

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SENATE OF SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY HELD ON
MONDAY, MAY 13, 1996 IN ROOM 3210 WMX, 7:00 P.M.

OPEN SESSION

Present: Stubbs, J., Chair

Alderson, E.
Arnason, K.
Barrow, R.
Blaney, J.
Blazenko, G.
Boland, L.
Boote, D.
Bowen, M.
Bullock, D.
Clayman, B.
Crawford, C.
Dahl, V.
D'Auria, J.
Dobb, T.
Dunsterville, V.
Etherington, L.
Gagan, D.
Heinrich, K.
Hewitt, K.
Jones, C.H.W.
Karabotsos, F.
Marteniuk, R.
Mathewes, R.
McAskill, I.
Osborne, J.
Percival, P.
Pierce, J.
Rawicz, A.
Reed, C.
Ross, D.
Sanghera, B.
Scharfe, E.
Shapiro, S.
Sitter, R.
Stewart, M.L.
Whitbread, K.
Winne, P.

Absent: Beattie, S.
Ciconte, R.
Dobb, T.
Eaton, C.
Giffen, K.
Howlett, M.
Jahn, R.
Keto, D.
LeMare, L.
Lewis, B.
Luk, W.S.
Mauser, G.
McInnes, D.
Naef, B.
Peterson, L.
Segal, J.
Warsh, M.
Wickstrom, N.
Wideen, M.

In attendance:

E. Gee
T. Hickin
G. Poole
M. Roberts

W.R. Heath, Dean of Student Services and Registrar
A. Watt, Director Secretariat Services
B. Grant, Recording Secretary

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as distributed.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF APRIL 1, 1996

Reference was made to the amendment at the top of page 6 concerning the letter of recommendation to be submitted by applicants under the Diverse Qualifications Undergraduate Admissions Policy. Concern was expressed that the amendment deleted all reference to this letter of recommendation coming from someone in the school system, and opinion was expressed that this did not accurately reflect the debate at the last meeting of Senate.

Following a suggestion to check the tape recording of the meeting with regard to this issue, the Minutes were approved subject to any required corrections to this item.

Secretary's Note: Review of the verbatim transcript revealed that the Minutes accurately reflected the debate and decisions of Senate at its last meeting.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i) On behalf of Senate, the Chair welcomed C. Crawford, Department of Psychology on his return to Senate after a year's leave.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

i) Paper S.96-35 - Election Report - For Information

A report on the results of Convocation, Faculty, Staff, and Student elections to Senate and the Board of Governors was received by Senate.

ii) Paper S.96-36 - Human Rights cases - For Information

A report on the outcome of complaints filed against the University regarding cases involving issues of Human Rights was received by Senate. Senate was advised that anyone interested in receiving the full text of the decisions in these cases, should contact A. Watt for a copy.

iii) Elections

J. D'Auria, on behalf of the Senate Nominating Committee, reported that there are a number of vacancies to be filled on Senate committees, and Senators were encouraged to submit names for nomination.

5. REPORT OF COMMITTEESa) Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learningi) Paper S.96-37 - Annual Report - For Information

E. Gee, Chair of SCUTL, and G. Poole, Secretary to SCUTL were in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Request was made for an update on the course evaluation procedures under consideration by the Committee. Senate was advised that a pilot version of a survey was administered in the Summer Semester 1995 and an analysis of the data is currently in progress and will be made available to the University community upon completion.

In response to an inquiry about whether or not more student forums on teaching and learning would be held, Senate was informed that the intent was to hold additional forums but the Committee was extremely interested in ways to improve promotion and increase student participation. The Committee would welcome suggestions in this regard.

b) Senate Committee on Academic Planning/Senate Graduate Studies Committeei) Paper S.96-38 - Revised M.Sc. Program in Earth Sciences

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by B. Clayman

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.96-38, the proposed revised M.Sc. in Earth Sciences"

M. Roberts, Director, Earth Sciences Program and T. Hickin were in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Senate was reminded that the program had been approved by Senate several years ago, subject to the courses coming forward for approval.

