AGENDA

University Council
Date: October 22, 2026
Time: 2:30-4:30 pm
Location: Convocation Hall (PMB 120) and Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

1. **Tribute**
   Tribute to Dr. John W. B. Stewart, Professor Emeritus, College of Agriculture and Bioresources presented by Angela Bedard-Haughn, Dean, College of Agriculture and Bioresources.

2. **Chair's Opening Remarks-** Dr. Ralph Deters, Council Chair, College of Arts and Science

3. **Agenda**
   3.1. Adoption of the Agenda
   3.2. Council Motions

4. **Minutes**
   4.1. Approval of Minutes – September 24, 2026

5. **Governance Committee**
   5.1. Notice of Motion: Roster of Faculty and Students for Appeal Panels
   5.2. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update

6. **Nominations Committee**
   6.1. Request for Decision: Omnibus Council Committee Vacancies
   6.2. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update

7. **Planning and Priorities Committee**
   7.1. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update

8. **Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee**
   8.1. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update

9. **Scholarships and Awards Committee**
   9.1. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update

10. **Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee**
    10.1. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update

11. **Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships**
    11.1. Item for Information: Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP) Annual Report 2025-2026

12. Reports

12.1. President
12.2. Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic
12.3 Graduate Students Association (GSA)
12.4 University of Saskatchewan Student's Union (USSU)

13. Other Business

14. Question Period

In addition to bringing forward questions during the course of a meeting, council members are encouraged to submit questions on agenda items or matters relevant to council in advance of a meeting. These questions can be sent to the Governance Office (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. Questions from the floor are also welcomed and encouraged.

15. Adjournment

Next Council meeting is on November 19, 2026- please send regrets to governance.office@usask.ca

The deadline to submit motions and items to the Executive Committee for the next meeting can be found **online**.

ZOOM LINK:

Join Zoom Meeting:
https://usask-ca.zoom.us/j/93707307468?pwd=WQSuIQ0RNSP0woWDlYE9umIITNSPKm.1

Join by Telephone:
Local Saskatoon Zoom Dial-in Number: (639) 638-7474
Other Zoom Dial-in Numbers: https://usask-ca.zoom.us/u/acakt7p3y

Join by Video Conferencing Device (SIP):
93707307468@zoomcrc.com

Meeting ID: 937 0730 7468
Passcode: 80308045
Telephone Passcode: 80308045

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL AGENDA MOTIONS

Date: October 22, 2026

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

5.1 Notice of Motion: Roster of Faculty and Students for Appeal Panels

Motion: It is recommended by the Governance Committee that a roster of faculty members and a roster of students be created to hear university-level appeals through changes to the Council Bylaws and Regulations, the Regulations on Student Academic Misconduct, and the Procedures for Student Appeals in Academic Matters, as described in this report, effective July 1, 2027.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

6.1 Request for Decision: Omnibus Council Committee Vacancies

Motion: It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nominations described in the attached report, effective October 22, 2026.

MINUTES

University Council
Date: September 24, 2026
Time: 2:30–4:30 pm
Location: Convocation Hall (PMB 120) and Zoom
Presiding Officer: Dr. Ralph Deters
Recording: Danielle Rudulier

The meeting was called to order at 2:33 pm.

No members of the media identified themselves.

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

1. Chairs Opening Remarks

Dr. Ralph Deters began with a Land Acknowledgement. The Chair encouraged participation in Council business through submitted questions, direct communication with Council Executive members, and discussion during Council meetings. In addition, the Chair noted a new initiative whereby agendas from all Council committees are now included in the Council meeting package, allowing members greater visibility into committee activities and providing opportunities to engage with committee chairs regarding agenda items and committee work.

2. Agenda

Motion: (Augusta/Dobson): That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Minutes

A correction was brought forward for item 10.1 in the Vice-President Research Annual Report.

Motion: (Jones/Patrick): That the minutes of June 11, 2026 be approved as amended.

CARRIED
2 Abstentions

4. Council Welcome and Refresher

Secretary Demkiw provided members with brief overview of the governance structure and resources available to members.

Slides are attached.

5. Reports

5.1. President

President Bruni-Bossio provided an overview of the ongoing strategic planning process and consultation timeline, noting that a formal presentation will be brought forward in October, followed by a period for review and feedback before Council is asked to consider endorsement in November. He highlighted the university's strong reputation and financial position and described the emerging identity for the new plan.

Chief Financial Officer Deidre Henne provided additional information on the university's bond financing strategy, explaining that the initiative is intended to support critical capital and infrastructure needs without diverting operating funds from academic and administrative priorities. She noted that the university's improved financial stability, including a four-year provincial funding agreement, strategic enrolment planning, and a transparent resource allocation model, has created a favourable environment for pursuing external financing. Planned investments in foundational systems include upgrades to key student, payroll, and financial systems. Capital projects include expansions associated with the Edwards School of Business, the College of Engineering, and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine to address growing enrolment and student learning space needs that all students will benefit from. She also highlighted an investment in a second cyclotron at the Sylvia Fedoruk Centre, supported through external partnerships and intended to generate future revenue for the university.

5.2. Interim Provost and Vice President Academic

Interim Provost Patti McDougall began with responding to a question submitted in advance regarding the Learning, Teaching and Student Experience (LTSE) Plan, noting that the completion of the new university plan will be followed by the development of a new Academic Plan. She explained that the Academic Plan will serve as an implementation framework for the university plan and will build on recent consultation efforts while providing additional opportunities for engagement. The plan will replace the LTSE Plan and is expected to address areas such as student experience, strategic enrolment management, and academic programming.

Dr. McDougall also provided an update on the closure of the Canadian Hub for Applied and Social Research (CHASR), scheduled to be wound down by July 2027. She explained that CHASR operated as a cost-recovery, fee-for-service model but had accumulated a significant deficit, making the current model financially unsustainable. She emphasized that the decision was not a reflection on the quality of CHASR's staff or the value of social science research at USask, but rather a matter of responsible financial stewardship. She acknowledged feedback received from faculty and confirmed that their concerns and suggestions will inform future planning discussions.

Greg Fowler, Vice- President Administration, provided an update on two major infrastructure projects affecting the university: the City of Saskatoon's College Drive Link Rapid Transit project and the campus Bowl renewal project. He acknowledged the short-term disruptions associated with both initiatives and thanked the university community for its patience.

5.3. Graduate Students Association (GSA)

President Sunny Bui reported on a successful welcome week, with more than 1,000 graduate students participating in four days of events. He highlighted the GSA's key priorities for the year, including advocating for a summer extension to the U-Pass program to address perceived inequities in access and cost for graduate students. Members were encouraged to promote participation in the GSA's student experience survey, which includes questions related to transit use and will support ongoing discussions with Saskatoon Transit and City Council.

President Bui also provided updates on the proposed graduate student childcare centre, which is advancing through the university's project development process as well as progress toward an Anti-Racism Memorandum of Understanding, acknowledging the support of university leadership in that work. In addition, he outlined plans to expand professional development opportunities for graduate students through partnerships with Library Services, the Gwenna Moss Centre, and Career Services. He concluded by encouraging members to direct graduate students to GSA communications and available student supports and services.

5.4. University of Saskatchewan Students Union (USSU

USSU President Abtin Safaeian reported that student affordability remains the students' top concern and highlighted several initiatives aimed at reducing financial barriers. The USSU recently launched uExchange, a student-to-student used textbook marketplace, and uSAVE, a student discount program designed to help students reduce everyday expenses. President Safaeian noted that these initiatives are intended to address rising costs associated with textbooks, tuition, housing, and food.

He also recognized the work of the USSU executive team in leading welcome week activities, academic awareness programming, student advocacy, and support for student groups. The USSU participated in national student leadership discussions and continues to advocate for tuition payment plans, increased scholarships and bursaries, and a need-based approach to student awards. Safaeian reaffirmed the organization's commitment to reconciliation, highlighting recent engagement activities and the development of a new land acknowledgement. He concluded by noting that the USSU looks forward to contributing student perspectives to the development of UPlan 2035, with affordability remaining a key priority.

6. Nominations Committee

Carolyn Augusta, Chair of the Nominations committee, presented the committee's items as outlined in the agenda package.

6.1. Request for Decision: Council Committee Vacancies

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

Motion: (Augusta/Jones): It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nominations described in the attached report, effective September 24, 2026.

CARRIED
1 Abstention (Burshtyn)

6.2 Request for Decision: Chair of Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

Motion: (Augusta/Makarova): It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nomination for the Chair of the Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee, effective September 24, 2026.

CARRIED

6.3 Request for Decision: Nomination for the University Review Committee

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

Motion: (Augusta/Sarjeant-Jenkins): It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nomination for the University Review Committee, effective September 24, 2026.

CARRIED

6.4 Item for Information: Standing Committee Update

Chair Augusta provided an update on the work of the Nominations Committee, noting that the committee has met three times during the current academic year. She reminded members of recent changes to tenure and promotion requirements approved by University Review Committee, which now recognizes university-level service as a requirement for promotion from Associate to Full Professor.

In reviewing applications for committee appointments, the committee considers disciplinary representation first, followed by equity, diversity, and inclusion considerations, and then the potential value of committee service for tenure and promotion purposes. Chair Augusta noted that the committee's recommendations were reflected in the membership decisions approved by Council during the meeting.

7. Executive Committee

7.1. Item for Information: Executive Committee Standing Update

Chair Ralph Deters provided an update that the Executive Committee, consisting of Council committee chairs, recently met with President Bruni-Bossio and received an update on the development of the University Plan (UPlan). He noted that the President provided a comprehensive overview of the plan and its ongoing development through consultation and engagement across the university community.

8. Academic Programs Committee

8.1 Item for Information: Academic Programs Committee Standing Update

Chair Roy Dobson reported that the committee's workload is expected to increase later in the academic year. He highlighted a committee-level approved change to the Certificate in Catholic Studies, which reduces the required elective credits from 18 to 15. The change is intended to improve accessibility and student interest in the certificate while maintaining the integrity and learning outcomes of the program.

Dr. Dobson also provided members with an update regarding the expansion of undergraduate medical education enrolment from 108 to 128 students. The additional 20 seats will increase enrolment targets to 76 students in Saskatoon and 52 in Regina and form part of broader provincial efforts to strengthen healthcare workforce capacity in Saskatchewan.

9. Governance Committee

9.1. Item for Information: Governance Committee Standing Update

Chair Paul Jones provided an update on the Governance Committee's ongoing review of the composition and appointment process for University Appeal Boards. The committee has been examining ways to better support and nominate members for these important decision-making bodies, including the potential expansion of eligibility beyond University Council members to include GAA members. Discussion has focused on addressing challenges related to training, continuity, institutional knowledge, and preparedness for handling complex and often contentious cases. The committee expects to bring a more detailed proposal forward as an information item at the October Council meeting, with a recommendation for decision anticipated in November.

10. Planning and Priorities Committee

10.1 Item for Information: Standing Committee Update

Chair Angela Lieverse reported that the committee met twice since the start of the term. At its first meeting, members received an update from Chief Financial Officer Deidre Henne on the university's 2025-26 year-end financial results. At its second meeting, held the previous day, the committee reviewed first-quarter financial results for 2026-27 and heard that the university remains on track to achieve its approved $12.6 million surplus. The committee also received updates from the CFO on portfolio priorities and achievements, as well as from

Interim Provost Patti McDougall on academic portfolio priorities for the coming year.

11. Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee

11.1 Item for Information: Standing Committee Update

Chair Marguerite Koole outlined TLARC's mandate to address issues related to teaching and learning, promote the Learning Charter, and make recommendations to Council and the Planning and Priorities Committee. She reported that the committee held its first meeting of the year and identified several priority areas, including generative artificial intelligence (GenAI), accessibility and inclusivity, learner engagement, student well-being, classroom environments, and the intersection of technology and teaching. The committee anticipates establishing working groups to explore GenAI and accessibility-related issues in greater depth.

A member raised questions regarding the university's promotion of AI tools and the broader ethical, social, environmental, and educational implications of AI adoption. The member highlighted issues related to data privacy, copyright, bias, sustainability, equity, and the potential impact on critical thinking and learning. It was suggested that TLARC and RSAW consider ongoing examination of the ethical use of AI and report back regularly to Council. Chair Koole acknowledged these concerns and noted that many of these issues are already under discussion within TLARC and indicated that the committee would continue to engage with them. Additional comments emphasized the value of a broader Council-wide discussion on AI and cautioned against characterizing AI solely negatively, recognizing that it is also an important area of scholarship and research.

12. Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships

12.1 Item for Information: Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP) Annual Report 2025-2026

Chair Deters mentioned that this item will come forward next month.

13. Other Business

There was no other business.

14. Question Period

Pre-submitted Question:

"Every day when I enter or leave campus I pass by the old stone barn on the corner of College Drive and Campus Drive. I know that the barn has been a building of concern for a number of years - for people both on and off campus. In fact, a few years ago the Saskatoon Heritage Society submitted a report to the university outlining how other North American universities have renovated similar barns so that they return to being vibrant and active parts of their campuses.

According to the USask Board of Governors' minutes, the Board recognizes "the building's heritage value and reputational risks of demolition" and has encouraged university management to explore future uses and fundraising opportunities. In the interim they approved an emergency stabilization investment for the barn in September 2005; that work was reported as complete in December 2025.

I am not sure what the current status is of discussions about our stone barn. Despite the stabilization work, the numerous shingles missing from the roof are noticeable from College Drive. As a homeowner, I know the importance of shingles to protect a roof and the building below it! I am concerned that such issues will lead to the building falling further into disrepair.

The stone barn is an iconic building, recognizable and recognized by all who attend (and attended) the university as well as most people in Saskatoon.

The neglect of this building is visible to all who go by.

If nothing is done to protect, preserve, renovate, and reuse the barn it will certainly end up being demolished and a key part of the university's history and link to its place in the agricultural development of the province will be gone.

- *What is the university doing to protect the stone barn from further disrepair?*
- *What are the plans for the barn's future?"*

Greg Fowler explained that the building had previously been deemed structurally unsound and unsuitable for occupancy, requiring significant rehabilitation. Following a structural assessment completed in 2025, the university undertook repairs including replacing pilasters and footings, tightening support cables, securing structural supports, and rebuilding portions of the stone walls. A follow-up engineering assessment indicated that the building can remain standing in its current condition until at least 2030, when a further review is recommended.

Fowler noted that the building currently lacks a defined long-term use. The university is working with the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, and other potential stakeholders to develop a broader Farmstead Renewal Strategy and identify appropriate future uses for the facility. He indicated that additional planning work is underway and that a further update is expected to be brought back to Council in December.

Questions and Discussion from the Floor:

A member referenced a recent report from the Legislative Council of New South Wales concerning university governance and the role of consulting firms, including allegations related to the NOUS Group. The member asked whether Council could be informed about the university's relationship with the organization and whether the findings of the report would be considered in future decisions regarding engagement with the firm.

Greg Fowler responded that USask's involvement is limited to participation in the UniForum benchmarking system, which was later acquired by NOUS Group. He noted that the university uses the benchmarking service solely to compare administrative and support services with peer institutions and to identify opportunities for improvement and resource allocation with strict regulations around the data. Fowler stated that the university has no other contracts or consulting arrangements with NOUS and has no plans to engage the firm in a consulting capacity. He added that the university continues to monitor developments related to the organization.

Feedback was shared regarding the decision to close the Canadian Hub for Applied and Social Research (CHASR), noting that numerous faculty and community members had expressed concerns about both the decision itself and how CHASR's value had been assessed. The member emphasized that CHASR's contributions extend beyond fee-for-service revenues and questions were posed about whether a broader institutional value analysis had been conducted prior to the decision. A question was also posed about whether information regarding institutional expenditures could be made available to provide greater context for decisions involving research infrastructure.

In response, Provost Patti McDougall reiterated that CHASR had been established as a cost-recovery operation and that its accumulated deficit made the current model financially unsustainable. While acknowledging the value of the work performed by CHASR and its staff, she emphasized the university's responsibility to ensure sustainable use of resources. McDougall noted that a forum will be convened to discuss future research support needs and potential alternatives. President Bruni-Bossio added that the concerns raised were important and would be considered as part of broader discussions about how best to support research activity at the university. He affirmed that the administration is committed to exploring solutions that sustain research capacity while addressing the challenges associated with the existing model.

Questions were raised about delays in graduate student payroll payments, noting that some students, particularly in mathematics, would not receive funding until mid-October and could face financial hardship as a result. The member asked whether the university could provide any accommodations or remediation, particularly regarding tuition and residence-related charges.

In response, Provost Patti McDougall advised that the issue had already been brought to the university's attention by the relevant union and that the matter was being actively reviewed. She indicated that university officials were working to understand the cause of the delay and explore ways to expedite payments. Dr. McDougall emphasized that the university does not wish to disadvantage students and committed to taking the issue seriously while working toward a timely resolution.

A member commented that the new master's programs in Occupational Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology were an important achievement for the university and province; however, these programs have significantly affected feeder disciplines, particularly Linguistics, which is the province's only linguistics program. The member reported enrolments in Linguistics have doubled since the SLP program was announced and indicated that the department is facing capacity challenges. The member asked how the university and province plan to support feeder programs that are experiencing increased demand as a result of these institutional priorities.

In response, Dr. McDougall acknowledged the importance of the concern and agreed that the new OT and SLP programs represent major contributions to the province. She indicated that the issue would need to be considered within the broader context of the College of Arts and Science and committed to pursuing further discussions and consultations regarding the impacts on feeder programs and their capacity needs.

A member raised questions about the proposed revisions to academic misconduct policies and procedures that had been discussed at a faculty council meeting, particularly the introduction of a "designated decision-maker" role with authority to determine how cases proceed through the misconduct process. The member emphasized the significance of the proposed changes and expressed the importance of broad consultation and careful consideration before implementation, noting the potential implications for academic programs and governance.

In response, it was clarified by Secretary Demkiw that the Academic Misconduct Policy is a Council policy under the responsibility of the Governance Committee. Any proposed revisions will therefore be reviewed through the Governance Committee and subsequently brought forward to University Council for consideration and approval. This process will provide opportunities for discussion and input before any changes are finalized.

There were no further questions or comments.

10. Adjournment

Motion (Jones): The meeting was properly adjourned at 4:38 pm.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

NOTICE OF MOTION

Committee Name: Governance Committee, University Council
Date: October 22, 2026
Presented by: Paul Jones, Chair, Governance Committee

Subject: Roster of Faculty and Students for Appeal Panels

MOTION

It is recommended by the Governance Committee that a roster of faculty members and a roster of students be created to hear university-level appeals through changes to the *Council Bylaws and Regulations*, the *Regulations on Student Academic Misconduct*, and the *Procedures for Student Appeals in Academic Matters,* as described in this report, effective July 1, 2027.

SUMMARY

This report proposes changes to how faculty members and students are selected to serve on university-level appeal boards. This proposal creates new rosters of faculty members and students specifically for appeal hearings. These rosters would replace the current system, in which appeal board members are selected from those elected to University Council.

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

This issue of potential changes to populating appeals panels has been contemplated by the Governance Committee four times over the past year (in March, April, September, and again in October). This started with a discussion paper, then turned to a report on options, and culminated with discussions of specific wording changes.

Currently, the roster from which faculty members are chosen to sit on appeal boards is composed of those elected to serve on University Council. The roster from which student members of appeal boards are chosen is also those students elected to serve on University Council, with some allowances made in case of the inability of those members.

The *Council Bylaws and Regulations* state: "All Council members, other than ex officio members [that is, the President and the Provost], are also members of the student academic hearing and appeals committee, from which representatives for student disciplinary and appeal boards are selected. Members may decline to serve on a board when asked" (Part 1, section 3, clause 4(f)). The *Regulations on Student Academic Misconduct* further state that "The appeal board … will be composed of three members of Council, one of whom is a student (or, in the case of the unavailability of a student Council member, a student appointed by the USSU or GSA Executive to hear the case" (and similar provisions for allowances on the student member made in the *Procedures for Student Appeals in Academic Matters*.

Issues with Current Approach

The current approach faces numerous drawbacks, summarized as follows:

1) It is not well-known or advertised that serving on appeal panels is part of the duty of a Council member. This concern is particularly true for student members of Council – first they are elected to University Students' Council (or to a particular executive position in the case with the GSA), then they find out they may be a member of University Council, and then they find out that one of the

responsibilities is serving on appeal panels – and student participation on these matters is statutorily required by the *University Act*.

2) While related, the skillset and desire to be a part of University Council is distinct from that of being an appeal board member.
3) There is no formal training requirement for members to serve on appeal boards.
4) Because of the larger pool of potential people to serve on an appeal panel, there is not a great deal of knowledge continuity, and oftentimes the process is new to all participants (except the support provided by the Governance Office).
5) It can be an intimidating prospect of being the final arbiter on these matters, especially when there is no institutional continuity or formal training as described above.

Proposed Changes

Currently, the roster from which members of appeal boards can be chosen does not allow for a great deal of consistency and many Council members (both students and faculty) are either not aware that serving in this capacity is part of their responsibilities or do not want to serve in this capacity. Additionally, given the complexity, the impacts, and the emotionally charged nature of these appeals, having individuals who want and are prepared to serve in this capacity is necessary.

The specifics of what documents need to changed is detailed in the subsequent section, with the particular wording outlined in the attachments to this report.

In general, the proposed changes are to establish a roster as follows:

- 15 faculty members as selected by Council.
  - Faculty members may or may not be members of Council, but must be members of the General Academic Assembly.
  - Terms on the roster will be three years, similar to that of Council committees.
  - Terms can be renewed indefinitely. This is not in line with current practices for Council committees, but is in line with both a) membership on Council and b) membership on the Appeals Panel, a roster of 48 faculty members populated by Council as per the collective agreement with the faculty association.
- 12 student members, 9 selected by the USSU and 3 selected by the GSA.
  - Student members may or may not be members of Council.
  - Terms on the roster would be for as long as desirable for the USSU and GSA executives, so long as members maintain status as students.
  - If the USSU and GSA fail to provide students, student members of the roster can be appointed by Council (such a provision would only occur in exceptional circumstances, but given that a student member of an appeal panel is statutorily required, such an emergency provision is recommended).
- Require training for all members of the roster prior to hearing an appeal.
  - During discussions this lack of training for appeal board members was a major concern of the Governance Committee – members need to be engaged, willing to participate, and able to navigate the complex and contentious cases.

