

**Brandon University Board of Governors  
(Open Session)**

**Saturday, May 11, 2024  
Louis Riel Room & Zoom  
8:30 a.m.**

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**Present:** Charles Adamu; Joy Chikezie (Zoom); Kristal Bayes-McDonald; David Docherty; Julee Galvin (Chair); Michael Juce (Zoom); Michelle Magnusson; Mary Jane McCallum (Zoom); Barbara MacKalski; Asit Patel; Ayushi Patel; Quintin Pearce; Kevan Sumner

**Resources:** Bernadette Ardelli; Kofi Campbell; Scott Lamont; Meghan Lamontagne (Recorder); Louise Moss

**Regrets:** Edward Bach; Scott Hayward

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

The Chair acknowledged that Brandon University campuses are located on Treaty 1 and Treaty 2 Lands, the traditional homelands of the Dakota, Anishinaabek, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dene, and the Red River Métis peoples.

The Chair welcomed new Board member, Charles Adamu, BUSU President and announced that Joy Chikezie was re-elected by BUSU and has been appointed for a second term on the Board.

The Chair announced that Scott Hayward was elected by the BU Alumni Association to serve on the Board of Governors for a 3-year term.

**2. AGENDA & MINUTES**

2.1 Approval of Agenda of May 11, 2024

Motion: Moved and seconded (B. MacKalski/Ayushi Patel)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda of the May 11, 2024, Board of Governors meeting (Open Session) be approved.**

**035 May24  
CARRIED**

2.2 Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion: Moved and seconded (Asit Patel/Q. Pearce)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the consent agenda of the May 11, 2024, Board of Governors (Open Session) meeting be approved as follows:**

**2.2.1 Minutes of March 16, 2024**

**2.2.2 Report from the Provost & Vice-President (Academic)**

**2.2.3 Report from the Vice-President (Administration & Finance)**

**2.2.4 Report from the Vice-President (Research & Graduate Studies)**

**2.2.5 Transactions of \$100,000 or More – March 2 to March 31, 2024**

**2.2.6 Report – Financial Summary by Object as at March 31, 2024**

**2.2.7 Report – Financial Summary as at March 31, 2024**

**2.2.8 Report – Research and Special Purpose Funds as at March 31, 2024**

**2.2.9 Reports from Committees Reporting to the Board:**

**2.2.9.1 BU Senate**

**2.2.9.2 BU Students' Union**

**2.2.9.3 Board of Trustees BU Retirement Plan**

**2.2.9.4 Status of Women's Review Committee**

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CARRIED**

**3. REPORTS**

3.1 Report from President

The President's written report was provided in the agenda package.

D. Docherty highlighted that overall domestic applications are up by approx. 12%; however, applications overall are down, largely due to a decrease in international applications. He noted that the new deposit is partly related, which was

anticipated, but that there are other factors impacting the situation such as the new provincial attestation letter process and international students must now show proof that they have an additional \$20,000 in addition to tuition to receive a student visa. It was further noted that BU is still competitive in Canada on this score.

D. Docherty reported that on the upside, domestic student enrolment is up 20% for Indigenous students and admission offers are up 8% compared to the previous year. In addition, applications from Brandon are also up, as well as from smaller communities like Dauphin, Neepawa, The Pas and Portage la Prairie. It was noted that domestic numbers are beginning to return to pre-Covid numbers.

D. Docherty highlighted the Vancouver Alumni event that he attended along with C. Eisler (Director, Advancement & Alumni Relations) and G. Gatien (Dean of Music). This was a successful event, hosted by Mitch and Ann Taylor.

In response to a question, D. Docherty confirmed that the federal government has left it to the provincial government to split the allocations between institutions for numbers of international student visas. It was noted that BU's number was higher than anticipated at close to 600 spots, noting there is a problem that exists when a spot is given to a student and if their visa is rejected by the federal government, the university will then have to find a new student to fill the spot. So, while BU has space for students, whether they are able to come is a factor. It was further noted that Ghana and Nigeria are the most popular countries, noting numbers are down from these countries.

A question was raised if there is a trend in the attestation process in terms of which programs students are being approved for.

D. Docherty stated that there is no priority in terms of accepting students based on the program they are applying for. It was noted that this is decided at the BU level whereas the federal government approves the student visa side.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **4.1 Motion: Scholarship and Research Funds**

Motion: Moved and seconded (M. Magnusson/B. MacKalski)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the allocation of unrestricted endowment funds for the 2024/2025 fiscal year as follows:**

<b>Faculty Research (BURC)</b>		<b>\$54,244</b>
<b>Entrance Scholarships:</b>		
<b>Tier I</b>	<b>Average greater than or equal to 95%</b>	<b>2000.00</b>
<b>Tier II</b>	<b>Average greater than or equal to 92.5%</b>	<b>1700.00</b>
<b>Tier III</b>	<b>Average greater than or equal to 90%</b>	<b>1400.00</b>
<b>Tier IV</b>	<b>Average greater than or equal to 87.5</b>	<b>1100.00</b>
<b>Tier V</b>	<b>Average greater than or equal to 85%</b>	<b>800.00</b>
<b>Total available from endowment funds for Entrance Scholarships</b>		<b>\$50,895</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$105,139</b>

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D. Docherty spoke to this item, noting that these funds provide entrance scholarships for those students who meet the high school grade requirements. They are awarded based on a five-tier structure and entering students need not apply for them.

