

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL Agenda – September 26, 2024

Location: Convocation Hall (PMB 120)
Time: 2:30 - 4:30pm

Call to Order

1. **Tribute**
 - 1.1. Tribute to Professor Emeritus John Courtney from the Department of Political Studies presented by Neil Hibbert, Department Head of Political Studies.
2. **Agenda**
 - 2.1. Adoption of the Agenda
 - 2.2. Council Motions
3. **Chair's Opening Remarks-** Dr. Vicki Squires, Associate Dean Research, Graduate Support and International Initiatives)
4. **Minutes**
 - 4.1. Approval of Minutes – June 13, 2024
5. **Council Welcome and Governance Procedure Refresher**
6. **Business Arising**
 - 6.1. Follow up on Decline of Graduate International Student Success
7. **Reports**
 - 7.1. President
 - 7.2. Acting Provost and Vice-President Academic
 - 7.3. Graduate Students Association (GSA)
 - 7.4. University of Saskatchewan Student's Union (USSU)
8. **Executive Committee**
 - 8.1. Item for Information: Results of the University Council Vacancy Election

9. **Academic Programs Committee (APC)**

9.1. Request for Decision: Termination of Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance Studies

10. **Nominations Committee:**

10.1. Request for Decision: Council and Council Committee Vacancies

10.2. Request for Decision: Senior Administration Review Committees

10.3. Request for Decision: Renewals and Tenure Appeal Committees

11. **Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships**

11.1. Request for Decision: Limited Term Enhancement Chair in Swine Health

11.2. Item for Information: the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP) Annual Report for 2023-24

12. **Other Business**

13. **Question Period**

In addition to bringing forward questions during the course of a meeting, council members are also invited to submit questions on agenda items or matters relevant to council in advance of a meeting. These questions can be sent to the Chair of Council directly or via the Governance Office (vicki.squires@usask.ca; governance.office@usask.ca). Whenever possible, the questions will be forwarded to the appropriate individual. Members submitting questions in advance will be invited to pose their questions during the course of the meeting.

14. **Adjournment and Council Social**

Kick off the new governing cycle in our new space while having the opportunity to connect with your colleagues and welcome new members. The social will start immediately following the meeting (around 4:00pm).

Next Council meeting is October 11, 2024- please send regrets to governance.office@usask.ca

The deadline to submit motions and items to the Executive Committee for the October meeting is October 2, 2024. A full list of submission deadlines can be found [online](#).

Zoom Link:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://usask-ca.zoom.us/j/95756151234?pwd=SeTcA2voT4O7pa1xoaYEPWg3cN0Sla.1>

Join by Telephone:

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

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



Join by Video Conferencing Device (SIP):
95756151234@zoomcrc.com

Meeting ID: 957 5615 1234
Passcode: 65244121
Telephone Passcode: 6524412





University Council Agenda Motions September 26, 2024

Academic Programs Committee

9.1 Request for Decision: Termination of Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance Studies

Motion: It is recommended by the Academic Programs Committee that Council approve the termination of the Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance Studies effective May 2025.

Nominations Committee

10.1 Request for Decision: Council and Council Committee Vacancies

Motion: It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nominations described in the attached report, effective September 26, 2024.

10.2 Request for Decision: Senior Administration Review Committees

Motion: It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nominations for the review committees of senior administrators as described in the attached report, effective September 26, 2024.

10.3 Request for Decision: Renewals and Tenure Appeal Committees

Motion: It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nominations to the Renewals and Tenure Appeal Committee as described in the attached report, effective September 26, 2024.

Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships

11.1 Request for Decision: Limited Term Enhancement Chair in Swine Health

Motion: It is recommended by the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships that University Council approve the Limited Term Enhancement Chair in Swine Health in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:34 pm.

The Chair, Dr. Marjorie Delbaere, began with a Land Acknowledgement noting National Indigenous History Month and the many events taking place to pay tribute and celebrate the Indigenous Peoples of this land.

Chair reviewed zoom protocols and voting members are to sit in the Center for easier vote counting.

No members of the media identified themselves.

The Chair reminded members there are no recordings of Council meetings.

1. Tribute

Dr. Glenn Hussey, Department of Physics and Engineering Physics provided a tribute to Professor Henry Caplan.

2. Agenda

2.1 Adoption of the Agenda

(Augusta/Willoughby): *That the agenda be approved as circulated.*

CARRIED

3. Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair provided opening remarks noting that nominations for the Council Chair role are open until noon on June 17th. The Chair stated that annual committee reports will not be formally presented and questions on the reports will be taken during question period. The Chair announced that after 30 years in Neatby-Timlin Theatre, Council meetings are moving to Convocation Hall starting in September. Chair Delbaere thanked Secretary Demkiw and the Governance Office for their support through the year to make these meetings occur as well as thanked Council members for their contribution and participation throughout the year.

4. Minutes

4.1 Approval of Amended Minutes April 18, 2024

Motion (Bradford/Jones) That the amended minutes from April 18, 2024 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED
Abstention: Vassileva

4.2 Approval of Minutes May 16, 2024

Motion (Lieverse/J. Singh) That the minutes from May 16, 2024 be approved as amended.

A member noted a friendly amendment to be made to the May 16th, 2024 minutes as follows:

Original minutes:

A member asked if the donor disagreed with the search committee choice, can the funds be withdrawn? Cheryl Hamelin replied that no, the funder is not able to pull funding or stop USask from hiring our chosen candidate.

Many members expressed concerns about the negative effects of losing this donation will have on students.

A member expressed concern on the limitations of summary provided in the report on the discussion/negotiation. The member requested the President to explore the Montreal Declaration on AI Use.

Another member commented that anything can be used for weapons or for good and noted there is no indication to use the microchips for military purposes.

Amended minutes:

Many members expressed concerns about the negative effects of losing this donation will have on students.

In contrast, a member expressed concern on the limitations of the summary provided in the report on the discussion/negotiation and how the movers presented many policies and procedures that could be used to monitor or discipline the Chair; however, presented no evidence of how those policies and procedures had been used in the past and to what effect, calling into question whether the policies and procedures are effective. The member also expressed concerns that any monitoring would be reasonably expected by external or professional associations.

The member formally requested the President to explore the Montreal Declaration on AI Use, noting the 277 other institutions are already signatories.

Additionally, the member mentioned a meeting that took place in the College of Engineering earlier in the week with Council members to discuss the Chair in anticipation of the upcoming Council meeting.

The final comment before the vote:

A senior member of the university administration called for redress for a comment made by a council member when discussing the decision-making processes of senior administrators with respect to external funding.

Approval of May 16th minutes CARRIED
2 Opposed
Abstentions: Lamb and Freywald

5. Business Arising

6. Reports

6.1 Report of the President

President Stoicheff mentioned Indigenous History month noting there are many ways USask can improve, but believes USask are participants not bystanders in Reconciliation.

President Stoicheff presented a quick year in review noting the Rhodes Scholars, USask successes in rankings, success in research income, the campaign and the event this past week to mark one year remaining and the continued increase in enrolment. President Stoicheff mentioned a meeting with the municipal government meeting that took place this week along with the MOU agreement with the City of Saskatoon with a goal to work together. The President reiterated Mayor Charlie Clark's words- USask first need to be the university the city needs to go on to be the university the world needs. In addition the President mentioned the Horizon Funding as well as recent budget announcements reiterating the good working relationship with the government.

The President made mention of the eight successful convocation ceremonies last week and the great attendance all week.

President Stoicheff concluded his report by thanking the great leadership of Chair Delbaere as well as expressed an appreciation for the PEC meetings throughout the year with the council committee chairs stating how these meetings continue be a great source of information.

There were no questions.

6.2 Report of the Provost

Provost Airini noted that her final report is one of awards, recognition and celebrations. Dr. Airini also expressed her gratitude for the great celebration of convocation last week.

Provost Airini mentioned the teaching excellence awards will be recognized next week and encouraged members to attend on June 18th.

Provost Airini concluded her report by extending her appreciation to all council and council committee members.

There were no questions.

