

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

APRIL 4, 2019

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL held on April 4, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall, 27 Kings College Circle.

Present:

Claire Kennedy (Chair)
N. Jane Pepino (Vice-Chair)
Rose M. Patten, Chancellor
Meric S. Gertler, President
Cheryl Regehr, Vice-President and
Provost
Preet Banerjee
Harvey Botting
David N. Bowden
Catherine Bragg
P.C. Choo
Susan Froom
Zabeen Hirji
Gary D. Goldberg
Avrum I. Gotlieb
Edie Guo
Mala Kashyap
Ulrich j. Krull
Nykolaj F. Kuryluk
Ernest W.N. Lam
Brian D. Lawson
Litos Li
John Paul Morgan
Jan K. Mahrt-Smith
Mohan Matthen

Douglas McDougall
Joanne McNamara
Harry Orbach-Miller
Sandhya Mylabathula
Andrea M. Sass-Kortsak
Tom Sutherland
Andrew Szende
W. Keith Thomas
Steven J. Thorpe
Mark Henry Rowswell

Sheree Drummond, Secretary of the
Governing Council

Secretariat:

Tracey Gameiro
Anwar Kazimi
David Walders

Absent:

Janet Ecker
Paul Kingston
Mark Lautens
Ron Levi
Price Amobi Maka
Mark Krembil
Salvatore M. Spadafora
Nicholas Terpstra
Bruce Winter
Samra Zafar

In Attendance:

Kelly Hannah-Moffat, Vice-President, Human Resources and Equity
David Palmer, Vice-President, Advancement
Scott Mabury, Vice-President, University Operations and Real Estate Partnerships

Elizabeth Cragg, Director, Office of the Vice-President, Operations and Real Estate Partnerships
Anthony Gray, Director, Strategic Research
Nora Gillespie, legal Counsel
Nadina Jamison, Assistant Vice-President, Strategic Initiatives
Richard Levin, University Registrar
Bryn MacPherson, Assistant Vice-President, Office of the President and Chief of Protocol
Susan McCahan, Vice-Provost, Academic Programs
Steve Moate, Senior Legal Counsel, Office of the President
Trevor Rodgers, Assistant Vice-President, Planning and Budget
Meredith Strong, Director, Office of the Vice-Provost, Students
Donna Wall, Director, Director, Financial Aid and Awards

Ayaan Abdulle, Scarborough Campus Students Union
Bob Boeckner, Members, Business Board
Samantha Stead, Graduate Students Union
Jaime Kearns, Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students

1. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting. She thanked Professor Don McLean, Dean of the Faculty of Music, for leading the pre-meeting tour. She noted that a portrait of Shirley Hoy, former Chair of the Governing Council, had been installed in the Council Chamber. She highlighted Shirley's participation in governance and, on behalf of members, expressed gratitude and appreciation for Shirley's commitment and dedication to the University and her exemplary contributions to governance.

The Chair then offered comments on the recently announced \$100 million gift to the University from the Gerald Schwartz & Heather Reisman Foundation. She then offered congratulatory remarks to two Governors: to Professor Andrea Sass-Kortsak, for receiving the Vivek Goel Faculty Citizenship Award and to Samra Zafar for the recent launch of her book *A Good Wife: Escaping the Life I Never Chose*.

The Chair reported on the appointment of two Lieutenant-Governors-in -Council: Joanne McNamara, who was appointed to a three-year term from February 28th, 2019 to February 27th, 2022, and Anna Kennedy, who was appointed for a three-year term from March 21, 2019 to March 20, 2022.

Turning to the review of convocation, the Chair drew member's attention to the release of the *Report of the Convocation Advisory Review Committee* and the Administrative Response. She noted that the Report contained a number of recommendations with regard to Convocation, with the central recommendation being that Convocation Hall continue to be the venue for all University convocations.

Finally, the Chair noted that three speaking requests from student governments had been received for the meeting, all to speak to item 3, Tuition Fees and the Budget. All requests had been granted.

2. Report of the President

Mental Health

The President began his remarks by noting that, in the wake of the recent very sad news, he had written to all members of the University community outlining a four-part plan to address the growing mental health challenges faced by the community:

1. The establishment of a Presidential and Provostial Task Force on Student Mental Health.
 - The task force would be Chaired by Professor Trevor Young, the Dean of Medicine, and Professors Sandy Welsh and Joshua Barker would serve as the Senior Assessors.
 - Nominations for membership on the task Force – which would include students, faculty members and administrative staff – would be open from April 5th until April 24th.
 - The *Terms of Reference* for the Task Force – including mandate and relevant timelines – would be available on the Provost's website.
2. Drawing on the continuing work of the Expert Panel on Undergraduate Student Educational Experience (USEE) and consultations undertaken by the School of Graduate Student to address stress related to the 'learning culture'.
3. Working with institution partners to improve the network of care/support organizations
 - The Provost outlined outreach efforts with both new and existing community partners to expand upon the network of services available to students. These included the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Women's College Hospital, Stella's Place and the Whats-Up Walk-In Clinic.
 - The Provost also outlined the My SSP remote counselling service as well as the one-on-one counselling sessions available at Robarts Library.
 - Professor Ulli Krull then highlighted initiatives related to student mental health being undertaken at UTM, which focussed on providing early assistance to students in distress.
 - A small pilot project involving students and counsellors was also outlined and the results of the pilot project would be shared with the Task Force.
4. Stepping up advocacy at both the Provincial and Federal levels of government.

- Discussions were ongoing with both the Provincial Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities (MTCU), the Honorable Merrilee Fullerton, as well as Federal Finance Minister the Honorable Bill Morneau to secure support for student mental health initiatives.

Philanthropy

The President reported that the University had received a major new \$100 million gift from Gerald Schwartz and Heather Reisman to fund the Schwartz Reisman Innovation Centre (also known as the PIE Complex). The gift represented the largest donation in the University's history. The gift would also support the launch of The Schwartz Reisman Institute for Technology and Society. The Institute would have a mission to bring together scholars from a broad range of disciplines to explore and address the technical, ethical and societal implications of artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies. The Centre would also serve as the new home of the Vector Institute for Artificial Intelligence.

The President acknowledged the team effort of the Vice-Presidential portfolios of Mr. David Palmer (Advancement), Professor Scott Mabury (Operations and Real Estate Partnerships), and Professor Vivek Goel (Research and Innovation), that had worked with the Vice-President and Provost, in the realization of this project.

Still on the topic of philanthropy, the President also reported that a \$25 million gift had been received from alumnus Dr. Edwin S.H. Leong to create the Edwin S.H. Leong Centre for Healthy Children in partnership with SickKids Hospital.

Federal Government

The President reported that on March 19, 2019, the federal government had tabled *Budget 2019* – the last budget for the Liberal government before the federal elections in October 2019. The Budget contained significant investment in skills for Canadians and for post-secondary learning, especially in the following areas: work-integrated learning; international education, graduate scholarships and fellowships, and; support for indigenous students. He also expressed his concern that *Budget 2019* had fallen short in the support for the indirect costs of research, but welcomed the opportunity to continue discussions on this subject with the Federal Government.

Provincial Government

Professor Sandy Welsh provided an update on the recently released guidelines on tuition and ancillary fees, including the Student Choice Initiative. Conversations with the government continued regarding essential versus non-essential fees. It was anticipated that some of the activities of student societies would fit into the 'essential' category. The Office of the Vice-Provost Students had met with representatives from student societies to discuss both the portion of their fees which may be considered essential as well as implementation of the new opt-out system. She also noted that University participation in the Student Choice Initiative was not optional and that there was little control over which fees would be considered non-essential.

The President also reported that Minister Fullerton had announced that the colleges and universities in Ontario were required to have a task force devoted to addressing sexual violence on campus. The

task forces would be required to include diverse student representations and to report their findings to their governance boards and to the MTCU. The announcement had also included a doubling of current investment in the Woman's Campus Safety Grant to assist institutions in supporting the prevention of sexual violence. Post-secondary institutions would be required to review their sexual violence policies by September 2019.

The Chair thanked the President for his report.

Members raised several issues concerning student mental health initiatives, including making students aware of the services offered by the University, student consultation and student membership on the Task Force as well as privacy concerns.

In response, the President noted that efforts were being made to close the perception gap between what services were available and what students perceive are available. The Provost added that services like the one-on-one counselling sessions at Robarts would be promoted using various mediums, including social media and just-in-time slides around campus. The Provost also noted that students from all estates were encouraged to apply for membership on the task force and that broad consultation efforts with students would continue. Finally, with regard to privacy, the Provost noted that the University would continue to balance the coordination of services for students in need against the privacy expectations of students.

3. Tuition Fees and the Budget

Professors Regehr delivered a presentation, appended [here](#), on the *Budget Report for 2019-2020* and the *Long Range Budget Guidelines 2019-20 to 2023-24*. It was noted that a balanced budget was proposed for 2019-2020. Professor Regehr addressed the challenges presented by the mandated 10% reduction in domestic tuition fees, explaining that it resulted in a \$65M loss to overall university revenues, but would impact programs and divisions differentially.

