

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

**Saturday, November 23, 2024  
Louis Riel Room & Zoom  
8:30 a.m.**

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**Present:** Charles Adamu; Joy Chikezie (Zoom); David Docherty; Sunday Frangi; Dean Hammond; Scott Hayward; Bryan Hill; Whitney Hodgins; Katheryne Lumgair; Barbara MacKalski; Michelle Magnusson (Zoom); Ayushi Patel; Quintin Pearce; Joseph Pelletier; Steven Soder; Kevan Sumner (Chair)

**Resources:** Bernadette Ardelli; Kofi Campbell; Peter Hickey; Meghan Lamontagne (Recorder); Louise Moss; Allison Noto

**Regrets:** Mary Jane McCallum

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

The meeting began with a land acknowledgement, recognizing that Brandon University has campuses on both Treaty 1 and Treaty 2 lands and is a gathering place for people from many backgrounds around the world. In this way, we carry on the Indigenous customs of our home in Brandon. It was further acknowledged that Brandon is on shared territory between the Dakota Oyate, the Anishinaabeg, and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. Today, many other Indigenous people call Brandon their home, including the Inineew, Anisininewuk, Denesuline, and Inuit.

The Chair announced that S. Hayward will be stepping down as the BU Alumni Association (BUAA) representative at the end of the year. Chukwuanugo Okudo has been elected as the new BUAA representative effective January 1, 2025.

The Chair acknowledged and congratulated Board member, C. Adamu, for being recognized as the province's 2024 Outstanding International Student for Universities by the Manitoba Council for International Education.

**2. AGENDA & MINUTES**

2.1 Approval of Agenda of November 23, 2024

Motion: Moved and seconded (W. Hodgins/J. Pelletier)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda of the November 23, 2024, Board of Governors meeting (Open Session) be approved as amended.**

At the request of a member, it was agreed to amend the agenda so that Item 6.1: Motion: Approval of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Strategic Plan and Action Plan 2024-29 would immediately follow Item 6.3: Motion: 2026-27 and 2027-28 Preliminary Budget Estimates.

**118 Nov24  
CARRIED AS AMENDED**

2.2 Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Hayward/Q. Pearce)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the consent agenda of the November 23, 2024, Board of Governors (Open Session) meeting be approved as follows:**

**2.2.1 Minutes of September 21, 2024 (Open Session), *as amended***

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

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

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

**2.2.5 Report – Transactions of \$100,000 or More – September 1 to October 31, 2024**

**2.2.6 Report – Financial Summary as at October 31, 2024**

**2.2.7 Report – Financial Summary by Object as at October 31, 2024**

**2.2.8 Report – Research & Special Purposes April 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024**

**2.2.9 Reports – BU Early Learning Centre**

**2.2.9.1 Chair AGM 2023-24 Report**

**2.2.9.2 2023-24 Financial Statements**

**2.2.10 Report – Final List of Graduands**

**2.2.11 Reports from Representatives on Committees Reporting to the Board**

**2.2.11.1 Board of Directors of the BU Foundation**

**2.2.11.2 BU Senate**

**2.2.11.3 BU Students' Union**

**2.2.11.4 Finance Committee**

**2.2.11.5 Governance & Nominating Committee**

It was noted that J. Pelletier was inadvertently omitted from the list of attendees in the September 21, 2024 (Open Session) minutes. The minutes were amended to reflect that J. Pelletier was present at the meeting.

**134 Nov24  
CARRIED**

### **3. PRESENTATIONS**

#### **3.1 Research at Brandon University**

B. Ardelli, Vice-President (Research & Graduate Studies) gave a presentation on Research at Brandon University, which outlined policy compliance and gaps; research grants and scholarships; institutional grants; student research scholarships and awards; Canada Research Chairs program; research support fund; Strategic Research Plan 2021-25; Research Pulse 2024; history of research success; and strategic priorities for 2024-28. A new research strategic plan is in development; however, the current focus is on increasing university grants.

