Attendance: See Appendix A for listing of members in attendance.

Chelsea Willness, acting chair of Council, called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m., observing that quorum had been attained.

Memorial tributes were given to honour Dr. Ahmed El-Serafi, Professor Emeritus, College of Engineering, given by Robert Johanson, Head of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and to honour Dean Emeritus (Law) Dr. Douglas A. Schmeiser, given by Beth Bilson on behalf of College of Law Dean Martin Phillipson.

1. Adoption of the agenda

AITKEN/WILSON: To adopt the agenda as circulated.  

CARRIED

2. Opening remarks

The acting chair acknowledged National Indigenous Peoples Day and spoke of the recent passing of Jim Greer, Council member, noting that a celebration in honour of Professor Greer's life and contributions to the university would occur at a later date.

The acting chair reminded members of the usual procedures for debate and reported on the topic discussed at the most recent meeting of Council chairs with members of the president's executive committee, which involved some of the challenges the university faces in making reconciliation a reality.

3. Minutes of the meeting of May 17, 2018

WOTHERSPOON/DE BOER: That the May 17, 2018 Council minutes be approved.  

CARRIED

4. Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Report of the President

Tony Vannelli, provost and vice-president academic, presented the President's Report on behalf of President Stoicheff, who was unable to attend.

Provost Vannelli highlighted several items from the report, including the recent convocation ceremonies, the donation to Merlis Belsher Place to establish the Ron and Jane Graham Sport Science and Health Centre, and the various events planned on campus and in the city to celebrate
Pride Month. On June 23, members of the university community, student leaders, and senior administrative leaders are invited to take part in the Saskatoon Pride Parade.

University representatives participated in a recent successful trip to Mexico to further international collaboration through the Saskatchewan Education Alliance. The alliance comprises the two universities in the province and Saskatchewan Polytechnic. The mission focused on working together to highlight the educational and research capacity in Saskatchewan and ability to engage with international partners.

6. **Report of the Provost**

Provost Vannelli reported on the full accreditation of College of Medicine’s undergraduate program received from the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS) and invited Preston Smith, dean of the College of Medicine, to address Council. Dean Smith thanked Council for its support and leadership in helping to advance the changes required to ensure accreditation and recognized the contributions of students, staff, and faculty of the college.

Provost Vannelli echoed the positive comments about convocation within the President’s Report, noting that the ceremonies gave him the opportunity to hear directly from graduates about the importance of the university in their lives.

The Institutional Planning and Assessment Office (IPA) continues its work identifying the initiatives within the college and school strategic plans and the metrics by which colleges will be able to measure progress against their plan and the University Plan. Over 500 initiatives and 30 cross-college themes have been identified in the college and school plans.

Discussions continue about a university strategic enrolment plan that will encompass undergraduate and graduate student enrolment growth and funding for graduate studies, to augment Tri-agency and industry funding of graduate students. Provost Vannelli mentioned the 2019-20 Operations Forecast requested by the provincial government is in draft form and will be discussed at the September 2018 Council meeting.

Provost Vannelli made mention that the coming weeks will mark the milestone of the completion of his first year as provost and vice-president academic and thanked members of Council and Council committees for their support in his transition.

7. **Student Societies**

7.1 **Report from the USSU**

Andy Prokopchuk, University of Saskatchewan Students’ Union (USSU) designate gave a verbal report, indicating USSU executive members are currently in Ontario, training with peers from other Canadian institutions.

Mr. Prokopchuk reported the USSU executive has set their agenda for the year under the guiding words of, “engage, empower and enlighten” and has begun to plan events and functions under this mantra to support students and their success.

7.2 **Report from the GSA**
Naheda Sahtout, president of the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) presented the GSA report. Ms. Sahtout emphasized the importance of preparing graduate students to be competitive within the job market, and to ensure that students are supported in their transition from research to industry, and other career avenues, given that fewer graduate students will find careers in academia. Provost Vannelli committed to looking further at the training of graduate students to encompass alternative career opportunities.

8. Nominations Committee

Pamela Downe, vice-chair, conveyed that it was with a heavy heart that she stood before Council in place of Jim Greer, chair, to present the requests for decision. Following, as Council committee chairs, in turn, presented their reports, many chairs commented on the passing of Professor Greer and reflected on those qualities he embodied as a colleague, teacher, and mentor.

The chair called three times for nominations from the floor for each nomination. There were none.

8.1 Request for Decision: Nomination to the University Review Committee

DOWNE/DE BOER: That Council approve the nomination of Moira Day, Department of Drama, to serve on the university review committee for a two-year term, effective July 1, 2018 and continuing until June 30, 2020.

CARRIED

8.2 Request for Decision: Nominations to the Promotions Appeal Panel

DOWNE/DE BOER: That Council approve the nominations of Leslie Howe, Department of Philosophy, and Bram Noble, Department of Geography and Planning, to the promotions appeal panel for three-year terms, effective July 1, 2018 and continuing until June 30, 2021.

CARRIED

8.3 Request for Decision: Nominations to the Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee

DOWNE/DE BOER: That Council approve the nomination of Kathleen James-Cavan, Department of English, to serve on the teaching, learning and academic resources committee for a three-year term, effective July 1, 2018 and continuing until June 30, 2021.