6.3 Report from the GSA

GSA President David Ohene-Amoako presented his first report to Council noting the GSA is in a transitional period and are working hard to learn their new roles. It was noted that this year is the 40th Anniversary of the GSA and they will be working on all financial challenges with a goal to leave the organization debt free.

The full report can be found in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

6.4 Report from the USSU

USSU President Krunal Chavda presented his first report to Council mentioning the USSU will be focusing on three pillars this year Advocacy, Awareness, and Alliance.

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

7. Executive Committee

7.1 Item for Information: 2023/24 Executive Committee Annual Report

Annual reports were not formally presented at the meeting. Questions on the report will be noted in question period.

8. Planning and Priorities Committee (PPC)

Angela Lieverse, Chair of the PPC Centres Subcommittee presented items 8.1-8.3

8.1 Item for Information: Review of the Diefenbaker Canada Centre in the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy USASK

- The review was presented to the Centres Subcommittee and PPC in April and May.
- Both the Centres Subcommittee and PPC lauded the efficiency of the review process.
- They also acknowledged that the Centres Policy requirement for strategic reviews every five years is not being abided, or at least is not being reported to Council's committees.
- Highlights of the recommendations of the Review Committee:
 - will inform the next stages for DCC in strategic planning
 - recommendations included establishing an advisory committee, which is a requirement for all centres
 - enhance partnership with USask community, at an equivalent level as K12 is currently engaged

8.2 Item for Information: Disestablishment of the Centre for Evidence Based Library and Information Practice (C-EBLIP)

- The Library decided to reposition the support for these research activities to members of the Library faculty rather than through a centre.
- PPC has the authority to determine the appropriate level for approval of centre closures based on the scope and extent of their activities on campus.
- Therefore, this decision is being reported to Council for information only and was approved by PPC.

8.3 Item for Information: Provisional Global Institute for Energy, Minerals, and Society (GIEMS)

- This is the first time that PPC has approved the establishment of a provisional centre under the Centres Policy of 2020.
- PPC has the delegated authority from Council for such approvals, so this is being presented for information only.

A member noted to ensure there is a comma in the title after Minerals in all the documentation, so it reads correctly.

8.4 Item for Information: 2023/24 PPC Annual Report

Annual reports were not formally presented at the meeting. Questions on the report will be noted in question period.

8.5 Item for Information: 2023/2024 Enrolment Report

Deputy Provost Patti McDougall presented the report on behalf of Jerome Cranston. The enrolment report [slides are attached](#).

There were no questions.

9. Academic Programs Committee (APC)

Dr. Carolyn Augusta, Chair of the Academic Programs Committee presented the committee's items.

9.1 Item for Information: Change to Academic Calendar 2024-25

9.2 Item for Information: 2023/24 APC Annual Report

Annual reports were not formally presented at the meeting. Questions on the report will be noted in question period.

10. Governance Committee

Vicki Squires, Member of the Governance Committee presented the committee's items.

10.1 Request for Decision: Nominations Committee Selection and Chair

The Governance Committee is responsible for nominating members of Council to the Nominations Committee, as well as the Nominations Committee Chair. The nominees were outlined in the circulated agenda package

The Chair called for nominations from the floor.

Motion (Squires/Augusta) It is recommended by Governance that Council approve the slate of nominations, effective July 1, 2024.

CARRIED

10.2 Item for Information: Council Bylaw Editorial Changes

Over the past several months the Governance Committee has been reviewing the full Council Bylaws and Regulations. The Governance Committee is to report any editorial changes to Council on an annual basis. All editorial changes were included in the circulated agenda package.

There were no questions.

10.3 Item for Information: Student Appeal and Misconduct Report 2023-2024

The Governance committee requested that the University Secretary report on the nature and number of student appeals under Council's regulations on Student Appeals in Academic Matters, as well as appeals of decisions related to Academic Misconduct. The report was included in the circulated agenda package.

There were no questions.

10.4 Item for Information: 2023/24 Governance Annual Report

Annual reports were not formally presented at the meeting. Questions on the report will be noted in question period.

11. Scholarships and Awards Committee:

11.1 Item for Information: 2023/24 Scholarships and Awards Annual Report

Annual reports were not formally presented at the meeting. Questions on the report will be noted in question period.

12. Nominations Committee

Dr. Scott Bell, Vice-Chair of Nominations presented the items.

12.1 Request for Decision: Omnibus Committee Selections

The Chair called for nominations from the floor.

Motion (Bell/Singh): It is recommended that Council approve the attached slate of nominations effective July 1, 2024.

CARRIED

Abstentions: Bradford and Chernoff

12.2 Item for Information: 2023/24 Nominations Annual Report

Annual reports were not formally presented at the meeting. Questions on the report will be noted in question period.

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

13.1 **Item for Information:** 2023/24 TLARC Annual Report

Annual reports were not formally presented at the meeting. Questions on the report will be noted in question period.

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

14.1 **Item for information:** 2023/24 RSAW Annual Report

Annual reports were not formally presented at the meeting. Questions on the report will be noted in question period.

14.2 **Item for Information:** Vice President Research Annual Report

Vice President Baljit Singh noted that 2023/2024 is a year of unprecedented success with over 417 million dollars in research awards was received making this the highest amount USask has received in a single year. Dr. Singh made mention of the continued work and engagement with local communities and the impact of RSAW.

The full report is in the agenda package.

14.3 **Item for Information:** College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies Annual Report

This report was not formally presented and can be found in the agenda package.

15. **Other business**

There was no other business.

16. **Question period**

Pre-submitted Question #1:

At the June 2023 council meeting I asked about how the University was engaging with the City of Saskatoon regarding cyclist safety at the College and Wiggins intersection. I would like to follow up on this question given a number of recent developments:

- Safety Audit of College and Wiggins
- Recent City Council motion to install a bike box at College and Wiggins
- Recent report to the Transportation Committee endorsing a bikeway on Munroe Ave (item 7.1.2 on the May 5 Standing Committee for Transportation meeting).

The last development has significant implications for the University because it would direct a large number of commuter cyclists entering campus into the pedestrian dense areas in front of Medicine. I would ask for an update on any discussions the University may be having with the city regarding this plan, and if enacted how the University would ensure safe and efficient cyclist movement into the core campus.

Wade Epp, Associate Vice-President Services responded to members noting that USask is working closely with City of Saskatoon and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. As a result, USask engaged with a consulting group to discuss where and impact can be made on College Drive. Mr. Epp explained that a 3m wide pathway will be built as part of the review.

Mr. Epp explained that USask has been planning to review Wiggins Road which has been accelerated and will take place this summer to review the traffic flow as part of the BRT changes.

Members are welcomed and encouraged to participate and provide feedback in the process as it moves forward.

Pre-submitted Question #2:

When the revised awards policy came up for approval at the January council meeting, I asked a few questions, one of which was *“Computer Science gives out awards a department graduation banquet. With this more careful approach to personal criteria, does this mean we cannot announce recipients at banquets?”* responded that we needed to get explicit permission. That is, the recipients need to opt-in (in matching the rationale *“Financial Aid will forward to the University Advancement only the names of award recipients who have given permission for the release of the names.”* I do not recall the name of the support officer and the meeting minutes only contain a vague mention of questions related to the gender and indigeneity changes.

I’ve been informed by the Director of Advancement that this opt-in approach caused concern with some donors, and that an opt-out approach is acceptable. In other words, we can simply tell the recipient, *“If you ... do not want your award to be acknowledged publicly, please let us know and we will be happy to respect your wishes”* with the clear implication that unless you refuse, we will announce.

Clearly these two answers are contradictory. Since the policy is at University Council level, can Council provide a decision on which approach applies?

This question will be sent to the Awards Officer and the Scholarships and Awards Committee for reply at a future meeting.

Questions from the floor:

A member inquired about the decline in success rates of graduate international enrolments. Deputy Provost Patti McDougall acknowledged the question and agreed that there is a decline. Dr. McDougall will connect in with CGPS to gather more information to bring back to Council.

17. Adjournment

Motion (Jones): The meeting was properly adjourned at 4:15 pm.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

September 2024

Dear colleagues,

Welcome back to a new academic year. I hope summer gave you an opportunity to rest and I am looking forward to our work together over the coming months. We had many exciting things happening on campus over the summer and I am happy to share some of the highlights in this September report.

