

Minutes of University Council
2:30 p.m., Thursday, September 21, 2006
Neatby-Timlin Theatre (Room 241) Arts Building

Attendance: See Appendix A.

1. Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed Council members back to a new academic year.

Condolences were expressed on behalf of Council to colleagues and family of Professor Blaine Adrian Holmlund (Vice President Emeritus of Planning and Development 1956-1993), who served the University as a professor of electrical engineering, of biomedical engineering, of computational science, and of finance and quantitative methods. He was named Vice President (Special Projects) in 1980 and Vice President (Planning and Development) in 1985. Dr. Holmlund also served as Acting University President in 1989. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the U of S in 1998. The tribute was delivered by President Peter MacKinnon. Professor Holmlund passed away on June 17, 2006.

A tribute was also presented by Professor Dan Ish, Dean, College of Law to honour the passing of Dr. W. Howard McConnell, Professor Emeritus of Law, 1970 – 1998. Dr. McConnell, who had gained a national reputation as an authority on Canadian constitutional law, passed away on June 9, 2006.

Dr. Bob Cram from the U of S Extension Division presented a tribute on behalf of his late Uncle, Mr. Norman Kay Cram. Mr. Cram was a former Huskie athlete and coach who had a long and distinguished career with the University, including as University Registrar and University Secretary, from 1946 until 1984, when he was made Secretary Emeritus. Mr. Cram passed away June 11, 2006.

Condolences were also expressed on behalf of Council to colleagues and family of Professor Emeritus Clifton Shook, a faculty member in the Department of Chemical Engineering from 1960 to 1996, and an early recipient of the University's Master Teacher Award. The tribute was delivered by Professor Gordon Hill, Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering. Professor Shook passed away on September 3, 2006.

Following a moment of silence, the business of Council resumed.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

KALRA/GREER: That the agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Minutes of the meeting of June 15, 2006

GRANT/GREER: That the minutes of the meeting of June 15, 2006 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Professor Malcolm Reeves reported on behalf of the Instructional Development Committee that consideration of the report on student evaluation of teaching will be brought forward at a later meeting this fall.

5. Report of the President

In addition to his written report, the President commented on preliminary enrolment figures. All indications are that enrolment will be stable compared with last year, but we can expect that within the next couple of years the dip in high school enrolment will begin to work its way through the postsecondary system. Even with substantial growth in the participation rate of Aboriginal students, whom the University is committed to serving, there will be a need to redouble recruitment efforts to attract out-of-province and international students. Enrolment pressures are not unique to the prairies; in Atlantic Canada, University presidents are recording enrolment declines of up to 8%. It is clear that enrolment, recruiting and retention issues will be high on the university's agenda this year.

A second big issue that the University faces is the consequence of rapid inflation in the construction sector in the economy; this is affecting all capital projects and infrastructure development and replacement. Construction and materials cost escalations will have an impact on our plans and resources over the next several years as we reflect on multi-million dollar projects such as Academic Health Sciences, the proposed InterVac facility, new residences, and the Veterinary Medicine expansion.

The President also reported that the *Thinking the World of Our Future* fundraising campaign is going very well and that we expect to significantly exceed our targets by the time the campaign concludes at the end of 2007. He reminded Council members that this campaign is both about fundraising and about developing our institutional advancement capacity that we will need to go forward, under the leadership of Vice President Heather Magotiaux and her advancement team.

An ambitious series of activities is planned for the University's 100th birthday in 2007, and Congress 2007 will be a centerpiece of the festivities as over 5,000 scholars in the social sciences, fine arts and humanities spend time on our campus in late May/early June. On Friday, a new logo for the Centennial will be unveiled in *On Campus News* around the theme "Engage, Enlighten, Explore", which relates to our missions in outreach, teaching and research.

At its meeting on September 29, the Board of Governors will be asked to approve a newly created joint position (with the Saskatoon Health Region), Associate Vice

President Research (Health) and Vice President Research and Innovation (Saskatoon Health Region). This is both a symbolic and a substantial partnership with the Health Region; the search committee will be jointly chaired by Maura Davies and Steven Franklin. This position represents an evolution of the existing position of Coordinator of Health Research, a position currently occupied by Bruce Waygood.

Finally, the President noted that Joe Angel's term as Chair of Council expires in September, and expressed a debt of thanks for the significant and exemplary work that Dr. Angel has done in his years on University Council and particularly as Chair. Professor Angel has agreed to carry on as Vice Chair of Council for the next year. The President also acknowledged Jim Merriam as incoming Chair and thanked him for his willingness to take on this important role in University governance.

