

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SENATE OF SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY HELD
ON MONDAY, APRIL 2, 1990 KLAUS RIECKHOFF HALL, 7:00 P.M.
OPEN SESSION

Present: Salter, L., Acting Chair

Addison, G.
Blackman, R.
Blaney, J.
Bowman, M.
Brown, R.C.
Carlson, R.
Cercone, N.
Clayman, B.
Covell, M.
D'Auria, J.
Delgrande, J.
Dickinson, J.
Dill, L.
Dobb, T.
Faith, K.
Freedman, A.
George, D.
Gray, P.
Green, C.
Hendrickson, T.
Hoegg, J.L.
Jones, C.
Luk, W.S.
Munro, D.
Nielsen, V.
Palmer, E.
Palmer, L.
Pinfield, L.
Reilly, N.
Rieckhoff, K.
Saunders, R.
Shannon, D.
Shapiro, S.
Stewart, M.L.
Swartz, N.
Tjosvold, D.
Verdun-Jones, S.
Wade, S.
Wotherspoon, A.

Heath, W.R., Secretary
Grant, B., Recording Secretary

Absent: Barrow, R.
Bedford, B.
Calvert, T.
Cleveland, W.
Dahl, H.
Djwa, S.
Falcon, K.
Giffen, K.
Gill, J.
Hoechsmann, M.
Kazepides, A.
Partridge, J.
Rae, B.
Rudrum, A.
Saywell, W.
Sicking, C.
Tuinman, J.
Vining, A.
Warsh, M.
Winne, P.

In attendance:

Heath, N.
Laba, M.
Plischke, M.
Riahi, F.
Stewart, W.
Ycomans, R.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Following the withdrawal of Paper S.90-25 (Terms of Reference for Selection of Vice-President Research and Information Systems) from item 4.(i), the Agenda was approved.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF MARCH 5, 1990

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

"See Mins. of May 14/90 re clarification of discussion"

i) Paper S.90-24 - Report - Security Issues - For Information

B. Stewart, Director of Student Services and R. Yeomans, Manager of Traffic and Security were in attendance as resource persons.

In reply to concerns about computer theft on campus, R. Yeomans reported that a new computer security system has been introduced. It is a system where each computer is tied into an electronic alarm system and will allow computer access 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The new system will be introduced on a priority system with new installations receiving priority one; priority two are Departments/Schools that wish to have open access to their Computer Labs; and priority three are buildings situated in high risk areas.

Opinion was expressed that additional security guards should be hired in order to increase campus patrols and suggestion was made that in order to get a better calibre of security personnel the University should hire directly rather than purchasing security services on a contract basis. Referring to the report before Senate, it was noted that along with directly hiring the new Manager, four Security Shift Supervisor appointments have been approved as permanent SFU staff positions. However, there is inadequate funding at the present time to support the hiring of a full campus security force.

Discussion turned to the issue of a campus student patrol service. R. Yeomans explained that this to be a very overt operation with students being used both on a volunteer basis and on a paid basis for patrolling football games and alcohol-related events such as dances. Through the approval of a Challenge Grant, a Criminology student has been hired to research campus student police and security programs across Canada in order to assist in the development of a program for Simon Fraser University.

In reply to an inquiry about campus crime statistics, including assaults on women, R. Yeomans provided figures relating to the past two years which indicated that Simon Fraser University is in fact a very low crime area. He informed Senate that he is in constant touch with Health Services, Counselling Services and receives a monthly report from the Burnaby RCMP with regard to any reported crimes. It was suggested that the Women's Centre be included in these consultations as they also receive reports from people who do not wish to formally pursue the matter.

In reply to a request for information about the Safe Walk Program, R. Yeomans explained that the program operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and if persons feel uncomfortable and wish to be escorted, they can phone Security and one of the patrol persons will be dispatched to walk them from point A to point B. In response to a concern that this program was not very well advertised, it was pointed out that the Student Society advertises it in the brochure they publish, and that it is now being advertised in the Peak and on the TV monitor. It was suggested that it would be useful if instructors of night classes would inform their students of the existence of the Safe Walk program.

Referring to the written report before Senate, inquiry was made with respect to the purpose of having well-lit telephone islands in B-Lot and G-Lot. R. Yeomans advised that the islands will act as a service to patrons in the parking lot in order to report anything that appears to be suspicious or to make contact should they have mechanical problems and require a service vehicle.

