



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Federated with the University of Waterloo

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Minutes of Thursday, October 17, 2024 Meeting

Present: Michael Pautler (Board Chair), Melissa Carvalhal, Cheri Chevalier, Andrew Deman, Melanie Garaffa, Justin Heimpel, Anne Jamieson, Carol Ann MacGregor, Peter Meehan, Katrina Møller, Tamara Nugent*, Ayo Owodunni, Bruce Rodrigues, Shannon Straus, Fr. Tim Uniac, Deron Waldock

Resources: Saphron Moule, Executive Director, Finance and Administration; Katrina Kaczala, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Matthew Bondy, Michael Braga, Norm Klassen, Alayna Woodley

**Attended the meeting virtually using Zoom.*

OPEN SESSION

1. PRAYER & TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

M. Pautler provided an acknowledgement that St. Jerome's University and the University of Waterloo reside and operate on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron, Anishinaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land Frederick Haldimand granted to the Haudenosaunee of the Six Nations of the Grand River in 1784 that includes 10 kilometers on both sides of the Grand River and extends from its source to Lake Erie.

The prayer was provided by M. Pautler.

2. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair thanked K. Kaczala for her support and work with the Board and wished her well on her maternity leave.

A warm welcome was extended to the newly appointed Board Members: Ayo Owodunni, Shannon Straus, and Kat Møller.

The Chair also noted that Alan Rego recently submitted his resignation from the Board and expressed gratitude for A. Rego's contributions during the time he served on the Board.

3. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The President provided the Board with relevant updates and reminders, including:

- The Orientation and Investiture Ceremony was once again a success with more than 300 students in attendance this year.
- The Lectures in Catholic Experience 2024-25 season has begun with two lectures being held in September. The next LCE event will be held on November 14th with speaker Matt Hoven talking about Father David Bauer.
- Recently represented the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities in Canada at the Fall Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) Plenary Meeting.

- Have been holding meetings with the Catholic Education Partnership members within the Diocese of Hamilton to discuss the future of Catholic identity within schools within the Diocese.
- The Indigenous Advisory Circle will be holding its first meeting of 2024-25 next week and will be focusing on the creation of an Indigenous Strategic Plan for St. Jerome's.
- On October 21st the University will be welcoming former Supreme Court Justice Frank Iacobucci to speak on Canada and Indigenous People working towards a better relationship.

P. Meehan also wished K. Kaczala well on her maternity leave and announced that Grace Nandi has been hired to provide support to the President's Office and Board of Governors while K. Kaczala is on leave. G. Nandi will be starting her role on October 21st.

4. VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AND DEAN'S REMARKS

The VPAD reported on relevant items from her area, including:

- Fall 2024 student enrollment data included with the Board materials notes the number of co-registered students who are taking classes at SJU.
- The Master of Catholic Thought program review is still in progress.
- The Certificate in Catholic Leadership program has now launched with 23 participants from institutions from across the Diocese of Hamilton.
- Following the recent review, the Sexuality, Marriage and Family Studies program has now undergone a name change to Sexuality, Relationships and Family Studies (SRF) to better reflect the courses the University teaches within the program.
- The new Dean of Arts has begun their role and has put together working groups to assist with the process of restructuring the Faculty of Arts.
- Ryan Touhey, faculty member within the Department of History was recently quoted by the BBC.
- Jane Nicholas, another faculty member within the Department of History, was recently appointed as co-chair of the Canadian Committee on Women's and Gender History.

5. AGENDA REVIEW, DECLARE CONFLICTS, ADDITIONS, CHANGES

No additions or changes were made to the agenda. No conflicts were declared.

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented.

Moved: A. Jamieson, **Seconded:** A. Deman, **Carried.**

Consent Agenda

6. MINUTES OF THE JUNE 6, 2024 BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

7. BOARD & COMMITTEE 2024-2025 WORK PLANS

8. 2024-2025 BOARD MEMBER TENURE CHART, SELF-ASSESSMENT SKILL MATRIX SUMMARY

9. COMMITTEE CHARTER REVISIONS

10. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Motion: To approve and receive for information by consent items 6 to 10 above.

Moved: D. Waldock, **Seconded:** J. Heimpel, **Carried.**

Regular Agenda

11. AUDITOR'S REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2024

D. Waldock reported that the University's auditing firm, MNP, attended the September Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) meeting and presented the University's audit results for the year ending April 30, 2024. The audit was found to be clean with no issues and the FAC recommends the approval of the financial statements.

S. Moule provided the Board with an overview of the financial statements and the auditor's report.

The Board expressed thanks to S. Moule, K. Radcliffe, and the rest of the finance team for their diligence and the good work they have done for the University in the audit process.

Motion: To approve the Auditor's Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended April 30, 2024, as presented.

Moved: D. Waldock, **Seconded:** J. Heimpel, **Carried.**

12. FINANCIAL UPDATE AND FORECAST

S. Moule provided a financial update and forecast as of August 31, 2024 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. S. Moule noted that the current projections outlined within the report do not consider any results of the collective bargaining process, as there was not enough information available to include in this update. S. Moule also remarked that Louis Hall is now fully occupied with graduate students which has resulted in an increase in ancillary revenues.

Motion: To receive, for information, the financial update and forecast as of August 31, 2024 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Moved: D. Waldock, **Seconded:** S. Straus, **Carried.**

13. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

Motion: To adjourn Open Session and move into Confidential Session.

Carried by consensus.

[Secretary's note: Following the adjournment of the confidential session, the Board reopened the open session to enter into the public record notice of the Board of Governors' approval of the renewal of the Fulltime Academic Staff Collective Agreement.]

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Moved: D. Waldock, **Seconded:** C. Chevalier, **Carried.**

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Michael Pautler
Chair of the Board of Governors