

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
March 26, 2024  
Jorgenson Hall – JOR 1410  
380 Victoria Street and By Video Conference  
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Governors of Toronto Metropolitan University (the “University”) held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:** O. Abdelgawad, S. Babikian, N. Chauhan, J. Cockwell, M. Crosta, T. Darisi, M. Davis, I. Gammel, M. Knight, M. Lachemi, G. Leong, C. Paisley (Vice-Chair), D. Porter, R. Rodrigues, E. Shim, S. Sinha, W. Soliman, N. Sugunalan, B. Venkatesh

**Regrets:** J. Dallaire, J. Fukakusa, N. Gupta, D. Miller, N. Mohamed, T. Staffieri (Chair), L. Taylor Green, L. Williams

**Board Secretariat:**

W. Lawrence, General Counsel, Secretary of the Board of Governors, and Chief Privacy Officer

V. Luckiram, Governance Specialist

A. Mall, Senior Legal Counsel and Governance Officer

**Others in Attendance:**

P. Albanese, Vice-Provost, Faculty Affairs

E. Bagheri, Professor and Scientific Co-Director, Bridging Divides

M. Baker, Chief of Staff and Senior Director Government Relations

T. Chan, Dean of the School of Medicine, Vice-President, Medical Affairs

T. Conte, Executive Director, Office of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic

T. De Mello, Vice-President, Equity and Community Inclusion

M. Dettweiler, Executive Director, Campus Development

M. Forbes, Assistant Vice-President, University Relations

R. Iannacito-Provenzano, Provost and Vice-President, Academic

C. Kumaradas, Interim Vice-Provost and Dean, Yeates School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

S. Liss, Vice-President, Research and Innovation

G. Mallon, Assistant Vice-President, Facilities Management and Development

M. Martin-Griem, Executive Director

K. McCausland, Interim Vice-Provost, University Planning

J. McKee, Chief Financial Officer

J. McMillen, Vice-Provost, Students

K. Mehta, Vice-President, University Advancement and Alumni Relations

L. Nater, Senior Presentation Technology Specialist

A. Peng, Interim Dean of Arts

K. Soldatic, Professor, Canada Excellence Research Chair in Health Equity and Community Wellbeing

S. Zolfaghari, Vice-President, Administration and Operations

**1. IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION (Board Members Only)**

**2. IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION (Executive Group Invited)**

**END OF IN-CAMERA SESSION**

**3. INTRODUCTION**

3.1. Welcome

3.1.1. Land Acknowledgement

3.1.2. Chair's Remarks

C. Paisley, Vice-Chair of the Board, welcomed Board members to the second Board meeting of the new year and thanked Dean C. Falzon and The Creative School and author and alumna S. Murray for the University-curated items provided for Board members.

**3.2. CONSENT AGENDA**

3.2.1. Approval of the March 26, 2024 Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

3.2.2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3.2.3. Approval of the January 29, 2024 Minutes

The minutes were approved as presented.

#### **4. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT**

M. Lachemi announced that BlackBerry is partnering with Rogers Cybersecure Catalyst (“RCC”) and the SANS Institute to launch cyber security training and digital capacity-building initiatives in Asia. M. Lachemi thanked S. Liss, Vice-President, Research and Innovation, for leading this initiative, and Board Chair T. Staffieri for Rogers’ ongoing support of the RCC. M. Lachemi congratulated all staff and faculty who received TMU Awards this year; reported that the University hosted the U SPORTS Men’s National Hockey Championship; highlighted the TMU School of Medicine Fireside Chat, the first event held at the School of Medicine’s future home in Brampton; and shared a video about the success of the President’s Awards to Champion Equity (“PACE”) in surpassing its original goal of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000).

#### **5. REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY**

##### **5.1. 2024 Board Elections**

W. Lawrence, Secretary of the Board, reported on the results of the Board Elections and congratulated T. Conte who was elected as the Administrative Staff Board member, current Board member I. Gammel who was re-elected as the Faculty Board member, and A. Elshahed, A. Khwaja, and C. Leal who were elected as Student Board members.

