Board Members present: F. Robin, Board Chair; A. Petter, President; A. Hall; A. Kessler; M.C. Kropinski; C. Lewis; M. Lombardi; M. Mroz; J. Stewart; A. Versi; D. Williams; J. Young

Regrets: A. Giardini, Chancellor; M. Cordoba; S. Lord Ferguson

OPEN SESSION

A. **Finance and Administration**

a. The Board received for information a report regarding fall 2019 enrolment data for international undergraduate student intake.

b. The Board received for information the 2019-2020 Quarter 2 Forecast, which was submitted to the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training on October 1, 2019.

c. The Board noted for information the 2019-2020 Quarter 2 Budget to Actual Variance Report as of September 30, 2019.

d. The Board received for information the Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO) synopsis of the *University Investment Survey on Endowment Funds* as at December 31, 2018. A summarized version of the survey also went to the members of the Responsible Investment Committee. [see below – Responsible Investment Committee]

B. **University Relations**

a. Fundraising Progress Reports: The Board noted year-to-date progress reports as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Fundraising Progress Report For Information 2019/2020 Year to Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To August 31, 2019</td>
<td>$11,511,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To September 30, 2019</td>
<td>$13,333,214</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. The Board approved the Terms of Reference for the:

- CPABC Burnaby/New Westminster Chapter Award
- David Pel Bursary in Accounting
- Dr. Tashakkor Undergraduate Award in Contemporary Arts
- Lin Perceval Graduate Scholarship in Business
- Mary Steinhauser Memorial Bursary for Aboriginal Students Endowment
- SFU Men's Basketball Alumni Society Grant
- Surjit S. Madhopuri S.C. Scholarship in Management Information Systems
- BC JCCA Centennial Co-op Travel Grant
- Charles and Eve Chang Foundation Award for Entrepreneurial Mindset
- Edward S. Liu Bursary in Economics
- Putris Annual Bursary in Applied Sciences
c. The Board approved the following action recommended by Senate on October 7, 2019:

- The establishment of the Department of World Languages and Literatures within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

C. Governance and Nominating

a. The Board approved the recommendation of the appointment of Ms. Catherine Heath as Trustee of the Pension Plan for Members of the Academic Staff as University Representative, replacing Jonathan Stewart effective immediately for an indefinite term.

b. The Board approved the recommendation of the re-appointment of Mr. Bill Whitehead as Trustee of the Pension Plan for members of the Administrative / Union Staff, as the Poly Party representative, for a further three year term commencing December 1, 2019 and expiring on November 30, 2022.

c. The Board approved the new Policy I10.11 – Protection of Privacy – coming into force two months after the successful launch of online employee privacy training. When the new Policy I10.11 comes into force, the privacy protection sections in the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Policy I10.04 will be repealed.

D. Audit, Risk and Compliance


E. Responsible Investment

a. The Board heard a presentation from the student group SFU 350 regarding Responsible Investment and Shareholder Engagement.

b. The Board received for information a summarized version of the Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO) synopsis of the University Investment Survey on Endowment Funds as at December 31, 2018. [see above – Finance and Administration Committee]

c. The Board approved SFU’s commitment to measure and reduce the carbon footprint of the public equity portion of the University’s investment portfolio by 45% below the baseline measurement reported as of March 31, 2016, and to achieve this reduction by 2025.

F. Human Resources

a. The Board received for information the Mid-Year Update of the 2019-2020 Faculty Renewal Plan for the period ended September 30, 2019.

G. Other

a. President Petter reported on various positive developments that have occurred since the last Board meeting, including:
- Graduating 2,014 students at SFU’s fall convocation;
- Bestowing honorary degrees on: author and professor Timothy Caulfield, entrepreneur and philanthropist Lorne Trottier, and surgeon and Indigenous health advocate Nadine Caron;
• Presenting the Chancellor’s Distinguished Service Award to Bill Cunningham in recognition of his outstanding service and commitment to the University (he has served on the SFU Alumni Association Board of Directors and the SFU Board of Governors, acting as Board Chair for two years); and
• Hosting a very successful SFU Diwali Gala in October, celebrating SFU’s strong connections with the South Asian community.

