

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SENATE OF SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY HELD ON MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 2, 1992 KLAUS RIECKHOFF HALL, 7:00 P.M.

OPEN SESSION

Present: Saywell, W.G., Chair

Alderson, E.
Barrow, R.
Bawa, M.
Blackman, R.
Blaney, J.
Boland, L.
Bowman, M.
Carlson, R.
Ciria, A.
Clayman, B.
Cohen, M.
Covell, M.
Dawson, J.
Dill, L.
Dobb, T.
Driver, J.
Etherington, L.
Evenden, L.
Fickling, D.
Giffen, K.
Green, C.
Haje, P.
Heinrich, K.
Hoeflich, K.
Hoegg, J.L.
Hoffer, A.
Jones, C.
Lim, K.
Luk, W.S.
Marteniuk, R.
Mauser, G.
Menzies, R.
Morrison, T.
Nielsen, V.
Osborne, J.
Palmer, E.
Palmer, L.
Percival, P.
Pinfield, L.
Rae, B.
Rieckhoff, K.
Shapiro, S.
Smith, S.
Stewart, M.L.
Thomson, K.
Wade, S.
Walker, R.
Warsh, M.
Winne, P.
Wotherspoon, A.

Absent: Beattie, S.
Cercone, N.
D'Auria, J.
Flores, J.
Gray, P.
Leiss, W.
McKeown, B.
Munro, J.
Plommer, T.
Shannon, D.

In attendance:
G. Gutman
R. Ward

Nagel, H., Acting 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 JULY 6, 1992

Following revision of the Minutes as outlined in the memorandum distributed to Senate from the Secretary of Senate, the Minutes were approved as amended.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1992

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i) Inquiry was raised with regard to the question of rules and regulations pertaining to the motion passed by Senate last April with respect to library resources and the approval of programs. Since the Vice-President Academic was not present, a response was not available but the inquiry was noted by the Chair.

ii) Paper S.92-55 - Follow-up Information from the Annual Financial Statement (For Information)

R. Ward, Vice-President Financial Services was in attendance to respond to questions. Brief discussion ensued with respect to the snow removal budget and the purchase of vehicles at the end of the fiscal year.

iii) In response to an inquiry about the issue of student access to courses, the Chair indicated that due to the absence of the Vice-President Academic, response would not be available until the next meeting of Senate.

iv) In response to an inquiry about final exam scheduling, Senate was advised that the issue is on the agenda for the next meeting of SCUS.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

i) The Chair was pleased to report the following achievements and extended congratulations as follows: M. Winston and K. Slessor - winners of the B.C. Science Council Gold Medal; J. Little and J. Parr - recipients of individual book prizes; the Alumni Association for its Annual Award Ceremony; and the special Convocation Ceremony held in Kamloops to award an honorary degree to Shuswap Elder Aimee August.

ii) Reference was made to the recent ranking of Canadian universities by Maclean's magazine and it was noted that Simon Fraser University had placed second within its respective group.

iii) Paper S.92-56 - AUCC Resolution on Gun Control (For Information)

The Chair reported that following distribution of Senate materials, K. Rieckhoff had submitted written objection to this item being on the agenda because it fell outside the jurisdiction of Senate. At the Chair's request, K. Rieckhoff provided Senate with the four specific objections he had made: (i) Senate does not have

power under the University Act to make rulings on public policy; (ii) the motion itself does not pertain to anything listed within the University Act as to the purposes and functions of the University; (iii) Senators are neither elected or appointed to pass judgement on matters of public policy; and (iv) it would set a bad precedent by allowing items of this nature to be brought forward for discussion by Senate. SCAR was then asked to reconsider this issue taking into account the objections raised but was split as to whether or not the item should remain on the agenda. However, the Chair explained that, in order for Senate to debate the motion at this particular meeting, a motion to waive the Rules of Senate was required and would have to pass by 2/3 majority of voting members present.

Moved by M. Cohen, seconded by J. Osborne

"that the Rules of Senate be waived to allow discussion of the following motion outlined on Senate paper S.92-56"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION DEFEATED

(34 required for approval - 23 voted in favour)

The Chair advised Senate that petitions concerning this issue were available from the Secretary of Senate for signature for anyone interested in expressing their view on this matter.

5. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

i) Senate Nominating Committee

i) Paper S.92-57 - Elections

Senate received information of the results of the mail balloting regarding elections to Senate committees. As a result of tied votes, the following run-off elections were conducted at Senate to the undernoted committees:

Senate Committee on Academic Discipline (SCAD)

One Faculty Member (Alternate) to replace G. Mauser for one-year term of office, from date of election to September 30, 1993.

Candidates: L. Ballentine, J. Brockman

Individual receiving the highest number of votes
and declared elected as the Alternate Member:

J. Brockman

Senate Committee on Academic Planning (SCAP)/Senate Committee on University Budget (SCUB)

One Student Senator to replace S. Wade for two-year term of office, from date of election to September 30, 1994.

Candidates: S. Smith, S. Wade

Individual receiving the highest number of votes
and declared elected:

S. Wade

Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)

One Student Senator and one Student Senator (Alternate) to replace K. Giffen and T. Morrison for one-year terms of office, from date of election to September 30, 1993.

Candidates: C. Green, T. Morrison

Individual receiving the highest number of votes
and declared elected as Regular Member:

T. Morrison

Individual receiving the next highest number of
votes and declared elected as the Alternate:

C. Green

Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board (SUAB)

One Student Senator Alternate to fill an existing vacancy for one-year term of office, from date of election to September 30, 1993.

Candidates: C. Green, K. Hoeflich. C. Green advised Senate that he wished to withdraw nomination of his name.

Elected by acclamation:

K. Hoeflich

Senate Committee on International Activities (SCIA)

One Student Senator for two-year term of office, from date of election to September 30, 1994.

Candidates: M. Bawa, K. Giffen

Individual receiving the highest number of votes
and declared elected:

M. Bawa

ii) Senate Committee on Academic Planning

i) Paper S.92-58 - External Review - School of Computing Science (For Information)

Inquiry was raised with respect to the suggestion concerning the replacement of Lecturers with research faculty. Senate was informed that one of the main recommendations in the report was that tenure-track faculty should be more involved in the first two years of teaching at the undergraduate level, and item 2.5 in this regard was made as a suggested mechanism to provide for implementation of this recommendation.

ii) Paper S.92-59 - External Review - Gerontology Program (For Information)

G. Gutman, Director of Gerontology Program, was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

iii) Senate Committee on Continuing Studies

i) Paper S.92-60 - Annual Report (For Information)

Particular reference was made to the SCES Program in Kamloops and the point was raised that concerns had been expressed that credit for this program was being given to Continuing Studies rather than to the Department directly responsible for the planning and administration of the program. In response, Senate was reminded that the report is not a report of Continuing Studies but

rather a report consisting of all of the off campus activities of academic units within the University.

A further concern was expressed about the inconsistency in the reporting of academic units sponsoring credit-free activities such as departmental seminars. Senate was advised that academic units are asked for this information and the report reflects the information and statistics submitted by departments.

Following discussion, the Annual Report was received by Senate.

iv) Senate Library Committee/Library Penalties Appeal Committee

i) Paper S.92-61 - Annual Report (For Information)

Reference was made to page 2 and inquiry was made as to why expenditures for most programs had increased by approximately 15% except for Chemistry which appeared to have a much larger increase than the others. Senate was advised that this question would be pursued in greater detail and a report would be brought back to Senate. Particular reference was made to the Faculty of Education where it was noted that expenditures had decreased, and Senate was informed that this issue is under discussion by the Senate Library Committee.

Concern was expressed about the decrease in collection expenditures to programs such as the Humanities and SCES while Athletics and Recreation appeared to have received an increase. It was pointed out that the heading Humanities represented library expenditures across disciplines and does not necessarily relate specifically to the Humanities or Liberal Arts Programs. Senate was also reminded that the parties responsible for the Shuswap program were much more sensitive to the needs of library resources and that arrangements were being made with Cariboo College to provide both library and reference services to both the SCES program and the Faculty of Education Program to be offered in Kamloops which are not reflected in the operating budget within the report.

In response to an inquiry as to what rules are used to divide the overall budget between disciplines and departments, Senate was provided with a brief summary of background information in this regard and was advised that the criteria are currently under discussion.

In response to an inquiry about payment of the GST, Senate was advised that unlike many other institutions who deal with several thousand individual publishers, Simon Fraser University deals with two major book distributors who look after the GST. It was felt that this process was much more cost efficient as far as purchasing was concerned.

Reference was made to page 9 and it was noted that while the number of continuing staff has remained constant over the two year period covered by the report, the salary component (page 11) of the budget has increased by approximately 15% which suggests there has either been a large number of temporary staff hired or continuing staff have received large pay increases. Senate was advised that this issue would be looked into and information brought back to Senate.