I know we are all proud that the Huskies Football team won the Homecoming game against the Calgary Dinos on September 13th in front of more than 8,700 fans. The energy at Griffiths Stadium was terrific with students, staff, faculty, alumni and donors in the stands to cheer on our team.

I am pleased to report that our enrolment this fall is stable with a slight bump of 0.8 per cent. We have seen some decline in our international student enrolment due to the cap imposed by the federal government earlier this year and we will have more information to share on the full impact later this fall.

Thunderchild First Nation and USask MoU

In August, I was delighted to join Chief Delbert Wapass to sign a Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of USask with Thunderchild First Nation. The intent of the MoU is to support collaboration on common interests such as mentorship, research, and supporting Indigenous youth.

The signing of this MoU is a credit to the Office of the Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement. Dr. Angela Jaime led its development and will work closely with colleges and schools—in particular the kihci-okâwîmâw askiy Knowledge Centre, along with the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, the College of Education, and the School of Environment and Sustainability—to implement shared initiatives with Thunderchild to fulfil the intent of the MoU.

USask at the Olympics

USask had several students and alumni completing in the Paris Olympics and Paralympics this summer, notably bringing home four bronze medals.

- Kinesiology student Rylan Wiens won bronze in the men's 10-metre synchronized diving event, alongside his diving partner, Nathan Zsombor-Murray. It was the first time Canada has ever reached the podium in this event.
- Education alumna Shelby Newkirk won bronze in the women's 100m backstroke S6 Para-swimming final,
- Agribusiness alumna Julie Kozun's women's sitting volleyball team won the bronze-medal match against Brazil.

- Kinesiology alumna Dr. Keely Shaw (PhD) won bronze in the women’s 3,000-metre individual pursuit C4 Para-cycling event.

USask was also represented in the Paris Paralympics by current education student Jacob Wassermann (Para-rowing) and arts and science student Ashlyn Renneberg (Para-athletics women’s javelin), as well as education alumna Nikita Ens (Para-swimming) and former Huskie women’s basketball player and kinesiology alumna Erica Gavel, who served as an athlete ambassador with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) at the Paralympics.

In the Olympic competition, USask was represented by sociology student Margo Erlam (women’s diving) and education student Sydney Carroll (artistic swimming), along with alumna and former Huskies track and field star Michelle Harrison (100m women’s hurdles). Other USask connections at the Olympics included Huskies track and field coach Jason Reindl (Harrison’s coach in Paris) and Huskies women’s basketball coach Lisa Thomaidis and support staff member Connor Jay with Germany’s Olympic women’s basketball team.

Giving Day 2024

September 10th was Giving Day at USask. We were pleased to start the day with the announcement of a generous gift from Jonathan (BEng’86) and Chennene (BA’86) Wright of \$100,000. Throughout the day, more than 400 donors from the USask community, across the country and around the world contributed, raising \$319,446 for the Be What the World Needs campaign. Credit to Cheryl Hamelin, VP University Relations and her team for organizing a positive and successful day.

Research Highlights

Each month, the OVPR produces [Discovery Digest](#), highlighting major research achievements at USask. There are many excellent stories to share; below are a few items of note over the summer.

[USask receives record \\$417M in awarded research funding in 2023/24](#)

USask set an institutional record in 2023/24, attracting \$417 million in awarded research funding. This amount is the highest-ever awarded in a single year in the university’s history and is a testament to both the quality and quantity of research being conducted across campus.

[USask-led international partnership for sustainability education receives unprecedented funding](#)

Dr. Maureen Reed (PhD), professor in School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS), is the principal investigator on a multinational education project that received more than \$500,000 CAD from the Spencer Foundation in the United States. Titled “Co-designing Transdisciplinary Sustainability Education,” this project is meant to offer training internationally that draws on the collective knowledge of community partners and academic researchers to support learners inside and outside of academia. The goal is to work together to address key sustainability challenges. This is the first time that a USask-led project has received this grant funding from the Spencer Foundation.

[Farm Credit Canada announces \\$5 million investment into GIFS at USask to accelerate breeding and innovation for Canadian agriculture](#)

Farm Credit Canada (FCC) is investing \$5 million into the accelerated breeding program of the Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS). The newly named FCC Accelerated Breeding Program at GIFS will drive sustainable advancements in agricultural productivity across Canada. Accelerated breeding combines technologies such as genomic selection, speed breeding, bioinformatics and computer simulation to increase the rate of genetic gain for crop and livestock breeding programs, delivering new products into the hands of producers two to three years faster and improving agronomics, quality and disease resistant traits.

USask's VIDO awarded NIH contract to develop critical models for global research

The Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO) has been awarded a major new research contract in the global fight against infectious diseases. VIDO has received an Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract under the pre-clinical models of infectious disease program by the United States' National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). VIDO was one of four international awardees and the only Canadian organization selected as part of the program which further demonstrates VIDO's scientific excellence, robust quality systems and strong ethical research practices. The seven-year IDIQ contract's ceiling is \$146.3M USD.

New USask research into aging-related cell damage receives CIHR funding

Dr. Jeff Dong (PhD), assistant professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology in the College of Medicine, recently received more than \$1 million from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Project Grant program for his work exploring the mechanisms behind how cells in the brain and nervous system are damaged by age – leading to the formation of chronic lesions in the brain or the spine that are part of multiple sclerosis (MS). By better understanding that mechanism, Dong believes his group can learn ways to better address progressive MS, which is the type of MS that becomes increasingly debilitating with age.

USask researchers explore sustainable solutions for farmers

Dr. Christy Morrissey (PhD) is leading a project to help farmers use marginal lands, which are often not profitable for producers, in a way that benefits both them and the ecosystem. Her project recently received \$3.9 million over four years from the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) sustainable agriculture research initiative (SARI) grant. Morrissey and her colleagues are using more than 800,000 acres of crop yield data from farmers' combines to find sustainable solutions that will benefit both producers and the Prairie ecosystem.



**University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association
Presented by GSA President
Report to Council -September 2024**

Dear Members of the University Council,

The Graduate Students Association warmly welcomes you to the 2024 fall term. We recognise this is a busy term filled with numerous activities. Nevertheless, we are committed to achieving our goals and ensuring our graduate students feel comfortable while making the university a safe space for all. This fall term is packed with important events, including orientation sessions, GSA Academic Council meetings, the formation of standing committees, the distribution of bursaries, and ongoing student advocacy. We look forward to working together to make this fall term a safer space for all graduate students.

Need-Based Bursaries for Spring and Summer 2024

Need-based bursaries for the spring/summer call have been distributed to 32 deserving applicants. Unfortunately, during these challenging economic times, student need outweighs available funding, and many deserving applicants did not receive a bursary this call. An approximately equal number of bursaries will be distributed in each call, so students who were not selected are encouraged to apply again.

Travels

The GSA President from July 29-31 2024 attended the Canada Federation of Students' conference in Ontario, participating in the Racialized and Indigenous Student Experience (RISE) summit. This important event focused on empowering students to pursue meaningful causes and embrace cultural diversity for community development. The conference provided important insights and networking opportunities, reinforcing our commitment to inclusive leadership and diverse representation within the graduate student community.

Council meeting and others

We recently held our council meeting for the spring and summer terms, which saw excellent attendance. Council members have been actively collaborating, sharing ideas, and contributing to the growth of the Graduate Students Association (GSA).

It's important to inform the council that, due to unforeseen circumstances, our predecessors were unable to secure approval for the GSA 2024/2025 budget. This has somewhat limited our ability to implement certain initiatives. We are currently working diligently to form the Budget and Finance committee so we can take the necessary steps to get a budget approved by committee and council.

