

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate

From: D. Gagan, Chair *ACF-DG*
Senate Committee on Academic Planning

Subject: Centre for Labour Studies

Date: March 14, 1996

Action undertaken at the meeting of the Senate Committee on Academic Planning on March 13, 1996 gives rise to the following motion:

Motion:

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors as set forth in S.96 -29 , the establishment of the Centre for Labour Studies as a Schedule B Centre."

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH

TO: Alison Watt
Secretary, Senate Committee
on Academic Planning (SCAP)

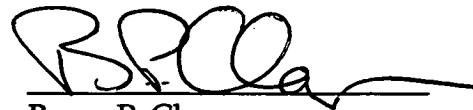
FROM: Bruce P. Clayman
Vice-President, Research

RE: Centre for Labour Studies

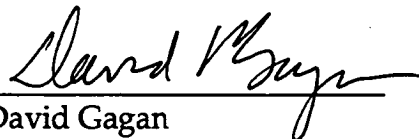
DATE: March 1, 1996

I attach a proposal from Dr. T. Nesbit for the establishment of the Centre for Labour Studies as a Schedule B Centre (centres that have a university-wide mandate). His attached memorandum of February 27, 1996 confirms that the Centre will require no start-up costs and will cause no financial burden to the University to operate.

The Governing Committee for Centres and Institutes recommends that the Centre be granted approval by SCAP at its next meeting. Once approved by SCAP, the proposal is to be forwarded to the next meeting of Senate, followed by submission to the Board of Governors.



Bruce P. Clayman
Vice-President, Research



David Gagan
Vice-President, Academic

Attachments

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Continuing Studies
Labour Program

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Dr. B. Clayman
Vice-President, Research

FROM: Tom Nesbit
Program Director

RE: Application for Centre
for Labour Studies

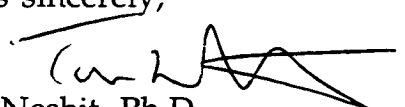
DATE: February 27, 1996

Thank you for your memo of February 13th. The Labour Program Advisory Committee anticipates that such a Centre can be established at zero cost to the University. The main costs of the Centre (staff salaries) would remain as at present with both the Director and Assistant being paid under their present arrangements as Director and Assistant of the Labour Program in the Office of Continuing Studies. The space requirements would similarly remain unchanged.

Once the Centre is established, I regard fundraising as an immediate aim. In fact, to this end, Dr. Jack Blaney and I have already had a very positive meeting with the BC Federation of Labour Executive Committee. They wholeheartedly support the establishment of a Labour Studies Centre at SFU and are prepared to make overtures to the Provincial Government to secure some initial funding. In addition, several provincial unions have already made initial approaches towards developing research possibilities with SFU.

I hope this answers your queries. If you require more information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Tom Nesbit, Ph.D.
Director, Labour Program
Simon Fraser University

cc: Dr. J. Blaney
Dr. M. Wexler
TN/cd Cupe 3338



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM OFFICE OF VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH

TO: Dr. Tom Nesbit, Director
Labour Program

FROM: Bruce P. Clayman
Vice-President, Research

RE: Application for Centre for
Labour Studies

DATE: February 13, 1996

Tom

I have received your request for the establishment of the Centre for Labour Studies under Policy 40.01.

In the present fiscal environment, it is essential that you provide more information about the provision of resources to the proposed Centre. Specifically, information is needed on start-up costs and continuing costs. This would include both direct costs and indirect costs, such as space. In addition, the sources for these resources – to the extent known – should be identified.

This information is required prior to the review of your request by the Governing Committee for Centres and Institutes. Thank you in advance for your assistance.



c: J. Blaney
M. Wexler

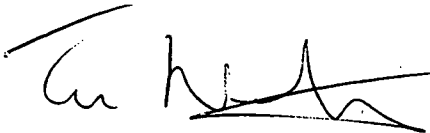
**Simon Fraser University
Continuing Studies
Labour Program**

Memorandum

To: Dr. Bruce P. Clayman **From:** Dr. T. Nesbit
Vice-President, Research Director, Labour Program

Re: Application for **Date:** January 30, 1996
Centre for Labour Studies

Please find attached an application for a Schedule B Centre for Labour Studies at Simon Fraser University.



