



SAMRU's Mission

We represent and serve students to help them succeed.

SAMRU's Vision

Where every student can discover themselves, build meaningful relationships and make a difference in the world.

Minutes

Student Governing Board

November 23, 2020

4:00PM – 7:00PM

Google Hangouts

Present:

Governors (voting):

Erin Hepburn

Christian Kindrachuk

Arooba Siddiqui

Michaela Butt

Dustin Hertel

Avery McLellan

Sophie Piche

Lucas Hardardt

Ian Lees

Maggie Thaxter



Representation Executive Council:

Spirit River Striped Wolf (voting)

SAMRU Support (non-voting)

Pat Cochrane (Governance Coach)

Brian Walters (Executive Director)

Megan Borg (Governance Manager, scribe)

Ashley Schreiner (Speaker)

Guests:

Jasmine Kwong (PWC)

Angela Loo (PWC)

Ming Yang (SAMRU Finance Manager)

Regrets:

Gracia Di N'zau Mbudi (leave of absence)

Matt Mickelson

Land Recognition

'Before we begin, we recognize that we are fortunate to be situated on Treaty 7 lands, including the Niitsitapi (nit-SIT-ah-pee, or Blackfoot) Nations of the Siksika (SICK-sick-ah), Kainai (GUY-nuy) and Piikani (pih-GAH-nee); the Tsuu T'ina (TSOO-tunuh) Nation; the Nakoda (nuh-KO-dah) Nations of the Bearspaw, Chiniki (CHIN-ee-kee) and Wesley; and the Metis Nations. Through this land acknowledgement we honour the

*agreements between the ancestral peoples of this land and the first Euro-Canadian settlers; agreements that have been historically dishonoured.
We are all treaty people.'*

Topic	Motions	Discussion
Approval of Agenda	Motion: To approve the agenda. Hardardt/McLellan Carried	
Approval of Consent Agenda	Motion: To approve the consent agenda Hepburn/Kindrachuk	
Items Removed From Consent Agenda (if applicable)	Motion: To approve the items removed from the consent agenda (list items, for example "SGB Minutes")	
Audited Financial Statements (including in-camera session with governors, REC President, and PWC)		<p>ED Walters gave an overview of the 2020 audited financial statements (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cash and cash equivalents increase variance due to large amounts received from GST settlement and government subsidies - Short term investments decrease related to maturity date of investments – overall increase in investment portfolio with long term investments - Accounts receivable increased significantly related to \$300,000 from health and dental premiums refunds and \$170,000 from federal covid support, and the rest from tenant rent abatement. - Current liabilities difference of \$64,000 related to a hosted conference in 2019 - Deferred revenue is related to the health and dental fund; overages held aside and used for future health and dental premium fees.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deferred contributions increased related to capital campaign fund; these funds can only be used for future capital development according to the segregated funds policies. Will be used to upgrade/update the building in the future. - Internally restricted funds managed in accordance with board approved segregated funds policies. - Statement of revenues and expenses: revenue drops predominantly tied to the covid interruption. - Government subsidies is a new line this year and are related to covid wage subsidies - Other income and gains related to GST dispute resolution - Expenses have dropped in accordance with the covid disruptions - Excess of revenue over expenses is equal to about \$1.1M - The statement of changes and net assets total change is equal to the excess of revenue over expenses shows everything within the statements are in balance - Statement of cash flows does not have anything noteworthy to comment on - Short term and long term investment overview and breakdown of investments - Internally restricted net assets shows the actual breakdown of which funds make up the internal restrictions, managed in accordance with segregated funds policies - General notes on covid effects <p>Jasmine Kwong and Angela Loo presented the audit report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to PWC client service team - Overview of mutual commitments; planning, field work, and presentation to Board - Received signed management representation letter - Overview of audit risks and results: management override of control (no issues noted), risk of fraud and revenue recognition (no issues noted) - New accounting standards overview: section 4433, section 4434, and section 4441 – no changes required for SAMRU.
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	<p>Motion: To go in camera. Lees/Hardardt Carried</p> <p><i>(ED Walters and Ming Yang left the meeting)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of impact of Covid-19 on the audit; it was noted that SAMRU has healthy reserves. - Audit findings materiality is \$211,000 - No unadjusted items noted, one adjusted item around tenant rent abatement, which was corrected in the financial statements. - PWC's response to Covid-19 overview and resources - Overview of audit fees - Required communications overview: draft auditors report, management's representations, independence, other information in documents containing audited financial information, fraud and illegal acts, subsequent events <p>Auditor's questions to the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confirmation of any fraud or illegal acts that have not been disclosed. No disclosures. - Major events or transactions between June 30th to November 23rd, 2020? No events. <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Perspective on going concern terminology: proof of cash flow management and liquidity to continue on for a minimum of another year.
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	<p>Motion: To go out of camera. Hertel/Thaxter Carried</p> <p><i>(ED Walters returned to the meeting)</i></p> <p>Motion: To accept the 2020 audited financial statements and refer them to the membership for consideration at the 2021 SAMRU Annual General Meeting. Hertel/Hardardt Carried</p> <p><i>Jasmine Kwong and Angela Loo left the meeting.</i></p>	<p>The Board thanked ED Walters, Ming Yang, and PWC for the successful audit.</p>
<p>Board Professional Development</p>	<p>Governance Coach Cochrane gave a presentation on Board motions.</p> <p>Overview of presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Definition of a motion: a proposal formally offered by a member in a meeting, requesting that the assembly take a particular action, a proposal formally offered by a member in a meeting, requesting that the assembly take a particular action - Process: member makes a motion (the mover), member seconds the motion (the seconder), speaker repeats the motion and calls the question, board votes on the motion, speaker announces the result, result is recorded in the meeting minutes. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amending a motion: motion is moved and seconded, there is a motion to amend (it is moved and seconded), vote is required on the amendment, if vote carries the main motion with the amendment will be voted on, if the vote on the amendment fails the main motion will be voted on without that amendment. - Changing the nature of the motion: cannot be done with an amendment (for example, changing the word “love” in a motion to “hate”). The motion would be considered out of order as it changes the intent of the motion. - Dividing a motion: motion for division of question (needs to be moved and seconded). The motion would need to be a question that is divisible and does not change the nature of the main motion. - Amending an amendment to a motion: main motion is moved and seconded, there is a motion to amend the main motion (moved and seconded), there is a motion to amend the amendment (moved and seconded). First, the amendment to the amendment needs to be voted on, then the first amendment is voted on (with the amendment if carried, or without the amendment if it has failed), then the main motion is voted on (including amendment(s) if they have carried or without the amendment(s) if they have failed). 	
<p>SAMRU 2021-22 Fee Schedule</p>	<p>Motion: That in accordance with SAMRU’s bylaws, the SAMRU membership fees be established for the 2021-22 academic year as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The General & Operating fees (G&O) be increased to \$104.66 per semester for full-time students and \$50.03 per semester for part-time students. -The Capital Campaign fee (CCF) be maintained at the \$40.00 per semester fee cap for full-time students and increased to \$23.15 per semester for part-time students. -The Scholarship fee paid by both full-time and part-time students be 	<p>Discussion items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The briefing was discussed at the committee meetings last Monday - The Board approves the SAMRU fees for the upcoming year - Management has provided the fee schedule and included some considerations for the proposed fees. - The fee schedule is a special resolution that requires a 75% majority. - Discussion re: decrease in Reflector fees; The Reflector Board determines their own fees.