6. NOTICE OF MOTION

i) Paper S.92-62 - Observance of Statutory Holidays

Objection was raised to the fact that this item was on the agenda as a Notice of Motion for discussion at the next meeting. It was pointed out that notice had been given at the previous meeting and opinion was expressed that the issue should be before Senate for discussion. Senate was advised that it was SCAR's decision that any piece of business put forward by a Senator has to be adjudicated by SCAR to determine its suitability for Senate. Should SCAR decide the motion was suitable, it would then be brought forward as a notice of motion for a subsequent meeting. This procedure has been applied to notices of motions submitted in writing to the Secretary of Senate as well as to notices of motions presented at a Senate meeting. Concerns were expressed that this was an unduly long process and request was made that SCAR reconsider this procedure to see if the process could be expedited in some way.

Moved by P. Percival, seconded by L. Dill

"that the Rules of Senate be waived to allow discussion of the motion outlined on Senate paper S.96-62 with regard to observance of statutory holidays"

It was noted that the motion to waive the Rules of Senate required approval of 2/3 majority of voting members present.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED
(34 required for approval - 36 voted in favour)

Moved by E. Palmer, seconded by P. Haje

"that future semester schedules should elect Friday for holiday observance instead of Monday whenever a nominal holiday date falls on a Saturday or Sunday, except in the case that the Friday is also the last day of lectures for that semester, in which case the succeeding Monday should be elected"

Senate was informed that approximately every three years three Mondays (representing 23% of a 13-week course) are lost to holidays in the Fall semester, and particular reference was made to the unique problems facing the laboratory courses in Chemistry. It was pointed out that in 1995 November 11th falls on a Saturday and suggestion was made that there is sufficient planning time to schedule a Friday holiday observance rather than a Monday.

Opinion was expressed that the shift of inconvenience from one group of students to another group of students (even though the problem would be numerically smaller on a Friday) does not address the main issue nor does it resolve the specific problem of the laboratory courses in Chemistry. Further opinion was expressed that the motion was not shifting the problem to Friday, merely sharing the burden between Monday and Friday. It was also pointed out that observance of holidays also has to take into account the issue of collective

agreements and such things as the provision of daycare, not only for staff and faculty but also for students, and a suggestion was made that a small committee be established to study the ramifications of the motion and report back to Senate. Other suggestions were made which included the observance of Friday when the holiday fell on Saturday, and the observance of Monday when the holiday fell on Sunday which automatically rotates the observance between the two days; a recommendation that departments not schedule courses which only meet once per week on a Monday, and when the start of a semester falls on a Tuesday, an additional Monday be added at the end of classes.

Moved by K. Heinrich, seconded by R. Carlson

"that the motion be referred to the Senate Committee on Instructional Methods and Organization for consideration and report back to Senate at the earliest possible time"

Opinion was expressed that SCIMO already has a full workload and mostly likely would not be able to give this issue immediate attention. A suggestion that the Chair be empowered to strike an ad hoc committee which included the mover of the motion and the Registrar, together with anyone else deemed to be appropriate, was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Question was called on the motion to refer as amended,
and a vote taken.

MOTION TO REFER CARRIED

7. OTHER BUSINESS

i) Paper S.92-63 Revised - Operating Budget 1993/94 Principles and Processes (For Information)

R. Ward, Vice-President Financial Services was in attendance in order to respond to questions. He introduced the paper by providing brief background information of the process which led up to the development of the document currently before Senate. He went on to say that the document is open for discussion and feedback prior to presentation for approval by the Board of Governors.

Concern was expressed about the lack of reference to the Senate Committee on University Budget which in accordance with the University Act must be consulted with respect to the budget preparation of the University.

Reference was made to Item 4 with respect to enrolment growth. Concern was expressed about maintaining the current ratio and suggestion was made that other criteria for allocating enrolment growth should be entertained. Opinion was also expressed that enrolment growth was an academic consideration and should not be seen or included as part of budgetary considerations.

Brief discussion ensued with respect to clarification of Items 2 and 6, following which the Chair indicated that the concerns raised would be forwarded to the appropriate parties.

8. INFORMATION

The date of the next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate is Monday, December 7, 1992.

The Assembly moved directly into Closed Session at 8:50 p.m.

H. Nagel
Acting Secretary of Senate