GSA Fall Orientation

The GSA Fall Orientation was successfully held on September 11, 2024, at the GSA Commons. We were honored to have the Dean of the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS), Debby Burshtyn as our keynote speaker. The Dean not only delivered an inspiring address but also unveiled our new GSA T-shirt for the 2024/2025 school year. The event brought together various campus groups, including representatives from the University Library, International Student and Study Abroad Centre (ISSAC), University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU) and other guests. We're pleased to report that the orientation was well-attended, with over 140 graduate students from diverse departments participating. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to all participants who contributed to the success of the 2024 Fall Orientation. Your presence and engagement helped create a welcoming environment for our new and returning graduate students.

Educational trip

The Graduate Students Association (GSA), in partnership with the International Student and Study Abroad Centre (ISSAC), organised an educational excursion to Wanuskewin on August 26, 2024. This initiative was planned to offer participants a blend of stress relief and cultural education, focusing on Saskatchewan's rich heritage and traditions. The trip garnered significant interest, attracting over 30 participants, which represented nearly 80% of the graduate student body. It provided an invaluable opportunity for students to gain a deeper understanding of the importance of land acknowledgments and to explore the region's history and plant life. The excursion was a success, offering participants meaningful insights and a positive, shared experience that broadened their cultural awareness.

Media

We're pleased to announce that starting November 2024, the GSA will implement new logos for all official communications and duties. We selected these logos based on their representations in the USASK community. We kindly request that council members and all relevant parties recognize and use these updated visual identifiers moving forward.



Graduate Students' Association



Graduate Students' Association

The GSA Commons

We'd like to inform the council that GSA Commons is available for rentals and open to graduate students for study sessions.

David Ohene-Amoako
President, Graduate Students' Association
University of Saskatchewan



**University of Saskatchewan
Students' Union**

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 2024



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ALLIANCES IN ACTION

USSU executives made it their mission to meet with their college counterparts this summer. President Chavda met with various college society presidents, shared the executive's vision for the year for USSU, and asked how the USSU can support the college societies better to achieve our shared goal of giving students the best campus life experience. He then met with the college deans and addressed some of the issues raised by college society presidents and students. President Chavda also discussed various initiatives the USSU and the college can do together to improve the student life experience academically and socially. He has also met with the university senior administration and voiced some concerns that students are actively facing on campus, including - accessibility of the scholarships portal, food insecurity on campus, campus safety, and financial issues students face.

Our 150 + campus groups are an integral part of student life and experiences on campus. Therefore, our VP of Operations and Finance, Moses Ahiabu, tirelessly worked to empower campus group leaders by creating educational videos. VP Ahiabu has also been actively involved in reforming campus group operations policies so that our campus groups have better operational efficiency. He has met with several potential campus group leaders and helped them start new campus groups.

Building campus culture and community is one of the main focus points of USSU executives this year. To strengthen our relationships with various non-academic units on campus, VP Student Affairs Upkar Singh met with Directors of various campus units like Protective Services, Parking Services, Consumer Services, and Usask Rec to make sure that when students return to campus, we can all work cohesively to give them the best year of campus life together. He also dedicated his time to planning welcome week and other events to foster a greater sense of community when students return to campus. VP Singh is also developing engaging campaigns for students to make them aware of the importance of voting in civic and provincial elections. He is collaborating with the Department of Political Science to host its mayoral debate.

Academia is the heart of the university, and sometimes, it can be challenging for students to navigate the university's various academic policies. VP of Academic Affairs Elisabeth Bauman is helping students navigate the usask policies and procedures at the university and college levels. This summer, she worked actively with various college and campus units to identify the gaps in policy-driven complaint structures at the university and determine how to address the growing conflict between students and faculty. VP Bauman has been working on a comprehensive academic report that will be presented to various stakeholders at the university.

DEVELOPING NATIONAL ALLIANCES

The USSU executives attended the Student Union Development Summit (SUDS) in August, where they met student union leaders from across the country and discussed some potential issues concerning students in Canadian post-secondary institutions. The conference is a unique opportunity to learn about the various strategies to help us become successful leaders and serve the students we represent in our respective colleges and universities. One of the main highlights of this year's conference was the problem that all student unions face with continuity. The executives have also recognized this challenge for the USSU and are actively working on developing an organizational strategy and plan for the next five years.



MEETING STUDENTS WHERE THEY ARE

The phrase, "We are all here because of the students," resonates strongly with educators and leaders, perfectly capturing the USSU's approach this year. The USSU executives are dedicated to building personal connections with students. In line with this, the USSU executives took the initiative to reach out to various colleges, Campus units like Gordan Oaks Red Bear Student Centre, ISSAC, and the student life team in residence to welcome new students directly. With multiple orientations occurring simultaneously, our President, Krunal Chavda, created a video message to ensure all students felt included and informed about the USSU's role in their university life. In the message, President Chavda stressed that the USSU is committed to supporting students in every part of their academic journey. This initiative reflects the USSU's broader mission to cultivate a sense of community and show their genuine investment in each student's success and well-being.



WELCOME WEEK

The USSU planned an unforgettable Welcome Week from September 4-6, filled with excitement and smiles for new and returning students. This year's events helped foster a strong sense of community on campus. One standout was the Carless Drive-In, where over 150 students gathered in the Bowl to enjoy a screening of *Monsters University* with free popcorn and warm blankets. The Welcome Week Neon Glow Party was another major hit, drawing over 250 students and cementing its place as a campus favourite.

Throughout the week, USSU hosted its biggest event of the year at the USSU booth in the Bowl, where execs had the chance to meet and connect with students. The atmosphere was energized, with different campus groups involved, fun activities, and tons of free swag, snacks, and SaskTel mini donuts!

A huge thank you to our partners, SaskTel interNET, BMO, Studentcare, Affinity Credit Union, RBC On Campus, Synergy Credit Union, and CIBC, for their support in making all of this possible and ensuring that students had an amazing start to their year!



EMPOWERING THROUGH AWARENESS



USC

USSU hosted its first University Council Meeting on September 12th, during which we welcomed elected council members from various college constituencies. President Krunal Chavda updated the council about USSU executives' vision for the year and also encouraged them to be engaged throughout the year through their participation in various committees.



Campus Groups Week

We celebrated campus groups week from September 16th to 20th, where more than 60 campus groups participated in creating more awareness about their clubs by tabling in the arts tunnel. It's because of these campus leaders that we have a thriving and vibrant campus life. To celebrate and educate them, we had a Campus Leaders Social, which was attended by more than 50 campus group leaders. The info session included presentations on insurance, event and project planning, and space booking timelines, among various other helpful topics.



Academic Awareness Week

From September 23rd to 27th, we will be having our Academic Awareness Week. This week, our amazing VP of Academic Affairs, Elisabeth Bauman, and Academic and Governance Assistant Brock Neufeldt work together to make students aware of their academic rights and responsibilities. The week is aimed at providing information to new and returning students about various university-level policies regarding academics and what is expected of them as university students. This year's special focus is going to be on how to use AI in their coursework and what some expectations around its usage are.

UPCOMING EVENTS



The graphic features a purple background with silhouettes of diverse people. At the top left is the USSU logo and a circular emblem. The main title 'Sexual Violence Awareness Week' is in large white font, with a blue banner below it stating 'Sept. 23-27'. To the right, a white sidebar lists five events with their dates, times, and locations. A QR code is provided for the 'Free Self-Defense Training' event.

Date	Event	Time	Location
Sept. 23	Women's Centre Open House	5-7pm	Room 105, Memorial Union Building
Sept. 24	Free Self-Defense Training	7-8pm	Room 105, Memorial Union Building
Sept. 25	Sexual Violence Supports on Campus	4-5pm	Room 105, Memorial Union Building
Sept. 26	Take Back the Night March	7pm meeting	Voyageur Place



The graphic has an orange background with a white feather icon. The title 'National Day for Truth and Reconciliation' is in large white font. To the right, a white sidebar contains a feather icon, the date 'September 30', and two paragraphs of text explaining the significance of the day and the 'Wear Orange' tradition.

September 30

Remembering and honouring the children who never returned home and Survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities.

