

AGENDA

University Council

Date: September 24, 2026

Time: 2:30-4:30 pm

Location: Convocation Hall (PMB 120) and Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

- 1. Chair's Opening Remarks-** Dr. Ralph Deters, Council Chair, College of Arts and Science
- 2. Agenda**
 - 2.1. Adoption of the Agenda
 - 2.2. Council Motions
- 3. Minutes**
 - 3.1. Approval of Minutes – June 11, 2026
- 4. Council Welcome and Governance Refresher-** Dr. Julian Demkiw, University Secretary and Chief Governance Officer
- 5. Reports**
 - 5.1. President
 - 5.2. Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic
 - 5.3. Graduate Students Association (GSA)
 - 5.4. University of Saskatchewan Student's Union (USSU)
- 6. Nominations Committee**
 - 6.1. Request for Decision: Omnibus Council Committee Vacancies
 - 6.2. Request for Decision: Chair of Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee
 - 6.3. Request for Decision: Nomination for the University Review Committee
 - 6.4. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update
- 7. Executive Committee**
 - 7.1. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update
- 8. Academic Programs Committee**
 - 8.1. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update
- 9. Governance Committee**
 - 9.1. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update
- 10. Planning and Priorities Committee**
 - 10.1. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update

11. Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee

11.1. Item for Information: Standing Committee Update

12. Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships

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

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

16. Council Social

Immediately following the meeting, join us as we kick off the 2026-2027 governing cycle. Connect with colleagues and welcome our new members.

Next Council meeting is on October 22, 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/99559772916?pwd=jvd2fb82rwOE1o4iC2IMLA2Js4RPus.1>

Join by Telephone:

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

Other Zoom Dial-in Numbers: <https://usask-ca.zoom.us/j/99559772916?pwd=jvd2fb82rwOE1o4iC2IMLA2Js4RPus.1>

Join by Video Conferencing Device (SIP):

99559772916@zoomcrc.com

Meeting ID: 995 5977 2916

Passcode: 29691459

Telephone Passcode: 29691459

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL AGENDA MOTIONS

Date: September 24, 2026

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

6.1 Request for Decision: Council Committee Vacancies

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

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

Motion: 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.

6.3 Request for Decision: Nomination for the University Review Committee

Motion: It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nomination for the University Review Committee, effective September 24, 2026.

MINUTES

University Council

Date: June 11, 2026

Time: 2:30–4:30 pm

Location: Convocation Hall (PMB 120) and Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 2:37 pm.

The Chair, Dr. Vicki Squires, began with a Land Acknowledgement.

No members of the media identified themselves.

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

1. Agenda

Motion: (Jones/Lamb): That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Chair's Opening Remarks

Dr. Squires welcomed members to the final Council meeting of the 2025–2026 academic year and noted it was her last meeting as chair. Chair Squires highlighted recent events, including June convocations, the conferring of honorary degrees, and the installation of Dr. Vince Bruni-Bossio as USask's 12th president. Chair Squires mentioned the May retreat for council committee chairs, which focused on contributing to strategic planning, enhancing faculty engagement, and improving collaboration. Follow-up discussions on engagement continued at the President's Executive Committee with the council executive to address communication and governance connections. Members were encouraged to review the year-end committee reports included in the meeting package, with questions to be addressed later. The Chair thanked committee members for their contributions and expressed appreciation to the Governance Office for its support.

3. Minutes

Motion: (Sarjeant-Jenkins/Lieverse): That the minutes of May 14, 2026 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

4. Business Arising

In June 2025, the Academic Programs Committee (APC) raised concerns regarding the increased use of situational judgment tests, particularly CASPer, in admissions processes, especially issues related to equity, validity, cost, and transparency. At this June 2025 meeting, APC requested that colleges using CASPer evaluate its effectiveness as a predictor of student success and report findings to Council. Subsequent analysis presented from the Provost Office in March 2026 indicated inconsistent use across programs and limited evidence of its predictive value, with some colleges discontinuing or reconsidering its use. APC discussions through May 2026 reiterated concerns about potential bias, unclear role in admissions decisions, and lack of strong supporting evidence. As a result, APC formally requested that the Provost's Office develop a comprehensive, evidence-based concept paper examining CASPer and alternative assessment methods to guide informed admissions practices. The committee emphasized the complexity of admissions decisions and the need for ongoing, broader review of admissions processes, with further discussions anticipated in the next academic cycle.

5. Executive Committee

Chair Squires noted that the year end report from the executive committee was included in the agenda package and questions from the report will be addressed during question period.

6. Academic Programs Committee

Paul Jones, Chair of the Academic Programs Committee, presented the committee's items as outlined in the agenda package.

6.1. Request for Decision: Doctor of Pharmacy Admission Qualification Changes

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

Motion: (Jones/Luimes): It is recommended by the Academic Programs Committee that Council approve the admission qualification changes to the Doctor of Pharmacy program effective for the 2028-2029 application cycle.

CARRIED

6.2. Item for Information: 2025/26 Academic Programs Committee Annual Report

The report is in the agenda package. Questions will be taken during question period.

7. Governance Committee

Susan Detmer, Chair of the Governance Committee, presented the committee's items as outlined in the agenda package.

7.1. Request for Decision: Amendments to the Academic Programs Committee Terms of Reference

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

Motion: (Detmer/Jones): It is recommended by the Governance Committee that Council approve the terms of reference for the Academic Programs Committee in the Council Bylaws and Regulations as described in this report, effective July 1, 2026.

CARRIED

7.2 Request for Decision: Amendments to the Research, Scholarly and Artistic Works Committee Terms of Reference

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

Motion: (Detmer/Jones): It is recommended by the Governance Committee that Council approve the terms of reference for the Research, Scholarly and Artistic Works Committee in the Council Bylaws and Regulations as described in this report, effective July 1, 2026.

CARRIED

7.3 Request for Decision: Nominations to the Nominations Committee of Council

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions or nominations from the floor.

Motion: (Detmer/Lamb): It is recommended by the Governance Committee that Council approve the appointments to the Nominations Committee of Council and the chair of the Nominations Committee as outlined in this report.

CARRIED

7.4 Item for Information: Student Appeal and Misconduct Report 2025-2026

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

7.5 Item for Information: Editorial Changes to Council Bylaws

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

7.6 Item for Information: Faculty Council Bylaws Template

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

7.7 Item for Information: 2025/26 Governance Committee Annual Report

The report is in the agenda package. Questions will be taken during question period.

8. Planning and Priorities Committee

Dr. Angela Lieverse, Vice-Chair of PPC, presented the committee's items as outlined in the agenda package.

8.1 Item for Decision: Change of Name for Department of Academic Family Medicine

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

Motion: (Lieverse/ Dick): It is recommended by the Planning and Priorities Committee that Council approve the name change for the Department of Academic Family Medicine as outlined below.

CARRIED

Abstentions: Mousseau and Freywald

8.2 Item for Information: Provisional Canada-India Pulse Protein Centre of Excellence

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

8.3 Item for Information: 2025/26 Annual Enrolment Report- presentation

Slides attached

Interim Provost Patti McDougall introduced the annual preliminary enrolment update, noting it was presented first to PPC and is now coming forward to University Council. Dr. McDougall emphasized that while no new strategic enrolment targets have yet been set, future plans will align with the university strategic plan.

Interim Vice-Provost, Students and Learning Marjorie Delbaere provided the report to members noting that overall enrolment is up 0.8% driven by domestic undergraduate growth, with undergraduate enrolment up 1% and graduate enrollment down 2%. Indigenous student enrolment rose from 4% to 13% of the student body, and international enrolment declined significantly (down 16% overall, including 26% at the undergraduate level) due to federal policy changes, while noting progress toward previous targets and positive signs in graduate and targeted international recruitment efforts.

A question was raised about how the university is responding to the enrolment data, particularly the decline in international students. Dr. Delbaere explained that the university is actively analyzing causes, especially federal policy impacts affecting certain regions and adjusting recruitment strategies, while also advancing strategic enrolment management planning aligned with the UPlan 2035. Provost McDougall added that multiple working groups are already addressing recruitment, international student strategy, and cross-college teaching, and that ongoing planning and consultations are underway despite new targets not yet being finalized.

The member followed up noting their ongoing research on international students and interest in collaborating with the university to inform supports and policy using both institutional data and student experiences. Dr. McDougall responded by encouraging colleagues to help promote the university and Canada internationally while noting that the institution is adapting to identified challenges affecting international enrolment, including financial barriers and broader reputational and policy-related factors.

A member asked about the potential impact of AI and changing labour market demands on future enrolment trends. Dr. Delbaere acknowledged that while no specific data was available, the university is considering broader environmental factors including evolving job markets, student choice, competition from other institutions, and the overall value proposition of university education as part of its ongoing enrolment planning and analysis.

8.4 Item for Information: 2025/26 Planning and Priorities Committee Annual Report

The report is in the agenda package. Questions will be taken during question period.

9. Nominations Committee

Dr. Reza Fotouhi, Chair of Nominations, presented the committee's item as outlined in the agenda package.

9.1. Request for Decision: Omnibus Council Committee Nominees

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions or nominations from the floor.

Motion: (Fotouhi/Bradford) It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nominees for the council committees as outlined below.

CARRIED

Abstentions: Jones and Luimes

9.2. Request for Decision: Omnibus Council Committee Nominees

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions or nominations from the floor.

