | A | P | | A | A | A | A |
| Harvey-student rep | Evan | n/a | n/a | P | A | A | | A | P | P | n/a |
| Hu-student rep | Katie | A | A | A | A | A | | A | A | n/a | n/a |
| Illing-student rep | Kate | n/a | n/a | A | A | A | | A | A | n/a | n/a |
| Jacob-student rep | Sharon | n/a | n/a | P | A | A | | A | A | A | A |
| Jamali | Nadeem | P | P | P | R | P | | P | P | P | P |
| James-Cavan | Kathleen | R | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Jensen | Gordon | P | P | P | P | G. Jensen Sabbatical - Jan 1 - Jun 30, 2021 | | | | | |
| Jones | Paul | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Just | Melissa | P | P | P | P | P | M. Just completed Inter | | P | P | P |
| Kahn-student rep | Maria | n/a | n/a | P | A | A | | A | R | P | A |
| Kalra | Jay | A | P | P | P | P | | P | P | R | P |
| Keller-student rep | Taylor | n/a | n/a | P | P | P | | P | A | n/a | n/a |
| Kelly | Timothy | P | P | P | P | P | | A | A | A | A |
| Khandelwal | Ramji | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Kim-student rep | David | n/a | n/a | A | A | A | | A | R | A | P |
| Koechl | Natasha | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | R |

| Last Name | First Name | Sept 17 | Oct 15 | Nov 19 | Dec 17 | Jan 28 | No Mtng | Mar 18 | Apr 15 | May 20 | Jun 17 |
|--------------------|-------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Kovacs-student rep | Karen | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | | n/a | n/a | n/a | R |
| Kresta | Suzanne | P | P | R | P | R | | P | A | P | P |
| Kumaran | Arul | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | A | A |
| Lamb | Eric | A | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | R |
| Langhorst | Barbara | P | A | P | P | A | | A | A | A | A |
| Larre | Tamara | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Lies-student rep | Madelyn | n/a | n/a | A | A | A | | A | A | n/a | n/a |
| Lindenschmidt | Karl-Enrich | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | A | P |
| London | Chad | P | P | P | A | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Lovick | Olga | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Luke | Iain | P | P | A | R | A | | R | R | R | R |
| Lummerding- | Dominique | A | A | A | A | A | | A | A | A | A |
| Macfarlane | Cal | A | A | A | A | A | | A | A | A | A |
| Makarova | Veronika | P | P | P | P | P | | A | P | P | P |
| Mamun | Abdullah | P | R | P | P | A | | R | P | P | A |
| Manley-Tannis | Richard | R | A | A | A | P | | A | A | A | A |
| Marquez-student | Carmen | P | P | P | P | P | | P | A | n/a | n/a |
| Mousseau | Darrell | P | P | P | A | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Muir | Gillian | R | A | A | R | R | | R | A | P | P |
| Murphy | JoAnn | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Neufeld | Matthew | P | P | P | P | P | | P | R | P | P |
| O'Connell-student | Ryan | P | P | A | P | P | | P | A | n/a | n/a |
| Palmer-student rep | Sue | n/a | n/a | A | A | A | | A | A | n/a | n/a |
| Papagerakis | Petros | P | A | P | P | P | | P | P | P | A |
| Paslowski | Teresa | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Peternelj-Taylor | Cindy | A | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | A |
| Phillipson | Martin | P | P | A | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Pocha | Sheila | A | P | A | A | A | | A | A | A | A |
| Poettcker | Grant | A | A | A | A | A | | A | A | A | A |
| Pomazon | Alisha | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Prytula | Michelle | P | P | P | P | Beth Bilson is the Interim Dean of Education (Jan 18/21) | | | | | |
| Rayan | Steven | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Ripley-student rep | Laura | n/a | n/a | P | P | A | | A | A | n/a | n/a |
| Risling | Tracie | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | A |
| Rohs-student rep | Jesse | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | | n/a | n/a | n/a | P |
| Ross-student rep | Cassidy | n/a | n/a | n | n/a | n/a | | n/a | n/a | n/a | P |
| Sarjeant-Jenkins | Rachel | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | R |
| Sarty | Gordon | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Shevchuk | Yvonne | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Shin | Hyunjung | R | R | R | P | A | | A | A | A | A |
| Singh | Jaswant | P | A | P | P | P | | A | P | A | A |
| Smith | Martha | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Smith | Preston | P | P | P | A | A | | P | P | P | P |
| Smyth | Stuart | P | P | P | A | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Somerville | Kara | P | P | A | A | P | | P | A | A | P |
| Sorensen | Charlene | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Spurr | Shelley | P | P | P | P | P | | R | R | P | P |
| Squires | Vicki | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Steele | Tom | P | P | P | A | P | | P | A | P | R |
| Stoicheff | Peter | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Stuart | Glenn | A | P | P | P | P | | A | P | P | R |
| Urquhart | Stephen | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | R | P |
| Waldner | Cheryl | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Walker | Keith | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Wallace-student | Alexa | n/a | n/a | A | A | A | | A | A | n/a | n/a |
| Willenborg | Christian | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Willoughby | Keith | R | A | P | P | P | | P | R | P | P |
| Wilson | Jay | P | P | P | P | P | | p | P | P | P |
| Woods | Phil | A | R | P | A | P | | R | P | P | R |

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE 2020-2021

| Last Name | First Name | Sept 17 | Oct 15 | Nov 19 | Dec 17 | Jan 28 | No Mtng | Mar 18 | Apr 15 | May 20 | Jun 17 |
|----------------|------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Wotherspoon | Terry | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Xiao | Jing | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Yao | Yansun | P | A | A | A | A | | A | A | A | A |
| Yu-student rep | Angela | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | | n/a | n/a | n/a | A |
| Zhang | Chris | A | P | P | A | P | | A | P | P | A |

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE 2020-2021

Attendance Summary - Non-voting participants

Sep 17, 2020 - meetings are being held via Webex and attendance is taken as per the participant list while meeting is on.

| Last Name | First Name | Sep 17 | Oct 15 | Nov 19 | Dec 17 | Jan 28 | No Mtng | Mar 18 | Apr 15 | May 20 | Jun 17 |
|-------------------------------|------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Akintola-GSA VP 2021-22 | Olusola | n/a | n/a | n | n/a | n/a | | n/a | n/a | n/a | P |
| Chad | Karen | P | P | P | P | P | Dr. Chad has completed her VP Research as of Jan 31, 2021 | | | | |
| Fowler | Greg | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Gill-GSA VP 2020-21 | Qasim | A | A | A | A | P | | A | A | n/a | n/a |
| Iftikhar-USSU VP 2021-22 | Tauqeer | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | | n/a | n/a | n/a | A |
| Inam-GSA Pres 2020-21 | Humaira | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | n/a | n/a |
| Isinger | Russell | P | P | P | A | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Jaisee-USSU President 2021-22 | Tasnim | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | | n/a | n/a | P | P |
| Kaminski | Nicholas | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| LaRose-Smith-USSU Pres | Autumn | P | P | P | A | P | | P | P | n/a | n/a |
| McDougall | Patricia | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Ottmann | Jacqueline | A | A | A | P | P | | A | A | A | A |
| Pozega Osburn | Debra | P | P | P | p | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Roberts-USSU VP 2020-21 | Kiefer | P | R | P | P | P | | R | P | n/a | n/a |
| Singh | Baljiti | Dr. Singh to begin as VP Research Feb 1, 2021 | | | | | | P | P | P | P |
| Still | Carl | P | P | P | P | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Tetteh | Leslie | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | | n/a | n/a | P | A |
| Thronberg | John | P | P | A | P | A | | A | P | P | P |
| Willness | Chelsea | P | P | P | p | P | | P | P | P | P |
| Zahan-GSA Pres 2021-22 | Rifat | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | | n/a | n/a | P | P |

Discovery the World Needs

Baljit Singh, FCAHS

3M National Teaching Fellow

Vice-President Research

Presentation to University Council

June 17, 2021

Annual Report

- My sincerest thanks and gratitude to each and every one of you.
- The past academic year was characterized by tremendous change.
- We are finishing a very challenging year and many challenges lie ahead
- Despite challenges, we remained impactful and productive.
- We are well-positioned to become even more impactful.

Research By the Numbers

Funding and Productivity

\$308,801,802 in total research revenue
\$22.1M in total CIHR Funding
\$31.9M in total NSERC Funding
\$6.2M in total SSHRC Funding
\$28M in COVID related research funding

Highly Qualified Personnel

1,192 faculty members & instructional staff
293 research professionals & PDFs
4,406 graduate students
142 Chairholders, including 32 CRCs

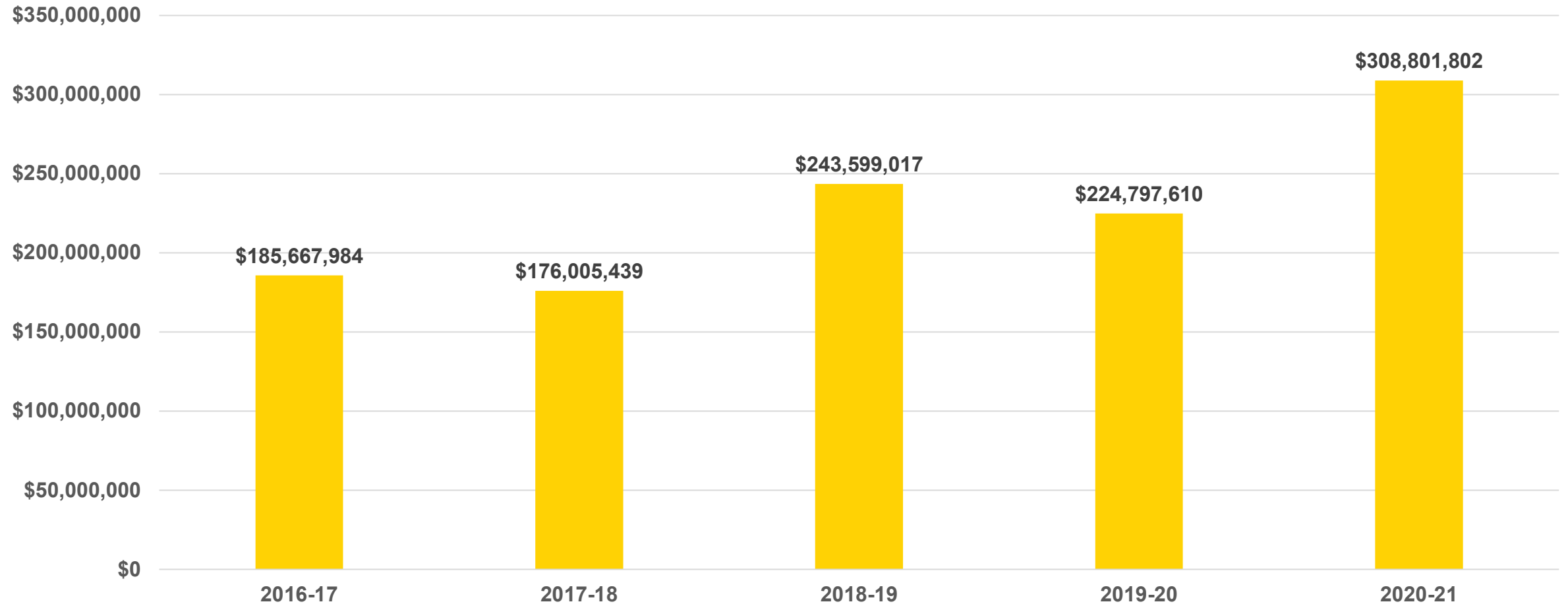
Programs, Services, and Supports

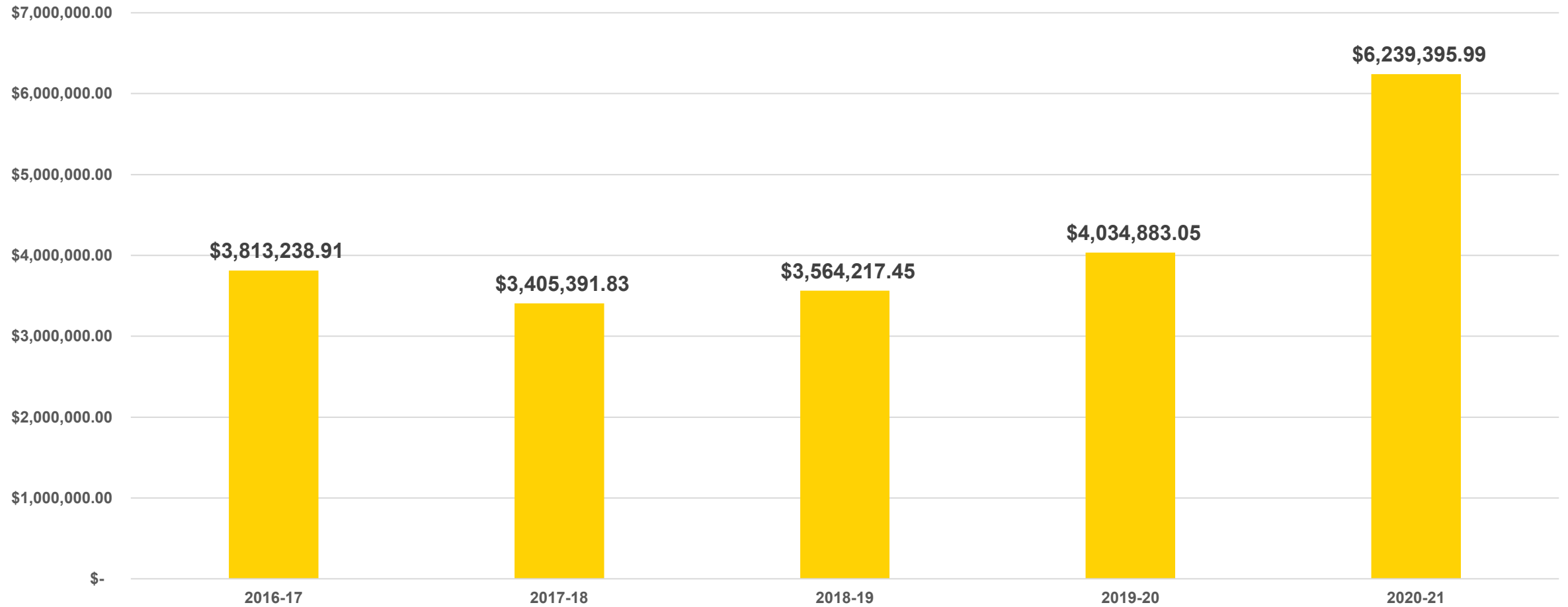
110,656 animals in teaching and research
+800 new research ethics applications
694 new research contracts managed
758 newly funded research projects
3,000 undergraduate students in FYRE