	<p> maintained at \$3.00 per student per semester. - The Health and Dental fee paid by full-time students be maintained at \$160.32 per student per semester. Hertel/Lees Carried </p> <p> Motion: That in accordance with the Reflector Society's board decision, the Reflector Society's fees be decreased to \$7.25 for full-time students and to \$3.63 for part-time students. Thaxter/Kindrachuk Carried </p>	
2020-21 Mid Year Budget Revision	<p> Motion: To approve the 2020-21 SAMRU budget revisions. Hepburn/McLellan Carried </p>	<p>ED Walters gave an overview of the budget revisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management has developed a revised budget based on core assumptions with provision that if the core assumptions changed and new information became available, the Board would bring a revision back to the Board with potential request for access to the reserve funds. - We've looked closely at programs and services, and operational plan for the remainder of the year. No reserve funds are needed to be accessed. - Fee estimates are conservative as they are so unknown right now. - Information on revenue and cost expectations.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We've maintained a staffing plan that relies on current resources as necessary. - Capital acquisition and development overview - Revisions have been prepared in the same format as the monthly operating reports so that the Board can see a more detailed version of the budget to see exactly where the changes are being proposed.
REC Elections Timeline	Motion: To approve the 2021 REC Elections timeline. Piche/Hepburn Carried	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Briefing is drafted in the format that the elections memo is prepared. The committees have reviewed the timeline. - It was noted that the CRO has been consulted regarding the timeline and did not have any feedback on the dates. - The CRO agrees with the restrictions and changes put in place for Covid restrictions. The CRO would prefer that candidates are explicitly informed about not participating in one-on-one campaigning with handouts; social distancing would need to be enforced. It was suggested that SAMRU produce a handbook that outlines specific campaigning restrictions and allowances, the handbook would be communicated at the all-candidates meeting and provided in a PDF to candidates.
Governor Hardardt Term	Motion: To extend Governor Hardardt's term until the 2021 SAMRU Annual General Meeting. Hertel/Lees Carried	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Governor Hardardt's term will end at the end of this month. - The Board is not at their minimum so it would be up to the Board to decide to extend or not (if Governor Hardardt wants to extend) - It was noted that the AGM normally occurs in March or April. - Governor Lees will be resigning at the end of the year as he will not be returning to MRU next semester. - Governor Thaxter's term expires at the end of March and she will be leaving MRU after that.



		- Discussion re: transmission of knowledge. Teambuilding is being organized.
Announcements		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- No December meetings. Next Committee meetings are on January 11 and the next Board meeting is January 18, 2021.- Governance Manager Borg will be reaching out re: staff appreciation from the Board.

The meeting was adjourned by the Speaker