

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:34pm.

The Chair, Dr. Susan Detmer summarized the meeting protocols.

No members of the media identified themselves.

2. Tributes

There was a tribute to Professor Emeritus Robert Besant from the Department of Mechanical Engineering presented by Professor Carey Simonson.

3. Adoption of the agenda

(Grosvenor/Kresta): *That the agenda be approved as circulated.*

CARRIED.

4. Chair's Opening remarks

Dr. Detmer acknowledged that Council meets on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis, paying respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of our gathering place and reaffirming our relationship with one another.

There was a moment of silence for the Williams Lake First Nation in British Columbia where 93 burial sites were uncovered, the latest such discovery in the past year. On behalf of Council, the Chair offered our sincere condolences to the community and to the families affected by this news.

The Chair indicated that due to the length of today's agenda, non-decision item (information item) questions will be deferred to question period.

She also reminded members that there is no Council meeting in February for the mid-winter break.

Dr. Detmer reported on the regular monthly meeting between the Council Executive Committee and the President's Executive Committee (PEC). She reported that the discussion topics were and extended update from the Pandemic Response and Recovery Team (PRT), and the EDI Strategy and Action Plan.

5. Approval of Minutes of the meeting of December 16, 2021

(Gjevre/Willoughby): *That the minutes be approved.*

CARRIED.

6. Business Arising

Dr. Detmer gave a brief statement regarding the items under Business Arising.

- 6.1 Council Election Results for the two member-at-large vacancies on Council: Stephen Urquhart and David Zhang were acclaimed on December 22, 2021 (18-month term January 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023) – [University Council Elections webpage](#).
- 6.2 APC Decision on Changes to the T2 Academic Calendar 2021-22 – Dec 23, 2021 (attachment).
- 6.3 Governance Committee: Emergency Measures Delegation of Council Decision-Making Authority to Council Executive Committee - Dec 23, 2021 (attachment).
- 6.4 Timing of Variance Reports for 2020-21 – Greg Fowler, Vice President Finance and Resources

Greg Fowler, Vice President Finance and Resources, responded to the question arising from the December 16, 2021, Council meeting. He indicated that Quarterly Financial Reports are provided to the Board of Governors through the Audit and Finance Committee. He noted for Council members that further information is available online at the following link: <https://leadership.usask.ca/priorities/finances.php>.

6.5 ICT Policies and Research Implications – Dr. Airini, Provost and Vice President Academic
Dr. Airini, Provost and Vice President Academic, reported that her office has been in communication with ICT and the Vice President Research Office on the matter. Dr. Majorie Delbaere, Chair of RSAW, also provided an update on RSAW’s consideration of the issue.

7. Report of the President

President Peter Stoicheff shared condolences for Professor Besant, and for the families and communities affected by the discovery of burial sites at Williams Lake First Nation.

The President welcomed Council members to 2022, and thanked everyone for their patience, understanding, flexibility in handling the challenges brought on by COVID-19. He highlighted the commitment of the Facilities and Maintenance teams and thanked them for their work and leadership throughout the course of the pandemic. He also reported that the *Post-Pandemic Shift Report* has received considerable attention from Universities Canada and all levels of government. He thanked those who contributed to its development.

Questions were deferred to Question Period.

8. Report of the Provost

Dr. Airini, Provost and Vice President Academic, echoed tribute to Professor Besant. She thanked the President and Chair for acknowledging the Williams Lake First Nation burial site discovery. She thanked the Tuition Advisory Group and students for their engagement in recent tuition consultations. Dr. Airini also summarized the activities planned from January to March regarding Resource Allocation.

Dr. Patti McDougall, Deputy Provost, provided remarks regarding USask’s Black History Month activities and learning opportunities.

Dean, Dr. Doug Brothwell, reported that the College of Dentistry became a fully accredited program as of this year. The Dental Assisting program that was opened three years ago also received this status.

Questions were deferred to Question Period.