B. Ardelli invited the Board to attend the grand opening of the Office of Research & Graduate Studies on January 31, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A question was raised regarding how BU compares to other universities of similar size and how BU can get a larger share of funding from Research Manitoba.

B. Ardelli stated that BU is competitive and on par with similar-sized universities and that in terms of grants and awards, the university exceeds expectations with respect to Canada Research Chairs. It was noted that distribution of grant funding was discussed at a recent meeting with Research Manitoba and suggestions for improvement were provided.

A question was raised about the difference in this year's grant funding between science-based research grants versus education and arts grants.

B. Ardelli stated that while the university is moving more towards interdisciplinary research, the overall value of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) grants is less compared to Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grants, noting SSHRC grants are typically much larger. Work is being done to improve this.

In response to a question, B. Ardelli confirmed that the university has historically experienced bias in terms of geographical location. It was noted that more work needs to be done to elevate the university's profile, including highlighting the

institution's state-of-the-art facilities, noting this is one of her goals. It was further noted that a Knowledge Mobilization Officer has been hired and has been doing a great job at promoting BU's research portfolio and is currently creating an interactive component to showcase the university's research infrastructure.

A question was raised as to whether there is a local or regional organization that could assist with BU's research activities.

B. Ardelli stated that community connections are one of the university's biggest strengths, and that the Office of Research & Graduate Studies would welcome any discussions with those interested in supporting BU's research activities.

#### **4. REPORTS**

##### **4.1 Report from the President**

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

D. Docherty highlighted that at the fall Universities Canada meeting, there was good discussion on the role of the Deputy Minister Champions program, which is run out of the federal Privy Council Office. This program places DM's and their equivalents as champions to one or more Canadian Universities. There were concerns raised by some presidents (including D. Docherty) who have never been approached about participating in this program. After discussion, it appeared that most universities that have been approached are larger, urban universities or smaller eastern Canadian universities. Efforts are being made to determine how BU might participate in this program, noting that this week, an email was received from Universities Canada indicating they have opened talks with Privy Council, acknowledging this matter. The hope is that next year, BU will be able to participate in this program, noting there is potential for this opportunity to be shared with other Manitoba institutions of comparable size (e.g., Université de Saint-Boniface).

The Chair stated that as Board Chair, he would be happy to draft a letter to specific DMs to invite them to partner with BU.

D. Docherty added that it would be beneficial to have a partnership with a DM who has experience in economic development.

A member requested clarification regarding the meaning of "bad actors" in terms of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada's (IRCC) changes made to limit the number of international students, per D. Docherty's written report.

D. Docherty explained that the consensus has been that most universities, such as BU, have a positive reputation of admitting students who come to Canada to study. However, there are some institutions, primarily private colleges, who admit students who do not end up arriving to take courses, which has led to restrictions on the number of international students being provided with student visas. For this reason, many university presidents are suggesting that a cross-Canada institutional review of numbers of international students who are admitted vs who ultimately attend, would help to determine who could be considered as a “trusted institution” and be granted the opportunity to recruit more international students.

A member inquired about the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting with the Province, U of M and BU regarding the Brodie Renovation, Research Innovation Complex (RIC) and UM Medical Campus on BU campus, as mentioned in D. Docherty’s written report.

D. Docherty provided an update from the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, noting that BU learned that U of M is working with Prairie Mountain Health to discuss space needs for students, as a medical school would also require access to specialized environments at the hospital (e.g., study of cadavers). The next meeting will include U of M, BU and Prairie Architects to discuss programming and space needs at BU to determine Level C costs of the Brodie renovation, which will help to inform federal funding needs.

## **5. CONTINUING BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Nominations & Elections for Vacancies on Committees Reporting to the Board**

The Chair stated that there is a vacancy on the Audit & Risk Committee for one external Board Member-at-Large (OIC or BUAA) as a result of D. Hammond being elected as Treasurer. It was noted that the Treasurer is an ex-officio member of the committee.

The Chair called for nominations and volunteers three times for an external member to serve on the Audit & Risk Committee.

