

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY MEMORANDUM

To: Senate From: Nick Heath
Secretary, SUAB

Subject: Senate Undergraduate Admissions Date: 1995 04 27
Board (SUAB)
Annual Report 1994

SUAB ANNUAL REPORT 1994

During 1994, SUAB met on the following dates:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Nature of Meeting</u>	<u>Attendance - voting members only</u>
February 22, 1994	Regular	9
March 14, 1994	Special	7
March 29, 1994	Special (Continued)	8
June 24, 1994	Regular	7
October 4, 1994	Regular	7
November 30, 1994	Regular	9

Membership:

Members at December 31, 1994 :

J. Osborne	Chair	
N. Heath	Secretary	
T. Myers	Student Member	(New member from October, 1994)
D. Hayduk	Alternate Student Member	(New member from October, 1994)
T. Lord	Student Senator	
R. Dhir	Student Senator	
K. Chan	Alternate Student Senator	(New member from October, 1994)
S. Stevenson	Faculty Member - Applied Science	(New member from October, 1994)
S. Whitmore	Alternate Faculty Member - Applied Science	(New member from October, 1994)
A. Lebowitz	Faculty Member - Arts	
R. Horsfall	Alternate Faculty Member - Arts	(New member from March, 1994)
R. Rogow	Faculty Member - Business Administration	
Z. Rebmann-Huber	Alternate Faculty Member - Business Administration	
R. Case	Faculty Member - Education	
(vacant)	Alternate Faculty Member - Education	
D. Ryeburn	Faculty Member - Science	
M. Plischke	Alternate Faculty Member - Science	(New member from October, 1994)
L. Peterson	Senator-at-Large	(New member from October, 1994)

Members leaving Board during 1994:

P. Poolady	Student Member
L. Wong	Alternate Student Member
D. Bullock	Alternate Student Senator
C. Asmundson	Faculty Member - Applied Science
S. Stapleton	Alternate Faculty Member - Applied Science
R. Gordon	Alternate Faculty Member - Arts
D. Boal	Alternate Faculty Member - Science
C. Crawford	Senator-at-Large
L. Palmer	Senator-at-Large

End of Semester Evaluations

SUAB discontinued regular end-of-semester meetings to review the outcome of the academic evaluation of students who were required to withdraw. Instead, the review was conducted by the Chair and Secretary. Last year's report noted that the proportion of students in serious academic difficulty RTW = Required to Withdraw and OAP On Academic Probation) had dropped steadily over the period 1987-1993. At the end of the 1994 Spring semester, this trend continued for RTWs but reversed for OAPs. For the 1994 Fall semester, a slight increase both proportions was noted. It is likely that the recent increases in OAPs and RTWs result from somewhat lower admission 'cut-offs' for transfer students admitted in 1994, when a record total of 2,314 new students entered from B.C. Colleges, approx. 40% of all new students.

The following actions were taken:

1) **SUAB 253, SUAB 262 & SUAB 267 - BC Secondary School Graduation Program**

The Ministry of Education sought and received comments on its revised Secondary School Graduation Program. The matter was discussed by SUAB, Faculty Deans and other administrators. The response was generally in favour of the changes proposed.

2) **SUAB 254 - Engineering Science Transfer Credit**

Transfer credit for engineering courses may be granted to students in any faculty or program. Previously it had been restricted to those who had been approved into the Engineering Science program. The School of engineering science undertook to articulate the engineering courses of B.C. institutions.

3) **SUAB 255 & SUAB 259 - Diverse Qualifications Admission Policy**

A proposal was developed to admit up to 10% of new students using criteria in addition to course grades. The proposal was approved by SUAB in June 1994 and submitted to Senate in September. Senate determined that the further consultation was required and this was carried out late in 1994. (Secretary's note - the topic is still being reviewed by a sub-committee of SUAB and will likely be reviewed by SUAB in June 1995).

4) **SUAB 257 & SUAB 266 - Admission of sponsored employees**

SUAB approved one - time admission for two groups of employees sponsored by their employers to undertake credit courses. The employers were the Government of Canada (Fall 1994) and C P Rail (Spring 1995). These groups are pilots for possible further special course and program offerings, administered by Continuing Studies with the Faculties of Applied Sciences and Arts respectively.

5) **SUAB 258 - Response of BCCAT on Transferability of C- and D Grades**

Some B.C. institutions, both colleges and universities, refuse to grant transfer credit for courses with grades below C. Simon Fraser University has upheld the 'Principles and Guidelines' for transferability, promoted by the B.C. Council on Admissions and Transfer and will continue to grant credit for C- and D grades, in most cases.

6) **SUAB 260 - New BC Grade 12 Course - Comparative Civilizations**

Western Civilization 12 is being replaced by this new course. Based on an interim curriculum outline, SUAB agreed to accept the course for university admission purposes for one year only. Subsequently, a more complete curriculum was received and the course has been accepted unconditionally for university admission.

7) **SUAB 263 - Grade Distribution in BC 12 Courses**

SUAB received interim statistics, showing a wide variation in the mean 1993 BC Grade 12 course grades among first year university students. The proportion of A grades ranged from 20% of students who took Geography 12 to 79% of students in Mandarin 12. Students are more likely to receive higher grades in subjects which do not have provincial examinations.

8) **SUAB 265 - Provincially-approved BC Grade 12 Advanced Placement Courses**

The Ministry of Education revised the status of several Advanced Placement Grade 12 courses from 'Locally Developed' to 'Provincially Authorized'. As a result, SUAB agreed to add these courses to the list of those accepted for university admission.

9) **SUAB 268 & 269 - Prior Learning Assessment in British Columbia**

SUAB reviewed and discussed methods of Prior Learning Assessment in use in the Province. It was agreed to seek ways of increasing the number of Course Challenges taken by SFU students.

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