MINUTES
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
Tuesday, April 28, 2026
4:45 – 6:45 pm
Main Campus, BR126

Present: RJ Wallia, Board Chair
Jason Dewling, President & Vice-Chancellor
Amina El mantari, Board Vice Chair
Shelley Frost, Board Vice Chair
David Ayriss, Appointed Member
Janet Cox, Elected Non-Faculty Member
Louisa Lun, Appointed Member
Owen McLachlan, Elected Student Member
Pegah Yaghmaie, Elected Faculty Member
Prabal Gupta, Elected Student Member

Resource: Tally Bains, VP Finance & Administration and Board Secretary
Tracy Penny Light, Interim VP Academic & Provost (outgoing)
Lesley Brown, Interim VP Academic & Provost (incoming)
Kari Wharton, VP University Relations
Angela Ruggles, EA to VP Finance and Administration and Manager, Board Secretariat
Nat Volo, EA to VP Strategic Planning, Assessment & Institutional Assessment (minutes)

Regrets: Yuri Fulmer, Chancellor
Sam Tecle, Elected Faculty Member
Troy Abromaitis, Appointed Member
Brittany John, Appointed member

Guests: None

The meeting started at 4:56 pm.

1. Land Acknowledgement and Approval of Agenda

RJ Wallia, Chair of the Board of Governors, opened the meeting by noting that Capilano University is named after Chief Joe Capilano (1854-1910), an important leader of the Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish) Nation of the Coast Salish Peoples. On behalf of the Board, he respectfully acknowledged that our campuses are located on the unceded territories of the Səl̓ílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), shíshálh (Sechelt), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.

It was moved by RJ Wallia, seconded by Shelley Frost and resolved:

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

2. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Owen McLachlan, seconded by Shelley Frost and resolved (Amina El mantari abstained):

THAT the Board of Governors approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

2.1. *Items For Approval:*

2.1.1. Minutes from the February 24, 2026 Board Meeting

2.1.2. Minutes from the March 27, 2026 Special Board Meeting

2.1.3. Governance and Planning Committee: B.601 Copyright Policy

2.2. *Items for Information:*

2.2.1. Board Committee Reports

2.2.1.1.1. Executive and HR Committee

2.2.1.1.2. Finance Committee

2.2.1.1.3. Governance and Planning Committee

2.3. *Correspondence*

2.3.1. Canada Student Loan Forgiveness Program Update

2.3.2. Student Society Fees 2026-2027

3. Placeholder from the Consent Agenda

There were no items pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

4. Board Chair's Report

RJ welcomed members back and noted that the University continues to move forward on a clear path despite the broader challenges facing the sector. He acknowledged that these challenges are not the result of any individual institution's failure and emphasized the importance of working together, drawing on the perspectives of those who teach and work at CapU. RJ highlighted the opportunity to be innovative and to develop new approaches, while remaining guided by the University's values. He expressed confidence in the teams in place and encouraged members of the University community to participate and ensure their voices are heard.

5. Senate Report

RJ provided an update on behalf of Alan Jenks, Senate Vice Chair, on activity of the senate and committee meetings held in March and April. Key highlights included Senate's formal academic advice to the Board on proposed program discontinuances and intake suspensions, approval of a new Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) Policy and procedure, revisions to the Final Examinations Policy, several curriculum resolutions, and the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee on the Evaluation of Teaching and Learning. Senate also received updates on teaching and learning initiatives, and a recommendation was made to establish a regular joint Board-Senate meeting to strengthen communication, shared governance, and the effectiveness of Senate advice to the Board.

Board members discussed the proposed idea of joint Senate and Board meetings. It was agreed that the concept was valuable and suggested that there may be an opportunity to align orientation materials for the Board and Senate.

Dr. Jason Dewling, University President and Vice-Chancellor introduced Dr. Lesley Brown, Interim VP Academic & Provost (incoming) to the Board, noting that her experience across four post-secondary institutions will be valuable as the University continues to develop the Secretariat.

6. President's Report

Jason expressed gratitude and thanked those who supported him during his first two months at the University, including past President Paul Dangerfield and past Interim President Dr. Laureen Styles. Jason noted that while the President's Report to the Board has historically been presented as a longer narrative, future reports will be more closely mapped to goals, objectives, and key performance indicators. Jason also explained that that he is working with the Communications team on a deliberate communication strategy.

7. Academics

7.1. Proposed Course Discontinuances – Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Tracy Penny Light, Interim VP Academic & Provost presented the proposed course discontinuances in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

It was moved by Pegah Yaghmaie, seconded by Louisa Lun and resolved:

THAT the Board of Governors refer the recommendation of course discontinuances for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences – Department of Sociology (SOSC 320 People and the Environment: Past and Future Relationships and SOSC 401 Contemporary Issues: The Presence of the Past) to the Senate for advice.

7.2. Proposed Course Discontinuances – Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts

Tracy presented the proposed course discontinuances in the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts.

It was moved by RJ Wallia, seconded by Pegan Yaghmaie and resolved:

THAT the Board of Governors refer the recommendation of course discontinuances for the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts as listed in Sch 7.2 to the Senate for advice.

8. Meeting Close

RJ closed the meeting at 5:34 pm.