

Report of the Senate Engagement Committee

FOR DECISION

Presented by:	Tamara Buckwold, Chair of the Senate Engagement Committee
Date of Meeting:	April 25, 2026
Subject:	Senate Purpose and definition of Senate Engagement
Proposed Motion:	<i>That Senate approve the Senate Purpose statement and definition of Senate Engagement.</i>

Background and Summary

The Senate Engagement Committee is bringing forward a Senate Purpose Statement and Definition of Senate Engagement for approval by Senate.

These revisions respond directly to Senator feedback, gaps identified in the Senate Engagement Plan (2022), recommendations from consultations held over 2021–2023 and the work undertaken by the Senate Engagement Working Group over 2024 – 2025.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Senate Purpose Statement and Definition of Senate Engagement

Recommended “Senate Statements”

Senate Purpose Statement

As an influential part of the university governance process, the Senate serves as a window for observation and understanding between the university and the broader community. Members of Senate bring their professional, cultural and geographic knowledge in reflective opinions and perspectives to the institution’s various strategic, operational, local, and global challenges.

These representative ambassadors undertake to consult with and seek inspiration from their constituents in order to boldly provide sound, relevant advice and leadership toward supporting the University’s mission, vision, values and goals.

Definition of Senate Engagement

Successful and sustainable higher education institutions must reflect the priorities of society, economy and the engagement of all key stakeholders.

Healthy governance requires regular and formal engagement of the Senate on key critical issues, strategies and actions that may consequentially affect the future of the institution. Effective engagement requires clear, well-defined communication protocols and committed leadership.

An engaged Senate will have forged key relationships with both the University and the broader community, where outreach is natural, and involvement is welcome. Meaningful Senate engagement serves to assist in bringing alignment of teaching and research missions with the vision, values and goals of the University of Saskatchewan.