



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Minutes of the Thursday, December 14, 2023 Meeting

Present: Michael Pautler (Chair), Matthew Bondy, Michael Braga, Melissa Carvalhal, Cheri Chevalier, Sinead Costello, Andrew Deman, Melanie Garaffa*, Justin Heimpel, Anne Jamieson, Norm Klassen, Carol Ann MacGregor, Peter Meehan, Tamara Nugent, Bruce Rodrigues*, Fr. Tim Uniac, Deron Waldock, Alayna Woodley, Mark Wendland

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

Regrets: Alan Rego

**Attended the meeting virtually using Zoom.*

OPEN SESSION

1. PRAYER & TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

M. Pautler provided an acknowledgement that St. Jerome's University and the University of Waterloo reside and operate on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron, Anishinaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land Frederick Haldimand granted to the Haudenosaunee of the Six Nations of the Grand River in 1784 that includes 10 kilometers on both sides of the Grand River and extends from its source to Lake Erie.

The prayer was provided by M. Pautler.

2. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair welcomed Members and thanked everyone involved in planning and executing the SJU Christmas Party and to the Board Members who were able to attend the event.

3. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The President thanked the Board Members who were able to attend the Christmas Party last week.

The Indigenous Advisory Circle recently held a successfully first meeting to get to know each other and St. Jerome's. The Circle is made up of 6 core members, plus a few internal employees who will act as resources for the group. One item that came out of the initial discussions was the decision to look towards the creation of an Indigenous Strategic Plan for St. Jerome's.

The President referenced the most recent Lecture in Catholic Experience (LCE) event featuring two St. Jerome's alumni, Joe and Stephanie Mancini, who spoke about their work in the KW community and at the Working Centre. The next LCE event will be held on February 29th featuring Dr. Jonathan Malesic who will speak about burnout culture.

The President also thanked Board Members for their attendance and support at the Feast of St. Jerome event and during Giving Tuesday.

4. EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVE UPDATE

No updates at this time.

5. VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AND DEAN'S REMARKS

The VPAD reported on relevant items from her area, including:

- Recent student events, work towards expanding the University's service learning programs and building current and new partnerships.
- The Wellness Committee continues its work towards completing the recommendations from the McMurray report.
- The VPAD is currently serving on the Dean of Arts search committee, working with UW and AFIW partners to find a new Dean of Arts.
- St. Jerome's has a history of excellence in teaching, and to elevate this, administration is assembling nomination packages for teaching awards to recognize the great teaching of our faculty members.
- Currently in the process of redefining co-registration at St. Jerome's.
- Board Members can expect to receive a list in June of faculty member publications from the past year.

The VPAD announced and celebrated with the Board the publication and launch of A. Deman's recent book, *The Claremont Run: Subverting Gender in the X-Men*.

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: A. Deman, **Seconded:** M. Braga, **Carried.**

Consent Agenda

7. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 12, 2023 BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

8. INVESTMENT POLICY COMPLIANCE REVIEW

9. 2023 RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT

10. FINANCIAL UPDATE AND FORECAST

11. BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE RECRUITMENT MATERIAL

12. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

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

Moved: M. Wendland, **Seconded:** M. Bondy, **Carried.**

Regular Agenda

13. STRATEGIC PLAN MIDTERM PROGRESS UPDATE

P. Meehan provided the Board with a presentation on the University's progress towards completing its 2022-2027 Strategic Plan. The presentation highlighted updates from different areas from across the University as they relate to each of the strategic priority areas.

14. AUDITOR GENERAL SPECIAL REPORT ON LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY – SJU SPECIFIC RISKS

D. Waldock provided a background overview of the work the Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) has been engaged in regarding the risks and recommendations identified within the Auditor General's Special Report on Laurentian University that apply to St. Jerome's. It was noticed upon review of the report that a number of the recommendations had to do with the governance of universities, not just finances. As a result, the FAC, along with the University's finance team, has created a list of risks from the report which are applicable to St. Jerome's and identified which of the Board's standing committees would have best line of sight to perform a review of each risk listed and determine next steps.

S. Moule provided a high-level overview of the document prepared outlining each risk and the recommended committee assignment. It was deemed that addressing these items is not urgent, but they will be added to the workload of the applicable committee, and each committee will review its list and identify priorities.

Motion: To receive for information the SJU-prepared summary of the general recommendations for Ontario universities as contained in the Auditor General's Special Report on Laurentian University; to ask the FAC, GNC and Executive Committees (as assigned in the accompanying worksheet) to reflect on the recommendations identified in a St. Jerome's context, and to make recommendations on further action required, if any, to the Board.

Moved: A. Woodley, **Seconded:** J. Heimpel, **Carried.**

N. Klassen left the meeting.

15. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

Motion: To adjourn Open Session and move into Confidential Session.

Moved: C. Chevalier, **Seconded:** T. Nugent, **Carried.**

S. Moule and K. Radcliffe left the meeting.

Following the adjournment of the confidential session, the Board reopened the open session to enter into the public record the result of the motion to approve the appointment of Deron Waldock to Vice Chair of the Board of Governors effective immediately for a two-year term ending June 30, 2025.

Board of Governors Open Session Minutes
Thursday, December 14, 2023

4

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Moved: M. Bondy, **Seconded:** M. Wendland, **Carried.**

December 14, 2023
/kk

Michael Pautler
Chair of the Board of Governors