

Attendance: See item 3 Appendix A for the listing of members in attendance.

The acting chair of Council, Dr. Chelsea Willness, called the meeting to order at 2:30 noting that quorum had been reached.

A tribute to honour Robin Morrall was presented by Dr. Dick Neal, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Biology.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The chair noted one amendment to the agenda following the original posting to the web of the Council materials. The change was to add agenda item 8 for the nomination of the chair of APC.

D'Eon/Urquhart: *That the agenda be adopted including this change.*

CARRIED

2. Opening remarks

The acting chair of Council, Dr. Willness acknowledged that Council meets on Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis. Dr. Willness reminded those in attendance of the usual protocols for discussion and debate.

The acting chair thanked both candidates, Dr. Jay Wilson, and Dr. Marcel D'Eon for allowing their names to stand for the position of Council Chair. Dr. Willness announced that Dr. Jay Wilson was elected as the next Council chair, effective January 2019. Dr. Willness expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to serve as acting Council chair. She will now return to the role of vice-chair.

3. Approval of minutes of the meeting of November 22, 2018

De Boer/J. Wilson: *That the minutes of the November 22, 2018 meeting be approved as circulated.*

CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Dr. Willness noted business arising from the minutes brought forward by Dr. Stephen Urquhart in response to the planning and priorities committee (PPC) report for information that was presented on November 22, 2019, i.e. *Discovery the World Needs: University of Saskatchewan's Research Plan (2018-2025)*. Dr. Willness indicated that the following questions have been referred to the research scholarly and artistic work (RSAW) committee at Dr. Urquhart's request:

- Has investment in our signature areas led to growth in research productivity in these areas, where productivity is a measurable quantity?

- Does the ‘growth’ in our signature areas reflect a suitable return on investment for the resources - including scholarships - that have been expanded in this direction?

5. Report of the President

The chair invited President Peter Stoicheff to present his report. Dr. Willness reminded Council members to leave non-report questions until question period.

President Stoicheff thanked Dr. Willness for her work and leadership as acting chair of Council, noting that it is a highly successful deliberative body, in part due to the chair. He and members of the president’s executive committee (PEC) also find the monthly meetings with the chairs of Council committees to be highly enjoyable.

In keeping with the spirit of his written report, the president provided additional information to Council on the successes of the university over the last three years. He thanked the colleges’ faculty, staff, and leadership teams for everything they have done in the wake of challenging budgets. After the 2017 budget, we said “the budget will not define us.” This is a good phrase to keep us focused on the mission of this university. There will still be difficulties and challenges ahead of us, but as we will hear from the provost under his report, we are stepping out of those challenges slowly and deliberately.

In the face of these challenges, we must continue to “think big”. We did not reduce expectations of ourselves, nor did we reduce our efforts proportionately. The president thanked University Council, as the success of the university ripples out based on the work that continues here. The president noted examples of “thinking big” at USask even in the face of these difficult challenges:

- The Collaborative Science Research Building opened in 2018 thanks to a \$30.1M contribution from the Government of Canada through the Strategic Investment Fund (SIF)
- Merlis Belsher place was opened thanks to a gift of \$12.5M from Mr. Belsher in 2016; in addition \$7M was provided by the community, including Ron and Jane Graham and the City of Saskatoon
- In October 2018, USask launched the Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence which brings new research links across the commercial supply chain, and is the largest centre of its kind in Canada
- This fall the new hotel was opened on College Drive, which provides much needed accommodation to visitors we have from across the country who interact with USask, including those who come to benefit from our scientific infrastructure
- The university acquired the Forest Building in Prince Albert to improve spaces that provide for student success, support Indigenization, and support engagement with the North
- In the fall of 2018 we launched the *University Plan: 2025*, which is ambitious, forward-thinking, visionary and bold
- We recruited Dr. JoLee Sasakamoose as the director of the Indigenous Peoples’ Health Research Unit in Johnson-Shoyama
- In 2018 four USask students were awarded the prestigious Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships
- USask went up in Research InfoSource from 13th to 11th out of fifty universities
- The university funding from Western Economic Diversification to support the production of medical isotopes at the Fedoruk Centre
- Leadership from a consortium of USask researchers mapped the wheat genome

