

**Board of Governors
Minutes of Meeting**

Date: February 23, 2021

Time: 4:00 – 5:56pm

Room: MS Teams Virtual Meeting

Members: Jonathan Allison (Chair), Chris Baillargeon, Carolyn Brown, Jodi Butts, John Cappucci, Rajen Chetty, Brian Cowell, Bruck Easton, Tiffany Gooch, Robert Gordon, Norbert Hartmann, Chris Houser, Dean Jacobs, Wanda Juricic, Tony Mancina, Ken Montgomery, Celso Oliveira, Sathish Pichika, Teresa Piruzza, Tom Porter, Helga Reidel, Antonio Rossini, Mario Sonego, Bruce Tucker, Patti Weir, Elaine Whitmore, Susan Williams, William Willis.

Regrets: Herman Dayal, Jelena Magliaro.

Administration and Guest Speakers: Sandra Aversa, Jeffrey Berryman, Jane Boyd, John Coleman, Beverley Hamilton, Gillian Heisz, Kaye Johnson, Narayan Kar, Anna Kirby, Douglas Kneale, Andrew Kuntz, Rita LaCivita, Colin McLellan, Renée Trombley, Michael Siu, Rose Zanutto, Renée Wintermute (University Secretary).

Declaration of conflict of interest: none reported.

1 Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: That the Agenda be approved.

Oliveira/Butts
CARRIED

2 Minutes of the meeting of November 24, 2020

(see document BG201124M for more details.)

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of November 24, 2020 be approved.

Baillargeon/Weir
CARRIED

3 Business arising from the minutes

None to report.

4 Outstanding Business/New Business

4.1 Reports

4.1.1 Remarks from the Chair

NOTED:

- Tom Porter and Elaine Whitmore were welcomed to their first regular Board meeting following their recent appointment.
- Members were urged to keep lessons learned from the Anti-Black Racism Education and Training retreat and the Board Governance and Engagement Retreat top of mind, to ask questions, and to consider agenda items through the lens of anti-Black Racism, EDI, and good governance.
- The Governance Committee will be coming back to the Board with actionable items identified through these retreats.

4.1.2 President's Report

(see document BG210223-4.1.2 for more details.)

NOTED:

- John Coleman, who is retiring this week, was thanked for his leadership as Executive Director of PAC. Renée Trombley, incoming Executive Director of PAC, was introduced to the Board.
- The University has been ranked 31st on the 2021 Forbes list of top 300 employers in Canada with greater than 500 employees, placing in the top 10 among universities. This is a testament to what the University has been able to do to support faculty and staff during these difficult times and it will continue to build on this achievement.
- Members were informed that the City of Windsor recently released its economic revitalization strategy which includes the University of Windsor as a key anchor institution and integral partner.
- Work will begin on a University-level Strategic Plan with a White Paper released by Fall 2021 that will include institutional priorities and goals for consideration. Strategic planning will involve campus engagement and consultation, including the Board of Governors. Among others, indigenization, equity, diversity and inclusion, internationalization, and SMA3 metrics will be key components of the University's strategic plan, and the plans that flow from it (academic, research, AAUs, etc). Once completed the Strategic Plan will be brought forward to Senate and Board of Governors for approval.

4.1.3 Guest Speaker

4.1.3.1 UWindsor Automotive Research and its Impact on the Broader Automotive Sector

(see document BG210223-4.1.3.1 for more details.)

NOTED:

- Narayan Kar, Professor in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Electrified Vehicles, and Founder and Director of the Centre for Hybrid Automotive Research & Green Energy (CHARGE), provided an overview of the alignment and impact of the research conducted at the University with the automotive industry's decarbonization and smart mobility strategies. The work being conducted has the possibility of transforming Windsor from the automotive capital to the Automobility Capital of Canada.
- External partnerships, the multidisciplinary automobility research and development initiatives at the University, and the next steps in ensuring that the University is at the forefront in the development of Connected, Autonomous, Secured Electric Vehicles, were outlined.

4.1.4 Strategic Items/Emerging Priorities/Risk Issues

4.1.4.1 COVID-19 and University Operations

(see document BG210223-4.1.4.1 for more details.)

NOTED:

- Fall 2021 will be a combination of online, face-to-face, and hybrid classes. It was noted that efforts are underway to equip classrooms across campus with technologies for hybrid teaching and that efforts will be made to hold as many face-to-face classes as possible. It was stressed that balance will ultimately be determined by Public Health considerations and capacity.
- The University has partnered with Windsor Regional Hospital regarding using Windsor Hall as vaccination centre should the St. Clair Sportsplex need to be converted back into a field hospital.

4.1.4.2 Addressing Anti-Black Racism and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion – Update

(see document *BG210223-4.1.4.2* for more details.)

NOTED:

- Members were reminded of the ongoing initiatives to combat anti-Black racism on campus including the establishment of an Anti-Black Racism Taskforce, an Anti-Black Racism Initiatives Fund; an Anti-Black Racism Scholarship fund (which will take the form of endowed scholarships), an Anti-Oppressive Pedagogies Teaching Leadership Chair; and a Black Scholars hiring initiative.
- Members were informed that the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) issued a communication to all Ontario Colleges and Universities noting that "*Indigenous, Black and racialized students are experiencing significant concerns of discrimination, xenophobia and targeting on campuses and in academic environments across Ontario*", that there are concerns with institutional responses and complaint mechanisms, and reminding institutions of their duty under the Code. Initiatives to address these concerns and ensure policies and complaints mechanisms comply with the Code were reviewed.

4.1.4 Questions Arising from Vice-Presidents' Reports

(see document *BG201020-4.1.3.4* for more details.)

NOTED:

- The possible private-public partnership for a Residence building is in preliminary discussion stages. Once discussions have moved to the development and implementation stages, a detailed report on the partnership, including pros and cons of private-public partnership, will be brought to the Board via the Resource Allocation Committee.
- In response to questions about possibility of University space in Leamington, it was noted that such space could be used for analytical labs for greenhouses, automation research, health and welfare of borders, *etc.*, and could support regional economic growth (such as in the greenhouse industry).

4.2 Audit Committee

Nothing to report.

4.3 Executive Committee

Nothing to report.

4.4 Governance Committee

Nothing to report.

4.5 Investment Committee

Nothing to report.

4.6 Pension Committee

Nothing to report.

4.7 Resource Allocation Committee

4.7.1 2020/2021 Operating Budget Mid-Year Review

(see document *BG201124-4.7.1* for more details.)

The report was received for information.

5 In Camera

The following In Camera motions were read into the public minutes. Members did not participate in the portion of the meeting that pertained to their respective appointments.

MOTION: That Carolyn Brown be appointed to the Governance Committee to April 30, 2023.

CARRIED*

MOTION: That Brian Cowell be appointed to the Resource Allocation Committee to April 30, 2022.

CARRIED*

MOTION: That the following Committee Vice-Chair appointments be approved:

Brian Cowell, Vice-Chair – Audit Committee

Elaine Whitmore, Vice-Chair – Governance Committee

CARRIED*

6 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

Houser/Butts

CARRIED