Motion: (Fotouhi/Bradford) It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nominees for the council committee chairs as outlined below.

CARRIED

Abstentions: Jones and Dobson

9.3 Request for Decision: Council Vice-Chair Nominee

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions or nominations from the floor.

Motion: (Fotouhi/Bradford) It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve Jason Perepelkin as the Vice Chair of Council effective July 1, 2026.

CARRIED

Abstention: Dutchyn

9.4 Request for Decision: Omnibus Collective Agreement Committee Nominees

The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions or nominations from the floor.

Motion: (Fotouhi/Bradford) It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nominees for the collective agreement committees as outlined below.

CARRIED

9.5 Item for Information: 2025/26 Nominations Annual Report

The report is in the agenda package. Questions will be taken during question period.

10. Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee

Dr. Eric Lamb, Chair of the RSAW Committee, presented the committee's items as outlined in the agenda package.

10.1 Item for Information: Vice-President Research Annual Report

Chair Lamb introduced Baljit Singh, Vice-President Research to present the item.

Vice-President Research Baljit Singh presented the annual report, noting a strong year of research activity driven by faculty, scholars, and students, with approximately \$275 million in research funding and national-level competitiveness in major tri-agency grants (NSERC, CIHR, SSHRC, and CFI). He emphasized a growing focus on community engagement and knowledge mobilization, highlighting initiatives such as public events, partnerships with local and northern communities, and global outreach. The report also highlighted major infrastructure investments (including a poultry research facility and a community-focused Story Collider project), increased success in health research funding, and strong commercialization outcomes with 29 patents filed and over 40

technologies licensed. Dr. Singh further outlined expanding international collaborations (notably in India, Brazil, Germany, and Bangladesh), leadership in major initiatives such as the India-Canada Pulse Protein Centre, and new governance structures to strengthen interdisciplinary health research. He concluded by noting ongoing improvements in research ethics, institutional supports, and a strategic goal to significantly grow health research funding and graduate student capacity in the coming years.

A member raised concerns about the report's strong emphasis on community-engaged research, noting inconsistencies with past reductions in institutional support, particularly for Station 20 West and the *Engaged Scholar Journal*. The member claimed that current activities have largely been sustained by individual scholars and external funding; therefore, called for renewed transparent, and sustained institutional investment. Dr. Singh responded by noting that the university has signed a lease for space associated with this work and expressed openness to further discussion.

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

Chair Lamb introduced Debby Burshtyn, Dean of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies to present the item.

Dean Debby Burshtyn presented the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies annual report, highlighting a strong commitment to integrating Indigenous ways of knowing across research, teaching, and outreach, alongside notable enrolment trends including a 22% increase in Indigenous graduate students. She discussed ongoing efforts to support student success and recruitment, including new program launches and enhanced international graduate recruitment materials, as well as policy updates such as revised thesis requirements incorporating AI accountability and expanded academic integrity training. The report also emphasized balancing the responsible use of generative AI in graduate education, celebrating student and postdoctoral achievements, introducing new postdoctoral awards, and strengthening mentorship initiatives. Additional highlights included growth in interdisciplinary and Indigenous programming, the expansion of professional development and alumni mentorship opportunities, strong performance in national scholarship competitions, implementation of a new awards platform, and increased funding to stabilize and raise graduate student scholarship levels to a \$25,000 annual minimum.

There were no questions.

10.3 Item for Information: RSAW Infrastructure Update

Chair Lamb reported that concerns about aging research infrastructure, limited capacity for new hires, and reduced support staffing are being actively addressed through discussions between Associate Deans Research and senior administration, with ongoing efforts to identify solutions. RSAW has requested regular updates to keep faculty informed, and faculty experiencing infrastructure-related issues are encouraged to report them through their Associate Deans Research for coordinated follow-up.

10.4: Item for Information: 2025/26 Research Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee Annual Report

The report is in the agenda package. Questions will be taken during question period.

11. Scholarships and Awards Committee

11.1 Item for Information: 2025/26 Scholarships and Awards Committee Annual Report

The report is in the agenda package. Questions will be taken during question period.

12. Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources

12.1. Item for Information: 2025/26 Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee Annual Report

The report is in the agenda package. Questions will be taken during question period.

13. Reports

13.1. President

President Bruni-Bossio began by recognizing Vicki Squires' final day as chair and thanked her for her strong leadership and contributions. He reflected on his recent installation ceremony, expressing appreciation for the community's support, and noted his positive experience at his first convocation, highlighting the impact of the honorary degree recipients. He then provided an update on the U Plan 2035 strategic planning process, emphasizing the broader global uncertainty facing universities and the need to clearly demonstrate institutional value.

President Bruni-Bossio outlined the extensive engagement undertaken to date, including input from approximately 3,000 members of the university community, as well as over 130 external stakeholders such as donors, industry leaders, and government representatives, with upcoming consultations with Indigenous communities and targeted advisory groups. He stressed that the emerging strategic direction is centered on defining the university's identity and future through its core strengths and values, focusing on leveraging Saskatchewan's unique capacities to achieve global impact. Key areas of opportunity include energy transition, climate resilience, food and water security, health and vaccine development, Indigenous sovereignty and partnerships, and policy leadership.

The President concluded by noting the concept of "local to global" as a guiding principle for the university's future direction, emphasizing that this idea is resonating strongly across consultations and will help shape a bold mission, priority areas, and measurable outcomes in the next phase of the strategic plan.

There were no questions.

13.2. Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic

Interim Provost Patti McDougall noted that her written report was included in the materials and highlighted the recent convocation ceremonies as a joyful and highly successful week, made possible by the significant contributions of staff, faculty, deans, and guests. She emphasized the importance of faculty participation in the platform party, noting how meaningful their presence was to graduates, and shared reflections on the celebratory atmosphere and memorable interactions as students crossed the stage. Dr. McDougall concluded her remarks by acknowledging the arrest that took place during convocation, emphasizing that the health and safety of the campus community is taken very seriously.

There were no questions.

13.3. Graduate Students Association (GSA)

Rupesh Acharya, VP of Student and Academic Affairs presented the report on President Sunny Bui's behalf. The report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

13.4. University of Saskatchewan Student's Union (USSU)

USSU President Abtin Safaeian provided the USSU report to Council. The full report is in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

14. Other Business

There was no other business.

15. Question Period

There were no questions.

10. Adjournment

Motion (Detmer): The meeting was properly adjourned at 4:20 pm.



Enrolment Update – 2025-26

University Council

11 June 2026



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN

TOTAL ENROLMENT

26,826

↑ 0.8%


Undergrad 21,499 ↑ 1% Grad Students 4,494 ↓ 2%
Non-degree 186 ↓ 7% Med Residents 647 ↑ 4%

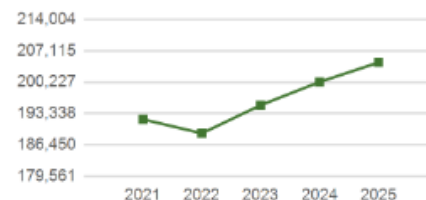
ENROLMENT BY COLLEGE/SCHOOL

	Undergrad	Grad Students
Arts & Science	9,619 ↑ 1.0%	837 ↓ 7.7%
Edwards School of Business	2,660 ↓ 0.6%	210 ↓ 2.3%
Education	1,972 ↓ 2.0%	663 ↓ 2.6%
Engineering	2,012 ↑ 9.2%	343 ↓ 6.5%
Agriculture & Bioresources	1,404 ↑ 3.8%	309 ↓ 8.3%
Nursing	1,179 ↑ 1.9%	290 ↓ 0.7%
Medicine	438 ↑ 2.8%	449 ↑ 10.9%
Kinesiology	758 ↓ 0.3%	37 ↑ 8.8%
Veterinary Medicine	368 ↑ 1.4%	203 ↓ 0.5%
Pharmacy & Nutrition	400 ↓ 8.5%	55 ↓ 25.7%
Law	395 ↓ 2.2%	16 ↓ 11.1%
Public Health	-	333 ↑ 13.3%
Dentistry	288 ↑ 13.4%	35 ↑ 52.2%
Public Policy	-	304 ↑ 5.9%
Environment & Sustainability	<5	278 ↓ 9.4%
Interdisciplinary/Grad Other	<5	132 ↑ 4.8%

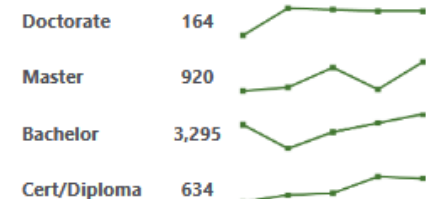
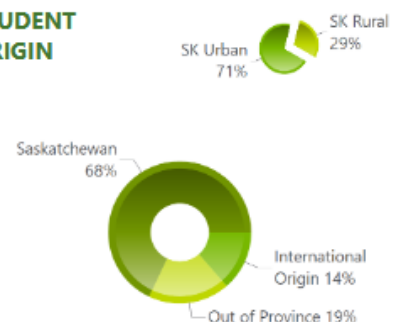
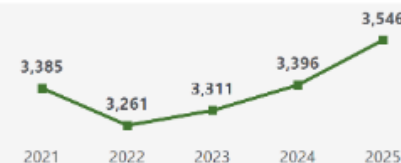
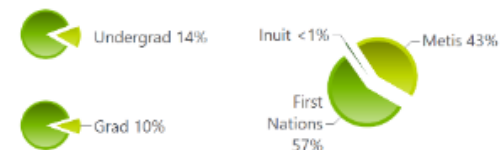
RETENTION 86.3% UofS

International 56.8% UofS
Self-declared Indigenous 75.3% UofS

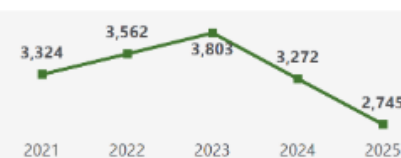
Retention rate for first to second year students in direct entry programs.

