

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SENATE OF SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY HELD ON
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 1996 IN ROOM 3210 WMX, 7:00 P.M.
OPEN SESSION

Present: Stubbs, J.O., Chair

Alderson, E.
Arnason, K.
Barrow, R.
Beattie, S.
Blaney, J.
Blazenko, G.
Boland, L.
Bowen, M.
Bullock, D.
Clayman, B.
D'Auria, J.
Dobb, T.
Dunsterville, V.
Eaton, C.
Gagan, D.
Giffen, K.
Heinrich, K.
Jones, C.
Karabotsos, F.
Lewis, B.
Luk, W.S.
Marteniuk, R.
Mathewes, R.
McAskill, I.
McInnes, D.
Naef, B.
Osborne, J.
Percival, P.
Peterson, L.
Rawicz, A.
Reed, C.
Ross, D.
Scharfe, E.
Shapiro, S.
Sitter, R.
Stewart, M.L.
Underhill, O.
Whitbread, K.
Wideen, M.
Winne, P.

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

Absent: Ciconte, R.
Dahl, V.
Etherington, L.
Hewitt, K.
Howlett, M.
Jahn, R.
Keto, D.
LeMare, L.
Mauser, G.
Pierce, J.
Sanghera, B.
Segal, J.
Warsh, M.
Wickstrom, N.

In attendance:
N. Haunerland
S. McBride
P. Meyers
A. Watt

On behalf of Senate, the Chair welcomed the following newly elected Senators: R. Sitter, Department of Mathematics & Statistics, M. Bowen, Faculty of Education, and K. Giffen, Faculty of Education.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of February 5, 1996

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

i) Paper S.96-14 - Elections

Senate was advised that no further nominations were received; K. Arnason is therefore elected by acclamation to the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees, and all of the other positions remain vacant and will be brought forward.

4. Report of the Chair

i) The Chair advised Senate that the announcement of the Federal budget is expected to take place next week. Expectations are that transfer payments will be reduced but there are indications that funding from other sources will be made available for research purposes. It is also hoped that changes to charitable deduction legislation will be made in order to attract and encourage philanthropic support of universities and other organizations.

At the Provincial level, expectations are that a budget will not be in place until after the beginning of the fiscal year, and in preparation of anticipated cuts, the University needs to continue on the budget planning exercise as earlier announced.

Senate was advised that universities now fall under a new Ministry - the Ministry of Education, Skills and Training. Labour is now under a separate Ministry.

5. Report of Committees

a) Senate Committee on Academic Planning/Senate Graduate Studies Committee

i) Paper S.96-15 - Ph.D. Program in Political Science

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by B. Clayman

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.96-15, the proposed PhD Program in

Political Science including: New courses - POL 880 Ph.D. Seminar; POL 896 Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam; POL 899 Ph.D. Thesis Research"

S. McBride, Chair of the Department of Political Science, and P. Meyers, Graduate Program Chair, Department of Political Science were in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Brief discussion took place with respect to the size and the marketability of the proposed program.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Paper S.96-16 - Graduate Curriculum Revisions - Faculty of Education

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by R. Barrow

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.96-16, the Secondary Mathematics Education Course Work M.Ed."

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iii) Paper S.96-17 - Temporary Special Topics, Directed Readings and Directed Studies Courses

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by B. Clayman

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.96-17, that in accordance with the procedures approved for temporary undergraduate courses (Paper S.96-5), similar action be taken for approving temporary Special Topics, Directed Readings and Directed Studies courses at the graduate level"

Brief discussion took place with respect to the definition of temporary and the specific period of time covered by this arrangement.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

b) Senate Committee on Academic Planning/Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

i) Paper S.96-18 - UCFV - Extended Minor in Latin American Studies; Extended Minor in Theatre

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Osborne

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.96-18, the following new programs to be offered at the University College of the Fraser Valley: a) Extended Minor in Latin American Studies; b) Extended Minor in Theatre"

Reference was made to a statement on page 2 which implies a constant and close working relationship with SFU's Spanish and Latin American Studies Department, and concern was expressed about the possible discontinuance of this Department and the consequences this would have on the Minor program at UCFV. Senate was advised that the question currently before the Faculty of Arts in relation to the Department of SLAS was not the closure of programs but changes in the structure of its administrative units.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Paper S.96-19 - UCFV - B.Sc. Majors Degree Program in General Biology; Physics 300 and 400 level courses

