

*Attendance: See Appendix A for listing of members in attendance.*

The chair called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m., observing that quorum had been attained.

David Torvi, head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering delivered a memorial tribute to honour Professor Spiro Yannacopoulos, former Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and former associate dean research, College of Engineering.

1. Adoption of the agenda

FLYNN/WILSON: *To adopt the agenda as circulated.*

CARRIED

2. Opening remarks

The chair, Jay Kalra, provided opening remarks, noting the important business before Council and sharing the procedures for debate and discussion. Voting members were invited to sit in the center section and non-voting members and guests to sit in the side sections. The chair advised that those individuals wanting to speak should first be recognized by the chair and identify their name and whether they are a member of Council. Generally, Council members have first priority to speak. Members of the media were asked not to participate in debate and not to record the proceedings of the meeting. All members were asked to ensure that Council remains a forum for healthy debate within the university's collegial governance system based on the three major principles that Council works under: that Council has always enjoyed academic freedom and continues to value it; that Council is a collegial self-governing body; and that Council is where academic matters are considered and decisions made.

3. Minutes of the meeting of April 21, 2016

DOBSON/KROL: *That the Council minutes of April 21, 2016 be approved as circulated.*

CARRIED

4. Business from the minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Report of the President

It was noted that the president was away and Ernie Barber, vice-president academic invited questions on behalf of the president. A member posed three questions about the University Senate meeting on April 23: *Why there was no mention of the Senate meeting in the materials before Council? What happened before and during that meeting? How what happened before and during that meeting comports with the university's initiative for indigenization?* He explained that Ms. Candyce

Paul attended the Senate meeting and requested the right to address Senate on the connection between resource extraction, university partnerships and consideration of indigenous peoples and was denied this opportunity. He decried this response as not in keeping with an institution committed to indigenization. Dr. Barber indicated Senate's practice was not to issue cross-reports to Council. In response to the concerns expressed at Senate, a meeting to discuss the role of indigenous communities and resource development has been scheduled to occur on September 16, 2016 with Blaine Favel, chancellor and chair of Senate.

Karen Chad, vice-president research presented a report on the Confucius Institute, recalling that the institute was established at the university to provide instruction and exposure to Chinese culture, history, languages and performing arts and to facilitate cross-cultural exchanges to build shared research, knowledge, friendship and harmony. Dr. Chad explained that the report arose from the coordinating committee's request that the international activities committee review the agreement establishing the institute. A working group with representation from the international activities committee and others was established under the direction of the vice-president research. The report summarizes the consultation undertaken and concludes that institutional autonomy and academic freedom are not being compromised. The recommendations within the report include revisions to existing agreements to ensure that university autonomy, academic freedom and transparency continue to be upheld at the university. A number of actions to strengthen the contributions of the Confucius Institute have been identified related to governance, oversight, improved communication and evaluation of the institute among other actions. An annual work plan will be posted on the institute's website.

Dr. Chad concluded her remarks by stating that the Confucius Institute is an important framework for the university's international activities within and outside the university community, and is an expression of the university's commitment to cultural diversity and a multicultural environment for students, faculty, and staff. She conveyed that she was grateful to the work undertaken by all involved and to members of Council for having this discussion on the floor of Council.

Discussion of the report was invited. A member recalled that the report was the result of a grassroots probing by Council members inspired by the broad, national effort of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) to respond to real and serious concerns about the location of Confucius Institutes on campuses, rather than off campuses, across Canada. Reference was made to the non-disclosure clause in the original agreement as proof that the institute was established within a culture of secrecy.

Other concerns related to the co-existence of the Confucius Institute with the former Department of Far Eastern Studies and its core leading scholar whose area of specialty was the Dalai Lama and Tibet, an area that has suffered under oppressive Chinese regimes. Although overt violations might not exist relative to the Confucius Institute, the suppression of those incidents considered unflattering by the Chinese government and the actions taken at Tiananmen Square and against Hong Kong were raised as examples of values and actions at odds with those values held by the university.