TEACHING ACTIVITY ↑ 2.1%
(3 Credit Unit Equivalent)**CONVOCATION 2025**

5,013

↑ 4%
**STUDENT ORIGIN****SELF-DECLARED INDIGENOUS 3,546** ↑ 4%

Undergrad 3,047 ↑ 4% Grad Students 459 ↑ 11%
Non-degree 14 ↓ 22% Med Residents 26 ↓ 7%

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS 2,745 ↓ 16%

Undergrad 1,133 ↓ 26% Grad Students 1,552 ↓ 8%
Non-degree <5 Med Residents 58 ↑ 32%

TOP FIVE COUNTRIES

Undergraduate			Graduate Students		
India	235	21%	Iran	210	14%
Nigeria	231	20%	Nigeria	153	10%
China	121	11%	Ghana	147	9%
Bangladesh	96	8%	Bangladesh	140	9%
Vietnam	42	4%	India	138	9%



Enrolment in Context: Overall Enrolment Goals from the *LTSE Plan

Level	2024-25	2025-26	Target 24/25
Undergrad	21,207	21,499	23,094
Graduate	4,570	4,494	4,770

- The full 26,826 for 2025-26 also includes non-degree study and medical residents
- International students have declined by 1000 over two years and had that not happened we would be very close to planned targets

*LTSE Plan = Fostering Tomorrow's Leaders 2019-2025



Enrolment in Context: Diversity Targets

Diversity Area	LTSE Plan – Target 2024-25	Current State 2025-26
International UG	10%	5%
International Grad	35%	35%
SD Indigenous UG	15%	14%
SD Indigenous Grad	10%	10%

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

September 2026

As we begin the fall term, the University of Saskatchewan's campuses are alive with purpose and possibility. The return of students, faculty, and staff brings a renewed sense of connection that strengthens the work we carry forward together.

USask continues to be a place where people feel they belong and where their aspirations are supported by a community committed to learning, discovery, and respectful partnership. The energy across our classrooms, labs, clinics, and gathering spaces reflects a university focused on impact and guided by shared values.

UPLAN 2035

We began the process to develop USask's next strategic plan, UPlan 2035, in March 2026. The planning process was designed to be broad, evidence-informed, and implementation-oriented. To date, we have engaged 3,500 people on campus through campus conversations and surveys. We have also spoken with close to 200 industry leaders, government officials, (provincial, municipal and federal), Knowledge Keepers, Indigenous leaders and community members, donors, alumni, and community partners.

An extensive qualitative analysis of these data, including more than 17,000 data points, has informed an emerging vision, mission, set of priorities, and implementation plan. The process emphasized listening first, synthesizing evidence, and then shaping priorities through iterative leadership, governance, and stakeholder engagement. With the development phase nearing completion, we are shifting into the validation phase.

The most dominant theme to emerge through the process is the idea of local-to-global, which suggests that USask's leadership on global level stems from its connections with Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan is where we build relationships, understand needs, test ideas, develop talent, and create solutions. The local context of Saskatchewan includes the diverse people and cultures of Saskatchewan, the relationships we have with Indigenous

peoples and the province's industries, environments, challenges, and opportunities. Overall, Saskatchewan gives USask distinctive strengths and responsibilities that enable us to contribute ideas, people, and global solutions.

The next stage of the process will involve additional synthesis and refinement through discussions with student and academic leadership and governance bodies. The intention is to complete the process in time to formally launch in January 2027.

STRATEGIC FINANCING

In early September, we announced that the Board of Governors approved a strategic financing approach that will allow USask to pursue up to \$250 million in new capital financing. This has also gone through the provincial approval process. This approval reflects confidence in the university's operational financial stewardship and enables USask to raise capital funding to self-finance immediate and long-term priorities that strengthen and expand our learning spaces, renew our systems, and advance research and innovation.

Our financing aligns with responsible infrastructure planning. These capital funds will advance several major initiatives, including the Integrated Services Renewal project, which will modernize essential systems that support students, faculty, and staff. It will also enable renewal and expansion of teaching and learning spaces, supporting growth in the College of Engineering and the Edwards School of Business, and create expanded and new opportunities in nuclear medicine and healthcare. The university will self-finance these projects through a bond structure without requiring provincial capital funding or relying on core operating funds supporting the academy and our existing services.

FIVE YEARS OF OHPAHOTÂN | OOHPAAHOTAAN

August 20 marked five years since ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan was gifted to USask. Units across campus have now completed progress reports that reflect achievements, challenges, and opportunities for continued growth. The Office of the Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement has compiled 22 reports that document how the seven commitments are being translated into action and how the strategy continues to guide our work.

The reporting process reinforces a culture of accountability and highlights the importance of creating safer, more inclusive environments. It also acknowledges that racism remains a reality that must be addressed through collective effort and sustained leadership.

NEW OT AND SLP PROGRAMS

A major milestone for Saskatchewan's health-care system arrived with the launch of the province's first Master of Occupational Therapy and Master of Speech-Language Pathology programs at USask. These programs, housed within the School of Rehabilitation Science, welcomed their inaugural cohorts this fall.

The Government of Saskatchewan has invested \$37 million to establish these programs, which will train 80 students each year and significantly expand provincial capacity. Students have spoken about the importance of learning in their home province and gaining experience in rural, urban, and Indigenous communities. These programs will strengthen access to essential services and support the Patients First Health Care Plan and the Health Human Resource Action Plan.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AND RECOGNITION

Royal Society of Canada Recognition

Two USask researchers, Dr. Daniel Chen (PhD) and Dr. Tara Kahan (PhD), have been honoured by the Royal Society of Canada. Chen's leadership in bioprinting and regenerative medicine and Kahan's groundbreaking work in environmental analytical chemistry reflect the strength of USask's research community and its contributions to global challenges.

Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Fellowship

Dr. Valerie Verge (PhD) has been named a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. Her work on nerve repair and therapeutic Acute Intermittent Hypoxia continues to shape new possibilities for people living with neurological conditions.

International Nuclear Research Agreement

USask has signed a new agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency to advance nuclear research, education, and training. This partnership builds on existing strengths in nuclear medicine, energy systems, and policy, supported by facilities such as the Saskatchewan Cyclotron Facility and the Canadian Light Source.

Schulich Leaders

Two incoming USask students have received one of Canada's top undergraduate STEM scholarships. Matthew Craddock and Clarenz Portades have been named USask's 2026 Schulich Leaders. They are part of the fifteenth cohort of Schulich Leaders, a group of 100 high school graduates from across Canada who are recognized for their academic strength,

leadership, and commitment to making a positive impact in their communities. Their selection reflects the quality of students who choose USask and the learning environment that encourages curiosity, service, and innovation.

GIVING DAY

On September 9, USask Giving Day 2026 highlighted the impact of philanthropy. The broader USask community raised \$376,495 in support of students, research, and programs. This represents a 22 per cent increase from Giving Day 2025.

In total, 676 alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends contributed to more than 120 initiatives across campus, a 13 per cent increase in donors compared to last year. These results reflect growing momentum in community engagement and demonstrate how generosity continues to strengthen opportunities for learners and researchers across USask.

HUSKIE ATHLETICS

Homecoming 2026 was a celebration of community spirit and Huskie pride. Thousands gathered at Griffiths Stadium to cheer on Huskie Football as they delivered a decisive 44–24 win over the Calgary Dinos. The game showcased the talent and determination of our student-athletes and created a memorable experience for students, alumni, and supporters. Homecoming continues to be an important moment that brings our community together and highlights the strength of Huskie Athletics.

CLOSING REMARKS

The period from July through early September has shown a university that is focused, collaborative, and committed to meaningful impact. From the launch of the fall term to major investments in infrastructure, Indigenous engagement, health-care training, and research excellence, USask continues to demonstrate leadership across Saskatchewan and beyond.

Guided by UPlan 2035, we will continue our work toward a unified vision and a successful future for USask. Thank you for the dedication you bring to your work and for the support you offer to our students, colleagues, and partners. I look forward to continuing our shared efforts to strengthen the University of Saskatchewan and to build on the momentum we are creating together.



Interim Provost's Report to Council

September 2026

GENERAL REMARKS

Welcome back to Fall Term. I hope you all had a rejuvenating and productive summer.

Fall Term is always an exciting time on all our campuses, with plenty of opportunities to re-connect with colleagues and friends. I wish you all a successful semester ahead as we begin another exciting academic year.

Before I begin my updates, I would like to acknowledge that a dear colleague, Russ Isinger, has retired after 17 years of service as University Registrar and 23 years in the University Registrar's Office. He held the position of University Registrar beginning in 2009 and served as a political studies lecturer in the College of Arts and Science and at St. Thomas More College over many years. We are very thankful for the key role Russ played in leading the systems and services that have supported students and the academic mission of the University of Saskatchewan. Russ will be remembered at USask for the profound impact he left on the teams in the Registrar's Office and the broader Teaching, Learning, and Student Experience units. He has also been an ever present and strong contributor to academic governance through University Council and University Senate. I want to extend my deepest wishes for a wonderful retirement to Russ. (We remain hopeful that there may still be some epic Russ Halloween costumes in the post-retirement era.)

