



*Minutes of University Council  
2:30 p.m., Thursday, December 15, 2011  
Neatby-Timlin Theatre*

*Attendance: J. Kalra (Chair) See appendix A for listing of members in attendance.*

Observing that the assembly had reached quorum, Dr. Kalra called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

1. Adoption of the agenda

D'EON/BELAND: That the agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Opening remarks

The chair welcomed members and invited them to remain following the Council meeting for a reception.

3. Minutes of the meeting of November 17, 2011

PROCTOR/d'EON: That the minutes of the meeting of November 17, 2011, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

4. Business arising from the minutes

No business was identified as arising from the minutes.

5. Report of the president

The president drew members' attention to a correction to the "provincial tours" section of his report: "Fire Hills Health Region" should be "Five Hills Health Region."

President MacKinnon also expressed his delight at the recent award of a Rhodes Scholarship to Anne Kelly, a graduate of the College of Arts and Science.

The president then made reference to an ongoing story in the press regarding the provincial funding mechanism for the universities. He reminded Council that the University of Saskatchewan worked very hard to secure an activity-based protocol for the allocation of operating budget monies, and he expressed his intention to defend this protocol vigorously. He had an opportunity to share his perspectives on the funding mechanism and the university's vision and needs at a meeting last week with members of the provincial Treasury Board.

The province has also recently introduced enabling legislation to provide the potential for increasing the number of degree-granting institutions in the province. The legislation was

inspired by the degree-granting aspirations of institutions such as SIAST and Briercrest. The university has tried to stress that the emphasis in any discussions around opening up degree-granting powers must be focused on the three imperatives of post-secondary education policy: quality, capacity and access.

## 6. Report of the provost

The provost commended members of Council to his written report. Among the many initiatives reported there, he singled out three for comment:

- The development of the third integrated plan is proceeding; the Provost's Committee on Integrated Planning and the Unit Plans Review Committee have been reviewing all of the unit plans and are beginning to develop their approach.
- TABBS (transparent and activity-based budgeting) is a project that will develop a model for revenue and expense allocation on the basis of activity within units. Participation in the project has been high, and members of the community are clearly engaged.
- There are seven searches and reviews this year; several are active simultaneously. The provost hopes to be able to provide updates soon on the progress of the decanal searches in Medicine and in Engineering.

## 7. Student societies reports

### 7.1 Report from the USSU

Scott Hitchings, president and Kelsey Topola, academic vice-president, presented the report on behalf of the USSU. Scott highlighted that there will be a special general meeting in January or February. The recent proposal for an amendment to the makeup of University Students' Council was struck down. The proposal would have guaranteed international and indigenous students to have two members each but was not successful, perhaps because the implications were not fully understood. The USSU will be working with those who defeated the amendment to help them understand it and will bring the proposal forward again in the spring.

Members of Council joined the chair in thanking the students for their report and for providing written materials in advance.

### 7.2 Report from the Graduate Students' Association

Xue Yao, GSA President, highlighted the three items in her report: the information session for international students about immigration, the graduate service fellowship, and the review and revisions to the GSA constitution and policy.

Members of Council joined the chair in thanking Ms. Yao for her report and for providing written materials in advance.

8. Academic programs committee

Dr. Len Proctor presented this report as committee chair.

8.1 Request for decision: College of Arts and Science: Replacement program for Bachelor of Music in Music Education and termination of combined Bachelor of Music in Music Education/Bachelor of Education program

PROCTOR/SCHWIER: That Council approve the replacement program for the Bachelor of Music in Music Education and termination of the combined Bachelor of Music in Music Education/Bachelor of Education program.

CARRIED

8.2 Report for information: Termination of minor and recognition in Russian

Dr. Len Proctor presented this report as committee chair; it was received for information.

9. Nominations committee

Dr. Dwayne Brenna presented this report as committee chair. Following presentation of the motions in each case, the chair called for nominations from the floor. No further nominations were put forward.

9.1 Request for decision: Nominations to Review Committees

BRENNA/KROL: That Council approve the nomination of Baljit Singh, Associate Dean, Veterinary Medicine to the Review Committee for the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research;

AND that Council approve the nomination of Yvonne Shevchuk, Associate Dean, Pharmacy and Nutrition to the Review Committee for the Dean of Dentistry.

CARRIED

9.2 Request for decision: Nominations to Council Committees

BRENNA/KROL: That Council approve the nomination of Dean McNeill, Department of Music, as a member of the Academic Programs Committee for a three-year term until June, 2014;

AND that Council approve the nomination of Ralph Deters, Department of Computer Science, as a member of the Academic Support Committee for a three-year term until June 30, 2014.

CARRIED

10. Other business

No other business was identified.

11. Question period

The Director of the Teaching and Learning Centre rose to express thanks personally and on behalf of Council to Professor Angela Ward, who is wrapping up her term as Vice-provost Teaching and Learning. He also asked whether the provost could comment on the progress of the search for a new Vice-provost; Dr. Fairbairn responded that he expects to have an acting individual in place until the position can be filled on a permanent basis.

The chair wished members of Council a joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year.

12. Adjournment and next meeting

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm. Council next meets on Thursday, January 26, 2012, at 2:30 p.m.