Board Meeting Highlights

The Dec. 17, 2020, Board of Governors’ meeting was held via Webex.

The board received a number of reports, including:

- Program Advisory Committee Report
- COVID-19 Update
- Research Update
- Schedule for Budget Approval 2021-22
- Enrolment Update
- Mid-year Business Plan Update
- Sexual Violence Action Plan (annual report)
- Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Committee Report

Motions were passed by the board to approve:

- 2020-21 Interim Year-End forecast Submission
- Investment Performance Report
- Tuition and program fees
- Ancillary fees schedule

Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Committee Report

The Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Committee created a report for the Board of Governors and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities. In March 2015, the provincial government launched It’s Never Okay: An Action Plan to Stop Sexual Violence and Harassment. As part of this plan, the provincial government enacted legislation requiring colleges and universities to work with students to adopt campus-wide sexual violence and harassment policies that included training, prevention, complaint procedures and response protocols. A common sexual violence policy framework was developed by all Ontario colleges, which was used in the development of our Sexual Violence Policy.

On March 19, 2019, the Minister of Colleges and Universities released a summary report of the 2018 Student Voices on Sexual Violence Survey. The minister also announced that every publicly-assisted college and university in Ontario needed to have a task force devoted to tackling sexual violence on campus. The task force would include diverse student representatives and be required to report its findings to both their respective Board of Governors as well as to the ministry (Ontario News, 2019).

At Georgian, it would be responsible for:

- Assessing the sufficiency of the college’s sexual violence procedure
- Assessing the effectiveness of current programs and services to combat sexual violence on campus and providing recommendations on the additional steps Georgian may take to ensure a safe environment for all

The Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Committee was developed through broad consultation of the Georgian community. The committee is devoted to tackling sexual violence with a mandate to:

- Review the college’s sexual violence procedure
- Produce a report for the Board of Governors and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities
- Engage the Georgian community in the prevention of sexual violence through education and awareness
On an annual basis, the committee will review the process of handling previously reported incidents of sexual violence to help identify any deficiencies in procedures, processes and practices. This is a review of the process and not the details of the specific cases.

COVID-19 update
The board is provided with a regular COVID-19 update; the update includes Georgian’s responses to key activities, our challenges and successes. The updated academic schedule was shared with the board.

Mid-year Business Plan
The Ministry of Colleges and Universities requires every college to prepare a business plan each fiscal year consistent with the vision and commitments established in the college’s strategic plan and reflective of the directions outlined in the college’s Strategic Mandate Agreement. The business plan allows each college to plan its operations for the fiscal year within the framework outlined in its strategic plan and identifies operational outcomes the college expects to achieve in the identified year. The ministry uses the information provided in college business plans to advise and inform government planning and policy-making. Georgian’s 2020-21 Business Plan, approved by the Board of Governors and submitted to the ministry, identifies the initiatives from the college’s strategic plan which will be pursued over the year.

The Mid-Year Review Report, which is for internal information only and is neither mandated by nor submitted to the ministry, reflects the progress made against the commitments in the 2020-21 Business Plan and mirrors the format the college uses for its Annual Report to the ministry at year-end. The detailed report describes the current status of each of the yearly initiatives while the one page summary captures this information in condensed form.

The college’s 2020-21 Annual Report, which reflects the outcomes of the commitments made in the 2020-21 Business Plan, will be submitted to the board for approval by June 2021. The college will draft the 2021-22 Business Plan and submit a draft to the board for input prior to the final draft being submitted to the board in June for approval. Following board approval, the 2021-22 Business Plan will be submitted to the ministry.