As we gather in a new academic year, it is fitting to reflect on the progress we have made together in advancing meaningful institutional priorities and changes over the summer months.

Five years of ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan

In late August, we marked five years since USask received the gift of the Indigenous Strategy, ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan. I am encouraged by the meaningful progress made across the University of Saskatchewan and grateful to the Indigenous communities, leaders, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, students, faculty, and staff who continue to guide this work. The recent reporting process conducted within colleges, schools and units, with guidance from the Office of the Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement, highlighted a shift

from individual initiatives to more systemic change. The report submitted from the [Office of the Provost and Vice-President Academic](#) outlines how we are working to ensure that Indigenous priorities are increasingly embedded in how we teach, support student success, build community relationships, and make institution-wide decisions.

[The 22 published reports](#) from across USask units demonstrate important advances in expanding pathways for Indigenous learners, strengthening partnerships with Indigenous communities, and integrating Indigenous perspectives and pedagogies throughout the university. At the same time, they remind us that this work is ongoing and requires continued accountability, partnership, and a shared commitment to creating the conditions for Indigenous success before, during, and beyond the university experience. I am proud of the progress achieved over the past five years and remain committed to advancing the seven commitments of *ohpahotân* | *oohpaahotaan* in the years ahead.

Additionally, the Week of Reflection and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation will be recognized at USask from September 28 to October 2, remembering and honouring residential school survivors and their families. All faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to participate in events and access learning resources throughout the week. Everyone is also invited to wear an orange shirt for the week beginning September 28 as a message to yourself and others that you are committed to taking action. [Find more information at *indigenous.usask.ca*.](#)

Bookstore resources for students

As we begin a new academic year, I want to highlight the Shop USask Bookstore located on the Saskatoon campus and how it supports students in their academic journey. Shop USask carries a range of resources and materials that directly benefit current students, including textbooks, course supplies, and other academic resources. The Shop USask Bookstore provides convenient access to academic resources for students with its central campus location, and limits mark up on textbooks and course materials, in all possible circumstances, to keep prices affordable for students.

Through sales, Shop USask plays an important role in supporting various priorities and initiatives at USask, including strategic university goals. USask financial practices direct all Consumer Services, including the Bookstore, to support the USask Strategic Initiatives Fund (SIF). Funds are awarded each year based on strategic plan priorities to academic, research, capital, and other institutional priority areas. 5% of ancillary revenue is contributed to the SIF from Consumer Services. In 2026/27, approximately \$0.3M from Retail Services (5% of \$6.3M budgeted revenue) from the sale of both course materials and general merchandise

will be allocated to the SIF. By using the Shop USask Bookstore for course materials and resource needs, this financial support directly improves USask for future generations of students.

Whelen Visiting Lectureship

I would also like to share with you that the Office of the Provost and VP Academic has been in the early stages of relaunching the [Whelen Lectureship Series](#), a visiting lectureship opportunity that brings distinguished global thinkers, innovators, and leaders to USask to share ideas that challenge perspectives, spark conversation, and inspire action. At the last event in 2019, Roberta Bondar, Canada's first female astronaut and the first neurologist in space, brought her expertise and perspective from her time in space.

Currently, we are searching for a 2027 speaker that inspires and engages both our USask audiences and the general public. The lecturer should be an individual with an international reputation in their field of knowledge and can be in any discipline relevant to the programs of studies available at the University of Saskatchewan. If you have a suggestion you would like to submit, please visit this [Microsoft Forms link](#). We thank you in advance for your suggestions.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Whelen Lectureship Steering Committee: Loleen Berdahl (Office of the Provost and Vice-President Academic), Lindsey Banco (College of Arts and Science), Douglas Clark (School of Environment and Sustainability), Leah Ferguson (College of Kinesiology), Nicole Fernandez (Western College of Veterinary Medicine), Dev Mishra (Edwards School of Business), Peter Phillips (Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy), and Jaswant Singh (College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies).

USASK UPDATES

TRUST INVESTMENTS TO PROVIDE MORE SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

To better support students and their financial well-being, USask will be increasing the spend rate on donor trusts from 3.75 to 4.75 per cent in order to provide more funding for student scholarships and support programs. The change was formally approved by the Board of Governors at the summer meetings on June 23. The increased support for students will also move USask up significantly from the bottom quartile to joining the top U15 institutions, in terms of their spend rates from trusts.

DEAN APPOINTMENT, COLLEGE OF LAW

Dr. Ibironke Odumosu-Ayanu (PhD) has been appointed as dean of the College of Law for a five-year term, beginning October 1, 2026. A member of the college since 2008, Dr. Odumosu-Ayanu currently serves as a professor and as associate dean, research and graduate studies. She holds an LLB from the University of Lagos, an LLM from the University of Calgary, and a PhD from the University of British Columbia. An internationally recognized scholar whose research focuses on business and human rights, international investment law, and natural resource governance, she has built collaborative research partnerships across Canada and internationally. Throughout her career at USask, Dr. Odumosu-Ayanu has also been a dedicated teacher, mentor, and leader. Her appointment as dean reflects a distinguished record of academic excellence, collaborative leadership, and dedication to advancing research and graduate education. She will build on the college's strong reputation for excellence in legal education and research while advancing Indigenous legal scholarship and strengthening engagement with local and global communities. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Odumosu-Ayanu on this appointment.

I want to extend my thanks and gratitude to Professor Doug Surtees, who stepped into the role of interim dean in July. Dr. Odumosu-Ayanu will assume the role on October 1, following a transition period supported by Interim Dean Doug Surtees, who will continue serving through September.

DEAN APPOINTMENT, ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE

As announced by Dr. Carl Still (PhD), president of St. Thomas More College (STM), in July 2026, Dr. Sarah Knudson (PhD) has been appointed as the next Dean of STM for a five-year term, effective July 1, 2026. She is an accomplished teacher and scholar, with noted strengths in teaching, research, and student supervision. Over the course of her 14 years at STM, she has taught 11 courses in Sociology and Interdisciplinary Studies, three of which she created, and is a prolific researcher of families, gender, intimate relationships, and life transitions. She is the co-editor of *Committing Sociology*, which is widely used as a core sociology text in Canadian universities, and has received nominations for both the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union Teaching Excellence Award and the STM Teaching Excellence Award.

Dr. Knudson's official installation took place on September 9, 2026, at St. Thomas More College. I wish Dr. Knudson all the best in her term.

ACADEMIC HEALTH SCIENCES FALL 2026 UPDATE

A first phase of renovations in the Health Sciences Building has reached key milestones as part of the university's broader space optimization initiative to support new and expanding health sciences programs funded through Saskatchewan's Health Human Resources Action Plan, particularly for the School of Rehabilitation Science (SRS) and the new occupational therapy (MOT) and speech-language pathology (MSLP) programs. Beginning Aug. 27, 2026, several newly renovated spaces are expected to become available for use, providing new teaching, learning, study, and support spaces for students, faculty, and staff, including:

- dedicated teaching and learning spaces on the first floor of B-Wing to support the distinct curriculum requirements of the MOT and MSLP programs, including rooms for specialized equipment, breakout rooms, and teaching support spaces for the SRS;
- an updated SRS administration area;
- a new student work and study room where students can gather, collaborate, and work between classes; and
- accessibility-focused upgrades on the third floor of E-Wing, including a companion-care, barrier-free washroom and an inclusive student change and locker room featuring private change spaces and secure lockers.

Construction has progressed through planned phases while efforts have been made to minimize disruption to teaching, learning, and research activities. Work remains underway on additional components of the space optimization project, including further work into 2027. Updates can be found at healthsciences.usask.ca.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY FALL 2026 UPDATE

As of September 1, 2026, USask Library introduced new service desk hours across its locations, aligned more closely with periods of highest demand. The After Hours Study program (formerly Late Night Study) has expanded to include the Health Sciences Library, joining existing after-hours spaces at Murray Library and the Law Library. The expansion of this program was made possible through a continued partnership with the USSU Student Crew, helping provide students with additional access to safe study space during evenings and weekends. USask Library is also preparing to launch a new self-checkout app and kiosk service that will make borrowing library materials faster and more convenient. More information about these services will be announced soon. All library users are encouraged to [review the updated hours](#) before visiting and check the library website for all the ways USask Library supports teaching, learning, and research at USask.

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.

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY RECEIVES ECO CANADA ACCREDITATION

The School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS) has received ECO Canada accreditation for three of its professional graduate programs: the Master of Water Security, the Master of Sustainability in Regenerative Sustainability, and the Master of Sustainability in Energy Security degrees. ECO Canada accreditation provides independent recognition that the programs meet national standards for post-secondary environmental education and demonstrate a commitment to educational quality, continuous improvement, accountability, and alignment with environmental-sector competencies and workforce needs. On June 5, 2026, SENS was formally advised that the Canadian Environmental Accreditation Commission had finalized its decision and awarded conditional accreditation to these three graduate programs for a two-year term, effective May 26, 2026. To receive a seven-year accreditation, SENS has begun establishing required program-specific curriculum review committees, including developing terms of reference and appointing members from within and external to SENS and the university. Once this requirement has been met, the programs will be awarded the remainder of the standard accreditation term.

