



**Minutes of the OPEN Session of the
Board of Governors**

Held by Web Conference on January 26, 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	T. Matthews	N. Murdock	C. Onyebuchi	K. Osiowy
S. Prentice	L. Reimer	S. Sekander	K. Smith	J. Taylor

Assessors: J. Morrill S. Woloschuk

Officials: N. Andrew C. Cook J. Doering S. Foster
D. Jayas J. Kearsey L. McKinley D. Smith

1. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

2. **PRESENTATION**

2.1 Manitoba Industry-Academia Partnership (MI-AP)

The Chair introduced Dr. Jay Doering, Associate Vice-President (Partnerships) to give a presentation on the Manitoba Industry-Academic Partnership.

Dr. Doering said the Manitoba Industry-Academic Partnership originated through the Horizon Manitoba Initiative which works to deepen partnerships between business, industry, and post-secondary institutions in their work with government to ensure Manitoba's success. The MI-AP is a collaboration of the University of Manitoba, the University of Winnipeg, Red River College, and the Business Council of Manitoba to develop and submit to Western Economic Diversification a proposal to fund some of the activities laid out in the Horizon Manitoba Report. He noted that the proposal was submitted in July 2019 and confirmation of the funding from Western Economic Diversification was received later that month. The funding secured is \$2.2 million over three years, and is administered by the University of Manitoba. Additionally, the partners have each contributed funds for a total budget of \$4,360,415. Dr. Doering stated that the project is managed by a steering committee that comprises members from each of the collaborating partners who meet on a monthly basis.

Dr. Doering said the AI-MP Project focuses on three of the objectives set out in the Horizon Manitoba Report.

1. Accelerating opportunities for Indigenous and non-traditional students.
2. Identify opportunities for post-secondary students to experience work-integrated learning through apprenticeships, co-op placements, or applied research projects.
3. Economic growth through technology transfer stimulation and innovation.

In response to a question, Dr. Doering stated that the MI-AP is marketed to faculty members, faculties, and industry. President Benarroch added that the Business Council markets the program to students and the scholarship opportunities are marketed to Indigenous students. He said the hope is to better connect with industry to find opportunities where students can be involved as research assistants in their current discipline.

Dr. Doering said he hopes this project will lead to more partnership programs with industry. In response to a question, Dr. Doering said that the intent is to further work-integrated learning beyond industry to include more sectors.

Dr. Cook observed that the AI-MP Project feeds into the work to which the Indigenous Education Blueprint is committed. She said there may be a way to work more closely with this program to avoid duplicating efforts, which she would discuss with Dr. Doering.

FOR ACTION

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Dr. Reimer and seconded by Ms. DeSouza-Huletey:

THAT the agenda for the January 26, 2021 meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

4. MINUTES (Open) Session

- 4.1 Approval of the Minutes of the December 1, 2020 Open Session as circulated or amended

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

THAT the minutes of the December 1, 2020 Open session be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

- 4.2 Business Arising

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

5.1.1 THAT the Board of Governors approve the establishment of the Manitoba Crop Protection Chair in Weed Management [as recommended by Senate, January 6, 2021].

5.1.2a) THAT the Board of Governors approve four new offers and six amended offers, as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards [dated October 22, 2020].

5.1.2b) THAT the Board of Governors approve four new offers, six amended offers, and the withdrawal of one offer, as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards [dated November 12, 2020].

The Board of Governors received for information the following:

5.2.1 Implementation of Master of Supply Chain Management and Logistics

CARRIED

FOR INFORMATION

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Report from the President

President Benarroch said that since his written report was circulated, the government has created the Department of Advanced Education, Skills, and Immigration, under a new minister, the Honourable Wayne Ewasko. He added that the Honourable Ralph Eichler is now Minister of Economic Development and Jobs and will retain the research portfolio. Dr. Benarroch noted there will be a new deputy minister, his third since he became President on July 1, 2020.

Dr. Benarroch reported that international students continue to arrive in Winnipeg. He said 359 students have arrived, 66 of whom are spending two weeks in quarantine at the Sandman Hotel and the Holiday Inn . He noted that all their meals are provided and delivered to their rooms. He said four nursing students were hired to check in on the students regularly to make sure they are safe. He added that the total number of international students is expected to be reach 800. Dr. Benarroch said the cost is shared, with the University covering 50 percent, and the departments and the students each covering 25 percent.

President Benarroch advised that he has received the report from the Presidential Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI), which will be shared with the University community and the Board of Governors. He said that as one of his priorities, he would appoint someone to oversee the implementation of the report's recommendations across the entire university.