- Two CERCs and a CFREF were awarded to USask
- Eleven of twelve research awards made by the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation in 2018 were awarded to USask
- USask was acknowledged at the Fourth National Reconciliation Forum at the University of Victoria for its leadership on Indigenization, and as the host of the first forum
- Memoranda of understanding (MOUs) have been signed with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, the City of Saskatoon, and the Remai Modern
- Three quarters of performers in the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra are faculty or alumni
- VIDO/InterVac will start manufacturing vaccines thanks to a federal investment of \$3.6M made in the spring of 2018
- Student numbers have increased by 3 percent in 2018/19 from 2017/18, Indigenous student numbers are increasing as well
- The President will be meeting with the FSIN assembly, as the MOU that was signed with USask commits the university to do on an annual basis
- Three of the university's eleven board members are Indigenous

The President also thanked members of Council, the faculty, and students of the university for offering their considered ideas, opinions and perspectives in the media and other Canadian conversations on these and other topics.

A question was raised regarding the university's role in the Government of Saskatchewan's decision to close the Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan's location in Saskatoon. The President clarified that the university was not going to increase the lease rates for the Provincial Archives. Further, he was disappointed to read in the Star Phoenix that this was one of the reasons articulated for the closure. Rather, there are many other reasons for the Government of Saskatchewan's decision to relocate the archives to Regina, only one of which was financial efficiency. For instance, one location in Regina could be open 5 days per week, whereas the Saskatoon location was only able to be open three days per week. The president indicated that he had a discussion on this matter at some length with the Minister of Advanced Education when she met with the Board of Governors in December, and that he has also sent a letter to the minister expressing these concerns.

6. Report of the Provost

In reference to his report, Provost Tony Vannelli indicated that much energy is being spent across all levels of the university to make and communicate resource allocation decisions. This will ensure that college and unit plans can be implemented. Vice presidents and deans are moving many initiatives forward to transform this university into all it can be for the communities we serve in this province, in Canada, and beyond. Despite the fiscal challenges, people are bringing energy to the planning aspirations we want to achieve. In the new year, the provost will continue to work through Council and Council committees to demonstrate how our plans will take shape, despite the fiscal challenges we face.

There was a question about the meaning of the term "support centre." The Provost responded that the term refers to an administrative unit at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) under responsibility centre management (RCM).

7. Student Societies

7.1 Report from the USSU

Rollin Baldhead, president of the USSU provided a report to Council. Mr. Baldhead opened his report with a statement in Cree. A member of Council respectfully requested a translation, which Mr. Baldhead translated to mean “Tansi everyone. Hello everyone. It is a great day to be alive on this earth and to be walking with you.” Mr. Baldhead indicated that he first introduced himself with his Indigenous name, which he received through ceremony as a child, and again when he was older. Then, he followed this introduction in English with his settler name, and indicated in Cree that he is chief/server for the USSU, which translates to USSU president in English.

Mr. Baldhead indicated the new USSU executive is working well as a team, and highlighted some recent successes that were noted in the written report. He noted for Council that the USSU would be hosting the 7th annual undergraduate research symposium in Upper Place Riel on January 31, 2019. The event celebrates the research, scholarly and artistic work of students at USask. The USSU is seeking faculty and staff volunteers for three hours that day.

7.2 Report from the GSA

Naheda Sahtout, the GSA president, presented the report to Council with comments focused on the first section of the report regarding international student work and study permits. Ms. Sahtout suggested that on October 13, 2018 the university unilaterally implemented a change to disallow students from continuing to work on campus while they await study permit renewals. She stated that international graduate students in particular rely on teaching and research assistantships to cover tuition and living expenses, and therefore the GSA has concerns with this change. Ms. Sahtout was also concerned with the lack of transparency.