Leadership

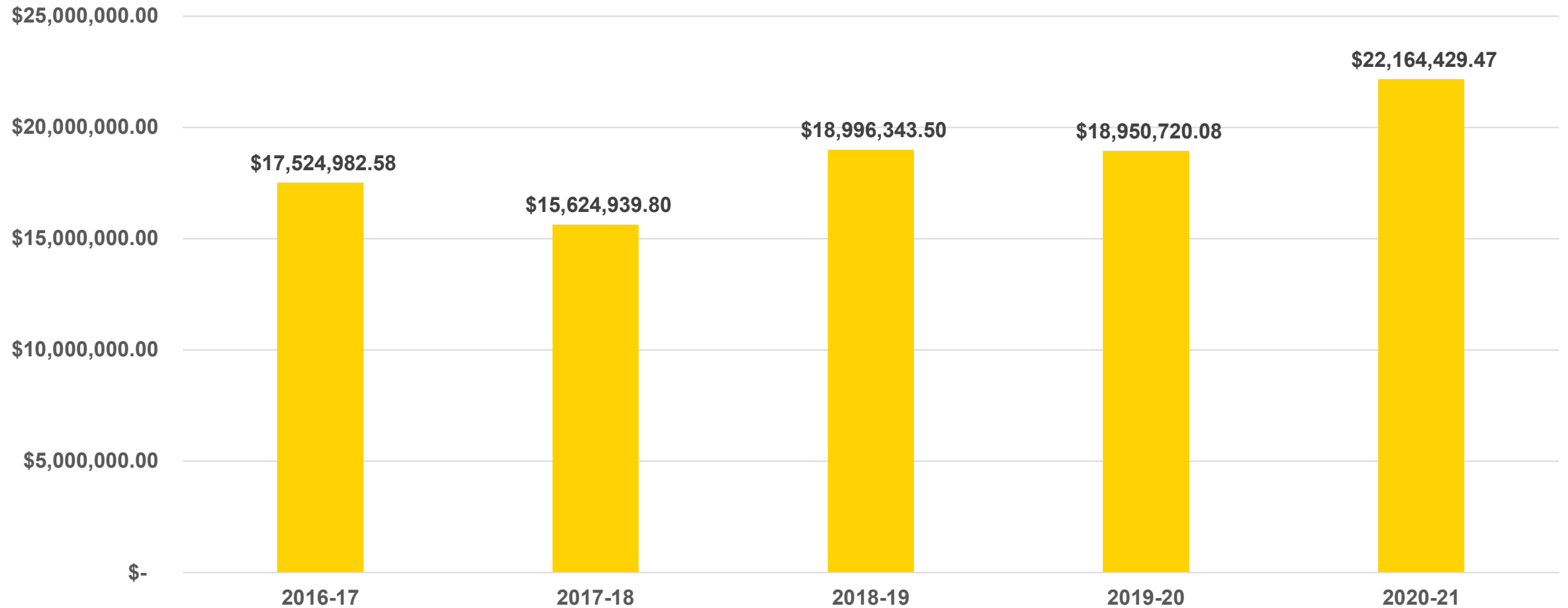
6 signature areas
3 national research facilities
2 Canada First Research Excellence Funds
267 international research projects

Research Revenues

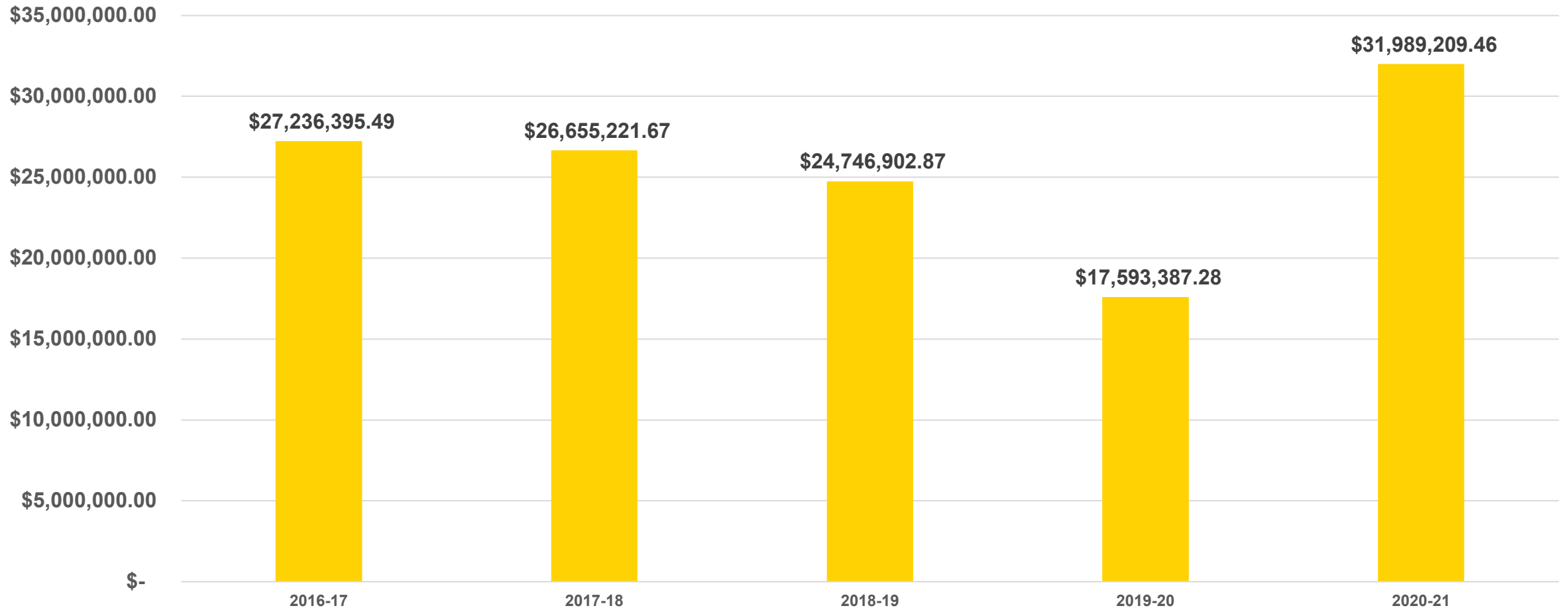




Canadian Institutes of Health Research



Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council



Research Impacts



VIDO's moves to become Canada's Centre for Pandemic Research

- \$15 million from the Province
- \$59.2 million in the 2021 Federal Budget

USask researchers the global fight against COVID-19.

- Partnership with Indigenous communities, City of Saskatoon on COVID-19 wastewater study funded by PHAC
- USask researchers help lead \$9 million COVID variant response study



Research Impacts

USask researchers continue to advance crop development and agri-food innovations globally.

- \$3.2 million towards first-in-Canada engineering biology centre
- Usask scientists help find the key to decoding rye genome

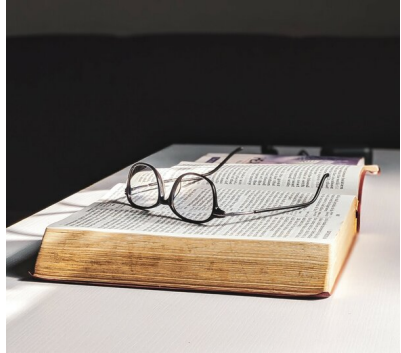


USask researchers support Indigenous health and well-being

- USask-led Indigenous health research network finds home at Station 20W
- Partnership will use traditional Cree approaches to make communities safer.



Research Impacts



USask alumni, artists, and scholars recognized for their excellence

- Dr. Ashleigh Androsoff, wins top prize for innovative Doukhobor project
- Dr. Merle Massie (BA'93, MA'98, PhD'11) Arts and Science short listed for Saskatchewan Book Awards



USask artists, scholars, and researchers celebrated important milestones.

- Crop Development Centre celebrates a half century of crop innovation
- Department of Drama celebrates 75th anniversary

Research Awards



University of Saskatchewan New Researcher Awards

- Dr. Kerry McPhedran, Associate Professor, College of Engineering
- Dr. Steven Rayan, Associate Professor, College of Arts and Science



University of Saskatchewan Distinguished Researcher Awards

- Dr. Julita Vassileva, Professor, College of Arts and Science:
- Dr. Safa Kasap, Distinguished Professor & Centennial Enhancement Chair, College of Engineering

Research Awards



University of Saskatchewan Publicly Engaged Scholarship Team Award

- Dr. Pamela Downe, Professor, College of Arts and Science
- Dr. Carrie Bourassa, Professor, College of Medicine and Scientific Director, CIHR Institute of Indigenous Peoples Health



Royal Society of Canada: Bancroft Award, Miroslaw Romanowski Medal

- Dr. Irena Creed, Professor, School of Environment and Sustainability
- Dr. Ajay Dalai, Professor, College of Engineering

Research Awards



Royal Society of Canada – Inducted Fellows

- Prof. Alison Norlen, Professor, College of Arts and Science
- Dr. Valerie Korinek, Professor, College of Arts and Science



Royal Society of Canada – College of New Scholars

- Dr. Christy Morrissey, Professor, School of Environment and Sustainability

Action

February, March, April 2021

- Transition
- Introductory Meetings:
 - Senior Leaders
 - Associate Deans Research
 - Centre Directors
 - External stakeholders

May, June, July 2021

- Broader Engagements:
 - Faculty Councils
 - Research Chairs
 - Signature Areas
 - Research Facilitators
 - Industry & Government Officials
- Annual Planning and Priority Setting

August, September, October 2021

- AVPR Searches
- Signature Areas Renewal
 - Steering Committee (Aug)
 - Pitch Your Ideas (Sept)
 - Area Updates (Oct)

Vice-Presidential Priorities

❑ Other strategic priorities and initiatives advanced by the Office of the Vice-President Research:

- Inventions and Enterprise Creation Policy
- Responsible Conduct of Research Policy and Procedures
- Centres Policy and Guidelines
- Publicly Engaged Scholarship Initiative (phase 1)
- International Indigenous Health Research & Training Centre
- Reflections and Renewal of Signature Areas (underway)

Research Plan

- Uplift Indigenization
- Build Institutional Fortitude
- Embolden Our Strengths
- Invigorate Our Health Clusters
- Put Our Knowledge to Work

Thank You





Findings: Academic Program Approvals Process Review

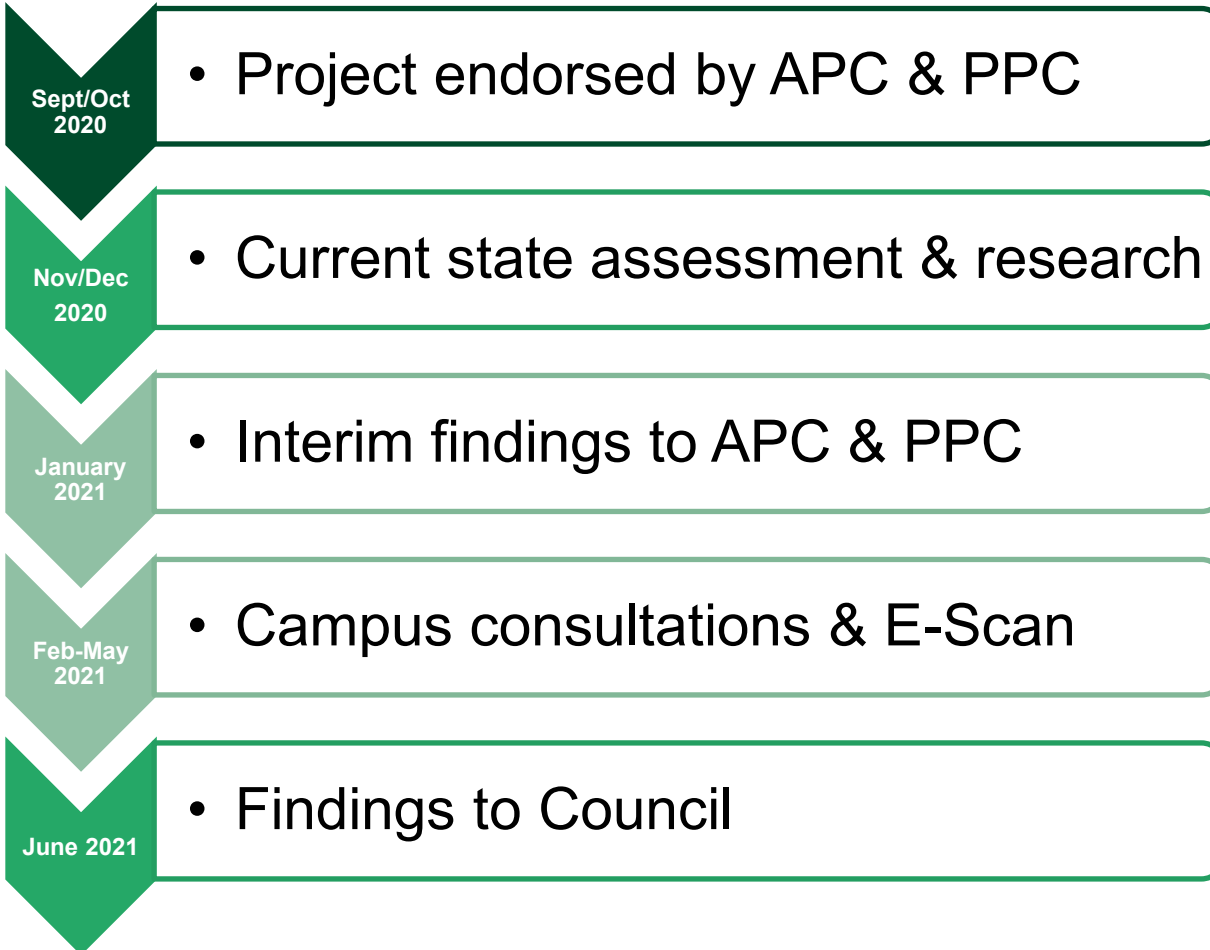
**USask Governance Office &
Process Review Project Team**

University Council – June 17, 2021

Objectives of the Review

Align governance structures and processes, and business practices for the approvals of academic programs to enable USask to meet its mission and vision in delivering high quality and innovative programming.

