

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

Minutes of a meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, May 17, 1999 at 5:00 pm in room 3210 West Mall Complex

Open Session

Present: Blaney, Jack, President and Chair

Baldwin, Paul (representing L. Copeland)
Berggren, Len
Boland, Larry
Chan, Albert
Clayman, Bruce
Coleman, Peter
Crossley, David
D'Auria, John
Dunsterville, Valerie
Emerson, Joseph
Emmott, Alan
Finley, David
Gagan, David
Giffen, Ken
Gillies, Mary Ann
Jones, Colin
Jones, John
Kanevsky, Lannie
Kirczenow, George
Lewis, Brian
Marteniuk, Ron
Mathewes, Rolf
McInnes, Dina
Morris, Joy
Osborne, Judith
Percival, Paul
Peterson, Louis
Peters, Joseph
Pierce, John
Reader, Jason
Russell, Robert
Sanghera, Balwant
Thompson, Janny (representing R. Barrow)
To, Shek Yan
Waterhouse, John
Wortis, Michael
Zazkis, Rina

Heath, Ron, Dean of Student Services and Registrar
Watt, Alison, Director, Secretariat Services
Grant, Bobbie, Recording Secretary

Absent:

Akins, Kathleen
Beattie, Suzan
Bowman, Marilyn
Dhillon, Khushwant
Fletcher, James
Harris, Richard
Heaney, John
Mauser, Gary
Naef, Barbara
Ogloff, James
Segal, Joseph
Veerkamp, Mark
Warsh, Michael
Weeks, Daniel
Wickstrom, Norman

In attendance:

Davis, Leith
Dickinson, John
Gordon, Rob
Hickin, Ted

1. Approval of the Agenda
The Agenda was approved as distributed.
2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of April 12, 1999
It was pointed out that the April meeting had commenced at 5:30 pm rather than 7:00 pm as indicated in the Minutes. Reference was made to the second paragraph on page 4. Suggestion was made that the word 'deferred' in line 7 and the word 'defer' in the last line, should respectively read 'referred' and 'refer'. Following these amendments, the Minutes were approved.
3. Business Arising from the Minutes
There was no business arising from the Minutes.
4. Report of the Chair
The Chair announced that the three Presidents of the larger universities recently met with the Prime Minister's Task Force on Western Canada and mainly discussed core funding and research infrastructure. Meetings had also taken place between the Task Force and representatives from TRIUMF, as well as with colleagues from the Media and Innovation Centre. Interactions appeared to have gone quite well and the Task Force seemed to be taking the deliberations quite seriously.
5. Reports of Committees
 - a) Senate Committee on Academic Planning
 - i) Paper S.99-37 – Establishment of a Department of Earth Sciences

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by C. Jones

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.99-37, the establishment of the Department of Earth Sciences"

T. Hickin, Earth Sciences Program, was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

- ii) Paper S.99-38 – Centre for Scottish Studies

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by B. Clayman

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.99-37, the proposed Centre for Scottish Studies"

L. Davis, Department of English, and R. Gordon, School of Criminology, were in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Reference was made to the memo to SCAP dated April 7th signed by D. Gagan as both Acting Vice-President Research, and Vice-President Academic. A member

commented that it was not a good precedent to have only one person sign documents in which two different officers should be represented. It was suggested that, in the future, action should be delayed until a second authority was available for signature. The Chair indicated that the suggestion would be taken under advisement.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iii) Paper S.99-39 – School of Kinesiology – Academic Plan (For Information)

The Three-Year Plan of the School of Kinesiology and the summary of the External Review were presented to Senate for information. J. Dickinson, Director of the School was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Reference was made to the comment in the External Review about the re-establishment of collegial relations among faculty members, and an inquiry was made as to the status of that recommendation. Both the Director of the School and the Dean of Applied Sciences confirmed that relationships had improved dramatically and the School was operating on a more collegial basis.

It was noted that page 2 of the external review explicitly stated that the reviewers felt that the streams in the undergraduate curriculum were not functional and yet in the three year plan the School indicated their wish to retain them. Further information was requested with regard to this apparent difference of opinion between the external review and the School. Senate was advised that at the time of the review the streams were not functioning well because Kinesiology had uncontrolled entry into the major programs and students were unable to make effective use of the streams because they could not get the required courses. Since the review, the number of majors have been reduced and some courses have been restricted to majors which will enable the streams to operate more effectively. It was also pointed out that the streams were areas of specialization which a student could select to pursue a course of study in a sub-area of Kinesiology. They were not required and do not appear on the transcript.

iv) Paper S.99-40 – School of Communication – Academic Plan (For Information)

The Three-Year Plan of the School of Communication and the summary of the External Review was presented to Senate for information. B. Lewis, Senator and Director of the School was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

b) Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules

i) Paper S.99-41 – Search Committees for Vice-Presidential Appointments

For this agenda item, J. Blaney vacated the Chair and L. Boland took over as Chair.