9. Pandemic Response and Recovery Team (PRT) Verbal Report

Dr. Darcy Marciniuk, Associate Vice-President Research and PRT Chair provided an update on the university's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He reiterated the supports and resources available on campus. He stated that an update on return-to-campus activities would be provided next week. Dr. Marciniuk thanked members of the campus community for their commitment to safety and wellbeing of all faculty, students, and staff. He expressed hope for the spring and summer based on recent, expert data modelling.

Questions were deferred.

10. Student Societies

10.1 Report from the USSU

Tasnim Jaisee, USSU President, presented the report as provided in the materials.

10.2 Report from the GSA

Devin Cherneski, Vice President Academic of the GSA presented the report on behalf of Rifat Zahan, GSA President.

11. Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships

11.1 Request for Decision: The Knight Family Enhancement Chair in Neurological Surgery

Dr. Ken Wilson, Vice Provost Faculty Relations, and Chair of JCCP presented the JCCP request for decision.

(Smith/Delbaere): It is recommended that Council approve the Knight Family Enhancement Chair in Neurological Surgery, pending the approval of the Board of Governors on March 22, 2022, effective September 1, 2022.

CARRIED.

12. Academic Programs Committee (APC)

Alison Oates, chair of APC, will present the items. Due to the number of items, her verbal remarks on the decision items will be brief, and she will not bring remarks on the information items.

12.1 Request for Decision: Termination of the Engineering Professional Internship Program

(Oates/Deters): It is recommended that Council approve the termination of the Engineering Professional Internship Program, effective May 2022.

CARRIED.

12.2 Request for Decision: Change to Admissions Qualifications for the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) - Thesis-Based Option

Dr. Oates clarified an error in the report. The 2-year average is taken from the MPH course-based program, not from the undergraduate program.

(Oates/Deters): *It is recommended that Council approve the changes to the admissions qualifications for the Master of Public Health thesis-based option, effective May 2022.*

CARRIED.

Dr. Oates noted that there have been discussions on structure, alignment with priorities, number, and variety of certificates that have occurred at APC, PPC, and the Executive Committee. Further consideration will be given to these strategic questions. She asked that with those conversations ongoing, please consider each of these requests for decision on certificates individually.

12.3 Request for Decision: New Certificate Template – College of Arts and Science

(Oates/Deters): *It is recommended that Council approve the new degree-level certificate template for the College of Arts and Science, effective immediately.*

CARRIED.

12.4 Request for Decision: Degree-level certificate in Intermediate Studio Art

(Oates/Deters): *It is recommended that Council approve the degree level certificate in Intermediate Studio Art, effective May 2022.*

CARRIED.

12.5 Request for Decision: Degree-level certificate in Advanced Studio Art

(Oates/Deters): *It is recommended that Council approve the degree level certificate in Advanced Studio Art, effective May 2022.*

CARRIED.

12.6 Request for Decision: Graduate degree-level certificate in Social Economy, Cooperatives, and the Non-Profit Sector

Dr. Detmer noted that there were two motions, which would be dealt with separately.

(Oates/Deters): *It is recommended that Council approve the graduate degree-level certificate in Social Economy, Cooperatives, and the Non-Profit Sector, effective May 2022.*

CARRIED.

(Oates/Deters): *It is recommended that Council approve the termination of the graduate degree-level certificate in Social Economy and Cooperatives and the graduate degree-level certificate in Non-Profit Management, effective May 2022.*

CARRIED.

- 12.7 Request for Decision: Suite of degree-level certificates in Professional Communication in the College of Engineering
- a. *Leadership and Negotiation*
 - b. *Persuasive Communication*
 - c. *Technical and Professional Writing*

Dr. Detmer noted that there were two motions, which would be dealt with separately.

(Oates/Deters): It is recommended that Council approve the suite of degree-level certificates in Professional Communication in the College of Engineering, effective May 2022.

CARRIED.

(Oates/Deters): It is recommended that Council approve the termination of the existing degree-level Certificate in Professional Communication (CPC), effective May 2022.

