SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

MINUTES

August 3, 2017 ~ 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm
STRAND HALL ROOM 3171

Attendees: G. Myers (Chair), A. Chinnery, A. Clapp (videoconference), P. Gallilee, J. Hinchliffe (secretary), M. Lechner, L. Legris, C. Lowenberger, D. Murphy (S. Poyntz), C. Murray, D. Ng, K. Oldknow, S. Rhodes, S. Spector

Regrets: S. Poyntz

1. Approval of the Agenda

The Chair requested that New Business be reviewed before all other agenda items. The Secretary added agenda item ‘APR Update’ under Other Business.

The Agenda was approved as amended.

2. Approval of the Minutes of July 6, 2017

The Chair asked that the item under Course Scheduling for discussion be revised to read “The Chair could meet with each Faculty and help present this proposal if invited.”

The Minutes were approved as amended.

3. New Business

COURSE CHANGES (SCUS 17-33)

Motion 1
It was moved by C. Lowenberger and seconded by K. Oldknow

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the following course changes effective Summer 2018.”

CARRIED
a. Beedie School of Business

   (i) Prerequisite change for BUS 417, 432, and 479
   (ii) Prerequisite change and equivalent statement for BUS 430

b. Faculty of Science

1. Department of Biological Sciences

   (i) Prerequisite change for BISC 101
   (ii) Deletion of BISC 404W and 419

2. Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology

   (i) Description change for BPK 141, 143, 343, 454 and 482

3. Department of Earth Sciences

   (i) Description change for EASC 108

4. Department of Statistics and Actuarial Sciences

   (i) Prerequisite change for STAT 452

PROGRAM CHANGES

a. Faculty of Applied Sciences (SCUS 17-34)

Motion 2
It was moved by K. Oldknow and seconded by L. Legris

   “that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the
   following program changes effective Summer 2018.”

   CARRIED

1. School of Computing Sciences (SCUS 17-34a)

   (i) Upper division requirement changes to the BUS/CMPT Joint Major program

2. School of Engineering Science (SCUS 17-34b)

   (i) Requirement changes to the Engineering Science, Engineering Physics Option Honours program
b. Beedie School of Business (SCUS 17-35)

Motion 3
It was moved by S. Spector and seconded by A. Clapp

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the:
Requirement changes to the Management Information Systems Concentration affecting
- Business Major
- Business Honours
- Business-MSE double degree
- Business & Economics Joint Major
- Interactive Arts & Technology & Business Joint Majors (BA, BBA & BSc)
- Joint Honours – Business & Economics
Requirement changes to the Business Major and Honours programs
Requirement changes to the Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship program
Requirement changes to the Innovation & Entrepreneurship Certificate affecting
- Business Major
- Business Honours
- Mechatronics-Business double degree
- Business & Economics Joint Major
- Interactive Arts & Technology & Business Joint Major (all of BA, BBA, BSc)
- Business & Economics Joint Honours
Requirement changes for High School admissions effective Summer 2018.”

CARRIED

c. Faculty of Science (SCUS 17-36)

Motion 4
It was moved by C. Lowenberger and seconded by C. Murray

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the following program changes effective Summer 2018.”

CARRIED

1. Department of Biological Sciences (SCUS 17-36a)

(i) Requirement changes to the Biological Sciences Post Baccalaureate Diploma
(ii) Changes to the Residency requirements and Transfer Credits affecting the Biological Sciences Minor program
(iii) Upper and Lower division requirement changes to the Biological Sciences Major and Honours programs

2. Department of Earth Sciences (SCUS 17-36b)

(i) Upper division requirement changes to the EASC Major and Honours programs
NEW PROGRAMS

a. Faculty of Education (SCUS 17-37)

Motion 5
It was moved by A. Chinnery and seconded by L. Legris

“that SCUS approve and recommend to SCUP the Full Program Proposal: Social Justice in Education Minor Program (SCUS 17-37a).”

CARRIED

S. Rhodes had recommendations to add to the proposal an explanation/articulation of how this program is different from other diplomas. She also requested a statement be included in the package from Anthropology and Sociology regarding their certificate.

There was a question posed regarding capacity for FNST 101. C. Murray explained they are aware of this resource issue and that it is being addressed.

