

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

Lisa Kalynchuk, chair of Council called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m., observing that quorum had been attained.

Kishor Wasan, dean, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition delivered a memorial tribute to honour Adil Nazarali, professor in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. Professor Nazarali passed away on April 27, 2017. Karen Chad, vice-president research, also delivered remarks about Dr. Nazarali noting his many research accomplishments.

1. Adoption of the agenda

DE BOER/FLYNN: *To adopt the agenda as amended with revisions to the Research Report and item 9.2.* CARRIED

2. Opening remarks

The chair offered brief remarks, welcoming Tony Vannelli, incoming provost and vice-president academic to Council. She expressed best wishes to incoming Council chair, Kevin Flynn, and thanked Council for the opportunity to serve as chair over the past year.

3. Minutes of the meeting of May 18, 2017

GJEVRE/GOODRIDGE: *That the May 18, 2017 Council minutes be approved as circulated.*

CARRIED

4. Business from the minutes

The chair noted two items of business arising from the previous meeting:

Under item 10.2 Report on Input Received in Response to the Policy for Medical Faculty, two memos from the coordinating committee were copied to Council for information. Dr. Kalynchuk indicated it was clear to members of the coordinating committee that the policy continues to be an issue of concern. The memos signal to the Board of Governors and the dean of the College of Medicine that Council continues to support the college, but also expects that the policy and associated procedures will result in the required academic outcomes from the medical faculty. Dean Preston Smith will report to Council once the procedures have been approved by the college so that Council is assured that what is being done will lead to a stronger college and university. There were no questions or comments.

Dr. Kalynchuk noted the second item was a question under item 6 Provost's Report about the number of Indigenous students by year in program. Patti McDougall, vice-provost teaching and learning, responded to the question, presenting a slide to show the number of Indigenous undergraduate students in 2016-17 by year in program relative to the undergraduate student population as a whole: 33% of Indigenous undergraduate students are in first year, 27% in second

year, 20% in third year and 20% in fourth year. Dr. McDougall noted that year of study is defined somewhat differently across the university's programs. However, the figures support the interpretation that there are more Indigenous students registered in first year relative to other years than would be expected simply on the basis of more students self declaring their Indigenous status.

5. Report of the President

President Peter Stoicheff recognized Lisa Kalynchuk and her contributions as chair of Council and a member of the university community. President Stoicheff also recognized Tony Vannelli, provost in attendance and acknowledged the service provided by Michael Atkinson, interim provost and vice-president academic over a particularly challenging year. He reflected that part of the president's role is to serve Council and that Council experienced articulate and collegial debate about difficult issues over the past year.

President Stoicheff thanked all who attending the convocation ceremonies earlier in the month. The president also recognized the efforts put into interpreting and enacting what will be a long process of Indigenization. He noted the university is seen by others as a participant in the country's reconciliations efforts, and not as a bystander, as acknowledged in the recent article in *The New York Times* on how the university envisions an Indigenous future.

President Stoicheff noted the university did receive a tough budget which creates significant challenges and requires the university to be creative and open to change. Reconciliation also means the university must change, relearn, and reimagine—the things that universities do best. He reiterated that in a post-truth era, universities are more important than they have ever been. The university is a place for open discussion and debate about what truth looks like.

In closing, the president encouraged Council not to let the budget lead to withdrawal, rather to stay connected, to increase diversity and efforts at being inclusive; to serve the public good, support internationalization, and improve the student experience.

6. Report of the Provost

Interim Provost Michael Atkinson presented the Provost's report to Council, focusing his remarks on the 2018-19 Operations Forecast. A frank discussion about the Operations Forecast and the budget in general occurred at a meeting on June 9 with officials from the Ministry of Advanced Education. The document makes critical points about the role of the university in a pointed manner. At the June 9th meeting, ministry officials responded positively to many of the points made about the importance of the university.

The Board of Governors recently approved the Operations Forecast, and the document will soon be posted on the university's website. The planning and priorities committee reviewed the document in advance and provided feedback, which will be reported to Council in the fall.

Provost Atkinson expressed that he also was impressed with the quality of debate, leadership and discussion at Council and enjoyed discussions with Council chairs. He closing his remarks by expressing confidence in Tony Vannelli as the incoming provost and thanking Council members for their engagement.

7. Student Societies

7.1 Report from the USSU

David D'Eon, president of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU) presented the USSU report. He acknowledged Council chair elect Kevin Flynn and his father and Council member Marcel D'Eon.

