

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

**Saturday, May 10, 2025  
Louis Riel Room & Zoom  
8:30 a.m.**

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**Present:** Charles Adamu; Kofi Campbell; Sunday Frangi; Dean Hammond; Bryan Hill; Whitney Hodgins; Katheryne Lumgair; Michelle Magnusson; Ayushi Patel; Steven Soder; Kevan Sumner (Chair); Michelle Williams-Joel (Zoom)

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

**Guests:** Melanie Sucha (Chief Information Officer)

**Regrets:** Barbara MacKalski; Mary Jane McCallum; Chukwuanugo Okudo; Quintin Pearce (Open Session only); J. Pelletier

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**1. CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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 Inineu, Anisininewuk, Denesuline, and Inuit.

The Chair extended a warm welcome to Michelle Williams-Joel, the newly elected BUSU Vice-President, Operations, who will serve as a BUSU representative and succeed Joy Chikezie. Additionally, the Chair acknowledged the re-election of Charles Adamu as BUSU President, noting that he will continue to serve on the Board for another year.

The Chair welcomed Greg Gatién, currently serving as Acting Provost & Vice-President (Academic), attending the meeting as a resource. It was also noted that Kofi Campbell is serving as Acting President.

Further, the Chair welcomed Rhonda Hinthner, the newly appointed BUFA Secretary, joining as a guest, and Melanie Sucha, attending as a guest in her capacity as Chief Information Officer (CIO).

*P. Hickey joined at 8:36 a.m. via Zoom.*

## 2. AGENDA & MINUTES

### 2.1 Approval of Agenda of May 10, 2025

Motion: Moved and seconded (W. Hodgins/K. Lumgair)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda of the May 10, 2025, Board of Governors meeting (Open Session) be approved.**

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CARRIED**

### 2.2 Approval of Consent Agenda

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

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the consent agenda of the May 10, 2025, Board of Governors (Open Session) meeting be approved as follows:**

**2.2.1 Minutes of March 15, 2025 (Open Session)**

**2.2.2 Report from the Acting 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 – March 1 to April 18, 2025**

**2.2.6 Report – Research & Special Purpose Funds for the period of April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 (preliminary)**

**2.2.7 Report – Operating by Summary as at March 31, 2025 (preliminary)**

**2.2.8 Report – Operating by Object as at March 31, 2025 (preliminary)**

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

**2.2.9.1 BU Foundation**

**2.2.9.2 Board of Trustees of the BU Retirement Plan**

**2.2.9.3 BU Senate**

**2.2.9.4 BU Students' Union**

**2.2.9.5 Finance Committee**

**2.2.9.6 Knowles Douglas Student Centre**

**2.2.9.7 Status of Women Review Committee**

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CARRIED

### 3. PRESENTATIONS

#### 3.1 Presentation from Chief Information Officer, Melanie Sucha

M. Sucha, Chief Information Officer (CIO), provided an overview of the CIO organizational portfolio, outlining the organizational structure, key units, and the functions and services offered. She also detailed the staff complement, which includes BUFA, MGEU, and PSAC members.

M. Sucha reported on operational and systems activities within the CIO's units, highlighting ongoing initiatives and recent developments. Notably, a Web App firewall upgrade was discussed.

Additionally, M. Sucha highlighted significant events, including the Long Night Against Procrastination, held on March 12, the largest student-focused event aimed at supporting student wellbeing and academic success. She also noted a new partnership with Indigenous Peoples' Centre students on April 5, which led to the hosting of a Round Dance in the Library for the first time. A video of the Round Dance was shared with members.

K. Campbell emphasized that the open space in the library serves as an inclusive area for all, playing an integral role in fostering accessibility and community engagement.

### 4. REPORTS

#### 4.1 Report from the Acting President – Dr. Kofi Campbell

In addition to the written report included in the meeting package, K. Campbell highlighted his commitment to transparency, announcing that he will issue a monthly communication to the BU Community following each Board meeting.

