

Board of Governors
Open Session Minutes

Friday, October 14, 2022
Council Chamber, 2-100 University Hall
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Kate Chisholm	Appointed Chair, General Public
Guy Bridgeman	Appointed Vice-Chair, General Public
Chris Ashdown	Appointed Member, Alumni
Zarina Bhambhani	Appointed Member, Additional Member
Heather Bruce	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (AASUA Appointee)
Charlene Butler	Appointed Member, General Public
Alexander Dorscheid	Appointed Member, Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative
Daniel Eggert	Appointed Member, General Public
Anas Fassih	Appointed Member, President, Graduate Students' Association
Bill Flanagan	Appointed Member, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Alberta
Peggy Garritty	Appointed Member, Chancellor
Mona Hale	Appointed Member, General Public
Janice MacKinnon	Appointed Member, General Public
Abner Monteiro	Appointed Member, President (Students' Union)
Sett Policicchio	Appointed Member, General Public
Thomas (Tom) Ross	Appointed Member, General Public
Margot Ross-Graham	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Senate Representative
Rakesh Saraf	Appointed Member, General Public
Andrei Tabirca	Appointed Member, Non-Academic Staff Representative (NASA Appointee)
Dilini Vethanayagam	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (GFC Appointee)
Paul Whittaker	Appointed Member, General Public
Kate Young	Appointed Member, Alumni
Lillian Zenari	Appointed Member, Additional Member

Non-Voting Officials Appointed by the President:

Todd Gilchrist	Vice-President (University Services and Finance)
Brad Hamdon	General Counsel and University Secretary
Andrew Sharman	Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
Verna Yiu	Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Juli Zinken	Board Secretary and Manager of Board Services

Regrets:

Aminah Robinson Fayek	Vice-President (Research and Innovation)
Elan MacDonald	Vice-President (External Relations)

Presenter(s):

Jessica Butts Scott	Associate Vice-President (Online and Continuing Education)
Deborah Eerkes	Sexual Violence Response Coordinator
Riya Ganguly	Associate Vice-President (Enterprise)
Florence Glanfield	Vice-Provost (Indigenous Programming & Research)
Francis Whiskeyjack	Elder

Staff:

Erin Plume, Associate Board Secretary (University Governance)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and welcomed members and guests.

She acknowledged Treaty 6 territory, the traditional and ancestral territory of the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulteaux, and Nakota Sioux; home to the Metis Settlements and the Metis Nation of Alberta, Regions 2, 3, and 4 within the historical Northwest Metis Homeland; and a traditional gathering place for these diverse Indigenous peoples whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence and enrich our community. She indicated that to acknowledge the territory was to recognize the longer history of these lands, and that the acknowledgement signified our commitment to working in Good Relations with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples as we engage in our institutional work, uplifting the whole people, for the University for Tomorrow.

CEREMONY

Presenter(s): Francis Whiskeyjack

The Chair welcomed Elder Dr Francis Whiskeyjack, who started the meeting in a good way by performing a cleansing smudge and teaching Board members about the spiritual significance of Indigenous ceremony. The Board Chair expressed the Board's thanks and commitment to reconciliation and acknowledged the importance of the University of Alberta's leadership in teaching by, for, and about Indigenous peoples.

IN CAMERA SESSION OF VOTING MEMBERS ONLY

Members met *in camera* at the start of the meeting

WELCOME

1a. Opening Remarks

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The Chair welcomed Chris Ashdown and Kate Young to their first Board of Governors meeting as alumni representatives on the Board. She also welcomed Verna Yiu, who was attending her first Board meeting as Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic).

The Chair then thanked Governors and internal resources for their participation in the Board's development session the day before, noting that the discussions were integral to the development of the university's next Institutional Strategic Plan.

1b. Approval of Open Session Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Open Session agenda, as presented.
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CARRIED

1c. Conflict of Interest - Opportunity for Declaration

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The Chair invited members to declare any conflicts of interest related to the Open Session Agenda. No conflicts were declared.

2. Indigenous Learning / Teaching Moment

Presenter(s): Florence Glanfield

Purpose of the Proposal: For information / discussion

Discussion:

F Glanfield provided an update on progress on the Indigenous Institutional Strategic Plan, including working with Indigenous communities in research and toward innovative solutions, requirements for Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity (EDI) and Indigeneity in research proposals, recent faculty events and conferences, and a new online micro-course on structural racism.

The Chair thanked F Glanfield and acknowledged the opportunity to provide greater opportunities for and build stronger bridges with Indigenous peoples on and off campus. F Glanfield responded to a question from the Board regarding strengthening communication of the university's progress and messages of truth and reconciliation.