Brief discussion took place concerning the introduction/expansion of courses of study in areas not fully covered by the current program but which had been suggested by the external assessors. It was noted that this is a small program and the process of adding courses occurs as the program develops.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

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

i) Paper S.96-39 - Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions - Business Administration

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Osborne

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.96-39, the following curriculum revisions in the Faculty of Business Administration - New course: BUS 440 Simulation in Management Decision Making; Management Science area - Change in Concentration requirements; Change in Core requirements"

Reference was made to the deletion of Math 158 from the Concentration requirements. It was pointed out that this action could have an effect on the frequency that this course is offered because the course is offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics specifically for Business students. If no one is going to take the course, it likely would be deleted. S. Shapiro advised Senate that he would pass this information on to the appropriate person in the Faculty of Business Administration.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Paper S.96-40 - Curriculum Revisions - University College of the Fraser Valley/Simon Fraser University

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Osborne

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S. 96-40, the following courses to be offered at University College of the Fraser Valley: GEOG 433-4 Geography of Selected Regions; GEOG 481-4 Directed Studies"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

d) Senate Committee on Academic Planning

i) Paper S.96-41- SCAP Annual Report (For Information)

Following a brief discussion about the new curriculum review procedures, the Annual Report was received by Senate.

ii) Paper S.96-42 - Institute for Business and Innovation Studies (IBIS)

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by B. Clayman

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.96-42, the establishment of an Institute for Business and Innovation Studies (IBIS)"

Reference was made to the top of Page 2, and a request by B. Clayman to change the first sentence to read as follows 'The initial Director will be appointed at the first meeting of the Institute by the Founding Members' was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

6. Other Businessi) Paper S.96-43 - Administrative changes affecting Senate and Senate Committees

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Osborne

"that Senate approve the changes as outlined in S.96-43"

Senate was provided with brief background information concerning the proposed changes which mainly are the result of the need to recognize the new designation of R. Heath as Dean of Student Services and Registrar, and identify the role of A. Watt as Director of Secretariat Services. Senate's attention was drawn to the change proposed under A.1 and advised that this change is necessary because the Chair of SCUS is now a designate of the Associate Vice-President Academic. Following a friendly amendment, the Chair of SCUS will be a non-voting member of SCAP.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Paper S.96-44 - Modem Access

Moved by P. Percival, seconded by E. Scharfe

"that Senate declare its opposition to the principle of charging for modem access"

P. Percival advised that because of the decision of the Vice-President Academic not to charge faculty and staff for modem use, the wording of the original notice of motion had been changed to the current motion which he

felt should still be debated by Senate. Opinion was expressed that limitations on modem access ran counter to planning documents of the University which support increased use of information technology, and constitute a disincentive to the introduction of innovative courses and modes of course delivery which involve computer interaction. Charging fees for modem use to carry out expected duties by faculty, staff and students is not only unfair, it promotes inequity within user groups when some members of the same group receive grants which cover such fees and others, who carry out the same type of professional work, do not have access to such funding.

Due to additional responsibilities associated with membership on Senate, the Board of Governors, and Senate related committees, a Student Senator's modem use had increased significantly during her term of office. It was noted that it is not unusual for a student to exceed the designated limit assigned to students for modem use resulting in the cancellation of the computing account. Senate was informed that Academic Computing Services had indicated that it would be three weeks before a meeting with anyone with the authority to reinstate a cancelled account could take place, and opinion was expressed that this was an unacceptable period of time for a student to wait and concern was expressed about this practice. ACS had argued that it was unfair for a few students who exceed the limit to be subsidized by the rest of the students but opinion was expressed that there was nothing essentially wrong with the many subsidizing access to essential services for the few.

Opinion was expressed that the modem access issue was a complex matter of balancing needs and resources.

D. Gagan informed Senate that following meetings with faculty, staff and students, the proposed modem policy will be revised to make the best use the existing resources of the University and establish basic remote access service for all users of the University's information network. However, use of this service is increasing every year and at some point in the future the University's ability to meet the cost of the service may well come to an end, and the policy will have to be revisited. D. Gagan intends to bring the new, revised modem policy to SCAP for consideration and discussion.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iii) On behalf of Senate, the Chair expressed appreciation for their service on Senate to the following members whose terms of office expire at the end of May: L. LeMare, K. Heinrich, C. Eaton, M.L. Stewart, M. Wideen, R. Sitter, D. Bullock, M. Bowen, R. Jahn, D. Keto, E. Scharfe, R. Ciconte, D. Boote, F. Karabotsos and I. McAskill.

The Assembly moved directly into Closed Session at 7:50 p.m.

A. Watt

Director of Secretariat Services