



ACADEMIC COUNCIL

SESSION:

Public
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ACTION REQUESTED:

Decision
Discussion/Direction
Information

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TO: Academic Council

DATE: September 11, 2018

FROM: Academic Council Executive Committee (ACX)

PRESENTED BY: Cheryl Foy, University Secretary & General Counsel

SUBJECT: Selection of Temporary Chair of Academic Council

PURPOSE:

To obtain Academic Council's approval of the proposed process to select a temporary Chair of Academic Council in the absence of the President.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE:
Temporary Chair

In accordance with subsection 10(3) of the *UOIT Act*, the President is the Chair of the Academic Council. Consistent with the *UOIT Act* and the new By-laws, in the absence of the President, the Academic Council may select one of its members to act as temporary Chair of the meeting (Article 3.2 of By-law No. 2). Further, the Academic Council will determine the manner in which the temporary Chair will be selected pursuant to Article 1.1(a)(iii) of By-law No. 2.

One of the new Governance and Nominations Committee's (GNC) responsibilities is to establish, oversee, and periodically review the governance procedures, guidelines, and directives of Academic Council and revise when appropriate. This authority includes establishing a process to select a temporary Chair of Academic Council in the absence of the President.

Due to a scheduling conflict, the President will be absent at the October Council meeting. Since the membership of the GNC is not yet complete, the committee will not have an opportunity to consider a selection process for the temporary Chair.

Past Practice

Section II(5)(b) of the Academic Council Handbook states that the Vice-Chair of Academic Council shall be the Provost of the University and that the Vice-Chair assumes the responsibilities of the Chair when the Chair is absent or unable to serve. Accordingly, it has been the university's practice to have the Provost chair Academic Council meetings in the President's absence. Furthermore, in the President's absence, the Provost usually serves as Acting President. This has also been the basis for the Provost's assumption of the role of Chair in the absence of the President.

Recommendation

Given the GNC will not have an opportunity to propose a selection process to appoint a temporary Chair of Academic Council in time for the October meeting, ACX recommends continuing with the past practice of the Provost chairing Council meetings in the President's absence until such time as a formal process is established by the GNC. As the Provost has experience with chairing Council meetings, this will contribute to meeting efficiency and provide for continuity in the President's absence.

MOTION:

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Academic Council Executive Committee, Academic Council hereby approves of the Provost chairing Academic Council meetings in the President's absence until such time as a formal selection process is established by the Governance and Nominations Committee.