

## **Tri-Cameral Governance** at Thompson Rivers University Prepared and presented by John Sparks, General Counsel

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Is a corporation under the Thompson Rivers University Act

Under the *TRU* Act the University "has the power and capacity of a natural person of full capacity."

As an incorporeal entity it acts through others.

The powers to act for the University are divided between its governing bodies by the *TRU Act* and the *University Act*.



## THE SENATE

#### Composition

44 seats.

- Chancellor;
- President (its Chair);
- VP Academic;
- Deans of Faculties;
- Chief Librarian;
- Registrar;
- 2 faculty members for each Faculty;
- 1 Alumni Member;
- 1 Administrator from OL;
- 4 OL Faculty Members;
- 2 Support staff;
- 4 Students.

## THE SENATE

#### Powers

Listed in section 9 of the TRU Act Powers include:

- set criteria for awarding credentials;
- set curriculum for courses leading to credentials;
- set qualifications for admission;
- set policies for exams;
- set residency requirements;
- set policies for withdrawals;
- set criteria for academic standards and grading.

## THE SENATE

#### **Advisory Role**

Described in section 10 of the *TRU Act* Must advise Board on educational policy including for the following:

- mission, objectives and priorities of the University;
- establishment and discontinuance of courses and programs;
- establishment and discontinuance of faculties;
- evaluation of educational services;
- setting the academic schedule;
- qualifications of faculty members.





# THE BOARD

#### Composition

15 seats

- the Chancellor
- the President
- 2 faculty members
- 8 government appointees
- 2 students
- 1 support staff

# THE SENATE

# THE BOARD

#### **Powers**

Set out in section 7 of the TRU Act and Section 27 (2) of the University Act

s. 7(1) of the TRU Act

"The management, administration and control of the property, revenue, business and affairs of the University, except those vested in the Senate or Planning Council for Opel Learning, are vested in the Board."

# THE SENATE







# THE BOARD

### PLANNING COUNCIL FOR OPEN LEARNING

#### Composition

- VP Academic (its Chair);
- 2 Deans (appointed by the President);
- 2 Officers of University (appointed by the President);
- 2 Faculty Senators (elected by Senate)
- 2 OL Faculty Members (elected by OLFM's)
- 2 persons nominated by presidents of BC universities
- 2 persons nominated by presidents of BC colleges and institutions
- 1 student enrolled in OL
- 1 alumni member

## THE SENATE

# THE BOARD

### PLANNING COUNCIL FOR OPEN LEARNING

#### Powers

The Planning Council for Open Learning has two powers:

- power to set admission requirements for OL courses and programs; and
- power to set the residency requirements for OL courses and programs.

In addition, the Planning Council may give advice to the Board with regard to matters concerning the Open Learning Division.

# THE SENATE



### PLANNING COUNCIL FOR OPEN LEARNING











## **FACULTIES**

University Act section 39

- s. 39(1) Faculties are constituted by the Board on recommendation of Senate;
- s. 39(2) a Dean of a Faculty is the chair of the Faculty.

#### Powers

Set out in section 40 of the University Act include:

- Make rules for its own proceedings;
- Subject to approval of Senate, to make rules for the government, direction and management of the Faculty and its affairs and business;
- Subject to approval of Senate, to determine the courses of instruction in the Faculty;

#### **Advisory Role**

May advise the President in any matter affecting the interests of the University.









THE PRESIDENT (ADMINISTRATION)







## **FACULTIES**

## THE PRESIDENT (ADMINISTRATION)

Section 59 of the University Act

President is the CEO and must "generally supervise and direct the academic work of the university".

Powers include:

- Recommending appointments and promotions;
- Summon meetings of a faculty or to convene joint meetings of faculties.
- Prepare and submit to the Board an annual budget;

Is a member of each Faculty and a member of each standing committee of Senate.





## **FACULTIES**

# THE PRESIDENT (ADMINISTRATION)

**Related Organizations** 

Ministry of Advanced Education









## THE PRESIDENT (ADMINISTRATION)

#### **Related Organizations**

Ministry of Advanced Education

Minister must not interfere with a university in adopting academic policies, in establishing standards for admissions and graduation, or in selection and appointment of staff. Universities require ministerial approval to establish a new degree. Universities require ministerial approval to dispose of real property.





## **FACULTIES**

# THE PRESIDENT (ADMINISTRATION)

**Related Organizations** 

Ministry of Advanced Education

Trade Unions



### PLANNING COUNCIL FOR OPEN LEARNING



## **FACULTIES**

# THE PRESIDENT (ADMINISTRATION)

#### **Related Organizations**

Ministry of Advanced Education

#### **Trade Unions**

These are TRUFA, TRUOLFA and CUPE. Each is a trade union under the *BC Labour Relations Code.* They negotiate important collective agreements for their members with the University (as represented by the Board). They monitor compliance with their collective agreements through the grievance process. TRUFA has negotiated important collective agreement provisions concerning hiring of faculty members, their promotion, tenure and the conditions under which senior administrators may be afforded a faculty position after ceasing to be an administrator.





### **FACULTIES**

# THE PRESIDENT (ADMINISTRATION)

#### **Related Organizations**

Ministry of Advanced Education

**Trade Unions** 

**TRU Students Union** 



### PLANNING COUNCIL FOR OPEN LEARNING



## **FACULTIES**

## THE PRESIDENT (ADMINISTRATION)

#### **Related Organizations**

Ministry of Advanced Education

**Trade Unions** 

**TRU Students Union** 

This is an independent organization incorporated under the BC *Societies Act*. Students at TRU in Kamloops (but not Williams Lake students nor OL students) pay mandatory fees to TRUSU and TRUSU represents their interests.





## **FACULTIES**

# THE PRESIDENT (ADMINISTRATION)

#### **Related Organizations**

Ministry of Advanced Education

**Trade Unions** 

**TRU Students Union** 

Foundation and Alumni Association



### PLANNING COUNCIL FOR OPEN LEARNING



## **FACULTIES**

# THE PRESIDENT (ADMINISTRATION)

#### **Related Organizations**

Ministry of Advanced Education	Trade Unions	5	TRU Students Union	Foundation and Alumni Association	
			The TRU Foundation and the TRU Alumni Association are both independent organizations incorporated under the BC <i>Societies Act</i> . The Foundation raises and manages funds for the University especially for student bursaries and scholarships. The Alumni Association actively communicates and supports the University's alumni.		

### Thank you