CARRIED.

- 12.8 Request for Decision: Change to Admissions Qualifications for the Master of Arts in Linguistics programs

(Oates/Deters): It is recommended that Council approve the changes to the admissions qualifications for the Master of Arts in Linguistics programs, effective the 2023-24 admissions cycle.

CARRIED.

- 12.9 Request for Decision: Change to Admissions Qualifications for the Doctor of Dental Medicine Program

(Oates/Deters): It is recommended that Council approve the changes to the admissions qualifications for the Doctor of Dental Medicine program, effective the 2023-24 admissions cycle.

CARRIED.

Questions on the APC reports for information were deferred to question period.

- 12.10 Report for information: Change to the Technological Innovation Certificate
- 12.11 Report for information: Changes to the Mining Option in Mechanical Engineering Program
- 12.12 Report for information: Change to upper year requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Programs
- 12.13 Report for information: Degree-level Certificate in Astronomy
- 12.14 Report for information: Degree-level Certificate in Statistical Methods
- 12.15 Report for information: Degree-level Certificate in Foundations in Studio Art

13. Nominations Committee

Dr. Paul Jones, Nominations Committee Chair presented one request for decision and one information item.

13.1 Request for Decision: Associate Vice President Research Review Committee nominations

(Jones/Lamb): *It is recommended that Council Council approve the nominations to the Associate Vice President Research, Dr. Darcy Marciniuk's review committee effective immediately.*

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

CARRIED.

13.2 Report for information: Annual Call for Nominations to Council, Council Committees and Collective Agreement Committees

Dr. Jones noted the deadlines for upcoming nominations and calls-for-interest for Council membership and committees.

14. Governance Committee

Dr. Terry Wotherspoon, Chair of the Governance Committee presented one information item.

14.1 Report for information: Rescind Delegation of Council Authority to the Executive Committee under an Emergency Situation

15. Planning and Priorities Committee (PPC)

Dr. Darrell Mousseau, Chair of PPC, introduced the report and welcomed Dr. Airini and Dr. Vince Bruni-Bossio, Interim Associate Provost, Strategic Priorities to present the report for information.

15.1 Report for information: Government Funding Report 2021-22 Verbal Report – presented by Dr. Airini, Provost and Vice-President Academic and

Dr. Airini and Dr. Bruni-Bossio recalled that USask is receiving term funding over two years from the Government of Saskatchewan for investments in strategic priorities. Dr. Airini expressed gratitude for the strong relationship with USask and the government. She reported that the advice of PPC had been solicited for reporting on the funding allocations. She committed that further updates to Council would be provided as they become available. Dr. Bruni-Bossio summarized the parameters for funding strategic initiatives. He gave an overview of the types of initiatives that have been funded, the project plans, and processes for reporting.

16. Other business

There were two follow-up questions from the business arising agenda item 6.4 on the reporting of financial variances in 2020-21. Greg Fowler reiterated that the primary reason for the variances was higher than projected investment returns, but that long-term investment returns were still consistent with the ten-year average projections. He stated that the main financial challenge faced by USask has been reductions to the provincial operating grant - not investment returns. He clarified that positive variances were mostly in restricted funds, e.g., student financial aid, research funds, and endowments. He also clarified that none of the surpluses 'flow' to any one office, and that there remains a deficit in the central reserve. He stated that there are financial challenges, but it is not a crisis. All units are contributing to the solutions. He thanked Council for their combined energy and alertness to the questions.

A concern was raised about electronic signature policy for security and authentication, and whether there will be an enterprise level solution for this problem? Dr. Detmer pointed to the legislative framework, and Dr. Airini noted that work is underway to address the policy gap.

A Council member noted that in addition to research and ICT policies, policy problems for faculty are also of an administrative nature, e.g., the travel policy, and procurement of computers and equipment. Dr. Delbaere noted that in November 2021, RSAW had an audience with Procurement regarding the Travel Policy. RSAW would be happy to engage in further dialogue on how to improve such policies so that researchers are not unduly overburdened. Dr. Airini also responded that a review process on administrative services will be underway. Dr. McDougall provided an overview of the process.

