



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Minutes of the Thursday, October 13, 2022 Meeting

Present: Michael Pautler (Chair), Michael Braga, Melissa Carvalhal, Roberta Cauchi-Santoro, Cheri Chevalier, Sinead Costello, Andrew Deman, Melanie Garaffa*, Carol Ann MacGregor, Peter Meehan, Bruce Rodrigues, Andrew Turczyniak*, Fr. Tim Uniac, Deron Waldock, Mark Wendland, Alayna Woodley*

Resources: Saphron Moule, Executive Director, Finance and Administration; Katrina Kaczala, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Cynthia Davis, Anne Jamieson, Benjamin Mathew, Alan Rego

**Attended the meeting virtually using Zoom.*

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 C. Chevalier.

2. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Board Chair congratulated University employees on the success of the Feast of St. Jerome event and thanked Board Members who were able to attend.

Board Members were reminded of the meeting with Bishop Crosby occurring on Thursday, February 9th, 2022.

The Chair asked Board members to share the University's Director of Marketing and Communication job posting within their networks.

Board Members were also asked to save December 1st in their calendars for the SJU President's Christmas Celebration.

M. Garaffa and A. Woodley joined the meeting.

3. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The President also thanked the Board Members who were able to attend the Feast of St. Jerome and elaborated on the intention behind the SJU President's Christmas Celebration event.

The President also noted that administration is working to formally launch the University's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan, and that he will bring periodic updates to the Board regarding the progress being made towards achieving the Strategic Plan.

4. EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVE UPDATE

P. Meehan provided the Board with an overview of the EDI Initiative background, process and all that has been accomplished to date.

The University's EDI Advisory Committee was tasked with reviewing key areas of the University and developing recommendations. The Committee has completed its report, which took into account the results of the University of Waterloo's President's Anti-racism Taskforce (PART) report.

The University will be looking into implementing the recommendation included in the Advisory Committee's report, including the creation of a permanent EDI committee.

P. Meehan thanked all those involved in the initiative up to this point.

5. VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AND DEAN'S REMARKS

C. A. MacGregor notified the Board that the new Contract Academic Staff Collective Agreement has been ratified.

C. A. MacGregor also provided the Board with an update on the progress of the development of the new Academic Plan.

6. ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

To stimulate the Board's knowledge of the academic side of the University, Members will receive short spotlight presentations at the beginning of upcoming Board meetings.

To begin, R. Cauchi-Santoro provided the Board with an overview of the Italian and French Studies program, which included: courses featured within the program, the diploma and study in Italian program, research being done, as well as grants received by the department.

M. Garaffa left the meeting.

7. 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: D. Waldock, **Seconded:** M. Wendland, **Carried.**

Consent Agenda

8. MINUTES OF THE JUNE 9, 2022 BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
9. ANNUAL BOARD 2022-2023 WORK PLAN
10. ANNUAL COMMITTEE 2022-2023 WORK PLANS
11. 2022-2023 BOARD MEMBER TENURE CHART, SELF-ASSESSMENT SKILL MATRIX SUMMARY
12. FINANCIAL UPDATE AND FORECAST
13. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Motion: To approve and receive for information by consent items 8 to 13 above.

Moved: C. Chevalier, **Seconded:** M. Braga, **Carried.**

Regular Agenda

14. AUDITOR'S REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2022

M. Wendland reported that the University's auditing firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), attended the September Finance and Audit Committee meeting and presented the University's audit results for the year ending April 30, 2022. The audit was found to be clean with no issues.

S. Moule provided an overview of the financial statements, highlighting the increase in the University's revenue from ancillary operations, which was attributed to the University beginning its recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

S. Moule also drew attention to an accounting entry that was made by the University's actuaries in response to the adoption of a new accounting standard for reporting employee future benefits by not-for-profit organizations.

The Board expressed thanks to S. Moule (Executive Director, Finance and Administration), K. Radcliffe (Interim Director, Finance and Accounting), and rest of the finance team for their diligence and the good work they have done for the University in the audit process.

Motion: To approval of the Auditor's Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended April 30, 2022, as presented.

Moved: M. Wendland, **Seconded:** D. Waldock, **Carried.**

15. GENERATIVE DISCUSSION: STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITY #1

In an effort to understand, engage with, and advance the University's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan, the Board will participate in generative discussions at its meetings this year, focusing on each Strategic Priority area to direct the conversation.

To start these conversations, Board members looked towards the first strategic plan priority: *Strengthen understanding and appreciation of our Catholic mission and identity*. Board members were asked to reviewed excerpts from the book *The Future of Catholic Higher Education – The Open Circle*, by James Heft to help stimulate the conversation as it related to the first priority.

16. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

Motion: To adjourn open session and move into confidential session.

Moved: C. A. MacGregor, **Seconded:** M. Carvalhal, **Carried.**

S. Moule left the meeting.

October 13, 2022
/kk

Michael Pautler
Chair of the Board of Governors