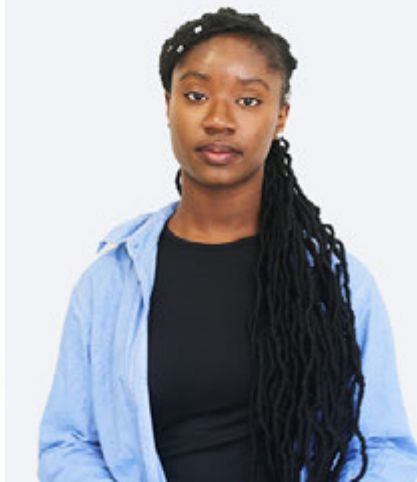
Wear Orange

Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day attended to raise awareness of the impacts of residential schools and to promote Every Child Matters. The orange shirt is a symbol of stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations.

National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

The significant and continuing impact that residential schools have had on Indigenous communities is acknowledged by USSU. We have a profound understanding of the injustices committed in the past as well as the ongoing hardships that Indigenous peoples now encounter. As the student union, we believe that it is crucial to raise awareness of this troubling period in Canadian history within our campus community and to remember and pay tribute to individuals who were harmed by residential schools. We're determined to contribute to the process of reconciliation. This entails vigorously defending the rights of Indigenous students, fostering a more welcoming and courteous atmosphere on campus, and advancing a reconciliation vision that is centred on constructing a brighter future for everybody. Not only is it important to acknowledge the past, but it's also critical to take concrete action to bring about positive changes both now and in the future. We think it is our duty as a university community to develop, learn, and collaborate in the pursuit of reconciliation and understanding. We are all walking together in this journey, and the USSU is committed to actively assisting in our progress.

CENTRE COORDINATORS



The USSU centres (Help Centre, Women's Centre, Pride Centre, Food Centre Safe Walk and Student Crew Centre), serve as welcoming spaces packed with important resources for everyone on campus. Over the summer, the centres were busy gearing up for the new academic year, planning programs and support services to meet the community's needs. Our centre volunteers receive extensive training before they begin their roles. This includes USSU-specific training, as well as sessions on handling sexual violence and assault protocols, promoting anti-racism and anti-oppression, ensuring LGBTQ2SA+ inclusivity, and peer health education.

To recognize their hard work, every volunteer earns CCR credit and an honorarium. The centres are now open and available to help from 9 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday to Friday.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We sincerely appreciate the support of our USSU senior managers, including Amanda Mitchell (Controller), Jason Ventnor (Communications and Marketing Manager), Jason Kovitch (Business and Services Manager), Stefanie Ewen (Facilities Manager), and Brock Neufeldt (Academic and Governance Assistant). Their guidance and assistance have been invaluable in answering our questions and steering us in the right direction.



**KRUNAL
CHAVDA
PRESIDENT**

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PRESIDENT@USSU.CA

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FOR INFORMATION**

PRESENTED BY: Julian Demkiw, University Secretary and Chief Governance Officer;
Chief Returning Officer for University Council

DATE OF MEETING: September 26, 2024

SUBJECT: **Results of the University Council Vacancy Election**

SUMMARY:

There were four vacancies on University Council for faculty member at large positions.

To fill these vacancies, a call for nominations was distributed to USask faculty members of the General Academic Assembly on September 3 with a reminder sent on September 12. The call for nominations closed at noon on September 13.

The Governance Office received five nominations for these four vacancies, so an election was held. The election began on September 16 and closed at noon on September 20.

As a result of this election, the following people have been elected to University Council with terms effective immediately following the election until June 30, 2027:

- Hyunjung Shin, College of Education
- Kara Somerville, College of Arts and Science
- Marguerite Koole, College of Education
- Tony Ruzzini, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION**

PRESENTED BY: Carolyn Augusta, Chair, Academic Programs Committee

DATE OF MEETING: September 26, 2024

SUBJECT: **Termination of Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance Studies**

MOTION: *It is recommended by the Academic Programs Committee that Council approve the termination of the Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance Studies effective May 2025.*

PURPOSE:

University Council has the authority to terminate degree-level program, including certificate programs.

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND:

The Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education in the College of Education is proposing the termination of the Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance Studies. The college has determined that this program is not viable and has never generated enough interested students to fill courses when they were offered, as well as covering the expense of running the program. The program does not focus on an area of study in which there is a demand for teachers in kindergarten to grade 12 schools and post-secondary institutions to be trained. Specifically:

1. Most of the K-12 school systems and post-secondary institutions have eliminated career counselling departments and positions due to the readily available online information and exploratory materials that can be made available regarding career assistance.
2. Completing this program does not prepare or qualify a teacher to support students beyond career and basic guidance issues.

It should be noted that none of the courses in this program will be deleted, for the reasons outlined in the supporting documentation. There are no students currently enrolled in this program.

CONSULTATION:

The Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education reviewed and unanimously approved the following motion at their March 11, 2024 meeting:

The Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education recommends the Post-Degree Certificate program in Career and Guidance Studies be terminated as of March 31, 2024 (Moved by: Dr. Laureen McIntyre; Seconded by: Dr. Amin Mousavi).

The Undergraduate Programs Committee (UPC) in the College of Education reviewed the proposal and approved the following motion on April 18, 2024:

To terminate the Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance Studies (Moved by: Sheila Pocha; Seconded by: Dr. Amin Mousavi).

Members of the College of Education Faculty Council approved the following motion on May 10, 2024:

To terminate the Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance Studies (Moved by: Sheila Pocha; Seconded by: Dr. Amin Mousavi).

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. Program Termination Form
- b. Consultation with the Registrar (CWR) cover sheet

Consultation with the Registrar (CWR) – Proposal Highlights

Title of Proposal: Termination of Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance Studies

General Description: Final student pursuing the program will graduate according to existing requirements; no further admission will occur.

Degree College: College of Education

Effective Term: May 2025

The College of Education Faculty Council approved this motion at the May 10, 2024 meeting.

Course implications

- No course deletions or changes

Registration and classes

- N/A

Convocation


- There is only one student pursuing the program. This student will graduate in Spring 2024 Convocation.

Financial and Budget

- N/A

Student Mobility

- N/A

 UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN	Report Form for Program Termination
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Program(s) to be deleted: Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance Studies (P.D.C.)

Effective date of termination: March 31, 2024

1. List reasons for termination and describe the background leading to this decision.

The Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance program is not a viable program. First, this program does not focus on an area of study in which there is a demand for teachers in kindergarten to grade 12 schools and post-secondary institutions to be trained. Specifically:

- (1) This program focused on recruiting current practicing teachers working in kindergarten to grade 12 school systems and post-secondary institutions. However, most of these sites have eliminated career counselling departments and positions as there is now an abundance of readily available online information and exploratory materials that can be accessed related to career assistance.
- (2) Completing this program does not prepare or qualify a teacher to support students beyond career and basic guidance issues. Registered psychologists and counsellors are the qualified professionals who can respond to the increasing demand to support the psychoeducational and mental health needs in health, education, and community environments, and the Department of Educational Psychology & Special Education is already responding to this need by training future counselling psychologists through our recently revised Master of Education program in School and Counselling Psychology.

Second, this program has never generated enough interested students to fill courses when they were offered and cover the expense of running this program (i.e., paying sessional instructors, covering the expense of a faculty teaching offload, covering the expense of a clerical support person). The enrollments in these courses have always had to be supplemented by other EPSE post-graduate and graduate programs.

This is not a program the Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education wishes to continue to offer as it only depletes our already limited faculty and financial resources.

2. Technical information.

2.1 Courses offered in the program and faculty resources required for these courses.

The Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education's (EPSE) Post-Degree Certificate program in Career and Guidance is a 30 credit unit program designed to meet the Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board's requirements for an Additional Qualification Certificate (AQC) in Career and Guidance Studies (see <https://programs.usask.ca/education/post-degree-certificate-in-career-and-guidance-studies/index.php>) which includes the following required courses:

EFDT 528.3 Anti-Opressive Education for Helping Professionals

EPSE 416.3 Comprehensive Guidance and Counselling

EPSE 417.3 Introduction to Counselling Psychology

EPSE 441.3 Introductory Statistics in Education

EPSE 525.3 Career Development and Decision-Making

EPSE 526.3 Ethics in School and Educational Contexts

EPSE 527.3 Skills for Effective Interpersonal Communication

EPSE 529.3 Individual Project in Career and Guidance Studies

EPSE 540.3 Collaboration Processes and Contexts

An approved three (3) credit unit upper-level undergraduate (i.e., 300, 400, or 500 level) elective course.

