

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

March 29, 2023

Jorgenson Hall – JOR 1410

380 Victoria Street

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Governors of Toronto Metropolitan University (the "University") held on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

#### ATTENDANCE:

**Present:** S. Babikian, N. Campbell, N. Chauhan, J. Cockwell, J. Dallaire, S. Dworkin, J. Fakhim, J. Fukakusa, I. Gammel, C. Garay, R. Graham, M. Kolios, M. Lachemi, G. Leong, D. Miller, M. Mullings, C. Paisley (Vice-Chair), D. Porter, S. Ragunathan, R. Rodrigues, E. Shim, S. Sinha

Regrets: K. Bhatia, M. Davis, J. Kuriakose, N. Mohamed, W. Soliman, T. Staffieri (Chair)

## **Board Secretariat:**

- J. Shin Doi, General Counsel, Secretary of the Board of Governors, and University Privacy Officer V. Luckiram, Governance Specialist
- J. MacInnis, Associate General Counsel and Assistant Secretary of the Board of Governors
- A. Mall, Senior Legal Counsel and Governance Officer

# Others in Attendance:

- T. Conte, Executive Director, Office of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic
- G. Craney, Chief Strategy Officer, University Planning
- T. De Mello, Vice-President, Equity and Community Inclusion
- M. Forbes, Chief of Staff and Executive Director, Communications
- R. Frankle, Interim Vice-President, University Advancement
- J. Grass, Assistant Vice-President, University Relations
- R. Iannacito-Provenzano, Interim Provost and Vice-President, Academic
- S. Kearns, Manager, Media Services
- S. Liss, Vice-President, Research and Innovation
- G. Mallon, Assistant Vice-President, Facilities Management and Development
- M. Martin-Griem, Executive Director, Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation
- J. McKee, Chief Financial Officer
- L. Nater, Senior Presentation Technology Specialist
- J. Neiman, Director, Pensions and Benefits
- J. O'Donnell, Chief Human Resources Officer

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- H. Wood London, Executive Director, Strategic HR Partnerships and Labour Relations (Interim) and Senior Legal Counsel
- 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
- C. Paisley, Vice-Chair, acknowledged the land.
- 3.1.2 Chair's Remarks

C. Paisley thanked Dean D. Young and the Lincoln Alexander School of Law; Dean C. Falzon and The Creative School; S. Kheraj, Vice-Provost, Academic and the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching; and C. Thompson, author and Assistant Professor in the School of Creative Industries for the gifts provided for the Board members.

#### 3.2 Approval of the March 29, 2023 Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

#### 4. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

M. Lachemi provided an update on the Senate approval of the establishment of the School of Medicine as a new Faculty, the appointment of A. Kassam as the University's founding Executive Director of Health Innovation and Strategy, and the University's participation in the Canadian Hub for Health Intelligence and Innovation in Infectious Diseases. M. Lachemi reported that in the recent provincial budget, more medical spots were allocated to the new School of Medicine.

M. Lachemi shared that the University is the recipient of One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000) in federal funding for an equity, diversity and inclusion toolkit that will increase the representation of women, members of visible minorities, Indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities in eight (8) to ten (10) federally regulated organisations.

M. Lachemi discussed a new collaboration involving Rogers Cybersecure Catalyst that will train Ukrainians to become cyber security professionals.

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M. Lachemi recognized the passing of President Emeritus Terence Grier and Helen Vari, who were both long-time friends and supporters of the University.

#### 5. REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

## 5.1 2023 Board Elections Report

J. Shin Doi provided an update on the Board Elections and congratulated the new Board members who will be joining the Board in September 2023.

## 6. REPORT FROM THE INTERIM PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC

R. Iannacito-Provenzano, Interim Provost and Vice-President, Academic, reported on the search for the Dean of the new School of Medicine as well as the recruitment process for staff positions. R. Iannacito-Provenzano provided an update on the work of various advisory councils at the University and the creation of a new school of public policy and democratic innovation in the Faculty of Arts, which will be launched in September 2023. R. Iannacito-Provenzano highlighted recent successful initiatives and competitions at the University.

