



Board of Governors

Minutes of the Meeting – Open Session

Peterborough ON, June 20, 2025

Present – In Person: D. Kirk (Chair), F. Baban, C. Bruce, J. González Güel, E. Hanna, K. Honey, E. Kaszecki, M. Lavallée, J. McGarrity, J. McKenna, U. Mrabure, P. Norman, A. Ramsay, K. Scaldwell, H. Uluorta, (Vice-President, Finance & Administration) T. Al-Idrissi, (Vice-President, Communications & Enrolment) M. Burns, (Vice-President, External Relations & Development) J. Davis, (Interim Vice-President, Trent Durham) S. Henderson, (Interim Provost & Vice-President, Academic) M. Skinner, (Vice-President, People, Culture and Student Services) S. Williams, (Associate Vice-President, Finance) C. Turk, (University Secretary) B. Blackburn, (Coordinator, Board & Senate Support) T. Edwards, R. Hall (Recording Secretary).

Present – Virtual: G. Beggs, V. Lovekin

Regrets: Y. Craig, D. de Launay, T. Gervais

[The Secretary confirms that quorum was present for this meeting.]

- Welcome and Adoption of Agenda.** The Chair called the Open Session of the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Hearing no amendments to the agenda, and no conflicts of interest declared, it was moved/seconded (Lavallée/Scaldwell),

That the Board approve the agenda as presented. Carried

- Consent Agenda.** A governor noted the increase in services utilized in 2024/25 academic year as highlighted in item 2.5 – Annual Report on Sexual Violence. VP Williams confirmed this can be attributed to both greater accessibility of services to students, as well as continued support for incidents that occurred both during student's time at Trent as well as prior to enrolling at the university.

It was moved/seconded (Scaldwell/Honey),

That the consent agenda be approved as presented. Carried

- 2.1 Approval of Minutes.** The Open Session minutes of May 9, 2025, were approved as presented.
- 2.2 Financial Update.** Received for information.
- 2.3 Capital Project Update.** Received for information.
- 2.4 Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan Update.** Received for information.
- 2.5 Annual Report on Sexual Violence.** Received for information.

2.6 Annual Report from the Equity & Human Rights Office. Received for information.

2.7 Annual Report on Quality Assurance. Received for information.

2.8 Senate Report to Board of Governors. Received for information.

2.9 Investment Performance Summary (Windup Surplus and VER funds) – Q1.
Received for information.

2.10 Investment Performance Summary Endowment/Sinking Fund – Q1.
Received for information.

2.11 Annual Report on distribution from Endowment Fund. Received for information.

3. Chair's Remarks. The Chair highlighted the groundbreaking events that took place on June 19 for both Gidigaa Migizi College and the new Otonabee College residence at the Peterborough Campus.

4. President's Report. The President reported on various activities and events since the last meeting, including:

- June 3-13: Convocation ceremonies.
- June 12: Governor Emeritus meeting.
- June 19: Groundbreaking ceremony for Gidigaa Migizi College and new Otonabee College residence.

President Bruce provided an update on the Long-term Care Home development, noting it's anticipated opening in 2027. A groundbreaking ceremony is expected to take place in the coming months.

5. 2024/2025 Year-end Appropriations. Chair of the Finance & Property Committee, Mike Lavallée, introduced the updated year-end appropriations, noting that a preliminary financial analysis for 2024/2025 indicated an excess revenue over expenses of approximately \$2.8M, after approved departmental carry forwards and known year-end adjustments. VP Al-Idrissi presented the recommendation of senior administration that the funds be added to the operating pressures contingency appropriation at April 30, 2025, to address future operating pressures and financial challenges. VP Al-Idrissi commented on the continued challenging fiscal environment, noting that the operating pressures contingency appropriation will help the University mitigate financial challenges in the coming years while other mitigating strategies are implemented. It was confirmed that the provincial STEM funding received by the university will continue annually for the duration of SMA4. It was moved/seconded (Lavallée/Scaldwell),

That the Board of Governors approve the year-end appropriations in the amount of the 2024/2025 operating surplus, currently estimated at \$2.8

million, be added to the operating pressures contingency appropriation as recommended by senior management. Carried

6. **Trent Farm Research Centre Master Plan.** President Bruce provided background on the Trent Research Farm Master Plan and an overview of key areas of teaching and study at this Centre. The Centre creates academic opportunities in agriculture, sustainable and environmental research, and through various partnerships. Provost & VP Academic Skinner presented a breakdown of land use for this facility, which includes the drive shed, greenhouse, community courtyard, farmland use, experiment use, and the climate station. An opening date for the Lightbody Drive Shed will take place this summer. It was moved/seconded (McGarrity/McKenna),

That the Board of Governors approve the Trent Farm Research Centre Master Plan. Carried

7. **Alumni Engagement & Services Update.** Director of Alumni Services and Engagement, Naomi Handley, provided an update on the Alumni Engagement and Services Strategic Plan for 2024-27. Successful initiatives include elevated alumni benefits and newly established Trent alumni app, the updated Trent magazine and alumni newsletter with a 90% increase in engagement, as well as the annual Trent University Alumni Awards (TUAA). Newly introduced events that have received positive feedback are the Scholars challenge, and queer-focused programming and receptions. Alumni mentorship programs continue to provide key guidance and increased retention for current students at the University. It was moved/seconded (McGarrity/Hanna),

That the Board of Governors receive this report for information. Carried

8. **Annual Report on Philanthropy.** AVP Sherry Booth outlined this year's philanthropic successes, including \$62M raised for the Campaign for Momentous Change, 359 monthly donors to on-campus initiatives, in which a 70% return rate can be seen by donors, and 109 newly established Endowment funds, bringing the total endowments to \$112M. It was moved/seconded (McGarrity/Mrabure),

That the Board of Governors receive this report for information. Carried

9. **Mental Health Framework.** AVP Students Lawrence Lam provided an overview for the development of the Mental Health Framework, beginning in 2019. The three focus areas for this framework are Culture & Organization, Mental Health Supports, and Mental Health Literacy. Research and key findings that assisted in developing this Framework included community consultation, and the 2023 Canadian Campus Well-being Survey in which over 6,000 randomly selected students participated. In the 2024-2025 academic year, Counselling Services, Urgent Care Counselling, and Student Accessibility Services each saw an increase in appointments. New mental health initiatives currently being implemented include the Student Service Hub

Project, new Case Manager position to help streamline the student experience, a Food Security Working Group, increased training and peer support, as well as emergency funding accessibility for students. The Board requested that future reports include student support usage in comparison to the sector and year-over-year data at Trent. It was moved/seconded (Lavallée/McGarrity),

That the Board of Governors receive this report for information. Carried

10. Meeting Adjournment. The open session of the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Brenda Blackburn
University Secretary

Doug Kirk
Chair