S. Soder put his name forward and recused himself from the meeting. No further nominations or volunteers came forward.

A vote was held, and the following motion was put forward:

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Hayward/B. Hill)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors elect Steven Soder to serve on the Audit & Risk Committee.**

**CARRIED**

S. Soder returned to the meeting.

The Chair stated that there is a vacancy on the Governance & Nominating Committee for one OIC Board member as a result of J. Pelletier being elected as Secretary. It was noted that the Secretary is an ex-officio member of the committee.

The Chair called for nominations and volunteers three times for an OIC member to serve on the Governance & Nominating Committee.

W. Hodgins put her name forward and recused herself from the meeting. No further nominations or volunteers came forward.

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Hayward/C. Adamu)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors elect Whitney Hodgins to serve on the Governance & Nominating Committee.**

It was confirmed that a student OIC member is eligible to serve on the committee.

**CARRIED**

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Motion: 2025-26 Budget Estimates**

A motion sheet with background and rationale for the 2025-26 Budget Estimates along with the 2025-26 Budget Estimates submission was included in the meeting package.

P. Hickey gave a presentation on the 2025-26 Budget Estimates, summarized as follows:

- The Budget Estimates process was delayed this year, noting the Province typically requires submission in September; however, this year the submission deadline was in October for the 2025-26 estimates.
- This is the first year where the Province requested a submission for the next three years, noting the 2026-28 submissions were submitted to the Province in November.

- The entire budget process is being reviewed, noting there will be no changes in the current year.
- The BU Community typically receives the budget assumptions along with a budget update in the Fall. Staffing and budget requests from each unit are typically considered in January/February.
- The Budget Estimates are a high-level forecast of what the next three years will look like, noting the university does not anticipate receiving the provincial funding grant announcement until Spring 2025.
- The five challenges facing BU that were communicated to the Province include: structural deficit; ERP/system needs; administrative deficiencies; safety & security; and deferred maintenance & accessibility.
- An overview of total credit hours as at November 1<sup>st</sup> was provided, highlighting an increase in Indigenous students and domestic non-Indigenous students. These increases are largely offset by the decrease in credit hours for international students.
- An overview of head count for first time students was provided, highlighting a concern about how the university will maintain enrolment numbers, noting first time students are at an all-time low, which is largely driven by the decrease in international students.
- A 20-year historical trendline of credit hours was shared, which has increased and decreased over the years with the base number being approximately 60k. Discussions need to occur about strategies should the numbers continue to decline. The trendline is significantly negative for international students, which will have an impact overall.
- Budget Revenue Assumptions:
  - Province has advised using a 1.5% increase to base funding over the next three years. Other grant commitments have been built in based on our understanding; however, these are unconfirmed.
  - Student enrolment is projected conservatively at a 0% increase, with a 2% projected increase for the following two years.
  - International enrolment is projected to decrease by 25% in 2025-26; followed by a 20% decrease in each of the following 2 years.
  - Province has advised using a 3.5% increase for Student Tuition & Fees.
- Budget Expenditure Assumptions:
  - Existing staffing has been used for budget projections, noting there are still a number of preliminary unallocated budget decisions that need to be made, which have been built in, including inflationary increases and miscellaneous savings.
- Other Budget Assumptions:
  - A reduction of \$100k has been built in for Ancillary's contribution to Operating to offset operating expenditures.