Mr. David D'Eon spoke of the theme of accessibility in relation to the USSU's activities and the desire to have a student union with accessibility as its core mandate. This calls for a relationship with university administration and faculty that is open, honest, and accessible. Insisting on transparency from the provincial government with respect to student interests is also essential. Students must constructively engage the province to put student interests on the agenda. Mr. D'Eon expressed that the USSU is interested exploring the support that the USSU and Council can offer one another in moving forward.

In response to a request about whether a fall reading week might be added to the academic calendar of the professional health science colleges, Mr. D'Eon indicated that he would be meeting with the president of the medical students' society to discuss this topic.

7.2 Report from the GSA

Ziad Ghaith, president of the Graduate Students' Association presented the GSA report to Council. Mr. Ghaith noted the GSA annual work plan will be presented to Graduate Council in June for approval. This spring the new graduate student/supervisor agreement template was approved and will be modelled in several departments in the coming year.

The provincial government new 6% PST tax on group insurance premiums as announced in the 2017 provincial budget means the GSA will need to increase its medical and dental insurance rates this year to cover this additional cost. Mr. Ghaith noted the graduate student teaching assistant rate is unchanged from the rate set four years ago. The GSA wishes to work with the university to alleviate the increasing financial stress on graduate students, signified by the increased numbers of graduate students coming to the GSA and asking for emergency help.

8. Governance Committee

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

8.1 Request for Decision – Changes to Council Bylaws Part III, section V.1.B. (p) Membership of the Faculty Councils

Professor Racine noted the change to the general membership of all faculty councils was first presented as a notice of motion the previous month. The change is to remove the category of extension specialist as this employment category is no longer in use at the university. Once approved, colleges and schools will be informed of the change so as to make the change in their own faculty council bylaws.

RACINE/De BOER: It is recommended that Council approve the changes to the membership of the faculty councils as shown in the attachment, and that Council's Bylaws be amended accordingly.

CARRIED

8.2 Request for Decision – School of Physical Therapy Faculty Council Membership

Professor Racine reported the proposed membership changes were approved by the faculty council of the School of Physical Therapy. The changes were initiated to update the membership and rebalance the number of clinical faculty and full-time faculty members.

RACINE/DE BOER: *It is recommended that Council approve the membership changes to the Faculty Council of the School of Physical Therapy as shown in the attachment, and that Council's Bylaws be amended accordingly.*

CARRIED

8.3 Request for Decision – College of Kinesiology Faculty Council Membership

Professor Racine indicated the proposed membership changes were approved by the faculty council of the College of Kinesiology following consultation with the governance committee.

RACINE/DE BOER: *It is recommended that Council approve the membership changes to the Faculty Council of the College of Kinesiology as shown in the attachment, and that Council's Bylaws be amended accordingly.*

CARRIED

8.4 Request for Decision – Nominations to the Nominations Committee of Council for 2017/18

Professor Racine explained that the terms of reference of the governance committee call for it to nominate the members of the nominations committee.

RACINE/DE BOER: *It is recommended that Council approve the nominations to the nominations committee as outlined in the attachment for three-year terms effective July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020, and that Jim Greer be appointed as chair for a one-year term effective July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.*

CARRIED

8.5 Request for Input – Attendance at Council Meetings

Professor Racine reported that the request for input arose from the concern of the governance committee that many Council members seldom attended meetings.

In response, a Council member spoke of the perfunctory reporting that occurred at Council meetings, leaving little time to debate the business of Council and decisions that matter. Although he attended Council meetings diligently, he questioned the value of meetings. A suggestion was made as a first step in addressing the problem to contact those who seldom attend to find out why their attendance is sporadic. In response to a question about difficulty meeting quorum, Professor Racine clarified the committee's concern was not about the ability to meet quorum, as Council regularly meets quorum for meetings, but about the participation and contribution of Council members.

Professor Racine invited members to provide additional comments and suggestions in writing to Jay Wilson, incoming chair, by email to jay.wilson@usask.ca.

8.6 Report for Information – Number of Student Appeals from 2016-17

In response to the report on the number of students appeals over the past year, a Council member asked for a comparison of the number of cases this year compared to the previous year, and the number of cases under the new academic misconduct regulations compared to the previous regulations.

Beth Bilson, university secretary indicated that her office was compiling statistics of hearings and appeals under the academic, academic misconduct, and non-academic misconduct regulations and these will be analyzed. She noted that overall, the number of hearings and appeals at the university level is increasing.