b. The President highlighted for the Board the following developments of note:
• In October, the Premier and Jobs, Trade and Technology Minister, Bruce Ralston, announced that the Province will invest $17 million over the next five years to establish a Quantum Algorithms Institute at SFU’s Surrey campus, which will be a partnership among universities, industry and government, and help position BC and the larger Pacific North West as a global leader in the field of quantum computing technology. It will also support research and provide opportunities for students to pursue graduate studies in quantum computing;
• The Premier announced the Province’s commitment to establishing Surrey City Centre as the second downtown for Metro Vancouver, and to promoting the development of an innovation corridor to create jobs and opportunities in Surrey and the Fraser Valley. This is very encouraging in relation to SFU’s expansion plans for SFU Surrey, which envisage the creation of over 2000 additional funded student spaces in areas such as health innovation and creative technologies in addition to general studies; and
• The Premier and Advanced Education Minister, Melanie Mark, came to SFU’s Burnaby campus and announced $73 million in financing for the construction of Phase 2 of the SFU Residence expansion plan, which is a $104 million project that will include a new residence with units for 369 undergraduate students and a dining commons that will expand the current 256-seat facility to one that can accommodate up to 800 students. Phase 2, combined with Phase 1, will provide much-needed accommodation for 850 undergraduate students and will relieve pressure on the region’s housing market.

c. President Petter updated the Board on recent ranking information relating to SFU:
• Maclean’s once again named SFU Canada’s top comprehensive university in its 2020 ranking and ninth in reputation amongst all universities. This is the sixth year in a row and 10th time in the past 11 years that SFU has been named the country’s top comprehensive university, a category that includes post-secondary institutions that have a significant research impact, a wide range of programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels, as well as professional degrees; and
• In 2019 research rankings, SFU came out third in Canada amongst comprehensive universities for research income, second for research publications and first for research impact. It is expected that SFU’s standing will further strengthen next year in light of a recent report from CAUBO showing SFU’s research income has grown to $161 million, up $19 million over last year, and an increase of 60% over the past seven years – a true testament to the growing strength and productivity of SFU’s research faculty, as well as SFU’s ability to attract new investments in research and research infrastructure.

d. The President reported to the Board about recent international missions:
• Latin America Mission: In October, A. Petter led a delegation to Mexico and Colombia to attend the Conference of the Americas on International Education (CAIE), which brought together higher education institutions, educational organizations and government representatives. During the conference, A. Petter gave a presentation as part of a plenary panel on “Engaged Universities: Innovation and Development” and also met with diplomatic and university partners to advance existing partnerships and explore areas of collaboration. The delegation also visited Medellin to investigate its extensive use of gondolas as a means of public transit – the city has five gondola lines within its integrated transit system and a sixth under construction. The visit to Latin America, while relatively short, will help to raise SFU’s profile and advance SFU’s relationships in Latin America.
• Asia Mission: In November, A. Petter led a mission to Hong Kong, Singapore and Shanghai to build academic relationships, pursue philanthropic opportunities and reconnect with alumni and friends. While the ability of the delegation to meet with university partners and others in Hong Kong was disrupted by recent events (most SFU students have returned back to Canada), the delegation did manage to visit one university and participate in the annual Terry Fox run which is organized by SFU Alumni. In both Singapore and Shanghai, SFU met with university partners and enjoyed highly successful alumni and friends receptions. The mission also provided an opportunity to meet with consular officials at all three locations and to promote APAIE 2020, the annual Asia Pacific Association for International Education conference that SFU will host in March of 2020, where over 2500 attendees are expected.

e. Board Chair F. Robin congratulated Chancellor Giardini on recently being named, once again, to *VanMag’s 2019 Power 50 List*.

f. The Report of the Vice-President, Research and International on key activities in her office as well as recent research achievements was before the Board for information. J. Johnson highlighted:
• Eight SFU researchers were recently named to the Royal Society of Canada – seven as Fellows of the Society and one as a member of the Society’s College of New Scholars, Scientists and Artists. The increase in inductees is in part attributable to the establishment of the President’s Advisory Committee on Academic Honours. Chair F. Robin congratulated all who were named, including J. Johnson.
• With Senator Kim Pate from Ontario in attendance, SFU recently launched the *Data for Good* campaign that invites mission-driven organizations, advocates and government to partner with the University and our big data experts to effect greater social impact. J. Johnson described one of the successful partnerships undertaken with the Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute, housed at SFU, and Statistics Canada in which student teams from a number Canadian universities competed in a data-thon competition looking at ferry wait times, and what could be done to improve scheduling. BC Ferries will be looking at implementing the results of the data gathered.
• SFU’s research income continues to grow. For the 2019 fiscal year, research income was nearly $161 million, which is an increase of nearly $20 million from the 2018 fiscal year.
• Eight of SFU’s leading academic scholars have become the first to receive the prestigious title of Distinguished University Professor, a new designation recognizing outstanding performance and achievements, and celebrating international pre-eminence in their respective fields.