This achievement strengthens the national profile of SENS and USask in professional environmental and sustainability education. It reflects the collective efforts of SENS faculty, staff, students, program leadership, and community and industry partners to develop and continually improve relevant, high-quality programs.

COLLEGE OF KINESIOLOGY PARTNERS WITH PLYR ATHLETICS

USask Recreation and the College of Kinesiology are proud to strengthen their connection with the local community through a new five-year relationship with PLYR Athletics, a Saskatoon-based business with strong ties to the University of Saskatchewan.

This relationship reflects a shared commitment to supporting the USask community and creating meaningful connections between the university, its alumni, and local businesses. As part of the agreement, PLYR Athletics has made a significant gift to support USask Recreation and its ongoing efforts to provide quality recreation opportunities and experiences for students, staff, and the broader campus community.

COLLEGE OF LAW FALL 2026 UPDATE

The College of Law is continuing its work in helping Canadians build a more assessable justice system. Brea Lowenberger, director of the CREATE Justice research centre at the College of Law, played a key role in supporting the recent *Advancing People-Centred Justice in Canada* conference, hosted in Ottawa by the National Action Committee on Access to Justice. At the event, Supreme Court of Canada Justice, Andromache Karakatsanis, described an accessible justice system as a public good, just as health care is essential public infrastructure. This fall, the College of Law McKercher LLP lecture series features three speakers with a focus on access to justice. The lecture titles are: "Democracy and Deference", evaluating limits on rights essential to democracy; "Moving Forward After *Cowichan*", on finding a path forward following a court ruling that Cowichan Nation holds unextinguished Aboriginal title on certain lands in BC; and "Pregnancy, Personhood, and the Equality of Women", examining whether pregnant women should occupy a distinct category of moral and legal personhood.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE FALL 2026 UPDATE

Physician Assistant Studies:

The first cohort of [Master of Physician Assistant Studies](#) (MPAS) learners has started clinical placements in communities across Saskatchewan, including Humboldt, La Ronge, Meadow Lake, Melville, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon and Swift Current. This is another significant milestone for the program and for the growth of the physician assistant profession in the province.

In August, the program welcomed its second cohort of 20 learners. The MPAS program emphasizes strong connections to Saskatchewan, with 85 per cent of first-year students from the province, and 20 per cent with rural roots. [Read more.](#)

School of Rehabilitation Science (SRS):

The School of Rehabilitation Science has launched the [Master of Occupational Therapy](#) and [Master of Speech-Language Pathology](#) programs. For the first time, students can study occupational therapy (OT) and speech-language pathology (SLP) without leaving the province for their education.

On August 27, 40 OT and 40 SLP students joined 55 physical therapy students in a pinning ceremony welcoming them to their professions. This event also celebrated the years of advocacy, collaboration, and work that made these programs possible. Establishing the OT

and SLP programs at USask expands student training opportunities and will help meet the need for rehabilitation professionals and services in Saskatchewan. [Read more.](#)

Undergraduate Medical Education:

To expand medical training capacity, the college has added 20 undergraduate medical training seats. This summer, 128 learners began their medical training, including 52 at the Regina campus and 76 at the Saskatoon campus.

The college has also launched the Rural Opportunities and Ongoing Training in Saskatchewan (ROOTS) pathway to strengthen medical education in communities across the province. Learners in the ROOTS pathway will complete their third year at a Saskatchewan Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship site (Estevan, La Ronge, Meadow Lake, Melfort) or Prince Albert site and will have increased opportunity to train in rural and regional communities throughout their medical education.

SCHULICH LEADERS

Incoming USask students Matthew Craddock and Clarenz Portades have been named USask's 2026 Schulich Leader Scholarship recipients. The Schulich Leader Scholarship is one of Canada's top undergraduate STEM scholarships. Through the Schulich Foundation, students pursuing engineering receive \$120,000 and students studying science, technology, or mathematics receive \$100,000 to attend one of 20 partner universities across Canada. Clarenz, a graduate of Bishop James Mahoney High School in Saskatoon, plans to focus on computer science, software engineering and computer engineering, while Matthew, from Spencerville, Ontario, plans to study mechanical engineering.

RECENT APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Marjorie Delbaere has been extended as Interim Vice-Provost, Students and Learning, beginning January 1, 2027 up to June 30, 2027 or until a new Vice-Provost, Students and Learning is appointed, whichever comes first.

Dr. Louise Racine has been appointed as Acting Dean, College of Nursing, to cover for Dr. Solina Richter's administration leave beginning January 1, 2027 to June 30, 2027.

Dr. Loleen Berdahl has been extended as Acting Deputy Provost, beginning October 1, 2026 up to June 30, 2027 or until a new Deputy Provost is appointed, whichever occurs first.

Dr. Ibironke Odumosu-Ayanu has been appointed as Dean, College of Law, for a five-year term, beginning October 1, 2026 up to September 30, 2031.

Dr. Amrinderbir Singh has been extended as Interim Associate Dean, Academic, College of Dentistry, beginning September 1, 2026 up to February 28, 2027.

Dr. Nazmi Sari has been appointed as Acting Head, Department of Economics, College of Arts and Science, for a six-month term, beginning September 1, 2026.

Dr. Greg Malin has been appointed as Acting Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education, College of Medicine, to cover for Dr. McKague's leave for an initial period beginning August 16, 2026, up to October 15, 2026.

Dr. Ryan Walker has been appointed as Interim Associate Dean, Collegial Processes, College of Arts and Science, for a period up to eleven months, beginning August 1, 2026 up to June 30, 2027.

Dr. Sven Achenbach has been extended as Interim Associate Dean, Faculty Relations, College of Engineering, beginning July 1, 2026 up to December 31, 2026.

Dr. Maureen Bourassa has been extended as Associate Dean, Academic, Edwards School of Business, beginning July 1, 2026 up to December 31, 2029.

Dr. Allison Cammer has been appointed as Assistant Dean with Nutrition and Dietetics, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, for a five-year term, beginning July 1, 2026 up to June 30, 2031.

Dr. Bobbi Helgason has been appointed as Head, Department of Soil Science, College of Agriculture and Bioresources, for a five-year term, beginning July 1, 2026 and up to June 30, 2031.

Tim Hutchinson has been appointed as Assistant Dean, University Archives and Special Collections, for a three-year term, beginning July 1, 2026 up to June 30, 2029.

Dr. Andrew Ireson has been appointed as Assistant Director, Academic Internal, School of Environment and Sustainability, for a three-year term, beginning July 1, 2026 up to June 30, 2029.

Dr. David Kraichy has been appointed as Head, Department of Human Resources and Organizational Behaviour, Edwards School of Business, for a five-year term, beginning July 1, 2026 up to June 30, 2031.

Dr. Ed Krol has been appointed as Interim Dean, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, beginning July 1, 2026 up to December 31, 2026 or until a new Dean is appointed, whichever occurs first.

Dr. Gordon Martell has been appointed as Associate Dean, Indigenous, College of Education, for a five-year term, beginning July 1, 2026 up to June 30, 2031.

Dr. Jo Ann Murphy has been renewed as Assistant Dean, Learning and Curriculum Support, University Library, for a term up to one-year, beginning July 1, 2026 up to June 30, 2027.

Dr. Steven Rayan was extended as Interim Vice-Dean, Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work, College of Arts and Science, beginning July 1, 2026 up to August 31, 2026.

Dr. Scot Stone has been appointed as Head, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology, College of Medicine, for a three-year term, beginning July 1, 2026 up to June 30, 2029.

Doug Surtees was appointed as Interim Dean, College of Law, beginning July 1, 2026 up to September 30, 2026.

Dr. Fan Yang has been appointed as Acting Head, Department of Finance and Management Science, Edwards School of Business, for a one-year term, beginning July 1, 2026 up to June 30, 2027.

Dr. Lifeng Zhang has been appointed as Head, Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, College of Engineering, for a five-year term, beginning July 1, 2026 up to June 30, 2031.

ACTIVE SEARCHES AND REVIEWS

Searches:

