



**Minutes of the OPEN Session of the
Board of Governors
Held by Web Conference on May 19, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.**

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

J. Anderson	C. Andrusiak	D. Archer	M. Benarroch	J. DeSouza-Huletey
L. Hyde	E. Kalo	K. Lee	C. Loewen	L. Magnus
A. Mahon	T. Matthews	N. Murdock	C. Onyebuchi	K. Osiowy
S. Prentice	L. Reimer	B. Scott	S. Sekander	J. Taylor

Assessors: J. Morrill S. Woloschuk

Officials: N. Andrew D. Jayas J. Kearsey J. Ristock
A. Edmunds S. Foster A. Konowalchuk

Presenters: L. Schnarr M. Torchia

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair thanked Board members for joining the meeting. He welcomed Mr. Brendan Scott, President of UMSU, and Ms. Emily Kalo, UMSU Vice-President (Advocacy) to their first regular Board meeting.

The Chair noted that there was an election earlier that day for a member of Senate to the Board of Governors where Dr. John Anderson was re-elected. He congratulated Dr. Anderson. He added that the results of the Alumni representative election would be available later in the week and he would advise Board members of the result.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair noted the addition of item 4.2 under New Business, UMSU Act Consent Request.

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

THAT the agenda for the May 19, 2021 meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED

FOR ACTION

2. MINUTES (Open) Session

- 2.1 Approval of the Minutes of the April 20, 2021 Open Session as circulated or amended

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

THAT the minutes of the April 20, 2021 Open session be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

- 2.2 Business Arising

There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. **PRESENTATION:**

Experiential Learning at UM: Next Steps in Advancing our Strategy

Mark Torchia, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), and
Laurie Schnarr, Vice-Provost (Students)

The Chair welcomed Ms. Schnarr and Dr. Torchia to the Board of Governors meeting.

Dr. Torchia began with an overview of the University's current experiential learning opportunities for students, which include 2300 program-based placements with 1200 co-op students in 55 different programs, as well as thousands of other opportunities. He explained that experiential learning is important to bridge student learning between classroom study and real-world experience and help students to apply what they learned in the workplace.

Dr. Torchia noted a number of ways that experiential learning is offered at the University:

- Project-based learning;
- Creative works;
- Campus integrated learning;
- Laboratory-based learning; and
- Work-integrated learning.

He noted that work-integrated learning experiences include applied research, community engaged learning, co-op placements, entrepreneurship, industry projects, internships, program placements, and work experience.

Ms. Schnarr spoke to the supports for experiential learning provided by Student Affairs. She said an Office of Experiential Learning has been established and that two new positions have been created to act as liaisons in this area. Additionally, Ms. Schnarr noted that one Educational Developer for Experiential Learning has been added in the Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning, and a funding pool has been established in the Provost's Office for new experiential learning opportunities.

Ms. Schnarr stated that supports offered through Student Affairs include:

- One Developer/Career Consultant;
- One EL/Career Consultant;
- One EL Systems Specialist;
- Student consultation and promotion of experiential learning; and
- Expansion and conversion of targeted Co-Curricular activities (e.g., Work Study, BITB Facilitators, Mini U Leaders).

With respect to what students gain through experiential learning, Ms. Schnarr noted the following skills, knowledge, and attributes the University wants to foster:

- Research ability;
- Oral, written, and digital communication;
- Teamwork and cross-cultural collaboration;
- Understanding global context;
- Critical thinking and problem solving;
- Innovation and entrepreneurial thinking;
- Professionalism and integrity;
- Leadership;
- Civic engagement and social responsibility;
- Career development;
- Digital information fluency; and
- Self-reflection.

The Chair thanked Ms. Schnarr and Dr. Torchia for sharing this information with the Board of Governors, and expressed enthusiasm for the amazing opportunities the University offers to students.

Members of the Board commented that students can benefit from these practical learning opportunities in many ways. In response to a question, Dr. Torchia said the Office of Experiential Learning would open in the next two to three months. He added that he is currently working to hire the two staff members.

Dr. Torchia stated that there would be a lot of opportunities to reach out to students after they graduate to get a sense of the level of employability that results from experiential learning opportunities. He added that a survey and inventory of programs will provide a better baseline of what is really happening in this area right now. Dr. Torchia explained that the baseline would help to allow the University to set appropriate goals based on this. Ms. Schnarr said the survey would make the gaps more clear so they could be addressed. She added that it would be wonderful if every student could have some sort of experiential learning opportunity.

Dr. Ristock thanked Ms. Schnarr and Dr. Torchia for their incredible and important work.

Mr. Lieberman thanked them both on behalf of the Board.

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

4.1 Report from the President (for information)

President Benarroch said that the Ministry requested a report on experiential learning from all post-secondary institutions for a sub-committee of the Premier's Economic Advisory Group. He said that Dr. Torchia had led the group that prepared the responses to government. He said the basic premise is that a broader view of experiential learning is needed to include experiences other than work-integrated learning so that a mix of opportunities is available to students. He said feedback on the report has been excellent and presidents of post-secondary institutions will be invited to speak to the content of the report.

Dr. Benarroch said international students are still arriving in Winnipeg with 38 students currently in quarantine and 56 new arrivals for the summer.

Regarding strategic planning, the President stated that the internal process has begun. He said there would be a webpage for staff and students to answer questions about what is important for the University. He noted that consultations have taken place with Senate and Provost's Council as well as the senior executive team. The Board will also be involved in a consultation.