g. The Board reviewed the report of the Vice-President, Finance and Administration on the major activities and developments within his portfolio as of November 2019. M. Pochurko highlighted two areas:
• He thanked University Communications under K. Linklater, Safety and Risk Services under M. LaLonde, Ancillary Services under M. McLaughlin, and all individuals involved in a Core Planning Team for their planning and efforts to prepare for a possible full-scale transit disruption by Coast Mountain Bus Company. Fortunately, a system-wide shut down was averted.
• For the first time, SFU’s invested endowed and non-endowed funds under management have exceeded the $1 billion mark.

h. The Board reviewed the report of the Vice-President, Academic and Provost *pro tem*. J. Driver noted that searches for the Dean of the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology, and the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Students and International have been initiated and will be active over the coming four to five months.
i. A main motion for the Board to approve, in principle, a new standing committee – Budget Consultation Committee – was referred to the Governance and Nominating Committee for review, with instructions to report back at the January 2020 Board meeting.

j. A main motion that henceforth every year the Vice-President, Finance and Administration shall present a preliminary budget to the Board in November and again in January, prior to its official introduction in March, was referred to the Finance and Administration Committee for review, with instructions to report back at the January 2020 Board meeting.

k. The Board heard a report from undergraduate student governor Ali Versi regarding the financial burden for students around the costs associated with printing and other student fees beyond tuition. This raised the larger and important issue of student affordability and the Board noted one of the positive outcomes of the budget consultation process was an ongoing discussion with undergraduate and graduate student representatives, more generally around affordability and what can be done to address that issue, of which printing is a part. The reality of affordability transcends the University and to the extent the University trying to address these issues and to find solutions, it is hoped that SFU will continue collaborating with others in the province and within the post-secondary sector.

CLOSED SESSION

A. Finance and Administration

a. The Board approved the Statutory Right of Way between SFU, Corix, and FortisBC Energy to provide natural gas service to the Corix district heating plant at the Burnaby Campus.

b. The Board approved an award of contract to PUBLIC Architecture + Communication Inc. for Architect/Prime Consultant Services for the Student Residence Development Phase 3 Project at the Burnaby Campus.

c. The Board heard an update on Phase 2 of the Student Residence Development project at the Burnaby Campus.

d. The draft minutes of and excerpts from the report to the Investment Advisory Committee meeting of September 12, 2019 were received by the Board for information.

B. University Relations

a. The Board received the fundraising progress reports for August and September 2019.

b. The Board reviewed the report from M. den Haan, Vice-President, Advancement and Alumni Engagement (VPA&AE) on the recent activities, developments and achievements in each of the areas within his portfolio.

c. The Board reviewed the report from Joanne Curry, Vice-President, External Relations on key developments in Government Relations and Communications & Marketing.

C. Audit, Risk and Compliance

a. The Board received for information the external Audit Plan for the year ending March 31, 2020.

b. The Board received for information an Update on the Treatment of Key Risks in the University’s Enterprise Risk Management Plan.

c. Other matters were discussed.
D. **Human Resources**

a. **Academic Appointments**

The following academic appointments were approved and have been accepted:

- Dr. Gordon McTaggart-Cowan, Associate Professor, Sustainable Energy Engineering, 1 Dec 19 – 31 Aug 24
- Dr. Jesse Hahm, Assistant Professor, Geography, 1 Jan 20 – 31 Aug 24
- Dr. David Stenning, Assistant Professor, Statistics and Actuarial Science, 1 Jan 20 – 31 Aug 24
- Dr. Saba Alimadadi, Assistant Professor, Computing Science, 1 Jan 20 – 31 Aug 24
- Dr. Amy Lee, Assistant Professor, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, 1 Jan 20 – 31 Aug 24
- Dr. Jane Fowler, Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences, 1 Mar 20 – 31 Aug 24
- Dr. Colin Douglas Copeland, Associate Professor with tenure, Sustainable Energy Engineering, 1 Feb 20

b. **Administrative Appointments**

The following administrative appointment was approved:

- Dr. Margaret MacDonald, Director, Undergraduate Programs, Education, 1 Jan 20 – 31 Dec 22

E. **Other**

a. The Board received the President’s Activities Report for September and October 2019.

b. Board Chair F. Robin informed the Board that a joint Senate-Board Retreat has been scheduled for Saturday, April 4, 2020.

**CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**

a. The Board elected Mr. Chris Lewis Chair of the Board for the period commencing on January 15, 2020 and ending at the conclusion of the January 2021 Board meeting.

b. The Board elected Mr. James Stewart Deputy Chair of the Board for the period commencing on January 15, 2020 and ending at the conclusion of the January 2021 Board meeting.

c. President Petter noted that this was the last Board meeting for Board Chair F. Robin and thanked her both personally and on behalf of the Board for her service to the Board and to SFU.

d. Other matters were discussed.

The next Board of Governors Meeting will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 30, 2020, Strategy Room 420, The Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue, 580 West Hastings Street, Vancouver.