The investment of the university in non-credit Chinese language and culture courses offered through the institute was questioned. The head of the Department of Linguistics and Religious Studies noted the department requested a full-time faculty position in Chinese language and culture that was not approved. Presently, the department has a sessional lecturer and can offer such classes four times a year at most. If the department had been given the faculty position, the department

could have offered additional language classes for credit, as opposed to the non-credit language courses offered by the Confucius Institute.

Dr. Chad thanked members for their comments and suggested that collaboration between the institute and academic units to offer credit course offerings be explored. She invited the department head of Linguistic and Religious Studies to meet with her directly to explore this further.

## 6. Report of the Provost

Dr. Barber presented the provost's report to Council, emphasizing the value placed by the university on communicating with students in experiential learning programs and study abroad programs about safety issues in the locations they are visiting. He offered congratulations to the recipients of the Provost's Teaching Awards named in his report. In response to the invitation for questions of the provost, a member requested leave to ask a question about university rankings as referred to in the provost's April report to Council. Due to the lengthy meeting agenda, the Council member was asked to defer his question until question period.

Greg Fowler, vice-president finance and resources provided an update on university finances noting there are four key financial milestones that converge this June—a current budget update for the year, the provincial budget (due to be released June 1), the operating budget for the coming year, and the university's Operations Forecast submission for 2017/18. Mr. Fowler indicated that the university began the last fiscal year in a strong financial position with no debt, a budget surplus, and reserves and savings. However, during the 2015 fiscal year, the university drew on these savings to meet the challenge of the government holdback of \$20 M in funding and a mid-year budget adjustment.

The provost emphasized the value and benefit to the province of the investment in high quality academic programming and in research outcomes that help businesses across the province to become more competitive during an economic slowdown. Although in the short-term, the university is in a position to withstand a funding reduction, the effects of underinvestment in postsecondary education will soon be felt by both universities and the province. The 2017/18 Operations Forecast document that contains the university's annual funding request to the province will emphasize the value proposition of the university.

Mr. Fowler indicated that he would report further to Council in June after the provincial budget has been released and the provincial grant to the university is known. Once the provincial grant, capital grant, and targeted funding from the province is known, the 2016/17 operating budget will be presented in June to the Board of Governors for approval.

## 7. Student Societies

### 7.1 Report from the USSU

Kehan Fu, newly-elected president of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU), presented the report to Council. Mr. Fu introduced himself as the first Chinese-born president of the USSU and an international student leader. He called on the university to improve the student experience by providing more opportunities for learning abroad, to decrease the academic and financial barriers that incoming students face, and to create a campus culture inclusive of its demographics.

Mr. Fu introduced his fellow USSU Executive: Emmanuel Barker, vice-president operations and finance; Brooke Malinoski, vice-president academic affairs; and Renata Huyghebaert, vice-president student affairs. The USSU Executive is committed this year to continuing work on the sexual assault policy, the mental health strategy established by last year's executive and the indigenization of the university curriculum and campus as a whole. Other goals include the first sustainability partnership grant, student advocacy, increased resources and engagement to central campus groups, and incorporating alumni and engagement into the campus student structure. Mr. Fu expressed that all the USSU accomplishments could not be realized without the contributions of volunteer students. The chair welcomed the USSU executive on behalf of Council.

## 7.2 Report from the GSA

Ziad Ghaith, newly-elected president of the Graduate Students' Association (GSA), presented the report to Council and introduced members of the GSA executive: Nafisa Absher, vice-president operations; Kusum Sharma, vice-president finance; Shailza Sapal, vice-president student affairs; Ali Kiani, vice-president academic; Carolyn Gaspar, vice-president external; and Dana Carriere, Aboriginal liaison. The executive has identified three areas in which to increase the relationship and cooperation between university leaders and provincial leaders and enhance reputation of graduate students on various student bodies:

1. To amend *The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995* to have a graduate student representative on the Board of Governors and to have greater representation on University Council, given that the graduate students represent more than 15% of the overall student population;
2. To increase awareness of graduate students of issues of indigenization and to be a leader in integrating indigenous content into the curriculum;
3. To better understand its constituency and graduate student needs by conducting a wide survey of its membership.