- Collection of student fees for a future ERP system are assumed to continue over the next three years, projecting approx. \$747k in 2025-26; \$762k in 2026-27; and \$777k in 2027-28.
  - Payback for the previous ERP project is expected to continue over the next 3-4 years at approx. \$500k per year.
- Total operating revenue sources for 2025-26 are projected to be approx. \$70.6M (including \$16.2M projected for operating tuition and fees)
- Total operating expenses for 2025-26 are projected to be approx. \$70.6M
- An overview of the 5-year Capital Budget requests for renovations and equipment was provided, noting annual requests are consistent around \$29M for each of the five years. The Province has advised that these requests bring visibility to BU's needs, which include: deferred maintenance projects; Brodie Science Centre & Research Innovation Complex (two phase project with exact figures to be confirmed); ERP; and Indigenous Peoples Centre/Evans Theatre renovations.
- An overview of Consolidated Net Assets was provided, noting overall net assets are positive, however, the growing operating deficit needs to be addressed.
- An operating fund balance trendline was shown for the years 2018 to 2024, which shows a trend of an increasing deficit. Base operational expenses exceeding appropriated revenue, ERP, and unplanned capital expenditures were noted as factors contributing to the deficit. While the deficit is projected to decrease slowly, there is a need to have open discussions with the Province as this is one of the main challenges that needs to be addressed.
- An overview of the projected Operating Fund 3-year budget was provided. From an operating perspective, a balanced budget position has been submitted with a focus on core operations to the university. It was noted that this is not the consolidated budget, noting the consolidated budget incorporates research and special purposes, recoveries, and the BU Foundation.

The Chair opened the floor to questions.

A member inquired about consultation plans to ensure more involvement in the budget process.

P. Hickey stated that departments will be involved more fully in the next stage of the budget process, noting the process is being reviewed with one idea to have departments involvement earlier on in this process. It was noted that the lack of consultation in the budget process has been largely due to staffing constraints and time that can be dedicated towards this.

K. Campbell added that Deans' Council has had fruitful discussions on the budget process and has laid groundwork and timelines to help begin this process earlier.

A member inquired as to how much is typically transferred from the BU Foundation for operating and how this compares to other universities of similar size.

A. Noto stated that the majority of what comes from the BU Foundation for operating is for scholarships as well as targeted donations, which does not assist with ongoing expenses. It was noted that \$500k is transferred to the Office of Advancement & Alumni Affairs from the Foundation annually.

D. Docherty stated that many universities of comparable size do not have foundations, and that BU is similar to most comparable sized universities in terms of having the bulk of endowed funds allocated towards scholarships and specific purposes (e.g., endowed chairs). It was noted that BU does well in terms of having loyal dedicated alumni, which BU must ensure to continue building on. It was further noted that caution must be exercised if receiving one-time money for operating.

A member inquired as to whether BU has considered contract naming rights as an additional source of revenue.

D. Docherty stated that this is being explored, including a review of current naming rights and whether time limits have been established.

Discussion took place regarding the Province's funding commitments with respect to closing the gap as a result of increases to salary obligations and addressing the operating deficit. It was confirmed that discussions are continuing with the Province on these matters, and that the first step is to bring recognition to the university's needs by way of the estimates process.

Discussion took place regarding the concern of administrative deficiencies. It was noted that an analysis of various organizational structures within units is needed, and it is uncertain what the number of desired positions would look like at this time. A decrease in administrative positions over the past 10 years in addition to increasing workloads as a result of growing demands from the Province and regulatory bodies were noted as factors with respect to administrative deficiencies.

Motion: Moved and seconded (Q. Pearce/D. Hammond)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2025 – 2026 Budget Estimates, as recommended by the Finance Committee.**

**122 Nov24  
CARRIED**

6.2 Motion: 2026-27 and 2027-28 Preliminary Budget Estimates

A motion sheet along with the Budget Estimates documents for the next three years, starting in 2025-26, were provided in the meeting package.

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Hayward/D. Hammond)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2026-27 and 2027-28 preliminary Budget Estimates, as recommended by the Finance Committee.**

**123 Nov24  
CARRIED**

*The meeting was recessed at 10:21 a.m. for a break.*

*The meeting resumed at 10:40 a.m.*

6.3 Motion: Approval of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Strategic Plan and Action Plan 2024-29

Motion: Moved and seconded (C. Adamu/J. Pelletier)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve Brandon University's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Strategic Plan and Action Plan 2024-29.**

**121 Nov24**

A motion sheet with background and rationale of the proposed EDI Strategic Plan and Action Plan 2024-29 was included in the meeting package.

