This year is the 21st year of our representative Council. On September 25 the occasion of Council’s 20th year anniversary was marked with a Gala event, which celebrated Council’s establishment and growth. Academic governance at the University of Saskatchewan has matured as our institution has become more complex; however, Council has always worked, and continues to work under three major principles:

- First, Council has always enjoyed academic freedom in the past, and we continue to value it;
- Second, Council is a collegial self-governing body and we have responsibilities to govern ourselves accordingly;
- Third, Council is the university’s academic governance body where academic matters are considered and decisions are made.

Council opened its first meeting this year with the following acknowledgement: As we gather here today, we acknowledge we are on Treaty Six Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nation and Métis ancestors of this place and reaffirm our relationship with one another. Each and every meeting of Council will acknowledge our Indigenous Peoples and Lands.

I am pleased to report on behalf of Council on those decisions and items, which engaged Council in September and those items that will be presented to Council at its October 22nd meeting, 2:30 pm, Room 299 Murray Building. Council agendas are posted at: http://www.usask.ca/secretariat/governing-bodies/council/agendas.php

UPCOMING ITEMS BEFORE COUNCIL OCTOBER 22ND

2016-17 OPERATIONS FORECAST AND ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS
- The 2016-17 Operations Forecast request for funding submitted to the Government of Saskatchewan will be presented to Council accompanied by an Economic Impact Analysis of the economic contributions of the university to the province.

REPORT ON THE COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF GRADUATE PROGRAMS
- The final report on the structure of the College of Graduate Studies and Research and the recommendation of whether the college should remain an academic college or an administrative unit will be reported to Council.

NOMINATIONS TO THE PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT ACADEMIC SEARCH COMMITTEE; THE SEARCH COMMITTEE, DEAN, UNIVERSITY LIBRARY; AND THE SEARCH COMMITTEE DEAN, ARTS AND SCIENCE
- The nominations committee will present the nominees to the provost and vice-president academic search committee and two decanal search committees to Council for approval; as always, there will be a call for nominations from the floor.
ITEMS APPROVED AT THE SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
- A request for input on the proposed English Proficiency Policy (the policy is to be presented to Council for approval at the October meeting).

GOVERNANCE
- Amendments to the membership of the planning and priorities committee, scholarships and awards committee, and teaching, learning and academic resources committee.

JOINT CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIPS
- Establishment of the LaBorde Chair in Engineering Entrepreneurship, which also received Board approval at the Board of Governor’s October 8th meeting.

NOMINATIONS
- Nominations to the university review committee, academic programs committee, and research, scholarly and artistic work committee

Council is the governing body responsible for all things academic, and it relies on the collegial model of academic self-governance to conduct its business. That means that you, as a member of the General Academic Assembly, have an opportunity to influence the academic direction of the institution, both by electing members of your college to Council, by voting for members at large, and by considering letting your name stand for election to Council or one of its committees.

More information can be found on our web site at [www.usask.ca/secretariat/governing-bodies/council/index.php](http://www.usask.ca/secretariat/governing-bodies/council/index.php). Questions can be directed to university.secretary@usask.ca.

Council meets once a month from September to June. Meetings are open to all, and we hope you will feel welcome to join us and to watch your Council in action.

📅 2015-2016 meetings of University Council

October 22, 2015 – Meeting to be held in the Murray building, Room #299 at 2:30 pm

NOTE: All other meetings to be held in the Neatby-Timlin Theatre, Arts 241 at 2:30 pm
- November 19, 2015
- December 17, 2015
- January 21, 2016
- February 25, 2016
- March 17, 2016
- April 21, 2016
- May 19, 2016
- June 23, 2016

I consider it a privilege to continue to serve Council and the university. On behalf of Council and its committees and of the Council secretariat, I look forward to seeing you at Council.

Jay Kalra, Chair, University Council