These courses were taught as in person courses only switching to online versions during the Coronavirus of 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic. Previously, one EPSE faculty member with expertise in counselling psychology was acting as the academic advisor for this program and receiving a one-3 credit course teaching offload and occasionally teaching one course in this program in an academic year (i.e., EPSE 526.3; courses in program were predominantly taught by sessional lecturers). This faculty member is currently on a long-term indefinite leave (i.e., long term disability).

2.2 Other resources (staff, technology, physical resources, etc.) used for this program.

A part-time clerical support person who provided support to both the Departments of Curriculum Studies (ECUR) and Educational Psychology & Special Education (EPSE) post-degree certificate programs was paid to assist with processing applications and supporting enrolled students in this program. However, the EPSE department stopped accepting applications to this program in 2021-2022 academic year when enrollment numbers were too low to continue offering courses in this program. The person in this position then left for another job on campus and this position was vacated and not re-advertised.

2.3 Courses to be deleted, if any.

None of the courses in this program will be deleted, since:

- (1) three of these courses are EPSE undergraduate courses that are regularly offered and taken by students in College of Education’s undergraduate programs and are also used as prerequisite courses to the EPSE department’s graduate programs (i.e., EPSE 416.3 Comprehensive Guidance and Counselling, EPSE 417.3 Introduction to Counselling Psychology, and EPSE 441.3 Introductory Statistics in Education);
- (2) one of the courses is a required course in our department’s other Post-Degree Certificate program in Special Education (i.e., EPSE 540.3 Collaboration Processes and Contexts); and
- (3) the remaining five courses created for this program will be kept on the books and used as elective courses on a rotating basis for students in our department’s post-graduate and graduate programs (i.e., EFDT 528.3 Anti-Oppressive Education for Helping Professionals; EPSE 525.3 Career Development and Decision-Making; EPSE 526.3 Ethics in School and Educational Contexts; EPSE 527.3 Skills for Effective Interpersonal Communication; EPSE 529.3 Individual Project in Career and Guidance Studies).

2.4 Number of students presently enrolled.

As of January 2024, there are no students currently enrolled in this program.

2.5 Number of students enrolled and graduated over the last five years.

Academic Terms/Year	# Students Enrolled	#Students Graduated
May - September 2019	19	-
January - September 2020	21	6
January-September 2021	16	5
January-September 2022	18	8
January-September 2023	7	7
September-December 2023	1	1 Pending (Spring 2024)

3. Impact of the termination.Internal**3.1 What if any impact will this termination have on undergraduate and graduate students? How will they be advised to complete their programs?**

There will be no internal impact on undergraduate or graduate students. All students that were currently enrolled in this program (16 students) were contacted in November 2022. Three students were inactive and had not registered in at least one course over the last three consecutive academic terms. Any students who had completed four or less courses in the program (i.e., 4 students had 6 or more courses left to complete) were given the opportunity to apply to the department's Post-Degree Certificate in Special Education or one of our Master of Education programs. Nine students had one to two- 3 credit unit courses left to complete in their program. These needed courses were offered one last time in the 2022-2023 academic year to allow these students to complete their program. This resulted in 7 students completing their course requirements and applying for convocation.

Dr. McIntyre, the EPSE Graduate Chair, taught the final project course in this program (i.e., EPSE 529) one additional time in the fall term of 2023-2024 to allow two remaining current students who had not taken EPSE 529 the last time it was offered in spring/summer 2022 one last opportunity to complete this program. One of the students opted to enroll in the course and complete their program, while the second student declined to enroll to complete their program due to financial reasons.

3.2 What impact will this termination have on faculty and teaching assignments?

There will be no impact on faculty and teaching assignments as the courses that were required as part of this program are not being eliminated (see response to question 2.2). Any specific 500 level courses created for this program will potentially be offered as elective courses for EPSE post-graduate and graduate students on a rotating basis in upcoming academic terms.

3.3 Will this termination affect other programs, departments or colleges?

No, terminating this program will not affect other departments or colleges.

3.4 If courses are also to be deleted, will these deletions affect any other programs?

Not applicable. Courses are not being deleted.

3.5 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop a program to replace this one?

No, it is not likely/appropriate that another department or college will develop a program to replace this one as career and guidance counselling in kindergarten to grade 12 school environments and post-secondary institutions is not a field of interest for other departments/colleges.

3.6 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop courses to replace the ones deleted?

Not applicable. Courses are not being deleted.

3.7 Describe any impact on research projects.

Not applicable. This program does not support students to engage in research.

3.8 Will this deletion affect resource areas such as library resources, physical facilities, and information technology?

No, the deletion of this program will not affect resource areas.

3.9 Describe the budgetary implications of this deletion.

Terminating this program will eliminate the expense of:

- (1) paying sessional instructors to teach the majority of its courses;
- (2) hiring or reallocating the administrative duties for this program to a new part-time clerical person; and
- (3) needing to cover the expense of a faculty teaching offload for an academic advisor.

External

3.10 Describe any external impact (e.g. university reputation, accreditation, other institutions, high schools, community organizations, professional bodies).

Terminating the Post-Degree Certificate program in Career and Guidance will not have a negative external impact. Kindergarten to grade 12 school systems and post-secondary institutions have largely eliminated career counselling departments and positions as there is now an abundance of readily available online information and exploratory materials that can be accessed related to career assistance.

Teachers completing this program would only be qualified to meet the Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board's requirements for an Additional Qualification Certificate (AQC) in Career and Guidance Studies. That is, completing this program does not prepare or qualify a teacher to support students beyond career and basic guidance issues. Registered psychologists and counsellors are the qualified professionals who can respond to the increasing demand for psychoeducational and mental health support in health, education, and community environments, and the Department of Educational Psychology & Special Education are already responding to this need by training future counselling psychologists through our recently revised Master of Education program in School and Counselling Psychology.

3.11 Is it likely or appropriate that another educational institution will offer this program if it is deleted at the University of Saskatchewan?

No (see response to question 3.10).

Other

3.12 Are there any other relevant impacts or considerations?

No/Not Applicable.

3.13 Please provide any statements or opinions received about this termination.

The Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education reviewed and unanimously approved the following motion on March 11, 2024:

The Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education recommends the Post-Degree Certificate program in Career and Guidance Studies be terminated as of March 31, 2024 (Moved by: Dr. Laureen McIntyre; Seconded by: Dr. Amin Mousavi).

The Undergraduate Programs Committee (UPC) in the College of Education reviewed the proposal and approved the following motion on April 18, 2024:

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Members of the College of Education Faculty Council approved the following motion on May 10, 2024:

To terminate the Post-Degree Certificate in Career and Guidance Studies (Moved by: Sheila Pocha; Seconded by: Dr. Amin Mousavi).

(Optional)

4. Additional information. *Programs which have not undergone recent formal reviews should provide additional relevant information about quality, demand, efficiency, unique features, and relevance to the province.*

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION**

PRESENTED BY: Scott Bell, Chair, Nominations Committee

DATE OF MEETING: September 26, 2024

SUBJECT: **Council Committee Vacancies**

DECISION REQUESTED: That Council approve the nominations described in the attached report, effective September 26, 2024.

SUMMARY:

The Nominations Committee is tasked with putting forward nominations for Council’s approval to fill vacancies that arise throughout the year on Council committees and for vacancies in the position of chair on Council committees. The terms of reference (as articulated in the *Council Bylaws*) for these committees set forth various requirements for membership, such as having a certain number of Council members on a committee.

The Nominations Committee has reviewed the membership of Council committees and is submitting a list of nominees to Council for approval to fill the various vacancies.

Through the Governance Office, the Nomination Committee issued a call-for-interest to the General Academic Assembly, inviting volunteers to serve on these committees. Volunteers are considered first in determining the list of nominees. The Nominations Committee attempts to include individuals who are broadly representative of disciplines across the university, and prioritizes equity, diversity, and inclusion in representation. This prioritization is in line with the terms of reference for the Nominations Committee as set out in the *Council Bylaws*.