8.7 Report for Information – Annual Report of the Governance Committee for 2016-17

Professor Racine invited questions about the committee's annual report. There being none, she concluded her remarks by acknowledging the dedicated work of members of the committee and the support provided by the university secretariat.

9. Nominations Committee

Tamara Larre, chair of the nominations committee presented the reports to Council. Due to the number of items on the agenda, the motions were presented without introductory remarks.

9.1 Request for Decision – Nomination for the Vice-Chair of Council

LARRE/BINDLE: *It is recommended that Council approve the nomination of Chelsea Willness as vice-chair of Council for a two-year term effective July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2019.*

CARRIED

9.2 Request for Decision – Nominations to the Academic Programs Committee

LARRE/BINDLE: *It is recommended that Council approve the nomination of Angela Kalinowski, Department of History to the academic programs committee as outlined in the attachment for a three-year term effective July 1, 2017 and ending on June 30, 2020; and that Terry Wotherspoon be appointed as chair for a one-year term effective July 1, 2017 and ending on June 30, 2018.*

CARRIED

9.3 Request for Decision – Nominations to the Promotion Appeals Panel

LARRE/BINDLE: *It is recommended that Council approve the nominations to the promotions appeal panel with member terms as outlined in the attachment.*

CARRIED

10. Academic Programs Committee

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

10.1 Request for Decision– Revisions to the Academic Courses Policy

Professor Flynn explained that the revisions submitted are the result of the determination to undertake more frequent updates to the Academic Courses Policy.

An editorial correction was proposed and accepted to capitalize University Library in the policy document. Clarification was sought on the purpose of using the notation No Credit (N) rather than Incomplete Fail (INF). Professor Flynn explained that N grades are commonly seen in the Health Sciences where the grade indicates that the student has failed a required component of the course and therefore failed the course, even if the numeric grade is above the pass grade. A notation on the transcript identifies the meaning and purpose of the N grade.

Clarification was provided that college policies determine what grading approach is used by a college, and therefore colleges are not required to use the N-grade notation. However, the N-grade notation is required if the course falls within the definition stated in the Academic Courses Policy.

Other discussion focused on the five business day deadline to submit exam marks to the Registrar's Office, including supplemental and deferred exams. The deadline was objected to as a considerable burden, depending on individual circumstances. Patti McDougall, vice-provost teaching and learning noted that the five-day rule is an imperative due to the negative effect on students if the deadline is not met for decisions about admissions, selection of majors, scholarships, and graduation. There are exceptions to the five-day rule that are approved by the university registrar upon request.

FLYNN/ZELLO: *It is recommended that Council approve the revisions to the Academic Courses Policy, effective September 1, 2017.*

CARRIED

10.2 Request for Decision – Revisions to the Nomenclature Report

Kevin Flynn explained that substantive changes were presented last year to the Nomenclature Report. This year, the changes are substantially fewer and comprise a few changes to the definition of postdoctoral fellow students and the addition of the Cotutelle program. A minor editorial correction was noted by a member and acknowledged by Professor Flynn.

FLYNN/ZELLO: *It is recommended that Council approve the revisions to the Nomenclature Report with the grammatical change noted, effective immediately.*

CARRIED

10.3 Request for Decision – Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.) in Applied Economics

The Ph.D. in Applied Economics applies economic concepts to topics such as labour, energy, and health care, and will be offered in cooperation with the colleges of Agriculture and Bioresources, Arts and Science, Edwards School of Business, and the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy.

The faculty complement is in place with additional hiring foreseen in the future. There is strong interest in the program and between five to nine Ph.D. students are anticipated to enter the program each year.

FLYNN/ZELLO: *It is recommended that Council approve the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Applied Economics, effective September 1, 2018.*

CARRIED

10.4 Request for Decision – Admissions Qualifications Change for the Educational Administration Graduate Programs

Professor Flynn explained the change to lower the admissions qualification from 73% to 70% for students applying to graduate programs in Educational Administration is intended to open the program to Indigenous and mature students who completed their degree some years ago.

FLYNN/ZELLO: *It is recommended that Council approve the changes to admissions qualifications for Educational Administration graduate programs, effective September 1, 2018.*

CARRIED

10.5 Request for Decision – Deletion of the Sequential Program for the Bachelor of Education (B. Ed.)

The College of Education presently offers a direct-entry and a sequential program entry to its B.Ed. program. The term sequential refers to years three and four of the B.Ed. program, which the student enters after having completed two years of prerequisites in Arts and Science to build their disciplinary teaching area. With the approval of the direct-entry program in 2015, the sequential program is no longer necessary.

