



**Minutes of the  
OPEN Session of the Board of Governors  
Held by Web Conference on March 24, 2020**

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

J. Anderson D. Barnard S. Bonner-Proulx K. Clarke D. Hunter L. Hyde  
J. Knysh J. Linden C. Loewen A. Mahon T. Matthews C. Neumann  
K. Osiowy S. Prentice L. Reimer J. Sanderson J. Taylor

Assessors Present: S. Woloschuk M. Hudson

Regrets: K. Lee Absent: M. McNicholl

Officials Present: C. Cook S. Foster D. Jayas J. Kearsey J. Ristock  
L. Zapshala-Kelln

Guests: A. Edmunds

**1. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair remarked that these are challenging times thanked everyone for their ongoing commitment to the University. He also recognized the faculty, staff, administration and students of the University who have had to adapt in so many ways over the last few weeks. He noted their collective commitment to both the mission of the University and to their own work is inspiring.

The Chair noted that the meeting would proceed rather quickly through regular business to allow sufficient time for a detailed briefing on the University's response to the COVID-19 crisis.

The Chair thanked Mr. Sanderson and congratulated him on having successfully advocated for the inclusion of the UPass in the City of Winnipeg budget.

Mr. Sanderson expressed his appreciation to Mr. Carl Neumann and Ms. Tanjit Nagra, the President and Vice-President of the Graduate Students' Association; and to Ms. Sarah Bonner-Proulx, Vice-President (Advocacy) of the University of Manitoba Students' Union, for their help in the effort.

Mr. Leclerc explained how the meeting would be managed to allow Board members to participate fully in the meeting.

**FOR ACTION**

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Mr. Knysh and seconded by Dr. Anderson:

**THAT the agenda for the March 24, 2020 meeting be approved as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

**3. MINUTES (Open) Session**

**3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the February 3, 2020 Open Session as circulated or amended**

It was moved by Mr. Neumann and seconded by Mr. Knysh:

**THAT the minutes of the February 3, 2020 Open session be approved as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

**3.2 Business Arising – none**

**FOR RECOMMENDATION**

**4. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA**

The Chair reminded members that this part of the agenda is used to approve routine matters that are not controversial and do not normally generate much discussion and said that if any member of the Board wants to ask a question, discuss, or oppose an item on the consent agenda; they can request that in advance through the Secretary's Office or ask that it be removed before the Chair calls for a mover and seconder for the motion.

It was moved by Mr. Osiowy and seconded by Ms. Loewen:

**THAT the Board of Governors approve eleven new offers and seven amended offers, as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards [dated December 17, 2019].**

**THAT the Board of Governors approve three new offers, one amended offer, and the withdrawal of two offers, as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards [dated January 16, 2020].**

**THAT the Board of Governors approve a proposal for a Bachelor of Science (Major) in Data Science, including a Co-operative Option [as recommended by Senate, March 4, 2020].**

**THAT the Board of Governors approve the establishment of an endowed research Professorship in Diabetes Research [as recommended by Senate, March 4, 2020].**

**THAT the Board of Governors approves the revisions to the University Librarian Bylaw, effective upon approval of the Board.**

The Board of Governors received the following for information and/or discussion:

4.3.1 *Undergraduate Admission Targets, 2020*

4.3.2 *Annual Report: University Discipline Committee (September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019)*

4.4.1 *Change to Alumni Representative Board of Governors election process*

4.4.2 *Closure of the Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Textile Sciences*

**CARRIED**

## **5. FROM FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, & HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **5.1 Residence Room and Meal Plan Rates**

Mr. Knysh, Vice-Chair of the Finance, Administration, and Human Resources Committee, introduced this item, noting that the Committee considered this proposal at its March 10 meeting and recommended approval by the Board of Governors.

Ms. Zapshala-Kelln asked Ms. Edmunds, Director of Ancillary Services to speak to the submission.

Ms. Edmunds highlighted the following points in the submission provided on page 305 of the meeting materials:

- Student Residences offers 1176 beds over four buildings on the Fort Garry campus.
- As it was last year, the current student demographic in residences is 65% international and 35% domestic students, and approximately 65% of all residence students are first year students.
- Average occupancy rates over the last year were 97%.
- Many students, especially international students, remain in residence over the holiday break. The proposed increase of \$5 to the extended stay fee will help to ensure a basic level of caretaking and security services for those students staying on campus.
- Student Residences are at the end of a five-year business plan that focused on becoming self-sustaining by increasing the room rates by 5% each year. This will be the first year where the proposed increase is lower, at 3%.
- This year, the University was able to address most fire safety upgrades with the remainder scheduled for this summer.
- The plans for improvement this year include replacement of windows in Mary Speechly Hall, an update to the suite furnishings in Arthur Mauro Residence, refreshing of

equipment in community kitchens, and an upgrade to wall coverings and furnishings in Pembina Hall. Beginning stages of a renovation to the Dining Hall serving area are underway. New equipment, countertops, flooring, and lighting are being installed and will refresh the space and allow for more flexibility in food choices.

- U of M Student Residence rates are competitive with those in the local community and among other Universities. Compared to off campus living, the University offers residence life programming, eight-month leases, and easily accessed tenant insurance.

