

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, September 12, 2005 in Room 3210 WMC at 7:00 pm

Open Session

Present: Stevenson, Michael, President and Chair of Senate

Absent:

Apaak, Clement
Brennand, Tracy
Budd, James
Caufield, Sarah
Copeland, Lynn
Dean, Charmaine
Dickinson, Peter
Driver, Jon
Easton, Stephen
Fizzell, Maureen
Fleming-Saraceno, David
Francis, June
Gordon, Irene
Gordon, Robert
Halpern, Erica
Harder, Derrick
Haunerland, Norbert
Hayes, Michael
Horvath, Adam
Hunsdale, Shawn
Javed, Waseem
Johansen, Elinor
Krane, Bill
LaBrie, John
Lewis, Brian
Love, Ernie
MacKenzie, Christine
Magee, Sean
Percival, Colin
Percival, Paul
Pierce, John
Pinto, Mario
Plischke, Michael
Schellenberg, Betty
Scott, Jamie
Shaker, Paul
Tilley, Kevin
van Baarsen, Amanda
Warner, D'Arcy
Waterhouse, John
Weeks, Daniel
Williams, Peter
Wong, Josephine
Woodbury, Robert

Black, Sam
Breden, Felix
Delgrande, James
Dickinson, John
Ester, Martin
Grimmett, Peter
Honda, Barry
Louie, Brandt
MacLean, David
McArthur, James
Smith, Don
Zandvliet, David

In attendance:

Bérubé, Denis
Guthrie, Larry
Hibbitts, Pat

Heath, Ron, Registrar

Watt, Alison, Director, University Secretariat

Grant, Bobbie, Recording Secretary

1. Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of July 11, 2005

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes

4. Report of the Chair

Senators were welcomed back to the new academic year and a special welcome was extended to J. LaBrie, the new Dean of Continuing Studies and new member of Senate.

The Chair briefly reported on the events of the 40th anniversary celebration that had occurred at SFU on September 9th and thanked all those involved in the organization of the very successful event.

i) Paper S.05-96 – Annual financial Statements (For Information)

P. Hibbitts, Vice-President Finance and Administration, D. Bérubé, Director of Finance and Ancillary Services, and L. Guthrie, Director of Accounting Services were in attendance in order to respond to questions.

P. Hibbitts provided Senate with background information regarding the preparation of the statements and their reporting requirements. The only flexibility within the audited statements was the report of the Vice President Finance and Administration, and Senate was advised that the format of that portion is under review. Clarification was provided to Senate concerning the difference between the data on page 8 which reflects the financial activity of all funds of the University, and the report on page 2 which reflects only the operating budget of the University. Additional details were provided to explain the categories on page 2 - Original Budget, Restated Budget, and Actual.

Senators' attention was directed to an oversight in the note on page 21, under 16.a with respect to TRIUMF. The correct information is that the University of Toronto is a member of TRIUMF, and each university now appoints two members to the Management Board, not three as stated.

It was suggested that a segmented report showing a breakout of the data contained in page 8 by funds would be helpful.

Brief discussion followed with respect to clarification of several amounts in the statements, following which the report was received by Senate.

5. Question Period

A question was posed about the University hiring a political lobbyist for the purpose of securing federal funding for capital projects. The University was applauded for using this method of pursuing funding for various projects but concern was expressed that a public

institution, funded largely by the Government, had to resort to political lobbying. It was noted that TUPC was usually involved for this kind of activity and an inquiry was made as to whether this strategy had yielded results in the past and what were the expected results from the recent hiring.

The Chair noted that universities often work through organizations in support of the collective interests of the whole system, either the system of Canadian universities through AUCC, or British Columbia universities through TUPC, but there are also particular interests specific to individual institutions, and it is not unusual to use outside agencies to lobby for such purposes. Because of recent opportunities around unusual funding for infrastructure, mostly related to the School for Contemporary Arts and the development of improved facilities for athletics, it was deemed appropriate to hire a specialist to target these and similar objectives on an ad hoc basis.