Concern about safety was expressed with regard to the recent location near the Information Centre of what appeared to be a radar trap set up by the RCMP, and inquiry was made as to whether or not the University had any input about such matters. R. Yeomans explained that while the RCMP does not require approval to police the roadways surrounding the campus, the University does have some input about location and has in fact in the past requested policing of some problem areas.

S. Verdun-Jones indicated that the School of Criminology has had opportunity to work with the new Manager of Traffic and Security and he expressed opinion that there has been a great improvement in efficiency, consultation and crime prevention over what existed a year ago and offered congratulations to R. Yeomans in this regard.

- ii) Referring to the discussion with respect to enrolment limitations on admission categories and policy directions in this regard, L. Salter read into the Minutes the following clarification from the original report of the Task Force on University Size. "SFU should consider the quotas in all student admission categories, high school, college transfer, international, mature, etc. to ensure each group of students bears an appropriate proportion of the reduction in total enrolment and that there is a consistency between the standards applied to all admission categories." L. Salter went on to say that the current members of SCEMP were polled to ascertain the intention of the Committee when they recommended the motion approved by Senate at the last meeting. The results of the poll clearly indicated that SCEMP had no intention of changing policy direction and that their recommendation was made for one-year only in the context of a reaction to the funding situation for 1990/91. It was confirmed that further discussions with respect not only to enrolment numbers but also to proportions of the various admission groups will take place at SCEMP and SCAP, and will in turn be debated by Senate in a timely fashion.

R. Saunders pointed out that SCEMP has already confirmed that they have no argument with the validity of the principles and that the historical evolving proportions will be applied next year if possible. However, he pointed out that the Committee cannot recommend specific category breakdowns until information is received from the Ministry as to what admission targets will be and that this information will not be available for some time.

L. Salter clarified that there were two separate issues to be considered. Firstly the issue of targets, and secondly the question of proportions. She felt that general policy issues relating to proportions and how the university should respond to the changing proportions of applications being received can be reviewed by SCEMP/SCAP and debated at Senate in a timely manner before the actual admission targets are known.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

- i) The Chair was sad to report the death of Professor Glen Geen and advised Senate that a letter has been written on behalf of the University to his family expressing

deep sorrow and appreciation for the contributions he made as a member of Simon Fraser University.

- ii) Senate received for information a copy of a letter to the Prime Minister written jointly by W. Saywell, President, M. Fellman, President, Faculty Association, and R. Zanatta, President, Student Society expressing concern about changes to the EPF transfer payments to provincial governments and the effect such changes will have on the quality of universities and other post-secondary institutions.
- iii) Senate was informed that a sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules has been established to review the question of Senate meeting time with a charge to report back through SCAR to Senate. Members of the Committee are N. Swartz (Faculty Senator and Chair), J. Partridge (Student Senator), M. Warsh (Lay Senator), and M.L. Stewart (Faculty Senator).
- iv) The Chair advised Senate that expectations are that the budget will be handed down from the Government on April 19th.
- v) On behalf of the Student Association, T. Hendrickson wished to extend congratulations and appreciation to W. Saywell for the additional funding provided to undergraduate and graduate daycare services.

5. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

i) Senate Committee on Academic Planning

a) Paper S.90-26 - External Review - Department of Mathematics and Statistics - For Information

A. Freedman, Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, was in attendance as a resource person.

Brief discussion ensued, following which the External Review Report of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics was received for information.

b) Paper S.90-27 - External Review - Department of Physics - For Information

M. Plischke, Chair, Department of Physics was in attendance as a resource person.

Inquiries were made about the recommendation in the report to hire new faculty and upgrade the undergraduate laboratories. Senate was informed that the Department, and the Faculty of Science as a whole, have prepared growth and development plans, partly in response to the external review, which will be given serious consideration in budget allocations.

Reference was made to criticisms with regard to the excessive workload of teaching assistants in both the Department of Physics and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. C. Jones indicated this criticism applied to the Faculty of Science as a whole and he advised that a task force had been established to examine this question. As a result, it was concluded that TAs in the Faculty of Science had a heavier workload than other graduate students in comparable departments of other universities across Canada and representations will be made to the Vice-President Academic to increase allocations for teaching assistantships.

It was noted that while the Department of Physics offered a superb program, concerns were expressed about the relatively few students taking advantage of this educational opportunity. In reply to an inquiry as to what action the Department was taking to broaden the opportunity, M. Plischke referred to the

high school liaison/recruitment program and indicated that low enrolments in a Department of Physics are not unique to Simon Fraser University.