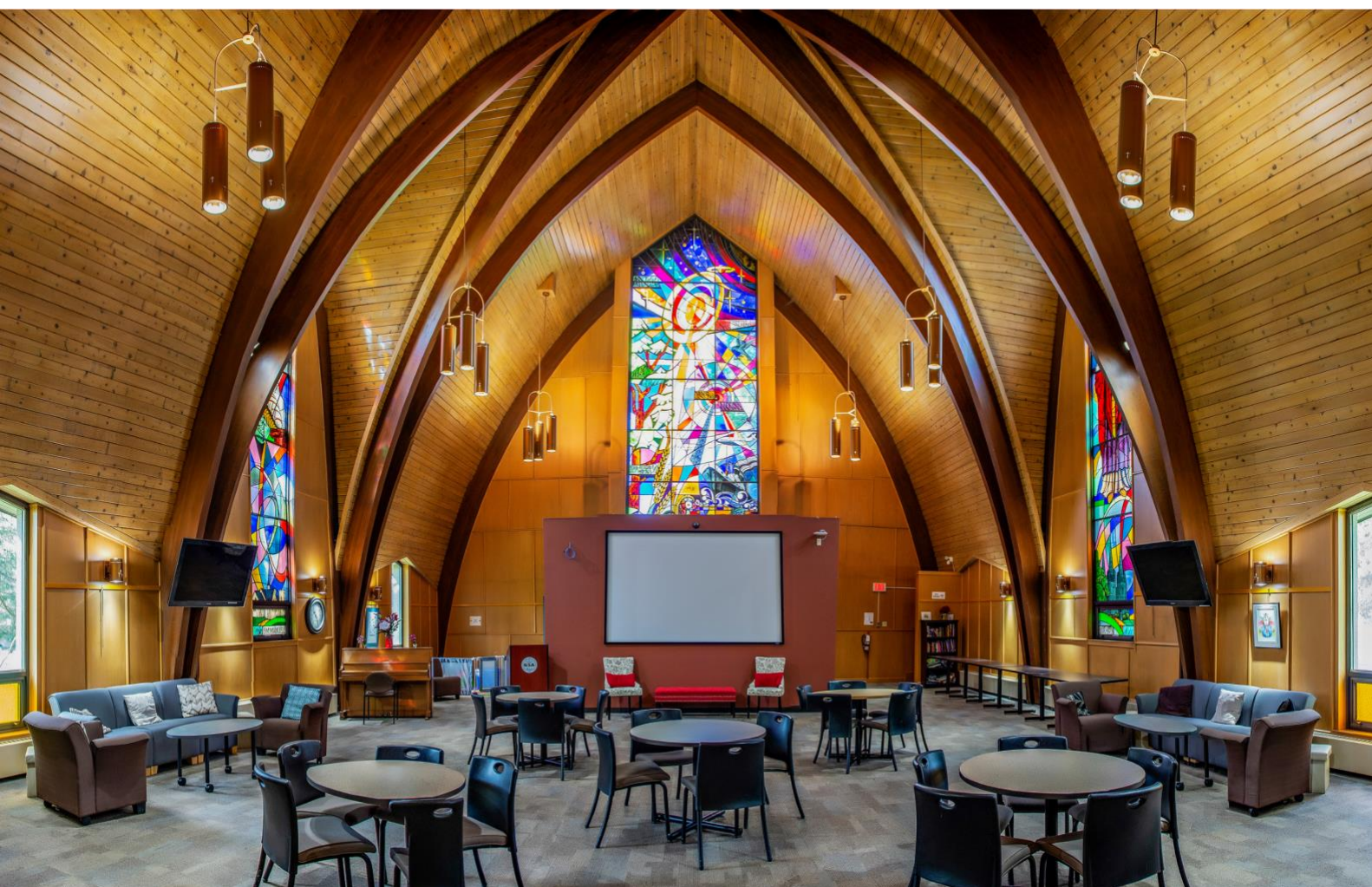
- Dean, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

Please see [here](#) for information on searches and reviews.

University Council Report

Prepared By :

Graduate Students Association of USask
Sunny Bui
President 2026-27



Dear University Council Members,

In my June report, I outlined the current Executive's intention to strengthen graduate student engagement while carrying forward the GSA's longer-term priorities. Into September, this work has moved into student-facing programming, specific discussions with university partners, and clearer steps for several advocacy initiatives.

The GSA delivered four days of Welcome Week programming, confirmed financial support from the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, and advanced discussions about graduate student childcare. We also raised concerns about proposed changes to grad student workspaces in the Health Sciences Building. These developments reflect the approach I described in June: creating value with the resources available, maintaining continuity, and building the community needed to support meaningful advocacy.

Graduate Student Engagement and Welcome Week

One of our main goals this year is to increase graduate student engagement while paying attention to the purpose and accessibility of our programming. Our September Welcome Week provided an early opportunity to put that commitment into practice. The GSA hosted graduate student orientation, a welcome barbecue and services fair on September 2, bingo on September 3, an evening social and city night tour on September 4, and a family-oriented event on September 5. Over 1000 grad students registered for these events that offered different ways for new and returning graduate students to connect.

The services fair brought university and community partners into direct contact with graduate students. The family programming also reflected a priority for the GSA: recognizing that many graduate students participate in university life alongside partners, children, and other caregiving responsibilities.

Continuing the Childcare Initiative

In June, I described our intention to continue the childcare initiative inherited from the previous Executive and move it toward sustained government engagement. During the summer, we continued that engagement and began clarifying the university processes required to develop a viable project.

The GSA met with Campus Planning and Real Estate to discuss possible locations, facility requirements, and the project-development process. According to our meeting record, College Quarter was identified as the most viable area discussed, while no immediately suitable surplus campus building was identified. We talked about the submission entering the university's Capital Investment Framework through an Idea Proposal, with an appropriate Vice-President sponsor. A feasibility assessment would then help establish the location, construction or renovation requirements, operating model, and anticipated costs.

The capstone business plan has provided a foundation for this work. Our next steps are to complete the necessary review of that plan, consult existing campus childcare operators, and work with university partners on an appropriately scoped proposal. Our advocacy objective remains accessible and affordable childcare for graduate student families, including the request for 90 government-sponsored spaces. Those spaces have not been allocated, and a site or capital funding has not been secured.

Childcare remains an academic participation, recruitment, and retention issue. Advancing this initiative requires both government engagement and a credible institutional pathway. The summer discussions have helped make that pathway more specific, while also making clear the work still ahead.

Graduate Research Workspaces in Health Sciences

An additional advocacy priority emerged over the summer concerning proposed changes to shared workspaces for highly qualified personnel in the Health Sciences Building. Graduate students raised concerns about how a shared-workspace model could affect their research routines, access to stable work areas, storage, accessibility, confidentiality, and connection to their research groups. The GSA recognizes the university's real space pressures while asking that consultation provide an opportunity to influence the design of the model, rather than focus only on its implementation.

I wrote to university leadership requesting clearer consultation parameters, consideration of alternative approaches, and an explanation of how graduate student feedback would inform decisions. Deputy Provost, Dr. Loleen Berdahl confirmed that the Joint Governance Committee for the Academic Health Sciences had discussed these concerns. The GSA will continue to seek meaningful graduate student participation and clarity about how research and accessibility needs will be reflected in the eventual approach.

Graduate Student Funding and the CGPS Partnership

In June, I identified graduate student funding and responsible use of Association resources as central priorities. Over the summer, the GSA worked with CGPS to clarify support for the 2026–27 academic year with CGPS committing financially to our shared initiatives and programs. These commitments provide specific support for financial assistance and graduate student programming. I thank Dean Debby Burshtyn and the CGPS team for their partnership and for discussing the Association's requests within the College's financial capability.

Financial support must also be accompanied by practical tools. The GSA is continuing its collaboration with Student Finance on workshops covering budgeting, debt and borrowing, saving and investing, and tax-related information. The next Budgeting 101 session is scheduled for October 14. Our objective is to connect financial assistance, financial education, and accessible programming so that graduate students can make use of the support available to them.

Long Term Sustainability for the GSA Awards

My June report outlined the intention to review the GSA Awards and explore a more sustainable funding model. There has not yet been substantive progress on this initiative. We are waiting for the Awards Committee to be formed so that the review can proceed through the formal committee process.

The work ahead includes developing a fundraising plan and arranging meetings with university partners to explore sustainable funding options, including the proposed endowed model. These discussions and the committee's review have not yet taken place.

Anti Racism and Campus Inclusion

The GSA's June report identified anti-racism as a responsibility extending beyond individual events into education, professional development, and organizational culture. Interim Provost and VP Academic, Dr. Patti McDougall reaffirmed commitment to the anti-racism Memorandum of Understanding with the GSA and USSU.

Graduate Student Voice and Professional Development

GSA Council has been invited to contribute graduate student perspectives to the UPlan 2035 consultation process. This would provide an opportunity for graduate students to discuss how university priorities relate to their research conditions, access to services, professional development, and participation in campus life.

We have also continued collaboration with the University Library and will be incorporating programming from the GMCTL. In addition, the GSA has introduced a request process through which graduate student researchers can seek promotion of participant-recruitment opportunities through GSA communications. This provides another practical connection between the Association's communications work and graduate student research.

Carrying the Work Forward

The period since June has reinforced the importance of continuity and careful follow-through. Delivering programming is one part of that responsibility. Advancing childcare, research-workspace consultation, sustainable recognition, and anti-racism commitments requires sustained attention beyond any single event or meeting.

As we move further into the fall term, our focus is to build on the relationships established over the summer and turn identified next steps into work that can be assessed and reported back to our members. I thank Council and our university partners for their continued attention to graduate student needs. I look forward to working together on the conditions that allow graduate students and their families to participate fully in the University of Saskatchewan community.

Respectfully submitted,

Sunny Bui
President, Graduate Students' Association 2026/27
University of Saskatchewan

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University Council Summer 2026 Report

September marks a vibrant return to campus for the University of Saskatchewan, as we welcome returning and first-year students to a new academic journey. To kick off the year, the USSU hosted an array of Welcome Week events across the main campus. Recognizing the importance of connection, we also hosted low-barrier community events like Mahjong Night and the “Chalk the Campus” community mural project to help students meet new people before classes officially began. After Welcome Week, we transitioned to Academic Awareness Week, launching the 2026 Academic Awareness Handbook and connecting students with the campus resources they need to navigate their academic experience successfully.

Recognizing that the rising cost of living and education is a primary concern for students, the USSU dedicated the summer months to developing practical affordability solutions. We are incredibly proud to announce the launch of two major initiatives this September: uExchange and uSave. uExchange is a peer-to-peer textbook exchange platform designed to reduce the financial burden of course materials, while uSave is a new student discount program built in partnership with over 40 local businesses. Beyond these immediate solutions, the USSU has initiated conversations with other student unions to advocate for a provincial Open Educational Resources initiative. We are also collaborating with Student Finance and Awards to shift our financial support model toward needs-based aid and to develop a comprehensive crisis financial aid framework.