A Council member recalled that when the change to the sequential program was made years ago there was little or no discussion at the Council meeting, and observed the same lack of discussion at this time. He noted there are serious financial implications resulting from the decision to disestablish the sequential program, but did not elaborate on what these might be.

FLYNN/ZELLO: *It is recommended that Council approve the deletion of the Sequential Program for the Bachelor of Education (B. Ed.), effective May 1, 2018.*

CARRIED

10.6 Request for Decision – English Proficiency Policy - Minimum English Proficiency Requirements for the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

Professor Flynn explained the decision requested is to approve revisions to the minimum English proficiency standards for the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies to align these with the undergraduate standards set out in the English Proficiency Policy approved by Council in 2015. The changes consist of the removal of the option for remedial admission and the lowering of the minimum requirements in the individual band scores, with the condition that an overall IELTS score of 6.5 be sustained. Individual programs are able to set their own standards as long as they are above the minimum standard required.

There was some discussion of the remedial option and clarification that the lowered individual band scores even at the lower level of 6.0 still indicate reasonable proficiency.

FLYNN/ZELLO: *It is recommended that Council approve the revisions to the minimum English proficiency standards for the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, as per the attached table, effective for the 2018-19 admissions cycle.*

CARRIED

10.7 Report for Information – Graduate Programs Review 2014-15 and 2015-16

The graduate program review reports are provided to Council in accordance with the terms of reference of the academic programs committee.

10.8 Report for Information – Deletion of the Vaccinology and Immunotherapeutics Field of Study for the Master of Arts (M.A.) Program

Professor Flynn indicated that with no enrolment in the field of study since 2006, deletion of the field was approved by the academic programs committee.

10.9 Report for Information – Annual Report of the Academic Programs Committee for 2016-17

Professor Flynn offered highlights of the work done by the committee over the year including the J.D. Nunavut offering, the inclusion of the Cotutelle in the Dual Degree Policy, and the many admissions requirements that were approved by Council and confirmed by Senate. Professor Flynn also offered thanks to numerous individuals who contributed to the committee's work over the course of the year.

11. Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee

Paul Jones, chair of the research, scholarly and artistic work committee presented the report to Council.

11.1 Request for Decision – Dissolution of the University Committee for Ethics in Human Research (UCEHR)

Professor Jones explained that the University Committee on Ethics in Human Research (UCEHR) was created to develop the procedures and protocols for the Biomedical Ethics and Behavioural Ethics Research Boards and to hear appeals of decisions of these boards. Since the creation of the two boards in 2002, there has only been one appeal, and therefore establishing *ad hoc* committees as needed is proposed to hear any future appeals upon the dissolution of the UCEHR.

JONES/TYLER: *It is recommended that Council approve the dissolution of the University Committee on Ethics in Human Research, effective immediately, to be replaced with ad hoc committees that would be struck as needed by the research ethics board chairs with RSAW approval, as per the attached request.*

CARRIED

11.2 Report for Information – Annual Report of the Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee for 2016-17

Professor Jones referred members to the committee's annual report and the annual reports of the vice-president research and the interim dean, College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies appended to the report.

12. Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships

Jim Germida, chair of the joint committee on chairs and professorships presented the report to Council.

12.1 Request for Decision – Cameco Chair Terms of Reference

Dr. Germida reported the chair was first approved in 2009 by Council and the Board of Governors. After a series of unsuccessful searches, new chair terms of reference were developed in 2016. The chair is therefore resubmitted to Council for approval with the new terms of reference. The chair is created and will be delivered in partnership with the Royal University Hospital Foundation.

Discussion included a summary of the changes to the terms, the status of the position, and the range of academic duties the incumbent would fulfil. Preston Smith, dean of Medicine, answered the questions, indicating the original goal was to recruit an Indigenous physician with an established research program in Internal Medicine. However, due to the small number of Indigenous graduates, the college was unable to fill the chair as a traditional research chair. The scope of the position was then recast to focus on recruiting a champion for Indigenous Health. However, the terms do not preclude the successful candidate also having a research program. The chair was previously approved as a tenure-track appointment but is now an independent contract position in keeping with the changes to the college's appointment structure.