Vice provost Patti McDougall was invited to respond. She indicated that this matter was being considered under the Public Service Alliance of Canada’s (PSAC) negotiations with USask on behalf of graduate student employees. The university is taking steps, including providing emergency funding, to reduce the barriers and consequences these students are facing and hope to continue to work together to reduce the negative impact on affected students.

A question was raised with regard to the status of the GSA’s request to have representation on the university’s Board of Governors. Ms. Sahtout indicated that she met with the Board; the matter is with them, and she expects an answer in the new year.

8. Nominations Committee

Dr. Pamela Downe, nominations committee chair presented an item for decision.

8.1 Request for Decision: Academic Programs Committee (APC) Member and Chair Nomination

Dr. Willness called three times for nominations from the floor. There were none.

Downe/Urquhart: *That Council approve the nomination of Roy Dobson, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, to serve on the academic programs committee as a member, and as chair for a term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2019.*

CARRIED

9. Academic Programs Committee

Dr. Lorin Elias, acting vice-chair of APC presented the requests for decision.

9.1 Request for Decision: Certificate in Business

Elias/Brook: *That Council approve the degree-level Certificate in Business in the Edwards School of Business, effective May 2019.* CARRIED

9.2 Request for Decision: Certificate in Entrepreneurship

Elias/Brook: *That Council approve the degree-level Certificate in Entrepreneurship in the Edwards School of Business, effective May 2019* CARRIED

9.3 Request for Decision: Graduate Degree-level certificate in Veterinary Clinical Sciences – Rotating Internship

Elias/Brook: *That Council approve the graduate degree-level Certificate in Veterinary Clinical Sciences – Rotating Internship, effective May 2019* CARRIED

9.4 Request for Decision: Graduate Degree-level certificate in Veterinary Clinical Sciences – Specialty Internship

Elias/Brook: *That Council approve the graduate degree-level Certificate in Veterinary Clinical Sciences – Specialty Internship, effective May 2019* CARRIED

9.5 Request for Decision: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Archaeology and Anthropology

It is recommended that:

- (1) *Council approve the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Archaeology and Anthropology, effective May 2019*
- (2) *Council approve the termination of the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Archaeology, effective May 2019*
- (3) *Council approve the termination of the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Anthropology, effective May 2019*

CARRIED

9.6 Report for Information: Program Change – College of Engineering increase of credit units for the Bachelor of Science in Engineering (B.E.) in Computer Engineering

Dr. Elias reported that at its meeting on November 28, 2018, APC approved an increase in the number of credit units for the B.E. in Computer Engineering to 134 (from 131), effective May 2019.

9.7 Report for Information: Project-based Master of Arts (M.A.) in Anthropology

Dr. Elias reported that at its meeting on November 28, 2019, APC approved the project-based M.A. in Anthropology, effective May 2019.

10. Governance Committee

Recalling that the *Revised Procedures for Student Appeals in Academic Matters* were presented to Council for information in November 2019, Dr. Jay Wilson, chair of the governance committee presented the revised procedures as a notice of motion. Dr. Wilson requested that feedback on the revised procedures be provided to Dr. Thomarat in the Office of the University Secretary, who supports the governance committee.

10.1 Notice of Motion: Revised Procedures for Student Appeals in Academic Matters

It is recommended Council approve the revised Procedures for Student Appeals in Academic Matters.

11. Other business

Dr. Willness again thanked Council members, Council chairs, and senior leaders for the opportunity to serve as acting Council Chair. She noted that it was an unexpected role, and a highlight of her career.

12. Question period

A question was raised regarding the process that led to the changes in work and study permits for international students, the communications surrounding it, and the academic implications. Dr. McDougall responded that the matter is related to the terms and conditions of employment and the appropriate process and venue for the discussion is between the employer and the union (PSAC). She reiterated that the university is heavily invested in finding a solution to the issue, and efforts are being made to find alternate measures to protect students.