With respect to the meal plans provided, Ms. Edmunds noted that mandatory meal plans accompany all rooms, except for those in Arthur Mauro, where the meal plan is available but not mandatory. She said that there are three mandatory meal plans to choose from for students in Mary Speechly and Pembina Hall residences, and the cost of these meal plans is proposed to increase by 3%, which is comparable to food cost related inflation according to Canada's Food Price Report. She noted that similar meal plans at St. John's and St. Andrews colleges are more expensive than what is being proposed.

Ms. Edmunds stated that Student Residences would continue to offer two declining balance meal plans for students living in University College, where dining services are minimal. She said these two meal plans are proposed to increase by 5%, and noted that similar meal plans at the University of Winnipeg are more expensive than these rates. She also noted that this type of meal plan must meet Canada Revenue Agency requirements in order to remain non-taxable.

In summary, Ms. Edmunds explained that the approximate revenue from the proposed increase is \$240,000. She said that this added revenue makes the improvements mentioned above a possibility.

Members of the Board expressed concern about the already significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on residence students, which may worsen if the rates are increased.

Ms. Zapshala-Kelln reminded members of the Board that these unprecedented times at the University and across the world. She noted that an update on the University's budget situation would be provided in the Closed and Confidential session of the meeting.

It was suggested, and Board members agreed, that this agenda item be deferred until the budget information is presented and discussed, in order to make an informed decision on this increase. Mr. Leclerc stated that this could be deferred now and the meeting could return to the open session for further discussion and voting following the budget update.

The meeting moved into closed and confidential Session and returned to open session for further discussion of this agenda item.

A question was raised about the possibility of deferring this item to the May Board meeting. Ms. Edmunds replied that there are some time sensitivities because the registration portal would

normally open in June. She added that, if necessary, the opening of registration could be delayed. Ms. Zapshala-Kelln stated that regardless of the budget, Student Residences must remain self-sustaining; otherwise, University operations would have to offset the costs.

Members of the Board commented that the proposed increase could be greater if approval were delayed until May. It was noted that the factors driving the request for the increase will not change between now and the May Board meeting so it may be better to avoid that delay.

It was moved by Mr. Knysh and seconded by Dr. Reimer:

**THAT the Board of Governors approves:**

**A) Residence room rates {per term} for 2020-21 of:**

Pembina Hall Residence- \$4,019  
Arthur Mauro Residence- \$4,298  
Mary Speechly Hall Residence- \$3,069 (single); \$1,961 (double)  
University College Residence- \$3,126 (single); \$1,997 (double)

**B) Meal plan rates (per term) for 2020-21 of:**

10 Meals per Week plus \$250 Food Bucks - \$2,665  
15 Meals per Week plus \$250 Food Bucks - \$2,866  
7-Day Unlimited plus \$100 FoodBucks - \$2,955  
UC FoodBucks Plan - \$1,730  
UC Flex Plan (\$750 Food Bucks & 100 meals at Fresh Food Company) - \$2,170

**C) Extended stay fee {holiday break} for 2020-21 of: \$120**

**CARRIED**

Dr. Prentice abstained from the vote.

**FOR INFORMATION**

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

**9.1 Report from the President**

Dr. Barnard provided a report in writing which was included in the meeting materials. He highlighted the naming of the Price Faculty of Engineering, which was the culmination of significant effort and excellent work by Dr. Jonathan Beddoes, the Dean of Engineering; and by Mr. Kearsey and the team in External Relations. He expressed his gratitude to the Price family for their generosity.

**FOR DISCUSSION**

**7. FROM SENATE**

**7.1 Request to Extend Suspension of Admissions to Bachelor of Human Ecology in Family Social Sciences, including the After Degree**

7.2 Requests to Revise Admission Targets, Bachelor of Commerce (Honours), I.H. Asper School of Business, and Bachelor of Social Work, Faculty of Social Work.

The Chair stated that, under the policy, the President approves these changes after consulting with Senate and the Board.

Dr. Barnard noted the three requests for consideration:

- a) An extension to the suspension admissions to the Bachelor of Human Ecology in Family Social Sciences. This program was moved to the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences when the faculty of Human Ecology was closed. There is now a Family Health Studies stream in the Bachelor of Health Studies program, which students are encouraged to pursue. A proposal to close the program will come when existing students have completed the program.
- b) The Asper School of Business proposes increasing their admission target by 164 seats by re-designating unused supernumerary seats in the program.
- c) The Faculty of Social Work proposes a temporary increase and relocation of seats to the Bachelor of Social Work to facilitate two northern cohorts. The Faculty will review their enrolment targets in the next year and may come forward with further requests.

Dr. Barnard said he consulted with the Senate regarding the Family Social Sciences program and no concerns were raised. He noted that he would bring the other two requests to Senate for consultation at its next meeting. He asked if Board members had any concerns regarding these three requests. No concerns were raised.

**MOTION TO MOVE TO CLOSED AND CONFIDENTIAL**

It was moved by Dr. Reimer and seconded by Mr. Osiowy:

**THAT the meeting move into Closed and Confidential Session.**

**CARRIED**

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Chair

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University Secretary