



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Approved Minutes - Open Session

December 9, 2022, 8:00 a.m.

Governors Boardroom A167/Zoom Platform

Members

Mark Herman, Chair*
Nancy Foster, Vice-Chair
Muntaha Aamir*
Joule Bergerson
Jay Brown
Debby Carreau*
Jon Cornish* - joined during Item 7
Jeff Davison
Aleem Dhanani
Hamid Habibi*
Lorinda Hammond
Jodi Jenson Labrie*
Candice Li*
Ed McCauley
William O'Yeung
Saaka Sulemana Saaka
Nicole Schmidt
Glenn Tibbles*
John Weissenberger
Cara Wolf*
Gary Zhang
Paul Zonneveld

Secretary

Courtney McVie

Scribe

Rebecca Kenny

Staff

Cherie Tutt, Director, Secretariat and Student Appeals Office

Regrets

William Ghali, Vice-President (Research)
Elaine Wong

Management

James Allan, Vice-President (Advancement)
Ron Kim, Vice-President (Finance) and Chief Financial Officer
Jacqueline Lacasse, General Counsel
Mike Van Hee, Vice-President (Services)
Penny Werthner, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Management Support

Kate Hamilton, Executive Director and Chief of Staff, President's Office

Guests

Deborah Book, Legal Counsel
Shauna Cunningham, Director, Indigenous Strategy
Amy Dambrowitz, Registrar
Bruce Evelyn, Vice-Provost (Planning and Resources)
Shane Royal, Senior Director, Ancillary Services
Verity Turpin, Vice-Provost (Student Experience)

Observers*

Michael Brown, External Communications Specialist, Students' Union

Michelle Crossland, Media and Issues Management

Daniella Ikurusi, Executive Director, Graduate Students' Association

Sarah Luthy, Executive Director, Provost's Office

Craig Poffenroth, Marketing Strategist, Ancillary Services

**via Zoom*

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agendas**Moved/Seconded**

That the Agendas for the December 9, 2022 Board of Governors meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Conflict of Interest Declaration

No conflicts were declared.

3. Territorial Acknowledgement

William O'Yeung provided a territorial acknowledgement.

4. Remarks of the Chair

The Chair welcomed new Board member, Muntaha Aamir, Students' Union member-at-large.

5. Safety Moment

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Mike Van Hee presented this item.

Management presented on Safety at Home, noting that there tends to be a lot of focus on safety procedures in a person's workplace but that a larger number of safety incidents occur in the home and highlighted ways in which people can improve safety in their homes.

6. Approval of the Open Consent Agenda Items

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. The following Consent Agenda items were adopted:

6.1 Approval of the October 14, 2022 Open Session Meeting Minutes

That the Minutes of the Open Session of the Board of Governors meeting held on October 14, 2022 be approved.

Adopted

6.2 Approval of the University Technologies International Inc. (UTI) Annual Shareholders Resolution

The following Consent Agenda items were received by the Board for information:

6.3 Updates to the Partisan Political Activities Policy

6.4 Updates to the Environment, Health and Safety Policy

6.5 Student Appeals Office Annual Report

6.6 Standing Committee Chair Reports:

- Audit
- Environment, Health, Safety and Sustainability
- Executive
- Finance and Property
- Human Resources and Governance
- Investment

6.7 Board Member Reports

- Report from the Chancellor and Board Member nominated by the Senate
- Report from the Board Members nominated by the Alumni Association
- Report from the Board Member nominated by the University of Calgary Faculty Association
- Report from the Board Member nominated by the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, Local 52
- Report from the Board Member nominated by the Students' Union including the Students' Union Financial Statements
- Report from the Board Member nominated by the Graduate Students' Association

7. Approval of the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy Revisions

Documentation was circulated with the agenda. Verity Turpin and Deborah Book presented this item. A document was tabled at the meeting.

Highlights:

- The proponents reported on the revisions to the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy, noting that these are focused revisions following a request from the provincial government to address rape culture in this policy
- The proponents noted that:
 - A revision was made to the policy following the review of the Human Resources and Governance Committee which was tabled for the Board of Governors review and consideration. It was reported that this change is to not limit the recognition of the types of sexual and gender-based

violence but to ensure it recognizes the role of systemic oppression and rape culture.

- The proponents noted that another fulsome review of the policy will take place following the three-year review schedule
- In response to a question, it was explained that the University of Calgary, along with all Post-Secondary Institutions (PSIs) in Alberta, received this direction to acknowledge that rape culture exists, it was noted that this is not unique to only PSIs

Moved/Seconded

That the Board of Governors approve the proposed revisions to the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy, as presented to the Board, and as recommended by the Human Resources and Governance Committee.

Carried

John Weissenberger abstained.

8. Approval of the 2023-2024 Residence, Meal Plan and Parking Rates

Documentation was circulated with the agenda. Ron Kim, Shane Royal, Saaka Sulemana Saaka, and Nicole Schmidt presented this item.