Motion 6
It was moved by A. Chinnery and seconded by K. Oldknow

“that SCUS approve and recommend to SCUP the Notice of Intent: Adult, Youth and Community Literacy Education Minor (SCUS 17-37b).”

CARRIED

4. Other Business

a. APR Update – J. Hinchliffe

J. Hinchliffe gave a brief overview and background of this project which began in December with a review of the APR system by Deloitte. Their findings were that our program was built correctly and the foundation solid. There are some issues; some easy to fix, others not. She explained that Phase II of the project is underway and a working group, which includes representation from a wide range of people including Catherine Murray, has been identified to oversee the project. She added that the past week has been spent with Deloitte consultants discussing how to tackle these fixes.

The Secretary further added that she presented this information at the Advisors Forum and is determined to make this work for everyone however without increased resources the project will fail.

J. Hinchliffe will be preparing a two-page document from the working group to be forwarded to the Registrar, CIO and VPA for their consideration as this project relates to student experience directly through access, advising and the APR. The document will also be shared with SCUS and asking for their support.
5. Old Business

a. Course Scheduling – NOTICE OF MOTION [SCUS 17-32]

(i) “That SCUS approve and recommend to Senate the revisions to the T.30 Course Scheduling Policy as detailed in the attached document.”

The Chair gave a brief overview and some background of this proposal for the benefit of the new members and answered questions posed by the SCUS members.

There was much discussion and the Chair assured everyone any other questions they have will be answered at the all-day meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 8, 2017. Any other feedback or concerns are to be forwarded to him.

The Chair began by reiterating the intent of the Notice of Motion with the main purpose being to get people’s attention; giving good warning to take the issue seriously. The details and specifics of the policy will inevitably change before this comes back as a Motion; this isn’t set in stone.

He discovered a report regarding an Accessibility Task Force dated June 2003 which clearly didn’t go further or complete its mandate and feels this is the time SFU should be moving forward with different ways in which we do business with regard to course scheduling to improve the student experience.

He reassured the members that at next Tuesday’s meeting they will learn if we do have a problem; theoretically or empirically, visually what does it look like and how can we use the proposed patterns.

The concerns expressed by the members were:

- Still haven’t seen a modelled actual case; what conflicts will be reduced by this new pattern?
- Pedagogically, if we could look at a pattern A – H maybe we could better decide which of the patterns we could live without or reasonably dispense with – nothing to go by; no models
- Pedagogically, the goal is to graduate the students so make patterns that work best for all students
- Are these patterns to help all campuses? Or are they campus specific? Do all campuses have the same scheduling problems? Or does each campus have their own set of issues?
- Benefits of change are unclear and causing unnecessary stress
- Why are we moving so quickly especially during summer when everyone is away
- Not clear why this is being rushed through the process which raises concern and uncertainty
- How is this fitting in with flexible learning task force recommendations in terms of flipped classes, two week terms and 18 week terms, working from home; how are we addressing this?
- Seems to be taking away from the student experience as it implies that the best student experience is face to face, during the day etc.
- Seems to be operating under the assumption that students want to study from 8:30 – 5:30 pm
- Conflicts not universal; seems to be there is a challenge with lower division not upper division
- How do tutorials fit in?
b. Interim Aboriginal University Preparation Program [SCUS 17-38] FOR INFORMATION

C. Murray gave a brief overview and some background for the benefit of the new members. She explained the closure of the Aboriginal University Transitions Program (AUTP) and the new initiative to provide interim programming for students, now renamed the Aboriginal University Preparation Program (AUPP), which will run for one year. Students in this program do not normally meet SFU’s admission criteria and will be admitted conditionally. They expect a cohort of 8-12 students taking 21-24 units.

This program will start either October or January and FASS is requesting that students be recognized as regular SFU students so they have access to all benefits and services.

c. Thank You and Good Bye

This was Ann Chinnery’s last SCUS meeting. A big special Thank You to Ann Chinnery for all her hard work and dedication to the SCUS committee and the sub SCUS committee. Her time and effort was greatly appreciated. Natalia Gajdamaschko will join the committee in September.

Also a special farewell and thank you to our Chair, Gordon Myers for the countless hours spent at SCUS and Senate meetings. Best wishes to you both.

Minutes prepared by R. Balletta
Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm