



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, November 5, 2012 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

Open Session

Present: Andrew Petter, President and Chair

Black, Sam
Brandhorst, Bruce
Brennand, Tracy
Budra, Paul (for J. Craig)
Burley, David
Cameron, Rob (for N. Rajapakse)
Chapman, Glenn
Corbett, Kitty
Cupples, Claire
Cyr, Dianne
Driver, Jon
Easton, Stephen
Eckman, Charles
Flodr, Sarah-Sophia
Francis, June
Geisler, Cheryl
Gordon, Robert
Hall, Angie
Haunerland, Norbert (for M. Pinto)
Hedley, Nick
Jozaghi, Ehsan
Kessler, Anke
Kropinski, Mary Catherine
Kwon, Caleb
Laitsch, Dan
Leacock, Tracey
Leznoff, Daniel
Palis, Heather
Parekh, Nimisha
Paterson, David
Percival, Colin
Percival, Paul
Perry, Tom
Pierce, John
Pilarinos, Andreas
Quarmby, Lynne
Robinsmith, Stacey
Ruben, Peter

Schellenberg, Betty
Somers, Julian
Tingling, Peter
Warner, D'Arcy
Wussow, Helen

Absent:

Chen, Alexander
Delgrande, Jim
Elle, Elizabeth
Golnaraghi, Farid
Kopahi, Moe
Leivdal, Joseph
Li, Paul
Lundgreen-Nielsen, Jens
Madoc-Jones, Geoff
Magnusson, Kris
McRae, Jennifer
Myers, Gordon
O'Neil, John
Parkhouse, Wade
Pavsek, Christopher
Sakhrani, Rohan
Shapiro, Daniel
Shaw, Chris
Szeto, Henderson
Taylor, Carole
Wilson, Meaghan
Woodbury, Rob
Zhang, Kevin

In Attendance:

D'Andrea, Catherine
Legris, Louise

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Minutes of the Open Session on October 1, 2012

The minutes of the open session on October 1, 2012 were approved as distributed.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes**i) CAUBO Data – Academic and Administrative Expenses (S.12-150)**

Senate received data regarding academic and administrative expenses in response to a request for this information at the October Senate meeting. A question was raised as to why some of the totals in this report are different than totals taken from the 2011/2012 financial statements. Senate was informed that CAUBO defines the data that it collects from universities and the definitions are standardized across universities for the purpose of comparisons. This standardization will result in discrepancies depending upon the difference between our definitions and their definitions.

4. Report of the Chair

The Chair welcomed two new student Senators to their first meeting of Senate, Caleb Kwon and Ehsan Jozaghi, and then provided an update on several items.

The Chair reported that the Research University Presidents made a presentation to the Legislative Standing Committee on Finance and Administration on a proposed three part strategy to invest in more student spaces across the post-secondary system, to provide more financial support for students, and to commit to funding for research and research infrastructure. It was also reported that the submission gained some notice in the media. Senators were challenged to get involved by not letting this issue fade between now and the upcoming election in this province.

A presentation was also made at the standing committee with respect to the need for a government commitment on expanding the SFU Surrey campus. A commitment was made in 2006 by government to double the size of the Surrey campus by 2015 but nothing has happened and the demand for spaces in Surrey continues to grow. The standing committee does not make decisions on behalf of the government but it does make recommendations.

In regards to the job action taken by CUPE and TSSU, the Chair reported that negotiations are continuing and that the goal from the university's point of view is to try to achieve fair settlements. Contingency plans are being developed should the negotiations not be successful.

The Maclean's university rankings were released recently and SFU continues to be ranked number one within the comprehensive category. The reason for this ranking was based on the strength of faculty research, faculty awards, student awards, and reputational standing.

5. Question Period

There were no questions submitted for question period.

6. Reports of Committees

A) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)

i) External Review of the Department of Archaeology (S.12-151)

Motion

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by J. Pierce

“That Senate approve the Action Plan for the Department of Archaeology that resulted from its External Review.”

The department of Archaeology was congratulated on the positive review. A concern was raised in regards to the hardship a small department experiences when a faculty member moves to an administrative position for a significant length of time and a request was made for the development of a policy to provide for this type of situation. The Vice-President Academic expressed reluctance in developing a policy because in some situations the impact on the department may be relatively small but he did commit to addressing this particular situation in Archaeology with the Dean of Environment.

A question was raised regarding the options available for students that cannot financially afford a field school. Senate was informed that a field methods course, based on the Burnaby campus, is now offered as an option for students who are not able to attend a field school. Senate was also informed that often a comparable field school is offered in Canada at the same time as an international one. A Senator, who is also a member of the Senate Policy Committee on Scholarships and Awards, pointed out that currently there are bursaries available for international field schools but not for field schools in Canada and that this appears to be a deficiency.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) External Review Update for the Cognitive Science Program (S.12-152)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on University Priorities reviewed the External Review Update Report for the Cognitive Science Program within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

B) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

i) BC 12 Admission Criteria for the School for the Contemporary Arts (S.12-153) (Revised from previous submission S.12-108)

Motion

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by S. Easton

“That Senate approve the changes to the BC 12 Admission Criteria for the School for the Contemporary Arts within the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology.”

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (S.12-154)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, added new courses, and made revisions to existing courses and programs in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Concern was raised regarding the reinstatement of HIST 316 when the course was recently temporarily withdrawn in 2010. Senate was informed that courses in this area could not be offered over the past few years due to the death of a faculty member and now that a limited-term faculty member is available to teach this course, a decision was made to reinstate it so that it could be offered again.

iii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (S.12-155)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, added new courses, and made revisions to existing courses and programs in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology.

iv) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.12-156)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing courses and programs in the Faculty of Science.

C) Senate Library Committee (SLC)**i) Annual Report (S.12-157)**

Senate received the 2011/2012 annual report for the Senate Library Committee for information. A question was raised regarding whether or not the budget is adequate to provide students with disabilities the kind of technology that allows for equal access to resources. Senate was informed that the budget was increased to maximize use of new technologies to support students but that a needs assessment hasn't been done recently. The Dean of Library Services will provide some further information at a future meeting.

D) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)**i) Senate Committee Elections (S.12-158)**

Senate received a revised summary from the Senate Nominating Committee of nominations received and outstanding vacancies for positions on Senate committees that are elected by Senate.

7. Other Business**i) Election Report (S.12-159)**

Senate received a report for information showing the results of a recent faculty election to Senate.

8. Information**i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, December 3, 2012.**

Kate Ross
Registrar & Executive Director Student Enrolment