It is difficult at this stage to predict the ideal size of the appeals rosters for faculty and students. There is a need to balance two competing needs – on one hand, to better have consistency across appeals and to have a group of individuals who are trained and well-equipped to deal with these matters, and on the other hand a desire to not overburden a group of people or cause burnout. It is anticipated that the specific numbers chosen here (that is, 15 faculty members and 12 students) will be the subject of future reporting to the Governance Committee, and perhaps the sizes chosen at this point will need to shift in the future.

Implementation

To implement these changes, the following documents require amendments: *Council Bylaws and Regulations*, the *Regulations on Student Academic Misconduct*, and the *Procedures for Student Appeals in Academic Matters*. The specific wording of these revisions are found in Attachments 1-3, respectively.

Note: The *Regulations and Procedures for Resolution of Complaints and Appeals*, a document passed by and under the authority of Senate, will also require modest changes as both hearing boards and appeal boards composed under these regulations have "a member of the University Council, and appointed by Council for this purpose" (Part IV, section 5, clause (b)(iii) and Part IV, section 7, clause (d)(ii)). It is not anticipated that changing this to read "a member selected from a roster appointed by University Council for this purpose" will be at all contentious, but it is noted here as a necessary change.

ATTACHMENTS

1) *Council Bylaws and Regulations* – Revised
2) *Regulations on Student Academic Misconduct* – Revised
3) *Procedures for Student Appeals in Academic Matters* – Revised

Attachment 1: *Council Bylaws and Regulations* – Revisions

Note: The changes to the *Council Bylaws and Regulations* to bring about these changes would require two changes:

1) Delete reference to the current process for selecting people to serve on student academic hearings and appeals.
2) Add terms of reference for new Student Hearing and Appeals Roster.

Change 1
Part 1, Section III, Clause 4(f)

Current:
"All Council members, other than ex officio members, are also members of the student academic hearing and appeals committee, from which representatives for student disciplinary and appeal boards are selected. Members may decline to serve on a board when asked."

Changes:
Delete clause.

Change 2
Part 2, Section XI

Current:
Does not exist.

Changes:
Insert the following:

XI. STUDENT HEARINGS AND APPEAL ROSTER

Membership
Fifteen members of the General Academic Assembly.
Nine undergraduate students appointed by the USSU.*
Three graduate students appointed by the GSA.*

*In the case that either the USSU or the GSA does not fill these spots, the student members can be appointed by University Council.

Roster and Panel Coordination
Governance Office

Members of the Student Hearings and Appeals Roster are responsible for:

1) Serving on university-level appeal boards that hear appeals from students and former students regarding decisions affecting their academic standing.

2) Serving on appeal boards that hear appeals related to the findings or sanctions of a hearing board regarding academic misconduct by students.

3) Serving on hearing boards and appeal boards for matters involving alleged non-academic misconduct.

4) Participating in training and development related to appeals, procedural fairness, and other relevant topics.

Note:

(a) Faculty and student members of the roster may or may not be members of Council.

(b) Terms on the roster for faculty members are three years and can be renewed indefinitely at the will of Council.

(c) Terms on the roster for student members are for as long as desired by the USSU or GSA, whichever the case may be, so long as the member maintains being a student.

(d) The student members of the roster do not serve on hearings or appeals relating to non-academic misconduct, as the student members of these hearing or appeal boards are comprised of the student members of Senate.

Attachment 2: *Regulations on Student Academic Misconduct* – Revisions

Section IX, Clause 4

Current:
The appeal board will be constituted within a reasonable time frame and will be composed of three members of Council, one of whom is a student (or, in the case of the unavailability of a student Council member, a student appointed by the USSU or GSA Executive to hear the case). Where the case involves a graduate student, the faculty members on the board should be members of the graduate faculty. One faculty member of the appeal board shall be named chair. The members of the board shall be chosen from the student academic hearing and appeals committee, which comprises all Council members other than ex officio members. The University Secretary or designate will support to the appeal board. With the exception of the Secretary, individuals appointed to serve on an appeal board shall exclude anyone who was involved in the original hearing of the case.

Changes:
The appeal board will be constituted within a reasonable time frame and will be composed of three members**. Two members shall be selected from the Student Hearing and Appeals Roster appointed by** ~~of~~ Council**. One member will be a student selected from the roster of students appointed for this purpose by the USSU or GSA.** ~~one of whom is a student (or, in the case of the unavailability of a student Council member, a student appointed by the USSU or GSA Executive to hear the case).~~ Where the case involves a graduate student, the faculty members on the board should be members of the graduate faculty. One faculty member of the appeal board shall be named chair. ~~The members of the board shall be chosen from the student academic hearing and appeals committee, which comprises all Council members other than ex officio members.~~ The University Secretary or designate will support to the appeal board. With the exception of the Secretary, individuals appointed to serve on an appeal board shall exclude anyone who was involved in the original hearing of the case.

Clean:
The appeal board will be constituted within a reasonable time frame and will be composed of three members. Two members shall be selected from the Student Hearing and Appeals Roster appointed by Council. One member will be a student selected from the roster of students appointed for this purpose by the USSU or GSA. Where the case involves a graduate student, the faculty members on the board should be members of the graduate faculty. One faculty member of the appeal board shall be named chair. The University Secretary or designate will support to the appeal board. With the exception of the Secretary, individuals appointed to serve on an appeal board shall exclude anyone who was involved in the original hearing of the case.

Attachment 3: *Procedures for Student Appeals in Academic Matters* – Revisions

Section V, Part B, Clause 3(a)

Current:
Upon receipt of a notice of appeal, the university secretary shall constitute an appeal board to be composed of three members of Council, one of whom is a student (or, in the case of the unavailability of a student Council member, a student appointed by the USSU or GSA Executive to hear the case). When the case involves a graduate student, the faculty members of the appeal board should be members of the graduate faculty. One faculty member of the appeal board shall be named chair. The members of the board shall be chosen from the student academic hearing and appeals committee, which comprises all Council members other than ex officio members. The university secretary or designate will act as secretary to the appeal board. With the exception of the secretary, individuals appointed to serve on an appeal board shall exclude anyone who was involved in the original hearing of the case.

Changes:
Upon receipt of a notice of appeal, the university secretary shall constitute an appeal board to be composed of three members**. Two members shall be selected from the Student Hearing and Appeals Roster appointed by** ~~of~~ Council**. One member will be a student selected from the roster of students appointed for this purpose by the USSU or GSA.** ~~one of whom is a student (or, in the case of the unavailability of a student Council member, a student appointed by the USSU or GSA Executive to hear the case).~~ When the case involves a graduate student, the faculty members of the appeal board should be members of the graduate faculty. One faculty member of the appeal board shall be named chair. ~~The members of the board shall be chosen from the student academic hearing and appeals committee, which comprises all Council members other than ex officio members.~~ The university secretary or designate will act as secretary to the appeal board. With the exception of the secretary, individuals appointed to serve on an appeal board shall exclude anyone who was involved in the original hearing of the case.

Clean:
Upon receipt of a notice of appeal, the university secretary shall constitute an appeal board to be composed of three members. Two members shall be selected from the Student Hearing and Appeals Roster appointed by Council. One member will be a student selected from the roster of students appointed for this purpose by the USSU or GSA. When the case involves a graduate student, the faculty members of the appeal board should be members of the graduate faculty. One faculty member of the appeal board shall be named chair. The university secretary or designate will act as secretary to the appeal board. With the exception of the secretary, individuals appointed to serve on an appeal board shall exclude anyone who was involved in the original hearing of the case.

AGENDA

Committee: Governance Committee of Council
Date: October 6, 2026
Location: Peter MacKinnon Building, Room 206

1. Land Acknowledgement and Chair's Remarks

   The land is acknowledged as our Mother, the Earth. The University of Saskatchewan is committed to honor and support the Indigenous peoples, Indigenous cultures, Indigenous values, and Indigenous languages that belong to the land of Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Métis. The University of Saskatchewan is committed to working towards mending colonized lands and protecting the land in a way that demonstrates honour, respect, and love. The University of Saskatchewan extends this commitment to the lands and Treaty territories (Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10) that constitute kisiskâciwan *([Saskatchewan], "the swift current", Cree/Saulteaux), and all Indigenous people that call* kisiskâciwan *home. We are born to the land and the land claims us.*

2. Agenda Approval

3. Minutes Approval

4. **For Decision**: Roster of Faculty and Students for Appeal Panels
   Presented by Jordan Sherbino
   Note: This is the document is identical to the one distributed for the previous meeting.

5. **For Decision**: Revisions to the *Procedures for Student Appeals in Academic Matters*
   Presented by Nicole Matsalla and Dr. Julian Demkiw
   Note: This item will return to Governance for more discussion before a decision is made.

6. **For Discussion**: Online Council Attendance Protocols
   Verbal report from Dr. Julian Demkiw

7. Adjournment

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Committee Name: Nominations Committee, University Council
Date: October 22, 2026
Presented by: Carolyn Augusta, Chair, Nominations Committee

Subject: Omnibus Council Committee Vacancies

MOTION

It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nominations described in the attached report, effective October 22, 2026.

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

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

Scholarships and Awards

Name	**Nature of Appointment**	**College or Unit**	**Term on Committee**
Sarah Burningham	GAA	Law	June 30, 2029
Michelle Gagnon	GAA	Arts and Science	June 30, 2029
Kerry Mansell	GAA	Pharmacy and Nutrition	June 30, 2027
Carmen Gillies	GAA	Education	June 30, 2028
FangXiang Wu	GAA	Engineering	June 30, 2027
Jason Perepelkin	University Council	Pharmacy and Nutrition	June 30, 2027
Carla Orosz	University Council	Arts and Science	June 30, 2029
Chris Zhang	GAA	Engineering	Until June 30, 2027
Veronika Makarova (Chair)	University Council	Arts and Science	June 30, 2027
Trenna Vanghel	Indigenous Representative	Designate from OVPIE	
Leah Johnson	*ex officio*	Designate for Dean, College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies	
Pirita Mattola	*ex officio*	Designate for Vice-Provost, Students & Learning	
Marjorie Delbaere	*ex officio*	Designate for Provost and Vice-President Academic	
Abtin Safaeian	Student appointee	Designate for USSU (VP Academic Affairs)	April 30, 2027
Faisal Kabir Rozars	Student appointee	GSA (VP External Affairs)	April 30, 2027

Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee

Name	Nature of Appointment	College or Unit	Term on Committee
Maha Kumaran	University Council	Library	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Kate Congreves	University Council	Agriculture and Bioresources	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Paul Jones	University Council	SENS	July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029
Natasha Hubbard Murdoch	University Council	Nursing	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Marguerite Koole (Chair)	University Council	Education	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Rebekah Bennetch	GAA	Engineering	July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029
Gurpreet Kaur Aulakh	GAA	WCVM	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Melanie Hamilton	GAA	Education	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Ella Ophir	GAA	Arts and Science	July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029
Ken MacKenzie	GAA	Arts and Science	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Greg Malin	GAA	Medicine	July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029
Sasha Sukkhu	Sessional Lecturer	Arts and Science	June 30, 2027
Nancy Turner	*ex officio*	Designate for Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning	
Ashley Mendez Rosales	Student appointee	USSU (VP Academic Affairs)	April 30, 2027
Rozars Faisal	Student appointee	GSA (VP External Affairs)	April 30, 2027