CARRIED

9. Academic Programs Committee

Terry Wotherspoon, chair, academic programs committee, presented the committee’s reports.

9.1 Request For Decision: Changes to Admissions Qualifications for the Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) program

Professor Wotherspoon indicated the proposed changes add two new courses as requirements for admissions to the D.M.D. program. As an equivalent course in the listed admissions requirements is no longer taught, Professor Wotherspoon noted the redundant course would be removed in the next catalogue listing.
WOTHERSPOON/DETMER: That Council approve the proposed changes to the admissions qualifications for the Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) program, effective the 2020-21 admission cycle.

CARRIED

9.2 Request for Decision: Graduate Certificates from the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy

The university offers a number of professional graduate-level certificates, and Professor Wotherspoon noted the proposed certificates have been offered for some time with success at the Regina campus of Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy. The certificates are designed to appeal to professionals working in fields related to public policy and management, and have the ability to ladder into the school’s professional master’s degree offerings.

Graduate Certificate in Economic Analysis for Public Policy

WOTHERSPOON/DETMER: That Council approve the Graduate Certificate in Economic Analysis for Public Policy, effective May 2019.

CARRIED

Graduate Certificate in Non-Profit Management

WOTHERSPOON/DETMER: That Council approve the Graduate Certificate in Non-Profit Management, effective May 2019.

CARRIED

Graduate Certificate in Public Management


CARRIED

Graduate Certificate in Public Policy Analysis


CARRIED

9.3 Report for Information: Annual report of the Academic Programs Committee of Council for 2017-18

Professor Wotherspoon recalled members to the committee’s annual report, noting the varied activities of the year, thanking committee members for their service, and acknowledging the work of Amanda Storey, committee secretary, in supporting the committee.

10. Planning and Priorities Committee

Dirk de Boer, chair, planning and priorities committee presented the committee's report.
10.1 Report for Information: Annual Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee for 2017-18

Professor de Boer invited questions of the committee’s annual report. There being none, he offered thanks to members for engaging with several challenging issues over the past year and commended Sandra Calver, committee secretary, for her service in support of the committee.

11. Governance Committee

Jay Wilson, chair, governance committee, presented the committee’s reports.

11.1 Report for Information: Number of Student Appeals for 2017-18

Professor Wilson noted the report presents statistics on the number of university-level appeals of academic decisions and academic misconduct findings.


Professor Wilson indicated that much of the committee’s work this year has focused on revisions to the Procedures for Student Appeals in Academic Matters.

12. Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee

Alec Aitken, chair, teaching, learning and academic resources committee, presented the committee report.

12.1 Report for Information: Annual Report of the Teaching, Learning and Academic Resources Committee for 2017-18

Professor Aitken reported the committee has focused much of its attention over the past year on the student experience of teaching and learning and on revisions to the Learning Charter. Revisions have been undertaken to the charter to encompass how the university will meaningfully engage with Indigenous ways of knowing. The revised Learning Charter will be presented to Council in the fall for approval.

Professor Aitken drew attention to the membership of the committee, thanking members for their service on the committee, and expressing farewell to those members departing.

13. Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work Committee

Paul Jones, chair, research, scholarly and artistic work committee, presented the committee report.


Professor Jones referred members to the annual reports from the Office of the Vice-president Research and the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies appended to the committee’s annual report. Professor Jones welcomed Julita Vassileva, incoming chair and offered thanks
to all members of the committee for their service, noting in particular the contributions of Amanda Storey, committee secretary.

14. International Activities Committee


The acting chair of Council indicated that Gordon Zello, chair, international activities committee, was unable to be present and invited questions about the report to be submitted to Professor Zello by email.

15. Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships

15.1 Report for Information: Annual Report of the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships for 2017-18

Scott Bell, member, joint committee on chairs and professorships, presented the report on behalf of Jim Germida, committee chair, inviting questions from members about the report. There were none.

16. Other business

Beth Bilson, university secretary, reported on the outcomes of the recent Council elections, reporting that Rachel Engler-Stringer, College of Medicine, was elected to a two-year term as a member at large, and that Ed Krol, Pharmacy and Nutrition, and Jim Basinger, Geological Sciences, were elected to one-year terms as members at large.

The acting chair of Council offered thanks to committee chairs for their service this year, as well as the university secretary, staff in the Office of the University Secretary, and Council members.

17. Question period

Updates were requested on the possibility of a partnership between the university and the Saskatoon Tribal Council, the contracting of work to Indigenous companies, and the status of communication with the Indigenous Students’ Council.

Provost Vannelli noted the university continues to be engaged in discussions with the Saskatoon Tribal Council and committed to consulting with Greg Fowler, vice-president finance and resources, about whether the university will contract a percentage of its contract work with companies with Indigenous employees. With respect to the Indigenous Students’ Council (ISC), Professor Bilson noted Council’s membership is set by the University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995, and does not include representation from the ISC. Student leaders from the ISC have been contacted on several occasions to invite discussion about having representation on Council committees, with no response.

The request that the university review its history and past performance with respect to Indigenization was restated. In response, Provost Vannelli indicated that under the guidance of the vice-provost Indigenous engagement, the university is approaching reconciliation through forward-looking actions, rather than looking backwards at past practices and policies.
18. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned by motion (GJEVRE/WALKER) at 4:30 p.m.