

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:33pm.

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

No members of the media identified themselves.

2. Tributes

Professor Robert Johanson provided a tribute to Professor Emeritus Kunio Takaya of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

3. Adoption of the agenda

(Dobson/Bell): *That the agenda be approved as circulated.*

CARRIED.

4. Council Meeting Modality and Protocols

Julian Demkiw, University Secretary and Chief Governance Officer, provided an update on meeting modality and protocols and thanked Council members for their patience this fall as these protocols were developed and tested.

5. Chair's Opening remarks

The Chair kept remarks brief, informing Council that the plan for micro-credentials and Jean Teillet Report were discussed at the monthly meeting of PEC and the Council Executive Committee.

6. Approval of Minutes of the meeting of October 20, 2022

(Augusta/Grosvenor): *That the minutes of October 20, 2022 be approved.*

CARRIED.
2 abstentions

6.1 Business arising

There was no business arising.

7. Report of the President

President Peter Stoicheff highlighted a few items from his written report.

The President expressed thanks to the teams that organized the convocation ceremonies at Merlis Belsher Place on November 9, 2022. He noted the importance of these ceremonies to the students and their families and expressed gratitude for all who gave their time to sit on the platform to celebrate USask students' achievements. The President acknowledged Mark Abley, renowned Canadian writer, who was presented with an Honorary Degree, USask's highest honour, at this fall's convocation.

The President commented on USask's commemoration of the 104th anniversary of the end of the First World War, which was marked on November 11 with a ceremony at the Memorial Gates led by Secretary Demkiw. He noted the sacrifices that our students, faculty and staff made in the Great War effort.

The President noted that our USask faculty and senior leadership members —Dr. Angela Bedard-Haugh, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Bioresources; Dr. Steven Webb from the Global Institute for Food Security; and Dr. Priscilla Settee, interim Vice-Dean Indigenous in the College of Arts and Science; and Dr. John Pomeroy of the Global Institute of Water Security— were invited to participate in the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Egypt last week.

The President highlighted the Canada Foundation for Innovation's \$8.1 Million investment in USask's Vaccine and Infection Disease Organization (VIDO) to upgrade to a level 4 containment facility, the highest level of disease containment. Currently there are only two such facilities in Canada; this will be the first at a university.

A Council member asked a question about USask's position in the Times Higher Education (THE) rankings, expressing concern that we have slipped into the 501-600 range. He asked if our growing student-faculty ratio; our research, scholarly and artistic work output; and the cost for international student tuition are having negative impacts on our standing in the rankings. The President responded that USask did move into the 501-600 category two years ago and that this year we are still there, but are moving back up. He noted that for the first time we are ranked in all 11 categories that THE considers and we have improved year over year in six of those categories, have remained the same in four, and have dropped in just one. With regard to the concern expressed about graduate student tuition, the President noted that while this is a contentious issue at USask, we are amongst the lowest in terms of graduate student tuition worldwide. The President explained that USask is well ranked in the QS rankings, ranking above 500, which is important internationally.

8. Report of the Provost

Dr. Airini, Provost and Vice President Academic highlighted a couple aspects of her written report. She echoed the president's remarks on the success of the Fall Convocation ceremonies and expressed her thanks to all who made it a successful and joyous occasion. She offered thanks as well to Huskie Athletics for altering their routines and schedules to allow for the dedicated use of Merlis Belsher Place for the convocation ceremonies.

The Provost noted her appreciation for the ohpahotân oohpaahotaan Fall Symposium which allowed students, faculty, and staff to connect and find ways to move forward as we accept the gift of the Indigenous Strategy.

The Provost highlighted the work of Tasnim Jaisee, the university's first EDI project specialist, with the Period Poverty Project. This menstrual equity initiative will ensure free menstrual hygiene products in more than 60 women's, men's, and gender-neutral washrooms.

There were no questions for the Provost.

9. Student Societies

9.1 Report from the USSU

Abhineet Goswami, USSU President, presented the report. He discussed USSU's advocacy efforts, highlighting a number of initiatives. He noted that the USSU will be going to Ottawa for federal lobbying and outlined the initiatives on which they will focus their efforts, including targeted mental health investments for post-secondary students and increasing funding for Indigenous students.

The USSU and Student Council are working on tuition and budget discussions with the provost as well as provincial lobbying efforts in the weeks ahead.

9.2 Report from the GSA

Mostafa Kamal, President of the GSA presented the report and highlighted the GSA-CGPS needs-based bursary. He noted that the GSA is awaiting a decision from CGPS on matching funding before it is able to announce the full amount available for the bursary program and how many graduate students will benefit.

President Kamal discussed GSA lobbying efforts both at the federal and provincial level, specifically their focus on a dept forgiveness plan.

President Kamal shared that after a number of years of vacancy, there is a candidate for the VP Indigenous role for the GSA, which is good news.

He raised concerns regarding recent issues with internet access in Residence buildings, noting the impact that it has had on graduate students.