Planning and Priorities Committee

Name	Nature of Appointment	College or Unit	Term on Committee
Angela Lieverse (Chair)	University Council	Arts and Science	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Christian Willenborg	University Council	Agriculture and Bioresources	July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029
Carla Orosz	University Council	Arts and Science	July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029
Rainer Dick	University Council	Arts and Science	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Kevin Flynn	University Council	Arts and Science	July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029
Jaswant Singh	University Council	WCVM	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Kerry Mansell	GAA	Pharmacy and Nutrition	Sept. 26, 2024-June 30, 2027
David Williams	GAA	Edwards School of Business	Sept. 25, 2025 - June 30, 2027
Volker Gerdts	GAA	WCVM/VIDO	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Schroder Sattar	GAA	Nursing	Sept. 24, 2026-June 30, 2028
Venkatesh Meda	GAA	Engineering	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Brooke Milne	Dean	Arts and Science	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Rhonda Laing	Sessional Lecturer	JSGS	June 30, 2027
Patti McDougall	*ex officio*	Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic	
Terry Fonstad	*ex officio*	Designate for VP Research	
Greg Fowler	*ex officio*	Vice-President, Administration & Chief Operating Officer	
Deidre (Dee) Henne	*ex officio*	Chief Financial Officer	
Amaranta Sokol	*ex officio*	Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement	
Hayley Pelletier	Student appointee	GSA (VP Finance & Operations)	April 30, 2027
Elmer Vincent	Student appointee	USSU (VP Operations & Finance)	April 30, 2027

Academic Programs Committee

Name	Nature of Appointment	College or Unit	Term on Committee
Carolyn Augusta	University Council	Edwards	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Debby Burshtyn	University Council	CGPS	Until June 30, 2029
Paul Jones	University Council	SENS	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Janet Luimes	University Council	Nursing	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Roy Dobson (Chair)	University Council	Pharmacy and Nutrition	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Jennifer Lang	GAA	Arts and Science	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Mary Ellen Labrecque	GAA	Nursing	July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029
Lori McKee	GAA	Education	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Yannick Tremblay	GAA	Medicine	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Valerie Caron	GAA	School of Rehabilitation Sciences	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Regina Taylor-Gjevre	GAA	Medicine	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Pearson Ahiahonu	Sessional Lecturer	Arts and Science	June 30, 2027
Marjorie Delbaere	*ex officio*	Interim Vice-Provost, Students & Learning	
Salome Ries	*ex officio*	Acting University Registrar	
Ashley Mendes Rosales	Student appointee	USSU (VP Academic Affairs)	April 30, 2027
Rupesh Acharya	Student appointee	GSA (VP Academic & Student Affairs)	April 30, 2027

AGENDA

Committee Name: Nominations Committee (NOM)
Date: October 1, 2026
Time: 2:30 pm–4:30 pm
Location: PMB 206

CALL TO ORDER

1. Welcome and Chair's Remarks
2. Agenda Approval
3. Minutes Approval
    a. Sept 10, 2026 minutes (attached)
    b. Sept 15, 2026 minutes (attached)
4. Item for Decision: Sessional Lecturer Nominations
5. Item for Decision: Council Committee Vacancies
    a. Scholarships and Awards Committee
6. Adjournment

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

AGENDA

Committee Name: Planning and Priorities Committee (PPC)
Date: October 7, 2026
Time: 9:30 am–12 pm
Location: PMB 238

CALL TO ORDER

1. Welcome and Chair's Remarks
2. Agenda Approval
3. Minutes Approval
    a. September 23, 2026 minutes [**attached**]
4. **Item for Information: OVPR Portfolio Priorities** [**briefing note attached**] (9:40am)
   Presented by: Baljit Singh, Vice-President Research
5. **Item for Review: OVPA Policy Review** [**briefing note attached**] (10:00am)
   Presented by: Greg Fowler, Vice-President Administration and COO

BREAK

6. ***Confidential* Item for Information: UniForum Benchmarking Program and Resource Allocation** [**briefing note attached**] (10:30am)
   Presented by: Deidre (Dee) Henne, CFO, Patti McDougall, Interim Provost and Vice-President, Academic and Troy Harkot, Chief Analytics Officer
7. Other Business
8. Adjournment

AGENDA

Committee Name: Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee
Date: October 8, 2026
Time: 2:30 pm–4:30 pm
Location: ADMIN C210

CALL TO ORDER

1. Welcome, Chair's Remarks and Introductions
2. Agenda Approval
3. Minutes Approval
   a. May 21, 2026 Minutes [**attached**]
4. **Item for Information:** RSAW Orientation [presentation at meeting] (2:35pm)
   Presented By: Lisa Birke, Committee Chair and Danielle Rudulier, Committee Coordinator
5. **Item for Information**: OVPR Priorities- Progress of 2025/26 and Overview of 2026/27 [**briefing note attached**] (2:50pm)
   Presented By: Baljit Singh, Vice- President Research
6. **Item for Discussion:** Questions for Ethics Office and Board Processes [**briefing note attached**] (3:00pm)
   Presented by: Lisa Birke, Committee Chair
7. Other Business
   - Members for other Committees
     - **PPC Centres Subcommittee**
     - **Joint Committee for Chars and Professorships**
     - **CFI Advisory Committee**
8. Adjournment

AGENDA

Committee Name: Scholarships and Awards Committee of Council
Date: October 1, 2026
Time: 10-11 am
Location: C210

CALL TO ORDER

1. Welcome, Member Introduction and Chair's Remarks
2. Agenda Approval
3. Minutes Approval
   a. May 7, 2026 minutes
4. Committee mandate
   a. *Overview of Scholarships and Awards Committee*
   b. *2025-2026 Report to Council*
   c. *2026 (pending) University of Saskatchewan Undergraduate Awards Policy*
5. Special Terms Subcommittee work
   a. *Recent decisions*
   b. *Tentative plan for future subcommittee meetings*
6. Conflict of Interest recusal statement
7. Other Business
8. Adjournment

Future Meetings: December 3, 2026, 10-11am
January 14, 2027, 10-11am
May 6, 2026, 10-11am

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

AGENDA

Committee Name: Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee (TLARC)
Date: October 20, 2026
Time: 2:30pm–4:30 pm
Location: PMB 238

CALL TO ORDER

1. **Welcome and Chair's Remarks**
2. **Agenda Approval**
3. **Minutes Approval**
    - September 22, 2026 minutes [**attached**]
4. **Indigenization of Teaching and Learning Framework and Implications** [**briefing note attached**] (2:40pm)
   Presented by: Carson Magnuson, Senior Strategic Officer, Indigenous Engagement and Darryl Isbister, Lead, Indigenous Education Initiatives
5. **TLARC Working Group Summary and Sign Up** [**briefing note attached**] (3:15pm)
   Presented by: Wendy James, Director, Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching and Learning
6. **Other Business**
7. **Adjournment**

University of Saskatchewan

AGENDA ITEM NO: 11.1

Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships Annual Report for Information

Presented by: Dr. Scott Walsworth
Date of meeting: October 2026

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

SUMMARY

The University of Saskatchewan encourages the establishment of Chairs and Professorships in order to develop and enhance specific areas of teaching, research and service, including outreach and engagement activity. The areas of development and enhancement must support the overarching goals and objectives of the university, the college or school, and the department and contribute to their achievement. They must be premised upon, and contribute to, the principles inherent within foundational documents such as the University of Saskatchewan's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy, ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan (Indigenization Strategy), and the International Blueprint.

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.

Membership

• The Provost and Vice-President Academic or designate – co-chair;

• The Vice-President Research or designate – co-chair;

• Two members of Council appointed by Council; one at-large member and one member representing the Research, Scholarly, and Artistic Work Committee;

• One member of the Board of Governors appointed by the Board;

• The University Secretary or designate;

• The Vice-President University Relations or designate;

• the Vice-President Finance and Resources or designate.

Committee Members:

Dawn Wallin (Co-chair)	Vice-President Research designate	2025, 2026
Scott Walsworth (Co-chair)	Provost and Vice-President Academic designate	2025, 2026
Lori Bradford	College of Engineering	2025, 2026
Steve Milosavlijevic	College of Medicine	2025

Shandi Boser	Vice-President University Relations designate	2025
Trevor Batters	Vice-president Finance and Resources designate	2025
Julian Demkiw	University Secretary	2025, 2026
Lisa Birke	College of Arts and Science	2026
Kimberly Kroll-Goodwin	Interim Vice-President University Relations	2026
Chantel Laventure	Vice-President Finance and Resources designate	2026
Grant Devine	Member of the Board of Governors appointed by the Board	2025, 2026

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

Preamble:

Specific provision for Council's role is provided within *The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995, Section 61*, which describes the powers of Council. 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.

Purpose:

The purpose of establishing a joint Board/Council committee on chairs and professorships is to bring both approving bodies to the table, thus ensuring that academic and financial concerns are considered in conjunction with one another.

1.0 Membership:

• The Provost and Vice-President Academic or designate – co-chair;

• The Vice-President Research or designate – co-chair;

• Two members of Council appointed by Council; one at-large member and one member representing the Research, Scholarly, and Artistic Work Committee;

• One member of the Board of Governors appointed by the Board;

• The University Secretary or designate;

• The Vice-President University Relations or designate;

• the Vice-President Finance and Resources or designate.

2.0 Responsibilities:

• to develop and review procedures and guidelines relating to the establishment, funding, and on-going administration of Chairs at the University of Saskatchewan;

• to receive and review proposals for the establishment of all Chairs and Professorships, assessing compliance with university aims and objectives, administrative processes, and financial integrity;

• to recommend to Council approval of proposed Chairs, and subsequently to recommend to the Board of Governors that the Board authorize the establishment of Chairs and changes to the structure of Chairs as may be required from time to time;

• to receive notice of changes to the names of Chairs in accordance with the university's policy on Naming of University Assets;

• to monitor the reporting requirements related to Chair oversight and fiduciary responsibilities and report on the extent to which these are met, and;

• to submit an annual report to Council and the Board on the activities of the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships;

• to hold at least one meeting annually.

guidelines-for-chairs-and-professorships.pdf

Chairs and Professorships - Policies | University of Saskatchewan

STRATEGIC and INTEGRATED PLANNING

NEW CHAIRS FOR APPROVAL

Chair Title	College
Beef Cattle Health Chair	Western College of Veterinary Medicine
Buckwold Milani Enhancement Chair in Commercial Law	College of Law
HRF Pediatrics Chair in Origins of Health and Disease	College of Medicine
KPMG Chair in Environmental, Social and Governance	Edwards School of Business

The Beef Cattle Health Chair was created and approved to provide strategic leadership in beef cattle health for the Canadian beef industry, with a range of funded and targeted research initiatives including: factors limiting the production of cow-calf herds (funded Canadian Cow-Calf Health and Productivity Enhancement Network), the use of genomic technologies to inform antimicrobial stewardship in the beef industry, and finally, micronutrient deficiencies in fall-placed calves, increased risk of respiratory disease and response to vaccination early in the feeding period in cattle. This chair position aims to increase the critical mass of highly qualified personnel as leaders in beef cattle health in Canada, working in research, industry, government and veterinary groups.

The Buckwold Milani Enhancement Chair in Commercial Law was created to award demonstrated achievement in advancing the field of commercial law through research and teaching. The Chair will assist the College of Law in recruiting and retaining outstanding faculty who have made sustained contributions to the field of commercial law through their teaching and scholarly work.