Another question was raised regarding the redaction of transcripts in a freedom of information request, and to what extent academic freedom would be undermined if the transcripts were released in full. President Stoicheff responded that the issue has many features: the principle of academic freedom and our Mission, Vision, and Values; the ability to meet freely and have candid discussions of sensitive issues such as those involving personal information or legal issues. The University Secretary, Dr. Beth Bilson also replied that the reason the university disagreed with the privacy commissioner's findings was that it was an informal meeting, and these were the terms upon which the people present entered into the discussion; the concern with the commissioner's ruling was that it could be too sweeping a precedent. The university has declined to comply with the privacy commissioner's ruling, and the matter is under judicial review.

A member recalled that at the May 19, 2016 meeting, Council approved the nomination of four GAA members to serve on the Joint Committee to Review the Search and Review Procedures for Senior Administrators. Two and half years have elapsed. A request was made for the chair of the joint committee of the Board and Council report to council on the status of this committee, changes since it was struck, and the expected time for submission of a report for approval by the governing bodies it serves.

Further questions were raised regarding the GSA report, in particular with respect to the university's legal responsibilities and accountability to international graduate students. One question was whether any Council committees were consulted. Dr. McDougall reiterated her previous responses. Concern was

expressed about the academic implications for students in courses with international graduate research or teaching assistants who might be affected by the change to their employment status at the U of S.

A Council member requested background on why the GSA was not included in the University of Saskatchewan Act 1995's membership on the Board of Governors. Dr. Bilson responded that at the time the legislation came into effect there was only one student association at USask.

13. Adjournment

Dobson/J. Wilson: The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

Table 1. Action items

Page and note	Date	Item	Responsible
p.6 s.12	12/21/2018	Report on the progress of the Joint Committee to Review the Search and Review Procedures for Senior Administrators	Dr. Bilson

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE 2017-18

Voting Participants

Name	Sept 20	Oct 25	Nov 22	Dec 20	Jan 17	Feb 14	Mar 21	Apr 18	May 23	June 20
Andraos, John	R	A	A	A						
Albert, Mike	P	A	A	A						
Basinger, Jim	P	A	P	P						
Bell, Scott	R	R	R	R						
Blakley, Jill	R	P	R	P						
Bonham-Smith, Peta	A	P	P	P						
Brook, Ryan	P	P	A	P						
Brothwell, Doug	P	P	P	P						
Bruni-Bossio, Vince	P	P	P	A						
Buhr, Mary	P	P	R	P						
Card, Claire	P	A	A	P						
Carter, Mark	P	A	P	P						
Chernoff, Egan	P	P	P	P						
Chibbar, Ravindra	P	P	P	P						
Crowe, Trever	P	P	P	P						
De Boer, Dirk	P	P	P	P						
D'Eon, Marcel	R	P	P	P						
Deters, Ralph	P	P	P	A						
Detmer, Susan	R	R	R	R						
Dick, Rainer	P	R	P	P						
Dierker, Meaghan	A	A	A	A						
Dobson, Roy	P	P	R	P						
Downe, Pamela	P	P	R	P						
Elias, Lorin	P	P	P	P						
Engler-Stringer, Rachel	P	P	R	P						
Eskiw, Christopher	P	P	A	P						
Flynn, Kevin	R	R	R	R						
Fotouhi, Reza	P	A	P	P						
Freeman, Douglas	R	P	R	R						
Gabriel, Andrew	P	A	A	P						
Gillis, Glen	R	P	P	P						
Gjevre, John	P	P	P	P						
Goodridge, Donna	A	P	R	R						
Grosvenor, Andrew	P	P	P	P						
Gyurcsik, Nancy	P	P	P	R						
Han, Yifan	P	R	R	P						
Harrison, William	A	A	A	A						
Henry, Carol	P	R	P	P						
Jamali, Nadeem	P	P	P	P						
Jensen, Gordon	P	R	P	P						
Jones, Paul	R	R	A	R						
Just, Melissa	P	P	P	P						
Kalra, Jay	P	P	P	P						
Kelly, Timothy	P	P	P	R						
Khandelwal, Ramji	P	P	P	P						
Klassen, Lauren	A	A	A	P						
Ko, Seok-Bum	R	R	P	P						
Koh-Steadman, Noah	A	A	A	A						
Kresta, Suzanne	A	P	P	R						
Krol, Ed	P	P	R	P						
Kumaran, Arul	A	P	P	A						
Lamb, Eric	R	P	R	P						
Lane, Jeffrey	P	A	P	R						
Langhorst, Barbara	P	R	R	R						
Lemisko, Lynn	R	R	R	P						
London, Chad	P	P	P	R						
Luke, Iain	R	A	A	R						
Macfarlane, Cal	A	A	A	A						