D. Docherty provided an overview of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Strategic Plan and Action Plan, noting that the decision was made to have the plan come from the President, which is why it is being brought forth to the Board.

D. Docherty acknowledged and thanked B. Ardelli (Vice-President, Research & Graduate Studies) and Kerry Murkin (Manager of Research Services) for their work in developing the EDI plan.

B. Ardelli gave a presentation on the EDI Strategic Plan and Action Plan 2024-29, which outlines the necessary priorities as well as the actions, intended impact and

accountability of each priority. An overview and examples were provided as to how inequities impact the academic experiences for marginalized groups compared to privileged groups. It was noted that the Canada Research Chair program requires that the institution have an EDI Strategic Plan. As BU did not have such a plan in place, grant funding was secured to hire consultants and collect data to inform the plan. Grant funding has also been secured to fund an EDI Officer for 2 years to assist with some of the work within the plan. The importance that BU embraces the plan in all the university's work was highlighted.

D. Docherty stated that upon Board approval, the plan will be circulated and made available on the university's website. The next step will be to form a committee to oversee the work of the plan, which will be the responsibility of the President's Office.

B. Ardelli added that the EDI plan is considered a "living document", as the work will never be fully complete and will evolve over time.

The Chair opened the floor to questions.

A member inquired as to the rationale of an EDI policy being a requirement of the Canada Research Chair program.

B. Ardelli confirmed that other agencies also require having an EDI plan and noted that having these plans in place demonstrates that BU is an inclusive and welcoming institution which will aid in recruitment of faculty, staff, and students.

A member requested clarification on Strategic Priority 3 within the plan regarding the review of compensation.

B. Ardelli stated that as part of the new BUFA Collective Agreement, a number of working groups were established, including a committee to review salary anomalies which has been tasked with developing a plan on pay equity. Examples of pay inequities at universities across Canada were shared, noting issues of inequity are high in areas such as professional schools (e.g. Engineering) and business.

A concern was raised regarding potential risks (e.g., legal action) that could result depending on different interpretations within the plan.

B. Ardelli confirmed that there are risks involved, which is why professionals are being hired to conduct this work, including a compensation plan that works with the organization rather than bankrupting it.

K. Campbell added that this work began three years ago and acknowledged the work of Kristen Fisher (Associate Vice-President, People & Talent), Kerry Murkin (Manager of Research Services), and himself as Provost & Vice-President (Academic) in identifying the first two grants that allowed this work to begin.

A concern was raised about cancel culture with respect to the naming of buildings.

Discussion took place regarding the university's responsibility to preserve and discuss history. It was noted that there are other ways to address past wrongdoings of individuals who hold naming rights without removing their names, as removing names removes history. Museum exhibits and educational workshops were noted as examples of alternatives to address these historical matters. It was noted that the university's policy on naming buildings needs to be reviewed, as there is currently no vetting process in place.

A member inquired as to why there is nothing in the EDI plan in terms of accommodations for students and whether this was missed or if it would be included later on.

B. Ardelli stated that given the work began as a need for the CRC program, the original focus from the consultants was more from a faculty perspective. As the plan was being developed, it was determined that there should be more involvement than just faculty and a call was made for more input, which received little response.

A member commented that there has been an opposite trend occurring across North America at large in moving away from EDI.

**CARRIED**  
**1 Abstention**

6.4 Motion: Borrowing Funds for Deferred Maintenance

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Hayward/W. Hodgins)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors agree to borrow three million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$3,250,000) by way of a promissory note from the Province of Manitoba to support deferred maintenance and Brodie Building capital needs of the University.**

**124 Nov24**

A motion sheet with background and rationale of the proposed borrowing agreement for deferred maintenance was included in the meeting package.

A. Noto provided an overview of the borrowing agreement. The promissory note is a unique transaction that represents the province's contribution to the university's deferred maintenance projects and Brodie Building capital needs. As part of this arrangement, the Province will allocate additional resources to the University which will be used to make the loan payments.

A member inquired if there is an actual agreement with the provincial government for this.

