



# ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### Minutes of the Thursday, April 7, 2022 Meeting

**Present:** Michael Pautler (Chair), Mark Wendland (Vice Chair), Frank Boerboom, Sue Brubacher, Roberta Cauchi-Santoro, Mary Ellen Cullen, Melanie Garaffa, Anne Jamieson, Carol Ann MacGregor, Ted McKechnie, Peter Meehan, Bruce Rodrigues, Toni Serafini, Fr. Tim Uniac, Brendan Whittle

**Resources:** Saphron Moule, Director, Finance and Accounting; Katrina Kaczala, Recording Secretary

**Regrets:** Cheri Chevalier, Cynthia Davis, Ernie Doyle, Benjamin Mathew, Alan Rego, Andrew Turczyniak

*The meeting was conducted using Zoom, a video and teleconference service.*

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## OPEN SESSION

### 1. PRAYER & TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

M. Pautler provided an acknowledgement that the land on which the University resides and does business is located on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (Neutral), Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University campus is situated on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.

The prayer was provided by M. Pautler.

### 2. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair noted that at this point the University is planning on holding the June Board meeting in-person with the option of attending online. The Chair also remarked that there is no confidential agenda for this meeting.

### 3. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The President informed the Board that the annual Feast of St. Jerome event will be held on Saturday, October 1, 2022 with the option to attend in-person or online.

### 4. VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AND DEAN'S REMARKS

The VPAD provided a brief update to the Board which included the following:

- She is actively working with the Renewal, Tenure and Promotions Committee (RTPC) to review the renewal, tenure, and promotion applications of five faculty members. A recommendation from the RTPC will come before the Board for approval soon.
- The University's Librarian, Lorna Rourke, will soon be retiring and a search for a replacement has already begun.
- A search for a new faculty member in the Department of Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies is underway.
- The University has started engaging with experts to assist in the creation of a wellness program for St. Jerome's.
- Steps towards the creation of a new Academic Plan have begun. A survey will be realized to the soon to collect community input.

- Bargaining for the renewal of the Contract Academic Staff Collective Agreement is now in progress and the Board will be kept apprised of developments.

**5. EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI) UPDATE**

The President's Advisory Group on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion has completed a draft of its report of final recommendations. The Advisory Group will be meeting to review and finalize the report in the near future. The final report is expected to be received at the beginning of May.

**6. AGENDA REVIEW, DECLARE CONFLICTS, ADDITIONS, CHANGES**

No conflicts were declared. No additions or changes were made to the agenda.

**Motion:** To approve the agenda as presented.

**Moved:** T. McKechnie, **Seconded:** F. Boerboom, **Carried.**

**Consent Agenda**

**7. MINUTES OF THE MARCH 10, 2022 BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING**

**8. COMPLIANCE WITH ORDINANCES OF EX CORDE ECCLESIAE REVISIONS**

**9. SKILLS SELF-ASSESSMENT FORM UPDATES**

**10. 2022 AUDIT PLAN AND ENGAGEMENT LETTER**

**11. 2022-2023 INSURANCE RENEWAL**

**12. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

**Motion:** To approve and receive for information by consent items 7 to 12 above.

**Moved:** A. Jamieson, **Seconded:** B. Whittle, **Carried.**

**Regular Agenda**

**13. 2022-2027 STRATEGIC PLAN**

P. Meehan thanked everyone who provided input and assisted in the creation of the Strategic Plan and provided an overview of the preamble and plan presented to the Board for approval.

The Board discussed approaches that could be utilized to measure the success of the Strategic Plan and methods to create accountability to ensure the University is engaging with and making progress towards completing the plan.

**Motion:** To approve the St. Jerome's University 2022-2027 Strategic Plan as amended.

**Moved:** T. Serafini, **Seconded:** T. McKechnie, **Carried.**

*[Secretary's note: This motion was called into question following the discussion and motions resolved under agenda item 14]*

#### 14. SENATE COUNCIL MOTIONS – STRATEGIC PLAN

P. Meehan provided the Board with an overview of the discussions held at the February and March Senate Council meetings and introduced Senate Council's recommendations regarding amendments to the proposed Strategic Plan.

P. Meehan reviewed how the feedback from Senate Council was addressed and what changes were made to the Strategic Plan and preamble as a result.

The two motions Senate Council submitted to the Board were discussed and resulted in two motions.

**Motion:** To amend strategic priority 2 of the 2022-2027 Strategic Plan to read: "Guided by our commitment to academic freedom, foster an outstanding culture of research and learning that inspires commitment to the common good."

**Moved:** T. Serafini, **Seconded:** R. Cauchi-Santoro, **Carried.**  
(14 Votes: 8 In Favour, 4 Opposed, 2 Abstained)

**Motion:** To approve the following revision to the Strategic Plan, section 4.4.1: "Advocate increased government funding and public support of higher education while attracting donors and other supporters who understand and align with our inclusive Catholic higher education vision."

**Moved:** T. Serafini, **Seconded:** R. Cauchi-Santoro, **Defeated.**  
(14 Votes: 1 In Favour, 9 Opposed, 4 Abstained)

*T. McKechnie and B. Rodrigues left the meeting.*

#### 15. PROPOSED OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS

The Board invited S. Moule to present the proposed 2022-2023 operating and capital budgets. S. Moule started by outlining of the priorities and assumptions that were used to guide the development of the budgets.

The operating budget was presented, which included an overview of the operating revenue, operating expenses, and ancillary operations. Administration is requesting a deficit budget for 2022-2023 of ~\$300,000 to assist the University in recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. It was noted that over the last two years of deficit budgets, the University has not needed to access its unrestricted reserves to fund the deficits and it is anticipated that this trend will continue.

The capital budget was also presented, which included completed projects from 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, 2021-2022 projects in progress, and capital requests planned for 2022-2023. It was noted that some projects currently in progress may carry over to 2022-2023 due to delays resulting from supply chain shortages and contractor constraints.

The Board thanked S. Moule, the finance team, and everyone who worked on the budgets for their hard work developing and managing the budgets.

**Motion:** To approve the operating and capital budgets for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

**Moved:** M. Wendland, **Seconded:** F. Boerboom, **Carried.**

**16. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**Motion:** To adjourn Open Session and adjourn the meeting.

**Moved:** A. Jamieson, **Seconded:** M. Cullen, **Carried.**

**Meeting Adjourned.**

April 7, 2022  
/kk

Michael Pautler  
Chair of the Board of Governors