



UNIVERSITY COUNCIL  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, March 17, 2022  
2:30-4:30pm  
Via Zoom

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm.

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

Carmen Vela from allsaskatchewan.com identified herself as being a member of the media.

No members were connecting by phone.

**2. Tributes**

None.

**3. Adoption of the agenda**

(Bell/Meda): *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.

The Chair indicated that non-decision item (information item) questions will be deferred to question period, except for the President's Report as he would be leaving early.

Dr. Detmer reported on the regular monthly meeting between the Council Executive Committee and the President's Executive Committee (PEC), which took place in early February and March. She reported that the discussion topics were the Pandemic Response and Recovery Team (PRT) report, the renewal of the Research Signature Areas and resource allocation, tuition consultations, a brief financial update, and the situation in Ukraine.

**5. Approval of Minutes of the meeting of January 27, 2022**

(Grosvenor/Rayan): *That the minutes be approved.*

CARRIED.

**6. Business Arising**

6.1 Timing of Variance Reports for 2020-21 – Greg Fowler, Vice President Finance and Resources

In follow-up to questions raised at prior Council meetings, Greg Fowler reported that he and Provost & Vice President, Dr. Airini arranged for financial presentations and discussions with the Council Executive Committee. VP Fowler noted that the financial statements will also be brought forward to Council in June 2022. In response to a question, he reiterated that there were financial variances in 2020-21 because of the pandemic, and due primarily to investment returns. Provost Airini added that financial townhalls will be offered in spring/summer.

#### 6.2 Senate Education Committee Requests for Confirmation of Admissions Qualifications Changes

Dr. Detmer reported that admissions qualifications changes were confirmed by the Senate Education Committee on February 7, 2022. They included admissions qualifications changes for: the Master of Public Health thesis-based option, Master of Arts in Linguistics, and Doctor of Dental Medicine.

### 7. Report of the President

President Peter Stoicheff named the recipients of the Alumni Achievement Awards.

He expressed his gratitude to those who made the honouring of Black History Month very thoughtful and active.

Regarding Russia and Ukraine, he referred to his statement on the website, stating that the invasion is shocking and extremely concerning. He outlined some of the ways that USask is supporting affected students, faculty, and staff.

The Chair invited questions.

A USSU representative reported that the students' associations have been contacted regarding the war in Ukraine, in particular students' whose families are fleeing the country. They inquired as to the supports being offered to international students. The President responded that financial and other additional supports are being discussed. Deputy Provost, Dr. Patti McDougall noted the existing crisis aid funding available to international students.

There was a question about donating specifically to Ukrainian students at USask. The President reported that a USask website that would be released later that week. Also, that there is a current campaign with the Nasser Family to support the student emergency fund.

Associate Vice President Research, Dr. Dawn Wallin added that the Tri Agencies will have a special response fund available for Ukrainian trainees, including one-year assistance to those whose research has been interrupted and a second stream of funding to support affected Ukrainian trainees and graduate students.

### 8. Report of the Provost

Dr. Airini noted some of the features of her report. She highlighted the upcoming planning and budgeting townhall on April 11<sup>th</sup>; Indigenous Achievement Week; and reflected on some of the accomplishments of many students in this regard. She thanked those who provide service leadership to the University, and welcomed incoming leaders in various roles.

Questions were deferred to Question Period.

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

Dr. Patti McDougall, Deputy Provost, provided an update on the university's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including case numbers, and offered thanks to colleges and units for continuing their efforts. She reported that a message would be forthcoming regarding the planned discontinuation of the mask requirement as of April 30<sup>th</sup>. She noted that the role and work of the PRT is evolving, and the intensity of its workload may diminish over time. However, they will continue to monitor, respond to, mitigate, and prevent the spread of COVID-19 on behalf of the campus community. She also reiterated that health data collected by USask to date regarding vaccination status is intended to be expunged as of April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Questions were deferred.

## 10. Student Societies

### 10.1 Report from the USSU

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

### 10.2 Report from the GSA

Rifat Zahan, President of the GSA, presented the report as provided in the materials. Questions were deferred.

