

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SENATE OF SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY HELD
ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1992 KLAUS RIECKHOFF HALL, 7:00 P.M.

OPEN SESSION

Present:

Saywell, W.G., Chair
Barrow, R.
Blackman, R.
Blaney, J.
Boland, L.
Bowman, M.
Bukovac, S.
Carlson, R.
Chan, B.
Clayman, B.
D'Auria, J.
Dahl, H.
Dobb, T.
Etherington, L.
Giffen, K.
Haje, P.
Heinrich, K.
Hoegg, J.L.
Jones, C.
Krane, W. (representing R. Brown)
Leiss, W.
Marteniuk, R..
Mauser, G.
Morrison, T.
Nicol, I.
Nielsen, V.
Palmer, E.
Palmer, L.
Pinfield, L. Percival, P.
Reilly, N.
Rieckhoff, K.
Saunders, R.
Shannon, D.
Shapiro, S.
Stewart, M.L.
Toohey, K.
Verdun-Jones, S.
Wade, S.
Walker, R.
Warsh, M.
Winne, P.
Wotherspoon, A.

Absent:

Beattie, S.
Brown, R.
Cercone, N.
Choquer, K.
Covell, M.
Delgrande, J.
Dill, L.
Evenden, L.
Jespersen, J.
Lindberg, T.
Luk, W.S.
McKeown, B.
Menzies, R.
Munro, J.
Myers, T.
Rae, B.
Soheili, A.
Swartz, N.
Thomson, K.

In attendance:

N. Heath

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

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as distributed.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF JANUARY 6, 1992

Following a request to amend the spelling of the word 'complimented' in the third paragraph from the top of Page 8, the Minutes were approved.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i) Paper S.92-15 - Report - International Students - Policies (For Information)

It was pointed out that the document before Senate was an abridged version of the legal opinions contained in a larger document prepared by legal counsel. Inquiries were made as to who provided this legal advice and if the full report was available to interested Senators. The Chair advised that since the Vice-President Academic was not present, he was unable to provide the specific source of the legal opinions, and indicated that he would take the matter of Senators having access to the complete document under advisement.

ii) Referring to Item 3 (ii) under Business Arising on Page 2, L. Palmer wondered if the information on the timing for completion of degree requirements by students in Engineering Science Program was available at this time. The Secretary of Senate reported that he had not as yet received a response to his request for this information but indicated he would send Engineering Science a reminder.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

i) Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology

Senate was advised that the Hon. Tom Perry, Minister of Advanced Education, Training and Technology is expected to visit campus before the end of February. Upon determination, the date of this visit will be announced to the University community.

ii) Awards

The Chair was pleased to report that a Ph.D. student in Chemistry from Simon Fraser University had won one of two awards from the National Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) for having one of the best doctoral dissertations in the country, and Business Administration students from the Co-op Accounting Concentration had received top honors in the CA examinations this year.

5. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

a) Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board

i) Paper S.92-16 - B.C. Council on Admissions and Transfer - Principles and Guidelines

Moved by R. Saunders, seconded by S. Bukovac

"that Senate endorse and approve the "Principles and Guidelines for Transfer", prepared by the British Columbia Council on Admission and Transfer, as set out in S.92-16"

N. Heath, Director of Admissions, was in attendance to respond to questions.

R. Saunders introduced the paper by providing brief background information by pointing out that Senate had previously edited and approved in-principle an earlier version of the document in October 1990. Since that time, BCCAT has attempted to incorporate as much as possible the suggestions from colleges and universities, the result of which is the current document before Senate for endorsement.

Clarification was requested with respect to SUAB's concern with regard to Guideline #1. Senate was advised that it was SUAB's belief that detailed course outlines were necessary to make an accurate evaluation of courses for transfer credit and since this condition no longer appeared in the current version of the document, SUAB felt it was important to mention this concern to BCCAT and has therefore recommended the draft letter as proposed be forwarded.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

6. Other Business

i) Paper S.92-13 - Motion to establish an Ad Hoc Committee of Senate

Moved by N. Reilly, seconded by L. Boland

"that Senate establish an 'Ad Hoc' committee to:

- i) assess the benefits and costs to the University and community of the University's policy on the admission of international undergraduate students,
- ii) examine the underlying principles and goals regarding the admission of international undergraduate students,
- iii) consult widely both inside and outside the University, and
- iv) submit a report with recommendations to SCAP (for transmission to Senate) by December 31, 1992,

and that the membership of the 'Ad Hoc' committee be as follows:

- i) the Vice-President, Academic, or designate
- ii) four faculty members (*), elected by Senate
- iii) one Student Senator, elected by Senate
- iv) one Lay Senator, elected by Senate
- v) the Registrar, or designate
- vi) the Director of Analytical Studies, or designate

Footnote (*): For the purpose of the membership of the committee, it is intended that 'faculty' be interpreted as those entitled to vote in elections to Senate. This category includes Deans and Associate Deans."