In response to a question about the use of Aboriginal, rather than Indigenous, in the name of the chair, Dean Smith indicated that as the Truth and Reconciliation recommendation on which the chair is based speaks to Aboriginal health, the word Aboriginal, rather than Indigenous, is used in the chair title. A member supported the change in name from Aboriginal to Indigenous in keeping with the adoption of National Indigenous Peoples Day. If the term Aboriginal is used, she noted it should be used in conjunction with the terms First Nations and Métis. She also suggested enhancing recruitment for the chair by removing Cameco from the name and using a more general descriptive name, such as "Chair in Indigenous Health." Dean Smith indicated that he would discuss the suggestion to change the name with the RUH Foundation.

CHIBBAR/SMITH: *It is recommended that Council approve the Cameco Chair in Aboriginal Health as re-envisioned under the new terms of reference and recommends to the Board of Governors that the Board authorize the approval of the new chair.*

CARRIED with 1 abstention

12.2 Report for Information – Annual Report of the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships for 2016-17

Dr. Germida referred members to the annual report of the joint committee and invited questions. There were none.

13. Planning and Priorities Committee

Dirk de Boer, chair of the planning and priorities committee presented the committee reports to Council.

13.1 Request for Input – University Integrated Plan

Dirk de Boer introduced the draft university integrated plan and invited John Rigby, interim associate provost, Institutional Planning and Assessment to present the draft plan to Council.

Dr. Rigby reported that work on the integrated plan began in January, 2015. From the outset he indicated it was clear that the adoption of the responsibility centre management (RCM) model required a different type of plan than had been prepared in past. The themes of the plan are taken from the university's *Vision, Mission and Values* document, as are the six goals featured in the draft plan. Dr. Rigby made a distinction between the academic and foundational goals and the goals to "*partner in reconciliation*" and "*creatively embrace change*", which are fundamental to being able to achieve the first four goals: to "*contribute to a sustainable future*", "*prepare our students to be engaged citizens in tomorrow's world*", "*serve the public good*", and "*connect and engage our local and global community*".

Dr. Rigby outlined the consultation to date and that planned for the future and the membership of the advisory committee guiding the development of the plan. The intent is to present the plan to Council in October for consideration of approval.

There was some discussion about the change in placement of the word "*wahkohtowin*", the Cree word for kinship which was featured prominently in the previous draft of the plan and which has been replaced with the phrase, "*taking our place*" as the new title of the draft plan. Professor Rigby clarified that the phrase "*taking our place*" is meant to reflect a sense of understanding our place as a university, and includes working through the Indigenization of the university.

Dr. Rigby invited comments and feedback by email to strategic_plan@usask.ca or directly to john.rigby@usask.ca.

13.2 Report for Information – Annual Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee for 2016-17

Dirk de Boer presented the report and invited comments. There being none, he expressed thanks to committee members and the committee secretary for their hard work over the year.

14. International Activities Committee

Gord Zello, chair of the international activities committee presented the committee report to Council.

14.1 Report for Information – Annual Report of the International Activities Committee for 2016-17

Professor Zello acknowledged the work of committee members and those who supported the committee over the year. In response to a question about when the *Blueprint for Internalization* might be presented to Council, Professor Zello indicated it would be reviewed by the committee in September and submitted to Council for information in October or November.

15. Teaching, Learning and Academic Programs Committee

Alec Aitken, chair elect presented the teaching, learning and academic programs committee presented the report to Council on behalf of Jay Wilson, committee chair.

15.1 Report for Information – Environmental Scan – Indigenous Teaching and Learning Experiences

Professor Aitken noted the substantive information on the item was before members in the Council package, specifically the methodology as to how the university will indigenize the curriculum within programs across the university. Professor Aitken drew attention to three aspects of the report: the best practices that have been identified across campus that instructors can reflect on and incorporate within their own pedagogy; the articulation that systematic change is required to shift from course-based to program-level indigenization; and the hopes and aspirations of the academic leaders who were interviewed to create the environmental scan.

16. Scholarships and Awards Committee

16.1 Report for Information – Annual Report to Council: Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarships and Awards

Donna Goodridge presented the report as committee chair, offering thanks to Wendy Klingenberg, the Student Finance and Awards Office and members of the committee.

17. Other business

Dr. Bilson announced that the recent Council election to fill a member at large vacancy resulted in the election of Gordon Sarty, Department of Psychology.

18. Question period

The chair invited questions. There were none.

19. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by motion (FLYNN/GJEVRE) at 4:55 pm.