SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

MINUTES

February 1, 2018 ~ 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm
STRAND HALL ROOM 3171


Regrets: D. Ng, S. Rhodes

Guest: R. Khan Hemani

1. Approval of the Agenda

There were two items added to the agenda:
   (a) Addendum to the New Admission Requirements
   (b) Continuing discussion on how we challenge our top students

The Agenda was approved as amended.

2. Approval of the Minutes of January 11, 2018

Note: The secretary will forward memo templates to the committee to be used when submitting materials to SCUS.

The minutes were approved as presented.

3. New Business

1. Proposed Change to List A & B Courses for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (SCUS 17-60)

C. Murray thanked L. Legris, the Faculty of Environment and the secondary school counsellors for correcting an oversight regarding placement of the Geography 12 course on the list of A & B courses for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. There was a brief discussion regarding the evolution of some courses that were once housed in other faculties have now moved elsewhere. There was also a question posed regarding weighting of courses, which is not possible to set at this time, but will be discussed at a later date.

Motion 1
It was moved by C. Murray and seconded by S. Spector
“that SCUS approve under delegated authority the following change to the List A and List B high school courses required for admission to the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Move Geography 12 from List B to List A.”

CARRIED

COURSE CHANGES (SCUS 18-04)

Motion 2
It was moved by C. Murray and seconded by S. Poyntz

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

CARRIED

a. Faculty of Applied Sciences (SCUS 18-04a)

1. School of Computing Science
   (i) Prerequisite change for CMPT 318

b. Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (SCUS 18-04b)

1. Publishing
   (i) Title change for PUB 372
   (ii) Prerequisite change for PUB 480
2. School for the Contemporary Arts
   (i) Title, prerequisite and description change for CA 421

c. Faculty of Science (SCUS 18-04c)

1. Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
   (i) Description change for STAT 495

NEW COURSE PROPOSALS

a. Beedie School of Business (SCUS 18-05)
Motion 3
It was moved by S. Spector and seconded by S. Poyntz

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the New Course Proposal:
- BUS 339-4, Business of Design II – Iteration and Prototyping
- BUS 476-4, Business of Design IV – Promotion, packaging and launch – Launching a design led business effective Fall 2018.”

CARRIED

b. Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (SCUS 18-06)

1. School of Communication (SCUS 18-06a)

Motion 4
It was moved by S. Poyntz and seconded by S. Spector

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the New Course Proposal: CMNS 440-4, Labour, Communication and the Media effective Spring 2019.”

CARRIED

2. School of Interactive Art and Technology (SCUS 18-06b)

P. Gallilee stated that the Library will accept the previous course syllabi for the IAT courses as they have gone through a full year cycle.
C. Murray commended SIAT for their design, articulation and expression of course goals, and stated it should be used as an example for future SCUS discussions.

Motion 5
It was moved by S. Poyntz and seconded by S. Spector

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the New Course Proposals:
- New Course Proposals:
- IAT 330-3, Business of Design I: Introduction
- IAT 430-3, Refinement and Production effective Fall 2018.”

CARRIED

c. Faculty of Science (SCUS 18-07)

1. Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

Motion 6
It was moved by C. Lowenberger and seconded by A. Clapp
“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the New Course Proposal: MBB 498-3, Independent Study Semester effective Fall 2018.”

CARRIED

PROGRAM CHANGES

a. Faculty of Applied Sciences (SCUS 18-08)

1. School of Computing Science

Consultation occurred between the Faculty of Applied Sciences and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences with regard to CHIN390. This was a special temporary topics course but will be coming to a future meeting of SCUS as a new course proposal.

Motion 7
It was moved by K. Oldknow and seconded by C. Murray

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the requirement changes to the Computing Science Dual Degree Program effective Fall 2018.”

CARRIED

b. Beedie School of Business (SCUS 18-09)

S. Spector gave an overview of the changes to the certificate.
The Chair recommended that correspondence showing agreement between faculties be submitted to the secretary for the record. (This correspondence has been received).