The Provost posed two questions to President Kamal. Firstly, in discussing the joint bursary program, she noted that USask is the only graduate school in Canada with this kind of a partnership and asked how her office can support the GSA in bringing forward information and funding requests in line with the budget planning that happens in springtime. Secondly, the Provost thanked President Kamal for raising the issue of the internet service outage and explained that many teams such as IT; Residence support; and the Association Vice-President, Services have all been working to respond. She asked for clarification on what further support the GSA believes is needed at this point.

President Kamal responded with further details of the continuing impact of the internet access issue, but acknowledged that IT should be able to find a solution.

10. Nominations Committee

Professor Eric Lamb, chair of the Nominations Committee, presented the items.

10.1 Request for Decision: Council Committee Vacancies

The chair called for nominations from the floor three times. There were none.

(Lamb/Bell): As recommended by the Nominations Committee of Council, that the nominations to committee vacancies be approved (as per attached) effective immediately.

CARRIED.
1 abstention

10.2 Request for Decision: Vice Provost, Faculty Relations Search

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

(Lamb/Bel): As recommended by the Nominations Committee of Council, that the senior leadership search committee nominations (as per attached) be approved effective immediately

CARRIED.

11. Academic Programs Committee (APC)

Dr. Carolyn Augusta, chair of APC, presented the items.

- 11.1 Request for Decision: Change to Admissions Qualifications- Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy programs in Psychology

(Augusta/Yao): *It is recommended that Council approve the changes to the admissions qualifications for the Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy programs in Psychology, effective the 2024-25 intake.*

CARRIED

- 11.2 Request for Decision: Graduate Degree-level certificate in Foundations for Registered Nurse Specialty Practice

(Augusta/Yao): *It is recommended that Council approve the Graduate Degree-level certificate in Foundations for Registered Nurse Specialty Practice effective September 2023.*

CARRIED

12. Governance Committee

Dr. Roy Dobson, Governance Committee Chair presented one request for decision and one information item.

- 12.1 Request for Decision: Academic Programs Committee Terms of Reference

(Dobson/ Sarjeant-Jenkins): *It is recommended that Council approve the changes to University Council bylaws to create the standing subcommittee (as attached) of APC to coordinate academic programs approval processes, effective immediately.*

CARRIED.

13. Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee

Dr. Steven Rayan, chair of RSAW, presented the items for information.

- 13.1 Report for information: 2021-22 Report of Allegations and Breaches under the Responsible Conduct of Research Policy

There were no questions on or discussion of this report.

- 13.2 Report for information: Annual Reports from the Research Ethics Boards

There were no questions on or discussion of this report.

14. Other business

There was no other business.

15. Question period

A Council member raised concerns about the heating and cooling in Kirk Hall, noted that every September and October it is close to 30°C, which leads to the exterior doors being propped wide open. They expressed their concerns for the negative impact that this has on the environment and asked that an energy assessment be done for Kirk Hall.

Vice-President, Finance and Resources Greg Fowler responded, noting USask's commitment to the goals set out in our Sustainability Strategy, including a 45% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. He explained that energy assessments of all buildings are being, or will be conducted, including Kirk Hall. He noted that our older buildings are not particularly responsive during the transition between seasons, as they rely on existing and often original heating equipment. The only option to improve the heating and cooling responsiveness in those buildings is to take the building down to the studs and rebuild, which is costly or to raze the building and replace it with a new construction. He did note the good performance of our newer buildings with respect to heating and cooling responsiveness.

A Council member, echoing comments made at the last Council meeting, noted that the Fine and Performing Arts are not included in the discussion of impact in the Provost's report. They expressed concern about the continued focus on tri-council funding in discussion of research impact, as fine and performing arts are not eligible for such funding. They noted these concerns in the context of the current process for amalgamating the fine arts units.

The Provost responded, noting that the bringing together of the fine arts departments into a collective department will need to come through the appropriate academic governance processes and will be a decision of this Council.

16. Adjournment

(Dobson): The meeting was properly adjourned at 3:38pm.

