Board Meeting Highlights

The Jan. 28, 2021, Board of Governors’ meeting was held via Webex.

The board received a number of reports, including:

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<td>Board Scorecard</td>
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Motions were passed by the board to approve:

- Updated Research Policies

Board strategic discussions

The board held strategic discussions, which focused on our strategic plan. The goal was to identify possible changes and consider our strategic issues and priorities, including Georgian’s student connections and engagement. To inspire the discussion, governors watched a pre-recorded video of students sharing their experience during the COVID-19 pandemic regarding academic, social and support services, challenges, successes and our future given our dynamic and changing environment.

Schedule for Budget Approval 2021-22

College staff members begin to work on the development of the next fiscal year’s budget early each fall. The Finance and Audit Committee and the board are provided with regular updates on this process. Board approval of the annual budget is required as part of the Ministry of Colleges and Universities’ Binding Policy Directives.

The college will maintain our normal planning cycle for the 2021-22 year, targeting the March board meeting for the approval of the 2021-22 budget submission. However, this timeline may need to be assessed based on the level of uncertainty around enrolments for the upcoming academic year due to the pandemic.

Staff continue to monitor the impacts of the pandemic on the college and its operations. The impacts of the government’s announcements on Jan. 12 with regards to a provincial declaration of emergency and the impacts on academic delivery have been modelled. The fiscal impacts are being assessed to determine the impacts on the 2020-21 and potentially the 2021-22 budget. This emergency order will be in place until at least Feb. 11 and could extend further, impacting the delivery of in-person academic programming as many of the labs can’t have more than 10 students. Some health programs are exempt from this restriction.

Health and Safety Report

Georgian has met all health and safety legislated requirements for the reporting period. The Barrie Joint Health and Safety Committee has met all Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Act requirements in regards to meetings and inspections from the period of September to December 2020. Various zones have been inspected during this reporting period as per the schedule approved by the committee. All other campus committees (including 5 Ross St.) have met all OHS Act requirements with regards to meetings and inspections during the reporting period.
The academic plan was developed in 2017 to describe learning and academic support strategies to be undertaken to 2021 that align with the strategic priorities and commitments stated in Georgian’s current strategic plan. The 2019-20 Academic Plan Annual Report details the specific success outcomes achieved in year three of the four-year plan.

The executive summary captures the highlights and successes from the 2019-20 Academic Plan Annual Report as well as the changes and deferments made to planned strategies over the course of the year. This academic year observed the quick shift to remote delivery due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its related closures in March 2020. Faculty and staff were adaptive in their teaching practices as well as innovative in student services and work-integrated learning placement opportunities to support this change in delivery for our students.