



Board of Governors
LEARNING & RESEARCH COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Monday, November 20, 2023
8:04 AM to 8:26 AM
VIDEOCONFERENCE
Approved: March 12, 2024

Chair Dr. Anna Kindler

Vice-Chair Mr. Matthew Tan

Members in Attendance President Benoit-Antoine Bacon
Dr. Natalie Chan

Board Chair Nancy McKenzie

Dr. Charles Menzies

Dr. Philipp Reichert

Mr. Bill Sundhu

Mr. Byron Thom

Regrets Ms. Isabella Bravo

Hon. Steven Point, Chancellor

Governors in Attendance Mr. Leonard Schein

Designated Executive Liaisons

Dr. Gage Averill, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Vancouver

Dr. Gail Murphy, Vice-President Research & Innovation

Dr. Rehan Sadiq, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Okanagan

Administration

Ms. Marcia Buchholz, Vice-President Human Resources

Dr. Ainsley Carry, Vice-President Students

Ms. Robin Ciceri, Vice-President External Relations

Ms. Lesley Cormack

Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal, UBC Okanagan

Dr. Dermot Kelleher, Vice-President Health

Mr. Hubert Lai, K.C., University Counsel

Ms. Heather McCaw, Vice-President Development & Alumni

Board Secretary Ms. Karen Hakkarainen

Committee Chair Anna Kindler called the open session of the November 20, 2023 Learning & Research Committee meeting to order at 8:04 a.m., and respectfully acknowledged the ancestral and unceded territories of the Musqueam and of the Syilx Okanagan Nation upon which UBC campuses are located.

The Chair welcomed UBC's new President, Dr. Benoit-Antoine Bacon, and Mr. Leonard Schein, recently appointed to the Board of Governors by the Province.

The Board Secretary reviewed attendance and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of Agenda

The Chair asked if Committee members would like to request amendments to the Agenda. No requests were made.

The following resolution was moved, seconded, and **CARRIED**:

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Learning & Research Committee approves as circulated the Agenda for the open session of the November 20, 2023 Learning & Research Committee meeting.

The Chair asked if Committee members had any actual, potential or apparent conflicts of interest to declare with respect to any of the items on the Agenda. No declarations were made.

2. Consent Agenda

The Chair asked if Committee members had noted any errors or omissions in the Minutes of the previous meeting, circulated under the appended Consent Agenda. None were raised.

The following resolution was moved, seconded and **CARRIED**:

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Learning & Research Committee approves the resolutions forwarded under the open Consent Agenda, as presented in the Appendix.

The Chair noted that two briefings were circulated under the Consent Agenda for the Committee's information: Establishment of New Endowments and Update on Amendments to Committee Terms of Reference.

3. Updates re Academic Excellence Fund and President's Academic Excellence Initiative

Responsible Executives: Gage Averill, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Vancouver
Rehan Sadiq, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Okanagan

The Administration provided verbal updates on the Academic Excellence Fund and on the President's Academic Excellence Initiative. The Academic Excellence Fund (AEF) was established in 2016 to direct a portion of international tuition revenue toward initiatives that advance UBC's academic excellence. The Committee was advised that the Tuition Allocation Model underlying the Academic Excellence Fund has been amended to increase the amount of funding flowing to Faculties and Central. The Committee was further advised that the Administration took steps to ensure that equalization remains in place for those Faculties unable to enroll international students.

The President's Academic Excellence Initiative (PAEI) was designed to support the creation of net new faculty positions and to enhance support for research, graduate students, infrastructure and library collections. The Committee was advised that in response to modelling projecting negative long-term financial results at the rate of hiring originally envisioned, the total number of faculty hires to be supported by the PAEI's Accelerate phase has been reduced from 100 to 93. The Campaign phase of the PAEI will leverage donor contributions to create new professorships and chairs on the Vancouver campus, and to support capital needs on the Okanagan campus. The Committee was advised that in the interests of PAEI sustainability, the number of anticipated Campaign phase positions has been reduced from 75 to 37.

In response to the information provided, the Committee noted that there may be implications for the Academic Excellence Fund and/or the President's Academic Excellence Initiative arising from the Administration's review of the UBC budget model, and requested a follow-up briefing at a future meeting.

The open session of the November 20, 2023 Learning & Research Committee meeting adjourned at 8:26 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS

Arising from Item #3: Updates re Academic Excellence Fund and President's Academic Excellence Initiative
The Administration was asked to provide an update to the Learning & Research Committee at a future meeting with respect to implications of the budget model review for the Academic Excellence Fund and/or the President's Academic Excellence Initiative.

CONSENT AGENDA – FOR APPROVAL

The following items were approved under the Consent Agenda:

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Learning & Research Committee approves as circulated Minutes of the open session of the September 13, 2023 Learning & Research Committee meeting.

5. Recommendations from the September 2023 meeting of the Vancouver Senate

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, with authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Learning & Research Committee concurs with the approvals from the 20 September 2023 meeting of the UBC Vancouver Senate, which the Senate recommends to the Board of Governors for approval: Curriculum Proposals, the renaming of a Centre and the following New Program:

- Bachelor of Science in Food and Resource Economics, Faculty of Land & Food Systems

6. Recommendations from the September 2023 meeting of the Okanagan Senate

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, with authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Learning & Research Committee concurs with the approvals from the 28 September 2023 meeting of the UBC Okanagan Senate, which the Senate recommends to the Board of Governors for approval: New and revised awards.

7. Recommendations from the October 2023 meeting of the Vancouver Senate

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, with authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Learning & Research Committee concurs with the approvals from the 18 October 2023 meeting of the UBC Vancouver Senate as set out below, which the Senate recommends to the Board of Governors for approval: New and revised awards; and, revised 2024-2025 enrolment targets for the Master of Science in Audiology and Speech Pathology.

8. Recommendations from the October 2023 meeting of the Okanagan Senate

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, with authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Learning & Research Committee concurs with approvals from the 26 October 2023 meeting of the UBC Okanagan Senate, which the Senate recommends to the Board of Governors for approval: New awards.

9. Recommendations from the November 2023 meeting of the Vancouver Senate

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, with authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Learning & Research Committee concurs with approvals from the 15 November 2023 meeting of the UBC Vancouver Senate as set out below, which the Senate recommends to the Board of Governors for approval: Awards; Wall Research Awards and Wall Fellowships; Curriculum; and, Establishment of Koerner Chair for Wildfire Coexistence.

CONSENT AGENDA – FOR INFORMATION

The following item was received for information under the Consent Agenda:

10. Establishment of New Endowments

11. Update on Amendments to Committee Terms of Reference