



## ACADEMIC RENEWAL WORKING GROUP Terms of Reference

---

### CONTEXT

As a top public research university, UBC's success is critically dependent on the stability, growth and continuous renewal of its faculty complement, in particular the professoriate, and the supports and resources available to the faculty for research and scholarship. Over the past decade, the size of the professoriate has been essentially flat, with a decline in assistant professors. Under the leadership of President Ono, UBC wishes to accomplish the goal of materially improving the academic excellence (including the capacity and quality of research) at UBC (the "Strategic Priority"). To achieve this Strategic Priority, material investments, to be funded both centrally and through faculties, are required to achieve net growth in the complement of research faculty, the institution of a university-wide post-doc program, enhancement of doctoral student support and the enhancement of support for shared research infrastructure. A well-designed plan to achieve the Strategic Priority will help advance the critical pillars of UBC's academic mission, including undergraduate and graduate education, research excellence and social impact.

### PURPOSE

The Academic Renewal Working Group ('ARWG' or 'Working Group') will explore the development of a plan for academic renewal to achieve the Strategic Priority, and identify strategies for its implementation. The plan will include, *inter alia*, strategies for growing the professoriate, enhanced support for research graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, enhanced support for shared research infrastructure, etc.

### OBJECTIVES

- a) To ensure that the recommended plans and strategies advance the goals of UBC's strategic plan, with its themes of inclusion, collaboration and innovation; as well as the pillars of research excellence and transformative learning.
- b) To enhance the university's financial capacity to implement a plan for academic renewal, and supports for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows
- c) To develop a shared understanding of what issues beyond finances need to be addressed in order to realize the potential for academic renewal. These include space and facilities considerations, availability of external research funding, impact on related educational programs, impact on undergraduate learning, and employment prospects for associated students and postdoctoral fellows.

The Working Group shall review and recommend policies and practices to the Board of Governors.

### ACCOUNTABILITY

The Academic Renewal Working Group is created by and is responsible to the Board of Governors of The University of British Columbia.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the ARWG shall consist of up to fourteen (14) members, plus Chancellor and the President & Vice Chancellor as *ex officio* members, appointed by the Board Chair in consultation with the Board Vice-Chair. The ARWG shall be co-Chaired by the Board Chair and the Board Vice-Chair. Appointments of Governors to the ARWG are made, and reviewed, at each instance of changes in Board membership. Membership from the Senates of the University of British Columbia will be invited in areas of mutual concern with the Board. The ARWG will also include, as associates, members of the administration.

#### PROCEDURES

Working Group Co-Chairs are responsible for conduct of meetings, including agendas, and oversight of reporting and action items. The Working Group will receive (through the Board Secretariat) additional and reasonable support for the assembly, assessment and reporting of information.

#### MEETINGS & QUORUM

The Academic Renewal Working Group shall meet at the call of the co-Chairs. Attendance by at least 35% of the members of the Working Group is required to establish quorum.

#### DISSOLUTION

The Academic Renewal Working Group is a special-purpose working group and as such shall be dissolved at the call of the Chair of the Board of Governors.