

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

S.84-39

To..... SENATE.....

From..... SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PLANNING/
SENATE COMMITTEE ON CONTINUING STUDIES.

Subject..... SCHOOL FOR LIBERAL AND PROFESSIONAL
STUDIES.....

Date..... 22 JUNE 1984.

Actions undertaken by the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies at its meeting of May 17, 1984 and by the Senate Committee on Academic Planning at its meeting of June 20, 1984 gives rise to the following motion:

MOTION: "That Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.84-39 the proposed School for Liberal and Professional Studies"

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To..... SENATE

From..... SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC
PLANNING

Subject..... PROPOSED SCHOOL FOR LIBERAL AND
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Date..... 22 JUNE 1984

During consideration of this item at SCAP, the following points arose:

- the proposal was essentially a change of name for a unit, with the purpose of enhancing the marketing of downtown and on-campus non-credit courses and programs
- it would be advantageous for the proposal to receive approval as soon as possible so that 1984-85 programs can be run under the new title
- there had not been opportunity for consideration of the proposal by the Downtown Campus Planning Committee
- this School is one of three proposed program models for downtown. The other two are still under development by the Downtown Campus Planning Committee
- Appointments of community instructors as Associates in the School of Liberal and Professional Studies will be reported periodically to the Board of Governors

Motions were made to postpone the vote and to refer the matter to the Downtown Campus Planning Committee. Both motions failed.

Vote on the main approval motion was 7 in favour, 3 opposed.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

SCAP 84-24

To..... Dr. J. M. Munro
..... Vice-President Academic
Subject.....

From..... Jack Blaney
..... Dean
..... Continuing Studies
Date..... May 22, 1984

School for Liberal and Professional Studies

At the May 17 meeting of the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies a proposal for the School for Liberal and Professional Studies was considered. A copy of that proposal, dated April 25, 1984, as well as an explanatory memo to John Ekstedt, Chairman of the SCAP Committee for the Downtown Campus, are attached.

The Senate Committee on Continuing Studies approved in principle that the School proposal be forwarded to Senate for approval, after further discussion with the Deans and the SCAP Committee. SCCS may meet in mid-June for full approval consideration. This is the second draft considered by SCCS, the first being in September, 1983. The changes suggested on May 17/84 were in regard to the title (the words "Professional" and "Liberal" to be placed in reverse order) and the paragraph sub-title (to be re-written in sentence form with further consideration of content).

I should like to discuss with you how we should proceed. Perhaps the proposal could again be placed on the Deans' agenda; I will ask John Ekstedt to place it before the next meeting of his SCAP Committee.


Jack Blaney

JPB/lmm

cc: Jo Lynne Hoegg
Dennis Foth

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

o..... Dr. John Ekstedt, Chairman SCAP Committee for Downtown Programs Subject.....	From..... Jack Blaney Dean Continuing Studies Date..... April 25, 1984
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SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL AND LIBERAL STUDIES

Seminars and short courses for the professional and intellectual development of adults; continuing education programs offered in conjunction with selected community resources by the Faculties of Simon Fraser University

Attached is a revised proposal for the "School for Professional and Liberal Studies". As Chairman of the SCAP Committee on Downtown, you requested such a School proposal, but as a "School for Continuing Studies". I recommend, however, this name for the school, for the following reasons:

1. The School quite simply will be an instrument for organizing and marketing downtown-based (non-credit) continuing education courses in professional and liberal education fields. Further, the School will be used as a means to appoint, and thus give some recognition to, community persons who assist the university with the planning and/or teaching of downtown non-credit courses. This is the only "new" feature of the School.
2. Administratively, the School will be a component of the Office of Continuing Studies which includes, as well, other non-credit* and extension credit programs. Academically, Senate-approved procedures governing non-credit course policy and approvals will apply to the School (as now is the case for downtown non-credit and on-campus programs).

*The other non-credit programs, administratively located on campus, include the Conference Office, Public Policy, Humanities and Labour Education.

3. We wish to give prominence to the School, rather than to Continuing Studies, and in doing so to note the sponsorship/contributions of a) the departments/Faculties and b) community individuals and organizations. It has been a deliberate policy not to promote the Office of Continuing Studies; all SFU continuing education literature refers to the sponsoring departments or Faculties; in a minority of cases, and when departments wish it, joint sponsorship is noted. (Experience elsewhere confirms that where the unit responsible for the administration of continuing education promotes itself, rather than the Faculties/departments, it often becomes a separate entity with little integration with the rest of the university. Examples: Centre for Continuing Education, UBC; Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta; many Faculties and Schools of Continuing Education in the USA.
4. The School for Professional and Liberal Studies, along with a brief description of what it is, will provide SFU with a distinctive and efficient vehicle for its non-credit continuing education downtown--giving those programs a competitive edge which will enhance their overall quality and acceptance, and in turn, SFU's presence in the community.