In providing the context for the *Report*, the following areas were highlighted:

- divisional enrolment plans and the impact of changes to student financial support programs;
- changing sources of revenue and the resulting overall budget increase of 3.5%;
- changes to OSAP, including income threshold reduction, parental contribution increase and the elimination of the interest-free grace period;
- priority investments in academic divisions, including University Fund allocations for 2019-2020; and
- support for shared services, highlighting strategic priorities.

Following the presentation, several members commented on the potential effects of cuts to OSAP funding on domestic and international students.

Ms Jaime Kearns from the Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students and Ms Samantha Stead from the Graduate Students' Union then offered a joint address, which highlighted the following main points:

- The Student Choice Initiative and reduction in OSAP funding represented a crisis for students, the combined effects of which would restrict supports and funding for vulnerable and marginalized students.
- The University needed to work with students to ensure lower income students and students in traditionally marginalized groups receive the supports they require to access educational opportunities and thrive as students.

Ms Ayaan Abdulle from the Scarborough Campus Students' Union urged the University to oppose the Student Choice Initiative and expressed opposition for fee increases for international students.

In the discussion that followed, members of the senior administration responded to members' questions and comments including those which had been submitted in advance of the meeting. These responses highlighted the following main points:

- The primary drivers for a reduced utility budget for 2019-20 was hydro rate reductions (primarily driven by the tax rebates introduced in 2018), as energy efficiency projects across campus.
- With respect to the Provincial Operating Grant, it was not anticipated that there would be operating grant reductions during this budget cycle, but final confirmation of this would not be received until the announcement of the budget on April 11th.
- There would be a Report to the University Affairs Board from the Office of the Provost during the next governance year with respect to student fee opt-outs under the Student Choice Initiative.

4. Capital Project: *Report of the Project Planning Committee for University of Toronto Partners in Innovation and Entrepreneurship (PIE) Complex Phase 1*

Professor Mabury provided an overview of the capital project, highlighting the following main points:

- the project's focus on enhancing industry partnerships, driving innovation, and fostering entrepreneurship;
- specifically designed shared spaces, distributed vertically throughout the building in order to leverage collaboration between users and encourage more informal sharing of ideas, and;
- energy efficiencies and sustainable building strategies.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the *Report of the Project Planning Committee for University of Toronto Partners in Innovation and Entrepreneurship (PIE) Complex Phase 1*, dated November 28, 2018, be approved in principle; and,

THAT the project totaling 23,480 gross square metres (gsm), be approved in principle, to be funded by Fundraising, Central and divisional reserves, Four Corners reserves, Borrowing (Institutional) and Borrowing (Four Corners).

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the consent agenda be adopted and items on it approved.

5. Minutes of the Previous Meetings of the Governing Council

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the previous meetings of the Governing Council be approved.

6. Business Arising from the Reports of the Previous Meetings

There was no business arising from the reports of the previous meetings.

7. Reports for Information

Members received the following reports for information:

- a. Report Number 210 of the University Affairs Board (March 4, 2019)
- b. Report Number 220 of the Academic Board (March 14, 2019)
- c. Report Number 245 of the Business Board (March 18, 2019)
- d. Report Number 34 of the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus Council (March 7, 2019)
- e. Report Number 34 of the University of Toronto Mississauga Campus Council (March 8, 2019)
- f. Report Number 503 of the Executive Committee (March 26, 2019)

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

8. Date of Next Meeting – Thursday, May 16, 2019 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the University of Toronto Scarborough

The Chair advised members that the next Governing Council meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. at the University of Toronto Scarborough.

9. Question Period

A member requested that, at a follow-up meeting, the issue of compensation for senior University staff be discussed against the backdrop of the Provincial salary freeze.

10. Other Business

There were no items of other business.

The Governing Council moved *In Camera*.

11. Capital Project: Report of the Project Planning Committee for University of Toronto Partners in Innovation and Entrepreneurship (PIE) Complex Phase 1 – Total Project Cost and Sources of Funding apital Project: Report of the Project Planning Committee for FitzGerald Building Revitalization – Total Project Cost and Sources of Funding

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the recommendations concerning Total Project Cost and Sources of Funding for the *University of Toronto Partners in Innovation and Entrepreneurship (PIE) Complex Phase 1*, as outlined in the memorandum from Professor Scott Mabury, Vice-President of University Operation and Real Estate Partnerships dated March 28, 2019, be approved.

12. Members of the Governing Council to the UTSC and UTM Campus Councils and their Standing Committees, 2019-20

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the proposed Assignments of members of the Governing Council to the UTSC and UTM Campus Councils and their Standing Committees for 2019-20, as outlined in the memorandum from Claire Kennedy, Chair of the Governing Council, dated March 28, 2019, be approved

The meeting returned to open session.

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

April 8, 2019