Mr. Ghaith thanked Council for its cooperation with last year's GSA Executive and indicated the executive this year looks forward to increasing this cooperation for the betterment of the GSA and graduate students. Council recognized the new GSA Executive.

## 8. Planning and Priorities Committee

Lisa Kalynchuk, chair of the planning and priorities committee, presented the committee reports to Council.

### 8.1 Request for Decision – Disestablishment of the three divisions in the College of Arts and Science

In July 2015, the College of Arts and Science implemented a new administrative structure that included three new vice dean positions to better align the college with the organizational structure used by other colleges. As the college no longer operates within a divisional administrative configuration, faculty council within the college voted in favor of a motion to dissolve the divisional faculty councils at its meeting on March 16, 2016. The college will now operate with one faculty council, which is anticipated to create more cohesion in the college and make it easier for faculty to engage and participate in collegial decision making within the

college. The changes are resource neutral. Internal changes to the student information system will occur in May 2017.

Professor Kalynchuk indicated there was little discussion of the item within the committee, as the changes were discussed at length within the college and the college faculty council had sent a clear message of support for these changes by passing a motion to dissolve the divisional faculty councils. The divisional faculty councils also each carried a motion in favour of their own dissolution.

*KALYNCHUK/de BOER: That Council approve the disestablishment of the Divisions of Humanities and Fine Arts, the Division of Social Sciences, and the Division of Sciences from within the College of Arts and Science, effective November 1, 2016, and that Council's Bylaws be amended to reflect the disestablishment of the divisions and divisional faculty councils.*

CARRIED

## 8.2 Request for Decision – Establishment of the Johnson-Shoyama Institute for Science and Innovation Policy (ISIP) as a Type A Centre within the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy

Professor Kalynchuk referred to the revised proposal of the Johnson-Shoyama Institute for Science and Innovation Policy (ISIP) presented to Council. A brief history of Council's consideration of the centre was provided and members were referred to the list of revisions and additional consultation undertaken by proponents in response to Council's feedback. Professor Kalynchuk emphasized the criteria in the centres policy that direct how new Type A centres are to be considered. These focus on the research and scholarly work and other opportunities the centre will provide, the financial sustainability of the centre and support from others, and the priority of the centre for the college or school proposing the centre and how the centre fits with the college or school strategic plan and institutional priorities. As the planning and priorities committee has determined that the proposal fully meets the criteria in the centres policy, a motion to approve the establishment of this centre has been submitted to Council.

Professor Kalynchuk invited Kathy McNutt, Executive Director of the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JSGS) to convey to Council why the centre is important for the school and how it fits within the school's strategic plan. Professor McNutt indicated the centre would be jointly housed at the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan and focus on three major strategic priorities: governance; social policy and inequality; and innovation, science, and technology policy. The impetus for the centre began two years ago when the research priorities were identified by the school.

The proposal has been revised as a result of additional consultation and feedback to clarify the role and academic purpose of the centre, the academic research that will be housed within the centre, the benefits offered to students, the ability of other researchers to participate with the centre, and how the centre will benefit indigenous scholarship and engagement. Based on feedback received about the scope of the centre, the name of the centre has been changed from the Canadian Institute for Science and Innovation Policy (CISIP) to the Johnson-Shoyama Institute for Science and Innovation Policy (ISIP).

The chair invited discussion of the proposal. Concerns raised included criticism of the collegial process to develop the centre and the perceived bias of the researchers involved with two of the focal research areas in energy and agriculture, with specific criticism of research connections with and corporate advocacy of the Monsanto Corporation and nuclear energy and uranium extraction development. There was criticism of the lack of attention to local input from farmers and First Nations peoples that favour other energy and agricultural approaches.

Concern was raised about the absence of a code of ethics in the proposal and lack of knowledge of the membership of the management committee and advisory board as to whether these individuals would be unbiased. Fears of the centre shaping societal risk perception were expressed. As researchers within the centre are already publishing as academic faculty with academic freedom, detractors opposed to establishing the centre indicated that not establishing the centre would not interfere with the rights of these faculty members to continue to publish their work.