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by C. Jones

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.96-19, the following new programs to be offered at the University College of the Fraser Valley: a) B.Sc. Majors Degree Program in General Biology; b) Physics 300 and 400 level courses"

N. Haunerland, Department of Biological Sciences was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

c) Senate Committee on Academic Planning

i) Paper S.96-20 - Undergraduate Student Intake Targets for 1996/97

Motion #1:

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Osborne

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors the following global undergraduate admission targets to SFU for each basis-of-admission group and for each of the semesters in 96/97 and the SCAP be delegated authority to make adjustments based on changes to the overall enrolment targets and based on actual enrolment experience in 1996-2 and 1996-3

	Admission Targets			
	<u>1996-2</u>	<u>1996-3</u>	<u>1997-1</u>	<u>Total</u>
B.C. Gr. XII	50	1,510	100	1,660
B.C. College	375	700	450	1,525
"Other"	<u>250</u>	<u>650</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>1,250</u>
Total Intake	675	2,860	900	4,435

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion #2:

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Osborne

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors the following undergraduate admission targets into the Faculty of Science for each basis-of-admission group and for each of the semesters in 1996/97 and that SCAP be delegated authority to make adjustments based on changes to the overall enrolment targets and based on actual enrolment experience in 1996-2 and 1996-3.

	Admission Targets			
	<u>1996-2</u>	<u>1996-3</u>	<u>1997-1</u>	<u>Total</u>
B.C. Gr. XII	10	345	20	375
B.C. College	40	65	25	130
"Other"	<u>10</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>110</u>
Total Intake	60	485	70	615

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Paper S.96-21 - International Student Intake Targets for 1996/97

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by L. Boland

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors to limit the number of international students admitted into undergraduate programs at SFU in 1996/97 to a maximum of 7% of all admissions"

Brief discussion took place in which Senate was reminded that the limit of 7% was historically set when this quota was first introduced a number of years ago. Since the quota has never been reached and since enrolment of international students is on the decline, suggestion was made that it may be appropriate to reconsider the necessity of bringing this issue back to Senate every year. Discussion followed with respect to the perceived reasons for the declining number of international students among Canadian universities in general.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iii) Paper S.96-22 - Delegation of Responsibility for Approval of New Courses

Motion #1:

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by S. Shapiro

"that Senate delegate its responsibility for approving all new undergraduate courses and program revisions of a minor nature to the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies and all new graduate courses and program revisions of a minor nature to the Senate Graduate Studies Committee"

Senate was advised that the proposal before Senate represents a step towards increased efficiency in the use of current resources, and particularly how the time of Senate committees and Senate itself is used. As resources decline, planning imperatives will take an increasing amount of time and planning committees such as SCAP will need to devote more time to planning and less time to routine curriculum matters. In order to provide assurances that all of the appropriate consultations/approvals have been made/received prior to SCUS/SGSC making a decision, a form 'Approval Cover Sheet' has been developed which provides for this kind of accountability, and both SCUS and SGSC have agreed to use a version of this form.

While there was support for streamlining the course approval process, concern was expressed about eliminating all monitoring of course approvals and minor program changes. Although the proposed cover sheet is helpful, suggestion was made that a ratification mechanism be included in the process.

Amendment moved by L. Boland, seconded by C. Eaton

"that the following paragraph be added to the end of the current motion: Furthermore, all such actions by SCUS and SGSC be reported to SCAP for information before they are reported to Senate. And that, within one week after SCUS/SGSC has

reported to SCAP, any two members of SCAP can ask that the specific new courses or program revisions of a minor nature be considered by SCAP. Similarly, that within two weeks after SCUS/SGSC has reported to Senate, any five members of Senate can ask that the specific new courses or program revisions of a minor nature be considered by Senate. Only after SCAP and Senate have been thus informed, do these delegated actions of SCUS and SGSC become official Senate policy without further Senate action."

Concern was expressed that the amendment delays the process of approval and reflects negatively on the work being done by the Senate committees.

Opinion was expressed that since Senate is responsible for the curriculum of the University, Senate should have the opportunity to review curriculum issues prior to them becoming official policy. The proposed amendment does not reflect on the competence of Senate committees; it merely preserves the role of Senate.

Discussion turned to the composition of SCUS, and concern was expressed that since there were only two student representatives on the Committee there was not enough opportunity for student input. Opinion was expressed that the proposed amendment provides a further opportunity for input to take place from students from all disciplines.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

AMENDMENT CARRIED
(22 in favour, 13 opposed)

Referring to the ratio of faculty members to students on Senate, concern was expressed that the requirement of five members of Senate might be difficult for a Student Senator to achieve.

