Attendence: See item 3 Appendix A for the listing of members in attendance.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:35.

2. Tributes

2.1 There was a tribute to Willi Braun, Department of Geological Sciences, presented by Dr. Brian Pratt.

2.2 There was a tribute to Man-Kam Leung, Department of History, presented by Dr. Gordon DesBrisay.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was reordered to move the governance committee and planning and priorities committee before the academic programs committee items.

Brook/Urquhart: That the agenda be approved with the above amendments.

CARRIED

4. Opening remarks

The chair, Dr. Jay Wilson, acknowledged that Council meets on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis.

He reported that the topic of the recent breakfast meeting with the chairs of Council and PEC was “Innovation and the World.” It included a discussion of collaboration and the MOU with the City of Saskatoon. He thanked Laura Zink from VP Research Office for her presentation at the meeting.

Dr. Wilson reminded those in attendance of the protocols for Council meetings. Members were asked to direct questions related to the agenda items throughout the meeting. Questions related only indirectly to agenda topics should be posed during question period.

Dr. Wilson also made the following remarks:

I would like to make a short statement reminding those in attendance about the purpose of Council meetings. When we meet, we have two hours to deal with the business of Council. To debate, to discuss, and to decide on matters of importance to the functioning of the university. When I left the last meeting, I felt that we had not done what we were elected to do. We did not fully engage in the constructive and collegial work needed to
move the academic business of the University forward. Although there were slivers of productive engagement, there was also a spirit of grandstanding and tangents of no benefit to the work of council. I want to make it clear that we need critical discussion of the matters brought forward at University Council. What we do not need are personal platforms and diversions from the matters at hand. When you choose to participate, I encourage you to consider your motivations, consider the other council members, and demonstrate respect for all who gather at these meetings. I share this reminder as it is my responsibility to represent the interests of all members of council.

5. **Approval of Minutes of the meeting of September 19, 2019**

Stewart/Jones: That the minutes be approved as circulated.  

CARRIED

6. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

None

7. **Report of the President**

President Stoicheff sent his regrets for the meeting. Dr. Irena Creed, AVP research and special advisor to the president on sustainability provided an update on the university’s sustainability initiatives, in follow-up to the commitment made by the president in the spring of 2018/19. Dr. Creed gave a presentation (attachment 1). She indicated that USask is putting a high priority on meeting the ambitious agenda in the Sustainability Development Goals: 2030. This is part of university’s commitment to becoming the university the world needs. A sustainability action plan will be developed within the coming year.

There was a question about when the university’s report on our sustainability footprint will be made available to Council and what resources will be allocated to sustainability. Dr. Creed responded that the original report was drafted in 2016. She will be reviewing and updating it for presentation to Council [Table 1. Action 1]. She pointed to some of the exciting and interesting ideas to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions at USask, including a microgrid and solar panels. Further, while we are working in a financially insecure environment, the president and provost have committed to support for environmental sustainability at USask.

There was another question about which benchmarks we would be using in our reporting on sustainability, given the significant effort that has been made to measure progress against the STARS rating. Dr. Creed replied that we would explore national and international standards, as well as comparing to the U15 to see what an optimal benchmarking system might be.

The president of the USSU, Regan Ratt-Misponas thanked Dr. Creed for the presentation and inquired whether there would be support from the office of the president for student initiatives. Dr. Creed responded that student-led initiatives will continue to be supported.
There was a suggestion that the university should also look for matching or external funding to support sustainability.

Dr. Tony Vannelli, provost and VP academic presented the rest of the president’s report in his absence. He spoke to three items in the president’s report: the priority of sustainability for the institution; the 20th anniversary of the CLS; and the legacy of Dr. Eli Bornstein as the founder of The Structurist. He affirmed that sustainability and student led initiatives will be supported. He also acknowledged the contributions of Drs. Leung and Braun.

With respect to the contributions of Dr. Bornstein, who founded the longest running art and art history journal in Canada, The Structurist, Dr. Peta Bonham-Smith announced the new structurist fellowship. She noted that a related exhibit would open that night at the Kenderdine Art Gallery.

8. Report of the Provost

Dr. Vannelli spoke to the report of the provost. He pointed to the section of his report on the transition of the university’s public health programming. He stated that we have unique opportunities to better support disciplines and interdisciplinarity at USask, not necessarily under one fixed administrative structure. We will transition to something else, something better, through a consultative and engaging process. The governance systems and processes will be followed, and the mechanisms, structures and vehicles to bolster interdisciplinarity have not been predetermined. Dr. Vannelli committed to coming back to Council with further information on TABBS 2.0, which will ensure that appropriate percentages of co-PI research will be credited and resources will follow. This will encourage interdisciplinary success and ensure that faculty are appropriately acknowledged and rewarded for their work. [Table 1. Action 2]

There was a question about when the progress report on the university plan would be presented to Council. Dr. Vannelli responded that it would be presented to Council in December 2019. [Table 1. Action 3]

9. Student Societies

   9.1 Report from the USSU

There was no report received from the USSU.