## 7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

# 7.1 Report from the Chair of the Finance Committee

D. Porter, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the Finance Committee met on February 16, 2023, and heard from M. Lachemi, G. Craney, Chief Strategy Officer, and R. Iannacito-Provenzano regarding the 2023-24 Budget: Environmental Scan, Student Enrolment and Budget Principles, and J. McKee regarding the successful closing of the residence monetization transaction in connection with the Daphne Cockwell Health Sciences Complex residence tower and Centurion Asset Management Inc.

D. Porter reported that the Finance Committee met on March 21, 2023, and received the quarterly report from Fiera Capital and heard from G. Craney on the 2023-24 Budget: Government Funding Update and Budget Strategy.

# 7.1.1 2023-24 Budget: Government Funding Update and Budget Strategy

G. Craney presented the 2023-24 Budget: Government Funding Update and Budget Strategy. G. Craney advised that in the recent provincial budget there was no decrease in overall operating and explained that the Province confirmed that the tuition freeze would continue for a fourth year into 2023-24. G. Craney reported on the creation of a Tuition Anomaly Fund and what this entails for the University.

G. Craney reviewed the budget principles, the budget working assumptions, and the projection of a three percent (3%) increase in overall expenditures tied to direct costs. G. Craney explained that with the revenues remaining short with a projected increase of zero point four percent

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(0.4%), the overall gap will be an amount of almost Seventeen Million Dollars (\$17,000,000), which translates into a three point five percent (3.5%) reduction in base expenditures. C. Craney reported that all units across the University have been asked to submit plans that reduce their base budgets by three point five percent (3.5%). G. Craney advised that the budget strategy is to come back to the Board in April with a balanced budget.

# 7.1.2 Financial Statements (unaudited) for the period ending January 31, 2023

D. Porter reported that the Finance Committee met on February 16, 2023, and heard from J. McKee regarding the unaudited Financial Statements for the period ending January 31, 2023 and that the Committee is recommending the approval of the Financial Statements.

It was moved, seconded and carried that:

#### BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

THAT the Financial Statements (unaudited) for the period ending January 31, 2023 be approved as presented.

## 7.1.3 Review of Revenue and Expenditures for proposed Master of Interior Design

D. Porter reported that the Finance Committee met on March 21, 2023, and heard from G. Craney regarding the Review of Revenue and Expenditures for the proposed Master of Interior Design and that the Finance Committee is recommending the approval of the program.

It was moved, seconded and carried that:

#### **BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:**

THAT on the basis of the review carried out, the program approvals of Senate, and the planned revenue and expenditures as presented, the Board of Governors approves the proposed Master of Interior Design as financially viable, and that it may be offered at the discretion of the Provost and Vice President Academic.

# 7.2 Report from the Vice-President Research and Innovation

# 7.2.1 <u>Scholarly, Research and Creative ("SRC") Activities Enterprise: Continuing Our Trajectory of Success by Scaling SRC</u>

S. Liss presented his annual report and provided an update on the SRC activity successes and priorities for the upcoming year and noted the trajectory of growth in the past thirty (30) years. S. Liss discussed the evolution of SRC since 1993 and how the University is continuing to shift categories with the new School of Medicine. S. Liss highlighted the Research Infosource rankings for fiscal year 2020-2021 and discussed the alignment of his office's goals with that of the

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Dimensions Pilot Program. S. Liss reviewed the competitiveness of the Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) and how this reflects upon the University in a positive manner with respect to its ability to compete for these coveted opportunities.

S. Liss spoke about the work of the Rogers Cybersecure Catalyst and its various new opportunities and initiatives. S. Liss provided an example of scaling using the Future Skills Centre, explaining it is a large-scale collaborative initiative that has enhanced the University's reputation by going where the need is greatest and using an evidence-based approach. S. Liss outlined the future areas of opportunity, which include the School of Medicine's health strategy; research strategy and risk mitigation; innovation and commercialization ecosystem; and quantum strategy.

#### 8. FOR INFORMATION

- 8.1 Toronto Metropolitan University Performance Indicators
- 9. CONSENT AGENDA
- 9.1 Approval of the January 30, 2023 Minutes
- 10. TERMINATION

**NEXT MEETING: April 24, 2023**