A. Noto confirmed there is an agreement in place, noting the motion for approval is being requested now as there is typically a tight turnaround when the actual loan agreement is set up. It was confirmed that this has been the practice for several years. It was further confirmed that loan interest is approx. 5%.

A member raised concern about the loan interest amount from a taxpayer perspective.

A member inquired about what maintenance projects are still required.

A. Noto stated that there are projects such as roof repairs, window replacements, entrance landings, etc. that will be required, which are ultimately due to aging infrastructure. It was noted that there has been inconsistency in funding for deferred maintenance, with the most consistent funding being approx. \$450k annually.

**CARRIED**

6.5 Motion: Borrowing Resolution

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Hayward/A. Patel)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the attached borrowing resolution.**

**125 Nov24**

A motion sheet with background and rationale of the proposed borrowing resolution was included in the meeting package.

A. Noto provided an overview of the borrowing resolution. This is an annual resolution which allows the university to obtain a line of credit with CIBC, where

the university's operating fund is held. The line of credit has never been used; however, is beneficial to have it in place should there ever be an urgent need.

**CARRIED**

6.6 Motion: Allocation of Unrestricted Endowment Funds (Distribution Rate)

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Hayward/Q. Pearce)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the endowment earnings distribution rate of 4.5%, as recommended by the Brandon University Foundation.**

**126 Nov24**

A document outlining the details of the recommendation, as well as a motion sheet with background and rationale, was included in the meeting package.

P. Hickey provided an overview of the recommendation of the BU Foundation to retain the 4.5% distribution rate for endowment earnings. The decision was made based on positive markets as well as comparatives to other Canadian universities. The distribution rate will be re-evaluated on an annual basis with the goal to provide endowments and scholarships.

**CARRIED**

6.7 Motion: Revisions to the Accessibility Policies Recommendation – Delegation to Governance & Nominating Committee

Motion: Moved and seconded (C. Adamu/S. Frangi)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors hereby delegates authority to the Governance and Nominating Committee to approve the final versions of the following policies to ensure compliance with the applicable requirements of the Accessibility for Manitobans Act by December 31, 2024:**

- **Accessibility Policy**
- **Assistive Devices Policy**
- **Service Animal Policy**
- **Support Person Policy**

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the final versions of the approved policies be provided to the Board of Governors for informational purposes at the January 2025 meeting.**

127 Nov24

The Chair stated that this proposed motion was a late addition to the meeting package. A motion sheet outlining the background and rationale of the proposed motion was included in the meeting package.

D. Docherty provided an overview of the proposed motion, noting that the accessibility policies have been a work in progress in response to meeting compliance requirements of the Accessibility for Manitobans Act (AMA) by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Proposed changes were recommended to the Governance and Nominating Committee on November 5<sup>th</sup>, with a motion passed to recommend the proposed changes to the Board for approval, pending legal counsel given the compliance requirements. There were also some further changes proposed by Human Resources. Given time constraints, it is recommended that the Board delegate the authority to the Governance and Nominating Committee to approval the final revisions to the policy to ensure they are approved in time to meet compliance requirements.

**CARRIED**

6.8 Motion: Approval of the Public Interest Disclosure – Whistleblower Protection Policy

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Hayward/B. MacKalski)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the introduction of the Public Interest Disclosure - Whistleblower Protection Policy, as recommended by the Governance and Nominating Committee.**

129 Nov24

A motion sheet outlining the background and rationale of the new Public Interest Disclosure – Whistleblower Protection Policy as well as a copy of the policy was included in the meeting package.

D. Docherty reported that the development of a specific policy related to disclosures and protection of individuals who bring concerns forward (in accordance with PIDA legislation) was one of the recommendations of the Office of the Auditor General of Manitoba's Oversight of Post-Secondary Institutions 2020 report. Having a policy in place is also a requirement under legislation.

