



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Federated with the University of Waterloo

BOARD OF GOVERNORS Minutes of Thursday, May 1, 2025 Meeting

Present: Michael Pautler (Board Chair), Melissa Carvalhal, Andrew Deman, Justin Heimpel*, Anne Jamieson, Carol Ann MacGregor, Peter Meehan, Katrina Møller, Tamara Nugent, Michael Braga, Matthew Bondy, Bruce Rodrigues, Deron Waldock, Shannon Straus, Melanie Garaffa*

Resources: Karen Radcliffe, Director, Finance and Administration; Grace Nandi, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Cheri Chevalier, Alexie Tcheuyap, Fr. Tim Uniac, Norm Klassen, Ayo Owodunni

**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 welcomed all members and reminded them to use the speaker due to the members who joined online via Zoom. The Chair hoped that members had the opportunity to review the contents prior to the meeting.

3. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

P. Meehan mentioned that we are coming to the end of the Spring semester and ushering the Summer semester. We are currently in the conference session and welcoming a group for retreat from St. Michael's today.

Thanks to everyone who came to the meeting with Bishop Crosby at his residence in Ardree in Hamilton. We engaged in interesting conversations including importance of having board retreats moving forward. We have locked down on having the Board retreat in two parts. Part 1 will be held in June 2025 and the other Part 2 will be held in September 2025. We are working on other details but currently Grace sent out a poll that includes a date that could work for everyone in June. We will share more details soon.

The conference of Synodality will be taking place at St. Jerome's University on June 15 to 18, 2025. This is coming out of the recent synod in the church. This is going to be on great emphasis to Pope Francis and his legacy. We are grateful to be hosting this conference at St. Jerome's University.

I want to publicly thank Bruce who has always joined and supported us in different services at

St. Jerome's University. He came last week to speak to the group of students in our certificate for Catholic Leadership program on Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. It was a wonderful presentation and thoughtful conversation, and I was grateful that Bruce could create that time.

Finally, we have the last Lecture in Catholic Experience featuring Fr. Gregory Boyle, on May 15, 2025 and would like to ask you to register for the online session, since the in-person session is fully booked.

4. VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AND DEAN'S REMARKS

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

Chad Wigglesworth who is a professor in the Faculty of English, will be announced publicly on Monday at the University of Waterloo Senate. He has been selected for a University of Waterloo's distinguished teaching award which is the highest University's teaching honor. St. Jerome's University has a history of winning these about 15-20 years ago. Therefore, it is part of the Academic plan to try and enhance our applications to win that award. Chad is an exceptional teacher and colleague and well deserving of this award.

An SMF student has been selected as one of the three valedictorians in the Faculty of Arts. They will be giving remarks at the afternoon ceremony in the Faculty of Arts and having to celebrate that major success.

On April 29, 2025, I had the opportunity to attend a lovely small dinner at the Italian Embassy in Ottawa because Gabriel Niccoli, who is the Emeritus Faculty at SJU, was awarded the Order of the Star of Italy, which is the equivalent of being Knighted. It was lovely to meet the Ambassador and his wife and a couple of senators, and it was a great honor to be in Ottawa to watch him get this award.

In addition to what Katrina Moller shared in her presentation, our Wellness Coordinator, Angelina Dodds, continues to think of new programs and ideas to promote wellness on Campus. She has been selected to become a facilitator for the Canadian Mental Health Association Moonwalks Program. This is a program that connects mental wellbeing with walking and hiking and being in nature. She will be trained as facilitators of that program over Summer after which they will be sharing their trainings and resources with others.

5. AGENDA REVIEW, DECLARE CONFLICTS, ADDITIONS, CHANGES

Out of discussions based on the Student Union presentation, the Chair proposes that the next board meeting and other board meetings moving forward, to include presentations on updates and remarks from Student Union.

The Chair noted that the primary agenda item in the open session—discussion and decision on Operating and Capital Budget—aligns with a corresponding item listed in the Confidential session.

The Chair noted that the budget approval process is ultimately done publicly, resulting in a publicly available document. To facilitate a more open and candid discussion, the Chair indicated that it would be appropriate to address any questions or considerations in the Confidential session prior to presenting the budget in the Open session.

[Secretary's note: The Chair proposed that the Board move into the Confidential session to discuss the Operating and Capital Budgets and subsequently return to the Open session to bring the item forward for approval.]

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented with the Chair's proposal.

Moved: A. Deman, **Seconded:** D. Waldock, **Carried**

Consent Agenda

6. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2024 BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

7. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Motion: To approve and receive for information by consent items 6 and 7 above.

Moved: A. Jamieson, **Seconded:** M. Braga, **Carried**

Regular Agenda

8. 2025-2026 PROPOSED OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS

The presentation provided by K. Radcliffe on Operating and Capital budgets was reviewed and approved by the board for information.

Motion: To receive as information the presentation shared.

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

9. POLICY REVIEW UPDATES

J. Heimpel mentioned that there are two policies he would like to update:

- Presidents' policy – J. Heimpel will follow up with M. Pautler regarding some feedback and updates on the policy.
- Review of the Code of Conduct and Bylaw to ensure that the language and policies are consistent. J. Heimpel mentioned that he continues to review these and will present them to the Governance and Nomination Committee, before forwarding them to the board ahead of the Board meeting in June.

Motion: To approve the information as received.

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

10. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

Motion: To rise from the Open Session and move to Confidential Session.

Moved: T. Nugent, **Seconded:** J. Heimpel, **Carried.**

[Secretary's note: The Chair proposed that the Board rise from the Open session, without adjourning it, to enter the Confidential session for discussion of the Operating and Capital Budgets.]

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Moved, Carried.

May 1, 2025
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Michael Pautler
Chair of the Board of Governors

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