## 11. Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP)

### 11.1 Request for Decision: E.D. Tymchatyn Chair in Topology

Dr. Ken Wilson, Vice Provost Faculty Relations, and Chair of JCCP presented the JCCP request for decision. There were no questions.

*(Bonham-Smith/Delbaere): That Council approve the E.D. Tymchatyn Chair in Topology and recommend that the Board of Governors authorize the establishment of this chair effective July 1, 2022.*

CARRIED.

## 12. Academic Programs Committee (APC)

Dr. Alison Oates, chair of APC, presented the items.

### 12.1 Request for Decision: Change to Admissions Qualifications-Doctor of Medicine (MD) program

A Council member observed that many medical schools use the multiple mini-interview (MMI) or panel interview approach, and asked whether USask's approach would be overly onerous. They also asked why a four-year degree prerequisite for Medicine can be in any discipline. Dr. Sherrill Bueckert responded on behalf of the College of Medicine, summarizing the current and proposed approaches for interviews. Dr. Bueckert responded that the pre-med degree discipline is up to the students.

There was another question about how the College will accommodate students who cannot take an Indigenous Studies course because it is not available at their institution, and why the indicator for Saskatchewan Connectedness is not shared with the applicants. Dr. Bueckert responded that the Indigenous Studies requirement will not be until 2024-25, and that many other medical degree programs in Canada require similar

prerequisites. She stated that the ‘connectedness’ assessment is designed to garner authentic responses from applicants. There was a brief discussion about various ways that students can complete the Indigenous studies prerequisite, including online. A Council member suggested that the College to reconsider the 2024-25 start date, and implement the requirement of Indigenous studies immediately.

*(Oates/Yao): That Council approve the changes to the admissions qualifications for the Doctor of Medicine (MD) program, effective the dates outlined in the proposal.*

CARRIED.

#### 12.2 Request for Decision: Change to Admissions Qualifications- Master of Education in School and Counselling Psychology

There were no questions.

*(Oates/Yao): That Council approve the changes to the admissions qualifications for the Master of Educations in School and Counselling Psychology, effective the 2023-24 admissions cycle.*

CARRIED.

#### 12.3 Request for Decision: Change to Admissions Qualifications for the Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Diploma in Indigenous Resource Management and the Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Diploma in Indigenous Lands Governance

There were no questions.

*(Oates/Yao): That Council approve the changes to the admissions qualifications for the Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Diploma in Indigenous Resource Management and Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Diploma and Indigenous Lands Governance, effective the 2023-24 admissions cycle.*

CARRIED.

#### 12.4 Request for Decision: Academic and Curricular Nomenclature

There were no questions.

*(Oates/Yao): That Council approve the changes to Academic and Curricular Nomenclature (the Nomenclature Report), effective immediately.*

CARRIED.

#### 12.5 Report for information: Change to Academic Calendar 2022-23

Dr. Oates presented the item as provided in the materials. Questions were deferred.

### 13. Nominations Committee

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

#### 13.1 Request for Decision: Dean, College of Dentistry Search Nominations

*(Jones/Lamb): That Council Council approve the nomination of Dr. Marilyn Baetz, Dpt. Of Psychiatry, to the Dean of Dentistry Search Committee effective immediately.*

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

CARRIED.

#### **14. PPC/TLARC/RSAW Committees**

##### 14.1 Renewal of Research Signature Areas

A presentation was provided by Dr. Baljit Singh, Vice President Research, with Tonya Wirchenko, Manager, Executive Initiatives and Projects, covering both agenda items 15.1.1 and 15.1.2.

##### 14.1.1 For Information: Signature Areas of Research

##### 14.1.2 Request for Decision: Signature Areas of Research Support Strategy

There were no questions. Dr. Detmer asked that feedback be provided to the Vice President Research via the committee chairs, and copied to the Governance Office. The Provost noted that the renewal of the Research Signature Areas will connect with further collaborative work on teaching and learning.

#### **15. Governance Committee**

Dr. Terry Wotherspoon, Chair of the Governance Committee, summarized the changes. There were no questions. He offered that feedback could also be provided directly to him or Dr. Jacque Thomarat, Director of Academic Governance, following the Council meeting.

#### **16. Other business**

None.