Concern was expressed that a faculty member rather than an administrator would take over the Chair. . It was noted that Senate had previously approved a motion that the Vice-Chair of Senate not be a member of the senior administration, and since the elected Vice-Chair of Senate M. Bowman was unable to attend the meeting, L. Boland had offered to take her place.

J. Blaney announced his intention to move the composition of each search committee separately since the memberships are somewhat different for each committee, and then move a motion with respect to the terms of reference which apply to all committees.

Moved by J. Blaney, seconded by J. Osborne

“that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.99-41, the composition of the Search Committee for Vice-President, Academic”

A suggestion by M. Wortis that the additional members selected by the President to assure appropriate representation from the equity designated groups be selected from faculty members was accepted as a friendly amendment and the wording was changed as follows:

From: Up to two additional members

To: Up to two additional faculty members

It was noted that the membership could rise to 19 members - too large to be a functional search committee. It was noted that there were a number of areas of overlap of interests/constituencies within the membership and it was suggested that the President of the Faculty Association and the President of the Student Society might be deleted since there were already faculty and students on the committee. The relevance of including the President of the Alumni Association was also questioned.

Opinion was expressed that it was difficult to balance the desire for broad representation against the desire to have a smaller committee.

It was pointed out that the President of the Faculty Association might not be a faculty member since previous Presidents have included Librarians and Lab Instructors. Concern was expressed about making such changes on the floor of Senate without further consultation with the various bodies.

In response to an inquiry as to why the changes were being proposed, Senate was advised that the Board of Governors had asked the President to review current procedures and put together a more comprehensive policy. Some of the changes had been made because of changes in Vice-Presidential portfolios, and other changes were based on recently approved changes to the Dean's appointment policy.

Amendment moved by K. Giffen, seconded by A. Chan

“that the selection of students be changed back to the original wording as follows:

Undergraduate student, elected by and from undergraduate student body;

Graduate student, elected by and from graduate student body”

Opinion was expressed that the amendment allowed a much more open opportunity for students throughout the University to participate.

A brief explanation was provided to Senate on how students were selected by the Student Society and opinion was expressed that the SFSS was an extremely democratic body and in practice does not differ very much from having an election at-large. It was noted however that election within the Student Society involved approximately thirty members of Forum and the feeling was expressed that it would be more democratic and more representative if the election were open to all students. It was also pointed out that the majority of other members on the committee were chosen from among their own constituents by election and the student members should be no different.

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

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Noting the difference between the previous wording which referred to full-time support staff versus the proposed wording which eliminated the reference to the full-time requirement, inquiry was made as to eligibility requirements. Senate's attention was directed to footnote #2 on page 1 and Senate was advised that a part-time standard of 50% or more had been approved to allow those persons to vote.

Concern was expressed that ex-officio members were given the right to personally select a designate. It was the understanding of the administration that the Executives of the particular associations designate substitutes rather than Presidents making a personal selection. It was also pointed out that since several searches could be going on at the same time, one person would not be able to serve on all committees so it was necessary to have the option of specifying a designate.

Amendment moved by P. Percival, seconded by L. Berggren

"that the President of the Faculty Association (or designate), the President of the Alumni Association (or designate), and the President of the Student Society (or designate) be removed from the membership"

Senate was reminded that following Senate approval, approval by the Board of Governors was also required and opinion was expressed that the Board would likely wish to keep the President of the Alumni Association as a member. The wisdom of disenfranchising people or constituencies that were part of the previous committee structure was questioned. Opinion was expressed that while faculty members may bring different perspectives to the committee, the President of the Faculty Association was an essential member because of the unique knowledge that he/she has of the university as a whole. It was also felt that these positions play an important role and are of considerable benefit to the committee and it would be a mistake to delete them in order to gain a small advantage in efficiency.

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

AMENDMENT FAILED

Referring to the appointment of up to two additional members, inquiry was made as to why the wording had been changed from gender representation to equity designated groups and clarification was requested with respect to the definition of equity designated groups. Senate was advised that equity designated groups include

women, aboriginals, disabled and visible minorities. Senate was advised that this was an optional clause and would only be used if there was inappropriate representation. Concern was expressed that the proposed wording would be difficult for the President to implement and suggestion was made that it would be better to refer to gender representation only and delete reference to the other equity designated groups.