Attachments

1. Listing of members in attendance

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE 2022-2023

Attendance Summary - Voting Participants

P-Present, R-Regrets, A-Absent											
Last Name	First Name	Sep 29	Oct 20	Nov 17	Dec 15	Jan 26	No Mtng	Mar 16	Apr 20	May 18	Jun 15
.	Airini	P	P	P							
Adl	Sina	A	A	A							
Alam	Shafiq	P	P	P							
Alazawi-student rep	Tania	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
Alcorn	Jane	P	R	R							
Anderson	Kyle	P	P	P							
Augusta	Carolyn	P	P	P							
Bally	Jill	P	P	P							
Bedard-Haughn	Angela	P	P	P							
Bell	Scott	P	P	P							
Bilson	Beth	P	P	P							
Boden	Catherine	A	P	P							
Bonham-Smith	Peta	P	P	P							
Bradford	Lori	P	P	P							
Bradley	Michael	A	A	P							
Burshtyn	Deborah	P	P	P							
Card	Claire	P	P	P							
Chernoff	Egan	P	R	A							
Choksi-student rep	Kathan	A	A	A							
Chowdhury	Nurul	A	P	A							
Cody-student rep	John	P	P	A							
Dadachova	Kate	R	R	R	R						
DaSilva	Keith	P	P	A							
Dawson	DeDe	P	P	P							
de Boer	Dirk	P	P	P							
Delbaere	Majorie	R	A	P							
Deters	Ralph	P	P	P							
Detmer	Susan	R	P	P							
Dick	Rainer	A	P	P							
Dobson	Roy	P	P	P							
Donkers	Sarah	A	P	A							
Downe	Pamela	P	R	P							
Ferrari	Maud	P	P	P							
Gabriel	Andrew	P	R	P							
Gjevre	John	R	P	R							
Grosvenor	Andrew	P	P	P							
Harasymchuk	Robert	A	P	A							
Harrison	William	A	A	A							
Hassan-student rep	Dalia	P	P	P							
Hogan	Natacha	A	P	P							
Jamali	Nadeem	A	P	R							
James-Cavan	Kathleen	R	P	P							
Jenkis-student rep	Haley	A	A	A							
Jensen	Gordon	A	A	A							
Just	Melissa	P	R	P							
Kalra	Jay	A	P	A							
Kent-Wilkinson	Arlene	P	P	P							
Kresta	Suzanne	P	P	A							
Lamb	Eric	P	R	P							
Lanovaz	Joel	P	P	P							
Larre	Tamara	A	P	A							
Leidl	Don	P	P	A							
Lovick	Olga	P	P	P							
Luke	Iain	R	A	A							
Macfarlane	Cal	A	A	A							
Makarova	Veronika	P	R	P							
Mamun	Abdullah	P	P	P							

Last Name	First Name	Sep 29	Oct 20	Nov 17	Dec 15	Jan 26	No Mtng	Mar 16	Apr 20	May 18	Jun 15
Manley-Tannis	Richard	R	R	R							
Marche	Tammy	P	P	P							
Martin	Stephanie	A	R	P							
Martina-Koechl	Natasha	P	P	P							
McKeown-student rep	Shanleigh	A	P	P							
Meda	Venkatesh	P	A	P							
Mousseau	Darrell	A	P	P							
Muir	Gillian	P	R	R							
Murphy	JoAnn	P	P	P							
Okoko	Janet	P	P	P							
Onasanya-student rep	Moyin	A	R	R							
Paslowski	Teresa	P	A	P							
Peacock	Shelley	P	R	R							
Perrault-student rep	Levi	P	P	P							
Phillipson	Martin	A	P	P							
Pocha	Sheila	A	P	P							
Poettcker	Grant	A	A	A							
Pomazon	Alisha	A	A	A							
Rayan	Steven	P	P	P							
Richter	Solina	P	A	P							
Sakharkar	Meena	P	P	A							
Salsbury-student rep	Alexis	P	P	P							
Sarjeant-Jenkins	Rachel	P	P	P							
Sarty	Gordon	P	P	R							
Shevchuk	Yvonne	P	P	P							
Singh	Jaswant	P	R	R							
Siqueira	Walter	P	R	A							
Smith	Preston	A	P	P							
Smyth	Stuart	A	P	A							
Squires	Vicki	R	P	P							
Steele	Tom	A	P	P							
Stoicheff	Peter	R	P	P							
Szmigielski	Jacek	P	R	P							
Todd	Christopher	P	P	R							
Tomczak	Corey	P	P	P							
Urquhart	Stephen	P	P	R							
Vassileva	Julita	P	P	P							
Wakefield-student rep	Shelby	A	A	A							
Waldner	Cheryl	P	P	P							
Walker	Keith	P	P	P							
Willenborg	Christian	R	P	P							
Willoughby	Keith	P	R	P							
Woods	Phil	P	P	P							
Wotherspoon	Terry	P	R	P							
Wu	FangXiang	A	A	P							
Yao	Yansun	A	P	P							
Zello	Gordon	P	P	P							
Zhang	David	P	P	P							
Zhang	Lifeng	P	P	P							

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Attendance Summary - Non-voting participants

P-Present, R-Regrets, A-Absent											
Last Name	First Name	Sep 29	Oct 20	Nov 17	Dec 15	Jan 26	No Mtng	Mar 16	Apr 20	May 18	Jun 15
Demkiw	Julian	P	P	P							
Fowler	Greg	P	A	P							
Goswami-USSU President 2022-23	Abhineet	P	P	P							
Hamelin	Cheryl	R	P	P							
Isinger	Russell	P	P	P							
Jacob-USSU VP Academic 2022-23	Sharon	P	P	P							
Jamie	Angela	A	A	P							
Kamal-GSA President 2022-23	Mostofa	P	P	P							
Kaminski-Senate Rep 2022-23	Nicholas	A	A	A							
Nath-GSA VP Academic 2022-23	Sristy Sumana	P	R	P							
Singh	Baljit	A	P	A							
Still	Carl	R	A	R							
Thomarat	Jacque	P	P	P							
Wagner-Senate Rep 2022-23	Larry	A	A	P							
Wilson	Jay	P	P	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a