Dr. Benarroch said he would meet the following day with provincial public health officials to discuss guidance about that to expect for the fall and winter terms. He said he expects more reopening will occur for the winter term, dependent on public health orders; however, he does not expect to go back to the way everything was before the pandemic.

The President informed the Board of approval of a Senate motion expressing concerns around the Laurentian situation and support to its faculty, staff, and students. He explained that the concern arose at the Arts Faculty Council which centers around the frustration and anger that Laurentian chose to go through the creditor protection process and that there will be implications for the higher education sector as a result. He added that the motion received almost unanimous support at Senate.

President Benarroch spoke about the new Bill 33, which provides the provincial government additional powers to change tuition fees at the program level within Manitoba universities. He said there is concern that the powers this gives to the government could impinge on the University's autonomy and step on the University of Manitoba Act. He has asked for a meeting with the Minister that will take place in a couple of weeks to discuss this concern. Dr. Benarroch said it the University needs a better understanding of why the government feels Bill 33 is important because he is concerned about the direction the government has taken. He noted that Senate expressed the view that the Board of Governors should consider the possibility of speaking to government on this issue as the Board approves tuition rates at the University. Lastly, the President expressed the concern raised by Senators about this Bill creating an additional layer of government control.

The Chair asked if it would make sense to write a letter to the Minister from the Board. The President said it would be helpful to do that, adding that it is important that the University find constructive ways to speak to government. The Chair said he would be happy to write that letter. It was agreed that this would be considered further by the Chair and the President following the President's meeting with the Minister.

Discussion arose about the government's rationale for introducing this bill and what it intends to do if it is passed.

4.2 UMSU Act Consent Request (for approval)

Mr. Scott, the new President of the University of Manitoba Students Union, introduced himself. He explained that the UMSU Act needs to be aligned with University bylaws, and the proposed revisions to the Act would address that and would correct some wording. He said the details and exact wording are laid out in the Board submission form.

It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Ms. DeSouza-Huletey:

THAT the Board of Governors provide consent for UMSU to petition the Manitoba Legislature to amend the *UMSU Act*.

CARRIED

5. FROM FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

5.1 Student Giving Submission

Mr. Kearsey expressed amazement at the level of student giving. He noted that student contributions have continued since the fundraising campaign of the late 1980's and 1990's. He added that this funding is addition to the \$16 million that came from students for the Front and Centre campaign. He said the University is deeply grateful for the students' generosity. Mr. Kearsey added that the Graduate Students' Association and the University of Manitoba Students' Union have both been important contributors, and thanked them as well.

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

THAT the Board of Governors approves the following contributions be assessed against students, beginning in the fall of 2021:

Unit	Contribution	Length	Requested by:
Agricultural & Food Sciences	\$3.67/credit hour (Degree) \$2.39/credit hour (Diploma)	3 years	Martin Scanlon, Dean
Arts	\$0.33/credit hour	3 years	Jeffery Taylor, Dean

Dental Hygiene	\$40.00/term	3 years	Mary Bertone, Director
Dentistry	\$87.50/term	3 years	Anastasia Kelekis-Cholakis, Dean
CHR Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources	\$3.00/credit hour	2 years	Stephan Pflugmacher Lima, Dean
Max Rady College of Medicine	\$50.00/term	3 years	Brian Postl, Dean
Desautels Faculty of Music	\$2.00/credit hour	3 years	Edward Jurkowski, Dean
College of Nursing	\$3.50/credit hour	3 years	Netha Dyck, Dean
College of Pharmacy	\$80.00/term	2 years	Lalitha Raman-Wilms, Dean

CARRIED

5.2 Residence Room and Meal Plan Rates

Ms. Andrew introduced Ms. Andrea Edmunds, Director, Ancillary Services, who would speak to the proposed room and meal plan rates.

Ms. Edmunds stated that an overall increase of two percent in the meal plan and room rates is being proposed. She noted that the pandemic had a significant effect on occupancy in University residences, noting that Residences operated at approximately one third of the usual capacity.

Ms. Edmunds observed that uncertainty remains around the COVID pandemic's effect on student residences, so three options were considered for a phased reopening of residences:

- 1) **Phased Reopening**- based on the University's proposed reopening plan;
- 2) **Normal Campus Presence with Limited Restrictions** - reflecting a best-case scenario; and
- 3) **Minimal Campus Presence with Full Restrictions**- similar to pandemic operations over 2020-21.

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

THAT the Board of Governors approves:

A) Residence room rates (per term) for 2021-22 of:

Pembina Hall Residence- \$4,099

Arthur Mauro Residence- \$4,384

Mary Speechly Hall Residence- \$2,000 (double); \$3,130 (single); \$3,913 (super single)

University College Residence- \$2,037 (double); \$3,189 (single); \$3,986 (super single)

- B) Meal plan rates (per term) for 2021-22 of:**
 10 Meals per Week plus \$250 FoodBucks - \$2,772
 15 Meals per Week plus \$250 FoodBucks - \$2,981
 7-Day Unlimited plus \$100 FoodBucks - \$3,073
 UC FoodBucks Plan - \$1,800
 UC Flex Plan (\$750 FoodBucks plus 100 meals at Fresh Food Company) - \$2,260

- C) Extended stay fee (holiday break) for 2021-22 of: \$300**

CARRIED

MOTION TO MOVE TO CLOSED & CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

It was moved by Ms. Loewen and seconded by Chancellor Mahon:
THAT the meeting move into Closed and Confidential Session.

CARRIED

Chair

University Secretary

Minutes approved June 22, 2021, but not yet signed.