The Hospitals of Regina Foundation Pediatrics Research Chair was created to support a visionary and internationally recognized clinician-scientist who will lead the development of a high-impact research consortium focused on advancing knowledge about the early-life origins of chronic diseases. The Chair will forge collaborations with other researchers investigating early life genetic, environmental, psychosocial, and lifestyle determinants of chronic conditions such as diabetes, asthma, obesity, and autoimmune and cardiovascular disorders, with the goal of advancing prevention strategies and improving health outcomes.

The KPMG Chair in Environmental, Social and Governance was created to assist the Edwards School of Business in retaining talented, high potential faculty with strong research and scholarship, and who may be at risk to accept a job offer from another institution. The KPMG Chair in ESG position is expressly invested in the School's research profile and reputation through publications in academic accounting outlets related to ESG, supervision of accounting

graduate and/or undergraduate honours students, and to acknowledge outstanding service to the accounting academy and profession.

RENEWALS

Name	College	Chair Title	Renewal Date	Term End Date
Dr. Bruce Eglington	College of Arts & Science	Murray W. Pyke Chair in Geological Sciences	1-Jul-25	30-Jun-30
Dr. Allyson Stevenson	College of Arts & Science	Gabriel Dumont Research Chair in Metis Studies	1-Jul-25	30-Jun-30
Dr. Gabriela Mangano	College of Arts & Science	George McLeod Enhancement Chair in Geology	1-May-26	30-Apr-31
Dr. Oscar Zapata	School of Environment and Sustainability	Community Energy Development Chair	1-May-26	30-Apr-31

APPOINTMENTS

Name	College	Chair Title	Appointment Date	Term End Date
Dr. Leanne Grieves	College of Arts & Science	Stuart and Mary Houston Professorship in Ornithology	1-Jul-25	No End Date
Dr. Marc-Andre Pigeon	Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy	Co-operative Retailing System (CRS) Chair in Cooperative Governance	1-Jul-25	30-Jun-29
Dr. Devan Mescall	Edwards School of Business	Edwards Enhancement Chair in Business	1-Jul-25	30-Jun-28
Dr. Dev Mishra	Edwards School of Business	Edwards Enhancement Chair in Business	1-Jul-25	30-Jun-28
Dr. Hamed Samarghandi	Edwards School of Business	Edwards Enhancement Chair in Business	1-Jul-25	30-Jun-28
Dr. Joseph Schmidt	Edwards School of Business	Edwards Enhancement Chair in Business	1-Jul-25	30-Jun-28
Dr. Lee Swanson	Edwards School of Business	Edwards Enhancement Chair in Business	1-Jul-25	30-Jun-28

Dr. Michael Wynes	Edwards School of Business	CPA Scholar	1-Jul-25	30-Jun-27
Dr. Valentyna Klymiuk	College of Agriculture and Bioresources	SK Wheat Development Commission Applied Genomics and Pre-Breeding Cereals Chair	1-Aug-25	No End Date
Dr. Clayton Bangsund	College of Law	Buckwold Milani Chair in Commercial Law	10-Oct-25	30-Sep-30

COMPLETED TERMS

Name	College	Chair Title	Term End Date
Dr. Dionne Pohler	Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy	Co-op Retailing System (CRS) Chair in Cooperative Governance	30-Jun-25
Dr. Maureen Bourassa	Edwards School of Business	Edwards Enhancement Chair in Business	30-Jun-25
Dr. Min Maung	Edwards School of Business	Edwards Enhancement Chair in Business	30-Jun-25
Dr. Devan Mescall	Edwards School of Business	Edwards Enhancement Chair in Business	30-Jun-25
Dr. Hamed Samarghandi	Edwards School of Business	Edwards Enhancement Chair in Business	30-Jun-25
Dr. Joseph Schmidt	Edwards School of Business	Edwards Enhancement Chair in Business	30-Jun-25
Dr. Mamun Abdullah	Edwards School of Business	Dembroski Scholar	30-Jun-25
Professor Dino Kritsiotis	College of Law	Ariel Sallows Chair in Human Rights	30-Jun-25
Dr. Francesco Ferranti	College of Engineering	Siemens Electronics Design Automation (EDA) Chair	1-Sep-25
Dr. Kerri Froc	College of Law	Law Foundation of Saskatchewan H. Robert Arscott Chair	31-Dec-25

Dr. Mansfield Mela	College of Medicine	Iver and Joyce Graham Small Indiana Professorship in Psychiatry	30-Apr-26
Dr. Andrew Sharpe	Global Institute for Food Security	Bangabandhu Research Chair in Food Security	30-Apr-26
Professor Gail Henderson	College of Law	Estey Chair in Business Law	30-Jun-26
Dr. Nicholas Tyack	College of Agriculture and Bioresources	Van Vliet Visiting Professorship in Agricultural Economics	30-Jun-26

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORSHIPS

Name	College
Dr. Claire Card	Western College of Veterinary Medicine
Dr. Daniel Chen	College of Engineering
Dr. Miroslaw Cygler (Emerit)	College of Medicine
Dr. Curtis Pozniak	College of Agriculture and Bioresources
Dr. Barbara von Tigerstrom	College of Law

ACTIONS COMING FROM A REVIEW OF JCCP PROCESSES

Efforts have been made to strengthen and streamline JCCP processes through a collaborative partnership between the Research Office, the Provost's Office, University Governance, University Relations and the Board of Governors. The joint approach connects academic and research considerations, with administrative functions such as fundraising, financial stewardship and governance, creating a more balanced and effective framework for decision-making.

A key area of focus has been increasing communication and transparency with committee members at every stage. Regular updates, clearer expectations, and more opportunities for dialogue help ensure that participants remain informed, engaged, and aligned throughout the review process. New initiative includes a scheduled set of meetings and submissions deadlines to allow committee members a better opportunity to review and discuss approval items.

JCCP STRUCTURE

As part of a broader committee review, JCCP considered whether its responsibilities could be more effectively carried out by another committee. In doing so, members reflected on both

the committee's role and its demonstrated efficiency, noting that the infrequency of meetings and the limited time required for Council consideration of JCCP items are indicators of an effective process rather than evidence of redundancy. Following discussion, the committee unanimously concluded that its responsibilities should remain within JCCP. Members emphasized that the committee's unique structure, bringing together representatives from University Relations, the Provost's Office, Research, Finance, the Governance Office, the Board, and faculty, provides a valuable forum for considering the academic, financial, governance, donor-relations, and collective agreement implications of chairs and professorships. The committee also noted an interest in strengthening faculty representation to ensure that faculty perspectives remain prominent as the University's portfolio of chairs and professorships continues to grow.

FOCUS FOR THE 2026-2027 ACADEMIC YEAR

For the 2026-2027 academic year, the JCCP will focus on developing a formalized process for the nomination, review, and appointment of Honorary Chairs. This work will establish clear criteria, defined roles and responsibilities, and transparent procedures to ensure consistency, fairness, and confidence in the process across the university community.

The JCCP will also prioritize aligning its work with the University of Saskatchewan's new strategic plan. By reviewing committee practices and priorities through the lens of the institutional strategy, the committee can help ensure that its decisions and initiatives support the university's long-term goals, values, and commitment to excellence in research, teaching, and engagement.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Members of the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships included Scott Walsworth, Dawn Wallin, Lori Bradford, Steve Milosavljevic, Shandi Boser, Trevor Batters, Julian Demkiw, Lisa Birke, Kimberly Kroll-Goodwin, Chantel Laventure and Grant Devine. Appreciation is noted for the critical reviews of documents, and for attending to committee requests in a timely and detailed manner.

The committee wishes to recognize and honour Steve Milosavlijevic's dedicated service, thoughtful contributions, and unwavering commitment to the University. Steve passed away peacefully on July 30, 2026. His expertise, leadership, and collegial spirit greatly enriched the work of the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships, and his contributions will be remembered with gratitude and respect. The committee extends its sincere condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues and acknowledges the lasting impact he has made on the University community.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

October 2026

As we move through another busy fall term, I continue to be encouraged by the energy and sense of purpose across the University of Saskatchewan (USask). I see students, faculty, and staff bringing talent, curiosity, and commitment to the work they do.

This time of year offers a valuable reminder of what makes USask distinctive: a commitment to discovery, learning, and service. Whether we are welcoming new members to this community, celebrating accomplishments, or addressing complex challenges together, we remain focused on building a strong future for the people and places we serve.

UPLAN 2035 UPDATE

Development of UPlan 2035 is entering its final refinement and endorsement phase through discussions with students, academic leadership, governance bodies and external stakeholders and partners. This follows an extensive engagement process involving more than 3,500 members of the university community and nearly 200 external partners, including Indigenous leaders and Knowledge Keepers, governments, industry leaders, research partners, alumni, donors, and community partners. Analysis of more than 17,000 data points has informed the vision that has taken shape: to strengthen Saskatchewan, Canada and the world by focusing on people and solutions.

The vision identifies areas where USask has strengths that enable it to make distinct contributions, including food and water security, health and well-being, thriving communities, sustainable energy and resource futures, and responsible technological transformation.

The Local to Global mission is grounded in Saskatchewan's strengths and communities, and a strong and supported university community, to facilitate accessible and meaningful lifelong learning, advance discovery and insight, and deepen our connection and

commitment to community. Local to Global means that our connection to Saskatchewan grounds who we are and how we contribute to our nation and the world. It shapes the questions we ask, the people with whom we learn, the partnerships we build, and the opportunities and solutions we pursue.

I look forward to presenting the UPlan 2035 to University Council at its October meeting. Council members will have an opportunity to provide feedback through an emailed survey in advance of the endorsement vote anticipated in November. The central components of the UPlan 2035 vision, mission and priorities are appended to this report for reference.

Following review and endorsement processes through the fall and winter, UPlan 2035 is expected to launch in February 2027.

CAMPUS PLANNING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

USask continues to advance long-term campus planning while responding to significant transportation and infrastructure projects affecting the campus community.

City of Saskatoon projects, including construction along College Drive and the Link Rapid Transit project on Preston Avenue, continue to affect access to campus, resulting in changing traffic patterns and increased traffic volumes on surrounding roadways. In response, the university has implemented temporary traffic measures and is advancing a comprehensive Transportation Master Plan to inform future improvements to traffic flow, accessibility, and pedestrian safety.

The Bowl Remediation Project has also entered its final major phase. Following extensive underground infrastructure work, restoration of landscaping and green spaces is underway. The Bowl is expected to remain closed until Fall 2027 to allow vegetation and landscape features time to establish and ensure the long-term sustainability of this important campus gathering space.

HONORARY DEGREE

USask will recognize distinguished alumnus Tim Gitzel with an honorary degree during Fall Convocation.

As President and Chief Executive Officer of Cameco, Gitzel has demonstrated exceptional leadership in Canada's resource sector while maintaining strong connections to the university. A globally respected leader in the nuclear energy industry, he has also

championed student success and educational opportunity through his longstanding support of USask, including investments in mental health, energy education, and STEM pathways for northern and Indigenous learners. His contributions to USask students, industry, community development, and Saskatchewan's economic growth exemplify the impact of USask alumni both locally and globally.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AND RECOGNITION

USask continues to strengthen its reputation as a global research leader.