A faculty member from the College of Nursing conveyed concerns that the USask location in Regina will be closed in two years. She noted concerns regarding the consultations and the decision-making process. Dr. Airini responded that the redistribution of nursing seats will enable USask to best serve the needs of the Province.

17. Question period

There were no further questions.

18. Adjournment

(Urquhart): The meeting was properly adjourned.

Appendix A: Listing of members in attendance

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE 2020-2021

Attendance Summary - Voting Participants

Sep 16, 2021 - meetings are being held via Zoom and attendance is taken as per the participant list while meeting is on.

Last Name	First Name	Sep 16	Oct 21	Nov 18	Dec 16	Jan 27	No Mtng	Mar 17	Apr 21	May 19	Jun 16
.	Airini	P	P	P	P	P					
Adl	Sina	P	P	P	A	P					
Aitken	Alec	R	R	R	P	R					
Alcorn	Jane	P	P	P	P	P					
Augusta	Carolyn	P	P	P	P	P					
Bally	Jill	P	P	P	P	P					
Bauman-student	Elisabeth	P	P	A	R	P					
Bedard-Haughn	Angela	P	P	P	P	P					
Bedard-student	Derek	A	A	A	A	A					
Bell	Scott	P	P	P	P	P					
Bhatti-student rep	Haseeb	A	A	A	A	A					
Bilson	Beth	P	P	P	P	P					
Boden	Catherine	P	P	P	A	P					
Boland	Mark	P	P	P	P	A					
Bonham-Smith	Peta	P	P	P	P	P					
Bradley	Michael	R	R	R	R	P					
Brothwell	Doug	A	P	P	P	P					
Burshtyn	Deborah	P	P	P	P	P					
Card	Claire	A	P	P	P	P					
Chernoff	Egan	P	P	P	P	P					
Chowdhury	Nurul	P	A	P	A	P					
Cooper	David	P	P	R	P	P					
Dadachova	Kate	P	P	P	P	P					
DaSilva	Keith	P	P	P	P	P					
Dawson	DeDe	P	P	P	P	P					
de Boer	Dirk	P	P	A	P	A					
Delbaere	Majorie	P	P	P	A	P					
Deters	Ralph	P	P	P	P	P					
Detmer	Susan	P	P	P	P	P					
Downe	Pamela	P	P	P	P	P					
Gabriel	Andrew	P	A	A	A	A					
Gebreab-student	Henok	A	A	A	A	A					
Gjevre	John	P	P	P	P	P					
Grosvenor	Andrew	P	P	P	P	P					
Gyurcsik	Nancy	P	P	P	P	P					
Harasymchuk	Robert	P	P	P	P	A					
Harrison	William	A	A	P	A	A					
Hogan	Natacha	P	A	P	A	P					
Jacob-student rep	Sharon	A	A	A	A	A					
Jamali	Nadeem	P	P	P	P	P					
James-Cavan	Kathleen	P	P	P	P	P					
Jensen	Gordon	P	P	P	P	P					
Jones	Paul	P	P	P	P	P					
Just	Melissa	R	P	P	P	P					
Kahn-student rep	Maria	R	A	P	A	A					
Kalra	Jay	P	R	P	P	P					
Khandelwal	Ramji	P	P	P	P	P					
Kim-student rep	David	A	A	A	A	A					
Kresta	Suzanne	R	P	P	A	P					
Lamb	Eric	R	R	R	R	P					
Larre	Tamara	P	P	P	A	P		R	R	R	R
Lindenschmidt	Karl-Enrich	P	A	P	P	A					
London	Chad	P	P	R	P	P					
Lovick	Olga	P	P	P	P	P					
Luke	Iain	A	R	R	A	A					
Lummerding-	Dominque	A	A	A	A	A					
Macfarlane	Cal	A	A	A	A	A					