Tom Nesbit

cc: Dr. J. Blaney
Dr. M. Wexler



Application for Creation of a Schedule B Centre

CENTRE FOR LABOUR STUDIES AT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Preamble

The Labour Program Academic Advisory Committee formally applies to create a university-wide Centre for Labour Studies at Simon Fraser University. In its opinion, such a Centre would: (a) build upon the excellent reputation of the existing Labour Program; (b) harness and coordinate the work of those faculty members already teaching and conducting research in the area of labour studies; (c) provide a focus for developing new work in the areas of teaching, research, and training; and (d) strengthen university-labour links and allow for the development of other supportive activities.

Developing Teaching

There are few centres for teaching labour studies or industrial relations in Canada. Within British Columbia, no institution provides long-term opportunities for those who wish to study labour and industrial relations issues in an academic setting.

A Centre for Labour Studies would encourage the coordination and development of credit and non-credit courses about working people, their organizations, and labour issues from comprehensive and multi-disciplinary social, cultural, historical, political, and economic perspectives. Further, labour organizations have a responsibility to train their own staff and lay officials. Simon Fraser University has a strong reputation of working with local labour organizations and a Centre for Labour Studies would be well-placed to offer competitive training opportunities and facilities. Finally, there is a constant demand by trade union representatives, government officials, and business leaders for short-term courses and seminars that deal with various aspects of labour and industrial relations issues. The enhanced profile of a Centre for Labour Studies would enable more active course development and attract more of this work into the university.

Developing Research

At present, research at Simon Fraser University on labour-related issues is conducted by individual researchers in their respective faculties. There is very little team or group research, and few integrated research programs. Further, the results of such research is neither disseminated widely across disciplines within the university nor to the labour community at large. A Centre for Labour Studies would encourage the greater development and dissemination of labour-related research (both within Simon Fraser University and within multi-university collaborations)

and would pursue funding for further research initiatives. In addition, such a Centre would facilitate the work of those outside of academic communities interested in the study of labour movements and workers in society through systematic interaction with university-based researchers. Although many unions employ research staff, few are well-versed in social science research methods or have either the time or expertise to mount anything but the most basic research programs.

Developing Other Initiatives

A Centre for Labour Studies would also encourage other initiatives such as the development of international links between union researchers, the creation of an archive of labour-related documents, the compilation of a directory of local labour researchers, the creation of supportive links between the university and labour communities, the wider dissemination of research results, the coordination of grant applications and the raising of revenue for research, and the facilitation of exchange activities to lessen the insularity often felt by labour leaders. Each of these activities would enhance the reputation of Simon Fraser University within both the academic and labour communities.

Mission Statement

The Centre for Labour Studies promotes the study and understanding of labour, working people, and their organizations from a comprehensive social, cultural, historical, political, and economic perspective. The Centre aims to provide a range of taught courses and programs (both credit and non-credit), offer research opportunities and assistance to both Simon Fraser University students and provincial labour organizations, and create mutually supportive and beneficial links between the academic and labour communities.

Governance

Schedule

The Centre for Labour Studies shall be a Schedule B University Centre.

Administrative Officer

The Vice President, Research shall be the Administrative Officer responsible for the Centre of Labour Studies.

Director

The Centre for Labour Studies shall have a Director who will be a regular employee of Simon Fraser University. S/he will be elected by the membership for renewable three-year terms. Day to day administration of the Centre shall be the responsibility of the Director who will exercise the rights of the Centre under the terms of Section 5.1 of R 40.01 and shall meet the obligations set out in Section 5.2 of R 40.01.

Membership

Regular membership in the Centre for Labour Studies shall be through a majority vote of existing members following application to the Director. Initial membership will be:

from the Faculty of Arts:

History:

A. Seager

Political Science:

S. McBride

Political Science & Women's Studies:

M. Cohen

from the Faculty of Business Administration:

S. Havlovic, M. Wexler

from the Office of Continuing Studies:

J. Blaney, T. Nesbit

The initial membership will meet following issuance of a Charter to elect a Director.

In addition, membership will be offered to members of other Faculties that have an academic interest in Labour Studies and to representatives of the BC Federation of labour and the Canadian Labour Congress.

Obligation to Act in Accordance with University Policy

The Centre for Labour Studies acknowledges its obligation to conduct its activities in accordance with University policies.