Student wellness, safety, and inclusion remain foundational to student success. Over the summer, the USSU made strides toward establishing a free Pro Bono Legal Clinic for students on campus and began advocating for increased access to low-sensory spaces in the University Library. Furthermore, all team members completed Sexual Violence Responder Training. The USSU also remains committed to Truth and Reconciliation and supporting our diverse campus community, proudly participating in events like Back to Batoche, Pride Parades in both Saskatoon and Prince Albert, and the Colours of Community flag raising.

Empowering our student communities was another major focus this summer. The USSU ratified nearly 100 campus groups, reflecting a strong, ongoing interest in student organizations. To support these groups, we published a new Campus Group Handbook and fully redesigned the USSUHub. This newly launched platform features a cleaner, more accessible layout for ratifications, funding requests, and room bookings, ensuring that student leaders have the tools they need to succeed. Meanwhile, direct student support remained a constant priority, with our team managing over 40 ongoing student cases and actively supporting students through university and college appeal hearings.

Effective advocacy is built on strong relationships and shared knowledge. Throughout the summer, our executive team engaged in meaningful dialogue with senior university leadership, including the Provost, COO, Vice President Research, and numerous Deans, as well as with provincial government representatives. In August, members of our executive travelled to Vancouver for the Student Union Development Summit (SUDS) at UBC, exchanging best practices and innovative ideas with student unions from across Canada.

At the beginning of September, our University Students' Council reconvened for the year. We are grateful for the opportunity to come together with student leaders from across the colleges to discuss priorities, review policies, and build collaboration for the fall term.

On behalf of the USSU and University of Saskatchewan students, we are grateful to share our priorities, initiatives, and reflections with the University Council, and we look forward to a collaborative and successful year ahead.

Reflections from VP Gonzalez Avila (she/her)



“July and August were months of preparation, connection, and community, focused on building momentum heading into the fall, finalizing Welcome Week plans, strengthening relationships with campus partners, and creating meaningful experiences for students before the year officially began.

On the advocacy front, I have continued exploring the possibility of implementing a more flexible tuition payment plan for students and connected with the relevant university staff to understand what options may be feasible.

Throughout the summer, I organized and attended several student-facing events. I organized a Mahjong Night as a fun, low-barrier way to bring students together and foster community connection ahead of the new year. I also led Chalk the Campus, a community mural chalk project that invited students to engage creatively with shared campus spaces. Both events reflect my commitment to building accessible, creative, community-centred programming.

For professional development, I attended the Alumo Summit to deepen my understanding of the health benefits available to students and completed Sexual Violence Responder Training, an important step in being better equipped to support students who may need that guidance.

September marked the beginning of the academic year. Welcome Week has come and gone, and it was a highlight of the term so far. After months of collaborative planning with the executive team and USSU Centres, we welcomed students back to campus through a series of events, including the USask Welcome Week, the Gordon Oakes Indigenous Student Welcome, the Residency Undergraduate Welcome, and the Prince Albert Campus Welcome. Connecting with students in those first days of the year was incredibly rewarding.

Following Welcome Week, I participated in Academic Awareness Week alongside the VP Academic Affairs and the broader team, an initiative focused on connecting students with the resources and information they need to navigate their academic experience successfully.

September also marked our first University Students' Council meeting, where we came together to discuss ongoing priorities, plan upcoming events, and continue building collaboration with USSU Centres as we move deeper into the fall term.

As the year is now fully underway, I look forward to continuing to develop programming and initiatives that foster inclusion, well-being, and a strong sense of belonging for all students.”

Reflections from VP Mendez Rosales (she/her)



“The Summer months have marked a second wave of growth in my role as VP Academic Affairs. Where May was about learning the systems and processes that support students, this summer has been about putting that foundation into action, expanding my presence across university committees/departments, and continuing to support students directly through casework, calls, and in-office meetings.

Academic Awareness Week was my top focus throughout the Summer, from early conversations about socials and programming with the marketing team to coordinating activities and finalizing the 2026 Academic Awareness Handbook. I have worked to bring in the Executive, Centres, and campus partners to help shape programming. Mid-September has marked the end of Academic Awareness Week; student turnout rates have been higher than expected. Overall, I am very proud of student engagement and the support from the departments tabling alongside myself.

uExchange progressed from an early proposal and website design discussions with the executive team to a finished product. My role for this initiative involved planning, coordinating logo design, website structure, and getting executive input over several weeks, and its completion represents one of the campaign goals I aimed to accomplish this term. At the moment, we are working to increase student engagement by using various social media platforms. A series of videos, posters, and flyers will be lined up to publish in late September and early October.

Direct student support has no start or end date, with over forty new student cases opened, along with numerous phone calls, emails, Zoom calls, and in-office meetings. I was also in attendance with students through multiple University Appeal Hearings and a College Hearing. On the engagement side, I remained active in the broader campus and Saskatoon community throughout the summer, participating in the Pride Parade in both Saskatoon and Prince Albert,

the Pride Flag Raise, Back to Batoche, the Community Mural project, Colours of the Community, and the USask Staff and Faculty Awards. I also supported content initiatives with the marketing team, including videos for Indigenous History Month and Men's Mental Health Month, and content supporting Undergraduate Research.

As the summer comes to a close, my focus shifts toward marketing the textbook exchange program, and maintaining the student casework and governance responsibilities that remain constant throughout the year. I look forward to reporting my progression on these outcomes in the coming months.”

Reflections from VP Vincent (he/him)



“The summer months were an active period for my portfolio, as work continued to build on the foundation set in May while preparing for a busy fall term.

Campus groups remained a major focus throughout June, July, and August. Close to 100 groups were ratified over the summer, reflecting strong ongoing interest in student organizations across campus. Alongside this, we finalized the Campus Group Handbook and published it to the website in late August. To help groups navigate the new academic year, I also put together a Campus Group Week Workshops package for the fall term.

This summer I also worked closely with our IT and Graphic Design team on a full redesign of the USSUHub, the platform campus groups use for ratification, funding requests, and bookings. The new HUB launched in late August with a cleaner, more accessible layout and a fresh look for every club using it, and the feedback from groups has been genuinely positive.

I also joined President Safaeian on the new uSave student discount partnership program. Over the summer, I reached out to a wide range of local restaurants, cafes, breweries, retailers, and recreation venues to negotiate student discounts and gather the branding needed for the program. uSave launched on September 1 with more than 30 partner discounts available to students. All Students need to do is show their USask Student ID card at checkout to receive a discount.

In August, I travelled to Vancouver to represent the USSU at the Student Union Development Summit (SUDS) at UBC, connecting with other Canadian student unions to

exchange ideas and best practices. As the fall term approached, I also took part in several orientation meetings and student welcome events, which were very exciting.

As the fall term begins, I look forward to continuing to support campus groups, growing the uSave program, and keeping our financial processes transparent and responsive to student needs.”

Reflections from President Safaeian (he/him)



“Students continue to face rising costs, growing uncertainty, and an increasingly complex university experience. During the past few months, the USSU focused on meeting these challenges with practical, student-centred solutions, while building the relationships needed to advocate effectively for students across campus and the province. My priorities this summer centred on affordability, student wellbeing, strong governance, and meaningful connection with university leadership and fellow student unions.

The cost of attending university remains a front-of-mind concern for students. Textbooks alone can place a significant burden on student budgets. In response, we developed uExchange, a textbook exchange platform that allows students to buy and sell used textbooks directly with one another. Throughout this period, I wrote the project proposal and worked closely with VP Ashley Mendez Rosales, the co-lead on the project; Scott Henderson, our IT manager; Meerah Abesia, graphics and media design; and our senior manager Jason Ventnor and Jason Kovitch on the website design, layout, copyright, branding, and marketing strategy. I am proud to share that uExchange is now complete and available to students, which went live at the beginning of September.

Alongside uExchange, we launched uSave, a student discount program designed to help students save money while shopping, whether that is for groceries or restaurants. Working with VP Elmer Vincent, co-lead on this project, we reached out to local businesses and secured more than 40 discount partners, including Paradox Pizza and Steep Hill Food Coop. Together, we built the uSave website and branding, and the program has now launched at the beginning of September. The USSU will continue to grow this list of partners throughout the year.

Longer term solutions to textbook costs are equally important. I have begun conversations with the student leaders of the University of Regina and Saskatchewan Polytechnic to advocate for a provincial Open Educational Resources initiative. Free and openly licensed

course materials would reduce costs for students across Saskatchewan, and a united provincial voice will strengthen this advocacy.

I am also working to ensure USSU financial support reaches the students who need it most. Recently, I began work to shift USSU financial help from a model based on academic achievement to one based on financial need. I also met with Alycia Cooper and Frank Kusch from Student Finance and Awards to develop a crisis financial aid framework, so that students facing sudden hardship have a clear path to support.

Over the past months, I also focused on student wellness and success, which depend on more than academics. Access to legal advice, sexual health services, and safe, supportive spaces all shape whether students can thrive at USask. During this time, I worked with David Stack towards establishing a new Pro Bono Clinic, which would give USask students free access to legal guidance. Finding a suitable space remains the key next step. I also met with the Dean of the University Library to discuss increasing access to low-sensory spaces for students and will continue advocating for more of these spaces across campus.