The proposal and this memo are presented for Committee discussion.



Jack Blaney

JPB/lmm

Enclosure

cc: Dr. J. M. Munro
Dr. Dennis Foth

DRAFT DISCUSSION PAPER

April 25, 1984

Proposal for a

SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL AND LIBERAL STUDIES

Seminars and short courses for the professional and intellectual development of adults; continuing education programs offered in conjunction with selected community resources by the Faculties of Simon Fraser University

Summary:

An increase in Simon Fraser University's credit-free programs in the community would serve certain educational interests and, at the same time, enhance the University's presence in the urban area. Further, additional net revenue for the University could be generated. It is proposed that the downtown credit-free resources of the Office of Continuing Studies be organized as "The School for Professional and Liberal Studies". The instrument of "School" will help to market programs and strengthen our capacity to involve highly qualified community persons in program development and instruction. Existing Senate program approval criteria and procedures would apply, thus maintaining department and Faculty interests and prerogatives. There would be no additional administrative cost to establishing the School, as present arrangements would be used.

The Concept:

It is proposed that the University's downtown continuing education (credit-free) program be organized as a distinctive unit, with the name "School for Professional and Liberal Studies." The School's program staff would collaborate with departments and Faculties to serve professional and liberal studies continuing education needs in the urban community. Further, the School would be organized to involve highly qualified individuals within business, government, cultural and professional organizations in the planning and teaching of the School's programs.

Within our urban community, in both private and public sectors, there are a large number of exceptionally qualified people who are among the best resources available for certain kinds of continuing education programs. Many of these persons, in association with the University, would be interested in non-credit program development and teaching opportunities, particularly if their association with and contribution to the University were explicitly recognized. Simon Fraser University, in large part because of limited faculty resources, does not offer a major community-oriented credit-free program. But the university could initiate, sponsor, and provide academic governance to such a program without involving its faculty, beyond its capacity, in program development and instruction.

Objectives:

The fundamental purpose of the School will be to offer high quality continuing education programs to adults in our urban community. These programs would take the form of short courses, seminars and workshops and would be fashioned to meet specific educational needs for professional updating and enhancing one's liberal education. Important, ancillary objectives of the School include the following:

1. To expand and strengthen SFU's capability to offer credit-free continuing education opportunities by better mobilizing and organizing the intellectual resources of the community;
2. To provide recognition for community-based expertise and contributions to credit-free programming through some kind of affiliate status with the University;
3. To establish a distinct program and marketing identity for the University's credit-free professional development and liberal studies activities in downtown Vancouver;
4. To support and contribute to the development of SFU's downtown presence;
5. To generate revenue for general university purposes.

The Program:

Activities of the School will concentrate in two major program areas--professional development and liberal studies. The former will address the growing need for mid-career professional development in a variety of fields, and would include current downtown programs. Attention, however, would be given the development of new and distinctive programs through the use of community-based individuals and advisory committees. The liberal studies area offers opportunity for the development of programs designed to appeal to a broad, intellectually curious audience. These programs could be organized within themes and focus on urban events and interests, but at the same time retain the flexibility of responding to changing community interests. The potential for program development in these areas is substantial and would be enhanced through advice from the community.

Governance and Organization:

The Senate Committee on Continuing Studies would serve as the overall academic governing body of the School, as it now does for Continuing Studies. Individual courses and curricula would be approved by the appropriate departments/Faculties and the Dean of Continuing Studies, consistent with current Senate policies. Departmental identity with courses will be maintained, in accordance with department interests and expertise. Selected community instructors would be given affiliate status with the University, such as "Associate" in the School. These appointments would be recommended by the Dean of Continuing Studies and approved by the appropriate department Chairman or Faculty Dean. Community-based program development and planning committees would help identify learning needs, potential resources, students and instructors. The overall program may be advised by an advisory board of community persons.

Outcomes:

Some potential outcomes are: a range of needed and strong educational programs; increased opportunities for SFU-community interaction; the potential identification of resources for university credit programs and research activities; recruitment of students into existing credit programs; revenue for general university needs; and a stronger presence for the University in the community.

The School would be unique and distinctive. While many universities involve community persons in their continuing education programs, no university has created such a school with this purpose as a major and explicit part of its mandate; yet the potential is substantial. Given the suggested involvement and recognition, members of the community would likely contribute enormous energy and a high quality of service to both the community and the university.