



MEMORANDUM

Date	March 19, 2024
To	Board of Governors
From	Anna Kindler, Chair, Learning & Research Committee
Subject	Chair's Report to Board from Learning & Research Committee March 12, 2024 Open Session

The Learning & Research Committee met in open session on March 12, 2024. Items approved by the Committee under delegated authority, discussed, or received for information at that meeting are listed under the open Consent Agenda for the March 27, 2024 Board of Governors meeting.

The Committee thanked the Administration for the large amount of work put into the very informative and clear reports and presentations. Much of the discussion centered around enrollment focused on over-utilization rates relative to the funded FTE from the Province. UBC has experienced significant growth over the last 25 years and committee members appreciated the challenges related to precisely predicting acceptance of offers and attrition at various stages of the process and the Administration's efforts to ensure a close match with the undergraduate targets, as established by the Province on both campuses. They also acknowledged the impact that any rapid reduction in the over-utilization in undergraduate enrollment would have on the tuition revenue that supports the programs.

Specific concern was raised related to the significant over-utilization rates in graduate enrollment, particularly on the Okanagan campus, that creates ongoing, systemic underfunding of graduate education. While the Committee noted critical importance of enrolling sufficient number of graduate students to effectively advance the research mission of UBC, the long-term sustainability of having so many unfunded students year after year raises cause for concern. Importance of active engagement with the Province around this issue and for exploring additional means to respond to this challenge have been underscored.

The Committee also requested more information and follow up on the retention rates of Indigenous students which have been reported as lower than the overall retention rates for both domestic and international students. The Committee looks forward to receiving related updates.

Finally, questions came forward about the changes to the Tuition Engagement Approach to be implemented in 2025-2026 cycle and the Vice-President Students confirmed that this approach is consistent with and fully meets the requirements of the existing University policy on related consultations.

With authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Committee **approved**:

- February 2024 Vancouver Senate Recommendations including 2024-2025 Enrolment Targets
- February 2024 Okanagan Senate Recommendations including 2024-2025 Enrolment Targets
- Recommendations from the December 2023 meeting of the Vancouver Senate
- Recommendations from the December 2023 meeting of the Okanagan Senate
- Recommendations from the January 2024 meeting of the Okanagan Senate



The Committee discussed the following **information** briefings:

- 2023-2024 Annual Enrolment Report
- Enrolment Management
- 2024-2025 UBC Enrolment Targets
- Tuition Engagement Approach FY 2025-2026

The Committee received the following briefings **for information**:

- Recommendations from the November 2023 meeting of the Okanagan Senate approved by e-vote concluding on December 12, 2023
- Recommendations from the Council of Senates – November 2023 e vote, approved by e-vote concluding on December 12, 2023
- Establishment of New Endowments
- Status Report | Action Items Tracked in 2023