DECISION ITEMS

Report of the Human Resources and Compensation and Learning, Research and Student Experience Committees

Presenter(s): Guy Bridgeman; Janice MacKinnon

3. Revisions to Sexual Violence Policy and new Student Conduct Policy Suite

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Verna Yiu; Deborah Eerkes

Purpose of the Proposal: To approve amendments to the Sexual Violence Policy, the Student Conduct Policy and associated procedures, and the rescission of associated portions of the Code of Student Behaviour, in order to comply with the February 2022 communication from the Minister of Advanced Education.

Discussion:

G Bridgeman and J MacKinnon introduced the item and reviewed each of their committees' review and consideration of the proposal. G Bridgeman noted that following the Board Human Resources and Compensation Committee's recommendation of the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy, the committee requested changes to the policy specific to faculty and staff and the potential power-imbalance in a teaching or supervisory relationship, as well as to comply with requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act of Alberta. He noted that changes in response to that request were included in materials before the Board.

The Board engaged in a discussion of the proposal, particularly related to the proposed Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy, including: acknowledgement by the Board Chair of concerns raised by students that the wording of the proposed new changes, although meant to address issues of power imbalance, was not aligned with a trauma-informed and survivor-centric policy; challenges associated with using one policy to govern both students and faculty; the importance of dealing with serious transgressions appropriately without negatively affecting the victim; and that compelling a witness to report may compound a distressing circumstance.

Following the discussion, the Chair proposed that the motion in front of members be tabled until such time that questions raised by members regarding the intentions of the Sexual Violence Policy could be resolved.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors table the motion below until such time that questions raised by Board members regarding the intentions of the Sexual Violence Policy are resolved.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Human Resources and Compensation Committee, Board Learning, Research and Student Experience Committee, and General Faculties Council, approve:

- *the revised Sexual Violence Policy (“Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy”), inclusive of additional revisions requested by the Board Human Resources and Compensation Committee, as set forth in Attachment 2;*

and on the recommendation of the Board Learning, Research and Student Experience Committee, and General Faculties Council, approve:

- *the Student Conduct Policy and associated Procedures, as set forth in Attachments 4 through 7; and*
- *the rescission and amendment of sections of the Code of Student Behaviour identified in Attachment 8.*

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Report of the President

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Bill Flanagan

Purpose of the Proposal: For information / discussion.

Discussion:

In addition to his written report, President Flanagan provided verbal updates on student orientation in early September, including his participation in the Students’ Union attempt at breaking the record for the worlds’ largest dodgeball game; the launch of the Institutional Strategic Plan consultation process, including a multi-stakeholder steering committee chaired by Verna Yiu; a recent welcome reception for 80 Ukrainian students and scholars displaced by the war in Ukraine; the official opening of the Diwan Pavilion at the University of Alberta Botanic Garden; and upcoming travel to Egypt to take part in COP27, the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference.

4a. Introduction to Associate Vice-President (Enterprise)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Riya Ganguly

Purpose of the Proposal: To provide an overview on the newly formed AVP-Enterprise role and Strategic Partnerships Office

Discussion:

President Flanagan introduced newly-appointed Associate Vice-President (Enterprise), Riya Ganguly, and her work leading the Strategic Partnerships Office (SPO).

R Ganguly provided an overview of the SPO's work connecting industry and community organizations to people and facilities at the University of Alberta, as well as to provide opportunities for work-integrated learning, industry-directed research, and revenue generation. She responded to questions from the Board regarding: the SPO's organizational structure; delineation between her role and that of the Associate Vice-President (Innovation, Knowledge Mobilization, and Partnerships); whether targets were achievable or aspirational; the status of potential changes to the university's intellectual property policy; and potential benefits of strategic space planning in alignment with the future Asset Management Master Plan when leasing space to corporate/industry partners.

4b. Introduction to Associate Vice-President (Online and Continuing Education)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Jessica Butts Scott

Purpose of the Proposal: To introduce Jessica Butts Scott and provide an overview of her goals for the new unit: UAlberta Online and Continuing Education.

Discussion:

President Flanagan introduced new Associate Vice-President (Online and Continuing Education), Jessica Butts Scott, and V Yiu spoke of opportunities associated with J Butts Scott's expertise and new portfolio.

J Butts Scott provided an overview of her goals for the online and continuing education administrative hub, including exceptional online programming, operational excellence, partnerships of value, online thought leadership, profitability and reinvestment, and innovative practices. She responded to questions from Board members regarding: development of micro-courses/credentials; proposed measures of success; potential barriers to progress; the state of the university's current infrastructure and whether significant investments may be required; the nature of the competition and what would set the University of Alberta apart; methods to monitor quality of student experience; how the Online and Continuing Education office could support the university in the event of a return to remote learning; the nature of faculty engagement; and potential for development of hybrid learning opportunities.

