

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SENATE OF SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY HELD
ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1993 KLAUS RIECKHOFF HALL, 7:00 P.M.
OPEN SESSION

Present: Stubbs, J.O., Chair

Alderson, E.
Arnason, K.
Bacani, J.
Beattie, S.
Blaney, J.
Boland, L.
Bowman, M.
Bullock, D.
Carlson, R.
Cavers, J.
Chunn, D.
Ciria, A.
Clayman, B.
Crawford, C.
D'Auria, J.
Dill, L.
Dobb, T.
Driver, J.
Dunsterville, V.
Hafer, L.
Heinrich, K.
Hoefflich, K.
Hoegg, J.L.
Irwin, J.C.
Jahn, R.
Lord, T.
Luk, W.S.
Marteniuk, R.
Mauser, G.
McInnes, D.
McKeown, B.
Mezei, K.
Morrison, T.
Munro, J.
Naef, B.
Osborne, J.
Palmer, E.
Palmer, L.
Percival, P.
Pinfield, L.
Shapiro, S.
Stewart, M.L.
Swartz, N.
Wade, S.
Wickstrom, N.
Winne, P.
Wotherspoon, A.
Wrenn, P.

Absent: Barrow, R.
Dhir, R.
Eaton, C.
Etherington, L.
Giffen, K.
Ingram, E.
Jespersen, J.
LeMare, L.
McAskill, I.
Segal, J.
Soheili, A.
Waite, K.
Warsh, M.
Wideen, M.

In attendance: Heath, N.
Reilly, N.

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

On behalf of Senate, the Chair welcomed Ms. D. McInnes and Ms. B. Naef, Order-In-Council Appointments to the Senate.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as distributed.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF SEPTEMBER 20, 1993

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i) University Planning

As a follow-up to his report in Closed Session at the last meeting, the Chair wished to comment in the Open Session on the planning process for the University. He indicated that since his arrival at SFU he had familiarized himself with the University. He continued to seek advice from the University community as to how to proceed in the future. He felt it was very important for the University to initiate planning, especially in times of fiscal constraints when decisions will have to be made with respect to the allocation of limited funds. He also felt it was important to revisit the assumptions made in the Challenge 2001 document in order to bring it up-to-date, and that it was necessary to pull together some of the documents, issues and proposals which the University has generated over the past period of time to see how they all fit together, and to provide some sense of what future opportunities are available to the University within the current financial picture in order to retain control of the direction that the University wants to take. Although some existing committees such as SCAP and SCUB deal with a partial focus on planning, the Chair felt that some type of committee with its membership to be drawn from the whole University community could be established to focus on the planning process for the institution as a whole. He also indicated that the idea of forming task forces to focus on particular issues which needed careful examination was also attractive. The Chair reiterated that no matter what format was initiated, a planning process has to be developed fairly soon and it was his wish that it be an open and consultative process that draws on the expertise and experience within the University.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

i) Ministry of Skills, Training and Labour

The Chair reported that although there had been no correspondence from the new Ministry, he had met with several civil servants and it was his belief that there would be no major changes in dealing with the Government at the bureaucratic level. In his opinion, the Government is still in transition trying to settle into the new structure and determine how it will operate and what its priorities will be. The Government appears to be very committed to eliminating the deficit and, since the university receives a major portion of its funding from them, this is of very significant concern as it appears that most of that reduction will be achieved through cut-backs. There also appears to be a very strong focus by the Government on skills training and meeting the current needs of the

economy so it is very important to persuade the Ministry that universities are in fact very much part of the answer to those things.

ii) On behalf of the University, the Chair extended congratulations to Professors Grubel and McWhinney, both successful candidates in the recent Federal election.

5. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

a) SENATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

i) Paper S.93-45 - Elections

The following are the results of elections conducted at Senate for membership on the following Senate committees:

SENATE APPEALS BOARD

One Faculty Senator to replace P. Winne from date of election for no specified term of office.

Elected by acclamation: Lucy LeMare

SENATE UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS BOARD (SUAB)

Two Student Senators and One Student Senator Alternate to replace T. Morrison, S. Wade, and K. Hoeflich for one-year terms of office, from October 1, 1993 to September 30, 1994.

Balloting at the last meeting resulted in the election of T. Lord as a Regular member, and in a tied vote between the next two candidates - D. Bullock and R. Dhir. A run-off election was therefore necessary to determine the second Regular member and the Alternate member.

