



Board of Governors
Open Session Minutes

Friday, October 15, 2021
By Zoom videoconference
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Kate Chisholm	Appointed Chair, General Public
Guy Bridgeman	Appointed Vice-Chair, General Public
Zarina Bhambhani	Appointed Member, Additional Member
Ayaz Bhanji	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Alumni Association Representative
Charlene Butler	Appointed Member, General Public
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
David Konrad	Appointed Member, Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative
Rowan Ley	Appointed Member, President, Students' Union
Janice MacKinnon	Appointed Member, General Public
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)
Robert Ryan Thompson	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Alumni Association Representative
Dilini Vethanayagam	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (GFC Appointee)
Paul Whittaker	Appointed Member, General Public
Donna Wilson	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (AASUA Appointee)
Lillian Zenari	Appointed Member, Additional Member

Non-Voting Officials Appointed by the President:

Steven Dew	Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Todd Gilchrist	Vice-President (University Services and Finance)
Brad Hamdon	General Counsel and University Secretary
Elan MacDonald	Vice-President (External Relations)
Aminah Robinson Fayek	Vice-President (Research and Innovation)
Andrew Sharman	Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
Catherine Swindlehurst	Chief Strategy Officer (President's Office)
Juli Zinken	Board Secretary and Manager of Board Services (University Governance)

Presenter(s):

Francis Whiskeyjack	Elder
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Staff:

Erin Plume, Assistant Board Secretary (University Governance)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. She welcomed members and guests, and reminded all in attendance that the open session of the meeting was being webcast to observers.

IN CAMERA SESSION OF VOTING MEMBERS ONLY

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

OPENING SESSION

1. Ceremony

Presenter(s): Francis Whiskeyjack

The Chair read the following territorial acknowledgement:

The University of Alberta resides on Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis. This territory is a traditional gathering place for diverse Indigenous peoples whose histories, languages and cultures continue to influence and enrich our community. To acknowledge the territory is to recognize the longer history of these lands.

She then welcomed Elder Dr Francis Whiskeyjack, who started the meeting in a good way by sharing some Indigenous teachings and a prayer.

The Chair thanked Dr Whiskeyjack for sharing his wisdom with the Board.

2. Chair's Session

2a. Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The Chair called the open session to order and the Board Secretary confirmed that the attendance constituted quorum.

2b. 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.

CARRIED

2c. 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.

2d. Chair's Remarks

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The Chair thanked Governors and internal resources for their participation in the Board's development session the day before, which included a refresher on good governance and a strategic planning discussion with the university's senior leadership team.

The Chair then informed members that this could be Donna Wilson's last Board of Governors' meeting, as Dr Wilson's term as Association of Academic Staff University of Alberta (AASUA) Appointee would conclude on November 25, 2021, pending the appointment of her successor. The Chair reviewed Dr Wilson's contributions over her three years on the Board of Governors and led members in thanking Dr Wilson for her service and commitment to the Board.

3. Report of the President

3a. COVID-19 Update

3b. Emergency Governance Protocols Decision Tracker

3c. Board / GFC / Senate Summit Update

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 remarks on planning for the January 21, 2022 Board of Governors, General Faculties Council, and Senate Summit.

At the President's invitation, Andrew Sharman provided a COVID-19 update, including progress on the CampusReady pass for proof of vaccination, rapid testing for medical and human rights accommodations, relative low number of COVID-19 cases attributed to high vaccine uptake and the mandatory mask policy, planning for Winter 2022, and support for international students.

The Chair thanked Mr Sharman and the university's public health response team for their efforts to keep university employees and students safe, and for moving so quickly to mandatory vaccination status.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

4a. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of June 18, 2021

4b. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of June 25, 2021 Electronic Vote

Report of the Finance and Property Committee

4c. Disposition of Land, County of Newell

4d. University of Alberta Properties Trust Inc. (UAPT) Order in Council Rescission and Disposition of Land

Report of the Human Resources and Compensation Committee

- 4e. Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Adjunct Academic Appointment and Graduate Student Supervision Policy, and Graduate Student Supervision Development Procedure

Mr Sharman responded to a question from a Board member regarding Item 4c and whether a price had been set for the sale of the County of Newell land.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Open Session Consent Agenda.

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

Report of the Finance and Property Committee

Presenter(s): Charlene Butler

5. Exceptional Tuition Fee Proposal

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew; Todd Gilchrist

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the Board to ask approval for exceptional tuition increase proposals for Fall 2022.