Making all contracts signed by university administrators for research and development publicly available was requested to ensure they are consistent with the academic values of the university.

Concerns were expressed that University Senate was not made aware of the proposal or asked for input, that the references to indigenization within the proposal were minimal at a time when the university was affirming its commitment to indigenous peoples. Ms. Eileen Bear of Pinehouse, who was in attendance as a visitor, asked why indigenous peoples were not visibly present at the meeting. Other issues raised related to the degree of administrative support the centre would fund, the reflection of student funding in the budget, and that many faculty on campus that deal with societal issues and in the sciences remained unaware of the proposal.

Points in favour of approving the centre included the opportunity the centre offers for collaboration from a disciplinary and multidisciplinary perspective. Research of public policy serves public interests and permits debate on questions of public policy related to science and technology. Jeremy Rayner, director of the JSGS at the University of Saskatchewan campus indicated that policy analysis requires discussion and consideration of technologies that often elicit strong positions. Part of the impetus for the centre was based on the concern that controversial issues of science and technology were not being translated well into policy. Those supporting the motion called on members to judge the proposal based on whether it meets the criteria for establishment within the centres policy.

*KALYNCHUK/de BOER: That Council approve the establishment of the Johnson-Shoyama Institute for Science and Innovation Policy (ISIP) as a Type A Centre within the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JSGS), effective upon approval of ISIP by the University of Regina Board of Governors.*

CARRIED (23 in favour; 13 opposed)

### 8.3 Report for Information – Notice of Intent for a School of Architecture and architecture programs

Professor Kalynchuk indicated that the idea of mounting a program in architectural sciences has been under discussion for a number of years at the university and the planning and priorities committee had recently re-engaged with the idea. The committee met several times with Colin Ripley, Professor in the Department of Architectural Science at Ryerson University,

who was retained by the university to conduct an environmental scan and develop a proposal for a School of Architecture at the university.

Professor Kalynchuk reported the committee reacted positively to the idea of a program in architecture, recognizing that this would fill a gap in the university's curriculum and contribute to the province and its economy in valuable ways. Committee members also favored the idea of creating a School of Architecture and Fine Arts, as this was seen as a way to inject new resources into an area of the university that has been under budgetary pressures for some time. Excitement about the possibilities the school offers are tempered with concerns about the resources required to develop the school and mount the programs. Although the committee would not normally present a notice of intent (NOI) to Council for information, the committee thought it important for Council to be informed about recent progress given the impact the school and architectural programming could have across the university.

Professor Kalynchuk indicated that next steps in advancing the initiative include developing the curriculum and course outlines, considering how the program would fit within the curriculum structure of the College of Arts and Science, developing a funding strategy, creating images of how the John Deere Building could be retrofitted to house the program; and defining the flows on the institutional linkages diagram in the NOI. Professor Kalynchuk emphasized the importance of Council being engaged as the initiative unfolds and that feedback on the NOI and the broader concept of architectural programs at the university can be sent by email to herself or the university secretary.

## 9. Nominations Committee

Ed Krol, chair of the nominations committee presented the report to council.

### 9.1 Request for Decision – Committee nominations for 2016/17

Professor Krol indicated that each year the nominations committee reviews the membership list of Council and other committees and submits a list of nominees to Council to fill these vacancies. The committee does its best to ensure there is equity in representation and balance among members to ensure committees are broadly representative of disciplines across campus. Experience, leadership, continuity, and commitment are key attributes of those nominated to chair committees.

*KROL/LARRE: That Council approve the nominations to University Council committees, Collective agreement committees, and other committees for 2016/17 as presented.*

CARRIED

### 9.2 Request for Decision – Nominations to the Search Committee for the Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement

Professor Krol reported that Council was being asked to appoint members to the search committee for the newly-created position of vice-provost indigenous engagement. Due to the importance of the position to the university, the nominations committee sent out a call for nominations to the General Academic Assembly (GAA) for members to serve on the committee.

