



**Minutes of the OPEN Session of the
Board of Governors
Held by Web Conference on April 21, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.**

Present: J. Lieberman, Chair
J. Leclerc, Secretary

J. Anderson	C. Andrusiak	D. Archer	M. Benarroch	J. Dela Cruz
J. DeSouza-Huletey	L. Hyde	K. Lee	C. Loewen	L. Magnus
A. Mahon	N. Murdock	C. Onyebuchi	K. Osiowy	S. Prentice
L. Reimer	S. Sekander	K. Smith	J. Taylor	

Regrets: T. Matthews

Assessors: J. Morrill S. Woloschuk

Officials: N. Andrew C. Cook D. Jayas J. Kearsey
J. Ristock S. Foster

Presenters: S. Baum

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Ms. Loewen and seconded by Ms. Reimer:

THAT the agenda for the April 21, 2021 meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

The Board agreed that a ten-minute break would be appropriate at approximately 5:30 p.m.

FOR ACTION

3. MINUTES (Open) Session

3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the March 23, 2021 Open Session as circulated or amended

It was moved by Ms. Hyde and seconded by Ms. Magnus:

THAT the minutes of the March 23, 2021 Open session be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3.2 Business Arising

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. **PRESENTATION: The Faculty of Science: Status, Initiatives, and Future Directions**
Stefi Baum, Dean

The Chair introduced Dr. Stefi Baum, Dean of the Faculty of Science, who joined the meeting to make a presentation about the Faculty of Science. He said Dr. Baum joined the University of Manitoba as the Dean of the Faculty of Science and Professor of Physics and Astronomy, in 2014, following Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) where she served as Professor and Director of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science. Prior to that, Dr. Baum worked with the U.S. Department of State for two years, promoting agricultural science and food security in developed and developing countries, and spent 13 years at the Space Telescope Science Institute of Johns Hopkins University, the operations center for the Hubble Space Telescope.

The Chair stated that Dr. Baum's research focuses on two areas: 1) the study of activity in galaxies and its relation to galaxy evolution; and 2) the development of brain imaging processes and techniques for the diagnosis of mental health and learning disabilities. He noted that Dr. Baum is active in education and public outreach and K-12 STEM Education and is committed to the engagement of youth and the public in science and mathematics.

Dr. Baum thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak about the Faculty of Science. She noted that the Faculty of Science is the largest faculty at the only U15 University in Manitoba, with approximately 25 percent of the University's students. She noted that the Faculty provides mathematical and scientific training for students in all faculties and for all professions, and produces all the science doctorates for the Province. She added that research is embedded in every aspect of the Faculty's work, from pedagogy to industry collaboration.

Dr. Baum said that she has seen a number of changes within the faculty over the last ten years, including a doubling of the number of undergraduate students from 3063 to 6180, with approximately 5 percent of those being Indigenous students. She added that the total number of graduate students in the Faculty of Science has grown by 20 percent; however, she said that the Faculty of Science produces far fewer masters and doctorate students compared to other universities in western Canada, relative to the size of the faculty. In addition, Dr. Baum noted that research in the Faculty of Science has grown significantly over the last ten years, as follows:

- Total research expenditures grew from \$ 8.2 million to \$ 12.2 million;
- CIHR (Health) grants increased from \$400 thousand to \$800 thousand;
- NSERC Discovery Grants rose from \$3.8 million to \$4.3 million; and
- Canada Foundation for Innovation Grants have grown from \$2.0 million to \$4.5 million.

Dr. Baum said the Faculty has improved and strengthened its connection to and presence in the community in many ways, noting a number of current and future initiatives to prepare the workforce for tomorrow, support Indigenous achievement in science through the Wawatay Program, and create University-Industry-Government partnerships. Further information can be

found in Dr. Baum's presentation slides, which are appended to these minutes.

Members of the Board said they were very impressed with the presentation and expressed excitement about the future in the Faculty of Science.

In response to a question about the biggest challenges facing the Faculty, Dr. Baum highlighted the faculty-to-student ratio, which is poor because student numbers have increased more rapidly than faculty members. She added that she has begun work to improve the ratio, and expects it will continue over the next year or so.

The Chair thanked Dr. Baum for her presentation. Dr. Ristock also thanked Dr. Baum, and informed the Board that Dr. Baum's term as Dean would end June 30, 2021. She added that Dr. Baum is an innovative and creative individual who has left a significant legacy by putting bold ideas into action.

5. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Dr. Anderson and seconded by Dr. Reimer:

THAT the Board of Governors approve and or receive for information the following:

THAT the Board of Governors approve six new offers, seven amended offers, and the withdrawal of nine offers, as set out in the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards [dated February 25, 2021].

THAT the Board of Governors approve a proposal to change the name of the Department of Geological Sciences, in the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources, to the "Department of Earth Sciences," effective July 1, 2021 [as recommended by Senate, April 7, 2021].

The Board received for information and discussion the following items:

- *The President's Report*
- *Request to Extend Suspension of Admissions to Bachelor of Science (Major) and Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Biotechnology, Faculty of Science*
- *Request to Extend Suspension of Admissions to Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (B.Sc. Pharm.), College of Pharmacy*

CARRIED

FOR INFORMATION

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Report from the President

Dr. Benarroch expressed his appreciation to Dr. Baum, noting that when enthusiastic people decide to work together, interesting things are usually the result. He noted that the Faculty

Science will be left in a good position; excited and passionate about their work and their research. He noted that he and his executive team are aware of the needs of the Faculty of Science with respect to capital projects and some major renovations have been approved by the Capital Planning Committee.

Dr. Benarroch thanked Ms. Dela Cruz and Ms. Smith for their work and commitment to the University and its students and for their excellent leadership in navigating the impact of the COVID pandemic on students.

President Benarroch stated that an amended strategic planning process has begun, with the development of an addendum to the Strategic Plan. He said this will retain the core of the University's work on the strategic plan and will further develop its five priorities. He noted that the amended plan should guide the University over the next twelve to eighteen months. He said important discussions have already occurred and further engagement will be done with the community over the next six weeks.

In response to a question, President Benarroch noted that he would meet with the Deputy Minister the following week where he will share the good things the University does in the province. He said he would talk about how to engage the government.

FOR DISCUSSION

- 7.1 Request to Extend Suspension of Admissions to Bachelor of Science (Major) and Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Biotechnology, Faculty of Science
- 7.2 Request to Extend Suspension of Admissions to Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (B.Sc. Pharm.)

The Chair said policy dictates that the President is required to consult with Senate and the Board of Governors prior to approving the suspension of admissions to a program. President Benarroch said he had already consulted with Senate on the matter of these two requests to extend suspension of admission. Members of the Board did not raise any concerns about extending the suspension of admissions to these programs.

MOTION TO MOVE TO CLOSED & CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

It was moved by Dr. Prentice and seconded by Ms. Hyde:

THAT the meeting move into Closed and Confidential Session.

CARRIED

Approved, but not signed 05/19/21

Chair

University Secretary