Discussion:

Ms Butler introduced the item, reviewing the Finance and Property Committee's (BFPC) consideration of the proposal. Dr Dew then reviewed the background of the proposal's original submission to Advanced Education in June after early consultation, student feedback regarding insufficient consultation, and Advanced Education's decision to grant an extension and require the proposals be approved by the Board of Governors prior to returning for government approval. He reviewed the proposal, noting: that the increases would apply to new, domestic students only and that Fall 2022 international student tuition had been previously approved in June 2021; that supplemental material was included at the request of BFPC, including updates to the U15 comparators; and that 20 percent of revenue was set-aside for student financial aid. He also reviewed government reporting requirements regarding the use of tuition revenue.

The Provost responded to questions from the Board regarding: the consultation and approval process; whether the proposed increases to domestic tuition would affect future international student tuition; whether the increases would negatively affect demand; how the proposal related to enrolment growth strategies; whether the exceptional tuition fees would demonstrate increased quality of the learning environments in the programs affected; the affordability for students under current levels of provincial student financial aid; whether it was possible to amend the proposal to make the package more appealing to the Minister; and concerns about whether the proposal was in the best interests of the university and its students.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Finance and Property Committee and the GFC Academic Planning Committee, approve the following proposed exceptional tuition increases, to take effect for the Fall 2022 term for incoming students only, and pending approval of the Minister of Advanced Education:

Program Name	UofA Approved Tuition 2021-22	Fall 2022 Proposed Extra-ordinary increase	Proposed UofA 2022-23 Tuition
Undergraduate programs			
BComm (Business) (30 credits with 2 options)	\$8,012.48	\$1,761.76	\$9,774.24
BSc Eng (Engineering) (72 FI)	\$7,309.44	\$1,789.82	\$9,099.36
JD (Law)32credits	\$11,701.48	\$3,393.36	\$15,094.84
Radiation Therapy BSc (Medicine)(30 credits)	\$6,091.20	\$1,218.00	\$7,309.20
Medical Laboratory Science BSc (Medicine) (30 credits)	\$6,091.20	\$1,034.30	\$7,125.60
DDS (Dentistry)	\$23,109.16	\$9,243.60	\$32,352.76
APDDS (Dentistry)	\$57,093.40	\$9,243.60	\$66,337.00
PharmD (Pharmacy) (32 credits)	\$11,431.68	\$5,029.12	\$16,460.80
Graduate programs			
MBA - Business	\$14,380.80	\$10,243.20	\$24,624.00
MEng - Engineering	\$7,345.20	\$1,688.40	\$9,033.60
Master - Counselling Psychology-Course (Education)	\$4,286.88	\$4,286.88	\$8,573.76
Master - Counselling Psychology-Thesis (Education)	\$4,192.80	\$4,380.96	\$8,573.76

**Because tuition is assigned by the course, and not at the program level, there may be a difference of pennies for some increases.*

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Report of the Learning, Research and Student Experience Committee

Presenter(s): Janice MacKinnon

6. Academic Restructuring Implementation
 - College Update

Presenter(s): Steven Dew

Purpose of the Proposal: To update the Board of Governors on the process of implementing the new College Model, as approved by the Board of Governors on December 11, 2020.

Discussion:

Dr Dew briefed the Board on the continued implementation of the academic restructuring initiative, including the work of the interim college deans to develop College Strategic Plans and to outline responsibilities of the colleges and faculties; the creation of three offices (research, education, and graduate) within each college to lead and support specific areas of excellence, innovation, and improvement; and the work of the Academic Leaders Task Group (ALTG) to explore opportunities to return professors to the front line mission of teaching and research by reducing the number of academics in leadership positions.

Dr Dew responded to questions from the Board regarding: when the Board would receive an update on College Strategic Plans and the interdisciplinarity metric; concerns from the campus community regarding accreditation and the international standing of faculties, succession plans for senior leaders without junior leaders, and the current number of interim deans; whether the ALTG's recommendations would achieve the required savings and release some academic leaders to conduct teaching and research; and the importance of the metrics to evaluate the success of the whole college, not its components.

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.

Information Reports

7. Action Arising from Previous Meetings
 - i. Metrics Associated with Academic Restructuring (UAT/College Metrics)
8. Report of the Audit and Risk Committee
9. Report of the Finance and Property Committee
 - Integrated Asset Management Strategy Dashboard
10. Report of the Governance Committee
 - 2021-22 campus events and engagement opportunities
11. Report of the Human Resources and Compensation Committee
12. Report of the Investment Committee
13. Report of the Learning, Research, and Student Experience Committee
14. Report of the Reputation and Public Affairs Committee

Regular Reports

15. Chancellor's Report

16. Alumni Association
17. Students' Union
18. Graduate Students' Association (including 2020-21 Financial Statements)
19. Association of Academic Staff
20. Non-Academic Staff Association
21. General Faculties Council
22. Board Chair Report

CLOSING SESSION

23. *Adjournment*

The Chair adjourned the Open Session at 9:35 a.m.