Project Background



Executive Sponsor

Chelsea Willness,
University Secretary & Chief Governance Officer

Advisory Committee

APC & PPC Executives

Project Team

Governance Office

Jacquie Thomarat (Project Lead)
Amanda Storey

Registrar's Office

Russel Isinger
Seanine Warrington

College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

Kelly Clement
Ryan Walker

Institutional Planning & Assessment

Jennifer Beck

College of Arts & Science

Alexis Dahl

Conceptual Framework

Structure

- Terms of reference and potential delegations

Processes

- Reduce, streamline, sequence, and coordinate

Timeliness

- Reduce the time-to-approval

Rigour

- Ensure quality programs and financial sustainability

Resources

- Ensure early, expert, and coordinated support

Awareness

- Refine training, forms, templates and tools (inc. tech)

Potential Changes

New Program Approvals
Twice-per-Year Cycle

Remove Steps and Reconfigure
Representation and Responsibilities

Collaborate and Delegate

Provisos

- Requires governance approval
- Administrative resources need to be re-aligned
- Business practices must support the new model and process
- Implementation will be stepwise (incremental)

Next Steps

- September 2021 – Pilot project APC/PPC and Council requests for decision
- October 2021 – Senate pilot project request for decision
- October 2021 to January 2022 – Pilot project proceeds
- February 2022 – Pilot project results evaluated
- March – Council request for decision changes to APC/PPC Terms of Reference
- April – Senate request for decision on recommended changes
- September 2022 – New program approvals process fully operational



PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

September 2021

I would like to welcome you all to what promises to be a rewarding 2021/22 academic year. The fall term will be a time of transition as many of you return to on-campus activities. I would also like to recognize those of you who continued to serve on campus throughout the global health crisis, in support of our academic mission.

Together we share the responsibility of encouraging students to pursue academic and research excellence, and to be responsible, respectful and resourceful global citizens. Just as importantly, we are committed to health and safety first. I thank you for your adherence to and your support of the protocols in place – including vaccine and mask requirements – to ensure a safe return to campus for our entire community.

I would like to thank you for your work in supporting our students during the 2020/21 academic year, and in particular your passion and professionalism in the remarkable rapid switch to remote learning and working in March of 2020. When the world changed amid the pandemic, so did USask, in ways none of us could have imagined. Your resilience and resourcefulness ensured that we continued to advance teaching, learning and research.

Your dedication to support students is a big part of why we are now on pace to reach record enrolment this academic year. While the health protocols are new, what has not changed is our commitment to the students we serve, and to fostering a campus culture of inclusivity, diversity and equity. We also remain firmly focused on the principles of collaboration and innovation, creativity and connectivity -- the very foundations of our University Plan 2025 to be the university the world needs.

As we begin the fall term, we remain committed to finding local solutions to global problems, from vaccine and therapeutics development on the front lines of the fight against COVID-19, to climate change and sustainability, food and water security and much more.

We are also committed to being leaders in Indigenization and reconciliation, and the best place we can be for Indigenous students, staff, faculty, and their communities. Guided by the Elders who gifted the university its first Indigenous Strategy, we are determined to lead positive change with and for Indigenous peoples, to foster meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities, and to support and promote Indigenous scholarship and ways of knowing.

I am extremely proud of how our campus community has come together and responded during these extraordinary times and know we will continue to do so during this fall term. Welcome back and thank you for all the work you have done, and continue to do, at the University of Saskatchewan.

Fall term safety measures – a message from the Chair of the PRT

Welcoming upwards of 30,000 people daily onto our high-density campuses creates unique challenges during a pandemic. Measures the University's Pandemic Recovery and Response Team (PRT) have put in place—informed by expert public health guidance and best practices—have proven effective over the past 18 months, with very little on-campus transmission of COVID-19. We thank all faculty, staff, and students for their efforts and commitment.

We will continue to protect through sound decisions and implementation of strong protocols, guided by the science behind vaccinations—the clearest path towards beating COVID-19. Only widespread vaccination and testing throughout our campuses can help enhance the safety and minimize risks for all. Below is a summary of steps to help ensure the health and safety of students during the upcoming term:

- As [announced](#) earlier this month, every member of the USask community needing to access our campuses and work locations—all students, faculty, and staff—will be required to show proof of at least one dose of a WHO-approved COVID-19 vaccine by Sept 7, **with proof of a second dose required by no later than Oct 18.**
- Those unable or unwilling to get vaccinated will be required to provide regular negative COVID-19 test results and submit a daily symptom checklist to gain access to our campuses.
- For those not yet fully vaccinated, the most important action you can take right now to protect both yourself and others is to get vaccinated. COVID-19 vaccination bookings can be made on the Saskatoon campus at the [Student Wellness Centre](#) or throughout the [province](#)
- For further protection, the indoor mask requirement has been extended to December 31. All faculty, staff, students, visitors, and contractors are required to wear three-ply single-use masks in all indoor spaces on USask campuses in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert and all USask work locations. This includes in-person meetings and in shared offices, as well as when more than one person is in a private office. [These guidelines](#) will remain in place until December 31 and will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.
- Several changes have been made to campus buildings and operations. Building ventilation has been optimized where possible. Custodial services staff have increased cleaning and disinfecting procedures for classrooms and high-traffic public areas. Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes have been placed throughout public spaces on campus.
- We are conducting daily wastewater testing in student residences as another proactive measure to mitigate further exposure.
- We have identified activities in which the risk of contracting COVID-19 is elevated and as such full vaccination is required. The two activities initially announced include participation in Huskie Athletics and living in Residence—as additional student groups are identified they will be notified directly. If you are part of an elevated risk activity and require information regarding vaccine accommodation based on Human Rights grounds, you can find information [here for students](#).
- To reduce the risk of further spread, we are reminding all students to stay home if they are feeling ill or if someone within their household or workplace is suspected or has tested positive for COVID-19. To prevent the spread of COVID-19, we ask you to keep close tabs on your health by closely [monitoring your symptoms](#) and completing the [self-monitoring checklist](#).
- USask has updated the [instructions/guidelines for reporting confirmed or suspected cases](#) of COVID-19 for students. These simplified instructions will enable USask to take the appropriate actions to safeguard our campus community and beyond.

We commit to continued transparent communication to keep our community informed of the status of COVID-19 on our campuses and of all measures in place. We also commit to continue listening to the

ideas and suggestions from our community of faculty, students, and staff, and will consider additional measures as necessary.

We know there is a large critical mass of university community members who will show leadership by continuing to mask and follow other health and safety guidelines, ensuring as little disruption as possible to our core focus of teaching, learning, research, scholarly and artistic work.

The most up-to-date COVID-19 campus information can be found on the [USASK COVID-19 site](#). If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Pandemic Response and Recovery Team (PRT) at prt@usask.ca or email covid19@usask.ca.

Gifting of Indigenous Strategy to USask

On August 20, the Indigenous Strategy, ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan (“Let’s Fly Up Together”) was gifted to USask in a ceremony, on behalf of the Indigenous Peoples who informed and validated the process as a companion to the University Plan 2025. The ceremony marked a historic event for USask as it celebrated the first Indigenous Strategy that has been solely created by Indigenous people at a Canadian U15 research institution. The strategy calls for meaningful and respectful action to advance Indigenization and support transformative decolonization, leading to reconciliation. The Office of the Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement has been collaborating with USask’s Indigenous community of students, staff, faculty, and leaders, Elders, Traditional Knowledge Keepers and Language Teachers since 2018. Throughout the process, there has been an intentional focus to ensure that the work was ‘done in a good way.’

USask and City of Saskatoon sign climate commitment towards sustainability

USask and the City of Saskatoon recently signed a joint commitment that aims to speed up the transition to a green community.

The *Climate Commitment and Call to Action*—which progresses the goals of a first-of-its-kind 2017 memorandum of understanding (MOU) between a Canadian university and municipality—acknowledges the need to enhance sustainable and resilient practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt infrastructure, services, and programs for the future impacts of a changing climate. The commitment also recognizes the action that is needed to slow, and ultimately prevent, the rise in the global average temperature and aims to facilitate the transition to a clean energy economy. The pledge to improve and accelerate equitable climate performance includes areas in collaboration; reconciliation, decolonization and Indigenization; equity, diversity and inclusion; buildings and energy efficiency; sustainable transportation; sustainable land use; solid waste reduction; renewable energy; water conservation; environmental protection and ecosystem stewardship; leadership; and accountability.

The *Climate Commitment and Call to Action* also invites leaders, organizations and institutions across the community to work towards similar climate goals. While both the city and the university have their own

climate action plans, this additional commitment will provide common ground between the institution and municipality in order to make way for easier collaboration.

Wanuskewin, USask sign renewed MOU to support Indigenous education

On August 25, USask and the Wanuskewin Heritage Park Authority signed a renewed memorandum of understanding (MOU) to serve as a foundation for a dynamic, productive, and evolving relationship in the service of Indigenous education and opportunities for growth and mutual development.

The areas of collaboration outlined in the three-year agreement include cultural resources, outreach programming and facility use at both Wanuskewin and USask. The first MOU between USask and Wanuskewin was signed nearly two decades ago in March 2002. It confirmed an intent to work together to reach common goals and to develop joint initiatives including land and place-based education initiatives and cultural awareness programs with science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) colleges and departments.

This MOU restates, recognizes and celebrates the longstanding relationship between Wanuskewin and USask, and looks forward to nurturing and sustaining a relationship for years to come.

USask Research labs receive federal funding for equipment

Four USask research teams have been awarded nearly \$678,000 by the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) for equipment and labs to support leading-edge research in big data analytics, high-speed imaging of heart development, modernizing electrical networks, and expanding computer capacity to process huge volumes of historical data related to Indigenous sovereignty.

The funding, awarded through CFI's John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF), was announced in early August. JELF provides up to 40 per cent of the cost of academic research infrastructure, with remaining funds solicited from other public and private sources. The final tally of the USask projects is \$1.86 million once vendor in-kind support, already committed money, and expected funds are included.

The labs awarded this funding include:

- Software analytics research lab
- High-speed heart imaging of live zebrafish
- Modernizing electric distribution systems
- Expanding geographical information systems (GIS) lab

Provost's Report to Council

September 2021

Hello Council members. Bonjour.

tānsi. hau koda. ēdłanet'e? hau kola. taanishi. hau kona. anin

[English. French. Cree. Dakota. Dene. Lakota. Michif. Nakota. Saulteaux]

Welcome to the fall term after this summer period. This month's report to Council includes information about the Uniforum benchmarking project, academic program review, and university rankings, along with updates specific to our University 2025 five Aspirations. With such a breadth and depth of teaching, research, scholarship and creative works, and service at USask, I do encourage colleagues to visit our University of Saskatchewan [news](#) page to keep up to date with announcements and articles about USask.

GENERAL REMARKS

COVID-19 Return to Campus

Our priority is to ensure the health and safety of students, faculty, and staff. Although we have had to make changes to how we carry out our activities, we remain committed to our mission to be the university the world needs. Our President announced stronger vaccination and health safety measures for the fall term. For information, please see [here](#). These new measures are endorsed by the university's senior leadership and our Board of Governors. All current COVID-19 health and safety measures remain in place including indoor mask requirements, wastewater testing, some continued on-line programming, space reconfigurations in high-traffic areas, and enhanced cleaning.

Here are the [top five ways](#) all members of the university prepared for on-campus activities in the fall:

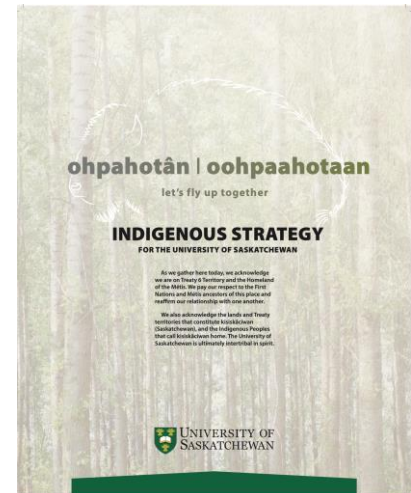
- **Get vaccinated.**
- **Wear a mask** (3-ply single-use) while in indoor spaces on USask campuses in Saskatoon, Regina, and Prince Albert.
- **Monitor your health.**
- **Know the [safety guidelines](#).**
- **Self-report confirmed cases.** If you suspect you have COVID-19 or have come in close contact with a positive case, [please take the appropriate actions](#) and report this immediately.

More information about how you can help Protect the Pack is available at [covid19.usask.ca](#). Thank you to all members of our university community for playing your part at this time. This includes a special thanks to all our cleaning crews and custodial staff. Thank you also for the sustained efforts by the university's pandemic response and recovery team, and our Deans and Executive Directors, and for the advice and leadership from the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union and Graduate Students' Association.

Indigenisation

The Indigenous Strategy, ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan ("Let's Fly Up Together") was gifted in a ceremony on Aug. 20 to the university on behalf of the Indigenous Peoples who informed and validated the process as a companion to the University Plan 2025 ([here](#)).

The ceremony marked a historic event for USask as it celebrates the first Indigenous Strategy that has been solely created by Indigenous people at a Canadian U15 research institution. Thank you to our former Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement, Dr Jackie Ottmann for leading the collaboration with USask's Indigenous community of students, staff, faculty, and leaders, Elders, Traditional Knowledge Keepers and Language Teachers since 2018. "Strong Indigenous voices have informed the Indigenous Strategy in an act of self-determination," said Dr Jacqueline Ottmann. "We want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the courage of all those who stepped forward to create this strategy, a piece that will ultimately help illuminate the path forward for USask's relationship with Indigenous Peoples."



Our President spoke to the gathering of the generosity of Indigenous Peoples from across Saskatchewan and elsewhere, who have dedicated such time and effort to creating and gifting this new Indigenous Strategy," said USask President Peter Stoicheff. "And while we celebrate the completion of this strategy, we all know that the work is just beginning. We look now towards the critically important steps needed to turn strategy into action."


During the event on Aug. 20, Elders offered an opening prayer and spoke about gifting the strategy to the university, before the document was presented to President Stoicheff and myself on behalf of our university. During fall term we begin planning for the implementation of the strategy. The Indigenous Strategy, ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan can be found [here](#). It has been exciting to hear from colleagues across the university who have read the strategy and are engaging in early thinking and planning.

UniForum Benchmarking Project

In late-June of this year, our university became a member of an international benchmarking program run by Cubane Consulting. The UniForum Benchmarking Project was initiated to allow us to compare our services that support teaching and research with other universities while providing opportunities to enhance the outcomes of our administrative service delivery, improve the satisfaction of the academic and student community that utilize the services, and ensure that we are delivering services efficiently.