**CARRIED**

6.9 Motion: Revisions to the BOG Award for Excellence in Community Service Policy

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Soder/A. Patel)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the revisions to the Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Community Service Policy, as recommended by the Governance and Nominating Committee.**

**129 Nov24**

A motion sheet outlining the background and rationale of the proposed revisions to the Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Community Service was provided in the meeting package along with a tracked changes copy and clean copy of the policy.

D. Docherty reported that the primary change to the policy is to amend the submission deadline to the end of January to allow the Human Resources Committee to recommend a recipient for approval in time for the March Board meeting, which will better meet the timelines in preparation for Convocation. It was confirmed that there have been no changes to the criteria.

**CARRIED**

6.10 Motion: Scholarship Consideration Request

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the awarding of a second entrance scholarship for the Canadian Association of Physicists (CAP) High School Exam.**

**131 Nov24**

A motion sheet outlining the background and rationale of the proposed motion regarding a second entrance scholarship for the CAP High School exam was included in the meeting package.

D. Docherty provided an overview of the motion. Per the rationale provided, the Board is being asked to approve that the eighth placed student also receive the award. The scholarship will cover all tuition and compulsory fees for up to 30

credit hours of course work taken during the Regular Session of a student's first year at Brandon University.

**CARRIED**

6.11 Motion: Senate Recommendation – ERP Audit Report

Motion: Moved and seconded (W. Hodgins/A. Patel)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors acknowledge receipt of the recommendation of Senate and that any decision regarding release of information resulting from the audit of the ERP project be made once the Board has received the final audit report.**

**133 Nov24**

A motion sheet outlining the background and rationale of the recommendation of Senate regarding the release of information of an audit of the ERP project was provided in the meeting package.

D. Docherty stated that a General Faculty Council (GFC) meeting was held in September where a motion was recommended to the Senate regarding release of information resulting from the audit of the ERP project once the Board receives the final audit report. As GFC does not have the authority to advise the Board, the motion was recommended to the Senate and has now been recommended to the Board.

D. Docherty advised the Board to acknowledge receipt of the recommendation and not act until the final report audit report is received given uncertainty as to what information will be provided in the final report, noting concerns of legal liability.

The Chair stated that the process is currently underway to procure an auditor. The deadline for proposals was November 22<sup>nd</sup>, noting the process was delayed slightly to allow time to respond to questions from bidders.

A member inquired as to whether the point of originally asking the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) to conduct the audit was so that the report would be made public.

D. Docherty stated that the OAG was originally asked to conduct the audit, however, they indicated that they are unable to. Given the agreed upon terms

upon ending the ERP contract, there is a need to ensure that legal counsel is sought to provide clarity on what information can be made public.

The Chair stated that this will be an independent audit, and that BU will not control the findings of the report. The importance of transparency while also managing the risk was highlighted. It was confirmed that this matter would be revisited once the audit is complete.

**CARRIED**

**7. INFORMATION**

7.1 Reminder: Self-Evaluation (Skills Matrix)

The Chair reminded Board members that the Self-Evaluation is available on Diligent. Members have until Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> to complete the evaluation. It was noted that the results of the evaluation help to inform appointments made by the provincial government.

**8. MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION**

Motion: Moved and seconded (W. Hodgins/C. Adamu)

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

**CARRIED**

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

The following motions were raised from the October 29, 2024, Special Board meeting:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Collective Agreement with International Union of Operating Engineers Local 987 (IUOE(D)), as negotiated and recommended by the University Bargaining Committee for the period of April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2028, be ratified by the Board of Governors.**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve Amendment No. 24-01 to the Brandon University Retirement Plan, as recommended by the BU Retirement Plan Pension Trustees, subject to the approval of the Brandon University Faculty Association.**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors appoint Sunday Frangi to the Presidential Search Committee.**

The following motion was raised from the November 23, 2024, Closed Session meeting:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve that the Observatory, located on the roof of the McMaster building, Brandon University campus, be named the “Gulliver Astronomical Observatory”, as recommended by the President’s Naming Committee.**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Moved and seconded (C. Adamu/J. Pelletier)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourn at 1:13 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

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Chair, Board of Governors

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Board Secretariat