

BOARD OF GOVERNORS - REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

5:07 p.m. – 7:08 p.m.

MS Teams

Present: Board

Rhiannon Bennett, Vice-Chair
Amrit Chahal
Ivy Chen, Chair
Alan Davis, President & Vice-Chancellor
Mehtoj Ghuman
Gabby Gill
Muhammad Afzal Malik
Kim McGill
Lyndsay Passmore
Stephanie Smith
Amanda Smith-Weston

University G8 members

Laurie Clancy, Vice-President, Human Resources
Randall Heidt, Vice-President, External Relations
Zena Mitchell, Vice-President, Students
Diane Purvey, Provost & Vice-President, Academic
Asma Sayed, Vice-President, Equity & Inclusive Communities
Peter Smailes, Vice-President, Administration

Presenters and Administrative Resources

Darren Anderson, Instructor, Melville School of Business
Sonia Banwait, Executive Assistant, Board of Governors
David Burns, Associate Vice-President, Academic
Josephine Chan, Special Assistant to Provost
Lily Chong, University Secretary & Executive Assistant to the President & Vice Chancellor
Mark Diotte, President, KFA
Mike Ford, Instructor, Melville School of Business
Heather Harrison, Dean Pro Tem, Melville School of Business
Carole Laplante, Interim Director, Financial Services
Lori McElroy, Associate Vice-President, Planning and Accountability
Carlos Sandoval, Instructor, Sociology

Regrets: Kim (Kwuntiltunaat) Baird, Chancellor

Erin Barnes
Chervahun Emilien, Chief Financial Officer
Joe Vosburgh

**1. Call to Order and
Introductory Remarks**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:07pm.

The President acknowledged KPU's commitment to reconciliation and recognition that we live, work and study in a region that overlaps with the unceded traditional and ancestral First Nations territories of the Musqueam, Katzie, Semiahmoo, Tsawwassen, Qayqayt, and Kwikwetlem, and with the lands of the Kwantlen First Nation, which gifted its name to this university.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION #19-24/25

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT the Board of Governors approve the regular meeting agenda for March 26, 2025.

3. Conflict of Interest

No other conflict of Interest was declared.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

MOTION #20-24/25

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED the motion THAT Board of Governors approve the following item on the Consent Agenda as circulated:

4.1. Minutes of the January 29, 2025 Regular Board of Governors Meeting.

AND THAT the Board of Governors receive the following item for information:

4.2. KSA Fee Change Letter 2025-26 UPASS Amended Fee

5. Feedback on FY2026 Draft University Budget

Mark Diotte, President, Kwantlen Faculty Association (KFA) shared feedback on the budget on behalf of the KFA. A letter to the Board was circulated in the agenda package highlighting KFA's concerns on the budget and layoff notices issued to 70 faculty members earlier this month.

Carolos Sandoval, Instructor, Sociology, shared feedback on behalf of faculty members, echoing concerns regarding the proposed budget and layoffs, and the potential impact the layoffs may have on the faculty members who have received notices.

6. Management Feedback on FY2026 Draft University Budget

Peter Smailes, Vice-President, Administration and Acting CFO, provided feedback on the FY2026 Draft University Budget noting changes imposed by federal government have led to significant changes for KPU that require the University to make difficult decisions. The changes impact the entire KPU

Community as fewer students in classrooms will lead to reduced number of staff from all levels.

Smailes shared that the University is focused on the need of attracting and retaining more students, while mitigating impact. Regular updates will continue to be brought to the Board on the progress being made.

7. FY2026 Draft University Budget

Peter Smailes noted the Board has received multiple presentations of the FY2026 Draft University Budget, and opened the floor for questions and feedback from the Board.

The Board provided feedback requesting to see more strategic and detailed plans on how revenue will be increased and how cuts will be made.

A Board member requested to make a motion to table the approval of the FY2026 Draft University Budget to the next Board of Governors meeting in May 2025. Members discussed what next steps would entail. The motion did not receive majority vote and therefore did not carry.

MOTION #21-24/25

MOVED, SECONDED AND FAILED THAT the Board of Governors table the motion to approve the draft consolidated budget as the 2025 consolidated budget.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT the Board of Governors approve the draft consolidated budget as the 2025 consolidated budget.

8. Governance Committee Report

8.1. Committee Chair Report

Amanda Smith-Weston, Committee Chair, informed the committee met on March 12, 2025 and noted the items discussed at the meeting are on the agenda.

8.2. Master of Operations and Supply Chain Management Step 1 Review and Stage 2 Full Program Proposal

David Burns, Associate Vice-President, Academic, shared the new proposed Master of Operations and Supply Chain Management (OSCM) program, noting a shifting trend of the average student age getting older and an increased demand in graduate programs. Hence, the development of this program which targets mid-career professionals who are already

working in the field. Graduates of this program will have the ability to further advance their careers in OSCM.

MOTION #22-24/25

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposed Master of Operations and Supply Chain Management Stage 1 Review and Stage 2 Full Program Proposal, as recommended by the Board Governance Committee.

