

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

JUNE 27, 2018

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL held on June 27, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.
in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall.

Present:

Claire Kennedy (Chair)
N. Jane Pepino (Vice-Chair)
Cheryl Regehr, Vice-President and
Provost
Preet Banerjee
Harvey Botting
David N. Bowden
Catherine Bragg
P.C. Choo
Janet L. Ecker
Aidan H. Fishman
Susan Froom
Gary D. Goldberg
Avrum I. Gotlieb
Amanda Harvey-Sanchez
Zabeen Hirji
Mala Kashyap
Bruce Kidd
Paul Kingston
Normand Labrie
Ernest W.N. Lam
Mark Lautens
Brian D. Lawson
Jan K. Mahrt-Smith
Mama Adobea Nii Owoo
Catherine Riddell
Mark Henry Rowswell
Andrea M. Sass-Kortsak
Salvatore M. Spadafora

Janice Gross Stein
Andrew Szende
Nicholas Terpstra
Steven J. Thorpe
Twesh Upadhyaya
Robert Xu
Samra Zafar
Emeli Zhang

Sheree Drummond, Secretary of the
Governing Council

Secretariat:

Alexandra Di Blasio
Cindy Ferencz-Hammond
Anwar Kazimi
Patrick McNeill
David Walders

Absent:

Meric S. Gertler, President
Jeff P. Collins
Mark Krembil
Nykolaj Kuryluk
Mohan Matthen
John Paul Morgan
W. Keith Thomas
Bruce Winter

In Attendance:

Edie Guo, Governor-Elect
Harry Orbach-Miller, Governor-Elect
Litos Li, Governor-Elect
Amobi Price, Governor-Elect

Howard Shearer, Past Member of Governing-Council

David Estok, Vice-President, Communications

Scott Mabury, Vice-President, University Operations
David Palmer, Vice-President, Advancement

Andrew Arifuzzaman, Chief Administrative Officer, UTSC
Althea Blackburn-Evans, Interim Executive Director, Communication Partnerships
Sheila Brown, Chief Financial Officer
Tad Brown, Council, Business Affairs and Advancement
Elizabeth Cragg, Director, Office of the Vice-President
Ellen Hodnett, Ombudsperson
Nadina Jamison, Assistant Vice-President, Strategic Initiatives
Bryn MacPherson, Assistant Vice-President & Chief of Protocol, Office of the President
Sioban Nelson, Vice-Provost, Academic Programs
Steve Moate, Senior Legal Counsel, Office of the President
Pierre Piché, Controller and Director, Financial Services
Archana Sridhar, Assistant Provost

Meredith Strong, Director, Office of the Vice-Provost, Students and Student Policy Advisor
Sandy Welsh, Vice-Provost, Students

Ayaan Abdulle, Vice-President Academic and University Affairs, University of Toronto Scarborough
Students' Union (SCSU)
Dan Acheson, College of Electors
Lynne Alexandrova, Internal Commissioner, Graduate Students' Union (GSU)
Anne Boucher, President, University of Toronto Students' Union (UTSU)
Nicole Brayiannis, President, SCSU
Matthew Chen, PhD Student, (MSE)
Luc De Nil, Acting Dean, School of Graduate Studies
Wendy Duff, Dean, Faculty of Information
Joshua Grondin, Vice-President, University Affairs, UTSU
Ira Jacobs, Dean, Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education
Linda Johnston, Dean, Lawrence Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing
Jamie Kearns, Vice-President External, Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS)
Faye Mishna, Dean, Faculty of Social Work
Andres Posada, Vice-President University Affairs, University of Toronto Mississauga Students'
Union (UTMSU)
Robert Wright, Dean, Faculty of Forestry
Trevor Young, Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Vice-Provost, Relations with Health Care Institutions
Yuri Savguira, PhD Student, Department of Materials Science and Engineering (MSE)
John Robinson, Chair, Committee on the Environment, Climate Change and Sustainability

IN ACCORDANCE WITH A DETERMINATION BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
PURSUANT TO SECTION 38 OF BY-LAW NUMBER 2 OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL,
ITEMS 11 AND 12 ON THE AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED BY THE GOVERNING
COUNCIL *IN CAMERA*

ENTER NOTE REGARDING *IN CAMERA* AGENDA ITEMS (IF RELEVANT)

1. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting. She noted that the President was in Singapore participating as a member of the International Advisory Panel to the Singapore government on its policies and programs in support of its universities. The Provost would be serving as Acting President.

The Chair then offered congratulations to Mark Rowswell who had recently received an honorary degree from the University of Alberta. She also congratulated Professor Andrea Sass-Kortsak who had recently been given the *Yant Award* from the American Association of Industrial Hygiene.