There are two major components to the project. The first is a data collection exercise to gather information on our administrative activities along with supplemental data such as supplier information, annual revenues, employee complements, etc. This took place from July 26 to August 20 and involved the participation of over 600 colleagues from across campus to complete. Attempting this work over the summer months with competing priorities and vacation schedules was very challenging but we were able to gather 100% of the activity data required during this time period, which was a significant achievement by members of our campus community. Thank you to every leader and colleague who made this remarkable milestone possible, along with the future learnings that will come from this information. Thank you sincerely.

The second component of the project involves the implementation of a satisfaction survey whereby members of our campus community will be able to provide their perspectives on the quality and effectiveness of our administrative services. The plan is for the survey to be initiated in the Fall of 2021. The completion of this exercise will yield insightful data about our activities in comparison with other universities in Canada and around the world.



This information will allow us to build a data-informed story of our value and to understand where our most impactful investments need to be made. More information will be provided on this project as our work continues to unfold.

Academic Program Review

The Academic Program Review (APR) process was implemented in 2019 as a way to reflect on our graduate and undergraduate programs, and ensure that our students are provided with the best possible learning experience in a robust learning environment. These reviews provide opportunity for program teams to critically reflect and engage in a clear and transparent process of assessment of a program's strengths and weaknesses that can result in valuable recommendations for enhancing the programs. The eight-year review cycle plays a vital role in attaining our University 2025 Plan aspiration to be "a university that sets the standard in learning, research, scholarship, creativity, and community engagement". The procedures can be found [here](#), along with the review schedule.

Over the past year, three colleges were involved in the process and underwent reviews of their programs:

- College of Agriculture and Bioresources;
- College of Law; and
- College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

In total, seven separate review teams were involved (with separate review teams for programs within each of the five departments in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources). Thank you to all those involved in the coordination and deliberations associated with the academic reviews.

Reports come to college leadership for consideration and to formulate a plan for actioning review recommendations that could enhance their programs. Updates on APR plans and outcomes are provided to the Academic Programs Committee on an annual basis.

Update on University Rankings

National and international rankings are released each year to provide a perspective on our performance in various areas relative to other universities in Canada and around the world. Although there are numerous ranking initiatives and results publicly available, we continue to closely monitor the results published by Maclean's and Research InfoSource nationally and Times Higher Education (THE), Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), and the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) internationally.

Over the summer months, QS and ARWU released their annual world university rankings. The latest QS results released back on June 8, 2021, had USask ranked #458 in the world (out of 1,300 ranked universities), which was an improvement of seven positions over the previous year. On August 15, 2021, the ARWU results were released with USask placing in the 301-400 category (out of about 2,000 universities) for the fifth straight year.

More information on our placement in university rankings can be found on [here](#).

University-wide initiatives: Research

The Vice President Research and Provost and Vice President Academic collaborate in the exciting, open, and creative signature research renewal initiative, as well as university rankings, and advancing the university's strategic priorities. The following link provides information about the major university initiatives led through the Office of the Vice President Research, as well as updates ([here](#)) including: signature research areas renewal, and associate vice president search process.



UNIVERSITY 2025 PLAN ASPIRATIONS

The following events and initiatives, of the many across our university, featured during the past recent months. News items from our Colleges and Schools, related to each of our University 2025 Aspirations, is included.

Transformative decolonization leading to reconciliation

The university has moved to observe September 30 as a [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#), beginning this year. This is a day of reflection. Activities are planned for the days prior. As part of an ongoing effort to make USask the diverse, equitable, and inclusive community that best embodies our values. It is also a time for us as a university to re-commit to leading positive change with Indigenous peoples and communities.

For more information on reconciliation and Indigenisation at USask see [here](#).

Distinguished Learners

College of Engineering: The College of Engineering's RE-ENGINEERED first-year program has launched for fall 2021. It's the most innovative first-year program in Canada with revitalized courses that have real-world relevance, hands-on learning opportunities, and better supports for school/life balance. The new program was rebuilt from the ground up by the college's first-year design team, combining cross-campus collaboration with 20 years of research into best practices in education. More information about the program is available [here](#).

Meaningful impact

Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership: The EdD in Educational Leadership launched this summer with a two-week intensive residency held August 3 – 12. Offered by the Department of Educational Administration, the inaugural EdD cohort includes 23 students with diverse backgrounds varying from First Nations and K-12 education settings to post-secondary administration and teaching. The residency began with a Pipe Ceremony and Feast led by Elder Tim Eashappie – a University of Saskatchewan ITEP graduate and widely-respected Elder and educator. Student learning focused on (i) governance and ethical decision-making processes in public and social sector organizations with educational mandates and (ii) self-discovery and exploration of personal leadership competencies.

As the world continues to grapple with extreme weather events linked to climate change, an award-winning [USask graduate student](#) is focused on improving human understanding of agricultural drainage and climate change on streamflow in the Canadian Prairies.

[USask College of Medicine campus in Regina set to expand](#) its teaching and learning presence in Regina in August 2022 when that campus became home to about 40 first-year medical students.

[An innovative new project by a U of S graduate student](#) used synchrotron-based imaging techniques to examine what blood clots are made of.

Productive collaboration

Edwards School of Business: The Edwards School of Business has signed two new agreements with industry associations to accredit the Bachelor of Commerce program. The Chartered Professionals in Human Resources

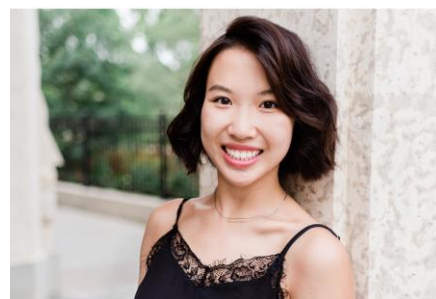
(CPHR) Saskatchewan is recognizing our Human Resource graduates with an overall cumulative average of 70% or higher from April 2015 onward by waiving the National Knowledge Exam (NKE). Similarly, Supply Chain Canada is providing our Supply Chain Management program graduates, who achieve a grade of 70% or higher within the last five years, advanced standing towards the Supply Chain Management Professional (SCMP) Designation. These accreditations signal to potential students, employers, and the marketplace that the Edwards School of Business curriculum is closely tied to professional practice.

College of Education: Saskatchewan Principals' Short Course: From July 5 – 8, the Department of Educational Administration held its annual Saskatchewan Principals' Short Course for aspiring and current administrators from provincial school divisions and First Nations education authorities. Run by the Saskatchewan Educational Leadership Unit for the second year in an online format, 153 participants attended from throughout the province. Timely keynote sessions included a presentation by Patrick Rivard with the North American Threat Assessment and Trauma Response on *Understanding and Managing the Social, Emotional and Traumatic Impacts of a Worldwide Pandemic: Factors for Response and Post-Pandemic Recovery*, as well as a presentation by Kookum Linda Young on her residential school experience and what educators can do to create safe spaces for Indigenous students and families.

USask takes on community development in the classroom: The online learning of the COVID-19 pandemic and a rise in social justice movements were hallmarks of the 2020 and 2021 academic year in many Western nations, and they are an unlikely combination driving a change in how educators assess their students. USask instructors across the institution have incorporated projects where students develop a resource for the community. From developing a nutritional database to sharing the results of undergraduate research astronomy to revising an instructional design textbook.

A [University of Saskatchewan student](#) is one of 10 new members of the Prime Minister's Youth Council, a group that provides advice to the Prime Minister and the Government of Canada on issues of importance to them and to all Canadians.

Topaza Yu, a fourth-year student in the College of Kinesiology, received news of the appointment to the council earlier this year after applying last summer. Youth Council members meet both online and in person several times a year to discuss issues that matter to their peers, their community, and their country.



Global Recognition

University of Saskatchewan (USask) researcher [Dr. Malcolm King \(PhD\)](#) has been named a fellow in one of Canada's oldest and most prestigious national institutions. King, a member of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, professor of community health and epidemiology, and scientific director of Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research at USask, was named a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) on Sept. 7—one of 89 new fellows elected by their peers for their outstanding scholarly, scientific, and artistic achievement. "Dr. King carries out research the world needs with deep care and consideration for the communities he serves," said USask Vice-President Research Baljit Singh. "We congratulate him and are thankful for the influential role he plays in Indigenization within our institution and across the country."

[Dr. John Pomeroy \(PhD\)](#), USask Distinguished Professor, Canada Research Chair in Water Resources and Climate Change, and Director of the pan-Canadian Global Water Futures program has been named the 2021 Walter Langbein Lecturer by the American Geophysical Union. "It is a great honour to be the first Canadian to give the Langbein Lecture and the first person to use the lecture to discuss advances in the hydrology of cold regions," said Pomeroy. "This reflects well on Canadian hydrology, the advances we have made

together in Global Water Futures and the remarkable accomplishments of many professors, researchers and students over the years at the University of Saskatchewan.”

[Three University of Saskatchewan \(USask\) leaders and researchers](#) have been inducted as fellows into the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS): Dr. Volker Gerdts (DVM, PhD), Dr. Walter Siqueira (DDS, PhD) and Dr. Cheryl Waldner (DVM, PhD). “We congratulate these exceptional scholars, who exemplify USask’s strength and diversity in health research,” said USask Vice-President Research Baljit Singh. “Their leadership unlocks the creativity, innovation and community potential of interdisciplinary exploration.

USask at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics and Olympics: University of Saskatchewan (USask) student Keely Shaw won Canada’s first medal of the Paralympics in Tokyo. Coach Lisa [Thomaidis](#) led women’s basketball Team Canada to Tokyo Olympics, with [Rhonda Shishkin](#), the former Huskie Athletics physical therapist and University of Saskatchewan (USask) alumna serving as the physiotherapist.



[Two students have been named](#) the University of Saskatchewan (USask) 2021 recipients of the prestigious Schulich Leader Scholarship, the largest science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) scholarship in Canada.

APPOINTMENTS

Thank you sincerely to all committee members serving on appointments committees and to the administration and support staff who support these committees. For those appointed to service leadership roles, thank you for taking up these vitally important roles as university citizens. For those new to USask: a very warm welcome.


Provost’s Office:

The Provost’s Office is maintaining five roles in the Provost’s Leadership team, without increase, with an appointment and secondments as follows, noting the duration of these will enable the completion of strategic activities and then a review of roles by 2023:

- **Patti McDougall** has been appointed Deputy Provost for a three-year term effective October 1, 2021.
- **Jay Wilson** has been seconded as Interim Vice-Provost, Teaching, Learning and Student Experience, for a period of up to one-year effective September 1, 2021.
- **Angela Jaime** has been seconded Interim Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement, for a period of up to one-year effective September 1, 2021.
- **Adam Baxter-Jones** has been extended as Interim Associate Provost, Health for a period of up to one-year effective July 15, 2021.
- **Vince Bruni-Bossio** has been seconded for three years as Interim Associate Provost, Strategic Priorities effective September 1, 2021.

Deans and Executive Directors:

- **Gillian Muir** has been appointed Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine for a five-year term effective July 1, 2021.
- **Solina Richter** has been appointed Dean of Nursing for a five-year term effective August 23, 2021.

- 
- **Karsten Liber** has been appointed Executive Director, School of Environment and Sustainability for a five-year term effective May 1, 2021.

College and School Executive members:

- **Marek Radomski** has been reappointed as Vice-Dean, Research, College of Medicine, for a five-year term effective July 1, 2021.
- **Alastair MacFadden** has been appointed Interim Associate Executive Director (Director), Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy for a period of up to one-year, effective July 1, 2021.
- **Anurag Saxena** has been extended as Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies until June 30, 2022.
- **Heather Heavin** has been reappointed as Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, College of Law for a three-year term effective July 1, 2022.
- **Petros Papagerakis** has been reappointed as Associate Dean Dentistry, Research for a five-year term effective September 1, 2021.
- **Gill White** has been extended as Associate Dean, Regina Campus, College of Medicine for a period of up to one-year effective September 1, 2021.
- **Akindele Odeshi** has been appointed Associate Dean, academic, College of Engineering for a five-year term effective November 1, 2021.
- **Saija Kontulainen** has been appointed Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, College of Kinesiology for a five-year term effective July 1, 2022.

The College of Nursing: In welcoming their new Dean, [Dr. Solina Richter](#), the College has expressed their thanks to outgoing interim Dean Cindy Peternelj-Taylor for her leadership over the last 16 months, noting the exceptional conditions and achievements of her academic leadership during the pandemic.

The College of Arts & Science welcomes Professor Darrin Oehlerking, Department of Music into the role of Interim Associate Dean Student Affairs and Shawn Anderson, Chief Operations and Finance Officer to the college's leadership team. Both appointments began on 1 July 2021.

thank you

mą̃si / pidamaya / pinámaya miigwetch / marsee / hiy hiy

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September 2021

As the summer draws to a close with the start of a bright new semester at the USSU, we have been working hard gearing up for the year. We are settled into our new roles and actively engaged with our student community to continue supporting them throughout this transitional year. There are now essentially two years of first-year students on campus. The sense of excitement is in the air as many of us are eager to bring back the nostalgic feeling of reliving our campus experiences from the days we have missed.

Return to Campus

The executives finally got a chance to access our offices. We have re-opened our USSU information desk for students to drop-by. Our centre coordinators have also been able to gain access to their spaces and have been decorating them with art and other pieces to make them more inviting for student drop-ins and visits. Louis' and Louis' Loft have reopened and are providing delicious food to everyone on campus. A new shop, as well as returning titles, will be opening shortly in the food court. It has been exciting for us to prepare to revitalize many of our inaccessible operations during the past year's campus closure.

With the USask fall vaccination plan in place, we feel much more at ease returning to campus, and we have had a lot of encouraging feedback from students. We have been meeting with USask representatives to discuss strategies for a safe return to campus including topics such as masking protocols, pop-up vaccine sites on campus, accessibility around the PAWS Vaccine Status channel and more. Sustainability also has been a critical matter for us during this return, including conversations on mask recycling bins, refillable water stations to reduce plastic on campus due to the closure of water fountains etc. Safety is our number one priority and Protecting the Pack remains crucial. We continue encouraging students to be vaccinated if they can.

Studentcare

We met with our healthcare provider, Studentcare, many times over the summer to discuss improvements to their health and dental plans and to improve accessibility for students who use the Empower Me program, an online counselling service that is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We've also provided input to the remodeling of their office so that students seeking information about their services may chat with their representatives more comfortably. The health and dental plan are one of the most important services we offer students, and continues to allow students access to much needed medical services at an affordable rate.