8.3. Policy and Procedure – AC16 Academic Title Awards

The President, Alan Davis, presented Policy and Procedure AC16 which aims to recognize a broad range of diverse achievements of KPU faculty and academic administrators in teaching, research, creative activities, and service.

The Policy and Procedure has completed both rounds of KPU Policy Blog postings and feedback was received through multiple consultations from members of the University community as well as Senate and related standing committees. Senate has recommended that the Board of Governors approve draft Policy and Procedure AC16 Academic Title Awards, as well as the establishment of the Senate Standing Committee on Academic Title Awards mandate and membership composition, effective September 1, 2025.

Board members provided feedback, noting possible concerns for consideration.

MOTION #23-24/25

MOVED, SECONDED AND DEFEATED THAT the Board of Governors approve the draft Policy and Procedure AC16 Academic Title Awards, effective September 1, 2025, as recommended by the Board Governance Committee.

8.4. VISION 2026 Benchmark Report

Lori McElroy, Associate Vice-President, Planning & Accountability, presented the first VISION 2026 progress report since the Accountability Plan and Report was approved by the Board in the Fall.

McElroy shared that some metrics included in the report are brand new and therefore their progress cannot be assessed. However, noted that good progress has been made on goals B1: Enhancing the Student Experience, B3: Ensuring the

Financial Sustainability of KPU and E1: Ensuring Continuous Improvement of KPU Programs and Services. Additionally, the progress was weakest for goal E3: Being Accountable to Friends, Communities, Partners and Government, due to the University not achieving its domestic FTE targets. Additional improvement is required for this goal, however progress is ongoing.

8.5. KPU Chancellor Selection Criteria and Proposed Timeline

President Davis shared that current Chancellor, Kim (Kwuntiltunaat) Baird's term is expiring in October 2026, after serving two terms and 6-consecutive years, the maximum possible. As such, the search for appointment of the next Chancellor will need to be conducted. The Board noted the proposed timeline of next steps in the appointment process, including the member composition for the Chancellor Search Advisory Committee that will be struck to lead the search process of finding KPU's next Chancellor.

MOTION #24-24/25

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT the Board of Governors approve the Procedures for the Selection of the Chancellor and Selection Criteria and proposed timeline, as recommended by the Board Governance Committee.

9. Human Resources Committee Report

9.1. Committee Chair Report

Rhiannon Bennett, Committee Chair, informed the committee met on March 13, 2025 and there are no items to report.

10. Audit Committee Report

10.1. Committee Chair Report

Ivy Chen, Committee Chair, informed that the committee met on March 11, 2025 and there is nothing to report.

11. Finance Committee Report

11.1. Committee Chair Report

Ivy Chen, Committee Chair, informed that the committee met on March 11, 2025 and items are on the agenda.

11.2. FY2024/25 Endowments

Peter Smailes presented the FY2024/25 endowments, noting that as of January 31, 2025, KPU is forecasting a surplus of \$5.7M for this academic year. Similar to previous years, KPU

anticipates the University will receive approval from the Ministry to defer a portion of the provincial operating grant funds for use in the future fiscal years for operating purposes.

Smailes shared that KPU would like to contribute up to \$5M of the fund in the KPU Foundation to support the reduction of financial barriers for KPU students by providing direct awards and bursaries. Members noted that the funds will be contributed directly to students through the Foundation.

11.3. Revision to Bylaw No. 4 Fees

Carole Laplante, Interim Director, Financial Services, noted as per the University Act, the Board sets, determines and collects fees for instruction, public learning, examinations, student & alumni activities and building/operations of athletic facilities. As such, the proposed revision to Bylaw 4 reflects a 2% raise in domestic tuition, which is the maximum allowed by the provincial government under the Tuition Limit Policy. Additionally, international tuition will be held at a 2% increase, noting the policy does not apply to international tuition.

MOTION #25-24/25

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT the Board of Governors approve the following allocation of surplus funds from the 2024/25 fiscal year, as recommended by the Board Finance Committee:

Contribute to the fund in the KPU Foundation that supports the reduction of financial barriers for KPU students by up to \$5M. This will be used to provide direct student awards and bursaries.

12. President's Report

12.1. Report to the Board

The President's report was circulated in the agenda package and summarized in the meeting.

13. Provost's Report

13.1. Report to the Board

The Provost, Diane Purvey, provided a brief report highlighting academic events taking place around KPU campuses.

14. Senate Reports

Senate report from January 27, 2025 and March 3, 2025 were included in the meeting package.

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| 15. Next Meeting Agenda Contribution | Board members were asked to send contributions for the next meeting agenda to the Board Office at least two weeks in advance of the meeting. |
| 16. For the Good of the Order | There were no additional items identified. |
| 17. Feedback on the Meeting | There was no other feedback on the meeting. |
| 18. Closing Remarks | The Chair thanked everyone for attending and contributing to the discussions. The Chair also thanked the guests who attended the meeting. |
| 19. Appendix | 19.1. Report to the Board of Governors 19.2. Mandate Letter to Minister Kang from Premier Eby |
| 20. Next Meeting | The next meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 28, 2025 via MS Teams. |
| 21. Adjournment | The meeting adjourned at 7:08pm. |

Board Chair