QUESTIONS FOR PANEL DISCUSSION ON 'LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN'

Stephen J. Toope, Chair

(Incorporating the ideas of Susan Milburn and Lea Pennock)

Introduction: Brief Review of Events (Stephen Toope)

- 1. First, I would like to think about the U. Sask experience from the perspective of the Board of Governors.
 - a. Susan, a president had been hired; at some point it was concluded that she was not the right leader for the University. Susan, tell me a little bit about how that discussion reached the Board and how the decision was taken?
 - b. What lessons did the Board learn from the process of selecting and then ending the leadership role of a President? What did you learn about the search process?
 - c. Lea, do you think that the Senate has any role to play in identifying a problem with a sitting President? What about the Deans; what role do they play?
 - d. Susan, what about the process of "onboarding." Did the events at U Sask provide you with any insights on how best to do that?
- 2. I would like to focus a little bit more on roles and responsibilities of Deans/Senate/Board in times of leadership transition. At U Sask, the presenting issue that seemed to prompt Board action was a dispute over the president's role in taking a Dean out of his job; and at the same time ending his academic appointment.
 - a. What lessons would you take away from that experience? Susan and then Lea.
 - b. Susan, what about the role of Government (Tweets from the Premier, etc.). Did the Government complicate your life?
- 3. Behind the issue of the Dean's appointment and his role in the
- administration was a disagreement about a planning process called "TransformUS". How did that process contribute to the 2014 events at U Sask? a. Lea, why don't you begin? Susan?
- 4. What about internal and external communications?
 - a. How is that handled in the absence of a President? Susan, what was the Board's role internally and externally?
 - b. Could we expect the Deans and others to "rally round"; to help with the external communications?
- 5. Finally, how did the ouster of a President affect decision-making as to what came next?
 - a. Susan, what about the "succession plan"? Transitional arrangements?
 - b. Susan, do you think that the search for a new President has been complicated unduly by what happened?

Conclusion and Q and A