

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Governance, Nominations and Human Resources Committee (GNHR)

Minutes of the Public Session of the Meeting of May 30, 2024
2:00 p.m. to 2:17 p.m. Videoconference

Attendees: Maria Saros (Chair), Frank Carnevale, Laura Elliott, Steven Murphy, Gaurav Singh, Dwight Thompson, Emily Whetung

Regrets: Mitch Frazer

Staff: Kirstie Ayotte, Jamie Bruno, Barb Hamilton, Krista Hester, Lori Livingston, Beth Partlow, Andrew Sunstrum

Guests: Chelsea Bauer, Mike Eklund

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and read aloud the land acknowledgement.

2. Agenda

Upon a motion duly made by D. Thompson and seconded by F. Carnevale, the Agenda, including the contents of the consent agenda, was approved as presented.

3. Conflict of Interest Declaration

There was none.

4. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the final Committee meeting of the academic year and thanked them for their commitment, hard work, and engagement. She noted that this would be her last meeting as Chair and reflected on her six years of service at the University, stating that it has been an honor and a pleasure. She expressed her heartfelt thanks to the team for their dedication and commitment over the years.

5. President's Remarks

The President began by thanking M. Saros for her dedicated leadership and provided an update regarding the encampment. He underscored the University's dedication to both freedom of expression and community well-being, placing a priority on campus safety and support, with resources accessible to all. Additionally, the University will be actively working to implement the recently reached agreement.

He informed attendees about the upcoming Convocation, stating that ceremonies will take place in the gym this year, with receptions held in Shawenjigewining Hall. Additionally, he brought attention to the release of the 2024 Times Higher Education compilation, which ranked Ontario Tech as #2 among Canada's young universities and #144 out of 1200 international universities.

6. Governance

6.1 Sexual Violence Policy

A. Sunstrum presented the Sexual Violence policy and procedures update advising that it has been under review since 2022. He noted the main changes include centralizing dispute handling to the Human Rights Office, clarifying access to support services, and removing terms of reference for the Advisory Committee on Student Sexual Violence to allow for potential changes in its makeup without revising the policy. The aim is to streamline support for students experiencing sexual violence and ensure clarity in the reporting process.

In response to a question, A. Sunstrum explained that separating the terms of reference from the policy allows for easier adjustments to the Committee's makeup. While there have not been significant changes since its enactment, the recent update involves centralizing disclosures and reports to the Human Rights Office, necessitating a thorough review. This depth of engagement is seen as positive and necessary for ensuring the policy is effective. Consultations were completed with the Advisory Committee, and the results will be shared with them.

6.2 Respectful Campus Policy and Employee Procedures

A. Sunstrum presented the Respectful Campus Policy and Employee procedures policy, noting requirements that they be reviewed annually. He highlighted that it underwent minor adjustments. Primarily, the definition section update, and processes for addressing disrespectful behavior and formal complaints clarifications. These changes were considered editorial and do not significantly impact the policy or procedure.

7. Consent Agenda

- 7.1 Minutes of the Public Session of the Meeting of March 21, 2024
- 7.2 GNHR Annual Board Report
- 7.3 Annual Pension Plan Report
- 7.4 Board Practices Assessment Results
- 7.5 2024-2025 REVISED Board and Committee Schedule

Upon a motion duly made by D. Thompson and seconded by F. Carnevale, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

8. Adjournment

There being no other business, upon a motion duly made by F. Carnevale, the public session adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

Krista Hester, Interim University Secretary