Amendment moved by K. Whitbread, seconded by M. Wideen

"that the motion be amended to read three members of Senate instead of five members of Senate"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

AMENDMENT FAILED

Discussion turned to the main motion and concern was expressed that a committee as small as SCUS with only one representative from each Faculty is not adequate to appropriately consider Faculty-wide curriculum revisions. Senate was advised that the SGSC has a representative from every department and graduate program in the university as well as five regular and five alternate student members.

Senate was advised that a 2/3 majority vote was required to approve this motion.

Question was called on the main motion,
and a vote taken.

MOTION #1, AS AMENDED, CARRIED
(2/3 majority vote received)

Motion #2:

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by B. Clayman

"that the Secretary of Senate be authorized to make the appropriate changes to the terms of reference of each of these committees"

Brief discussion took place with respect to the differences in representation between SCUS and the SGSC.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION #2 CARRIED

iv) Paper S.96-23 - External Review Guidelines

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded B. Clayman

"that Senate approve the revisions to the Guidelines for External Reviews of Academic Units contained in Paper S.96-23"

Senate was advised that the proposed changes involve replacing items 11 through 16 of the existing guidelines. Units will be required to prepare an academic plan describing the unit's objectives in the period leading up to its next scheduled review and this plan will be referenced by SCAP in assessing future program/curriculum proposals from the unit.

Objection was made to the term 'forward plan' and a suggestion to change it to 'academic plan' was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Discussion turned to the issue of student input in the external review process and the fact that the process varies from department to department.

Amendment moved by K. Arnason, seconded by K. Whitbread

"that item 11-a be amended to read 'the unit involved, including the unit's graduate caucus and student union' "

Opinion was expressed that if students are included so should non-academic staff but since each unit is administered differently the process should be left up to individual units.

It was pointed out that the report is a public document and is available to anyone in any constituency upon request. Opinion was further stated that while the report does not need to be distributed, everyone in the unit should be made aware that the report exists and is available on request.

A suggestion to change the above amendment as follows was accepted as friendly:

"that item 11-a be amended to read 'the unit involved (including faculty, staff and students)' "

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

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Reference was made to item 12-b, and concern was expressed that there may be times when a Dean and a unit may not agree on a final plan. It was pointed out that in such cases a Dean and a unit could bring their alternative views to SCAP for discussion and consideration.

Question was called on the main motion,
and a vote taken.

MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED, CARRIED

- d) Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules
- i) Paper S.96-24 - Amendment to the Terms of Reference - Senate Nominating Committee

Moved by K. Heinrich, seconded by L. Boland

"that Senate approve the following be added to the Terms of Reference for the Senate Nominating Committee:

- 7. In bringing forward nominees for vacancies on Senate committees, the Nominating Committee should give consideration to the composition of the campus community"

Opinion was expressed that the wording of the motion was ambiguous and, in its present form, unusable without further clarification as to what was being referred to by the word 'composition'.

L. Peterson, as Chair of the SNC, referred to the lack of interest among faculty and students in serving on Senate committees and suggested a discussion of possible remedies to this problem first might lead to a situation whereby the SNC could give consideration to the composition of the campus community when bringing forward nominees.

Senate was advised that SCAR had discussed the lack of names coming forward and the Secretary of Senate is expected to contact the Chair of the SNC to discuss possible mechanisms that might assist the committee in recruiting people for various committees.

Senate was informed that the original motion brought forward to SCAR dealt specifically with gender representation on in-person appeal committees but had subsequently been replaced by this more general motion for all committees.

It was noted that over the past several years Senate has gradually built up the importance of its committees and changed the process of how students become members. Concern was expressed that this change in process from students being appointed by SFSS to being elected by Senate may have caused some of the difficulties in finding students to serve on committees.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

e) Senate Graduate Studies Committee

i) Paper S.96-25 - Annual Report (For Information)

Brief discussion took place following which the Annual Report of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee was received for information.

f) Senate Committee on International Activities

i) Paper S.96-26 - Annual Report (For Information)

In response to a request for a brief list of all international projects, Senate was informed that such a list currently exists and it could be brought to Senate for information at some future time. Brief discussion followed with respect to CIDA projects, following which the Annual Report of the Senate Committee on International Activities was received.

6. Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Information

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate will take place on Monday, April 1, 1996.

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