Alongside this work, I spoke with Ashley Dopko and Morgan Price about sexual violence awareness and prevention campaigns. I met with Jessica Fox and Beau Gallerneault to explore implementing the REES (Respect, Educate, Empower Survivors) platform at USask, which would give survivors a safe and confidential way to access support and reporting options. I also completed Sexual Violence Responder Training so that I am better prepared to support students who come forward.

Moreover, governance was one of my main focuses over the summer since representing students at the highest levels of university decision-making is one of the most important responsibilities of this role. This summer, I completed new board member orientation with Keith Martell, Kimberly Kroll Goodwin, and CFO Dee Henne, and attended the two-day Board of Governors meeting as well as the Audit and Finance Committee. Preparing for these meetings involved reviewing more than 650 pages of materials and ensuring the student perspective was informed and present in every discussion. I also attended the University Governance Committee and University Council, where I gave a speech on behalf of USSU.

Within the USSU, I worked to prepare our organization for a strong Council year. I coordinated interviews and the selection of the new USC Chairperson, and completed a comprehensive review of our bylaws and USC policies. I served on the Financial Appeals Review Committee and the Mistatimôk Committee. I also continued work on USSU land acknowledgement, which reflects our commitment to a welcoming and inclusive campus.

Additionally, I worked on building relationships since effective advocacy is built on strong relationships. In recent months, I met with senior university leaders, including Provost Patti McDougall, COO Greg Fowler, and Vice President for Research Dr. Baljit Singh. I reached

out to every dean and met with the Deans of Medicine, Kinesiology, Nursing, Education, the Edwards School of Business, and the University Library, as well as Dean Brooke Milne and Dean Debby Burshtyn. These conversations have opened the door to ongoing collaboration on student priorities in the colleges.

The USSU also held introductory meetings with campus partners who support students every day, including Access and Equity Services, the Student Wellness Centre, Student Central, Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre, Protective Services, Library Services, ISSAC, and University Apartments. Beyond campus, I travelled to Prince Albert to strengthen our connection with students at the USask Prince Albert campus.

Learning from other student unions has also been invaluable. I attended SUDS and Alumo Summit and connected with student union presidents from McGill, Concordia, the University of Toronto, Capilano University, UBC, SFU, Western and BCIT. Moreover, I also met with several former USSU presidents, whose advice has helped shape my approach to this role.

Additionally, Indigenous Engagement is one of our main focuses this year. The USSU remains committed to Truth and Reconciliation and to creating educational spaces for all students to learn about Indigenous histories. This summer, I was honoured to attend Back to Batoche with Ashley Mendez Rosales and Elmer Vincent, and to take part in an Indigenous History Month video. The USSU will continue working with Indigenous students and campus partners to advance initiatives.

Events and outreach were also a summer priority. Showing up for our community remained a priority throughout the summer. I attended Spring Convocation, the Prince Albert Pride Parade and Walk, the Pride flag raising, Colours of Community, and the Community Mural Project. To keep students informed and engaged, I worked with Meerah Abesia on regular social media content, including bursary and opt-in and opt-out videos, and contributed a written story and radio recording for Giving Day. Together with the executive, we also planned Welcome Week and swag to give incoming and returning students a warm start to the year.

The work of this summer has laid a strong foundation for the year ahead. This fall, I will focus on growing student use of uExchange and uSave, securing space for the Pro Bono Clinic, advancing the sexual health centre, and pushing forward a provincial Open Educational Resources initiative. I will also advocate for more bursaries, scholarships, emergency aid, and low-sensory rooms around campus. The USSU will continue to listen to students and advocate for a more affordable, accessible, and supportive University of Saskatchewan.”

Respectfully submitted,



Abtin Safaeian
President, USSU



Elmer Vincent
VP Operations and Finance, USSU



Ashley Mendez Rozalez
VP Academic, USSU



Azul González Avila
VP Student Affairs, USSU



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REQUEST FOR DECISION

Committee Name: Nominations Committee, University Council

Date: September 24, 2026

Presented by: Carolyn Augusta, Chair, Academic Programs 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 September 24, 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

Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work (RSAW)

Name	Nature of Appointment	College or Unit	Term on Committee
Dean McNeill	GAA	Arts and Science	June 30, 2028
Janet Okoko	GAA	Education	June 30, 2028
Lisa Birke	GAA	Arts and Science	Until June 30, 2027
Mariam Komeili	GAA	Medicine	June 30, 2029
David Blackburn	GAA	Pharmacy and Nutrition	Until June 30, 2027
Keith Walker	University Council	Education	June 30, 2029
Kevin Read	University Council	University Library	June 30, 2029
Michael Wu	University Council	WCVM	June 30, 2027
Reza Fotouhi	University Council	Engineering	Until June 30, 2029
Debby Burshtyn	<i>ex officio</i>	Dean, College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies	
Baljit Singh	<i>ex officio</i>	Vice-President, Research	
Karim Tharani	<i>ex officio</i>	Designate for Dean, University Library	
Ashley Mendez Rosales	Student appointee	USSU (VP Academic Affairs)	April 30, 2027
Laila Valila	Student appointee	GSA (VP Indigenous Engagement)	April 30, 2027

Planning and Priorities Committee

Name	Nature of Appointment	College or Unit	Term on Committee
Brooke Milne	Dean	Arts and Science	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
David Williams	GAA	Edwards School of Business	September 25, 2025-June 30, 2028
Kerry Mansell	GAA	Pharmacy and Nutrition	September 26, 2024-June 30, 2027
Volker Gerdt	GAA	WCVI/ VIDO	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Schroder Sattar	GAA	Nursing	Until June 30, 2028
Venkatesh Meda	GAA	Engineering	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Carla Oroz	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
Angela Lieveise (Chair)	University Council	Arts and Science	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Jaswant Singh	University Council	WCVI	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Christian Willenborg	University Council	Agriculture and Bioresources	July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029
TBD	Sessional Lecturer		
Vince Bruni-Bossio	<i>ex officio</i>	Acting Provost and Vice-President Academic	
Terry Fonstad	<i>ex officio</i>	Designate for VP Research	
Greg Fowler	<i>ex officio</i>	Vice-President, Administration & Chief Operating Officer	
Amaranta Sokol	<i>ex officio</i>	Interim Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement	
Owen Deis	Student appointee	GSA (VP Finance & Operations)	
Lindsay Carlson	Student appointee	USSU (VP Operations & Finance)	
Ralph Deters	<i>ex officio</i>	University Council Chair	
Deidre (Dee) Henne	<i>ex officio</i>	Chief Financial Officer	

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
TBD	Sessional Lecturer		
Marjorie Delbaere	<i>ex officio</i>	Interim Vice-Provost, Students & Learning	
Salome Ries	<i>ex officio</i>	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

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Committee Name: Nominations Committee, University Council

Date: September 24, 2026

Presented by: Carolyn Augusta, Chair, Academic Programs Committee

Subject: RSAW Chair Vacancy

MOTION

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.

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

The Nominations Committee is tasked with putting forward nominations for Council's approval for vacancies in the position of chair on Council committees.

ATTACHMENTS

The nominated chair for this committee is highlighted in yellow.

Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work (RSAW)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Nature of Appointment</u>	<u>College or Unit</u>	<u>Term on Committee</u>
Dean McNeill	GAA	School for the Arts	June 30, 2028
Janet Okoko	GAA	Education	June 30, 2028
Lisa Birke	GAA	Arts and Science	June 30, 2027
Mariam Komeili	GAA	Medicine	June 30, 2029
David Blackburn	GAA	Pharmacy and Nutrition	Until June 30, 2027
Keith Walker	University Council	Education	June 30, 2029
Kevin Read	University Council	University Library	June 30, 2029
Michael Wu	University Council	WCVM	June 30, 2027
Reza Fotouhi	University Council	Engineering	Until June 30, 2029
Debby Burshtyn	<i>ex officio</i>	Dean, College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies	
Baljit Singh	<i>ex officio</i>	Vice-President, Research	
Karim Tharani	<i>ex officio</i>	Designate for Dean, University Library	
Ashley Mendez Rosales	Student appointee	USSU (VP Academic Affairs)	April 30, 2027
Laila Valila	Student appointee	GSA (VP Indigenous Engagement)	April 30, 2027

Chair: Lisa Birke

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Committee Name: Nominations Committee, University Council

Date: September 24, 2026

Presented by: Carolyn Augusta, Chair, Nominations Committee

Subject: University Review Committee Vacancy

MOTION

It is recommended by the Nominations Committee that Council approve the nomination for the University Review Committee, effective September 24, 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 the University Review Committee (as articulated in the Collective Agreement).

The Nominations Committee has reviewed the membership of the University Review Committee and is submitting Holly Graham from Medicine, to fill the vacancy on the committee.

ATTACHMENTS

University Review Committee and Nominee (with new nominee highlighted in yellow)

Name	Unit or Representative of:	Term
Voting Members:		
Scott Walsworth (Chair)	Vice-President Academic & Provost	N/A
Jason Perepelkin	Pharmacy and Nutrition	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Holly Graham	Medicine	June 30, 2027
Lori Bradford	Engineering	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Egan Chernoff	Education	July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027
Jessica Liefers	Pharmacy and Nutrition	July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028
Sarah Burningham	Law	July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029
Alexander Crizzle	School of Public Health	July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029
Ajay Dalai	Engineering	July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029
Pamela Downe	Arts & Science	July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029