Board of Governors meeting highlights

Issued April 12, 2018

The University of Saskatchewan Board of Governors held its regularly scheduled board meeting on March 19 and 20, 2018. The following is an update on the highlights of the meeting. This summary is intended to identify significant items on which the Board has taken positive action. The Board agenda may also include proposals that have not reached completion, items covered by confidentiality and privacy policies or legal privilege, and information items that are reported or announced elsewhere. These are not normally included the Board Highlights summary.

Meeting with Minister
The Board had an opportunity to meet with the Tina Beaudry-Mellor, Minister of Advanced Education and the Minister responsible for Innovation Saskatchewan and for the Status of Women. The discussion focused on the university’s vision for the future, and on the role of post-secondary education in the provincial economy.

Governance Workshop
Vince-Bruni-Bossio, a faculty member in the Edwards School of Business, conducted a workshop with the Board as part of a review of the Board’s bylaws and the terms of reference of Board committees. This review project is intended to ensure that the bylaws and the committee terms of reference are appropriately aligned with the responsibilities of the Board as laid out in the University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995.

Bond Issuance
The Board gave final approval to the issuance of a private placement bond for up to $85 million with a maximum term of 40 years. The bond is part of the financing strategy for capital renewal at the University of Saskatchewan. The proceeds will be used to fund renewal of five core campus buildings – the Physics Building, the Thorvaldson Building, the W.P. Thompson Building, the Arts Building and the Murray Library. Construction on these renewal projects is expected to take four to five years.

College Quarter Infrastructure
The Board approved funding for infrastructure projects in the north-east quadrant of College Quarter, including walkways and parking space. This infrastructure will connect Merlis Belsher Place with other facilities in the area, such as the new hotel and the stadium, and will also provide a basis for future development in this area.

Tuition 2018-19
The Board approved tuition rates for the 2018-19 academic year. Tuition rates were announced April 4. More information can be found here.