Campus Groups

For many students, contributing to campus organisations is a crucial component of their university experience. Students have been able to access and complete their ratification forms for their groups online. Our Campus Group Management System has now officially been rebranded

as USSUHub as we have reworked the system and made the program more user-friendly. We reduced our ratification costs to fifty percent until the end of July to encourage students to apply early and save money. All new campus groups (not ratified in the last five years) can now ratify for free, and we feel this process will significantly promote new student groups.

Our campus groups policy has now been separated into a suite of policies to help create a more comprehensive set of guidelines. Students can now apply for three official grants for their initiatives: the Project and Initiatives Grant, the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Grants, and the Sustainability Grant. We are also working to finalize our fourth new grant, which will focus on Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression. While all of this information is being added to our website, we continue meeting with numerous campus groups to discuss any questions about ratification. Additionally, we are attempting to ensure more student groups have easier access to Co-Curricular Records (CCR) credits for each event they organize.

Studentpreneur

One of our newest projects will focus on student empowerment. We know that students are full of energy and are actively seeking opportunities to grow and explore their creativity further. We are launching a program called Studentpreneur. Students will be able to network with business leaders and experts through this series of events and seminars. They will also learn valuable marketing, financing, and other business skills due to this upcoming project.

Academic Advocacy

In our academic advocacy, we have urged for increased study and learning spaces around campus, especially given the necessary social distance measures that students will need to maintain in the upcoming term. There have been ongoing conversations with the USask Library team around library hours and access to library resources. We had further conversations with USask representatives regarding increasing recording equipment in classrooms. We have also urged for the practice of lecture recordings to be continued for all courses offered in-person for the rest of the year, as we recognize they're an essential tool for students and their education. We were delighted to learn that our advocacy helped lead to material highlighting the importance of having access to lecture recordings and will now be included in professional development sessions and directed to faculty and instructors as they prepare for the new term.

Tuition Consultation

In our Tuition Consultation Working Group, we finalized a series of proposals with the Graduate Students' Association earlier this summer. Our focus has been on making tuition consultations more accessible and comprehensive for students. These recommendations were forwarded to our USask Provost Dr. Airini for her consideration. We hope to hear back on these recommendations in the fall to have ongoing meaningful discussions on this topic.

Focus on Advanced Education

We recognize that the pandemic has made severe strains on Advanced Education. During the summer, we researched critical points of advocacy necessary for students in the upcoming year. Our focus remains on accessibility and affordability in post-secondary education with the ongoing challenges students face through a lack of equitable opportunities. We met with Jennifer Bowes, MLA for Saskatoon University, and we discussed a broad range of student issues regarding tuition, mental health, and more. We are meeting with other provincial leaders in the next month to continue these conversations in advocating student needs and the future of higher education in Saskatchewan. In meetings with the University of Regina Students' Union, we have had ongoing conversations on lobbying platforms relevant to university students across Saskatchewan.

Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression

Our focus on Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression remains crucial to us. We will be utilizing our strategic goals of Path Forward in our leadership for students. We continue to be vocal in creating awareness for dismantling systemic barriers and using our resources to develop Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression-focused programming. Our executive committee has prepared an Anti-Oppression Speaker Series that we want to launch this year. We also have ongoing plans to initiate programs focusing on EDI. In the meantime, we are also communicating with culture-focused student groups regarding USSU services. We also met with International Student and Study Abroad Centre staff to discuss the pandemic's barriers for international students. During the meeting, we also spoke on the important relationships between Immigrant communities and Indigenous communities.

Throughout the discoveries of numerous unmarked graves near former Residential Schools, we recognize the enormous grief Indigenous students are facing in this time of mourning. As an executive committee, we continue to educate ourselves on Indigenous issues, rights, and history. We have met with Joseph Naytowhow, the USSU Indigenous Knowledge Keeper, for guidance regarding the USSU's work with Indigenous student-focused initiatives and will continue meeting with him as the year progresses. We have had individual meetings with representative members from the Indigenous Business Students Society (IBSS), Indigenous Law Students' Association, and Indigenous Students' Union about supports for Indigenous students and how the USSU can aid in amplifying the voices of Indigenous students. We met with the Aboriginal Students' Centre staff to discuss Indigenous student-focused programming and resources, as well as potential collaborations. As members of the Undergraduates of Canadian Research-Intensive Universities (UCRU), we led the discussion for the board to finalize and send on a letter to the Federal Government urging implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action focusing on supports for Indigenous students in post-secondary education.

Furthermore, we reached out to the Student Wellness Centre and Access and Equity Services to create a dialogue on adding resources for Indigenous students through their services. We

advocated for increased consultations with Indigenous student groups during our meeting with the President's Executive Committee and have continuing plans to focus on Indigenous student-focused initiatives with their representatives. We attended the Indigenous Strategy Gifting Ceremony and hope to see USask proceed actively towards decolonization. Strengthening the USSU's relationship with the wider Indigenous student communities across our campuses remains essential as we continue to seek ongoing communication in addressing institutional issues.

Association of Constituency Presidents

We held our first Association of Constituency Presidents (AOCP) meeting in August. It was wonderful to meet the new Presidents of each constituency, and we briefed the representatives on the USSU summer highlights, services, centres, and committees offered this year. Parking, ratification, and by-elections were among the major subjects discussed by our AOCP members at this meeting. Prior to this meeting, we also got a chance to meet with the Arts and Science Students' Union, Agriculture Students' Association, and the Law Students' Association about collaborations and resources. We successfully advocated for the Student Medical Society of Saskatchewan to receive an extended duration on their parking due to the College of Medicine having a different study period compared to most other colleges. We value our constituents' input and strive to improve our outreach and services for them.

University Students' Council

We welcomed our new University Students' Council (USC) Chair, Lia Storey-Gamble. We also redesigned our handbooks for Members of Students' Council. Our council meetings will begin on September 3rd, weekly on Thursdays at 6pm through Zoom. All meetings will be recorded, with meeting minutes transcribed in text and made available to the public on our website. All USask undergraduate students are welcome to join these weekly sessions. Additionally, we are also very excited to start our USSU committees work, with ten official committees and other potential ad-hoc committees on their way! Our Student At Large applications have been released online, with opportunities for students to get involved in our committees as a great way to learn about student governance, networking, leadership, and more.

Federal Election

With an approaching federal election, we anticipate many students to be negatively impacted due to the unavailability of the Vote on Campus Program. We have been vocal about our disappointment with this decision. We supported UCRU's letter to Election Canada voicing our concerns about the lack of voter accessibility for students on campus. In partnership with UCRU, we will be launching a UVOTE campaign to provide information about voting and encouraging students to go vote off campus. We will also be creating content focusing on local candidate platforms regarding Advanced Education and how they plan to support students. We encourage all students to stay informed on this election, as well as those who are eligible to vote, to do so and participate in this important democratic process.

Centres

Our Help, Pride and Women's Centre coordinators have launched their new volunteer applications and are developing a hybrid method for volunteers to contribute both in-person and online through Discord. The Help Centre has been updating their resource libraries in preparing for the new year. Our Pride Centre celebrated Pride Month in July through their Queer Confessions online campaign. The IBSS and our Pride Centre are collaborating on creating a two-spirit-focused discussion group. The Queer Women's Night discussion group collaboration between the Women's Centre and Pride Centre will be shifting to in-person meetings as the centres seek to re-populate their community space. The Women's Centre concentrated on two critical advocacy issues this summer. Firstly, a successful outcome arose from their collaboration with Gender Engagement in Medicine, when the College of Medicine heard student and community concerns and removed anti-choice related placement options for their students. Secondly, the Women's Centre released a supporting statement and created awareness for Bill 605: An Act to Provide Safe Access to Abortion Services.

Looking Ahead

Next month, our executives and coordinators will focus on Welcome Week, Campus Groups Week, Accessibility Week, and Sexual Violence Awareness Week. We hope students can participate in these campaigns through in-person events and online resources. We are excited to have the opportunity to make a safe return to campus and are thrilled to once again see students take part in campus culture.

With Respect,

Tasnim Jaisee, President
Abhineet Goswami, Vice-President Operations and Finance
Tauqeer Iftikhar, Vice-President Academic Affairs
Nickol Saenz, Vice-President Student Affairs



University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association
University Council Report, September 2021

Dear Members of Council,

The Graduate Students' Association is delighted to welcome everyone to the 2021/2022 academic year. Given the step-by-step transition to reopening, we are being hopeful about a smooth transition of our return to campus.

In this report we will present some initiatives that the Executives have been working on, which includes:

1. GSA Fall Orientation

The Graduate Students' Association hosted a virtual orientation for graduate students on September 1, 2021 where we welcomed new and returning students, and shared resources available to them through the GSA as well as the university. Additionally, the GSA will also be welcoming students to campus with our swag bag curbside pickup event in collaboration with the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, which will be taking place on September 7, 2021

2. Spring/Summer 2021 Bursaries

The GSA provides need-based bursaries to the eligible graduate students to support during financial hardships. These bursaries are provided three times a year, with support from the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. This year until August, we successfully distributed the bursaries to the eligible students for three academic terms.

3. Increasing awareness on diversity and inclusion

The Graduate Students' Association is working towards increasing awareness for diversity and inclusion and advocating for establishing benefits and support programs for marginalized student populations.

4. Working towards enhancing resources to support students' mental health and well-being

The Graduate Students' Association is working towards enhancing support towards mental health. As part of that GSA is working closely with Studentcare to continue 'Empower Me', which was initiated in 2020 to provide students with mental health support. The GSA is also supporting Student Wellness to promote awareness about World Suicide Prevention Day' 2021.

5. Promoting the Student-Supervisor Agreement

The Graduate Students' Association continues its effort to promote the student-supervisor agreement and encourage both new and continuing students, and faculty members to have a student-supervisor agreement in place at the beginning of their academic journey.

We look forward to finding new ways to engage with the members of our community and work collaboratively together to support our graduate students.

Rifat Zahan

President, Graduate Students' Association

AGENDA ITEM NO: 11.1

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION**

PRESENTED BY: Paul Jones, chair, Nominations Committee

DATE OF MEETING: September 16, 2021

SUBJECT: **Acting Vice-Chair of Council**

MOTION: *It is recommended that Dirk de Boer be appointed as Acting Vice-Chair of Council effective immediately until a new Council Chair is elected.*

SUMMARY:

Effective September 1, 2021, Dr. Jay Wilson, Department of Curriculum Studies, resigned as a Council member and as Council Chair as he has taken on the role of Interim Vice-Provost, Teaching, Learning, and Student Experience.

Dr. Pamela Downe, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology and Vice-Chair of Council has taken on the role of Acting Chair of Council until a new Council Chair is elected. The election for Council Chair will take place on October 21, 2021, with results announced on October 22, 2021.

According to the Council Bylaws "If the Vice-Chair is required to act as Chair for more than one month, the Nominations Committee shall present to Council for approval the name of a person to be acting Vice-Chair until the Vice-Chair is able to resume the position of Vice-Chair" (Council Bylaws 2021, Part One, III.1(b)).

In accordance with the Bylaws, the Nominations Committee recommends that Dirk De Boer, Department of Geography & Planning, be appointed to the position of Acting Vice-Chair of Council effective immediately, until a new Council Chair is elected and takes office.

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION

PRESENTED BY: Paul Jones, Chair, Nominations Committee of Council

DATE OF MEETING: September 16, 2021

SUBJECT: **Council and USFA Collective Agreement Committee Nominations 2021/22**

DECISION REQUESTED: *It is recommended that Council approve the nominations (as attached and highlighted) for Council committees and USFA Collective agreement committees, effective immediately.*

DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

Each year, the Nominations Committee reviews the membership of Council committees and other university-level committees and submits a list of nominees to Council for approval in May. Not all the vacancies were filled at the May 2021 Council meeting, and additional resignations were received. A second call for volunteers was made over the summer, and 25 volunteers came forward. The committee met on September 2, 2021, to consider the vacancies. The attached report recommends nominees for those positions for the consideration of Council.

ATTACHED: 2021/22 List of Committees and Nominees (nominees highlighted in yellow)

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP LIST 2021-22

CHAIR OF COUNCIL

TBD

TBD

2023

VICE-CHAIR OF COUNCIL

Pamela Downe

Archaeology and Anthropology 2022

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

| | | |
|----------------------|--|-------------|
| TBD | Chair, University Council | 2020 – 2022 |
| Pamela Downe | Vice-chair, University Council | 2020 – 2022 |
| Alison Oates | Chair, Academic Programs Committee | 2021 – 2022 |
| Terry Wotherspoon | Chair, Governance Committee | 2020 – 2022 |
| Paul Jones | Chair, Nominations Committee | 2020 – 2022 |
| Darrell Mousseau | Chair, Planning and Priorities Committee | 2019 – 2022 |
| Marjorie Delbaere | Chair, RSAW | 2020 – 2022 |
| TBD | Chair, Scholarships and Awards Committee | 2021 – 2022 |
| Kathleen James-Cavan | Chair, TLARC | 2021 – 2022 |

Resource Members (non-voting)

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Chelsea Willness | University Secretary and Chief Governance Officer |
| Jacque Thomarat | Director, Academic Governance |
| Amanda Storey | Academic Governance and Hearings Advisor |
| Michelle Kjargaard | Administrative Assistant, Governance Office (Committee Coordinator) |

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

- Reviews and approves curriculum changes from all colleges; recommends major curriculum changes to Council; oversees policies relating to students and academic programs.
- Membership comprises 11 members of the GAA, at least 5 of whom will be elected members of Council; at least 1 member from the GAA is to have some expertise in financial analysis; 1 sessional lecturer

Council Members

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------|
| Alison Oates (Chair)-Exec | Kinesiology | 2022 |
| Carolyn Augusta | Finance and Management Science | 2024 |
| Ralph Deters | Computer Science | 2023 |
| Susan Detmer | Veterinary Pathology | 2023 |
| Jing Xiao | Educational Administration | 2024 |

General Academic Assembly Members

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------|
| Ebrahim Samei | Mathematics & Statistics | 2024 |
| Reza Fotouhi | Mechanical Engineering | 2022 |
| Carin Holroyd | Political Studies | 2023 |
| Karen Lawson | Psychology | 2022 |
| Petros Papagerakis | Dentistry | 2023 |
| Maruti Chandra Uppalapati | Pathology | 2024 |

Sessional Lecturer

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|------|
| Pearson Ahiahonu | Chemistry | 2022 |
|------------------|-----------|------|

Other Members (voting)

| | | |
|----------------------|--|------|
| Russell Isinger-Exec | University Registrar (<i>ex officio</i>) | |
| Jay Wilson-Exec | (Provost Designate) Interim Vice-Provost, Teaching, Learning, and Student Experience (<i>ex officio</i>) | |
| Terry Summers | (VP Finance designate) Controller | |
| Tauqueer Iftikhar | USSU VP Academic | 2022 |
| Olusola Akintola | GSA designate | 2022 |

Resource Members (non-voting)

| | | |
|--------------------|--|--|
| TBD | Associate Provost, IPA | |
| Jason Doell | Manager and Associate Registrar (Academic) | |
| Alison Pickrell | Assistant Vice-Provost, Strategic Enrolment Management | |
| Amanda Storey-Exec | Academic Governance and Hearings Advisor (Committee Coordinator) | |

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

- Reviews Council bylaws including committee terms of reference; develops policies relating to student academic appeals and conduct.
- Membership comprises the Council chair, chair of planning and priorities committee, chair of the academic programs committee, to include three elected members of Council; presidents designate.

