



BOARD OF GOVERNORS
November 28, 2024
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Video and Teleconference

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Governors (the “Board”) of Toronto Metropolitan University (the “University”) held on Thursday, November 28, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: N. Campbell, D. Chin-Loy Chang, J. Cockwell, T. Conte, M. Crosta, M. Davis, A. Elshahed, I. Gammel, H. Gawne, A. Khwaja, M. Knight, M. Lachemi, C. Leal, C. Paisley (Vice-Chair), S. Ragunathan, W. Soliman, T. Staffieri (Chair), L. Taylor Green, B. Venkatesh, L. Williams

Regrets: N. Chauhan, J. Dallaire, J. Fukakusa, N. Gupta, N. Mohamed, D. Porter, S. Sinha,

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
M. Anthony, Director, Real Estate
M. Baker, Chief of Staff and Senior Director Government Relations
T. Chan, Dean of the School of Medicine, Vice-President, Medical Affairs
T. De Mello, Vice-President, Equity and Community Inclusion
M. Dettweiler, Executive Director, Campus Development
M. Forbes, Assistant Vice-President, University Relations
R. Frankle, Assistant Vice-President, University Advancement and Alumni Relations
E. Hallock, Director, Human Rights Services
R. Iannacito-Provenzano, Provost and Vice-President, Academic
L. Koechli, Dean, Chang School of Continuing Education
C. Kumaradas, Vice-Provost and Dean, Yeates School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
S. Liss, Vice-President, Research and Innovation
K. McCausland, Vice-Provost, University Planning
J. McKee, Chief Financial Officer

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

L. Nater, Senior Presentation Technology Specialist

J. O'Donnell, Chief Human Resources Officer

J. B. Walters, Executive Director, Office of the Vice-Provost, Faculty Affairs

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

T. Staffieri welcomed Board members to the second Board meeting of the year and congratulated I. Gammel, Board member, on her recent professional accomplishments.

3.2. **CONSENT AGENDA**

3.2.1. Approval of the November 28, 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 October 1, 2024 Minutes

The minutes were approved as presented.

4. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

M. Lachemi honoured the legacy of Murray Sinclair and noted the profound impact of his work, which continues to inspire the University's commitment to a more just, equitable and caring society. M. Lachemi commented on the Fall Convocation ceremonies; the installation of D. Chin-Loy Chang as the new Chancellor; honouring

Chancellor Emerita J. Fukakusa as she received an honorary doctorate degree; and the introduction of the new ceremonial mace reimagined with a new design.

M. Lachemi discussed the groundbreaking event of the Smart Campus Integration and Testing Hub ("SCIT Hub"); the University's ranking among the top ten (10) universities in Canada for graduate employability as per the Times Higher Education's Global Employability University Ranking 2025; the collaboration on the Malaysia Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence; and the recent 2024 Alumni Achievement Awards.

5. REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

W. Lawrence reported on the dates for the 2025 Board elections; announced the winner of the Fall 2024 Board of Governors Leadership Award and Medal, A. Grant, a P.h.D graduate from the Environmental Applied Science and Management program; and provided notice that the by-laws of the University are under review to adequately reflect the mandate of the Audit Committee. W. Lawrence notified the Board that proposed amendments to the by-laws will be presented to the Governance Committee and then to the Board in January 2025.

6. REPORT FROM THE PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT ACADEMIC

R. Iannacito-Provenzano, Provost and Vice-President, Academic, provided an update on the new academic plan and its values and priorities, noting that it was approved by the Senate on November 5, 2024, and will formally be released to the community in January 2025. R. Iannacito-Provenzano reported that the SoM secured accreditation for sixteen (16) residency programs through the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons and the College of Family Physicians of Canada, and that this simultaneous accreditation of so many programs is unprecedented in Canada.

