

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIPS (JCCP)
REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

PRESENTED BY: Dawn Wallin & Scott Walsworth

DATE OF MEETING: September 26, 2024 (University Council)
October 22-23, 2024 (Board of Governors)

SUBJECT: **Annual report of the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships**

ACTION: For information only

SUMMARY:

The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995, Section 61.1 states that Council may “... where it considers it appropriate on academic grounds, authorize the Board to provide for (i) the establishment of any college, school, department, chair, endowed chair or institute.” As the establishment of a Chair or Professorship has a financial consequence, the board’s role in approving the establishment of a Chair is required. The Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP) between the Board/Council was established to bring both approving bodies to the table, thus ensuring that academic and financial concerns are considered in conjunction with one another.

2023-2024 was a busy year for research chairs overseen by JCCP. Three new chairs were recommended for approval:

- Chartered Professional Accountants Chair in Accounting;
- Shklanka Chair in Precambrian Critical Mineral Systems;
- Siemens EDA Chair.

Renewals:

- Dr. Michael Levin – Multiple Sclerosis Clinical Research Chairs – renewed April 1, 2024 for a 5 year term;
- Dr. Ian Staveness – GIFS Computational Agriculture Chair – renewed September 1, 2023 for a 5 year term.

Appointments:

- Dr. Kate Congreves - Jarislowsky and BMO Chair in Regenerative Ag – appointed May 1, 2024 for a 5 year term;
- Dr. Sabine Banniza – W.J. White Professorship – appointed January 1, 2024 for a 3 year term;
- Professor Glen Gardener - Law Foundation of Saskatchewan H. Robert Arscott Chair – appointed September 1, 2023 for a 1 year term;
- Dr. Virginia Torrie – Estey Chair in Business Law – appointed August 1, 2023 for a 1 year term;
- Dr. Adam Carter – Strategic Research Program Chair in Spring Wheat and Canaryseed Breeding and Genetics – appointed July 1, 2023 for a 5 year term;
- Dr. David Palmer – Thorvaldson Professor – appointed July 1, 2023 for a 5 year term.

Completed Terms:

- Dr. Craig Wilson – Sutherland Scholar in International Business – term ended July 1, 2024;
- Dr. Kate Dadachova – Fedoruk Chair in Radiopharmacy – term ended June 30, 2024;
- Dr. Murray Jelinski - Alberta Chair in Beef Cattle Health and Production Management – term ended June 30, 2024 (retirement);
- Dr. Behzad Toosi – Allard Research Chair in Oncology – term ended December 31, 2023;
- Dr. Karen Tanino - W.J. White Professorship – term ended December 31, 2023;
- Dr. Bree Kelln - Beef Industry Integrated Forage Management and Utilization Chair – term ended December 31, 2023 (left the University)

Distinguished Professors:

- Dr. Gregg Adams, Western College of Veterinary Medicine;
- Dr. Barry Blakley, Western College of Veterinary Medicine;
- Dr. John Gordon, College of Medicine;
- Dr. Jim Handy, College of Arts and Science;
- Dr. Jill E. Hobbs, College of Agriculture and Bioresources;
- Dr. Vikram Misra, Western College of Veterinary Medicine;
- Dr. Vivian R. Ramsden, College of Medicine;
- Professor Susan Shantz, College of Arts and Science;
- Dr. Terry Wotherspoon, College of Arts and Science.

Efforts to Improve JCCP Processes

- Changes to guidelines have facilitated a stronger process:
 - Worked through edits to the templates that were created in the 2022-2023 year to ensure parties involved were seamlessly moving back and forth between JCCP needs and those of University Relations as documents developed;

- The proposal for chair template has significantly helped to improve the developing documentation needed for the trust deed so that when that document is forwarded to JCCP for recommended approval, there are less edits to be made and a shorter turnaround time can be facilitated.
- Processes moving between units during the development stage is much clearer and stronger.
- A major initiative for the year that was time intensive included the creation of a shared digital space for research chair records with appropriate access for members from Provost's Office, Office of the Vice-Provost Faculty Relations, Office of the Vice President Research, University Relations, and Finance. This initiative will ensure that records are accurate, up to date, and serves as a calendar for being proactive on the lifecycle of chairs (reminders for renewals, completions of term, extensions, etc.). Much appreciation is extended to ICT who supported the project and created a highly functional tool that will significantly improve JCCP processes and management.
- Continual updates on website and UnivRS.

Focus for 2024-2025

- Continued communication between internal units to ensure timelines can be met with a realistic sense of time of working through all unit needs;
- Continued communication to research chairs, unit leaders and Management Committee chairs;
- Improve submission of reports to JCCP.
- Continuing Discussions for the Future:
 - Create a system of automated messaging to remind chairs, unit leads and/or Management Committee chairs of upcoming reporting or renewal periods.
 - Create an online portal with appropriate security access for automated creation and fillable data forms (requests to establish chairs, reports, renewal requests, etc). Create a digital means of scraping data from reports for communications and metric reporting.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Members of the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships included Scott Walsworth, Dawn Wallin, Catherine Boden, Steve Milosavljevic, Shandi Boser, Trevor Batters, Julian Demkiw and Grant Devine. Appreciation is noted for the critical reviews of documents, and for attending to committee requests in a timely and detailed manner.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Wallin and Scott Walsworth
September 16, 2024