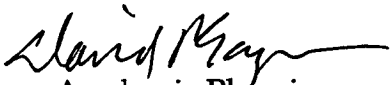


SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate

From: D. Gagan, Chair 
Senate Committee on Academic Planning

Subject: Faculty of Arts –
Centre for Scottish Studies
(SCAP Reference: SCAP 99 - 18)

Date: April 19, 1999

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Academic Planning gives rise to the following motion:

Motion:

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors as set forth in S.99 - 38, the proposed Centre for Scottish Studies."

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Office of the Vice-President, Academic

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: David Gagan *DG*
 Vice-President, Academic

RE: Centre for Scottish Studies

DATE: April 7, 1999

Attached is a proposal from Dr. John Pierce, Dean of Arts, for the establishment of a Centre for Scottish Studies as a Schedule A Centre.

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

Governing Committee:

David Gagan
 David Gagan
 Acting Vice-President, Research

David Gagan
 David Gagan
 Vice-President, Academic

Attachment

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE DEAN
FACULTY OF ARTS

M E M O R A N D U M

To: David Gagan
Vice-President Academic

From: John Pierce
Dean of Arts

Subject: Scottish Studies

Date: March 30, 1999

I am forwarding the proposal from Steve Duguid that a Centre for Scottish Studies be created. If created this would be a schedule A Centre reporting directly to the Dean of Arts. Outlines of a constitution are provided along with a rationale for the Centre. The Dept. of Humanities will house the Centre and provide space. An endowment, now in the process of being created, will fund the operating budget. Having met with the principal organizers for the endowment, I am confident that they will be able to raise sufficient monies to meet the operating targets of the Centre. The growth and diversity of programming of the Centre will, of course, be directly tied to the size of the endowment income. I believe SFU is a natural home for the Centre for Scottish Studies.

JTP/wb



Simon Fraser University
Department of Humanities

Memorandum

To: John Pierce, Dean of Arts

From: S. Duguid, Humanities

Subject: Centre for Scottish Studies

Date: 29 March 1999

As you have seen from the materials forwarded to your office, considerable progress has been made over the past few months in working toward the establishment of a Centre for Scottish Studies at Simon Fraser University. I am now proposing to you, on behalf of our *ad hoc* steering committee, that such a Centre be established.

We anticipate that our committee, working closely with the University Advancement Office, will be successful in raising funds for an endowment which will eventually be used to fund the Centre and its activities. In the interim, the Department of Humanities and the Institute for the Humanities will provide essential staff and financial support. As well, the Centre will be hosting a major conference on Scottish Studies in March 2000 which we anticipate will result in funds for both the endowment and for the on-going operation of the Centre. Likewise, the Department of Humanities will provide space for the Centre. I will act as Director of the Centre until a formal process of election is undertaken in the Fall Semester, 1999.

SD

OFFICE OF THE DEAN
HUMANITIES
FACULTY OF ARTS

The founding members of the Centre for Scottish Studies are:

Leith Davis, English

Steve Duguid, Humanities

Jack Little, History

Sheila Roberts, English.

Judith Osborne, Criminology

Rob Gordon, Criminology

**CONSTITUTION
CENTRE FOR SCOTTISH STUDIES
March, 1999**

1. OBJECTIVES

The activities and programs of the Centre for Scottish Studies are intended to promote teaching, research and community programming in the field of Scottish Studies. The Centre supports and initiates research, publications, non-credit and credit instruction, colloquia, conferences, visiting speakers and international relationships. In the pursuit of these objectives, the Centre seeks to provide support to existing individual, departmental and cross-departmental activities at Simon Fraser University in the area of Scottish Studies.

2. ADMINISTRATION

2a. The Centre for Scottish Studies shall be governed in accordance with University policies including R.40.01, CENTRES AND INSTITUTES. If this document and University policy differ on any issue, University policy shall prevail.

2b. The Centre for Scottish Studies is a Schedule A Centre (R 40.01, page 2) and comes under the direct authority of the Dean of Arts.

2c. The Centre for Scottish Studies is housed in the Department of Humanities.

3. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

3a. The Director of the Centre shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Governing Committee for Centres, which in turn acts on the recommendation of the Dean of Arts and the advice of the Centre Steering Committee. Term of office shall normally be for three years.

3b. In the absence of the Director, an Acting Director may be drawn from the Centre Steering Committee.

4. INTERNAL GOVERNING PROCEDURE

4a. The Centre shall be governed by a Steering Committee made up of five Simon Fraser University faculty members – at least one of which must be from the Department of Humanities - and up to three representatives from the community. Members will be appointed by recommendation to the Dean of Arts by the Director. Appointments shall be for a three year term.

4b. The Steering Committee shall be Chaired by the Director of the Centre. Meetings will normally take place once a month.

5. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRE FOR SCOTTISH STUDIES

The Centre shall consist of a body of interested associates from both within the University community and outside it and individuals linked to the Centre through the projects and other activities it sponsors and supports. Associate member status is proposed by the Director and approved by the Steering Committee.