*(1) KROL/LARRE: That Council approve the appointment of the following GAA members to the search committee for the vice-provost Indigenous engagement:*

*Andy Allen, Department of Veterinary Pathology  
Kathryn Labelle, Department of History  
Caroline Tait, Department of Psychiatry  
Lois Berry, College of Nursing*

*(2) That Council approve the appointment of Martin Phillipson, incoming dean of Law as the senior administrator selected by Council to serve on the search committee for the vice-provost indigenous engagement, effective July 1, 2016.*

CARRIED

9.3 Request for Decision – Nominations to the Joint Committee to Review the Search and Review Procedures for Senior Administrators

Professor Krol indicated that the nominations committee nominated members to the joint committee to review the search and review procedures for senior administrators based on individuals' experience serving on search and review committees and their familiarity with the process and procedures.

*KROL/LARRE: That Council approve the appointment of Ingrid Pickering, Department of Geological Sciences; Dale Ward, Department of Chemistry; and Linda McMullen, Department of Psychology as the GAA members selected to serve on the Joint Committee to Review the Search and Review Procedures for Senior Administrators.*

CARRIED

10. Governance Committee

Louise Racine, chair of the governance committee, presented the reports.

10.1 Request for Decision – Nominations to the Nominations Committee for 2016/17

Professor Racine reported that although the nominations committee considers the vacancies of other committees, that the governance committee has the responsibility to nominate Council members to the nominations committee.

*RACINE/FLYNN: That Council approve the nominations to the nominations committee as outlined in the attachment for three-year terms effective July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2019, and that Tamara Larre be appointed as chair for a one-year term effective July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.*

CARRIED

Professor Racine thanked Professor Krol for the exceptional work provided to Council during his term as chair of the nominations committee and wished him well during his sabbatical.

10.2 Request for Input – Revisions to the Regulations on Student Academic Misconduct

Professor Racine expressed that the governance committee was open to receiving input and feedback on the revisions to the student academic misconduct regulations. She asked that these be directed to Elizabeth Williamson, university secretary.

11. Academic Programs Committee

Kevin Flynn, chair of the academic programs committee presented the report.



### 11.1 Request for Input – Nomenclature Report

Professor Flynn noted that the Nomenclature Report was last revised five years ago, and the academic programs committee intends to revise the report more regularly in the future. Suggested revisions of the report may be submitted to the registrar and/or university secretary.

### 11.2 Request for Input – Changes to the Academic and Curricular Change Authority Chart

Professor Flynn indicated that comments and feedback on the Academic and Curricular Change Authority Chart could be submitted to the registrar and/or university secretary.

### 11.3 Report for Information – Annual Report to Council for 2015/16

Professor Flynn expressed thanks to program proponents who attended committee meetings throughout the year to present proposals, and acknowledged the contributions of committee members and the exemplary support provided by Amanda Storey, committee secretary.

## 12. Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee

Jay Wilson, chair of the teaching, learning and academic resources committee, presented the report.

### 12.1 Report for Information – Annual Report to Council for 2015/16

Professor Wilson thanked Council for its support of the committee's work to indigenize the curriculum and acknowledged members of the committee for their contributions, recognizing in particular the efforts of Patti McDougall, vice-provost, teaching and learning. There were no questions or discussion of the report.

## 13. Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships

Ravi Chibbar, committee member presented the report on behalf of Jim Germida, chair of the joint committee on chairs and professorships.

### 13.1 Report for Information – Annual Report to Council for 2015/16

There was no discussion of the report.

## 14. Other business

There was no other business.

## 15. Question period

The chair invited questions from Council members. A member observed how the room had emptied of members prior to the point of adjournment. He noted the intent for debate is that members be present for the entire meeting. This calls upon the attendance and engagement of Council members for the duration of the meeting out of respect for fellow Council members and to properly conduct the business of Council.

As the individual who had posed the question about university rankings was no longer present, the question was not asked.

16. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by motion (FLYNN/BRADLEY) at 4:51 pm.