2. Report of the President

The Provost, as Acting President, introduced the team from the University of Toronto who had recently won the international 2017-2018 Hydrogen Student Design Contest organized in Washington D.C. and invited them to offer a presentation.

Professor Steven Thorpe, the team's faculty advisor, provided introductory remarks, noting that he had been honoured to work with the remarkable students on the team and was extremely proud of their accomplishments as ambassadors for the University.

Team members Yuri Savguira and Matthew Chen, PhD students from the Department of Material Science and Engineering, offered a presentation, [here](#), on behalf of the team. They provided an overview of the competition and the team's amphibious yacht design, which had won first place. They noted that the accomplishments of the team coincided directly with one of the priorities articulated by President Gertler in his installation address, to reimagine and reinvent undergraduate education.

Returning to the President's Report, the Provost provided an update on the following matters:

Convocation Update/ Alumni Reunion

More than 18,000 students were part of the Class of 2018 and the vast majority had participated in one of the 29 convocation ceremonies that took place. Regarding the alumni reunion, almost 9,000 alumni and guests had attended more than 130 events across the three campuses.

Federal and Provincial Government Updates

Federally, advocacy efforts continue to advance the priorities articulated in the Naylor Report, *Investing in Canada's Future – Strengthening the Foundations of Canadian Research*, especially in the areas of graduate scholarships and the Research Support Fund. Turning to the Provincial scene, the Provost discussed the recent election and noted that the University would continue its advocacy efforts, with a special focus on the government transition.

Chancellor's Circle of Benefactors

A new wall in the foyer of Simcoe Hall had recently been unveiled to honour the newly-created *Chancellor's Circle of Benefactors*. This wall was dedicated to those who had made gifts of \$5M or more to the University.

Presentation - Committee on the Environment, Climate Change and Sustainability (CECCS)

The Provost then introduced Professor John Robinson, Chair of the *Committee on the Environment, Climate Change and Sustainability* (CECCS), and invited him to provide an update on the work of the Committee.

Professor Robinson's presentation, [here](#), began by discussing the mandate, operating principles and membership of the CECCS. He then outlined the three subcommittees of the CECCS: Campus as a Living Lab; University as an Agent of Change; and, Curriculum Innovation. He also discussed other activities being undertaken on the University's campuses to promote the mandate of the CECCS as well as future aspirations for the work of the Committee.

In reply to a member's question, Professor Robinson confirmed that, as part of curriculum innovation, a course inventory was being developed to identify sustainability-oriented courses. This would include course offerings that examined sustainability from an Indigenous perspective.

The Chair thanked Professor Robinson for his presentation and thanked the Provost for her report on behalf of the President.

3. Items for Governing Council Approval

a. Revision: *Policy on Crisis and Routine Emergency Preparedness and Response*

The Provost offered a presentation, [here](#), which outlined proposed revisions to the *Policy* and discussed the rationale for those revisions. These included updates to terminology contained in the *Policy* and an emphasis on the tri-campus nature of the *Policy*. These revisions were part of a long-term project concerning preparedness and response to crisis and routine emergencies on campus.

Mr. Andrew Szende, Chair of the University Affairs Board and Mr. Brian Lawson, Vice-Chair of the Business Board, provided overviews of the discussions that had occurred at the meetings of their respective boards and advised that their Boards had recommended the *Policy* for approval.

In reply to a member's question, the Provost clarified that an Incident Leadership Team (ILT) would report to the President during a crisis or routine emergency and would declare a crisis or emergency as appropriate. The ILT would designate an individual Incident Manager who would be in charge of on-the-ground response for the duration of the incident, as well as an Incident Management Executive Team, which would exercise oversight and strategic decision-making during a crisis or routine emergency.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the revised *Policy on Crisis and Routine Emergency Preparedness and Response* (dated April 9, 2018) be approved effective June 27, 2018.

b. *University-Mandated Leave of Absence Policy*

The Provost provided a comprehensive introduction to, and overview of, the proposed *Policy*. She began by noting that the *Policy* was a response to two reports of the previous Ombudsperson that had expressed concern about the University's ability to address the needs of students whose behaviour caused concern regarding their own safety or the safety of others, or whose behaviour negatively and materially impacted the learning environment of others. She noted that the *Policy* reflected the responsibility of the University to assist students in such distress and provided the University with the tools to meet these responsibilities without using punitive mechanisms. The Provost acknowledged that the *Policy* had elicited strong views from the University community and noted that there had been robust consultation on the *Policy* over an 18-month period, and that a number of changes had been made to the *Policy* as a direct result of consultation with students and others. These changes amplified and clarified key points in the *Policy*, including the supports that would be available to students in need. She affirmed that a University-mandated leave of absence would only be considered once other supports and accommodations for the student had been explored, including support within the student's division. The *Policy* provides for the creation of a Student Support Team, and a voluntary leave of absence.

