

**Minutes of University Council**  
**2:30 p.m., Thursday, February 28, 2008**  
**Neatby-Timlin Theatre**

*Attendance: See Appendix A.*

1. Opening Remarks

Acting Chair Barry Ziola called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m., and declared the meeting properly constituted with respect to quorum.

Condolences were expressed on behalf of Council by Professor Ed Tymchatyn, who paid tribute to his former colleague in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Dr. Girdhari Lal Saini, who began in the Department in 1967. Dr. Saini became ill in 1983 and was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. He fought courageously for over 25 years. He retired from his position at the U of S in June, 1999 and passed away February 2, 2008.

Dr. James Dosman, Department of Medicine, presented a memorial tribute to his colleague Dr. Helen Elizabeth McDuffie, Professor Emerita (1938-2008), who was hired September 1, 1988 and retired from the Department of Medicine in June of 2006. Dr. McDuffie passed away on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

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

The Chair invited the University Secretary to comment on the results of elections for Council Chair and Council members. The Secretary indicated that Professor Claire Card of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine has been acclaimed for an 18-month term as the 8<sup>th</sup> chair (and first woman chair) of Council. Nominations for College representatives and members at large have now closed, but several colleges did not nominate a College representative, and 13 positions for members at large remain unfilled; a second call for nominations will be sent out next week.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

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

CARRIED

3. Minutes of the meeting of December 20, 2007 and January 24, 2008

GREER/HENDERSON: That the minutes of the meeting of December 20, 2007 be approved as circulated in their revised format.

CARRIED

RICHARDSON/GRANT: That the minutes of the meeting of January 24, 2008 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Laura Kennedy, Associate Vice President, Finance and Resources, responded on behalf of Vice President Florizone to questions that arose under Item 10.1 of the minutes of January 24, with respect to the operating reserve, given the current state of markets. Ms Kennedy noted that returns on investments affect not only the operating reserve but also endowments and pension funds. With respect to the operating fund, projections indicate that this fund is on track, and investments will meet the targets that have been established. With respect to endowment funds, the University's spending policy requires that we accrue 9% before spending from them in order to provide a cushion; FSD continues to monitor these funds and to meet with individual colleges to investigate options for particular funds. Finally, with respect to pension funds, Council members will be aware that the University is already contributing to a solvency deficit in the retirees' plan. Actuarial evaluations for all pension plans are underway and the Associate Vice President offered to provide a further update on these at the May meeting.

5. Report of the President

President MacKinnon sent regrets for this meeting; his report was received for information.

6. Report of the Acting Provost

In addition to his written report, the Provost reported verbally on the status of the new Schools of Public Health, Public Policy, and Environment and Sustainability and on the status of the drafting of the integrated plan. With respect to the latter, he expressed his thanks to the entire community for their work on the development of unit and college plans, and to Pauline Melis and the Integrated Planning Office in particular for the work they have put into the second round of integrated planning.

The Chair drew the attention of members of Council to the special meeting that will be held on April 3 to discuss the integrated plan.

7. Student Society Reports

7.1 Report from the USSU

The USSU's written report was received for information.

7.2 Report from the GSA

The GSA's written report was received for information.

8. Bylaws Committee Report

8.1 Notice of motion re Change to Terms of Reference of Instructional Development Committee; Dissolution of Outreach and Public Service Committee, and changes to Terms of Reference of other Council Committees

Professor John Rigby presented this item for information, explaining the rationale for the changes that will be brought to Council at its March meeting for approval.

It was pointed out that the reference to the Gwenna Moss Teaching and Learning Centre in the Terms of Reference for the new Teaching and Learning Committee should be to the University Learning Centre.

9. Report of the Joint Board/Council Committee on Chairs & Professorships

This report was presented by Vice Provost Jim Germida on behalf of the Joint Board/Council Committee on Chairs and Professorships. He pointed out an error on the second page of each of the three submissions—which should read that the University is allowed to assess up to 10% of the annual operating budget for administrative fees; this correction should be made on pp. 50, 56 and 62. It was also pointed out that each of the Chairs should be referred to as a Saskatchewan Agriculture Chair rather than a Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food Chair.

9.1 Saskatchewan Agriculture Chair in Food Process Engineering

GERMIDA/SCOLES: That Council approve the establishment of the Saskatchewan Agriculture Chair in Food Process Engineering.

CARRIED

9.2 Saskatchewan Agriculture Chair in Feed Processing

GERMIDA/SCOLES: That Council approve the establishment of the Saskatchewan Agriculture Chair in Feed Processing.

CARRIED

9.3 Saskatchewan Agriculture Chair in Carbohydrate Quality and Utilization

GERMIDA/SCOLES: That Council approve the establishment of the Saskatchewan Agriculture Chair in Carbohydrate Quality and Utilization.

CARRIED

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## 10. Academic Programs Committee Report

### 10.1 College of Graduate Studies & Research: New program for Master of Public Administration

Professor Gordon Hill presented the report as Vice Chair of the Academic Programs Committee. He noted that the fourth paragraph on p. 77, which relates to tenure, promotion and salary review recommendations, should be deleted from the proposal.

HILL/SHAND: That Council approve the Master of Public Administration program.

CARRIED

### 10.2 Items for Information

The following items were received for information.

10.2.1 2008-09 Academic Schedule (presented by Trever Crowe as Chair of the Academic Programs Committee)

10.2.2 College of Agriculture & Bioresources: Reduction of required credit units in the BSA program (presented by Professor Crowe)

10.2.3. College of Arts and Science: Change of Name for Regional and Urban Development Program to Regional and Urban Planning (RUP) program (presented by Professor Crowe)

10.2.4 College of Graduate Studies & Research: Course-based Option in the Master of Education program (presented by Professor Gordon Hill)

10.2.5 Update on Committee activities (verbal report, presented by Professor Crowe)

## 11. Planning and Priorities Committee Report

### 11.1 College Plans Review Committee Report on College Plans

RIGBY/KALRA: That Council accept<sup>1</sup> the College Plans Review Committee reports of the College Plans for the 2008-12 planning cycle, as submitted February 28, 2008.

CARRIED

Professor Rigby then led members of Council through the report and its attachments. He noted that any initiatives described in the report that require Council approval will be brought before Council in due course for consideration.

The Chair then called for questions and comments from the floor.

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<sup>1</sup> Professor Rigby pointed out the distinctions elaborated by Kerr and King (whose procedures Council follows) among motions to adopt, approve, receive and accept, and explained the reasons for the current motion to accept these reports. He also made a distinction between the College and unit plans on the one hand and the Integrated Plan on the other; Council will be asked to approve the Integrated Plan in the future but is not being asked to approve the College plans nor to approve the CPRC report on these plans.

There were requests for clarification about the representation of the faculty and staff complement, given changes to the ways in which faculty are counted within the operating budget, and also about the representation of graduate student activity in the tables. Both of these items point to the need for well articulated data definitions.

12. Policy Oversight Committee 2006-07 Year-End Report

This item was received for information. The University Secretary chairs the committee; Professors Scoles and Ziola are Council's representatives on this Committee.

13. Question Period

No questions were raised.

14. Other Business

There was no other business brought forward.

15. Adjournment and Next meeting

The next Council meeting is at 2:30 p.m., Thursday, March 20, 2008 in Neatby-Timlin Theatre. There will also be a Special meeting of Council on April 3, 2008 at 2:30 p.m. to discuss the Integrated Plan for 2008-12.