R. Iannacito-Provenzano discussed the international portfolio; the Times Higher Education's Global Employability University Ranking 2025; the new appointments of C. Kumaradas as Vice-Provost and Dean, Yeates School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies and L. Koechli as Dean, Chang School of Continuing Education; and ongoing searches for other deans.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1. 2023-2024 Sexual Violence Policy Report

T. De Mello, Vice-President, Equity and Community Inclusion, presented the 2023-24 Sexual Violence Policy Report and outlined the supports, services and accommodations provided noting the type and number of requests made during the reported period. T. De Mello highlighted the nuance between requests for support versus complaints being made and how many people require more than one (1) support service. T. De Mello

outlined several initiatives and programs from the reporting period, highlighting the consent education and training provided by Consent Comes First as well as the work being done by other offices at the University.

T. De Mello reviewed the sexual violence policy complaint process under Human Rights Services (“HRS”) and the number of incidents and complaints received, explaining that the jump in numbers from 2021-2022 to now is due to the shift from remote to in person learning. T. De Mello outlined the new manner in which cases are now counted, with only new cases being counted and each case being counted based on the number of parties involved in that particular case. T. De Mello advised that fifty (50) student complaints of sexual violence were received in the reporting year by HRS with twenty-five (25) moving forward in the complaint resolution process and outlined the methods of resolution. T. De Mello provided information about who is accused of sexual violence or alleged to have caused this harm, as well as the location where the incidents occurred, specifying that the majority of student complaints involve fellow students and that the majority of instances of sexual violence occur on campus, while some occur online and others off-campus.

A Board member asked about what other measures are in place to help mitigate the incidents of sexual violence and T. De Mello discussed the focus on prevention in terms of education, training, and awareness as well as certain security measures. A Board member asked about how sexual violence and human rights complaints will be addressed within the SoM and hospital context. W. Lawrence advised that under the affiliation agreements with the partner hospitals, policy frameworks govern the students when they are both in the classroom and hospital setting and one would take primary jurisdiction to apply the policy depending on the circumstances of the incident. T. De Mello explained that her office is collaborating with the SoM to develop the policies so that they are consistent with other University policies.

7.2. Update on Strategic Research Plan 2025-2030

S. Liss, Vice-President, Research and Innovation, provided an update on the Strategic Research Plan (the “plan”) 2025-2030. S. Liss explained that the plan provides a clear indication of the University’s research strengths, is required by the Federal government for institutional research funding (such as the Canada Research Chairs program), and for the first time, is linked to a core pillar within the academic plan. S. Liss noted that the plan describes how the University will increase scholarly, research and creative (“SRC”) excellence, intensity and impact over the next five (5) years. S. Liss explained the role of the steering committee who were actively involved in the development process, the iterative community consultation process that took place, and the feedback received, and actions taken.

S. Liss outlined the plan’s themes, noting that they are neither exhaustive, nor prescriptive. S. Liss noted that instead they complement and intersect with one another,

enhancing interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation, which has been an important facet of the University's SRC activities. S. Liss outlined next steps in the governance approval process whereby the plan would be presented to the Senate on December 3, 2024 for approval, with its launch in January 2025.

7.3. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

M. Lachemi reported that at the November Finance Committee meeting, K. McCausland, Vice-Provost, University Planning, provided the 2023-24 enrolment update and J. McKee discussed the Financial Statements (unaudited) for the period ending October 31, 2024. The committee recommended that the Board approve the financial statements.

7.3.1. 2024-25 Enrolment Update

K. McCausland, Vice-Provost, University Planning presented the 2024-25 Enrolment Update for both undergraduate and graduate enrolments. K. McCausland advised that overall enrollment is in line with the revenue levels assumed in the approved budget, that international enrolment is below last year's levels and well below budgeted numbers while domestic enrolment is above last year's levels and budgeted numbers. K. McCausland noted that at the undergraduate level, domestic intake into first year is higher than last year while international intake has decreased. K. McCausland further noted that at the graduate level, enrolment is holding steady among domestic students while there is only some softening for international graduate enrolment since this was not subject to the same student visa limits enacted earlier this year for undergraduates.

7.3.2. Financial Statements (unaudited) - Period ending October 31, 2024

The Finance Committee recommended that the Board approve the financial statements.

It was moved, seconded, and carried:

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

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

8. FOR INFORMATION

8.1. Periodic Program Review Summary and Implementation Plan Reports approved in 2023-2024

8.2. National Survey of Student Engagement 2023

9. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING: January 30, 2025