Last Name	First Name	Sept 16	Oct 21	Nov 18	Dec 16	Jan 27	No Mtng	Mar 17	Apr 21	May 19	Jun 16
Maguire-student	Robert	n/a	P	P	P	R					
Makarova	Veronika	P	P	P	A	P					
Mamun	Abdullah	P	P	R	P	P					
Manley-Tannis	Richard	R	R	R	P	R					
Marche	Tammy	P	P	P	A	P					
Martin	Stephanie	P	P	P	R	P					
Martina-Koechl	Natasha	P	P	P	P	P					
Meda	Venkatesh	P	P	P	P	P					
Mousseau	Darrell	P	P	A	P	P					
Muir	Gillian	P	R	P	A	P					
Murphy	JoAnn	P	P	P	P	P					
Neufeld	Matthew	P	A	P	P	P					
Oates	Alison	P	P	P	P	P					
Paslowski	Teresa	A	P	P	P	P					
Peacock	Shelley	P	P	P	P	P					
Perrault-student	Levi	A	A	A	A	A					
Phillipson	Martin	P	A	A	P	P					
Pocha	Sheila	P	P	A	A	P					
Poettcker	Grant	A	A	A	A	A					
Pomazon	Alisha	P	P	P	P	P					
Rayan	Steven	P	P	P	P	P					
Richter	Solina	P	P	P	P	P					
Rohs-student rep	Jesse	A	A	A	A	A					
Ross-student rep	Cassidy	A	P	P	P	P					
Sarjeant-Jenkins	Rachel	P	P	P	P	P					
Shevchuk	Yvonne	P	P	P	P	P					
Singh	Jaswant	P	A	R	P	P					
Singh-student rep	Sanjana	n/a	P	P	A	R					
Smith	Preston	P	P	P	P	P					
Smyth	Stuart	P	P	A	P	P					
Somerville	Kara	P	P	P	P	P					
Sorensen	Charlene	P	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Spurr	Shelley	P	P	P	P	P					
Squires	Vicki	P	P	P	P	P					
Steele	Tom	P	P	R	P	P					
Stoicheff	Peter	P	P	R	P	P					
Stuart	Glenn	P	P	P	P	P					
Szmigielski	Jacek	P	P	P	P	A					
Urquhart	Stephen	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	P					
Vassileva	Julita	P	P	P	P	P					
Waldner	Cheryl	P	P	P	P	P					
Walker	Keith	P	A	P	P	A					
Willenborg	Christian	P	P	P	A	P					
Willoughby	Keith	P	P	P	P	P					
Woods	Phil	P	P	R	P	P					
Wotherspoon	Terry	P	P	P	P	P					
Wu	FangXiang	P	P	P	A	P					
Xiao	Jing	P	P	P	P	P					
Yao	Yansun	P	A	P	A	P					
Yu-student rep	Angela	A	A	A	A	A					
Zhang	David	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	P					
Zhang	Lifeng	P	P	R	P	P					

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Last Name	First Name	Sep 16	Oct 21	Nov 18	Dec 16	Jan 27	No Mtng	Mar 17	Apr 21	May 19	Jun 16
Fowler	Greg	P	P	P	P	P					
Iftikhar-USSU VP 2021-22	Tauqeer	P	P	P	P	P					
Isinger	Russell	P	P	P	A	P					
Jaisee-USSU President 2021-22	Tasnim	P	P	P	A	P					
Jamie	Angela	A	A	A	P	A					
Kaminski-Senate rep	Nicholas	P	A	P	A	A					
Pozega Osburn	Debra	R	P	P	P	R					
Singh	Baljit	A	P	A	A	R					
Still	Carl	P	P	P	P	P					
Thronberg-Senate rep	John	P	P	A	A	P					
Willness	Chelsea	P	P	P	P	P					
Wilson	Jay	P	P	A	P	P					
Zahan-GSA Pres 2021-22	Rifat	P	P	P	P	R					