One senator expressed opinion that SFU did not seem to get as much publicity as other institutions and an inquiry was made as to whether or not the university should be more proactive in its public relations activities. Senate was advised that, in response to similar concerns, external consultants recently reviewed the operations of University Advancement, University Relations, Media and Public Relations and Government Relations. The review generated a number of recommendations and resulted in changes in practice and a reorganization of senior administrative responsibilities. The goal is to profile SFU more frequently and more positively, and improved results have been seen, particularly the very successful 40th anniversary media coverage in the past two weeks.

6. Reports of Committees

A) Senate Committee on University Priorities

i) Paper S.05-97 – Behavioural and Cognitive Neuroscience Institute (BCNI)

Moved by J. Pierce, seconded by S. Easton

“that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the establishment of the Behavioural and Cognitive Neuroscience Institute as a Schedule B Centre under Policy R40.01 ”

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Paper S.05-98 – CMA Centre for Strategic Change and Performance Measurement

Moved by E. Love, seconded by J. Francis

“that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the establishment of the CMA Centre for Strategic Change and Performance Measurement as a Schedule A Centre under Policy R40.01 ”

Reference was made to number 5 under Other Issues on page 9, and a concern was expressed about the intellectual property rights of students. It was pointed out that intellectual property and ownership rights were detailed in paragraphs 2 to 5. Paragraphs 3 and 4 clearly state that the author, either the student or the faculty member, retain the right to publish works for academic purposes.

Brief discussion followed with regard to the proposed list of members on page 4, which it was pointed out would evolve over time. An inquiry was raised about the practice of naming Centres. It was stressed that the naming of this Centre was consistent with university policy and practice.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iii) Paper S.05-99 – Simon Fraser University Strategic Research Plan

Moved by S. Easton, seconded by M. Hayes

“that Senate endorse the general principles and direction of the Strategic Research Plan”

Clarification was requested with respect to the matrix on page 4. Senate was advised that the matrix merely suggests a framework, without undue bias, for five research themes and the associated perspectives for the academic community to consider.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iv) Paper S.05-100 – Dino De Poli Lectureship in Italian Studies Terms of Reference

Moved by J. Pierce, seconded by D. Weeks

“that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the terms of reference for the Dino De Poli Lectureship in Italian Studies”

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

B) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

i) Paper S.05-101 – Annual Report (For Information)

Senate received the Annual Report of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies for information.

The retirement of Roger Blackman was noted and the Chair was requested, on behalf of Senate, to write a letter to thank Dr. Blackman for his years of service as Chair of SCUS.

ii) Paper S.05-102 – Curriculum Revisions – Computing Science (For Information)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved one new course and minor revisions to existing courses in Computing Science.

C) Senate Graduate Studies Committee

i) Paper S.05-103 – Revision to Graduate General Regulation 1.3.12 (For Information)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved revisions to the Graduate General Regulation 1.3.12 English Language Competence to reflect the implementation of a new TOEFL test with a new scoring system.

D) Senate Nominating Committee

i) Paper S.05-104 (Revised) – Elections

Senate's attention was directed to the newly distributed paper, S.05-104 (revised) which contained the final slate of candidates. A number of elections were resolved by acclamation and a ballot would be distributed for the position requiring an election, with time made available for voting before the start of the Closed Session.

The results of elections to Senate Committees are as follows.

Senate Library Committee (SLC) and Library Penalties Appeal Committee (LPAC) – Dual Position

One Graduate Student Alternate for term of office to May 31, 2006.

Elected by acclamation:

Mark Weiler

Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)

One Graduate Student for term of office to May 31, 2006.

Elected by acclamation:

Mark Weiler

Electoral Standing Committee (ESC)

One Senator for term of office to May 31, 2006.

Elected by acclamation:

Paul Percival

Committee to Review University Admissions (CRUA)

One Undergraduate Student Alternate for term of office to May 31, 2007.

Candidates: A. Hayer, C. McInnes, X. Menzies

Elected:

Colin McInnes

7. Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Information

The date of the next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate is Monday, October 3, 2005

The Open Session adjourned at 7:50 pm. Following a brief recess, Senate moved into Closed Session.

Alison Watt
Director, University Secretariat