The Provost stressed the need for the *Policy*. She noted that, at present, the measures available when students engaged in concerning behaviour that may be due to mental health or other health issues were limited and punitive. They included action under the *Code of Student Conduct* and the academic penalties of probation, or suspension for one or more terms. The *Policy*, on the other hand, was focussed on providing the necessary assistance using an individualized approach to allow students to get well and continue their studies when ready. The Provost also outlined accountability mechanisms built into the *Policy*, including ongoing dialogue with the University Ombudsperson, yearly reports to UAB, and a three-year review of the *Policy*. Finally, she reported that it was the view of the administration that the *Policy* was compliant with the *Ontario Human Rights Code* and that her office would be vigilant in ensuring that the application of the *Policy* was also compliant with the *Code*.

Mr. Andrew Szende, Chair of the University Affairs Board and Professor Andrea Sass-Kortsak, Chair of the Academic Board, provided overviews of the robust discussions that had occurred at the meetings of their respective boards and advised that their Boards had recommended the *Policy* for approval.

The Chair then invited individuals who had been granted speaking privileges to address the Council:

- Ms Ayaan Abdulle raised concerns on behalf of the SCSU about the possible effects of the *Policy* on racialized students and indicated that the SCSU did not support the *Policy*.

- Mr. Joshua Grondin indicated that the UTSU felt that further consultation with student groups was required before the *Policy* should be approved.
- Ms Jaime Kearns raised concerns on behalf of APUS about the potentially far-reaching effects of the *Policy* and suggested that further revisions to the *Policy* were needed.
- Mr. Andres Posada raised concerns on behalf of the UTMSU that the wording in the *Policy* was vague, that further consultation with students was needed, and that there needed to be a greater focus on the potential impact on international students.
- Ms Lynne Alexandrova raised questions about inconsistencies between the *Policy* and the *Report of the Provostial Advisory Committee on Student Mental Health* and advocated a scholarly approach to student support.
- Professor Ellen Hodnett, in her capacity as University Ombudsperson, expressed her strong support for the *Policy* as a long-overdue measure to support student mental health.

Professor Sandy Welsh noted that, with respect to international students, the University would work closely with University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP) providers as well as with immigration advisors to recognize the unique factors that affect international students.

Dean Trevor Young reported that a similar policy had been in effect within the Faculty of Medicine for ten years for postgraduate medical trainees. That policy had been used very sparingly and had been very well-received among students as a non-punitive approach to addressing student mental health needs.

A lengthy discussion followed among members, during which some members expressed concerns related to the potential negative effects of the *Policy* on student with mental health concerns. A desire for additional consultation for students was also expressed. Other members expressed strong support for the *Policy*, noting the urgent need to assist students experiencing severe mental health issues in a non-punitive manner and expressing confidence that the appropriate safeguards had been put in place to ensure appropriate oversight of the application of *Policy*.

A motion to refer the *Policy* back was made and seconded

THE MOTION FAILED

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the proposed *University-Mandated Leave of Absence Policy* be approved, effective immediately.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the time of adjournment be extended.

c. Audited Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year ended April 30, 2018

Mr. Brian Lawson provided an overview of the discussion that had occurred at the Business Board. There were no questions or comments from members.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the University of Toronto audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018 be approved.

d. External Auditors: Appointment for 2018-2019

Mr. Brian Lawson provided an overview of the discussion that had occurred at the Business Board. There were no questions or comments from members.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT Ernst & Young LLP be re-appointed as external auditors of the University of Toronto for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2019; and

THAT Ernst & Young LLP be re-appointed as external auditors of the University of Toronto pension plans for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the consent agenda be adopted and items 4 and 5 be approved

4. Summer Executive Authority

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

1. THAT until the next regular meeting of the Governing Council or its appropriate committee or board, authority be granted to the President for:
 - (i) appointments to categories 2,¹ 3,² and 5³ of the *Policy on Appointments and Remuneration* approved by the Governing Council of the University of Toronto, dated May 30, 2007;⁴
 - (ii) approval of such additional curriculum changes as may arise for the summer and September 2018; and
 - (iii) decisions on other matters the urgency of which does not permit their deferral until the next regular meeting of the Governing Council or its appropriate standing committee or board.
2. THAT all actions taken under this authority be approved by the Chair of the Governing Council prior to implementation and reported to the appropriate committee or board for information.