Rankings

In the latest ShanghaiRanking Global Ranking of Academic Subjects, USask ranked first in Canada and among the top 10 institutions globally in Water Resources. This recognition reflects decades of leadership in hydrology, climate adaptation, and water security research and reinforces the university's international reputation for excellence in water science.

In the recent Maclean's University Rankings, USask placed sixth among 19 institutions in the new mid-sized university category, with top-five results in research impact, library acquisitions and reputation. Because Maclean's significantly changed its categories, indicators and weighting for 2027, the results establish a new baseline and should not be directly compared with previous years. USask will review the detailed findings in the coming weeks.

PAW Congress 2026

This week, USask welcomed researchers, industry leaders, and decision-makers from around the world for PAW Congress 2026. The congress has focused on the critical connections between responsible minerals development, sustainable energy, and thriving communities, highlighting issues that are increasingly important to Saskatchewan, Canada, and the world.

VIDO scientists

USask's Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO) has strengthened its research capacity with the recruitment of three internationally recognized scientists: Dr. Troy Sutton (PhD), an expert in emerging influenza viruses; Dr. Anna Lacasta (PhD), a leader in livestock vaccine development and African swine fever research; and Dr. Leonie Bettin (DVM, PhD), a veterinarian and immunologist specializing in swine immunity and vaccine responses. Their expertise will support research into diseases that affect animals, food systems, and global

health security, reinforcing VIDO's role as a leader in infectious disease research and preparedness.

Canada's Top 40 Under 40

Dr. Arinjay Banerjee (PhD), principal scientist at VIDO, adjunct professor in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, and Canada Research Chair in Zoonotic Virus and Animal Reservoirs, has been named one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40. The recognition honours exceptional leaders who are making significant contributions in their professions and communities. Banerjee is internationally recognized for his research on zoonotic viruses and for advancing solutions that strengthen both animal and human health. His achievement reflects the excellence and global impact of USask researchers.

Alumni Achievement Awards

On Oct. 26, USask will celebrate six exceptional graduates at the 2026 Alumni Achievement Awards. The recipients have distinguished themselves through leadership, service, and professional achievement in fields including health care, sport, journalism, Indigenous economic development, vaccine research, and agriculture.

Their accomplishments reflect the far-reaching impact of a USask education and demonstrate how contributions rooted in Saskatchewan can create positive change in communities across Canada and around the world.

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

On Sept. 30, USask observed the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Leading up to the day, the university hosted a Week of Reflection that provided opportunities for learning, dialogue, and remembrance. Members of the university community also participated in the Saskatoon Tribal Council Every Child Matters Powwow, joining others in honouring Survivors, remembering the children who never returned home, and reaffirming our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation.

This work continues to be guided by the principles of respect, accountability, and relationship-building that are essential to meaningful reconciliation.

HUSKIE ATHLETICS

Huskie student-athletes continue to demonstrate excellence both in competition and in the classroom as the 2026–27 season progresses.

The fall season has seen strong performances across several programs. Football remains among the top teams in Canada West and continues to build momentum heading toward the postseason. Soccer, cross-country, and hockey student-athletes are also representing USask with determination, skill, and pride as their seasons unfold. Volleyball starts tomorrow and basketball, next week.

Huskie Athletics remains an important source of community connection and institutional pride, showcasing the leadership, resilience, and achievements of our student-athletes both on and off the field of play.

CLOSING REMARKS

This fall has highlighted a university that is ambitious, collaborative, and deeply connected to the communities it serves.

Whether through the development of UPlan 2035, investments in campus infrastructure, achievements in research and scholarship, or the accomplishments of students and alumni, USask continues to build on a strong foundation while creating new opportunities for the future.

As President, I thank you for your continued leadership, guidance, and support. The progress highlighted in this report reflects the collective efforts of people across the university and beyond. Together, we will continue advancing the work that strengthens Saskatchewan, contributes to global challenges, and creates lasting impact for generations to come.

APPENDIX 1



University Plan 2035

University of Saskatchewan

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

UPlan 2035 vision

We strengthen Saskatchewan and the world through future-focused people and solutions in:

- **Global food and water security:** We advance ecological, social, policy, and economic innovations needed for food and water security that matter to the world.
- **Healthy people, animals, and ecosystems:** We foster health and wellbeing and contribute to progressive and equitable pathways that sustain all life.
- **Thriving communities for all:** We deepen our understanding of peoples, perspectives, and places to turn insight into action that solves problems, contributing to connected, equitable, and thriving communities.
- **Sustainable energy and resource futures:** We develop sustainable energy and critical mineral systems that fuel equitable prosperity, strong communities, and healthy ecosystems.
- **Responsible technological transformation:** We create and advance technologies to open new possibilities that drive ethical, leading-edge change.

UPlan 2035 mission: Local to global

Grounded in Saskatchewan's strengths and communities, and fuelled by a university community equipped to learn, contribute, and thrive, we collaborate across disciplines, sectors, and society to create local to global impact.

1. **We facilitate accessible and meaningful lifelong learning** through teaching and experiences that expand people's capacities to shape and serve organizations and society.
2. **We advance discovery and insight** through research, scholarly and artistic work that develops knowledge and expertise, creates solutions to complex challenges and contributes to economic and social progress.
3. **We deepen our connection and commitment to community** by
   a) **creating space** for meaningful collaboration, partnership, and innovation with Indigenous Peoples, and
   b) **leading innovation** that strengthens Saskatchewan's health, economic, social, cultural, and environmental future while delivering ethical solutions for a sustainable world.

Local to global priorities

Over the next 10 years, we will achieve these priorities, turning our deep commitment to place into meaningful impact, locally, nationally and globally.

1. **We provide transformative learning** that prepares learners, across their educational and professional journeys, to contribute effectively to communities and industries, creating a sustainable future.
2. **We offer students connected, accessible, and high-quality University of Saskatchewan experiences** facilitating their success, wellbeing and belonging.
3. **We generate and share innovations, research, scholarly and artistic works that impact the future of society** by developing knowledge and expertise that addresses complex social, economic, and environmental challenges.
4. **We uplift Indigenous Peoples, knowledges, and Indigenous-determined priorities,** creating contexts where Indigenous Peoples, cultures, languages, and worldviews thrive.
5. **We strengthen and sustain our physical, digital, and operational infrastructure** to create safe, high-performing, and future-ready environments.
6. **We foster environments, create opportunities, and provide supports** that promote safety, respect, inclusion and wellbeing.
7. **We build resilience and strengthen our capacity, stewarding our financial resources responsibly** to achieve USask's mission and success for generations.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Interim Provost's Report to Council

October 2026

GENERAL REMARKS

Student Systems Modernization project

USask is assessing its current student digital ecosystem to support future academic, student service, and operational needs. Huron Consulting Group has been engaged to evaluate the current student information ecosystem and develop a modernization strategy and roadmap. During the working process, input from the USask community will help identify strengths, challenges, emerging needs, and opportunities for improvement. This project is focused on technology and processes and is part of phase one of the larger Integrated Services Renewal (ISR) Initiative to modernize and replace aging core administrative systems that support students, employees, finance, and procurement. We will provide regular updates on how this work is progressing and opportunities for input over the coming months.

Diplomatic Economic Mission to Saskatchewan

In early October, we had the opportunity to welcome an international diplomatic mission to Saskatchewan, and to share with them what makes USask a leader in academics, research, and student experience in Canada and the world. This delegation included representatives from the Government of Saskatchewan, Global Affairs Canada, and Ambassadors, High Commissioners, and equivalent representatives from countries across Africa, Europe, the Caribbean, the Middle East, and Asia. I want to thank all here today for the work that you do that makes it possible to represent USask so wonderfully on the global stage.

USASK UPDATES

ACTING DEAN, WESTERN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Due to a planned six-month administrative leave for Dr. Gillian Muir from January 1 to June 30, 2027, the USask Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) has appointed Dr. Stephen Manning as acting dean, effective January 1, 2027. A long-serving member of the WCVM community, Dr. Manning has held a range of academic, clinical, and leadership roles

over more than two decades and currently leads operations of the Veterinary Medical Centre while supporting senior clinical training in the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program. With extensive expertise in veterinary medicine, reproductive health, teaching, and clinical practice, Dr. Manning is well positioned to provide stable leadership and maintain momentum on the college's priorities during this period, ensuring continued excellence in veterinary education, research, and community service. We wish the best to Dr. Muir during her administrative leave, and warmly welcome Dr. Manning into the role of acting dean during this time.

WEEK OF REFLECTION

The Week of Reflection at USask was observed the last week of September, leading up to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, allowing the USask community time to focus on their personal learning of reconciliation. USask efforts were led by the team in the Office of the Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement (OVPIE) with many others across campus getting involved. Students, staff, and faculty had an opportunity on September 30 and throughout the week to wear an orange shirt to honour residential school survivors, and to connect with others during Saskatchewan **community-based events.** A USask-made art installation was also featured during the week. The **Blanket Project** was designed to acknowledge the unmarked graves that were found across Turtle Island, honouring the spirits of those who were missing.

We are reminded during the Week of Reflection and throughout the academic year that this work requires the continued dedication and commitment of everyone on all USask campuses. In August 2026, we marked five years since USask received the gift of the Indigenous Strategy, and leaders from across campus have shared reports that highlight their unit's achievements and underline their challenges. As we continue on this journey together into the future, all USask students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to review the **22 reports** available on the OVPIE website, **indigenous.usask.ca.**

UNIVERSITY RANKINGS SUCCESSES

ShanghaiRanking Global Ranking of Academic Subjects

USask achieved a major international milestone in 2026, ranking ninth globally and first in Canada for Water Resources in the Shanghai Ranking Global Ranking of Academic Subjects (GRAS), reflecting the university's world-leading research and scholarship in water science. The ranking also highlighted broader research excellence across the institution, with USask improving its standing in several disciplines, including Medical Technology, Chemistry, Education, and Nursing, with Nursing advancing into the 201–300 tier after being unranked

the previous year. Evaluating approximately 2,000 universities worldwide, the GRAS recognizes research impact, faculty achievements, international collaboration, and scholarly output, underscoring USask's growing global reputation as a leader in research and education.

Times Higher Education World University Rankings

USask has achieved its highest-ever placement in the 2027 Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings, which evaluates universities based on their primary activities of teaching, research, knowledge transfer, and international outlook. USask ranked in the 351-375 tier among nearly 2,300 universities worldwide. This is the university's strongest performance in the rankings to date and coincides with the largest number of participating institutions ever included.

USASK OPEN HOUSE 2026

USask Open House 2026 took place on September 25 and attracted more than 2,700 attendees from a total of 3,671 registrants, including 2,234 students, 426 parents/supporters, and 28 high school counsellors. Attendance was comparable to last year. Check-in and welcome activities in the Physical Activity Complex ran smoothly.

Highlights included:

- **10 information fair booths** showcasing student services and resources
- **17 campus tours** offered throughout the day
- **44 admission decisions** made through Apply on the Spot sessions, with approximately **36 admission letters** distributed during the event
- Participation from **14 colleges**, participated or were represented through hosting or attendance at expos and running their own activities, including the Colleges of Agriculture and Bioresources, Arts and Science, Dentistry, Education, Edwards School of Business, Engineering, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, Kinesiology, Law, Medicine and the School of Rehabilitation Science, Nursing, Pharmacy and Nutrition, the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, and St. Thomas More College.
- Representation from **eight student service units** across the university showcased the university's network of student and academic resources through the Student Services Info Fair, including Access and Equity Services, Career Services, the Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre, International Student and Study Abroad Centre (ISSAC), Residence, Student Finance and Awards, Student Recruitment, and Student Wellness and Peer Health.