The following suggestions to the membership were accepted as friendly amendments:

- a) Item i) - add the words "who shall be Chair", and

- b) Delete item vi) on the understanding that the Director of Analytical Studies would be available as a resource person as required.

Amendment moved by S. Shapiro, seconded by G. Mauser

"that items i) and ii) be changed as follows:

- i) assess the benefits and costs to the University and community of the University's policy on the admission of students, both undergraduate and graduate
- ii) examine the underlying principles and goals regarding the admission of students, both undergraduate and graduate"

Concerns were expressed about the high ratio of graduate foreign students in some departments, particularly departments with existing student quotas, and it was suggested that if issue is going to be reviewed at the undergraduate level, it should also be reviewed at the graduate level.

It was argued that there appeared to be no evidence to suggest that a problem existed at the graduate level and, in contrast to the situation at the undergraduate level, no qualified Canadian graduate students were being denied access to graduate programs. It was also pointed out that SFU's pattern of distribution of graduate visa students is very similar to the pattern of visa graduate students in other universities across Canada and reservations were expressed about reviewing the present graduate student policy at this time.

Question was called on the amendment,
and a vote was taken.

AMENDMENT FAILED

Amendment moved by T. Morrison, seconded by S. Wade

"that the membership be changed to include one International Student designated from the International Student Society"

Opinion was expressed that in the interest of fairness to all parties concerned, the Committee should include representation from international students. Discussion took place with regard to the criteria and the practical difficulties surrounding the selection and appointment of such a student, particularly since there was no identifiable organization representing this group of students. It was further argued that international students would be included in the consultative process of the Committee and reservations were expressed about the need to have a formal representative on the committee itself. Further opinion was expressed that an international student representative on the Committee can provide a better understanding of the complexities of the issues and, as the group of students most directly affected by the findings of the Committee, international students have the right to be represented on the Committee.

In response to some of the practical concerns, Senate was advised that international students can easily be identified as students who are neither Canadian citizens nor Landed Immigrants, and the definition of student is clearly set out within the Rules of Senate. In order to provide complete symmetry in the election of all members of the committee, the following suggestion was accepted as a friendly revision to the

amendment:

"that the membership be changed to include one International Student elected by Senate"

All nominations for membership on the Committee would come forward to Senate through the Senate Nominating Committee in the usual manner.

Question was called on the amendment,
and a vote was taken.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Inquiry was made with respect to why an ad hoc committee was being established rather than having committees such as SCAP, SCEMP and/or SUAB look into the issue. It was argued that the proposed task would require a significant amount of time, and standing committees of Senate which have an interest in this issue may not be able to handle such an enormous task in addition to their regular business and therefore such committees may not be able to give the issue the attention it deserves. It was pointed out that although the motion recommends that the report be submitted to SCAP for transmission to Senate, referral to appropriate committees would be made depending on the outcome of the report.

Question was called on the motion, as amended. MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED

ii) Paper S.92-14 - Motion to review final exam scheduling

Moved by H. Dahl, seconded by B. Chan

"that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies undertake a review of scheduling of final examinations"

A suggestion by S. Bukovac to change the motion as follows was accepted as a friendly amendment:

"that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies undertake a review of final examinations including scheduling, regulations, and procedures"

Senate was advised that some of the procedures and recommendations regarding final examinations have been modified by Senate action over time and others are outdated. It was therefore felt that it was important to review the entire examination process in light of current university procedures and practices.

Concern was expressed that the amended motion implied the inclusion of grading practices which is an essential part of final examinations and suggestion was made that the Minutes explicitly reflect the fact that the intent of the above motion was not meant to include this issue.

In order to clarify the intent of the motion in this regard, R. Blackman's suggestion that the wording be changed as follows was accepted as a further friendly amendment:

"that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies undertake a review of scheduling, regulations, and procedures pertaining to final examinations"

Question was called on the motion as amended. MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED

7. Notices of Motion

i) Paper S.92-17 - Motion re funding level for SFU Library Acquisitions

The following notice of motion was received from G. Mauser and S. Wade:

"that Senate of Simon Fraser University believes that the funding level for Simon Fraser University Library acquisitions should be increased to approach the goal recommended in Challenge 2001 - The President's Strategic Plan and in the Report of the University Library Review Committee"

8. Information

The date of the next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate is Monday, March 2, 1992.

The Assembly moved directly into Closed Session at 8:20 p.m.

W.R. Heath
Secretary of Senate