   9.2 Report from the GSA

Mery Mendoza, president of the GSA presented the GSA report. She indicated that the GSA continues to advocate for graduate student representation on the university’s Board of Governors.

Dr. Brothwell, dean of the College of Dentistry, commended the GSA on their efforts. He asked if mental health first aid training would be offered to graduate students. Ms. Mendoza confirmed that training sessions were being provided.

10. Planning and Priorities Committee

Dr. Darrell Mousseau, chair of PPC presented one notice of motion and one request for decision.
10.1 Notice of Motion: New Vision for Interdisciplinary Public Health Programming at USask

*It is recommended that Council approve the disestablishment of the School of Public Health on academic grounds, and upon the confirmation of Senate, recommend to the Board of Governors that it provide for the disestablishment of the school effective June 30, 2020.*

10.2 Request for Decision: Fostering tomorrow’s Leaders: Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Plan

*Mousseau/Bruni-Bossio: It is recommended that Council approve Fostering Tomorrow’s Leaders: The Learning, Teaching and Student Experiences Plan, which includes the enrolment 2025 goals, and that Council recommend to Senate that it confirm the University of Saskatchewan’s enrolment goals to 2025.*

There was a question about the resource and quality implications of planned enrolment increases in course-based and certificate-based graduate programs. Dr. Trever Crowe, dean of the College of Graduate and Post-Doctoral Studies and Dr. Patti McDougall, vice provost, Teaching, Learning and Student Experience, responded that the plan was developed in consultation with the deans and that it was within their purview to appropriately allocate resources behind these priorities. Dr. McDougall further indicated that the next phase of implementation, some of which is reflected in college plans, would advance this priority. The provost further responded that workloads and faculty assignments will continue to follow the USFA Collective Agreement.

**CARRIED**

11. Governance Committee

Dr. Stephen Urquhart, chair of the governance committee, presented two notices of motion.

11.1 Notice of Motion: Dissolution of the International Activities Committee

*It is recommended that Council approve the dissolution of the International Activities Committee of Council effective immediately.*

Dr. Urquhart indicated that the dissolution of the international activities committee (IAC) [11..1] was being presented in conjunction with changes to some of the Council standing committees’ terms of reference [11.2]. He indicated that the governance committee had talked with Dr. Keith Walker, chair of the IAC working group that made the recommendation to dissolve the committee. The IAC determined that the business it was dealing with was increasingly operational and less strategic.

He reported on discussions of the proposal at the governance and coordinating committees’ meetings. The committees determined that to ensure that the faculty voice on internationalization not be lost, that the other standing committees should be asked to review their terms of reference. Also, he had received assurances from the chair of the coordinating committee, Dr. Wilson, that considerations of internationalization would be reported in the annual reports of the standing committees at the end of the year [Table 1. Action 4].
He also addressed a concern that had been raised at the September Council meeting about the representation of faculty on the IAC working group that had made this recommendation. He noted that faculty members on the committee included Drs. Keith Walker, Jim Lee, and Patti McDougall. Granted two of these individuals are also members of the administration, Council is responsible for shared governance between administration and academics.

A Council member noted that two of the dates were wrong in the report. April 2019 should read April 2018, and December 2019 should read December 2018.

A Council member spoke against the motion. She commented that this proposal still puts at risk faculty voice and involvement in internationalization and that it was inconsistent with the priority placed on globalism articulated in the university plan.

Dr. Paul Orlowski, who was chair of the IAC in 2018/19 replied that the committee raised and considered similar concerns about both faculty and student voice in international work. That said, the vote to dissolve the committee was passed by consensus.

**11.2 Notice of Motion: Updated Standing Council Committees’ Terms of Reference and Internationalization**

*It is recommended that Council approve the attached changes to the terms of reference of PPC, RSAW, TLARC, and APC as they relate to internationalization or regular updates to membership and/or administrator titles, effective immediately.*

Dr. Urquhart reported that in relation to the motion to dissolve the IAC, and related to the concern about faculty voice in internationalization the coordinating committee had taken action. All standing committees of Council were asked to review their terms of reference in consideration of this proposal and of the ongoing priority for internationalization. Some housekeeping changes were also proposed for administrator titles. In summary: PPC reported that internationalization was already captured; the coordinating and nominations committee determined that their terms of reference did not need a specific mention of internationalization; RSAW, APC and TLARC included changes to reflect the priority for both internationalization and Indigenization, specifically.