He also noted a generous \$1.5 million gift from an anonymous donor, which will provide \$60,000 annually in student scholarships. He acknowledged and expressed appreciation for the efforts of C. Eisler, Director of Advancement & Alumni Relations, in securing this contribution.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

5.1 Motion: 2025 Report Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains

Motion: Moved and seconded (M. Magnusson/A. Patel)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2025 Report Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains.**

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A motion sheet outlining the background and rationale for the report was included in the meeting package.

A. Noto spoke to the motion, noting that this is the second year the report has been presented to the Board. The report is required by legislation to ensure that organizations, including the University, procure goods from sources that do not support child labour.

The Finance Department is looking at initiatives to enhance purchasing and procurement policies and procedures, to further mitigate risks associated with ethical sourcing.

**CARRIED**

5.2 Motion: Scholarship and Research Funds

Motion: Moved and seconded (W. Hodgins/K. Lumgair)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the allocation of unrestricted endowment funds for the 2025/2026 fiscal year as follows:**

<b>Faculty Research (BURC)</b>		<b>\$60,607</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>\$57,277</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$117,884</b>

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A motion sheet outlining the background and rationale for the report was included in the meeting package.

A. Noto spoke to the motion, noting that the endowments listed have no designated spending directives from the donor and have long been allocated for scholarship and research funding. These funds are administered by the Research Office and the Awards Office.

In response to an inquiry regarding whether the funds have increased, A. Noto stated that there has been a decrease due to the distribution rate, which has resulted in a reduction of available funds.

**CARRIED**

*A. Noto and M. Sucha left the meeting at 8:59 a.m.*

**6. MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION**

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

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

**CARRIED**

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

The following motions were raised from Closed Session:

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

**FACULTY OF ARTS:**

- Allison McCulloch .....July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, at 85% Salary
- Dale Lakevold .....July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, at 85% Salary
- Darek Klonowski.....January 1, 2027 to June 30, 2027, at 85% Salary
- Emma Varley .....July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, at 85% Salary
- Jonathan Allan .....January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2027, at 85% Salary
- Kevin deForest ..... July 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026, at 100% Salary
- Steve Robinson.....July 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026 at 85% Salary

**FACULTY OF EDUCATION:**

Chris Beeman .....January 1, 2027 to June 30, 2027, at 85% Salary  
Tim Skuce.....January 1, 2027 to June 30, 2027 at 85% Salary

**FACULTY OF HEALTH STUDIES:**

Karen Batson.....July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, at 90% Salary  
Kathryn Chachula .....July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028, at 85% Salary  
Nora Ahmad .....January 1, 2028 to June 30, 2028 &  
.....January 1, 2029 to June 30, 2029, at 85% Salary  
Nadine Smith .....July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, at 90% Salary

**LIBRARY:**

Rainer Schira ..... July 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026, at 100% Salary

**SCHOOL OF MUSIC:**

Jon Tomas Godin .....July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, at 85% Salary  
Megumi Masaki.....January 1, 2027 to June 30, 2027, at 85% Salary

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE:**

Margaret Carrington.... July 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026, at 85% Salary  
Chenkuan Li.....January 1, 2027 to June 30, 2027, at 100% Salary  
Chris Malcolm .....July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, at 85% Salary  
Doug Pickering .....January 1, 2027 to June 30, 2027, at 85% Salary  
Ali Somarin..... July 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026, at 100% Salary  
Pete Whittington.....January 1, 2027 to June 30, 2027 &  
.....January 1, 2028 to June 30, 2028, at 85% Salary

**STUDENT SERVICES:**

Michelle Magnusson .....July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, at 85% Salary

**CARRIED**

Following discussion during the in-camera session, the Board sought to formally present the following motion in Open Session:

Motion: Moved (A. Patel/K. Lumgair)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors expresses its appreciation for the dedication and leadership of the university's administration and affirms its confidence in their ability to effectively carry out their duties in service to the institution.**

**CARRIED**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Moved and seconded (W. Hodgins/M. Magnusson)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourn at 12:11 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

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Chair, Board of Governors

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Board Secretariat