AGENDA ITEM: 8.0

Provost’s Report to Council

June 2020

GENERAL REMARKS

The university continues to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic for the Spring and Summer terms and planning is continuing for the delivery of a Fall academic term that will be primarily delivered remotely due to the ongoing health and safety concerns our students, faculty and staff at the UoF S. A new Pandemic Response Team (PRT) has drafted guidelines to assure that academic and scholarly (research) activities are managed in an effective and safe way as the campus begins to re-open under the guidelines set by government.

Deans, vice-presidents and other senior leaders continue to communicate on the delivery of the Fall term as it emerges for different academic programs. We appreciate your patience as we continue to work through the delivery of the Fall term given the current difficult health and safety realities.

This is my last report to University Council. I am pleased that beginning July 1, 2020, Dr. Melissa Just will become the Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic) until a permanent provost is appointed. Melissa has been working with myself and other senior leaders to transition into this role and will be well prepared stepping into this role. I wish her much success as she assumes these responsibilities. The university is fortunate to have Melissa taking on this role at this time.

Finally, I want to thank all the members of University Council for the wonderful experience that I have had being the provost for the past three years. It has been an honour to serve you and work with many of you individually and collectively on committees of Council as well as Council itself. The broad discussions that have evolved at Council as the University Plan 2025 was discussed to shape the direction of the university for the next 5 years was a rich example of this Council’s impact. This university has such a continued bright future ahead of it and this body will form a big part of shaping that destiny. The very best to each of you on the current and incoming Council.

INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT

Over the last three months, our campus community has been focused on responding to our current realities related to the COVID-19 pandemic. While we continue to adapt to our changing environment, it is important that we rely on our strategic plans to guide us through these challenging times. IPA continues to support colleges, school and units with their strategic plans and progressing towards goals. Information will be gathered from colleges, schools and units over the next few months and our annual planning process will continue throughout the summer and into the fall.