

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SENATE OF SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY HELD ON MONDAY,
APRIL 6, 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.
Brown, R.
Bukovac, S.
Carlson, R.
Covell, M.
Dill, L.
Dobb, T.
Etherington, L.
Gee, E.
Giffen, K.
Haje, P.
Heinrich, K.
Hoegg, J.L.
Hoffer, A.
Jones, C.
Lim, K.
Luk, W.S.
Marteniuk, R.
Mauser, G.
McKeown, B.
Munro, J.
Northcott, P.
Palmer, E.
Palmer, L.
Percival, P.
Pinfield, L.
Rae, B.
Reilly, N.
Rieckhoff, K.
Shannon, D.
Shapiro, S.
Smith, S.
Stewart, M.L.
Thomson, K.
Verdun-Jones, S.
Wade, S.
Walker, R.

Nicol, I.

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

Absent:

Bawa, M.
Beattie, S.
Cerccone, N.
Choquer, K.
D'Auria, J.
Evenden, L.
Gray, P.
Leiss, W.
Menzies, R.
Morrison, T.
~~Nicol, I.~~
Nielsen, V.
Saunders, R.
Soheili, A.
Swartz, N.
Toohey, K.
Warsh, M.
Winne, P.
Wotherspoon, A.

In attendance:

A. Barton
J. Nance
S. Montgomery

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as distributed.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF MARCH 2, 1992

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i) Referring to the motion at the bottom of page 3 with respect to FTE enrolment targets, Senate was advised that it is now believed that SFU's Access enrolment target will increase by 200 rather than the originally anticipated 500 FTEs which will result in a target of minus 170 FTEs for 1992-93.

ii) Reference was made to Item 6 (ii) under Other Business on Page 7, and in response to an inquiry about the name of the Chair of the Senate Committee on International Students, Senate was advised that the Vice-President, Academic had designated S. Shapiro. An objection to this appointment was ruled out of order by the Chair.

iii) In response to an inquiry about information pertaining to degree completion times for students in the Engineering Science program, it was noted that this information had been provided to Senate at its last meeting.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

i) Appointments

On behalf of Senate, the Chair extended congratulations for the following appointments: E. Gee, Acting Dean of Graduate Studies until the end of August 1992; R. Barrow, Dean of the Faculty of Education; and K. Heinrich who has been appointed to the governing council of the University of Northern B.C.

ii) Elections - Paper S.92-29

Senate's attention was drawn to paper S.92-29 which was distributed prior to the meeting for information with respect to the results of recent elections to Senate and the Board of Governors.

iii) Budget

Senate was advised that the basic thrust of the budget was no surprise and in fact the University had been planning for a difficult budget. However the University had not anticipated such a reduction on the revenue side. The Chair explained that close to two million dollars had been lost over what had been expected due to such things as a major reduction in the University's equipment budget, a freeze on tuition fees which included all students except foreign students, and a significant reduction in Access Program funding at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. When all of these things are taken into consideration along with increases in obligatory costs such UIC payments, CPP payments, utility increases, negotiated agreements relating to pension plan, TSSU workload and the traditional progression through the ranks for faculty and administrative personnel, it is expected that the University will have to deal with a

projected deficit of approximately four million dollars. Provincial law does not permit universities to run a deficit so efforts must be made to reduce the University's total expenditure. This was the reason for the communication recently sent to the university community announcing a freeze on all appointments. In addition, consultations are underway with the Deans and Chairs of Departments to seek their advice, and a meeting between the President and the Senate Committee on University Budget has been scheduled. It is hoped that a budget will be available to present to the Board of Governors at its next meeting.

At the request of the Senate Policy Committee on Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries, R. Blackman, as Chair was asked to bring to Senate's attention the Committee's concern about the budget for scholarships and awards. Senate had no objection to R. Blackman's request to present the following statement from the Committee to Senate for consideration:

"This Committee urges the administration to give financial aid and awards the highest priority when establishing the 92-93 operating budget. We recognize that all components in the university budget are vulnerable in this time of financial exigency however we feel it is particularly important to protect those components that serve to reward the very best students and to support those most in need."

Senate was invited to show its support for the statement and responded by enthusiastic clapping on the table.

In response to an inquiry to the Vice-President Academic as to what his priorities will be in arriving at the distribution of funds under his control, J. Munro advised that in a period of serious financial restraints his overriding priorities are not to damage the programs of students, particularly undergraduate students that are pursuing degrees, and not to damage the excellence in research that the University has achieved over the years.

5. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

a) Senate Nominating Committee

i) Paper S.92-23 - Elections

The following are the results of elections to the Senate Committee on Instructional Methods and Organization (SCIMO):

Four Faculty members elected by Senate for no specified term of office.

Candidates: L. Boland, P. Coleman, C. Day, M. Dubiel, N. Dyck, J. Jones, J. Ogloff, L. Palmer, G. Poole, G. Strate, L. Weldon.

Elected: Peter Coleman, Leigh Palmer, Gary Poole, Grant Strate

One Undergraduate Student elected by Senate for no specified term of office.

Candidates: Z. Barabas, J. Laidley

Initial balloting resulted in a tie vote; second balloting was required.

Elected: Zoltan Barabas

One Graduate Student elected by Senate for no specified term of office.
Candidates: V.R. Black, K. Giffen

Elected: Ken Giffen

In reply to a concern that all members of the Committee are male, the Chair indicated that he had deliberately reserved naming one of the two presidential appointments to the committee until after the election in case a balance issue arose. He advised that he would take these concerns into consideration when making the appointment.