AI READY RESEARCHER SERIES

The AI Ready Researcher Series, offered by the USask Library, has generated exceptional interest from the research community, with all four sessions now full. Designed to help create an environment that supports AI-ready research, the series brings researchers together in conversation and experimentation to explore both the opportunities and risks of using generative AI in research, scholarship, and artistic work. Through facilitated discussions and hands-on learning with approved AI tools, participants are examining responsible, transparent, and ethical approaches that prioritize research integrity, quality, and scholarly rigor. The strong demand for the series highlights the University Library's important role in supporting research success across campus and its leadership in helping researchers confidently navigate emerging technologies and evolving research practices. Session presenters include expertise from the Office of the Vice-President Research, the Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching and Learning, and the USask Library, with Trevor Batters, Kurt Bergsma, Catherine Boden, and Ann Liang.

COLLEGE AND SCHOOL UPDATES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND MILESTONES

A selection of recent accomplishments, achievements, and milestones for USask's college and school community are shared below.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDY ABROAD COURSE COLLABORATION

The USask College of Education and College of Agriculture and Bioresources are advancing their commitment to experiential and globally engaged learning through their first interdisciplinary study abroad program, bringing together students and faculty for a 10-day field course in Guatemala. The innovative program explored the intersections of agriculture, sustainability, culture, history, and citizenship, providing students with hands-on learning experiences and cross-disciplinary perspectives while strengthening international partnerships. The initiative was recognized with a Regional Centres of Expertise (RCE) Saskatchewan award for fostering cross-cultural understanding and community engagement, and supports USask's broader goals of sustainability, global learning, and integrating Indigenous and local knowledge into educational and agricultural practices.

EDWARDS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS UPDATES

Edwards supply chain management major reaccredited by Supply Chain Canada

The Edwards School of Business is pleased to share that the Bachelor of Commerce (B.Comm.) supply chain management major has been reaccredited by Supply Chain

Canada. This continued accreditation reflects the program's alignment with national standards and its role in preparing students for careers in Canada's supply chain profession. Graduates of the Edwards BComm program who have achieved a grade of 70 per cent or higher in designated courses within the last five years may receive advanced standing towards the Supply Chain Management Professional (SCMP™) Designation.

120 young entrepreneurs participate in fifth annual Edwards Entrepreneurship Summer Youth Camp

The fifth annual Edwards Entrepreneurship Summer Youth Camp welcomed 120 campers aged 9 to 14 over three weeks of hands-on experiential learning. Participants explored key business concepts including entrepreneurship, marketing, finance, budgeting, and sales while developing their own business ideas from concept to market. Throughout the program, campers engaged with local entrepreneurs, created business plans and budgets, developed products and services, and refined their pitches in preparation for the Friday Business Fair. The camp showcased the creativity and innovation of young entrepreneurs, with participants presenting a diverse range of ventures, from interactive experiences to handmade and manufactured products.

CPA Saskatchewan partnership supports accounting student development

The Edwards Accounting Bootcamp helps students build the knowledge, confidence, and professional connections needed to succeed in upper-year accounting studies and prepare for careers in the profession. Led by associate professor Brandy Mackintosh, the program is offered at the beginning of both the Spring and Fall terms and provides a comprehensive review of key accounting concepts, technical skills, and learning strategies that support success in COMM 321 Corporate Financial Reporting I and subsequent accounting courses. Students also gain insight into career pathways and professional designation opportunities through engagement with faculty, alumni, guest speakers, and industry professionals. By combining academic preparation with professional development and networking opportunities, the bootcamp strengthens students' readiness for both the classroom and the workplace. Made possible through the generous support of CPA Saskatchewan, the initiative has benefited more than 240 undergraduate students since its launch in 2024.

LAUNCH OF DENTPRENEUR PROGRAM

A new College of Dentistry initiative is giving undergraduate students the opportunity to turn real oral health challenges into innovative solutions. Launched in early September, Dentpreneur is a free extracurricular initiative designed for students who want to gain hands-on experience in innovation and entrepreneurship while working collaboratively on

meaningful problems. Dentpreneur unfolds in three phases, allowing students to progress from introductory learning to developing and pitching an idea with an interdisciplinary team. Participants will receive a certificate for each phase of Dentpreneur they complete, providing recognition of their extracurricular learning and participation. This interdisciplinary venture brings together undergraduate students from the College of Dentistry, College of Arts and Science, College of Engineering and Edwards School of Business.

COLLEGE OF LAW UPDATES

The College of Law held its annual First-Year Welcoming Ceremony on September 22. At this event, attended by family, friends, alumni, faculty, and the judiciary, 124 members of the Class of 2029 officially became part of the USask Law community. The ceremony included recitation of the student and faculty commitments, adapted from the USask Learning Charter.

The college has also launched its new land-based learning class with 13 students. The name, sonî askiy nipîy pimâtisiwin (LAW 498.3), includes pimâtisiwin (life, being alive and good clean living with high moral standards); sonî (along the riverside/riverbank); askiy (Land/Earth/World); and nipîy (water). This course forms a key part of the College of Law response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Call to Action #28, which calls upon all law school in Canada to require law students to take a course in Aboriginal people and the law.

RECENT APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Som Niyoogi has been appointed as Interim Associate Dean, Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work (RSAW), College of Arts and Science, beginning September 15, 2026, up to December 31, 2027.

Sarah Buhler has been appointed as Interim Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, College of Law, beginning October 1, 2026, up to June 30, 2027.

Dr. Soo Kim has been appointed as Acting Director, School of Rehabilitation Science, College of Medicine, beginning October 1, 2026, up to March 31, 2027.

Dr. Wanda Martin has been appointed as Acting Associate Dean, Graduate Studies and Research, College of Nursing, beginning January 4, 2027, up to June 30, 2027.

ACTIVE SEARCHES AND REVIEWS

Searches:

- Dean, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

Please see here for information on searches and reviews.

Graduate Students' Association

October 22, 2026

University Council Report

Prepared By :
Graduate Students Association of USask
Sunny Bui
President 2026-27



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Dear University Council Members,

Since my September report, Our priorities remain graduate student engagement, affordable and accessible supports, research conditions, childcare, and clear governance.

Graduate Student Engagement and Supports
The GSA is continuing to work on programming, family-oriented events, volunteer opportunities, and clearer pathways for graduate students to participate in evens, ratified groups, Council, Standing Committees.

We have also strengthened practical student supports. Legal-services access has been added to the GSA Health and Dental Plan at no additional cost. The GSA Commons now offers breastfeeding-friendly space, temporary breast-milk refrigeration, and a baby and toddler changing table. These are modest but meaningful supports for graduate student parents balancing study, research, work, and caregiving.

Childcare Initiative
The childcare initiative has moved toward a more defined institutional planning process. The GSA has received the graduate-student childcare business plan and is reviewing it alongside discussions with university partners. College Quarter has been identified in discussions as a suitable location for further consideration - no site, capital commitment, or operating agreement has yet been secured. The next step is to prepare a Capital Planning Request through the Strategic Capital Investment Committee process, with appropriate university sponsorship. I want to thank Jim Walters from Campus Planning and Real Estate for helping with this request and his commitment to this initiative with us. The GSA will also continue discussions with existing campus childcare operators and university leadership to clarify feasibility, operating models, capital needs, and opportunities for government-supported spaces.

Our objective remains accessible and affordable childcare that supports graduate student recruitment, retention, academic participation, and family well-being. The request for 90 government-supported spaces remains unfulfilled.

Affordability and Transit
The GSA continues to prepare for future UPASS discussions. Many graduate students remain registered, conduct research, or complete required coursework throughout the summer, including students in programs with substantial summer delivery requirements.

The Graduate Student Experience Survey closes October 30. Graduate student feedback will help identify patterns in transit access, affordability, and service needs, and will inform future discussions with Saskatoon Transit. The GSA encourages departments, colleges, and supervisors to remind graduate students to complete the survey.

The GSA also continued financial-literacy programming with Student Finance, including Budgeting 101 and planning for future sessions on borrowing, taxes, saving, and investing. These initiatives complement financial assistance by helping students use available resources effectively.

Research Conditions and Professional Development
I thank Dr. Baljit Singh and Dr. Debby Burshtyn for hearing graduate student concerns about research funding. The GSA Vice-President Finance and Operations, Hayley Pelletier, will meet with them in the coming months to explore how a flexible research fund can support graduate students whose research costs are not covered.

The GSA is proposing a model that would allow students to submit a short application outlining their research need, budget, available funding, and anticipated benefit. Potential eligible expenses could include publication costs, research-space or equipment rental, materials, and participant honoraria. The purpose is to improve research quality while creating more equitable access to professional-development and research opportunities.

The GSA has also established a participant-recruitment request process through which graduate student researchers may request promotion of approved studies through GSA communications. This provides practical support for graduate research while maintaining appropriate ethics and review expectations.

Campus Safety and Well-being
The GSA advocates for the graduate student experience across many areas, but safety is foundational to every student's ability to learn, work, conduct research, and participate in campus life. We have brought graduate student safety concerns to the Presidents Executive Committee and asked for a plan on campus safety. The concerns raised include

winter access to electrified parking for students returning from fieldwork or travel, lighting and safe routes to parking and transit, clarity around USAFE and emergency-response pathways, digital safety and service continuity, and safety measures at large university events.

Our role is to bring graduate student concerns forward clearly and to seek accountable leads, practical actions, and opportunities for student feedback. We look forward to continued engagement with university leadership on measures that strengthen safety across campus.

Governance and Electoral Reform
A substantial portion of my work since September has focused on strengthening GSA governance. This has included implementing member approved changes to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Policy Manual. I have also conducted research and prepared an electoral-reform package. The work addresses issues from previous GSA elections. Each policy change is being supported by a clear rationale linked to the issue it is intended to address.

We will proceed through the required review and approval processes. Our objective is fair, transparent, reliable processes that allow the GSA to govern ourselves effectively.

Awards and Sustainable Funding
The GSA remains committed to strengthening the long-term sustainability of graduate student awards and recognition. Calls for both the Awards Committee and Governance Committee have now been issued. These committees are expected to be established later this month and will provide the appropriate structures for reviewing awards sustainability, fundraising opportunities, and governance priorities.

Carrying the Work Forward
The GSA's current work reflects the need to combine immediate student supports with longer-term institutional advocacy. Progress on childcare, transit affordability, research conditions, safety, sustainable funding, and governance depends on collaboration with students, colleges, university leadership, and external partners.

I thank University Council members and university partners for their continued attention to graduate student needs. I look forward to continued work toward conditions that allow graduate students and their families to participate fully in the University of Saskatchewan community.

Respectfully submitted,


Signed October 15, 2026, 3:58 PM

Sunny Bui
President, Graduate Students' Association 2026/27
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University Council
October 2026 Report

September marked the official start of the academic year, and the USSU welcomed students back after months of planning with our executive team and USSU Centres. Our President addressed new students at USask Fall Welcome, and our team connected with students at our Welcome Week tables in Place Riel, the Gordon Oakes Indigenous Student Welcome, and the USask Residence Welcome. We also travelled to the Prince Albert Campus for their Welcome Week, introducing ourselves at orientation and opening a direct line of communication with students there. Throughout the month, our executives joined students at events such as Residence Fest, Homecoming, and the Good Breakfast.