ATTACHMENTS:

List of Council Committees and Nominees (with new nominees highlighted in yellow)

List of Council Committees and Nominees

Academic Programs Committee

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.

Voting members of the committee:

Council Members

Carolyn Augusta (chair)	Edwards School of Business	
Janet Okoko	Education	
Helen Vandenberg	Nursing	Until June 30, 2027
Janet Luimes	Nursing	
Paul Jones	SENS	

General Academic Assembly Members

Brent Bobick	WCVM
Jan Gelech	Arts and Science
Cari McIlduff	Medicine
Stella Spriet	Arts and Science
Regina Taylor-Gjevre	Medicine
Lori McKee	Education

Ex Officio and Other Members

Elisabeth Bauman	USSU representative	
Nickson Joseph	GSA representative	
Palash Sanyal	Sessional Lecturer	Until June 30, 2025
Jerome Cranston	Vice-Provost, Students and Learning	
Jason Doell	Acting University Registrar	

Planning and Priorities Committee

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. One sessional lecturer. One dean appointed by Council.

Voting members of the committee:

Council Members

Christian Willenborg (chair)	Agriculture and Bioresources
Rainer Dick	Arts and Science
Claire Card	WCVM
Jay Kalra	Medicine
Angela Lieverse	Arts and Science
Jaswant Singh	CGPS/WCVM

General Academic Assembly Members

Volker Gerdts	VIDO/WCVM	
Tim Hutchinson	Library	
Venkatesh Meda	Engineering	
Kerry Mansell	Pharmacy and Nutrition	Until June 30, 2027
Alexey Shevyakov	Arts and Science	Until June 30, 2027

Ex Officio and Other Members

Moses Ahiabu	USSU representative	
Lindsay Gray Carlson	GSA representative	
Kyle White	Sessional Lecturer	Until June 30, 2025
Brooke Milne	Dean appointed by Council	
Vince Bruno-Bossio	Acting Provost and Vice-President, Academic	
Terry Fonstad	Vice-President, Research (or designate)	
Angela Jaime	Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement	
Greg Fowler	Vice-President, Administration and Chief Operating Officer	

Research, Scholarly, and Artistic Work Committee

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

Voting members of the committee:

Council Members

Eric Lamb (chair)	Agriculture and Bioresources	
James Nolan	Agriculture and Bioresources	
Chris Zhang	Engineering	
Michael Wu	WCVM	Until June 30, 2027

General Academic Assembly Members

Lingling Jin	Arts and Science
Lisa Birke	Arts and Science
Robert Green	Arts and Science
Andrejs Kulnieks	Education
Stephan Milosavljevic	Medicine

Ex Officio and Other Members

Elisabeth Bauman	USSU representative
Jennifer Amarualik-Yaremko	GSA representative
Baljit Singh	Vice-President, Research
Debby Burshtyn	Dean, College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
Charlene Sorenson	Dean, University Library (or designate)

Scholarships and Awards Committee

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

Voting members of the committee:

Council Members

Jason Perepelkin (chair)	Pharmacy and Nutrition	
Jamesy Patrick	Law	Until June 30, 2025
Kyle Anderson	Medicine	
Veronika Makarova	Arts and Science	

General Academic Assembly Members

Juxin Liu	Arts and Science
Randi Strunk	Engineering
FangXiang Wu	Engineering
Amanda Lalonde	Arts and Science
Kerry Mansel	Pharmacy and Nutrition

Ex Officio and Other Members

Elisabeth Bauman	USSU representative
Lindsay Gray Carlson	GSA representative
Amaranta Sokol Como	Indigenous representative from OVPIE
Pirita Mattola	Designate for Vice-Provost, Students and Learning
Leah Johnson	Designate for Dean, College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

Teaching, Learning, and Academic Resources Committee

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

Voting members of the committee:

Council Members

Ralph Deters (chair)	Arts and Science	
John Gjevre	Medicine	
Marguerite Koole	Education	Until June 30, 2025
Kate Congreves	Agriculture and Bioresources	
Natasha Hubbard Murdoch	Nursing	

General Academic Assembly Members

Greg Malin	Medicine
Alec Aitken	Arts and Science
Sara Donkers	Medicine
Kelly Foley	Arts and Science
Natacha Hogan	Agriculture and Bioresources
Ken MacKenzie	Arts and Science

Ex Officio and Other Members

Elisabeth Bauman	USSU representative	
Reza Golpayegani	GSA representative	
Colin Miner	Sessional Lecturer	Until June 30, 2025
Jerome Cranston	Vice-Provost, Students and Learning	

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION**

PRESENTED BY: Scott Bell, Chair, Nominations Committee

DATE OF MEETING: September 26, 2024

SUBJECT: **Senior Administration Review Committee**

DECISION REQUESTED: That Council approve the nomination to the review committee of a senior administrator as described in the report, effective September 26, 2024.

SUMMARY:

The *Procedures for Search and Review for Senior Administrators* require that decanal reviews for the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies have a member of the General Academic Assembly selected by Council who holds a senior administrative position in the university. The Nominations Committee is tasked with putting forward a name for consideration by Council.

After reviewing the list of eligible persons to be nominated for this position, the Nominations Committee is recommending the following person serve on the Review Committee for the Dean of the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies as this senior administrator:

- Bram Noble (Vice-Dean Research, Scholarly, and Artistic Works, College of Arts and Science).

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION**

PRESENTED BY: Scott Bell, Chair, Nominations Committee

DATE OF MEETING: September 26, 2024

SUBJECT: **Renewals and Tenure Appeal Committee**

DECISION REQUESTED: That Council approve the nominations to the Renewals and Tenure Appeals Committee as described in the attached report, effective September 26, 2024.

SUMMARY:

Each year, the Nominations Committee is tasked with recommending four new members to the Renewals and Tenure Appeals Committee, a committee set forth in the collective agreement between the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association. As per the terms of this committee, three of these members must be members of the Faculty Association and one must be a member of the university's senior administration.

The Nominations Committee has reviewed the membership of this committee and is submitting a list of nominees to Council for approval. The attachment for Council's consideration and approval contains this year's nominees for the Renewals and Tenure Appeals Committee.

Through the Governance Office, the Nomination Committee issued a call-for-interest to the General Academic Assembly, inviting volunteers to serve on this and other committees. Volunteers are considered first in determining the list of nominees. The Nominations Committee attempts to include individuals who are broadly representative of disciplines across the university, and prioritizes equity, diversity, and inclusion in representation. This prioritization is in line with the terms of reference for the Nominations Committee as set out in the *Council Bylaws*.

ATTACHMENTS:

Renewals and Tenure Appeals Committee Membership

Renewals and Tenure Appeals Committee Membership

Renewals and Tenure Appeal Committee

As per Article 15.8.5.2 of the collective agreement: "The [Renewals and Tenure Appeal 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 representation from a wide range of disciplinary areas while also respecting the commitment to diversity (Article 7). Each year three new employees and one new senior administrator will be appointed to serve on the committee."

The current composition of this committee is as follows, with new nominees highlighted in yellow:

Name	Unit or Representative of:	Term Expires
Employees:		
Chris Ambrose	Arts and Science	2025
Stella Spriet	Arts and Science	2025
Bindu Nair	Medicine	2025
Enchuan Shao	Arts and Science	2026
Ludmilla Voitkovska	Arts and Science	2026
Julie Kaye	Arts and Science	2026
Haizhen Mou	Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy	2027
Chris Zhang	Engineering	2027
Hyunjung Shin	Education	2027
Senior Administrators:		
Walter Siqueira	Dean, Dentistry	2025
Marilyn Baetz	Vice-Dean, College of Medicine	2026
Julia Paulson	Dean, College of Education	2027

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP)
REQUEST FOR DECISION

PRESENTED BY: Scott Walsworth, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP)

DATE OF MEETING: September 26, 2024

SUBJECT: Limited Term Enhancement Chair in Swine Health

DECISION REQUESTED: It is recommended by the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships that University Council approve the Limited Term Enhancement Chair in Swine Health in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

PURPOSE: To provide strategic leadership in swine welfare research for the Canadian swine industry, to increase the critical mass of highly qualified personnel working on swine welfare research in Canada who can support solutions for the industry to become leaders in animal care and can work in areas of research, industry, government and humane societies. The research Chair program is able to support a critical mass of research personnel that are able to respond to immediate and emerging research questions for the Canadian swine industry. The research Chair in swine welfare becomes a go to resource for the industry in all areas of swine welfare, from research, to governmental oversight, legislation, Code of Practice renewal. The establishment and maintenance of a Chair in Swine Welfare positions USASK, the WCVM and Canada as leaders in the forward thinking research to address the challenges of today and tomorrow.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY: The creation of the Chair in Swine Welfare has been discussed with, and endorsed by, the donor, the Office of the Vice President Research, and the Office of the Vice President University Relations.

FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED: With approval of the University Council and subsequently approval of Board of Governors, the terms of reference will be implemented immediately.

ATTACHMENT: Terms of reference for the Limited Term Enhancement Chair in Swine Health in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Chair in Swine Health **Terms of Reference**

Purpose:

To provide strategic leadership in swine welfare research for the Canadian swine industry, to increase the critical mass of highly qualified personnel working on swine welfare research in Canada who can support solutions for the industry to become leaders in animal care and can work in areas of research, industry, government and humane societies. The research Chair program is able to support a critical mass of research personnel that are able to respond to immediate and emerging research questions for the Canadian swine industry. The research Chair in swine welfare becomes a go to resource for the industry in all areas of swine welfare, from research, to governmental oversight, legislation, Code of Practice renewal. The establishment and maintenance of a Chair in Swine Welfare positions USASK, the WCVM and Canada as leaders in the forward thinking research to address the challenges of today and tomorrow.

Accountability:

All terms of reference must align with the *Guidelines for Chairs and Professorships*

Chair Type:

This will be a Limited Term Enhancement Chair. The objective of the chair is to enhance the research activities of an outstanding individual already currently employed at the University of Saskatchewan in WCVM for a time limited by the term supported by donor funding.

Background:

An existing WCVM faculty member held a NSERC Industrial Research Chair that ended in 2024 when the NSERC chair program ended. Given the importance of this topic and the swine industry interest in this area of swine welfare research, WCVM would like to recreate this chair through a new donation-based chair position supported by a consortium of swine industry members and groups.

Source and Amount of Funding:

Donations from various producer organizations, industry groups, and swine health stakeholders will fund this chair.

It is anticipated that \$220,000 of donations will be received each year over a period of five years, for a total initial commitment of \$1,100,000.

Tenability:

Donations will be received annually for a period of five years, the timing of which will depend upon the individual agreements with the donors.

Continuation of the chair after the five-year period will depend upon renewal of funding commitments. The underlying faculty position, however, will continue as part of WCVM faculty complement and its operating budget regardless of the chair status.

Selection Committee:

The Provost and Vice-President academic, or designate, the Vice-President Research, or designate, and the Dean/Executive Director, in consultation with the department or faculty in the school or college, shall appoint a search committee for selection of an appropriate candidate. The membership of, and the process followed by, the search committee must align with the provisions of the Collective Agreement between the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association. Additional members may be included to the search process by forming a search sub-committee, as per the collective agreement.

This chair is created for an existing WCVM faculty member whose research aligns with the intended purposes of the donors, thus there will be no external search. Should the chair become vacant, WCVM will follow processes outlined in section 6 of the JCCP Guidelines related to vacancies.

Chairholder responsibilities:

The chairholder will contribute to the research and teaching program of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences in areas of swine welfare, swine behaviour, swine health and related fields.

The chairholder's responsibilities will include:

- Research:
 - Enhance and accelerate research focused on swine welfare and swine behaviour at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine;
 - Publish scientific studies in peer-reviewed scientific journals that are available to a wide and diverse scientific community investigating swine welfare, animal behaviour and swine industry practices/standards;
- Outreach, industry extension and technology transfer:
 - Present at scientific and industry conferences and perform outreach activities to educate veterinarians, swine industry, scientists and the public about the

importance of swine welfare, swine behaviour, and new research findings and discoveries;

- Establish collaboration with scientists engaged in swine welfare and animal behaviour at the College and University as well as at regional, national and international levels;
- Build and maintain relationships with the community and external stakeholders interested in swine welfare and behaviour as it relates to agriculture industry standards;
- Teaching:
 - Provide didactic teaching, research training and mentorship to undergraduate and graduate students in areas of swine welfare, animal behaviour, swine industry standards and related areas.
 - Provide the Dean of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine an annual report on the chairholder's research, teaching and other activities;
- Fulfill all responsibilities as outlined in accordance with the university policies and regulations relative to Chairs and Professorships.

It is anticipated that the chair holder will spent their time as follow:

- 60% on research
- 20% on outreach, industry extension and technology transfer
- 10% on teaching
- 10% on administration

Term of Chair:

The chair will be appointed for an initial five-year term with eligibility for renewal following the completion of the term. A Chairholder will be eligible to hold the chair title for a period of up to ten (10) years (five-year initial term plus one five-year renewal term). Renewal of this chair is dependant on continued donor funding and satisfactory progress as determined by the management committee. At the end of the chair, the chairholder will maintain their faculty position in WCVL.

Renewal:

All renewals of Chairholders must follow the renewal process outlined in Section 5.0 of the Guidelines for Chairs and Professorships.

Review:

Chairholder scholarship progression must be reviewed at least biennially. A financial review must occur annually. Chairholders

must submit a final report at the end of their term. Reporting structure and templates can be found in the Guidelines for Chairs and Professorships.

Oversight:

The Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine will be responsible to oversee the Chair.

Oversight responsibilities shall include the following:

1. Oversee the activities of the Chair or Professorship;
2. Oversee management of the fund to ensure compliance with the terms of the trust deed and the on-going financial integrity of the initiative;
3. Approve annual budgets;
4. Receive annual financial statements of the trust fund;
5. Receive and review the biennial scholarly report, the annual financial report and the final report on the activities of the Chairholder; and
6. Provide a copy of the required scholarly, financial and final reports to the co-chairs of the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships.

Removal of Chairholder:

Any allegations related to a breach of one or more of the University policies made against a Chairholder should follow appropriate university policies and procedures related to the nature of the breach. This includes, but is not limited to, policies related to research, financial stewardship, and/or employment. Should the appropriate process conclude and determine that the Chairholder has breached a University Policy or failed to meet an expectation as a faculty member, the provost and vice president academic and vice president research will determine appropriate measures regarding the continuation of the Chairholder which may include termination from the Chair. The final determination will be communicated to the Chairholder, the dean/executive director and the chair of the Management Committee (if applicable).

Eligible Expenditures:

Expenditures will be in alignment with Section 2.0 of the *Guidelines for the Establishment of Chairs and Professorships*. The funding providing by industry partners will cover the cost of the chairholder salary and provide base research funding.

Unspent Funds:

At such time that the Chair ceases to be in existence, any unspent donor funds for salary will be used for research in swine health in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

Insufficient Funds:

Should there be insufficient funds to cover the costs of the chair, the excess cost will be covered by the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

In the event that circumstances make the Chair in Swine Health no longer practical or desirable, the oversight committee, will recommend to University Council and the Board of Governors of the University of Saskatchewan, changes to the Chair. These recommendations will maintain, as much as is reasonably possible, the Chair's spirit and general intent as identified in its statement of Purpose.

The creation of this Chair is subject to approval of both University of Saskatchewan Council and University of Saskatchewan Board of Governors.

The Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine recommends acceptance based on the above terms.



September 19, 2024

Gillian Muir, PhD

Date

The Office of the Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations recommends acceptance based on the above terms.

Scott Walsworth, PhD
Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations

Date

The Office of the Vice President, Research recommends acceptance based on the above terms.

Dawn Wallin, PhD
Associate Vice President, Research

Date

Approved and accepted on behalf of the Board of Governors of the University of Saskatchewan.

Cheryl Hamelin
Vice-President, University Relations

Date

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