Highlights:

- Management provided an overview of the proposed 2023-2024 residence, meal plan, and parking rates, noting that the proposed increases to residence rates, meal plans, and parking rates would cover anticipated operating cost increases and that the residence rate increases are varied by unit type, to maintain a more affordable living option for students
- Management reported that:
 - There was significant consultation and stakeholder engagement in advance of the proposal being brought forward for recommendation and approval
 - The proposed increases to University accommodations are below market and include utilities and Wi-Fi
 - The University is hiring a mental health support advisor for students in residence
 - Meal plans are mandatory for first-year students and the University has over 800 students optionally partake in the meal plans
- The Students' Union President and the Graduate Students' Association President shared their appreciation for the consultation that took place with the student groups and their support for the varied residence rate increases to allow for more affordable and safe housing options for students. It was noted that these increases will still impact the accessibility of post-secondary education.
- The Chair of the Finance and Property Committee (FPC) reported that the Committee discussed the proposed increases and the structure of the increases to residence rates and advised of the unanimous vote to recommend these rates for 2023-2024
- In response to a question, it was explained that:
 - Students living in Varsity Courts can partake in the insurance program but many of these students find this does not offer enough coverage for contents insurance

- The decommissioning of Varsity Courts planning is beginning and will include student consultation, and Management should have further information by the end of the academic year
- The mental health advisor will be imbedded as part of Student Support Services but will be located in the areas of residence buildings on campus for direct support, education and outreach
- The meal plans are mandatory for first-year students as the residence accommodations for first-year students do not have cooking facilities as well as a support mechanism for these students as communal eating in The Landing supports building community and connection
- The parking rates at the University of Calgary are higher than peers across the province due to market conditions and the availability of parking at each campus

Moved/Seconded

That the Board of Governors approve the Residence rates, Meal Plan rates, and Parking rates for 2023-2024, as set out in the documents provided to the Board, and as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee.

Carried**9. Report from the President**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Ed McCauley presented this item.

The President reported on the extraordinary last couple of months and several recent activities and accomplishments including, the installation of Chancellor Cornish and the fall convocation ceremonies celebrating over 1,000 graduates, the openings of the Hunter Students Commons and Mathison Hall, the Killam Awards, the Community Report celebrating the achievements of the *Eyes High* strategy and the launch of the strategic planning consultation, the G7 Research Summit to look at one health, the launch of the Energy Transition Centre, and the celebration of life for Joan Snyder and the gift received from her estate to support excellence in women's medicine and sports.

10. Budget Parameters for the University of Calgary's Annual Consolidated and Capital Budgets

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Penny Werthner, Ron Kim and Bruce Evelyn presented this item.

Highlights:

- Management reported on the budget parameters that will be used to guide the 2023-2024 budget process and the consultation process that took place in advance of the parameters being presented. It was noted that the parameters are developed by a multitude of individuals across campus with expertise in these areas and include some assumptions and best estimates
- Management highlighted:
 - The reductions to the Campus Alberta Grants (CAG) over the last three years and the impact of cost inflation not being addressed in the CAG over the last few years. It was noted that there are no further reductions anticipated for the 2023-2024 CAG.
 - The importance of program expansions and the demand these are putting on current facilities at the University

- Themes of strategic importance that were identified through the consultation process, noting there was some alignment between feedback of students, faculty, and staff some of which include, supporting Information Technology Services, infrastructure, and Campus Security
- Advocacy with the Ministry continues around the CAG and the value of post-secondary education
- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - The parameters do not include an inflation rate as inflation impacts each area differently, and budget owners will be aided in accounting for this in unit budgets
 - The University benchmarks its budget against the U15 across the country and the planning parameters are developed based on a review of trends in higher education, the labour market, economic forecasting, the political environment, and various local, national, and international demographic trends.
 - The provincial government has not adjusted the CAG for inflation

11. 2022 Enrolment Report

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Penny Werthner and Amy Dambrowitz presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reported on the University's Fall 2022 enrolment, noting that the University is seeing strong demand and interest due to the student experience offered at the University which is a testament to the teamwork at the University
- It was reported that:
 - There have been significant delays with international student visas, noting that many of these students have asked for deferrals
 - Total enrolment numbers are up and the Indigenous student and graduate student populations continue to grow and the University has over 3,000 more students since 2018 enrolment numbers, noting that 61% of overall student body is from Calgary
 - Highschool retention numbers were lower during the pandemic but the University has seen those numbers rise back up to where they were pre-pandemic
 - The University has welcomed students from over 140 different countries and the University has seen an increase in enrolment data around gender statistics with more students comfortable with disclosing since the inclusion of non-binary
- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - Application pressure continues to grow and have become more competitive, noting that undergraduate applicants are mostly based on their averages and that admissions averages are trending higher partially due to changes in diploma exams over the pandemic. Graduate student applications have more areas of consideration.
 - Indigenous applicants in both undergraduate and graduate programs are proportionately split
 - The University is continuing to push the federal government on international student visas and the importance of this for Canada
 - The University is working to put supports in place to help with student retention across campus, including supports with assessment, studying, and helping professors look at ways assessments can be done differently

- The Board requested that retention rate numbers for high school applicants be shown year over year as well as the data on the impact on high demand programs

12. Indigenous Strategy Progress Report

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Penny Werthner and Shawna Cunningham presented this item.

Highlights:

- Management provided an update on the progress of the Indigenous Strategy, *ii'taa'poh'to'p*, highlighting the cyclical journey of transformation and renewal to reflect on where we were and where we are going and advance in Ways of Knowing, Ways of Doing, Ways of Connecting, and Ways of Being
- Management reported that:
 - Indigenous students have received over \$3 million in scholarships, and there has been over \$5.6 million in research funds received by the University in Indigenous-focused research
 - The University has introduced new pathways for Indigenous students to come to the University and important programs to create avenues of access
 - Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers now serve as members of the Graduate supervisory group and sit on graduate committees to add Indigenous knowledge into these processes
 - Several programs have been launched to increase understanding of Indigenous culture and the legacy of residential schools, including self-directed learning
 - The University looking at donor relations to increase engagement in Indigenous engagement
 - Ingenious student enrolment, Indigenous faculty, and staff are trending upwards

13. Other Business in the Open Session

There was no other business.

14. Motion to Adjourn the Open Session and Move into the Closed Session

Moved/Seconded

That the Board of Governors adjourn the Open Session and move into the Closed Session.

Carried

The Open Session was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.