A Council member spoke against the proposal as it related to the motion to dissolve and thereby distribute the responsibility for internationalization.

Dr. McDougall reminded Council of the International Blueprint that was presented to Council, which recommended the implementation of an international operations committee. The IAC had an absence of governance issues to deal with, whereas there are ongoing operational issues.

**12. Academic Programs Committee**

Dr. Susan Detmer, chair of APC, presented three items for decision.

**12.1 Request for Decision: Program Name change – Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Diploma in Aboriginal Lands Governance (to Indigenous Lands Governance) and Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Diploma in Aboriginal Resource Management (to Indigenous Resource Management)**
Detmer/Brook: It is recommended that Council approve:

(1) the proposed name change for the Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Diploma in Aboriginal Lands Governance, effective May 2020.

CARRIED

Detmer/Brook: It is recommended that Council approve:

(2) the proposed name change for the Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Diploma in Aboriginal Resource Management, effective May 2020.

CARRIED

12.2 Request for Decision: Admissions Qualification Change - Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Marketing

Brook/Detmer: It is recommended that Council approve the proposed change in admissions qualifications for the Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Marketing, for applicants admitted for September 2020 or later.

There was a discussion of the minimum entrance requirements for the program. A concern was raised that it would decrease the quality of applicants. Dr. Crowe and Dr. Maureen Bourassa responded that only in certain circumstances would the minimum score requirement be waived to consider holistically other qualities that applicants bring, which can also be indicators of potential success in the program. Another question was raised about why certain comparator institutions were included in the analysis. Dr. Bourassa responded that regional program comparators were included.

13. Nominations Committee

Dr. Eric Lamb, vice-chair of the nominations committee to presented their item.

13.1 Request for Decision: Nomination to the Western College of Veterinary Medicine Dean’s Review Committee

Lamb/Urquhart: It is recommended that Council approve the nomination of Scott Bell, Department of Geography and Planning to serve on the Western College of Veterinary Medicine Review Committee as a member effective immediately.

CARRIED

14. Research, Scholarly and Artistic Works Committee

Dr. Jon Bath, chair of RSAW presented a report for information.

Dr. Bath noted that the report was from 2018, and relates to faculty not graduate students. The matters are confidential therefore he is not in a position to comment on individual cases. The report does not include post-doctoral fellows.

15. Other business

None.

16. Question period

A Council member asked Dr. Creed if as part of our sustainability action plan, USask was going to consider removing meat from its menus across campus as other universities in the UK have done. Dr. Creed responded that sustainability leadership does include purchasing matters. However, the Canadian Food Guide was recently updated and does not omit meat from the diet.

A suggestion was raised about the practices for emailing and posting Council agendas on the website. Perhaps a PAWS announcement could be made instead.

A Council member spoke about the “admonition” that was made by the chair of Council at the beginning of the meeting about the appropriate conduct of business at Council meetings. He suggested that specific instances or individuals could be addressed directly rather than making broad statements at the meeting. The chair responded that he wished to give Council members the opportunity to reflect on their conduct, performance, and comments at the meetings. He also wished to provide an explanation of expectations at the meetings.

The Council member inquired as to the chair’s comment about “grandstanding” and asked him to define it. Dr. Wilson responded that to him, it meant raising the same items over and over with limited impact, or personal platforms that do not relate to items on the agenda. The Council member replied that Council is authorized to make statements on any aspect of university business.

A Council member offered that the sustainability working group look to evidence to inform decision making, and that there is expertise in the College of Agriculture to assist with this.

A question was posed about how the university determines who can lease campus space. He raised a concern that a religious group was present and recruiting on campus in the Arts Building, and that this group does not espouse the values of the university.

A Council member remarked that this was only the second time in two years that he had been able to stay until question period, referring to the meetings running overtime, i.e. past 4:30p.m.

17. Adjournment

Jones: The meeting adjourned by motion.

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<td>Presentation of updated USask Sustainability Plan to Council</td>
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<td>Presentation of &quot;TABBS 2.0&quot; to Council</td>
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<td>Internationalization in committee annual reports</td>
<td>Stephen Urquhart</td>
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**Attachments**

1. Appendix A – Attendance from the meeting of October 17, 2019
2. Appendix B – President’s Report: Sustainability Initiatives presentation
3. Appendix C – Fostering Tomorrow’s Leaders: Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Plan presentation
Next meeting November 21, 2019 – Please send regrets to michelle.kjargaard@usask.ca
Deadline for submission of motions to the coordinating committee: November 6, 2019.