Student affordability and reconciliation remain our two central priorities, aligned with UPlan 2035. We continue to advocate with senior leadership for increased scholarship and bursary funding, helped review fall award applications on the Scholarships and Awards Committee, and produced a video guiding students through the bursary application process. To build lasting capacity, the USSU is exploring an endowment whose returns would fund scholarships, bursaries, and emergency financial aid. uSave continued to grow, with 15 to 20 more local businesses joining in September, and its dedicated website is complete and ready to launch. uExchange is also complete, supported by printed flyers and promotional videos, with further outreach and possible incentives planned for October and November. We are also exploring a more flexible tuition payment plan with university administration.

Student safety and support remained foundational to our work. During the USSU Women's Centre Sexual Violence Awareness Week, we took part and joined the Take Back the Night march on campus. Following a search by the College of Law, space has been secured for a pro bono student-run clinic, with the goal of opening this academic year, and the USSU will promote the service ahead of its launch. Direct advocacy also continued, with 10 new student cases opened and 5 more in progress.

Reconciliation remained central to our work this term. Our executive stood together at the flag raising for residential school survivors at Saskatoon City Hall, filmed the USSU's National Day

for Truth and Reconciliation video, and attended the Saskatoon Tribal Council Annual Pow Wow. On Orange Shirt Day, our President completed a 10 km run to honour residential school survivors and remember the children who did not return home. We have also begun a community quilt project tied to Truth and Reconciliation, which will continue over the coming months.

Empowering student groups was another major focus. During Campus Group Week, clubs hosted tables in the Arts Tunnel and North Concourse over five days, and we delivered two workshops for group leaders: one on ratification and USSU funding, and one with the University Library on insurance, space bookings, and copyright for film screenings. The executive also approved 35 Projects and Initiatives requests totalling $7,566.25: $4,304.29 in cash sponsorship, $1,690.16 in XL Print and Design credit, and $1,571.80 in Louis' credit. Recipients included college societies, cultural and faith associations, engineering design teams, and charitable clubs.

Strong relationships with university leadership continued to guide our advocacy. At the President's Executive Committee, we raised student priorities directly with senior leadership, including scholarships, bursaries, and open educational resources. Our executives also represented students on the Board of Governors and its Audit and Finance Committee; the Council Governance, Academic Programs, and Planning and Priorities Committees; the Provost and Vice Provost Search Committee; and the Provost's Advisory Committees on Accessibility, the Scarborough Charter, and Gender and Sexual Diversity. We also reviewed the USSU's audited financial statements with KPMG to keep student fees accountable. To strengthen collaboration, we are establishing a monthly meeting of student union presidents from across Canada, beginning with the Capilano Students' Union, and launching a monthly meeting of the Association of Constituency Presidents.

In the coming weeks, the USSU will launch the uSave website, convene the first national meeting of student union presidents, and meet with the University Library on the ethical questions AI raises for students. On behalf of the USSU and University of Saskatchewan students, we are grateful to share our priorities, initiatives, and reflections with University Council, and we look forward to continued collaboration this term.

Reflections from VP Gonzalez Avila (she/her)



September marked the official start of the academic year, and it has been a full and meaningful month.

USSU Welcome Week was the highlight; after months of collaborative planning with the executive team and USSU Centres, we welcome students back to campus through a series of events, including our participation in the USask Welcome, the Gordon Oakes Indigenous Student Welcome, the USask Residence Welcome, and the Prince Albert Campus Welcome. Connecting with students in those first days of the year was incredibly rewarding and set a strong tone for the term ahead.

A significant focus this month was Sexual Violence Awareness Week, where I worked closely with the Women's Centre. Together, we created a poster in support of survivors, and I participated in Take Back the Night, a march against sexual and gender-based violence. This was a meaningful opportunity to show up for students and stand alongside the campus community on an issue that matters deeply.

September also marked our first University Student Council meeting, where we came together to align on priorities and plan upcoming initiatives for the fall term. On the advocacy side, I have continued exploring the possibility of implementing a more flexible tuition payment plan for students, maintaining ongoing conversations with relevant university staff to understand what options may be feasible.

I also continued attending Provost's Advisory Committee meetings on Accessibility, the Scarborough Charter, and Gender & Sexual Diversity, bringing the student perspective to those ongoing institutional conversations.

Finally, I have begun work on a community quilt project tied to Truth and Reconciliation; a collaborative, community-centred initiative that will continue into the coming months. I look forward to sharing more updates on this as it develops.

Reflections from VP Mendez Rosales (she/her)



September was a busy start to the academic year, focused on welcoming students and finishing our major projects. We helped with Welcome Week swag, the New Indigenous Student Welcome, the USask Welcome, and USSU Welcome Week. The team and I also travelled to our Prince Albert Campus to take part in their Welcome Week Festivities. We spoke with everyone at their orientation meeting, introduced ourselves, handed out free items, and opened a line of communication with students there. Academic Awareness Week wrapped up after a lot of preparation.

I'm also happy to report that uExchange is finished, with flyers printed for marketing and a promotional video with Abtin Safaeian. We expect this to bring more attention to the website and encourage students to use it. As September slows down, so does the traffic to the site, this was anticipated in the planning phase. In October and November, we will plan more promotion and possible incentives to encourage students to list their textbooks and visit uExchange.

On the governance side, I attended the University Students' Council (USC), its pre-meetings, and a session on USC expectations. I also sat on the Academic Programs Committee (APC) and the Provost and Vice Provost Search Committee, and attended the PEC Student Executives monthly meeting. I look forward to my upcoming meeting with Elena Geller from the Library about AI and the ethical issues students may face.

Student advocacy remained a priority. I opened 10 new student cases and had 5 more in progress, in addition to those handled by the Academic and Governance Assistant. Overall, September was a great time to meet new students and connect with them. We opened lots of lines of communication with USASK staff and admin for possible future collaborations.

Reflections from VP Vincent (he/him)



September brought the campus back to life, and as Vice-President of Operations and Finance, I focused on two areas: supporting the student groups and further helping students financially through our discount partnership program.

The highlight of the month was Campus Group Week. Over five days, clubs set up tables in the Arts Tunnel and North Concourse, giving students an easy way to find communities that match their interests. I also delivered two workshops for group leaders: one walking through ratification and USSU funding, and a second, run in partnership with the University Library, covering insurance, space bookings, and copyright rules for film screenings. The week closed with a social that brought leaders from across campus together.

Investing directly in student-led programming is one of the clearest ways the USSU supports campus life. This month, the executive approved 35 Projects and Initiatives requests, totalling $7,566.25 in support: $4,304.29 in cash sponsorship, $1,690.16 in XL Print and Design credit, and $1,571.80 in Louis' credit. Recipients included college societies, cultural and faith-based associations, engineering design teams, and charitable clubs.

uSave, our student discount program, kept growing, with another 15 to 20 local businesses signing on in September. Rather than keep adding to a static PDF list, we briefly held off on new partners while I worked with President Safaeian, our IT Manager, and our design team to finish a dedicated website that lets students browse every offer in one spot. The Website is now complete and ready for launch.

On the governance and finance side, I completed orientation for the University Students' Council and the Fee Review Committee, and attended the President's Executive Committee meetings, the Planning and Priorities Committee, and September's University Council meeting. I also joined

our accounting team to review the USSU's audited financial statements with KPMG, an important step in keeping student fees accountable.

Throughout the month, I made a point of being present where students were. I greeted incoming students at USask Fall Welcome and at the USSU Welcome Week tables in Place Riel, helped run activities during Academic Awareness Week, and joined students at Homecoming, Take Back the Night, the ASSU Craft Night, and the USUSA Statue Gifting Celebration. I volunteered at the Good Breakfast with my fellow executives, attended several club events, and stood with the executive at the flag raising for residential school survivors at Saskatoon City Hall.

Heading into October, my focus is promoting the uSave website and guiding the remaining groups through ratification and funding, so that more students can get involved on campus and save money along the way.

Reflections from President Safaeian (he/him)



Since my last report to Council, the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU) has focused on two priorities to support student success: improving student affordability and advancing reconciliation and inclusion.

On affordability, I have continued to advocate with senior leadership for increased scholarship and bursary funding. To improve access to existing funding, I worked with the social media team to produce a video that guides and encourages students through the bursary application process.

Furthermore, I am exploring an endowment fund, with returns directed to scholarships, bursaries, and emergency financial aid. At a recent University Relations Development Team meeting, I shared my experience and encouraged a greater focus on fundraising for scholarships and bursaries for students in need.

The USSU's uSave discount program has expanded to more than 40 local business partners, and a dedicated website is in development through the work of VP Operations and Finance Elmer Vincent, the USSU's IT Manager, and our design team. For uExchange, we are now focused on marketing and outreach, including promotional videos produced with VP Academic Ashley Mendez Rosales to increase textbook listings and visibility.

Beyond affordability, reestablishing the student-led legal clinic is another main focus. Following a search by the College of Law, they secured space for a Pro Bono Clinic. The USSU is now focused on promoting the service ahead of its launch.

During Sexual Violence Awareness Week, the USSU partnered with the Women's Centre in support of survivors, and I joined the executive at Take Back the Night, a march against sexual violence.

As a member of the Board of Governors, I represented the student perspective at the Board's October 5 and 6 meeting. In preparation, I reviewed the Board materials, participated in the

Audit and Finance Committee meeting, and attended the Council Governance Committee meeting.

At the President's Executive Committee meeting with student executives and university leadership, we raised student priorities directly with senior leadership, including improving scholarships and bursaries and expanding open educational resources.

The USSU is also strengthening collaboration among student leaders. I am establishing a monthly meeting of student union presidents from across Canada to share approaches and bring effective solutions to USask, beginning with the Capilano Students' Union. On campus, I am working to start a monthly meeting of the Association of Constituency Presidents to give student leaders from every college a regular forum to collaborate with the USSU.

Reconciliation remained central to the USSU's work this term. Alongside the USSU executive, I participated in the flag raising for residential school survivors at Saskatoon City Hall, led the filming for the USSU's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation video, and attended the Saskatoon Tribal Council Annual Pow Wow. On Orange Shirt Day, I participated in a 10-kilometre run to honour residential school survivors and remember the children who did not return home. I am now working with ISU to explore adding a new vice president position to USSU to increase Indigenous student engagement on campus. The USSU remains committed to advancing reconciliation on campus.

Engagement with students remains a core part of my role. I welcomed new students with an address at Fall Welcome and have attended approximately 20 events this term, including Residence Fest, Homecoming, Spin to Give, and events hosted by the PSA, ASSU, and Gujarati Student Association. Alongside the USSU executive, I also took part in USSU Welcome Week, the Gordon Oakes Indigenous Student Welcome, and the Prince Albert Campus Welcome, where we met students at orientation and opened a direct line of communication with the campus.

In the coming weeks, the USSU will launch the uSave website and convene the first national meeting of student union presidents. Each initiative reflects the USSU's commitment to ensuring that cost, access, and belonging are not barriers to student success at USask.

Respectfully submitted,



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