

Board of Governors Minutes of the Meeting – Open Session

Peterborough, March 24, 2023

Present – In Person: S. Rafi (Acting Chair), D. Cooper Burger (Chair), B. Cowie, T. Gervais, L. Groarke, M. Keefer, M. Lavallée, V. Lovekin, C. Nelan, D. Palberg, K. Scaldwell, A. Slepko, H. Uluorta, (Vice-President, Research & Innovation) C. Bruce, (Vice-President, Communications & Enrolment) M. Burns, (Vice-President, External Relations & Development) J. Davis, (Provost & Vice-President, Academic) M. Khan, (Associate Vice-President, Finance) C. Turk, (University Secretary) B. Blackburn, (Recording Secretary) R. Hall.

Present – Virtual: Y. Craig, K. Honey, D. Kirk, J. McGarrity, (Vice-President, Finance & Administration) T. Al-idrissi

Regrets: A. Mishra, J. Smith

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

- 1. Welcome and Adoption of Agenda.** The Chair called the open session of the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Hearing no amendments to the agenda, and no conflicts of interest declared, it was moved/seconded (Lavallée/Keefer),

That the Board approve the agenda as presented. Carried

- 2. Consent Agenda.** It was moved/seconded (Nelan/Lovekin),

That the consent agenda be approved as presented. Carried

- 2.1 Approval of Minutes.** The Open Session of February 3, 2023, approved as presented.
 - 2.2 Financial Update.** Received as information.
 - 2.3 Capital Projects Update.** Received as information.
 - 2.4 Investment Performance Summary (Pension) – Q4.** Received as information.
 - 2.5 Investment Performance Summary Endowment/Sinking Fund – Q4.** Received as information.
 - 2.6 Merger of Academic Units.** Received as information.
- 3. Chair's Remarks.** The Chair informed the Board that Trent Day would be taking place Tuesday, April 4. VP Davis provided details on the day, which focuses on support, service, and spirit through philanthropy, food bank donations, volunteerism, and showing Trent pride.

Board members were encouraged to attend the campaign announcement in the Student Centre following the meeting.

- 4. President's Report.** The President informed the Board that the Community Concierge Celebration was also taking place that day, following the campaign launch.

The President reported that the Minister of Colleges and Universities, the Honourable Jill Dunlop, visited Trent on March 13, 2023. During her visit, Administration discussed important matters to Trent in relation to the sector. The President further reported on the various international efforts by the University recently focusing on recruitment, partnerships with other universities, and alumni relations.

The President was pleased to report, that after two years of being held online, the 47th Annual Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering took place in person March 10-12, 2023.

- 5. Jarislowsky Chair Presentation.** The President and Dean Skinner introduced Dr. Cristine de Clercy, the inaugural Jarislowsky Chair in Trust and Political Leadership effective July 1, 2023. Dr. de Clercy provided background on the Jarislowsky Chair initiative and highlighted its objectives and how they align with Trent's priorities. The study of political and public leadership in Canada was underdeveloped and there were worrying trends that had the potential to impact the quality of democracy. The Jarislowsky Chair initiative promised to try to bolster and improve the current and state of democracy. Dr. de Clercy reported that new courses, options, and experiential learning opportunities were being developed at Trent. This included the Leadership and Democracy Lab, starting in Winter 2024, and an option in leadership. Additionally, following the July 1 commencement date, new research teams and networks within and among community partners will be developed. It was suggested that continuing education courses also be considered as well as research specific to university governance.

Governor Uluorta acknowledged the work of the search committee in their successful hiring, and thanked Provost Khan and Dean Skinner for their support during the process. President Groarke expressed his hope that there be an opportunity to expand the work with Mr. Jarislowsky in the future through the establishment of future chairs in other areas.

- 6. Policy on Commercialization of Research.** VP Bruce presented the Policy on Commercialization of Research for approval. The Ministry of Colleges and Universities requires all universities to establish a commercialization policy with the purpose of providing clear direction to university communities around intellectual property and provide details around education, roles, and responsibilities. The policy reflects the commercialization framework presented to the Board's Executive Committee in June 2022. A question was raised as to whether the policy includes consideration for IP developed by members of other employee groups, such as OPSEU. VP Bruce stated that they would give this consideration when reviewing the associated guidelines.

It was moved/seconded (Kirk/McGarrity),

That the Policy on Commercialization of Research be approved as presented. Carried

- 7. 2023-24 Operating Budget – Final Draft.** Governor Kirk, as Chair of the Finance and Property Committee, presented the draft 2022-23 operating budget for approval, noting that it projected an essentially balanced budget with \$356K in excess revenue over expense.

The enrolment assumptions for 2023-2024 estimate 12,146 FTEs, an increase of 2.6% from 2022-23 actuals. Projected enrolment has been revised from those previously modelled to include conservative growth in graduate high demand programs based on the 2022-2023 experience and to exclude the post-graduate certificates under the TEX project. Domestic tuition would remain frozen for another year and out-of-province domestic and international tuition fees would increase consistent with prior years. The Ministry will recouple funding with performance-based metrics in 2023-24, and total operating grants were to continue to be fixed for the five-years during SMA3. Trent was assuming there would be no changes to special purpose grants. It was noted that the operating budget included a combined contribution from ancillary services of \$2.3M and that ancillary services were also expected to add \$1.1M to their reserves in 2023-24 for capital and infrastructure renewal. Housing and dining fees had been reviewed and approved by the Colleges and Student Services Committee.

Proposed new strategic investments totaling \$5.2M included new investments in academics, academic support, student support, and admin and support. The draft budget also contemplates investment in a net increase of 11.5 tenure track faculty and 3.5 limited term appointments. While the budget planning process did include multi-year planning it was noted that years 2 and 3 were based on information known at the time of planning and the key assumptions will be reviewed and updated based on relevant changes in the environment each year.

It was moved/seconded (Honey/McGarrity),

That the Board of Governors approve:

- 1. The 2023/2024 Operating Budget;**
- 2. The 2023/2024 Ancillary Budgets;**
- 3. The 2023/2024 Tuition Fees; and**
- 4. The 2023/2024 Ancillary Fees, as presented.** Carried

- 8. Community Relations Report (Peterborough).** VP Davis provided an update on community relations in Peterborough, identifying four areas of focus: economic development, infrastructure and community assets, knowledge mobilization and community-engaged scholarship, and leadership and volunteer contributions. In the most recent economic development report Trent represented 10% of economic value in Peterborough and was the top three employer. Trent continues to engage with

many community partners on projects and strives to meet both University and community needs, through projects like the Traill Amphitheatre. VP Davis was pleased to report that a \$1.2M gift was recently announced that will double the number of Trent students participating in community-based research, further strengthening Trent's connection with the community. VP Davis added that Trent is also connected to the community through employee volunteering, noting that 71% of employees are active volunteers. Volunteerism is supported by the External Relations and Development department through the creation of the Community Leadership Award and encouraging volunteerism during Trent Day.

It was moved/seconded (Gervais/Nelan),

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

9. Meeting Adjournment. The open session of the meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

Brenda Blackburn
University Secretary

Saad Rafi
Acting Chair