Following discussion, the External Review Report of the Department of Physics was received by Senate.

c) Paper S.90-28 - Response of the Department of Communication to its External Review - For Information

M. Laba, Chair of the Department of Communication, was in attendance as a resource person.

The Chair reminded Senate of past practice to have departments/schools who have been reviewed report back to Senate to respond to questions and/or developments that may have occurred since the review took place.

The response of the Department to its external review was received by Senate for information.

ii) Senate Appeals Board

Paper S.90-29 - Annual Report - For Information

F. Riahi, Chair of the Senate Appeals Board, and N. Heath, Secretary of SAB and Director of Admissions were in attendance as resource persons.

Concern was expressed that readmission appellants did not receive a personal hearing. F. Riahi explained that following written receipt of the Board's decision, appellants of such appeals have always been given the opportunity to appear before the Board and make their case in person should they so desire.

As a point of clarification, Senate was informed that the category indicated as 'sustained', refers to decisions made in favour of the student.

In reply to an inquiry as to the proportions approved in each category, F. Riahi provided the following statistics: 18 out of 39 selective retroactive withdrawals were sustained; 29 out of 64 retroactive withdrawals were sustained, and indicated further figures were available should anyone be interested.

Discussion then turned to the process of selective retroactive withdrawals and F. Riahi and N. Heath provided information as to the procedures followed and the types of cases appearing before the Board.

It was suggested that the work of the Board might be reduced somewhat if the University community was informed of reasons which the Committee had in the past judged to be sufficient to sustain an appeal. F. Riahi explained that a booklet containing guidelines and information about the type of questions that a student has to successfully answer to have their appeal succeed is already published and, in fact, is in the process of being rewritten and clarified by one of the student members on the Senate Appeals Board.

Following this discussion, the Annual Report of the Senate Appeals Board was received by Senate.

iii) Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board

Paper S.90-30 - Annual Report - For Information

R. Saunders, Chair of the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board, and N. Heath, Secretary of SUAB were in attendance as resource persons.

Referring to page 2, the Advanced Interpreter Education Program, concern was

expressed with regard to a non-credit program containing a credit component and inquiry was made as to the approval process of such programs. J.L. Hoegg provided background information with regard to this specific program and explained that non-credit programs receive approval by the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies.

Referring to the appended evaluation statistics for 1989, inquiry was made as to whether or not the percentages were considered to be satisfactory and how they compared to similar figures in other universities. Although information with regard to comparative figures with other universities was not available, N. Heath indicated that the number of SFU students in academic difficulty has been decreasing. He went on to say that Analytical Studies was in the process of preparing a report on retention which he felt would highlight some of the reasons for non-continuance and contain an analysis by category of admission. Senate's attention was drawn to the fact that the category of 'academic warning' no longer exists and that it will be interesting to compare figures next year with respect to the number of students who are required to withdraw because that middle process is no longer available.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

i) Paper S.90-31 - Notice of Motion - C. Green

Since he had not had time to present a rationale for the notice of motion submitted at the previous meeting, C. Green requested that the motion be tabled to the next meeting of Senate.

In reply to concerns about whether or not the content of the motion fell within the purview of Senate, it was pointed out that under the University Act Senate can make recommendation to the Board of Governors on any matter it considers appropriate.

The Chair expressed opinion that the motion be tabled to SCEMP for consideration prior to discussion on the floor of Senate. In reply to an inquiry from C. Green as to whether this would then come forward to the May meeting of Senate, R. Heath explained that following consideration by SCEMP it would then be brought forward to SCAP and that unless SCAP had a special meeting there would not be enough time to forward it to the May meeting of Senate.

C. Green requested that the motion be tabled for discussion at the May meeting of Senate and stated that he would provide a rationale to accompany the motion.

It was suggested that since the matter would be brought forward for discussion at the next meeting of Senate, Senators should be provided with information concerning the availability of space, teaching assistants, labs, and scholarship support, as well as details on the rationale which led to the original recommendation approved by Senate at the last meeting.

The Chair accepted the request to table the motion for discussion at the May meeting of Senate.

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no notices of motion.

9. INFORMATION

The date of the next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate is Monday, May 14, 1990.

Following a brief recess, the Assembly moved into Closed Session at 8:25 p.m.

W. R. Heath
Secretary of Senate