Motion 8
It was moved by S. Spector and seconded by N. Gajdamaschko

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the:
- Requirement changes to the Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Requirement changes to the Bachelor of Business Administration affecting the following programs:
  - Major – Business Bachelor of Business Administration
  - Major – Mechatronic Systems Engineering and Business Double Degree Program Bachelor of Applied Science and Bachelor of Business Administration
  - Honours – Business Bachelor of Business Administration
  - Joint Major – Business and Economics Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Business Administration
  - Joint Major – Interactive Arts and Technology and Business Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Business Administration
  - Joint Major – Interactive Arts and Technology and Business Bachelor of Science
  - Joint Honours – Business and Economics Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Business Administration effective Fall 2018.”
c. Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (SCUS 18-10) withdrawn at SCAR/senate

1. School of Communication

Motion 9
It was moved by S. Poyntz and seconded by L. Legris

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the requirement changes to the CMNS Major and Honours program effective Fall 2018.”

CARRIED

d. Faculty of Science (SCUS 18-11)

1. Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

Motion 10
It was moved by C. Lowenberger and seconded by N. Gajdamaschko

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the
• Lower division requirement changes to the MBB Majors and Honours program
• Upper division requirement changes to the MBB - Business Administration Joint Major effective Fall 2018.”

CARRIED

NEW PROGRAMS

a. Beedie School of Business (SCUS 18-12)

(i) Notice of Intent: (SCUP)

S. Rhodes was absent but forwarded her comments regarding this NOI to the secretary to be discussed at SCUS.

Her comments included:
• Heavy weighting of the program in favour of Beedie requirements
• Admission process is not clear; is it broad-based?
• Lack of external support comments for a program that is explicitly aimed at getting students into law school

S. Spector responded by saying that the intent of this program is not to get students into law school. He added that the program will help students understand the issues surrounding business, law and philosophy, with an emphasis on critical thinking skills, but it is not meant as an entry to law school.

In terms of external support, S. Spector stated that the program was reviewed by the Department of Criminology.
C. Murray added that it seems unfair that procedure dictates that SCUP expects full consultation on an NOI at this early stage in the process.
Regarding the admission portion of the NOI, S. Spector explained it basically mirrors requirements of existing joint majors currently offered at the university.
The committee felt the language should be clearer around admission requirements; clearly indicate that students are not admitted directly and are either working towards a FASS or Beedie degree. It was suggested by K. Oldknow to move point 5.15 up with 5.09. All agreed to approve this NOI subject to revision of the admission language.

Motion 11
It was moved by S. Spector and seconded by C. Murray

"that SCUS approve and recommend to SCUP the Notice of Intent: Joint Major in Business, Philosophy and the Law."

CARRIED

4. Other Business

(a) Continuing discussion regarding SFU's top students from high school

1. Is there an interest in your Faculty in exploring the creation of new programming aimed exclusively at the top 20% of students? At the top of 5% of students?

2. If so, what type of program(s) would you envision developing?

3. How would you go about bringing a proposed program to fruition? In other words, by what mechanism or route would you develop the program and what types of resources would be necessary?

Discussion ensued:

- Why are we needing to know this? Why the top 20%? Why the high achieving students? Are we missing something?
- What constitutes a high achieving student? Grades?
- Science – a lot of high achieving science students go elsewhere; a large percentage of the science students don't come to SFU - It’s definitely an issue in Science
- Gifted/high achieving students are definitely under served
  - Concentrate on what we do when they get into the university
  - Offer innovative programs – active, hands on – they can't see themselves in the future through traditional education alone
  - Build on what we should be doing as an engaged university; these are students that have to take on a real problem; become activists
- How do we keep students here? Biggest concern is 2nd and 3rd year – there is a lack of attention there that's very noticeable
- Across Canada many Science students drop out after second year
- Rethink capstone; build in year 3
- Possible fast track cohort to a Bachelor or Master's degree
  - promise direct research supervision with faculty with a summer job in a lab
  - Guarantee small classes
• How can you tell which are the top students? Some have economic challenges -
• Our goal should be to make all of them star students
• What types of programs are worth looking at?
  o We need some research stats to continue this interesting discussion – IRP website on gpa
  o Invite a representative to do a quick report on innovations; what’s out there and attracting
gifted students
  o Possible joint meeting between SCUS and SEMC (Strategic Enrollment Management)
• What you could be doing within your faculty is make the case for resources
• Go back to your faculty with ideas or ask for ideas but if you don’t ask you don’t get it
• Put together something interesting; if it’s interesting, it should be looked at

Minutes prepared by R. Balletta
The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 pm