Council Members

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|------|
| Terry Wotherspoon (Chair)-Exec | Sociology | 2022 |
| Mark Boland | Physics | 2022 |
| Kate Dadachova | Pharmacy & Nutrition | 2023 |

Ex officio Members

| | | |
|------------------|--|------|
| Chelsea Willness | University Secretary | |
| TBD | Chair, Council | 2023 |
| Darrell Mousseau | Chair, Planning and Priorities Committee | 2022 |
| Alison Oates | Chair, Academic Programs Committee | 2022 |

Other Members (voting)

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|------|
| Tamara Larre (Vice-chair)-Exec | President's designate | 2023 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|------|

Student Members (non-voting)

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|------|
| Tasnim Jaisee | USSU President | 2022 |
| Olusola Akintola | GSA Designate | 2022 |

Resource Members (non-voting)

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| Jacquie Thomarat-Exec | Director, Academic Governance | |
| Michelle Kjargaard | Administrative Assistant, Governance Office (Committee Coordinator) | |

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

- Recommends nominations for Council committees and panels, search and review committees, some collective agreement committees and panels, and other vacancies.
- Membership restricted to members of Council (9 members), with no more than 3 members from the College of Arts and Science and no more than 2 members from any other college.

Name

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|
| Paul Jones (Chair)-Exec | SENS/Toxicology | 2022 |
| Eric Lamb(Vice-chair)-Exec | Plant Sciences | 2023 |
| Scott Bell | Geography & Planning | 2024 |
| Veronika Makarova | Linguistics | 2024 |
| Teresa Paslawski | School of Rehabilitation Sciences | 2023 |
| Yvonne Shevchuk | Pharmacy & Nutrition | 2023 |
| Jaswant Singh | WCVM | 2022 |
| Tom Steele | Physics | 2023 |
| Keith Walker | Educational Administration | 2024 |

Resource Members (non-voting)

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Jacquie Thomarar-Exec | Director, Academic Governance |
| Michelle Kjargaard | Administrative Assistant, Governance Office (Committee Coordinator) |

PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

- Reviewing and advising Council and the university administration on planning, budgeting, and academic priorities.
- Membership comprises 11 members of the GAA, at least 6 of whom will be elected members of Council; at least 1 member from the GAA is to have some expertise in financial analysis; 1 sessional lecturer; 1 dean

Council Members

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|
| Darrell Mousseau (Chair)-Exec | Psychiatry, Medicine | 2023 |
| Vicki Squires | Educational Administration | 2024 |
| Alec Aitken | Geography and Planning | 2022 |
| Keith Da Silva | Dentistry | 2022 |
| Jaswant Singh | Veterinary Biomedical Sciences | 2024 |
| Terry Wotherspoon | Sociology | 2022 |

General Academic Assembly Members

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|------|
| Lynn Lemisko | Educational Foundations | 2024 |
| Angela Liverse | Archaeology & Anthropology | 2024 |
| Kerry Mansell | Pharmacy | 2024 |
| Haizhen Mou | JSGS | 2022 |
| Shelley Peacock | Nursing | 2023 |

Dean

| | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|------|
| Jane Alcorn | Dean, Pharmacy & Nutrition | 2023 |
|-------------|----------------------------|------|

Sessional Lecturer

| | | |
|-------------|------|------|
| Cody Sharpe | JSGS | 2022 |
|-------------|------|------|

Other Members (voting)

| | | |
|------------------|--|------|
| Airini | Provost and Vice-President Academic (<i>ex officio</i>) | |
| Baljit Singh | VP Research (<i>ex officio</i>) | |
| Greg Fowler | VP Finance and Resources (<i>ex officio</i>) | |
| Angela Jaime | Interim Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement (<i>ex officio</i>) | |
| Abhineet Goswami | USSU VP Operations | 2022 |
| Rifat Zahan | GSA President | 2022 |

Resource Members (non-voting)

| | | |
|----------------------|---|--|
| TBD | Associate Provost, IPA | |
| Jennifer Beck | Director, Resource Allocation and Planning, IPA | |
| Troy Harkot | Director, Assessment & Analytics, IPA | |
| Shari Baraniuk | CIO, Information and Communications Technologies | |
| Meghna Ramaswamy | Director, International Office | |
| Jacque Thomarat-Exec | Director, Academic Governance (Committee Coordinator) | |

RESEARCH, SCHOLARLY AND ARTISTIC WORK COMMITTEE

- Reviews and advises Council on issues related to research, scholarly and artistic work including advising on research grant policies and the establishment of research centres.
- Memberships comprises 9 members of the GAA, at least 3 of whom will be elected members of Council; 1 of the 9 members will be an assistant or associate dean with responsibility for research

Council Members

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------|
| Marjorie Delbaere (Chair)-Exec | Management and Marketing | 2024 |
| DeDe Dawson | Library | 2023 |
| Natasha Koechl | Drama | 2023 |
| Steven Rayan | Math and Statistics | 2024 |
| Keith Walker | Educational Administration | 2024 |

General Academic Assembly Members

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|------|
| Lori Bradford (Vice-chair)-Exec | SENS | 2022 |
| Mathew Lindsay | Geology | 2023 |
| Stephan Milosavljevic | Rehabilitation Science | 2024 |
| Jim Waldram | Archaeology and Anthropology | 2022 |

Other Members (voting)

| | | |
|------------------|--|------|
| Debby Burshtyn | Dean, College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (<i>ex officio</i>) | |
| Baljit Singh | Vice-President Research (<i>ex officio</i>) | |
| Melissa Just | Dean, University Library (<i>ex officio</i>) | |
| Tauqeer Iftikhar | USSU designate (VP Academic Affairs) | 2022 |
| Tina Alexis | GSA designate | 2022 |

Resource Members (non-voting)

| | | |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Dion Martens | Director, Research Excellence and Innovation | |
| Laura Zink | Director, Strategic Research Initiatives | |
| Amanda Storey-Exec | Academic Governance and Hearings Advisor (Committee Coordinator) | |

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

- Grants awards, scholarships and bursaries which are open to students of more than one college or school, advises Council on scholarship and awards policies and issues.
- Membership comprises 9 members of the GAA, at least 3 of whom are elected members of Council

Council Members

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|------|
| Abdullah Mamun | Finance and Management Science | 2024 |
| Catherine Boden | Library | 2024 |
| Venkatesh Meda | Chemical and Biological Engineering | 2024 |

General Academic Assembly Members

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Fan Yang | Finance and Management Science | 2024 |
| Som Niyogi | Biology | 2022 |
| Saman Razavi | SENS | 2024 |
| Renata Grazziontin (For Janet Okoko 12-mo sabbatical) | Dentistry | 2021-2022 |
| Jason Perepelkin | Pharmacy | 2024 |
| Susan Shantz | Art & Art History | 2023 |

Other Members

| | | |
|----------------------|--|------|
| Deborah Burshtyn | Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (<i>ex officio</i>) | |
| Candace Pete-Cardoso | Director, Office of the Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement | |
| Alison Pickrell | Assistant Vice-provost, Strategic Enrolment Management (<i>ex officio</i>) | |
| Debra Pozega Osburn | Vice-President University Relations (<i>ex officio</i> , non-voting) | |
| Tauqueer Iftikhar | USSU designate (VP Academic Affairs) | 2022 |
| Ehsan Moradi | GSA designate | 2022 |

Resource Members (non-voting)

| | | |
|------------------|--|--|
| Shandi Boser | Manager, Donation and Trusts Services | |
| Russell Isinger | Registrar | |
| Heather Lukey | Director, Graduate Awards and Scholarships | |
| Alex Beldan-Exec | Student Finance and Awards (Committee Coordinator) | |

TEACHING, LEARNING AND ACADEMIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE

- Reviews and advises on pedagogical issues, support services for teaching and learning, Indigenous teaching and learning, and policy issues on teaching, learning and academic resources.
- Membership comprises 11 members of the GAA, at least 5 of whom will be members of Council; includes 1 sessional lecturer.

Council Members

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------|
| Kathleen James-Cavan (Chair)-Exec | English | 2022 |
| John Gjevre | Medicine | 2023 |
| Natacha Hogan | Animal and Poultry Science | 2023 |
| Paul Jones | Toxicology | 2022 |
| JoAnn Murphy | Library | 2023 |

General Academic Assembly Members

| | | |
|--|----------------------|---------|
| Loleen Berdahl (Vice-chair)-Exec | Political Studies | 2022 |
| Manar Angrini | Biology | 2022 |
| Diego Ardenghi | Dentistry | 2024 |
| Greg Malin | Medicine | 2024 |
| Kelly Foley | Economics | 2024 |
| Nicole Fernandez (Ann Martin sabbatical leave replacement) | Veterinary Pathology | 2021-22 |

Student Members

| | | |
|-------------------|---|------|
| Tauqueer Iftikhar | USSU Designate (VP Academic Affairs) | 2022 |
| Olusola Akintola | GSA Designate (VP Academic and Student Affairs) | 2022 |

Ex-officio (voting)

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Patti McDougall-Exec | Vice-Provost, Teaching, Learning and Student Experience |
|----------------------|---|

Sessional Lecturer

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|------|
| Jordan Raymond | Educational Foundations | 2022 |
|----------------|-------------------------|------|

Resource Members (non-voting)

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Shari Baraniuk | CIO, Information and Communications Technologies |
| Rachel Sarjeant-Jenkins | (designate for) Dean, University Library |
| Cheri Spooner | Director, Distance Education Unit |
| Nancy Turner-Exec | Director, Teaching and Learning Enhancement |
| Candace Wasacase-Lafferty | Director, Indigenous Initiatives |
| Candice Weingartner | Director, ICT Academic and Research Technologies |
| Erin Holcomb-Exec | Teaching and Learning (Committee Coordinator) |

Associate Members (non-voting)

Associate members are administrative and technical staff with valuable expertise and experience, who receive committee agendas and can attend TLARC meetings on request or at their initiative.

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| Kate Langrell | Copyright Coordinator |
|---------------|-----------------------|

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT COMMITTEES 2021-22**UNIVERSITY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Reviews college recommendations for awards of tenure, renewals of probation, and promotions to professor; reviews and approves college standards for promotion and tenure.

This committee is mandated by the **Collective Agreement (15.8.4)**:

15.8.4 University Review Committee. The University shall have a review committee to consider tenure and other matters specifically assigned to this committee in the Agreement. The University Review Committee shall be made up of nine tenured or continuing employees plus the Vice-President Academic and Provost who shall be chair. The nine employees shall be nominated to this committee by the Nominations Committee of Council and approved by Council with the length of their term specified so as to ensure a reasonable turnover of membership. Employees shall not be nominated for membership if they have served on the University Review Committee in the previous three years or if they have agreed to serve on a College review committee in that academic year. In addition to those members mentioned above, two nominees of the Association shall serve as observers on the University Review Committee with voice, but without vote.

| | | |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Ken Wilson (Chair) | Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations | |
| Maureen Bourassa | Management & Marketing | 2023 (1 yr leave 2021-22) |
| Neil Chilton | Biology | 2022 (1 yr to replace M. Bourassa's leave) |
| Nurul Chowdhury | Electrical and Computer Engineering | 2023 |
| Glen Gillis | Music | 2024 |
| Xulin Guo | Geography & Planning | 2022 |
| Joshua Lawson | Medicine | 2022 |
| Karen Lawson | Psychology | 2023 |
| Dev Mishra | Finance | 2024 |
| Scott Napper | Medicine – Biochemistry, Micobiology & Immunology | 2023 |
| Chris Zhang | Mechanical Engineering | 2024 |

Resource Members (non voting)

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Anna Okapieć | Faculty Relations Officer (Committee Coordinator) |
|--------------|---|

PROMOTIONS APPEAL PANEL

From this roster, the members are chosen for Promotion Appeal Committees (promotion appeals), Sabbatical Leave Appeal Committee (sabbatical appeals), and for the President's Review Committee (salary review appeals). This panel is mandated by Collective Agreement (16.3.5.1):

16.3.5.1 Appeal Panel. An Appeal Panel of forty-eight employees drawn from the membership of the General Academic Assembly shall be named by the Nominations Committee of Council and approved by Council, with length of term specified so as to ensure a reasonable turnover of membership. Additional members may be chosen, if necessary, to staff appeal committees. Membership shall be restricted to tenured faculty who are not members of the University Review Committee and who have not served on the University Review Committee in the previous three years. The following criteria shall govern the selection of the Panel:

- a) The Nominations Committee of Council shall strive to achieve a gender balance based on the overall membership of the General Academic Assembly;
- b) The Nominations Committee of Council shall strive to achieve representation from a wide range of disciplinary areas based on the faculty complement in each College.

Members of the Appeal Panel shall not serve on more than one of the committees hearing appeals promotion (Article 16.3.5), sabbatical leaves (Article 20.3) or salary review (Article 17.3.5).

16.3.5.2 Promotions Appeal Panel. The Promotions Appeals Panel shall consist of those members of the Appeal Panel who hold the rank of Professor.

To June 30, 2022

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sina Adl | Soil Science |
| Angela Bedard-Haughn | Soil Science |
| Phil Chilibeck | Kinesiology |
| Dirk De Boer | Geography and Planning |
| Roy Dobson | Pharmacy and Nutrition |
| Susantha Gomis | Veterinary Pathology |
| Tamara Larre | Law |
| Bram Noble | Geography and Planning |
| Mark Oliver | Psychology |
| Jaswant Singh | Veterinary Biomedical Sciences |
| Chris Soteros | Mathematics and Statistics |
| Valerie Thompson | Psychology |
| Lisa Vargo | English |
| Ryan Walker | Geography and Planning |
| Phil Woods | Nursing |

To June 30, 2023

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Kirsten Bett | Plant Sciences |
| Bev Brenna | Curriculum Studies |
| Egan Chernoff | Curriculum Studies |
| Valery Chirkov | Psychology |
| John Gjevre | Medicine |
| Donna Goodridge | Nursing |
| Jim Handy | History |
| Janet Hill | Veterinary Microbiology |
| Emily Jenkins | Veterinary Microbiology |
| Vikram Misra | Veterinary Microbiology |
| Ingrid Pickering | Geological Sciences |
| Jerzy Spzuner | Mechanical Engineering |
| Verna St. Denis | Educational Foundations |
| Karen Tanino | Plant Sciences |
| Stephen Urquhart | Chemistry |
| Keith Walker | Educational Administration |
| Alex Wilson | Educational Foundations |

To June 30, 2024

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Daniel Chen | Mechanical Engineering |
| Harley Dickinson | Sociology |
| Jo-Anne Dillon | Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology |
| Jill Hobbs | Agricultural and Resource Economics |
| Ed Krol | Pharmacy and Nutrition |
| Rein Lepnum | School of Public Health |
| Veronika Makarova | Linguistics |
| Stephanie Martin | Educational Psychology |
| Haizhen Mou | Johnson-Shoyama Graduate school of Public Policy |
| Kalyani Premkumar | Community Health & Epidemiology |
| Steve Siciliano | Soil Sciences |
| Walter Siquira | Dentistry |
| Jian Yang | Pharmacy & Nutrition |
| Sherif Faried | Electrical and Computer Engineering |
| Rob Flannigan | Law |
| Bindu Nair | Medicine |

RENEWALS AND TENURE APPEAL COMMITTEE

15.8.5.2 The committee shall consist of twelve tenured or continuing status faculty members: nine employees and three senior administrators, selected from amongst Associate Deans, Vice-Deans, Deans, Executive Directors, and/or vice-Provosts. Members will be selected by the Nominations Committee of Council and will serve a three-year term. The Nominations Committee of Council shall strive to achieve a gender balance based on the overall membership of the General Academic assembly, and representation from a wide range of disciplinary areas based on the faculty complement in each College. Each year three new employees and one new senior administrator will be appointed to serve on the committee. Each year the chair of the committee shall be selected by mutual agreement between the Association and the Employer from amongst the committee members. Members may not serve as members of the University Review Committee during their term. A vacancy created by the resignation of a member will be filled by the Nominations Committee of Council for the remaining period of the term of that member.

GAA Members

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|------|
| Sylvia Abonyi | Community Health and Epidemiology | 2022 |
| Dirk DeBoer | Geography & Planning | 2024 |
| Veronika Makarova | Linguistics | 2024 |
| Kerry Mansell | Pharmacy & Nutrition | 2023 |
| Venkatesh Meda | Chemical & Biological Engineering | 2024 |
| Petros Papagerakis | Dentistry | 2023 |
| Noelle Rohatinski | Nursing | 2023 |
| Winona Wheeler | Indigenous Studies | 2022 |
| Tom Yates | Soil Science | 2022 |

Senior Administrators

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|------|
| Heather Heavin | Associate Dean, College of Law | 2023 |
| Rachel Sargeant-Jenkins | Associate Dean, Library | 2022 |
| Yvonne Shevchuk | Associate Dean, Pharmacy and Nutrition | 2024 |

Resource Members (non-voting)

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Amanda Storey | Academic Governance and Hearings Advisor (Committee Coordinator) |
|---------------|--|

OTHER COMMITTEES 2021-22**JOINT COMMITTEE ON CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIPS**

- Brings the approving bodies of Council and the Board of Governors to a joint table to ensure the academic and financial concerns regarding chairs and professorships can be addressed simultaneously.

| | | |
|---------------------|---|------|
| Ken Wilson (Chair) | Vice-Provost Faculty Relations | |
| Grant Devine | Board of Governors representative | |
| John Gjevre | Council Member | 2023 |
| Matt Lindsay | Research, scholarly and artistic work committee of Council Representative | 2022 |
| Andy Potter | VP Research designate | |
| Debra Pozega-Osburn | Vice-President, University Relations | |
| Terry Summers | Controller | |
| Jacque Thomarat | Director, Academic Governance | |

Resource Members (non-voting)

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Anna Okapiec | Faculty Relations Officer (Committee Coordinator) |
|--------------|---|

POLICY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

- Advises on the development and approval of university-level policies and procedures

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Chelsea Willness (Chair) | University Secretary and Chief Governance Officer | |
| Ravindra Chibbar | Plant Sciences, Council representative | 2023 (1 yr leave 2021-22) |
| Cheryl Waldner | WCVM, Council representative | 2022 (1 yr to replace R. Chibbar's leave) |
| Keith Walker | Educational Administration, Council representative | 2024 |
| Debby Burshtyn | Deans' Council representative | |
| Dailene Kells | Internal Auditor | |
| All Vice-Presidents | | |
| All Vice-Provosts | | |
| All Associate Vice-Presidents | | |

Resource Members (non-voting)

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Jacque Thomarat | Director, Academic Governance (Committee Coordinator) |
|-----------------|---|

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

PRESENTED BY: Darrell Mousseau, Chair, Planning and Priorities Committee

DATE OF MEETING: September 16, 2021

SUBJECT: Financial Update (Q4 results, budget 2021-22) and Strategic Planning

PURPOSE:

Dr. Airini, Provost and Vice President Academic, and Greg Fowler, Vice President Finance and Resources, will provide an update to Council on USask's financial position, including 2020-21 quarter four (Q4) results, and the 2021-22 budget.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

On May 19, 2021, at the Planning and Priorities Committee (PPC), Dr. Airini presented an update on USask's *Strategic Plan: 2025*. On May 20, 2021, Council also received this update on progress toward the university's plans and priorities. At that Council meeting, Dr. Airini and Greg Fowler also gave Council an update on implications of the 2021-22 Provincial Budget for USask.

On June 16, 2021, PPC received an update from Dr. Airini and Greg Fowler on the Q4 results and USask's 2021-22 budget, which was also refreshed for new PPC members on September 8, 2021. There was no room on the June 17, 2021, Council agenda for the update. Therefore, it was determined that it should be presented to Council on September 16, 2021.

The key message received by PPC in these conversations from Dr. Airini was that "academic values lead in academic decision making, and budget will inform decision-making." PPC members appreciated this focus. Further information on the USask's Financial Sustainability Strategies was requested at the June 16 PPC meeting and is being provided at the September 22nd PPC meeting. The committee looks forward to continuing to work with the Provost and Vice President Finance and Resources on these critical undertakings for the university.

FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED:

Future updates will be provided to Council as needed.

ATTACHMENTS:

None. Presentation to be provided at the Council meeting on September 16, 2021.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
NOTICE OF MOTION

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Terry Wotherspoon
Chair, Governance Committee

DATE OF MEETING: September 16, 2021

SUBJECT: Notice of Motion: Revisions to the Council Bylaws

DECISION REQUESTED:

It is recommended that Council approve the proposed revisions to the Council Bylaws Part Two Sections I and V (as per Attachment 2), effective October 21, 2021.

SUMMARY:

This Notice of Motion proposes changes to the Planning and Priorities Committee (PPC) and Academic Programs Committee (APC) Terms of Reference in the Council Bylaws (August 24, 2021) to align with the findings and recommendations of the *Academic Program Approvals Process Review*. Those findings were jointly presented to Council by PPC and APC on June 17, 2021. A summary of the recommendations contained in the June 17th report to Council is provided in Attachment 1.

These recommended changes to the Council Bylaws will remove the 'Notice of Intent' step at PPC; and move responsibilities from PPC to APC for assessing alignment of program proposals with USask's plans and priorities, and for financial review of proposals. To support these changes, for both committees non-voting resource membership and the recalibration of workloads is recommended.

This new decision-making model will ensure effective and efficient, good academic governance in support of the development, revision, deletion, and approval of high-quality, current, and innovative academic programming at USask.

PROPOSAL:

It is recommended that the Terms of Reference for APC and PPC in Part Two Sections I and V of the Council Bylaws (2021) be amended to align with the recommendations of the *Academic Program Approvals Process Review* (Attachment 1). The proposed revisions to the Council Bylaws relate to decision-making structures, processes, and rigour, as follows:

- Structures – Eliminate the requirement for 'notices of intent' to PPC for new programs or major changes to existing programs; and review APC and PPC responsibilities for program approvals, changes, and reviews.
- Processes – Realign processes for financial sustainability assessment and tuition setting.
- Rigour – Reconsider resource officers and voting membership on APC.

The changes involve streamlining and removing steps, reconfiguring responsibilities, and ensuring appropriate administrative supports are available to the two Committees. Workloads are also recalibrated by moving some responsibilities for reporting to Council from APC to PPC, whereas APC will now be consulted rather than having the responsibility for making recommendations to Council in these areas. These proposed realignments fit more closely with the mandates of the committees. Due to changes in Provost's Office changes to three non-voting resource members are proposed. References to the University Secretary's Office are updated to reflect the name change to 'Governance Office.'

These recommended changes to the Council Bylaws are in keeping with USask's commitment to "Boundless Collaboration," and the goal of "Aligning Structures" as articulated in the *University Plan: 2025*. These changes to the Bylaws will improve the timeliness of the academic program approval decision-making processes, while maintaining the rigorous reviews that ensure high quality, innovative programming, and financial sustainability.

DECISION PROCESS:

The *Academic Program Approvals Process Review Project* was led by the Governance Office from September 2020 – June 2021. The objective of the review was to align governance structures and processes, and business practices for the approvals of academic programs to enable USask to meet its mission and vision in delivering high-quality and innovative academic programming. The project team included representation from the Registrar's Office, Institutional Planning and Assessment (IPA), College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS), and the College of Arts & Science.

The project team completed an *Interim Report* in February 2021 (Thomarat, J., 2021). The findings of the *Interim Report* and sample 'future state' models then informed consultations across campus. Consultations took place from March-May 2021 with over 25 groups, representing more than 150 people. Using the data and feedback collected during the consultations, a final report was prepared by the project team and endorsed by APC and PPC in the spring of 2021. Over the summer months, the project team began working on the implementation plan, and decided to prioritize some of the recommendations contained in the report, including these proposed changes to the Bylaws.

On September 7, 2021, the Governance Committee Reviewed draft revisions to the APC and PPC Terms of Reference. The committee approved the proposed changes, pending consultations with PPC and APC on September 8, 2021. Both PPC and APC were also satisfied with the proposed changes to their terms of reference. Therefore, the Governance Committee recommends to Council these changes to the Council Bylaws (Attachment 3).

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS AND TIMELINE:

This academic year will be a 'transition year' for academic program approvals processes. Recommendations from the report will be prioritized by the project team and implemented sequentially to ensure that the changes can be appropriately supported. These proposed changes to the Council Bylaws are a first step.

Next steps include:

- Aligning resources – Update and simplify guidelines and templates.
- Improving awareness – Enhance training and supports for chairs, committees, and proponents.
- Aligning structures - Align the timing of Senate confirmation of admissions qualifications changes with the timing Council approvals.

Following consideration of feedback received on this notice of motion to University Council, a request for decision to amend the Council Bylaws will be presented on October 21, 2021.

A request for decision will be presented to Senate to align the processes and structures for confirmation of changes to admissions qualifications on October 30, 2021.

The project team will continue to work together and with program proponents from colleges and schools throughout 2021-22 to ensure a smooth transition to a more effective, efficient, and robust academic program approvals decision-making process at USask.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. *Academic Program Approvals Process Review* – Summary of Recommendations
2. Current Council Bylaws (August 24, 2021) – Part Two Sections I and V
3. Proposed revisions (highlighted and marked in yellow and strikethrough) to Council Bylaws – Part Two Sections I and V

Attachment 1 – Academic Program Approvals Process Review: Summary of Recommendations

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommended changes to USask's academic program approvals decision-making model involve structures, processes, timeliness, rigour, resources, and awareness. The findings and recommendations of the *Academic Program Approvals Process Review* used a conceptual framework based on public policy and higher education administration literature. The framework involves examining decision-making either as structure or as process (Bess and Dee 2008, p.592). From there, the appropriate balance between expediency and rigour determines timeliness. Resources are required to enact the chosen decision-making framework, and to communicate the requirements to stakeholders. In summary, the recommended changes are as follows.

Structures

- Eliminate the requirement for 'notices of intent' to PPC for new programs or major changes to existing programs.
- Review APC and PPC responsibilities for program approvals, changes, and reviews.
- For graduate program proposals, reduce the number of approval steps with committees of CGPS in alignment with the College's governance review.
- Align the timing of Senate confirmation of admissions qualifications changes with the timing Council approvals.

Processes

- Develop holistic process maps, from application to implementation.
- Realign processes for financial sustainability assessment and tuition setting.
- Enhance coordination and collaboration between supporting offices.
- 'Right-size' the approval process for the type of qualification or credential.

Timeliness

- Start new program offerings two times each year, in June and January.
- Reduce time-to-approval through collaboration, delegation, and coordination.
- Consider tuition-setting for new academic programs separately from the annual tuition-setting process for existing programs.

Rigour

- Reconsider resource officers and voting membership on APC.
- Align financial sustainability assessments with the Financial Authority Policy.
- Augment the 'consultation with the registrar' procedures.

Resources

- Update and simplify guidelines and templates.
- Consider curriculum management software to eliminate duplication, confusion, and 'paper-based' work.
- Assign a central contact point for proponents and to steward the process.
- Appropriately manage the workload implications of twice-per-year new program starts.

Awareness

- Enhance training and supports for chairs, committees, and proponents.
- Ensure early, expert, and coordinated support through role and process clarity.
- Identify opportunities for collaboration by broadly communicating new program proposals.

Attachment 2 – Current Council Bylaws (August 24, 2021)

PART 2, I. ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Membership

Eleven members of the General Academic Assembly, at least five of whom will be elected members of Council, normally one of whom will be chair.

One Sessional Lecturer

One undergraduate student appointed by the USSU

One graduate student appointed by the GSA

Ex Officio

Vice-Provost, Teaching, Learning, and Student Experience

University Registrar

Vice-President, Finance & Resources or designate (non-voting member)

President (non-voting member)

Chair of Council (non-voting member)

Resource Personnel (Non-voting members)

Assistant Vice-Provost, Strategic Enrolment Management

Associate Provost, Institutional Planning and Assessment

Associate Registrar, Academic

Administrative Support

The Office of the University Secretary

The Academic Programs Committee is responsible for:

- 1) Recommending to Council policies and procedures related to academic programs and sustaining program quality.
- 2) Recommending to Council on new programs, major program revisions and program deletions, including their budgetary implications.
- 3) Approving minor program changes, including additions of new courses and revisions to or deletions of existing courses and reporting them to Council.
- 4) Considering outreach and engagement aspects of programs.
- 5) Reporting to Council on processes and outcomes of academic program review, following consultation with the Planning and Priorities Committee and other Council committees as appropriate.
- 6) Undertaking the academic and budgetary review of proposals for the establishment, disestablishment or amalgamation of any college, school, department or any unit responsible for the administration of an academic program, and forwarding recommendations to the planning and priorities committee.

- 7) Undertaking the academic and budgetary review of the proposed or continuing affiliation or federation of other institutions with the University and forwarding recommendations to the planning and priorities committee.
- 8) Reporting to Council on the academic implications of quotas and admission standards.
- 9) Approving the annual academic schedule and reporting the schedule to Council for information, and recommending to Council substantive changes in policy governing dates for the academic sessions.
- 10) Approving minor changes (such as wording and renumbering) to rules governing examinations, and reviewing and recommending to Council substantive changes.
- 11) Recommending to Council classifications and conventions for instructional programs.
- 12) Designating individuals to act as representatives of the Committee on any other bodies, when requested, where such representation is deemed by the Committee to be beneficial.
- 13) Consider the priorities of the University, such as Indigenization and internationalization, when assessing current and new academic programs and policies.
- 14) Carrying out all the above in the spirit of a philosophy of equitable participation and an appreciation of the contributions of all people, with particular attention to rigorous and supportive programs for Indigenous student success, engagement with Indigenous communities, inclusion of Indigenous knowledge and experience in curricular offerings, and intercultural engagement among faculty, staff and students.

PART TWO, V. PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Membership

Eleven members of the General Academic Assembly, at least six of whom will be elected members of Council, normally one of whom will be Chair. At least one member from the General Academic Assembly with some expertise in financial analysis will be nominated.

One Dean appointed by Council

One undergraduate student appointed by the USSU

One graduate student appointed by the GSA

One Sessional Lecturer

Ex Officio Members

Provost and Vice-President, Academic or designate

Vice-President, Finance & Resources or designate

Vice-President, Research or designate

Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement

President (non-voting member)

Chair of Council (non-voting member)

Resource Personnel (Non-voting members)

Associate Provost, Institutional Planning and Assessment

Director of Resource Allocation and Planning

Director of Assessment and Analytics

Chief Information Officer and Associate Vice-President Information and Communications Technology

Executive Director, International – Office of the Vice President Research

Administrative Support

Office of the University Secretary

The Planning and Priorities Committee (PPC) is responsible for:

- 1) Conducting and reporting to Council on university-wide planning and review activities in consultation with the Provost and Vice-President Academic.
- 2) Evaluating college and unit plans and reporting the conclusions of those evaluations to Council.
- 3) Recommending to Council on academic priorities for the University.
- 4) Recommending to Council on outreach and engagement priorities for the University.
- 5) Seeking advice from other Council committees to facilitate university-wide academic planning.
- 6) Recommending to Council on the establishment, disestablishment or amalgamation of any college, school, department or any unit responsible for the administration of an academic program, with the advice of the Academic Programs Committee.

- 7) Recommending to Council on the establishment, disestablishment, or review of any institute or centre at the University in accordance with the Centres Policy and with the advice of the Research, Scholarly and Artistic Works committee.
- 8) Balancing academic and fiscal concerns in forming its recommendations.
- 9) Providing advice to the President on budgetary implications of government funding requests and reporting to Council.
- 10) Considering the main elements of the comprehensive budget and financial reports and reporting to Council.
- 11) Advising the Academic Programs Committee on the fit with University priorities and the general budgetary appropriateness of proposals for new academic programs and program deletions.
- 12) Integrating and recommending to Council on matters referred to it from other Council committees.
- 13) Advising the President and senior executive on operating and capital budgetary matters, including infrastructure and space allocation issues, referred from time-to-time by the President, providing the advice is not inconsistent with the policies of Council. The Planning and Priorities Committee will report to Council on the general nature of the advice and, where practicable, obtain the guidance of Council. However, the committee need not disclose to Council matters the disclosure of which would be contrary to the interests of the University.
- 14) Designating individuals to act as representatives of the Committee on any other bodies, when requested, where such representation is deemed by the Committee to be beneficial.
- 15) Proactively supporting equity, diversity, and inclusion in all processes and matters coming before the Committee.

Centres Subcommittee

The mandate of the PPC Standing Subcommittee on Centres is:

- To facilitate the creation of new centres
- To monitor adherence to the Centres Policy
- To develop and review the Centres Policy and Guidelines
- To oversee the establishment and disestablishment of centres
- To maintain a list of active centres
- To report on and bring recommendations on these issues to PPC

Membership on this Subcommittee will be drawn from the Academic Programs, Planning and Priorities, and Research, Scholarly and Artistic Works Committees of Council, the offices of the provost, vice-president finance, and vice-president research, centre directors, and will be supported by the Governance Office.

Attachment 3 – Proposed Revisions to Council Bylaws for APC and PPC

(Proposed additions are highlighted in yellow and deletions with ~~striketroughs.~~)

PART TWO, I. ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Membership

Eleven members of the General Academic Assembly, at least five of whom will be elected members of Council, normally one of whom will be chair.

One Sessional Lecturer

One undergraduate student appointed by the USSU

One graduate student appointed by the GSA

Ex Officio

Vice-Provost, Teaching, Learning, and Student Experience

University Registrar

Vice-President, Finance & Resources or designate (non-voting member)

President (non-voting member)

Chair of Council (non-voting member)

Resource Personnel (Non-voting members)

Assistant Vice-Provost, Strategic Enrolment Management

~~Associate Provost, Institutional Planning and Assessment (IPA)~~

Interim Associate Provost, Strategic Priorities

Director, Resource Allocation and Planning

Associate Registrar, Academic

~~Administrative Support~~

~~The Office of the University Secretary~~

Committee Coordination

Governance Office

The Academic Programs Committee is responsible for:

- 1) Recommending to Council policies and procedures related to academic programs and sustaining program quality.
- 2) Evaluating the fit of academic program proposals with University priorities; reviewing financial sustainability of proposals for new academic programs and program deletions; and recommending to Council on new programs, major program revisions and program deletions, including their budgetary implications.
- 3) Approving minor program changes, including additions of new courses and revisions to or deletions of existing courses and reporting them to Council.
- 4) Considering outreach and engagement aspects of programs.

- 5) ~~Reporting to Council~~ Consulting with PPC on processes and outcomes of academic program review, following consultation with the Planning and Priorities Committee and other Council committees as appropriate.
- 6) ~~Undertaking the academic and budgetary review of~~ Consulting with PPC on proposals for the establishment, disestablishment or amalgamation of any college, school, department or any unit responsible for the administration of an academic program. ~~and forwarding recommendations to the planning and priorities committee.~~
- 7) ~~Undertaking the academic and budgetary review of~~ Consulting with PPC on the proposed or continuing affiliation or federation of other institutions with the University. ~~and forwarding recommendations to the planning and priorities committee.~~
- 8) Reporting to Council on the academic implications of quotas and admission standards.
- 9) Approving the annual academic schedule and reporting the schedule to Council for information, and recommending to Council substantive changes in policy governing dates for the academic sessions.
- 10) Approving minor changes (such as wording and renumbering) to rules governing examinations, and reviewing and recommending to Council substantive changes.
- 11) Recommending to Council classifications and conventions for instructional programs.
- 12) Designating individuals to act as representatives of the Committee on any other bodies, when requested, where such representation is deemed by the Committee to be beneficial.
- 13) Consider the priorities of the University, such as Indigenization and internationalization, when assessing current and new academic programs and policies.
- 14) Carrying out all the above in the spirit of a philosophy of equitable participation and an appreciation of the contributions of all people, with particular attention to rigorous and supportive programs for Indigenous student success, engagement with Indigenous communities, inclusion of Indigenous knowledge and experience in curricular offerings, and intercultural engagement among faculty, staff and students.

PART TWO, V. PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Membership

Eleven members of the General Academic Assembly, at least six of whom will be elected members of Council, normally one of whom will be Chair. At least one member from the General Academic Assembly with some expertise in financial analysis will be nominated.

One Dean appointed by Council

One undergraduate student appointed by the USSU

One graduate student appointed by the GSA

One Sessional Lecturer

Ex Officio Members

Provost and Vice-President, Academic or designate

Vice-President, Finance & Resources or designate

Vice-President, Research or designate

Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement

President (non-voting member)

Chair of Council (non-voting member)

Resource Personnel (Non-voting members)

Deputy Provost Associate Provost, Institutional Planning and Assessment

Director of Resource Allocation and Planning

Director of Assessment and Analytics

Chief Information Officer and Associate Vice-President Information and Communications Technology

Executive Director, International – Office of the Vice President Research

Committee Coordination Administrative Support

Governance Office Office of the University Secretary

The Planning and Priorities Committee (PPC) is responsible for:

- 1) Conducting and reporting to Council on university-wide planning and review activities in consultation with the Provost and Vice-President Academic.
- 2) Evaluating college and unit plans and reporting the conclusions of those evaluations to Council.
- 3) Recommending to Council on academic priorities for the University.
- 4) Recommending to Council on outreach and engagement priorities for the University.
- 5) Seeking advice from other Council committees to facilitate university-wide academic planning.
- 6) **Undertaking the review and recommending** to Council on the establishment, disestablishment or amalgamation of any college, school, department, or any unit responsible for the administration of an academic program, with the advice of the Academic Programs Committee.

- 7) Undertaking the review and recommending to Council on the establishment, disestablishment, or review of any institute or centre at the University in accordance with the Centres Policy and with the advice of the Research, Scholarly and Artistic Works committee.
- 8) Undertaking the review and recommending to Council on proposed or continuing affiliation or federation of other institutions with the University, in consultation with APC.
- 9) Balancing academic and fiscal concerns in forming its recommendations.
- 10) Providing advice to the President on budgetary implications of government funding requests and reporting to Council.
- 11) Considering the main elements of the comprehensive budget and financial reports and reporting to Council.
- ~~11) Advising the Academic Programs Committee on the fit with University priorities and the general budgetary appropriateness of proposals for new academic programs and program deletions.~~
- 12) Integrating and recommending to Council on matters referred to it from other Council committees.
- 13) Advising the President and senior executive on operating and capital budgetary matters, including infrastructure and space allocation issues, referred from time-to-time by the President, providing the advice is not inconsistent with the policies of Council. The Planning and Priorities Committee will report to Council on the general nature of the advice and, where practicable, obtain the guidance of Council. However, the committee need not disclose to Council matters the disclosure of which would be contrary to the interests of the University.
- 14) Designating individuals to act as representatives of the Committee on any other bodies, when requested, where such representation is deemed by the Committee to be beneficial.
- 15) Proactively supporting equity, diversity, and inclusion in all processes and matters coming before the Committee.

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- To maintain a list of active centres
- To report on and bring recommendations on these issues to PPC

Membership on this Subcommittee will be drawn from the Academic Programs, Planning and Priorities, and Research, Scholarly and Artistic Works Committees of Council, the offices of the provost, vice-president finance, and vice-president research, centre directors, and will be supported by the Governance Office.

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

PRESENTED BY: Alison Oates, Chair, Academic Programs Committee

DATE OF MEETING: September 16, 2021

SUBJECT: **Changes to the 2021-22 Academic Calendar**

COUNCIL ACTION: **For Information Only**

SUMMARY:

1. A request was made through the Registrar's Office to amend the Academic Calendar to reflect September 30 as a day when University of Saskatchewan is closed to observe the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. It is important to note that, even with this closure, the Fall term 2021 will have 60 teaching days, within the range of a typical academic term.

The Academic Programs Committee passed the following motion by email on June 23, 2021:

That the Academic Programs Committee approve a change to the 2021-22 Academic Calendar to include the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, effective immediately.

2. The College of Medicine submitted a request for a change to the Academic Calendar 2021-22 to change the start date of Winter term 2022 from January 5 to January 4, 2022. Classes for students in the College of Medicine traditionally start the first day following the Winter break, which is January 4. This change corrects an error that was overlooked in the original publication of the calendar. This potential change was communicated to all students, faculty and staff before the start of this year to ensure they planned accordingly. The College of Medicine will communicate the approval of the calendar change and will make accommodations for students on an individual basis if needed and if a student made conflicting plans before the calendar change was communicated in July 2021.

The Academic Programs Committee considered this request and passed the following motion at its September 8, 2021 meeting:

That the Academic Programs Committee approve changes to the 2021-22 Academic Calendar to amend the start time of Winter Term for the College of Medicine to January 4, 2022, effective immediately.

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

PRESENTED BY: Alison Oates, Chair, Academic Programs Committee

DATE OF MEETING: September 16, 2021

SUBJECT: **Academic Courses Policy Clause 1.2 – Changes to Syllabi**

COUNCIL ACTION: **For Information Only**

SUMMARY:

At its December 17, 2020 meeting, University Council approved the following addition to Clause 1.2 of the Academic Courses Policy to ensure appropriate flexibility and oversight over changes to course syllabi:

To address the unpredictable nature of delivering academic programming in a pandemic, under certain circumstances, an instructor may deem it necessary to make a change to the syllabus that impacts such things including but not limited to assignments, assessments, and weighting of grades. Such changes will be permitted if they have been approved by the Department Head (in a departmentalized college) and by the Dean/Executive Director or designate within a College/School.

This provision regarding making changes to the syllabus is not permanent and will be reviewed for renewal by the APC at the beginning of each term until any permanent change on the abovementioned topic is finalized and approved.

As is required, the Academic Programs Committee considered the above provision at its September 8, 2021 meeting to determine if it was still required. Given the continued unpredictability associated with the current global pandemic, the committee felt it necessary to continue to have a mechanism to change syllabi if needed with appropriate approval by Department Heads and/or Deans/Executive Directors.

APC committed to revisiting the provision again prior to Winter 2022 term.