Amendment was moved by J. D'Auria, seconded by P. Percival

"that the wording be changed to ensure appropriate gender representation"

Senate was reminded that the selection of additional members was restricted to faculty members and there were not many faculty members, apart from women, who fit into the equity designated groups. However, since attempts have been made to broaden the representation to reflect the make-up of the university community, opinion was expressed that it would be advisable to leave the wording as it is to ensure those different perspectives.

Concern was expressed that the term equity designated groups could be defined by different people in different ways. Senate was advised that in terms of both Provincial and Federal equity programs which affect the University, the groups are clearly defined as those already mentioned. Discussion ensued in which a variety of alternative wordings were suggested.

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

AMENDMENT FAILED

Amendment moved by J. Peters, seconded by M. Wortis

"that the wording be changed to 'Selected by the President to mitigate under-representation from the equity designated groups' "

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

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Question was called on the main motion
(as amended) and a vote taken.

MAIN MOTION (AS AMENDED) CARRIED

Moved by J. Blaney, seconded by M. Wortis

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.99-41, the composition of the Search Committee for the Vice-President, Research"

It was understood that the amendments approved with respect to the previous motion would also apply to the above motion relevant to the search committee for the Vice-President Research. However, in the case of student representatives, the wording would read as follows: 'Two graduate students elected by and from the graduate student body'.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by J. Blaney, seconded by B. Clayman

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.99-41, the composition of the Search Committee for the Associate Vice-President Academic"

It was understood that the amendments approved with respect to the first motion would also apply to the above motion relevant to the search committee for the Associate Vice-President Academic.

In response to an inquiry about quorum, it was pointed out that the quorum was specified in the general procedures on page 9 and that all committees have a quorum of 60% of their membership.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by J. Blaney, seconded by J. Osborne

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.99-41, the composition of the Search Committee for Vice-President Finance and Administration"

It was understood that the amendment previously approved with respect to the wording for the equity designated groups would also apply to this motion but the additional members (up to two) would not be restricted to faculty members.

Concern was expressed about the lack of faculty representation on this committee. It was pointed out that the representative selected from the Employees' Council could be a faculty member as could the two Deans and the one Vice-President. The Vice President Finance and Administration was responsible for many units who needed to be fairly represented on the committee and if the number of faculty members were increased, the number of administrators would also need to be increased.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by J. Blaney, seconded by J. Osborne

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.99-41, the composition of the Search Committee for the Vice-President, University Advancement"

It was understood that the amendment previously approved with respect to the wording for the equity designated groups would also apply to this motion but the additional members (up to two) would not be restricted to faculty members.

Senate was advised that this position was currently called Vice-President for University Development and Chief Development Officer and was held by David Mitchell.

Since University Advancement had a great deal to do with the scholarly direction of the University, concern was expressed that the President of the Faculty Association was not on the Committee.

Amendment moved by J. D'Auria, seconded by J. Osborne

"that the President of the Faculty Association (or designate) be added to the membership of the Search Committee for Vice-President, University Advancement"

Senate was reminded that the President of the Faculty Association could be the employee group representative selected by the Employees Council and that the Faculty Association had reviewed this document and had no objection.

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

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Amendment moved by K. Giffen, seconded by L. Berggren

"that a member of the Alumni Association, selected by the Alumni Board, be added to the membership"

Opinion was expressed that since the Alumni Association was heavily involved in fundraising, it might be helpful to have two representatives from the Association on a committee which select the University's chief fundraising officer.

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

AMENDMENT FAILED

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

MAIN MOTION (AS AMENDED) CARRIED

Moved by J. Blaney, seconded by J. Osborne

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, the search committee procedures as set out on pages 9-10-11 of S.99-41"

It was noted that search committee procedures for Deans included a five year term of office and a stipulation that the Dean may be re-appointed once. Since many features for the Vice-Presidential search committees parallel those for Deans, inquiry was made as to why there was no limitation on re-appointment and why the positions of Vice-President Finance and Administration and Vice-President University Advancement have no terms of office. Senate was advised that historically there has never been a limitation on terms for Vice-Presidents and that the VP Finance and Administration and VP University Development do not normally have faculty appointments and are considered staff positions which generally are not term positions.

Amendment moved by G. Kirczenow, seconded by D. Finley

"to strike Section b.viii on page 10 and replace it by adding the following to Section 1 on page 9: Each short-listed candidate will meet publicly with the University community before the search committee makes its recommendation to the President regarding the appointment of any candidate"

The view was expressed that Canadian universities are generally moving towards a more open process in the appointment of senior administrators and it was felt that it would be better to have uniformity on this issue rather than leaving it up to each search committee to decide how open they wanted to operate.