#### **17. Question period**

There was a request for comment on Bill 61, changes to *The Post Secondary Education and Skills Training Act, 2000* (PSEST). In particular, the changes on the use of performance indicators for funding. Dr. Airini noted that USask was consulted, and that it already uses a performance measurement approach. She offered to bring the indicators to Council again, and reminded Council of the MOU with the Province for USask's multi-year funding. She committed that both the performance indicators and the MOU could be shared with Council (Table 1. Action item no.1). A Council member reiterated the concern about the provincial government's unilateral capacity to set the indicators. Dr. Airni clarified that it is not unilateral, and that USask's performance indicators were co-developed and mutually agreed to. Dr. Detmer, Chair of Council, asked that the matter be referred to PPC (Table 1. Action item no.2).

A Council member expressed concern that the report of the Provost did not mention the outcomes of the College of Nursing Faculty Council's vote of non-confidence in their leadership. Provost Airini responded that there are a number of actions that followed that Faculty Council meeting, including: expanding engagement between students, faculty, and the Dean; planning for expansion of nursing seats to the north; addressing some of the variability in assignment of duties per the collective agreement; and efforts to renew the roles of the leadership team (i.e., three associate dean roles). Dr. Airini indicated that they are striving to build an environment of listening and working together, and that a Dean's Advisory Committee had been established.

A Council member commented that the Indigenous names of the kanawayihetaytan askiy Diploma in Indigenous Resource Management, and the kanawayihetaytan askiy Diploma in Indigenous Lands Governance should be understood authentically, used appropriately, and pronounced correctly by members of the USask community.

Dr. Detmer commented that we should learn the appropriate pronunciation, and that USask should provide learning assistance in this regard. Dr. Airini commented on the positive tone of the conversation, and the importance of language for the work of decolonization. She noted that there are Indigenous language courses available USask.

**18. Adjournment**

(Grosvenor): The meeting was properly adjourned at 4:32 pm.

Table 1. Action Items

<b>Section</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
No. 18 (pg. 5)	Strategic funding performance report	Share with Council	Provost
No. 18 (pg. 5)	Multi-year USask funding MOU	Share with Council	Provost
No. 18 (pg. 5)	Council questions and comments	Refer to PPC	Chair of PPC & Provost