- b) Senate Committee on Academic Planning/Senate Graduate Studies Committee
- i) Paper S.92-24 - MRM Program - Change in degree requirements

Moved by J. Munro, seconded by S. Wade

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors as set forth in S.92-24, the change in degree requirements for the Master of Resource Management to allow students to take either MRM 642 or MRM 644 rather than requiring MRM 642 alone"

Question was called, and a vote taken. MOTION CARRIED

- ii) Paper S.92-25 - Department of Psychology - Experimental Psychology Program - Change in M.A. degree requirements

Moved by J. Munro, seconded by R. Blackman

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors as set forth in S.92-25 the changes in the M.A. degree requirements in the Experimental Psychology Program"

It was noted that the credit hours for a large number of courses had increased and concerns were expressed that this would result in budgetary implications and increase the cost of the program. Senate was advised that not all of the courses are given every year; in fact some of them are offered quite infrequently, and the increased faculty teaching load represented by this change will be significantly less than the equivalent of one additional faculty load per year. In response to an inquiry as to whether the faculty resources might not be better employed at the undergraduate level where courses are over-subscribed, it was noted that the Psychology Department already teaches a large proportion of the undergraduate student population and the Department felt the graduate program needed more attention. Senate was also advised that although the Psychology Department is making a relatively minor shift in teaching distribution to favour the graduate program, the Department feels confident that they will be able to continue to

serve the undergraduate student population well and without any great increase in sessional instructors. Brief discussion followed.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

- c) Senate Committee on Academic Planning
- i) Paper S.92-26 - Additional Agreements relating to the partnership with the University College of the Fraser Valley

Moved by J. Munro, seconded by S. Wade

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the proposed agreements with the University College of the Fraser Valley dated 26 February 1992 covering:

- Selection, Recruitment and Assignment of Faculty;
- Curriculum Development, Grading and Evaluation
- Program Administration and Monitoring"

In response to an inquiry concerning the impact of this arrangement on the Library resources, it was noted that inter-library loans service would have to be provided and expectations are that students from the University College of the Fraser Valley would make some use of SFU's library resources. However, it was pointed out that the Provincial Government has provided a grant to cover the cost of the partnership agreement and some of that grant will be allocated to the Library. It is anticipated that program proposals will be presented to Senate at its next meeting and further details will be available at that time.

Reference was made with respect to the first two sentences in point #2 on page one. Opinion was expressed that these two sentences appeared to be in conflict with one another and request for clarification was made. It was noted that two stages are identified in the process; the first one is that SFU departments will review vitae, the second is that a joint committee will also participate in the review process but Senate's attention was drawn to point six on page 2 which specifies that final approval on the assignment of existing and new faculty to teach upper level courses rests with the University. It is the University's understanding that the joint committee would not be able to overrule a Department if a Department should find a candidate unsuitable. It was also pointed out that approval on the assignment of faculty to teach upper level courses at UCFC would be done initially and would continue indefinitely unless some problem developed.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

- ii) Paper S.92-27 - Department of Archaeology - External Review (For Information)

J. Nance, Chair of the Department of Archaeology, S. Montgomery, Undergraduate Archaeology Student Representative, and A. Barton, Graduate

Student Archaeology Representative were in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Reference was made to the comments of the reviewers with respect to inadequate resources and opinion was expressed that this is a recurrent theme in all of the external reviews presented to Senate and that Senate itself must bear some of the responsibility for this situation.

Concern was expressed about the issue of gender bias toward female students in the Department which was commented upon in the report and discussion turned to this issue. Senate was advised that the University Harrassment Officer had been invited to address this issue with faculty members in the Department and all members of the Department are now aware and sensitive to this issue. It was acknowledged by the undergraduate students that the Department had taken their concerns seriously and was taking steps to prevent any further difficult situations from occurring.

Discussion turned briefly to the issue of sessional instructors. In response to an inquiry about student complaints about grading by sessional instructors, Senate was advised that guidelines for TAs and Sessional Instructors establishing standards and procedures for course structure and grading are under preparation.

Senate's attention was drawn to the concerns of the undergraduate students with regard to the Archaeology Field School and it was pointed out that the Department is in the process of drafting guidelines for participation in the Field School and it was noted that the Department has been very responsive in addressing the concerns of the students in this regard.

Further information was requested with reference to points 19, 23 and 25 on pages 3 and 4 of the report which dealt with course offerings and completion times. In response, Senate was informed that the Department felt the report was somewhat inaccurate in their assessment in this area. It was felt that the variety and diversity of courses was at issue rather than the number of courses offered; and it was explained that the number of faculty in the department, particularly in the area of physical anthropology, accounts, in part, for the lack of variety in courses. However, an additional faculty member will be added and hopefully the variety of courses will be increased.

d) Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules

i) Paper S.92-28 - Responsibilities and Terms of Appointment of Faculty Deans

Moved by J. Munro, seconded by S. Wade

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set out in S.92-28, the Responsibilities and Terms of Appointment of Faculty Deans"

Senate was advised that the revisions essentially update documents approved in 1970 in order to reflect the current role of Deans.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

6. Other Business

Concern was expressed about the gender specific language contained in the University Act, and inquiry was made as to why the language had not been changed. It was pointed out that the University Act is the responsibility of the Provincial Government and ~~hopefully the Government~~.

7. Notices of Motion

The following notice of motion was received from K. Rieckhoff:

"that Senate establish regulations which will ensure that no new or revised courses and programs, or offerings of existing courses and programs at new locations, including individual offerings of special topics courses, can be offered unless adequate library resources are in place, or funds for them guaranteed in the base budget of the Library"

8. Information

The date of the next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate is Monday, May 11, 1992.

The Assembly moved directly into Closed Session at 8:10 p.m.

W.R. Heath
Secretary of Senate