Regarding executive searches, Dr. Benarroch said the Vice-President (Administration) is in progress and he hopes a short list of candidates will be interviewed in a few weeks. Additionally, he noted, the search for a new Provost and Vice-President (Academic) is also underway, noting that both searches are international. In response to a question, Dr. Benarroch said there are faculty members on both search committees, adding that the president of UMFA also sits on both Committees. Finally, he noted that the search committee will engage in consultation with the university community and with Senate, and will circulate a survey asking for input into the Provost Search process.

6.2 Report on Remote Supports Provided for Students

Dr. Ristock said a summary of remote supports was included with the meeting materials that shows what the University has been doing to ensure student success with learning remotely. She said many supports were moved to an online platform and, in response to suggestions from students, new supports have been put in place. She added that transcript delivery has moved to digital delivery, as have student identifications. She said the intention has been to ensure students receive the supports they need and are connecting with one another. She expressed her thanks to Laurie Schnarr, Vice-Provost (Students), and her team.

In response to a question, Dr. Ristock said that winter registration is higher than it was in 2020 and higher than registration in September 2020. She said that graduate student numbers are still coming in. She committed to bringing a report on enrolment to the next Board meeting.

President Benarroch stated that the government had made a significant amount of matching funds available in a bursaries and scholarships fund. He added that Dr. Ristock and Ms. Schnarr are working to get those funds out to students in need. He said the technology fund will also be launched as the University works to consider needs of students.

Dr. Ristock said there has been no decision as yet on remote versus in-person classes for fall, though a decision will be needed in April to allow faculty to prepare courses and meet the needs of the students. She said meetings are held regularly with students to get feedback on whether the supports in place are adequate and what gaps there may be.

Members of the Board expressed an interest in receiving further information on enrolment at the next Board meeting.

Ms. Smith commented from the student point of view, expressing appreciation for all the supports being provided and for the efforts in listening to students. She said students are feeling very positive about the winter term. She expressed her feeling that the students are in good hands.

FOR APPROVAL

7. FROM FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, & HUMAN RESOURCES

7.1 Employee Accessibility Procedure

Ms. Lee stated that the new Employee Accessibility Procedure replaces a procedure formerly in place. She said the Finance, Administration, and Human Resources Committee met on January 14, 2021 and recommended the procedure to the Board of Governors for approval.

Ms. Andrew said this procedure is part of the continuing more forward to actively support accessibility for all employees. She added that this procedure would replace the one currently in place, effective May 1, 2021, and rollout and training plans are being developed.

It was moved by Ms. Lee and seconded by Dr. Reimer:

THAT the Finance, Administration, and Human Resources Committee recommends that the Board of Governors approve:

- **The implementation of the new Employee Accessibility Procedure effective May 1, 2021, and**
- **The revocation of the Reasonable Accommodation in Employment (Disabilities) Policy and Procedure effective May 1, 2021**

CARRIED

7.2 Spending Rate of the University Investment Trust for Fiscal 2021/2022

Ms. Lee said the Finance, Administration, and Human Resources recommended at its January 14, 2021 meeting that the Board of Governors approve the proposed spending rate.

Ms. Andrew said the recommendation is based on two factors:

1. The five and ten-year investment return of the fund still supports a spending rate of 4.50 percent, and
2. Changing the rate back to 4.25 percent would reduce support to beneficiaries during a time when this support is most needed.

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

THAT the Finance, Administration, and Human Resources Committee recommends that the Board of Governors approve maintaining the spending rate of the University Investment Trust (endowment fund) at a level of 4.50% for fiscal 2021/2022.

CARRIED

8. FROM SENATE

8. Proposal to Establish the Earth Materials and Archaeometry Centre

President Benarroch explained that this new Centre, funded with NSERC grants, will bring together researchers from across the University who are already working in this area. He noted that this proposal was strongly supported by Senate.

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

THAT the Board of Governors approve the establishment of the Earth Materials and Archaeometry Centre, for a five-year term, effective upon approval [as recommended by Senate, January 6, 2021].

CARRIED

FOR DISCUSSION

9. Request to Increase Admission Target, Bachelor of Nursing, College of Nursing

President Benarroch said the College of Nursing requested an increase in the admission target for the Bachelor of Nursing program to accept an additional 40 students who were previously part of the University College of the North's enrolment. He said the University of Manitoba has been delivering most of the program. These students will complete the program at the University College of the North, but would be registered at both the University College of the North and the University of Manitoba. He explained that the increase in admission would ensure there is space in the program and allow for a seamless transition. He added that the students will experience very little difference in the transition.

MOTION TO MOVE TO CLOSED & CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

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

THAT the meeting move into Closed and Confidential Session

CARRIED

Approved 2021/03/23, but not signed.

Chair

University Secretary