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	Sept 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		P			
Adl	Sina	P	P	P	A	P		P			
Aitken	Alec	R	R	R	P	R		P			
Alcorn	Jane	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Augusta	Carolyn	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Bally	Jill	P	P	P	P	P		R			
Bauman-student	Elisabeth	P	P	A	R	P		P			
Bedard-Haughn	Angela	P	P	P	P	P		A			
Bedard-student	Derek	A	A	A	A	A		A			
Bell	Scott	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Bhatti-student rep	Haseeb	A	A	A	A	A		A			
Bilson	Beth	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Boden	Catherine	P	P	P	A	P		P			
Boland	Mark	P	P	P	P	A		A			
Bonham-Smith	Peta	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Bradley	Michael	R	R	R	R	P		A			
Brothwell	Doug	A	P	P	P	P		P			
Burshtyn	Deborah	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Card	Claire	A	P	P	P	P		P			
Chernoff	Egan	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Chowdhury	Nurul	P	A	P	A	P		P			
Cooper	David	P	P	R	P	P		P			
Dadachova	Kate	P	P	P	P	P		P			
DaSilva	Keith	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Dawson	DeDe	P	P	P	P	P		R			
de Boer	Dirk	P	P	A	P	A		P			
Delbaere	Majorie	P	P	P	A	P		P			
Deters	Ralph	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Detmer	Susan	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Downe	Pamela	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Gabriel	Andrew	P	A	A	A	A		A			
Gebreab-student	Henok	A	A	A	A	A		A			
Gjevre	John	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Grosvenor	Andrew	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Gyurcsik	Nancy	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Harasymchuk	Robert	P	P	P	P	A		P			
Harrison	William	A	A	P	A	A		P			
Hassan-student rep	Dalia	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		P			
Hogan	Natacha	P	A	P	A	P		A			
Jacob-student rep	Sharon	A	A	A	A	A		A			
Jamali	Nadeem	P	P	P	P	P		P			
James-Cavan	Kathleen	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Jensen	Gordon	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Jones	Paul	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Just	Melissa	R	P	P	P	P		P			
Kahn-student rep	Maria	R	A	P	A	A		A			
Kalra	Jay	P	R	P	P	P		P			
Khandelwal	Ramji	P	P	P	P	P		R			
Kim-student rep	David	A	A	A	A	A		A			
Kresta	Suzanne	R	P	P	A	P		A			
Lamb	Eric	R	R	R	R	P		P			
Larre	Tamara	P	P	P	A	P		P	R	R	R
Lindenschmidt	Karl-Enrich	P	A	P	P	A		A			
London	Chad	P	P	R	P	P		P			
Lovick	Olga	P	P	P	P	P		R			
Luke	Iain	A	R	R	A	A		A			
Lummerding-	Dominque	A	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
Macfarlane	Cal	A	A	A	A	A		A			
Maguire-student	Robert	n/a	P	P	P	R		A			
Makarova	Veronika	P	P	P	A	P		P			
Mamun	Abdullah	P	P	R	P	P		P			
Manley-Tannis	Richard	R	R	R	P	R		R			
Marche	Tammy	P	P	P	A	P		A			
Martin	Stephanie	P	P	P	R	P		P			
Martina-Koechl	Natasha	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Meda	Venkatesh	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Mousseau	Darrell	P	P	A	P	P		P			
Muir	Gillian	P	R	P	A	P		A			
Murphy	JoAnn	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Neufeld	Matthew	P	A	P	P	P		P			
Oates	Alison	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Paslowski	Teresa	A	P	P	P	P		P			
Peacock	Shelley	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Perrault-student	Levi	A	A	A	A	A		P			
Phillipson	Martin	P	A	A	P	P		A			
Pocha	Sheila	P	P	A	A	P		A			
Poettcker	Grant	A	A	A	A	A		A			
Pomazon	Alisha	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Rayan	Steven	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Richter	Solina	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Rohs-student rep	Jesse	A	A	A	A	A		A			
Ross-student rep	Cassidy	A	P	P	P	P		P			
Sarjeant-Jenkins	Rachel	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Shevchuk	Yvonne	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Singh	Jaswant	P	A	R	P	P		R			
Singh-student rep	Sanjana	n/a	P	P	A	R		R			
Smith	Preston	P	P	P	P	P		A			
Smyth	Stuart	P	P	A	P	P		P			
Somerville	Kara	P	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		R			
Squires	Vicki	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Steele	Tom	P	P	R	P	P		P			
Stoicheff	Peter	P	P	R	P	P		P			
Stuart	Glenn	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Szmigielski	Jacek	P	P	P	P	A		P			
Urquhart	Stephen	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	P		P			
Vassileva	Julita	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Waldner	Cheryl	P	P	P	P	P		A			
Walker	Keith	P	A	P	P	A		A			
Willenborg	Christian	P	P	P	A	P		R			
Willoughby	Keith	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Woods	Phil	P	P	R	P	P		R			
Wotherspoon	Terry	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Wu	FangXiang	P	P	P	A	P		P			
Xiao	Jing	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Yao	Yansun	P	A	P	A	P		P			
Yu-student rep	Angela	A	A	A	A	A		A			
Zhang	David	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	P		A			
Zhang	Lifeng	P	P	R	P	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
Dunbar	Danielle	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		R			
Fowler	Greg	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Iftikhar-USSU VP 2021-22	Tauqeer	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Isinger	Russell	P	P	P	A	P		P			
Jaisee-USSU President 2021-22	Tasnim	P	P	P	A	P		P			
Jamie	Angela	A	A	A	P	A		A			
Kaminski-Senate rep	Nicholas	P	A	P	A	A		A			
Pozega Osburn	Debra	R	P	P	P	R		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Singh	Baljit	A	P	A	A	R		P			
Still	Carl	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Thronberg-Senate rep	John	P	P	A	A	P		A			
Willness	Chelsea	P	P	P	P	P		P			
Wilson	Jay	P	P	A	P	P		P			
Zahan-GSA Pres 2021-22	Rifat	P	P	P	P	R		P			