



Board of Governors
LEARNING & RESEARCH COMMITTEE
MINUTES

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025
9:47 AM to 11:01 AM
VIDEOCONFERENCE
Approved: September 11, 2025

Chair Dr. Anna Kindler

Vice-Chair Mr. Matthew Tan

Members in Attendance President Benoit-Antoine Bacon

Dr. Natalie Chan

Ms. Ameer Chande

Mr. Michael Sandler

Mr. Leonard Schein

Regrets Dr. hagwil hayetsk (Charles Menzies)

Board Chair Miranda Lam, K.C.

Chancellor Judy Rogers, C.M.

Board Secretary

Ms. Karen Hakkarainen

Designated Executive Liaisons

Dr. Gage Averill

Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Vancouver

Dr. Gail Murphy, Vice-President Research & Innovation
(*Regrets*)

Dr. Rehan Sadiq

Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Okanagan

Administration

Mr. Adam Charania, Vice-President Human Resources

Dr. 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 Engagement

Ms. Kirsten Nicholson, Executive Director, President's Office

Dr. Melanie Stewart, Vice-President External Relations

Committee Chair Anna Kindler called the open session of the June 3, 2025 Learning & Research Committee meeting to order at 9:47 a.m.

The Board Secretary reviewed attendance and confirmed quorum.

1. Welcome from the Chair and Approval of Agenda

The Chair respectfully acknowledged the ancestral and unceded territories of the Musqueam and of the Syilx Okanagan Nation upon which UBC campuses are located.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair welcomed a new member, Governor Michael Sandler, elected to the Board of Governors by students on the Okanagan campus.

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 June 3, 2025 Learning & Research Committee meeting.

The Chair asked Governors to declare any actual, potential, or apparent conflicts of interest with any items on the open Agenda. No such conflicts were declared.

2. Consent Agenda

The Chair asked if Committee members had noted any errors or omissions in the Minutes of the March 2025 open session, circulated under the appended Consent Agenda. None were raised.

The Chair advised that recommendations from the March 2025, April 2025 and May 2025 meetings of the Okanagan and Vancouver Senates were also circulated under the Consent Agenda with requests for approval.

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 the following briefings were circulated under the Consent Agenda for the Committee's information:

- Notable Distinctions;
- Establishment of New Endowments;
- Report on Revision by the President to Procedures Associated with the Scholarly Integrity Policy (SC6); and,
- Committee Action Items Status Update.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair extended congratulations to the recipients of recognitions of distinction listed in the circulated Notable Distinctions briefing.

3. Strategic Plan Refresh – Process Update

Responsible Executive(s): Benoit-Antoine Bacon, President and Vice-Chancellor
Gage Averill, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Vancouver
Rehan Sadiq, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Okanagan

The Administration provided a verbal update on the Strategic Plan refresh process. Feedback received earlier in the year from the Board and from the Senates has been incorporated, resulting in an increased emphasis on the University's commitment to academic excellence and on UBC's status as an internationally recognized institution.

The Committee was advised that the Okanagan and Vancouver Senates endorsed the refreshed Strategic Plan in principle in May 2025. The final draft of the refreshed Strategic Plan will come forward for endorsement in principle from the Board of Governors at the June 2025 meeting.

4. Generative AI in Teaching and Learning at UBC – Progress Update

Responsible Executive(s): Gage Averill, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Vancouver
Rehan Sadiq, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Okanagan

The Committee received an update on the pillars of UBC's artificial intelligence (AI) strategy, including the Future Digital Learning Initiative (FDLI), which is focused on academic integrity, sustainability considerations, and curricular developments.

Committee discussion focused on UBC's preparedness in the generative AI space, as well as the potential implications of AI for academic integrity, sustainability, cybersecurity, and curriculum at the University. The Administration assured the Committee that UBC's IT department is dedicated to remaining at the forefront of cybersecurity practices, given the sensitivity of the data held by UBC. The Committee strongly supported development of AI courses for students and other members of UBC community/alumni.

The Committee requested another update on Generative AI in Teaching and Learning at UBC in one year, suggesting the inclusion of a section focused on AI and sustainability, given the significant energy demands associated with the AI. (Secretary's Note: an annual *Generative AI in Teaching and Learning Update* has been added to the Learning & Research Committee's workplan.)

5. International Education Strategy

Responsible Executive(s): Gage Averill, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Vancouver
Rehan Sadiq, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Okanagan
Ainsley Carry, Vice-President Students

The Administration presented UBC's 2025-2030 International Education Strategic Plan (IES) prepared for the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills, as set out in the circulated briefing.

Committee discussion touched on the ongoing diversification of UBC's recruitment approaches and the University's ability to respond and adapt quickly to real-time events. Suggestions included implementing long-standing recommendations to create a 'heat map' of UBC's international engagement beyond student recruitment to optimize collaborations within and across campuses and highlight academic excellence.

The Committee expressed interest in receiving additional updates as implementation of the IES unfolds and the work on the UBC international engagement database moves forward.

The open session of the June 3, 2025 Learning & Research Committee meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS

None Identified.

CONSENT AGENDA – FOR APPROVAL

The following items were approved under the Consent Agenda:

6. Minutes of Previous Meeting

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Learning & Research Committee approves as circulated Minutes of the open session of the March 11, 2025 Learning & Research Committee meeting.

7. Recommendations from the Vancouver Senate – March 2025

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, in accordance with authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Learning & Research Committee concurs with the approvals from the March 19, 2025 meeting of the UBC Vancouver Senate which the Senate recommends to the Board of Governors for approval: Awards, Curriculum, new program Doctor of Philosophy in Medical Genetics Sub-Specialization in Genetic and Genomic Counselling, and discontinuation of the Doctor of Philosophy in Genetic and Genomic Counselling.

8. Recommendations from the Okanagan Senate – March 2025

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, with authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Learning & Research Committee concurs with the approvals from the March 27, 2025 meeting of the UBC Okanagan Senate, which the Senate recommends to the Board of Governors for approval: Curriculum, Establishment of Chair, and Renaming of Department.

9. Recommendations from the Vancouver Senate – April 2025

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, in accordance with authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Learning & Research Committee concurs with the approvals from the April 16, 2025 meeting of the UBC Vancouver Senate which the Senate recommends to the Board of Governors for approval: Awards and Curriculum.

10. Recommendations from the Okanagan Senate – April 2025

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, with authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Learning & Research Committee concurs with the approvals from the April 24, 2025 meeting of the UBC Okanagan Senate, which the Senate recommends to the Board of Governors for approval: Awards, Curriculum, Revised Programs, and New Programs and Curriculum:

- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Commerce and Master of Management Dual Degree Program
- Co-operative Education Program

11. Recommendations from the Vancouver Senate – May 2025

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, in accordance with authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Learning & Research Committee concurs with the approvals from the May 14, 2025 meeting of the UBC Vancouver Senate which the Senate recommends to the Board of Governors for approval: Awards, Curriculum, Establishment of a Centre, and a New Program:

- Undergraduate Certificate in Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences

12. Recommendations from the Okanagan Senate – May 2025

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, with authority delegated by the Board of Governors, the Learning & Research Committee concurs with the approvals from the May 15, 2025 meeting of the UBC Okanagan Senate, which the Senate recommends to the Board of Governors for approval: Curriculum and Revised Program.

CONSENT AGENDA – FOR INFORMATION

The following items were received for information under the Consent Agenda:

13. Notable Distinctions

14. Establishment of New Endowments

15. Report on Revision by the President to Procedures Associated with the Scholarly Integrity Policy (SC6)

16. Committee Action Items Status Report