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Governing Council – May 17, 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on May 17, 2018, were approved.

6. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting

A member raised concerns about the *Responsible Investing Report* that had been considered at the previous meeting and suggested that more needed to be done to ensure that ethical and moral considerations informed the University's Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) approach to investing. The member further suggested that the *Policy on Social and Political Issues With Respect to University Divestment* needed to be revisited to examine divestment based on social injury.

7. Reports for Information

Members received the following reports for information:

- a. Report Number 207 of the University Affairs Board (May 24, 2018)
- b. Report Number 216 of the Academic Board (May 31, 2018)
- c. Report Number 241 of the Business Board (June 19, 2018)

¹ Category 2 includes the positions of Vice-President, Secretary of the Governing Council, and University Ombudsperson, which are subject to the approval of the Governing Council.

² Category 3 includes the positions of Deputy Provost, Associate and Vice-Provosts, Chief Financial Officer, Senior Legal Counsel and Deputy Secretary of the Governing Council, which are subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, and are reported for information to the Governing Council.

³ Category 5 includes the head of Internal Audit (approved by the Business Board) and the Warden of Hart House (approved by the University Affairs Board); such appointments are reported for information to the Governing Council.

⁴ Approval of Academic Administrative Appointments until the next regular meeting of the Agenda Committee of the Academic Board shall be approved by electronic ballot and shall require the response of at least five members of the Agenda Committee.

- d. Report Number 30 of the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus Council (May 28, 2018)
- e. Report Number 30 of the University of Toronto Mississauga Campus Council (May 29, 2018)
- f. Report Number 32 of the Pension Committee (March 28, 2018)
- g. Report Number 82 of the Elections Committee (May 15, 2018)
- h. Report Number 497 of the Executive Committee (June 14, 2018)

8. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

The Chair advised that the next meeting of the Governing Council was scheduled for September from 8:45 – 9:15 a.m. followed by a full-day orientation for new and returning members from 9:30 - 4:30 p.m.

9. Question Period

There were no questions.

10. Other Business

The Provost noted that it was the final meeting of the Governing Council with the Honorable Michael Wilson as Chancellor and offered the following tribute on behalf of the President to the outgoing Chancellor.

Chancellor Wilson was elected 33rd Chancellor of the University of Toronto for a three-year term beginning on July 1, 2012 and then, in 2015, re-elected to an additional three-year term, the maximum length of service permitted by the *University of Toronto Act*. As the ceremonial head of the University, Chancellor Wilson's contributions to our community had spread across all three campuses, and touched the lives of countless students, faculty, and staff. He presided over scores of Convocation events, and shook literally tens of thousands of hands. Without fail, he approached every convocation ceremony as if it were his very first and interacted with every student as an individual. He was also engaged extensively with the University's alumni community, holding countless events both at the University and abroad. He found inspiration in his interactions with members of the University community on many levels, and it was clear that they had been inspired by him in turn.

Chancellor Wilson served as an extraordinary champion of the University in his interaction with the Federal and Provincial governments and with the wider University community, not just in Canada, but globally. He opened doors for the University in Ottawa, as well as in many countries around the world. He shared his insights in dealings with officials at the highest level, and helped educate those same officials on U of T's unique position in Ontario and Canada. As well, his leadership in the area of mental health – including serving as Chair of the Mental Health Commission of Canada – inspired the entire University community. He provided invaluable advice as a member of the Boundless campaign executive, the Governing Council, and as Chair of the Committee for Honorary Degrees.

Chancellor Wilson had managed these accomplishments and many more while directing attention away from himself, shining the spotlight on others. The Chancellor was thanked on behalf of the entire University community and presented with a ceremonial chair.

The Chair echoed the Provost's comments and extended her personal thanks to Chancellor Wilson. She also extended her sincere appreciation to all members of all governance bodies for their work over the governance year. She noted that normally there would be public citations for those Governors who were completing their terms however in light of the time she said that these would be [appended](#) to the report of the meeting.

The Governing Council moved *in camera*.

Camera Session

11. Capital Project: New Student Residence at the University of Toronto Scarborough – Revised Total Project Cost

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the revised total project cost for the New Student Residence at the University of Toronto Scarborough, as outlined in the memo from Professor Scott Mabury, dated June 20, 2018, be approved.

12. Senior Appointment

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT Chancellor Michael H. Wilson be designated *Chancellor Emeritus* of the University of Toronto, effective July 1, 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

July 27, 2018