Elected:

R. Dhir (Regular)
D. Bullock (Alternate)

b) SENATE COMMITTEE ON CONTINUING STUDIES

i) Paper S.93-52 - Annual Report (For Information)

Reference was made to the statistics in the Appendix and concern was expressed about the unevenness in the reporting of departmental data. The value of having this type of information in the report was also questioned. Senate was advised that whatever is reported by departments is included in the report but because departments determine what kinds of information they wish to provide, an unevenness does exist in the report. J.L. Hoegg, Chair of SCCS, advised Senate that the Committee would be pleased to receive Senate's advice in terms of how to better obtain and report this information. Senate was also advised that this information was required for Statistics Canada, and just recently, requested by the Provincial Government since there appears to be an increasing interest in looking at programs that particularly respond to the economy.

Within the report itself, it was noted that regular evening program courses are grouped in with a wide range of other activities so that it was difficult to understand what the total figures actually represent. Suggestion was made that it would be much more informative if regular evening courses could be broken down in terms of what proportion of a unit's course offerings are taught in the evening and what proportions are represented by Department and by Faculty.

The Chair informed Senate that SCAR has recommended that the Chair, the Registrar, and the Dean of Continuing Studies meet in order to discuss the concerns of Senate with regard to the report and its content.

c) SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PLANNING

i) Paper S.93-53 - Report - Senate Committee on International Students

The Chair informed Senate that in order to facilitate more open debate on this issue, SCAR has recommended that Senate reconstitute itself as a committee of the whole. The Chair also indicated that prior to moving into a committee of the whole, after a motion is formally put on the table, he would invite J. Munro, as Chair of SCAP and S. Shapiro, as Chair of SCIS to give a brief presentation. The Chair also advised that since there is an assumption that the Chair would have a particular position on the issue under discussion and therefore might be in a conflict of interest, it is normal for the Chair to step down and have someone else chair the debate. However, since the Chair has not been personally involved with this specific issue before Senate, it might not be germane but he wished to bring it to Senate's attention at this point.

Moved by L. Boland, seconded by S. Wade

"that the rule requiring the Chair to step down if Senate moves into a committee of the whole be suspended to allow him to remain in the Chair"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by J. Munro, seconded by S. Wade

"that Senate approve the following principles:

- a) that the presence on campus of international students from the widest possible spectrum of countries enriches campus life and contributes to international understanding and friendship and should therefore be encouraged
- b) that in order to attract international students of the highest calibre and to make a meaningful contribution to economic development, a scholarship program for international undergraduate students is desirable, particularly for students from countries which have been underrepresented at Simon Fraser University

- c) that in order for the University to fulfill its obligations to Canadian society and the local community, the accessibility needs of domestic students must be recognized as placing limitations on the number of international students who can be accepted, and that the maximum percentage of new international students admitted to the University should be reduced from the present 7%

Note: the current level of admissions of international undergraduate students is 5.2%, the total number of international students is 5.7%, and the ten-year average (83/84 to 92/93 for new admissions is 5.9%

- d) that tuition fees for international undergraduate students should reflect the operating costs of the University and should be greater for international students than for domestic students"

Discussion ensued about whether or not the motion is intended to cover all four principles or whether each principle would be voted on separately. Senate was informed that there was one motion on the floor containing four principles.

A motion by N. Wickstrom, seconded by R. Jahn that each issue be dealt with ad seriatim was deferred until debate as committee of the whole took place.

J. Munro and S. Shapiro were asked by the Chair to provide brief presentations.

J. Munro explained that SCAP preferred to deal with these issues at the level of principle rather than at the level of detail. He advised Senate that the issue of admission of international students in limited enrolment programs is still under consideration by SCAP and that SCAP will be consulting with Departments and Faculties as regards to the SCIS recommendation that a 10% limit for international students be applied to all limited enrolment programs.

S. Shapiro drew Senate's attention to the three reports from SCIS - a majority report and two minority reports - which he felt reflected the complexity of the issue and the diversity of opinions within the Committee. He explained that although there were differences of opinion, the Committee felt it was essential to put forward the set of recommendations which spell out the practices which SCIS felt should be followed. As Chair of the Committee, he wished to thank all of its members for their hard work and participation in this committee.

N. Heath and N. Reilly, members of SCIS, were seated.

Moved by A. Wotherspoon, seconded by S. Wade

"that Senate move into a committee of the whole"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

The committee of the whole dissolved and discussion followed on the motion in the report.