Name	Sept 20	Oct 25	Nov 22	Dec 20	Jan 17	Feb 14	Mar 21	Apr 18	May 23	June 20
MacLean, Jason	P	R	R	A						
Manley-Tannis, Richard	A	P	P	P						
Martinez-Soberanes, Edgar	P	P	P	R						
Mousseau, Darrell	P	A	P	P						
Munoz, Carlos	P	P	R	R						
Murphy, JoAnn	P	P	R	P						
Newman, Kagen	A	A	A	A						
Papagerakis, Petros	P	P	P	A						
Phillips, Peter	R	A	P	P						
Phillipson, Martin	P	R	P	P						
Pocha, Sheila	A	P	P	A						
Poettcker, Grant	A	A	A	A						
Prytula, Michelle	R	A	R	P						
Racine, Louise	P	R	P	R						
Risling, Tracie	P	P	P	P						
Sarty, Gordon	P	P	P	P						
Saxena, Anurag	R	R	R	R						
Shevyakov, Alexey	R	R	R	R						
Simons, Gabe	R	A	R	A						
Smith, Charles	P	P	R	P						
Smith, Preston	P	P	A	P						
Smith, Martha	P	P	P	P						
Solose, Kathleen	P	P	P	R						
Soltan, Jafar	R	P	P	P						
Spurr, Shelley	P	P	R	P						
Stoicheff, Peter	P	P	P	P						
Squires, Vicki	P	R	P	P						
Swidrovich, Jaris	P	P	P	R						
Thompson, Emma	A	A	A	A						
Tzeng, Huey-Ming	A	A	A	A						
Urquhart, Stephen	P	P	P	P						
Vannelli, Tony	P	P	P	P						
Vassileva, Julita	P	P	P	P						
Waldner, Cheryl	P	P	P	P						
Walker, Keith	P	R	P	P						
Walker, Ryan	R	R	R	P						
Wallace, Alexa	A	A	A	A						
Wasan, Kishor	P	P	P	P						
Willenborg, Christian	P	P	R	P						
Willness, Chelsea	P	P	P	P						
Willoughby, Keith	R	P	R	P						
Wilson, Jay	P	P	P	P						
Wilson, Ken	P	P	P	P						
Wilson, Lee	P	R	P	P						
Woods, Phil	P	P	P	P						
Wotherspoon, Terry	R	R	P	P						
Wurzer, Greg	P	P	P	P						
Zello, Gordon	P	P	P	P						
Zhang, Chris	R	P	A	P						

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE 2017-18

Non-voting participants

Name	Sept 20	Oct 25	Nov 22	Dec 20	Jan 17	Feb 14	Mar 21	Apr 18	May 23	June 20
Baldhead, Rollin	N/A	P	P	P						
Bilson, Beth	P	P	P	P						
Chad, Karen	P	P	P	R						
Fowler, Greg	A	A	A	A						
Gough, Rhonda	P	P	P	P						
Isinger, Russell	P	P	P	P						
Kobes, Brent	R	P	A	A						
McDougall, Patricia	P	P	P	P						
Moellenbeck, Sheldon	P	A	P	P						
Morrison, Karen	P	P	P	P						
Pozega Osburn, Debra	R	R	R	P						
Sahtout, Naheda	P	P	R	P						
Still, Carl	P	A	A	P						