It was pointed out that sometimes excellent candidates may wish to keep their candidacy confidential until such time as they are reasonably assured of an appointment and concern was expressed that the proposed change would discourage such candidates from applying. It was noted that the current procedure allowed committees to accommodate both an open process when possible and a more closed process if necessary.

Opinion was expressed that recruitment for positions such as the Vice-President University Development and Vice-President Finance and Administration often paralleled the world of business where senior executives often do not wish to advertise their candidacy because of the competitiveness in the field. Concern was expressed that many such candidates would decline invitations to be candidates for these two particular Vice-Presidential positions if the process were too open.

A suggestion to exclude the Vice-President University Development and the Vice-President Finance and Administration from the motion was accepted as a friendly amendment. It was understood that Section 8.d on page would then have to be retained relevant to the two excluded Vice-Presidential positions. The amendment would read as follows:

"to add as (h) in Section 1 on page 9: In the case of the search for Vice-President, Academic, Vice-President, Research, and the Associate Vice-President, Academic, each short-listed candidate will meet publicly with the University community before the search committee makes its recommendation to the President regarding the appointment of any candidate.

to add reference to the Vice-President University Development and Vice-President Finance and Administration to Section b.viii on page 10"

Although sympathy was expressed with respect to the spirit of the motion, concerns were raised about losing very good candidates because of too open a process and suggestions were made that each case should be assessed individually and left up to the search committee to decide how open the process should be.

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

AMENDMENT FAILED

Amendment moved by P. Percival, seconded by J. D'Auria

"that Section 3.c on page 11 be amended to include the following sentence: This term may be renewed only once.

View was expressed that there should be no difference between an academic administrator at the decanal level and the Vice-Presidential level and the amendment reflected parallel wording in the policy for Dean searches.

Opinion was expressed that it should be possible for administrators at both levels to continue on as long as they are solidly supported by the university community and suggestion was made that the Dean's policy should be changed rather than amending this policy.

Suggestion was made that the word normally be inserted into the amendment. This would clearly imply that there was an expectation that re-appointment would not be automatic but it would not unduly constrain the search process. Also, should the Deans policy be revisited it would be easier to amend it by inserting the word normally rather than opening up the whole process.

In reply to who would make such decisions, Senate was advised that the exception to the norm would be on the recommendation of the search committee. On the agreement by the Chair that this would be written into the policy, the suggestion to add the word 'normally' was accepted as a friendly amendment. The amendment would read as follows:

"that Section 3.c on page 11 be amended to include the following sentence: Normally, this term may be renewed only once."

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

AMENDMENT CARRIED

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

MAIN MOTION (AS AMENDED) CARRIED

J. Blaney resumed the Chair at this point.

6. Other Business

i) Paper S.99-42 – Senate/Board of Governors Election Report (For Information)

In addition to the election report before Senate, the results of the Convocation election were announced as follows:

Chancellor

Election of one person as Chancellor of Simon Fraser University for term of office from June 1999 to June 2002.

Candidates: A. Emmott, A. Macdonald, K. Rieckhoff, M. Wong

Elected: Dr. Milton Wong

Convocation Senator

Election of four persons as Convocation Senators for terms of office from June 1, 1999 to May 31, 2002.

Candidates: A. Chan, V. Dunsterville, K. Giffen, J. McArthur, T. Snutch, S. Wade, S. Wessel.

Elected: Silvia Wessel, Valerie Dunsterville, James McArthur, Albert Chan

Reference was made to page 2 of the report which contained a clerical error with respect to the terms of office for Student Senators. The term was amended from May 31, 2001 to May 31, 2000.

The Chair wished to recognize retiring members of Senate and, on behalf of Senate, extended thanks and appreciation for time served and acknowledged each member's years of service as follows: Brian Lewis (4 yrs), Marilyn Bowman (7 yrs), Peter Coleman (4 yrs), Len Berggren (7 yrs), Daniel Weeks (1 yr), Kathleen Akins (3 yrs), Paul Percival (9 yrs), Khushwant Dhillon (1 yr), Ken Giffen (11 yrs), Joy Morris (2 yrs), Mark Veerkamp (1 yr), Alan Emmott (6 yrs), Norman Wickstrom (6 yrs), and Suzan Beattie (6 yrs).

7. Information

Date of the next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate is Monday, June 7, 1999.

The Open Session adjourned at 6:50 pm. The Assembly moved directly into Closed Session.

Alison Watt
Director, Secretariat Services