



BOARD LEARNING AND DISCOVERY COMMITTEE Terms of Reference

1. AUTHORITY

- (a) The Board Learning and Discovery Committee (the “Committee”) is created by and responsible to the Board of Governors (the “Board”) of the University of Alberta (the “University”).
- (b) The Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and the Vice-President (Research) shall provide management support to the Committee.
- (c) University Governance shall provide administrative support to the Committee.
- (d) The Committee shall function in accordance with the Board's General Committee Terms of Reference.

2. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

- a) Voting Members appointed by the Board (ordinarily a maximum of 10 voting members)
 - i) A Board member from the membership category identified by the Post-Secondary Learning Act (*the Act*) as *academic staff of the University*;
 - ii) A Board member from the membership category identified by the Act as *an undergraduate student nominated by the council of the undergraduate student association*;
 - iii) A Board member from the membership category identified by the Act as a *graduate student nominated by the council of the graduate student association*;
 - iv) Four Board members from the membership categories identified by the Act as general public, alumni and senate;
 - v) The Board Chair, by virtue of office
 - vi) The President and Vice-Chancellor, by virtue of office
 - vii) The Chancellor, by virtue of office
- b) Non-Voting Officials appointed by the President
 - i) Provost and Vice- President (Academic)
 - ii) Vice-President (Research)
 - iv) University Secretary
 - v) Committee Secretary
 - vi) Other officers, as determined by the President
- c) The Board of Governors shall appoint the Committee Chair from the Committee membership category 2 a) iv), upon recommendation of the Board Chair,

- d) The Committee shall designate the Vice-Chair from the Committee membership upon the recommendation of the Board Chair and the Committee Chair. The Vice-Chair undertakes and discharges all duties of the Chair in the absence of the Chair.

3. MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

Except as provided in paragraph 4 hereof and in the Board's General Committee Terms of Reference, the Committee shall, in accordance with the Committee's responsibilities with powers granted under the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*, monitor, evaluate, advise and make decisions on behalf of the Board with respect to matters concerning the teaching and research affairs of the University, including proposals coming from the administration and from General Faculties Council (the "GFC"), and shall consider future educational expectations and challenges to be faced by the University. The Committee shall also include any other matter delegated to the Committee by the Board.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing the Committee shall:

- a. review and approve initiatives related to the overall academic mission and related plans and policies of the University;
- b. review, provide feedback and approve teaching and research policies;
- c. review and approve recommendations of GFC for major changes in instructional and research programs and other academic matters;
- d. review, provide feedback and approve the enrolment management strategy and annually review such plans;
- e. review and approve the Code of Student Behaviour, the Code of Applicant Behaviour and the Practicum Intervention Policy;
- f. review and provide recommendations to the Board Audit Committee on the University's enterprise-wide risks and risk measures related to the Committee mandate;
- g. undertake studies and review academic matters that pertain to the quality of the educational experience at the University;
- h. monitor educational and research trends, community expectations and demands;
- i. monitor all matters related to intellectual property and technology transfer of research at the University.
- j. ensure that the academic teaching and research activities at the University are administered and undertaken in a manner consistent with the vision and mission of the University;
- k. consider future educational expectations and challenges to be faced by the University;
- l. review proposals and recommendations of GFC concerning the establishment, continuation and re-organization of faculties, schools, departments and make recommendations to the Board in respect thereof;
- m. review recommendations of GFC Academic Planning Committee concerning the Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP) and/or a similar document as required, and make recommendations to the Board in respect thereof;
- n. review and recommend to the Board any annual reports and any other major issues within the mandate of the committee;
- o. receive for information proposals approved by the GFC Academic Planning Committee respecting Shared Credential Programs;

- p. review the performance of the University, in the areas of responsibility of the Committee, against performance measure reports and results in place from time to time and report thereon to the Board;
- q. annually provide advice to the President, through the Chair of the Human Resources & Compensation Committee, with respect to the responsibilities and performance (in relation thereto) of those Vice-Presidents whose responsibilities are within the mandate of the Committee; and
- r. annually review the terms of reference for the committee and recommend to the Board any required changes.

The Committee shall review, evaluate, and provide information and recommendations to the Board where the Board is making decisions in areas generally related to areas of responsibility of the Committee.

4. LIMITATIONS ON DELEGATION BY THE BOARD

This general delegation of authority by the Board to the Committee shall be limited as set out in this paragraph. Notwithstanding the general delegation of authority to the Committee as set out in paragraph 3, the Board shall make all decisions with respect to:

- a. the establishment, continuation, reorganization or abolition of faculties, schools and departments;
- b. program approvals involving the creation or abolition of a degree program (but not specializations of an existing degree);
- c. the consideration of proposals, ideas and issues that deal with the academic transformation of the institution.

5. REPORTING TO THE BOARD

As provided in the Board's General Terms of Reference the Committee shall regularly report to the Board with respect to its activities and decisions.

Decision History:

Date	Decision-Maker	Decision
2011-09-26	Board Learning and Discovery Committee	Recommended to the Board
2011-10-21	Board of Governors	Approved
2014-09-29	Board Learning and Discovery Committee	Recommended to the Board
2014-10-24	Board of Governors	Approved
2015-10-01	Board Learning and Discovery Committee	Recommended to the Board
2015-10-26	Board of Governors	Approved