Moved by N. Wickstrom, seconded by R. Jahn

"that the four principles be voted on *ad seriatim*"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Principle A

Question was called, and a vote taken.

PRINCIPLE A CARRIED

Principle B

There appeared to be general agreement to this principle but concerns were raised about the feasibility and practicality of implementation. Discussion ensued about present regulations and forms of support available to international students, and possible ways to recruit students from a variety of countries.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

PRINCIPLE B CARRIED

Principle C

In response to a request for clarification with respect to the second line under the Note, Senate was advised that all of the data in the paper refers to undergraduate students, and there was no objection to inserting the word undergraduate in the Note.

Senate was also advised that if this motion passes, nothing will change until SCAP comes back with a specific recommendation for Senate approval.

Opinion was expressed that a set of principles should guide decision-making and reflect things that are in agreement for all time and suggestion was made that it was not appropriate to have specific recommendations such as the 7% quota which may change from time to time included in a statement of principle.

Amendment moved by L. Boland, seconded by S. Wade

"that the following ~~the~~ be deleted: "and that the maximum percentage of new international students admitted to the University should be reduced from the present 7%""

Question was called, and a vote taken.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Opinion was expressed that since the future of this country, and particularly this province is tied to the Pacific Rim, adoption of this principle sends out the wrong message.

The need for this particular resolution was questioned since it appears that the total percentage of visa students seems to have decreased over the last decade. It was pointed out that even though the figures have been moving down slowly, SFU still maintains levels of foreign students at three to four times the norm at other Universities.

Opinion was also expressed that in voting down this recommendation, the message being sent to the community was that the access needs of domestic students not be recognized by placing limits on the number of visa students to be accepted, and it was felt that this was not a desirable public policy.

Discussion briefly turned to admission practices at other universities.

Question was called, and a vote taken. PRINCIPLE C, AS AMENDED, CARRIED

Principle D

Senate was reminded that adoption of this principle should be understood to be a recommendation to the Board of Governors since the power to set tuition fees does not fall under the jurisdiction of Senate.

In response to an inquiry as to the intent of the motion, Senate was informed that the first part of the motion stating that tuition fees should reflect the operating costs of the university is true for all students, and that the second part merely states that fees should be higher for international students than for domestic students but does not imply that full-cost recovery should be applied.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

PRINCIPLE D CARRIED

Moved by P. Percival, seconded by L. Palmer

"a further principle that concentration of international undergraduate students in a few programs is considered undesirable and that SCAP be directed to produce a policy which sets a percentage limit on international student enrolment that applies equally to each and every program"

Although he was aware that SCAP is presently looking at this issue, P. Percival indicated that he wished to see it included as a statement of principle.

J. Munro informed Senate that the University is currently a defendant in a Human Rights Council action on exactly this policy and he felt it would be unwise for Senate to pass this principle without first seeking legal advice. SCAP will still deal with the recommendations made by SCIS about program level quotas but before a proposal comes back to Senate it would be better to have a sense of what the consequences of adopting this principle might be.

A suggestion to delete the second part of the motion dealing with the directive to SCAP which would then turn the motion into a statement of principle only, was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Moved by A. Wotherspoon, seconded by G. Mauser

"that the motion, as amended, be tabled so the University can obtain legal opinion of the possible effects"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION TO TABLE CARRIED

6. OTHER BUSINESS

i) Library

R. Jahn advised Senate that 1500 signatures had been collected opposing the Library cutback in hours.

Secretary's Note: The package containing the signatures has been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Library Committee.

ii) Computing Services

Referring to the recent proposal to implement charges for computing services, P. Percival expressed opinion that since computer access by students using assignment labs is considered as part of instruction, he felt that the proposal had considerable impact on the academic policy of the University. Traditionally the University has used modern methods of instruction and encouraged the use of computers to educate students, and he felt that Senate should have an opportunity to consider this issue. Following a suggestion that this matter be referred to SCAR, P. Percival undertook to bring a motion to SCAR for consideration. The Chair indicated that no action will be taken on this report until SCAR has considered the motion.

iii) Student Services Fee

Referring to an inquiry from L. Palmer as to whether the student health services budget had been increased as a result of the institution of a new student services fee, the Chair indicated he would look into the matter.

7. INFORMATION

The date of the next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate is Monday, December 6, 1993.

The Assembly recessed briefly at 8:50 p.m. prior to moving into Closed Session.

W.R. Heath
Secretary of Senate