D. Docherty stated that there is a need to look at the retention rates among students who receive scholarships, noting that there is some evidence that students may be more likely to stay if they receive a higher scholarship amount, versus if they receive \$500. He further noted that as we get more serious in tracking enrolment management, we would be looking at how long students are staying and if they leave after a short period, looking at where they are going.

D. Docherty is looking into this information to be able to provide to the Board at a future meeting, including tracking to see if students are staying to ensure we are getting the most out of the scholarships. He further noted that we would not be looking at limiting scholarships, but instead looking at what other strategies are possible.

A question was raised as to whether the scholarship amounts have grown in recent years.

S. Lamont stated that the tiered entrance scholarship amounts as outlined in the meeting package have not changed in the past few years. He further stated that the amount the university is distributing in scholarships is increasing but the total number of students receiving them has not increased in a number of years.

B. Ardelli spoke to the BU Research Committee (BURC) funds, noting these are internal grants that faculty have access to for research. She stated the importance of these grants which provide seed money for researchers to enable them to apply for larger grants, host conferences, publish works (noting costs have increased significantly for this), etc. These grants are critical because the

institutional reputation is built on research, and this is what gets institutions recognized.

A comment was made on how vital research is in taking universities in the direction they need to go and the importance for the university to support new areas of research, such as intersectional research.

A question was raised as to why there is no longer a BU international undergraduate scholarship.

S. Lamont stated that 15% of international student visa fees are allocated to scholarships that international students are eligible for. S. Lamont stated that he would look into the question about the BU international undergraduate scholarship and follow up accordingly.

**CARRIED**

4.2 New Bill S-211 Reporting: Forced Labour in Canadian Supply Chains

D. Docherty spoke to this item, noting that background information on this new bill was provided in the agenda package. He highlighted that the main area of risk identified in the report is clothing & footwear, meaning where these items are purchased from. He noted that there is less risk in building capital.

S. Lamont added that this is more of a progress report, and the university is required to report on an annual basis. He noted that this report is for the 2023-24 year, and there are many areas that look like there has not been much progress which is due to this bill only recently coming to the university's attention. He added that universities have been trying to determine whether this bill applies to them, and it was agreed that it is best to assume that it does apply. It was further noted that this applies to any large organizations and the report requires going through supply chains to ensure that suppliers meet this legislation.

A question was raised as to whether the report includes food (e.g., ensuring free trade vs. forced trade).

S. Lamont confirmed that food is included, noting everything in the supply chain that the university re-sells is looked at.

Moved and seconded (Q. Pearce/Asit Patel)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the inclusion of Bill S-211 into Brandon University's processes and practices; AND THAT the annual report be approved as submitted.**

CARRIED

**5. MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION**

Motion: Moved and seconded (B. MacKalski/Ayushi Patel)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting move to Closed Session.**

CARRIED

**6. RAISE MOTION(S) FROM CLOSED SESSION**

The following motions were raised from the March 27, 2024, special Closed Session meeting:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the selection of Dr. Christopher Schneider as the 2024 recipient of the Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Community Service, as recommended by the Human Resources Committee.**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Collective Agreement with the Brandon University Faculty Association, as negotiated and recommended by the University Bargaining Committee for the period of April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2027, be ratified by the Board of Governors; AND THAT, upon ratification by the Brandon University Faculty Association, the motion move to Open Session.**

The following motions were raised from the May 11, 2024, Closed Session meeting pending appropriate notification and process:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the following applications for Sabbatical Leave as recommended by the President:**

**FACULTY OF ARTS:**

- Cameron Boulton ..... July 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, at 85% Salary**
- Christopher Schneider ..... January 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026, at 85% Salary**
- James Naylor ..... July 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, at 85% Salary**
- Lisa Wood ..... January 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026, at 85% Salary**
- Mary Malainey ..... July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, at 85% Salary**
- Serena Petrella ..... July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, at 85% Salary**

**FACULTY OF EDUCATION:**

Michelle Lam .....January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026, at 90% Salary  
Schad Richea .....July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, at 90% Salary

**FACULTY OF HEALTH STUDIES:**

Catherine Baxter .....January 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026 &  
.....January 1, 2027, to June 30, 2027, at 90% Salary  
Nadine Henriquez.....January 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026 &  
.....January 1, 2027, to June 30, 2027, at 90% Salary

**SCHOOL OF MUSIC:**

Alexander Tselyakov.....July 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, at 85% Salary  
Catherine Wood .....July 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, at 85% Salary  
Gretta Sayers.....July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, at 90% Salary

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE:**

Nancy Newall .....July 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, at 85% Salary  
Wendy Untereiner .....January 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026, at 85% Salary

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Moved and seconded (B. MacKalski/Q. Pearce)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourn at 12:46 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

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Chair, Board of Governors

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Board Secretariat