Report of the Governance Committee

Presenter(s): Guy Bridgeman

5. Update on Development of Institutional Strategic Plan (ISP)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Bill Flanagan

Purpose of the Proposal: To provide an overview of the Institutional Strategic Plan (ISP) process and governance path.

Discussion:

G Bridgeman introduced the item, noting the Board's recent discussions regarding future visions for the university. President Flanagan then spoke of the opportunity to foster alignment on where the university wants to be in ten years, and briefed members on next steps in the process, including consultation with the campus community. He responded to a comment from a Board member regarding the importance of considering the unique role of the University of Alberta in the province.

Report of the Finance and Property Committee

Presenter(s): Rakesh Saraf

6. Budget Update

Presenter(s): Todd Gilchrist; Verna Yiu

Purpose of the Proposal: For information / discussion.

Discussion:

T Gilchrist provided a budget update, including that regular budget driver updates will be provided to the Finance and Property Committee, continuation of the incremental budget model for 2023-24 with 'Budget Model 2.0' deferred for a year, and an expectation of no reductions or increases to the Campus Alberta Grant, but possible revenue increases from enrolment and tuition. He responded to a question from the Board regarding how the new budget model would address tuition revenues for the social science faculties.

7. Update on Development of Asset Management Master Action Plan (AMMAP)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Andrew Sharman

Purpose of the Proposal: The Board of Governors has requested the development of an all-encompassing infrastructure plan that, in one place, brings together elements of the totality of capital, maintenance, and operating (including space optimization initiatives) investments across our campuses. This plan, the Asset Management Master Action Plan (AMMAP), will reflect the vision and path, including investment strategy, to ensure our land and building assets are capable of sustainably achieving our teaching and research.

Discussion:

A Sharman briefed members on development of the Asset Management Master Action Plan (AMMAP), including work done by EY Canada on data collection and review, the aim of the plan to set the University of Alberta apart from other institutions, a series of stakeholder engagements, and that the plan would include a set of decision criteria.

He responded to questions and comments from the Board regarding: the possibility of soliciting help to maintain the university's building infrastructure; whether prospective growth plans were being incorporated into AMMAP; and whether students were being engaged in plans, including on the Space Optimization Committee.

CONSENT AGENDA

8. Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

At the request of a member, the Chair removed Item #8a, *Approval of the Open Session Minutes of June 17, 2022*, from the Consent Agenda, to be tabled until the next meeting.

8a. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of June 17, 2022 - item removed

8b. Approval of the September 27, 2022 Electronic Vote

- 8c. Proposed Termination of the Baccalauréat en sciences de l'environnement et de la conservation/ BSc in Environmental and Conservation Sciences
- 8d. Proposed Termination of Graduate Programs in Comparative Literature, Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research
- 8e. Proposed Termination of the Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine
- 8f. Proposed Terminations of the Bachelor of Science First-Level Specializations (Majors) in Animal Biology, Bioinformatics, Environmental Physical Sciences, Evolutionary Biology, and Geography, Faculty of Science
- 8g. Proposed Suspension of the BSc Pharmacy and the Bridging Program for BSc Pharmacy Students, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Open Session Consent Agenda, as amended.

CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

There were no requests from members to discuss the information items listed below.

- 9a. Action Arising from Previous Meetings
 - i. Metrics Associated with Academic Restructuring (UAT/College Metrics)
- 9b. Report of the Audit and Risk Committee
- 9c. Report of the Finance and Property Committee
 - i. Integrated Asset Management Strategy Dashboard
- 9d. Report of the Governance Committee
 - i. 2022-23 Campus Events and Engagement Opportunities
- 9e. Report of the Human Resources and Compensation Committee
- 9f. Report of the Investment Committee
- 9g. Report of the Learning, Research and Student Experience Committee
 - i. Student Access to Mental Health Resources and Food Insecurity
- 9h. Report of the Reputation and Public Affairs Committee
- 9i. Chancellor's Report
- 9j. Alumni Association
- 9k. Students' Union
- 9l. Graduate Students' Association (including 2021-22 Financial Statements)
- 9m. Association of Academic Staff
- 9n. Non-Academic Staff Association
- 9o. General Faculties Council
- 9p. Board Chair Report

CLOSING SESSION

10. Other Business

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

There was no other business.

11. Adjournment

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The Chair adjourned the Open Session at 10:10 a.m.