#### **6. REPORT FROM THE PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT ACADEMIC**

R. Iannacito-Provenzano, Provost and Vice-President, Academic, provided an update on the development of the new academic plan and phase two (2) consultations, and the launch of a new series titled “Empowering Women in Academia at TMU”. R. Iannacito-Provenzano advised that the School of Medicine has been granted Candidate Status by the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools; the Postgraduate Medical Education office has also secured its initial accreditation; and the School of Medicine is working to secure accreditation for its seventeen (17) proposed residency programs. R. Iannacito-Provenzano outlined recent learning and teaching initiatives and introduced three (3) new appointments, C. Kumaradas, Interim Vice-Provost and Dean, Yeates School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies; P. Albanese, Vice-Provost, Faculty Affairs; and A. Peng, Interim Dean, Faculty of Arts.

##### **6.1. Environmental, Social, and Governance (“ESG”) Update Report**

R. Iannacito-Provenzano provided a report on the key actions the University is taking with respect to its environmental, social, and governance (“ESG”) practices noting that ESG fits into the University’s broader strategy on advancing progress on Sustainable Development Goals and rankings. R. Iannacito-Provenzano defined ESG and highlighted the University’s leadership in each of the three (3) areas, as well as the ESG approach employed with respect to investing. R. Iannacito-Provenzano discussed ESG in terms of

measuring the University's performance and setting goals, and highlighted several key rankings.

## **7. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7.1. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

D. Porter, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the Finance Committee met on February 29, 2024, and heard from M. Lachemi, R. Iannacito-Provenzano, K. McCausland, Interim Vice-Provost, University Planning, and J. McKee regarding the 2024-25 Toronto Metropolitan University Budget: Environmental Scan, Student Enrolment and Budget Principles, and heard from J. McKee regarding the Moody's Update to the University's Credit Analysis.

D. Porter reported that the Finance Committee met again on March 21, 2024, and heard from J. McKee and A. Zsomboki, Director, Treasury & Investing Services, regarding the Ted Rogers School of Management Student Managed Investment Fund Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures Amendment; Fiera Capital who presented its quarterly report; R. Iannacito-Provenzano and K. McCausland who presented the 2024-25 Budget Planning Update; and J. McKee who presented the unaudited Financial Statements for the period ending January 31, 2024, which the committee recommended that the Board approve.

#### **7.1.1. 2024-25 Budget Planning Update**

D. Porter reported that at the March 21, 2024 meeting, the committee heard from R. Iannacito-Provenzano and K. McCausland who presented the 2024-25 Budget Planning Update.

#### **7.1.2. Financial Statements (unaudited) for the period ending January 31, 2024**

It was moved, seconded and carried that:

#### **BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:**

**THAT the Board of Governors approves the Financial Statements (unaudited) for the period ending January 31, 2024, as presented.**

### **7.2. REPORT FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH AND INNOVATION**

#### **7.2.1. Leading with Excellence: Scaling TMU's Scholarly, Research and Creative ("SRC") Activities**

S. Liss, Vice-President, Research and Innovation provided his annual report and discussed the University's scholarly, research, and creative ("SRC") activity successes during the previous year and set out the priorities for the upcoming year. S. Liss discussed the evolution and milestones of SRC at the University; highlighted the most recent Research Infosource rankings; noted the success of the Bridging Divides research program, which received the single largest research grant the University has ever received of Ninety-Eight Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$98,600,000) through the Canada First Research Excellence Fund; and introduced E. Bagheri, Scientific Co-Director for Bridging Divides. S. Liss welcomed K. Soldatic who has been appointed as the Canada Excellence Research Chair ("CERC") in Health Equity and Community Wellbeing after the University was awarded a second CERC with an Eight Million Dollars (\$8,000,000), eight (8) year program.

S. Liss highlighted faculty members who have been recognized in the past year for their achievements; acknowledged the success of Rogers Cybersecure Catalyst under the leadership of C. Finlay, Executive Director, and expressed appreciation for Rogers and RBC, the founding partners and funders; and discussed what RCC has accomplished in the last five (5) years. S. Liss outlined the Strategic Research Plan ("SRP"), its Mid-Point Review, and the engagement process for the development of the next SRP, which will cover the 2025-2030 time period and will be approved by the Senate in December 2024. S. Liss discussed future areas of opportunity.

**8. FOR INFORMATION**

- 8.1. Toronto Metropolitan University Performance Indicators - March 2024 Report

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**NEXT MEETING: April 30, 2024**