Centre for Scottish Studies

The Centre for Scottish Studies at SFU

In its relatively short life, Simon Fraser University has won an international reputation as a first class academic institution. A "comprehensive" university, SFU has programs in the liberal and fine arts, applied sciences, sciences, business and education. However, despite its name, its celebrated pipe band, the claymore symbolically presented at each convocation ceremony and the presence of a strong Scottish-Canadian community in British Columbia, the University does not include programs or courses in Scottish Studies. The Centre for Scottish Studies will provide a focal point for faculty, students and members of the community interested in exploring Scottish history and culture and the impact of Scots on other cultures and nations, including in particular Canada.

The Centre for Scottish Studies will be housed in the new Department of Humanities and will have as its initial objective the creation of an endowment sufficient to support the Centre in its first three phases of development:

Phase 1. The Centre will encourage the inclusion of Scottish themes or subject matter in existing academic courses, sponsor conferences and other scholarly and public events, support a visiting speakers program, build a network of support on campus and in the community, and work closely with individuals and groups in the community in raising funds for the Scottish Studies Endowment Fund.

Phase 2. Working closely with faculty in various academic departments, the Centre will seek to establish a credit program in Scottish Studies (either a Minor or a Certificate) and will seek university approval for a set of core courses in Scottish Studies to anchor that program. Using funds from the Endowment, the Centre will establish a Visiting Scholar program, with the visitors teaching some of the core courses and as well teaching in other academic units as appropriate. In recognition of the vital role of community support for the Centre, an annual public conference and/or lecture series will be established.

Phase 3. The work of the earlier phases will be enhanced by the establishment of a Chair in Scottish Studies funded by the endowment. In recognition of the interdisciplinary nature of Scottish Studies and the need to work closely with a variety of existing academic units in mounting courses and ensuring breadth, the Chair will be a rotating position.

Why Scottish Studies?

Historical and contemporary Scotland resonates with themes that have important connections with Canada. Lying next to its own elephant with a shorter but just as undefended a border, modern Scotland has managed to retain its unique identity and create a diverse economy and a vibrant culture. Especially relevant to contemporary political concerns, Scotland has chosen to sustain this national identity, economy and culture via a process of devolution rather than separation – a “stateless nationhood” which may provide an important model for a new 21st century nationalism or transnationalism. British Columbians, living in a diverse and multi-ethnic community and in a state with two founding nations, could clearly benefit from an on-going examination of this evolving Scottish relationship with England and with the European Community.

Historically, Scots played a major role in the exploration, exploitation and settlement of North America from the 17th century on, with Western Canada in particular owing much to the likes of Alexander MacKenzie and Simon Fraser. Towns, rivers, mountains and regions across the West were named in honour of the Scottish explorers, traders, and adventurers who formed the vanguard of the movement of Europeans across the continent. In more modern times, emigrants from Scotland played a leading role in the social, political and economic history of Canada, being prominent in banking, in labour unions, and in the leadership of political parties – from John A. Macdonald to Tommy Douglas. In literature, writers like Burns, Scott and Stevenson who were always popular with Scottish immigrants, are being re-discovered and re-evaluated in modern literary studies while contemporary writers and poets such as Hugh MacDiarmid, Edwin Muir, Muriel Spark, William McIlvann, Liz Lochhead, Sorley MacLean and Irvine Welsh demonstrate the on-going strength of this literary tradition.

Besides these more obvious points of connection between the interests of contemporary Canadians and the study of Scottish themes, there are more esoteric but equally important sets of themes. Important archaeological work goes on in Scotland from the Orkneys to the Borders, the Roman struggle with the Celts remains an important chapter in ancient history, medieval Scotland figures prominently in history and theology, and in the Reformation Scotland plays a central role in the emergence of Protestantism. Finally, in the modern era 18th century Edinburgh was known as the ‘Athens of the North’, reflecting its central contribution to the European Enlightenment and the establishment of modern thought through the work of individuals such as Adam Smith in economics, David Hume in philosophy, and James Hutton in geology. Clearly, there will be no shortage of scholarly topics, issues, themes and controversies for students, faculty and individuals from the community to engage with through the activities of the Centre for Scottish Studies.

Why Simon Fraser University?

Several universities in Eastern Canada have well established academic programs in Scottish, Celtic or Irish Studies, but west of Ontario it becomes nearly impossible for students to engage with this central influence on Canadian history and culture. The Centre for Scottish Studies at Simon Fraser University will begin the process of correcting this regional imbalance in Scottish Studies in Canada. Simon Fraser University reflects, in many respects, the Scottish heritage implicit in its name. Its symbol is a claymore donated by Lord Lovat, Chief of Clan Fraser. The name of the University has been proudly carried by the SFU Pipe Band to the homeland of the Frasers on many occasions, to the extent that almost anyone in Scotland will know of Simon Fraser University. Finally, of central importance to the project is the existence at Simon Fraser of a strong core of faculty from several disciplines who are willing to see the project through to a successful conclusion. There is an 'elective affinity', then, between this university and Scotland and the establishment of this Centre will serve to make that affinity a concrete reality.