6. Report of the Provost

Jim Germida presented the report in the absence of the Provost. He began by giving an update on the transition arrangements for extension activities, noting that there were a number of outstanding issues following the decision to disestablish the Extension Division, including development of a detailed human resources plan, which is on track with a commitment that by October there will be a plan in place for all current employees. The Centre for Continuing and Distance Education has been established within the Division, with Bob Cram as Interim Director. He has been hard at work putting together budget, operational and human resource plans which have been submitted to the Provost's Committee on Integrated Planning. With respect to the University Learning Centre, the Planning Committee is bringing forward a motion for creation of this centre, which is expected to open in January 2007. The Centre is an important signal of the institution's commitment to teaching and learning, and has been given \$200,000 from PCIP for operating budget support and a commitment for capital costs to cover renovations to the Library. The new Director of the University Learning Centre, Dr. Jim Greer, is working on developing an e-learning strategy. Vice President (Advancement) Heather Magotiaux is working on a proposal for establishment of the President's Round Table on Outreach and Engagement and the Office of University-Community Relations, and has submitted a draft to the President for review.

The Vice Provost echoed the President's expressions of thanks, and conveyed those of Provost Michael Atkinson, to Joe Angel for his years of excellent service as Chair of Council.

7. Student Society Reports (USSU, GSA)

Brad Flavell, Academic Vice President, presented the report for the USSU. He noted the following:

- The Executive has had a busy summer preparing for the new academic year.
- The resignation of USSU President Evan Cole over the summer months has necessitated elections for a new member of the Executive in October.
- New student Orientation in early September was very successful.
- The first phase of Place Riel renovations are now complete, and a tendering process has been undertaken to complete the balance of renovations.

- The USSU staff team is up to its full complement.
- They are awaiting judge's ruling on matter of a lawsuit brought by Robin Mowat against the USSU in respect of the referendum to join the Canadian Federation of Students.
- Significant projects being undertaken include an inner city outreach program, development of an online community, and sustainability initiatives.

Muyiwa Adaramola, Vice President (Academic and Awards) presented the report for the Graduate Students' Association, reporting that

- Graduate student orientation was held on Sept 8 for new and returning students.
- Their VP Operations resigned in July; a by-election will be conducted in October.
- Their annual general meeting is also planned for October.

8. Bylaws Committee

8.1 Proposed changes to Bylaws Part One Section 111.3

Professor Rob Pywell presented on behalf of the Chair Barry Ziola.

PYWELL/CROWE: That Part One Section 111.3 of the Council Bylaws be amended to include the following provision:

“In the event that no nominations are received by the deadline for nominations for Chair of Council, a second call for nominations will be sent. If the second call for nominations does not elicit a nomination, then the Nomination Committee will be asked to nominate a member of Council to serve as Chair for a one-year term, and a call for nominations will go out the following year.”

CARRIED

8.2 Appointments to the Nominations Committee

PYWELL/CROWE: That Council approve the following appointments to the Nominations Committee of Council effective immediately:

David Mykota	College of Education	term expires June 30, 2009
Phil Chilibeck	College of Kinesiology	term expires June 20, 2008

CARRIED

9. Nominations Committee

9.1 Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair of Council

Professor Bev Pain presented the report as Chair.

PAIN/KAMINSKYJ: That Council approve the appointment of Jim Merriam, Geological Sciences, as Chair of University Council and Joe Angel, Department of Biochemistry, as Vice-Chair of University Council for 2006/2007.

CARRIED

9.2 Appointments to the Search Committee for the Provost

PAIN/KAMINSKYJ: That Council approve the following individuals to the Search Committee for the Provost:

Jim Basinger, Associate Dean, Arts & Science (senior Council member)
Paul Bidwell, English, GAA member
Peta Bonham-Smith, Biology, GAA member
Gordon Hill, Chemical Engineering, GAA member
Sheila Rutledge-Harding, Medicine GAA member

CARRIED

9.3 Appointment of Chair of the International Activities Committee

PAIN/KAMINSKYJ: That Council approve the appointment of Claire Card, Large Animal Clinical Sciences, as Chair of the International Activities Committee for 2006/2007.

CARRIED

10. Planning Committee Report

Professor John Rigby presented the report as Chair.

10.1 Approval of University Learning Centre

Professor Rigby gave a short introduction to the report of the Planning Committee with respect to the University Learning Centre. He drew attention to the goals of the Centre, the physical space, the phases of implementation which will take place over the next few years, the governance of the Centre, and the proposed budgetary requirements (which are preliminary), all of which are outlined in the proposal circulated with the agenda materials. There were questions about the sources of funding and about the plans for providing programming for Aboriginal students.

RIGBY/RHODES: That Council approve the University Learning Centre as a Type B Centre.

CARRIED

11. Academic Support Committee

11.1 New ICT Policies: Electronic Mail and Computer Use

This document was provided for information by Professor Len Proctor, Chair of the Committee. He noted that the Associate Vice President Information and Communications Technology will be holding an informational event on October 2 in order to answer questions people may have about the e-mail policy.

12. Research Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee

12.1 Report of the Vice President Research to the Research, Scholarly & Artistic Work Committee

This document was provided for information by Rob Pywell, Chair of the Committee. It was pointed out by a Council member that the report incorrectly identifies Toxicology and VIDO as the home departments of two Canada Research Chairs.

13. Other Business

None.

14. Question Period

No questions.

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

16. Next meeting – 2:30 p.m., Thursday, October 19, 2006 in Neatby-Timlin Theatre.