



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, March 2, 2015 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

Open Session

Present: Andrew Petter, Chair

Abramson, Neil
Antle, Alissa
Bird, Gwen
Budra, Paul
Bueckert, Chardaye
Burley, David
Chapman, Brandon
Chapman, Glenn
Chapman, Nicholas
Chong, Dion
Chu, Colin
Craig, John
Cupples, Claire
Curry, Joanne
Delgrande, Jim
Driver, Jon
Easton, Stephen
Eikerling, Michael
Escarcha, Shirin
Guttman, Julian
Hedley, Nick
Jozaghi, Ehsan
Laitsch, Dan
Leznoff, Daniel
Magnusson, Kris
Myers, Gordon
O'Neil, John
Parkhouse, Wade
Paterson, David
Percival, Colin
Percival, Paul
Rajapakse, Nimal
Reich, Blaize
Ruben, Peter
Schellenberg, Betty
Shaw, Chris
Simpkin, Madelaine
Somers, Julian
Spector, Stephen

Stefanovic, Ingrid
Szymczyk, Barbara
Tingling, Peter
Underhill, Owen
Wiese, Kay
Yoon, Paul

Absent:

Arzanpour, Siamak
Birmingham, Elina
Brennand, Tracy
Elle, Elizabeth
Fatoba, Kayode
Flodr, Sarah-Sophia
Gajdics, Sylvia
Giardini, Anne
Johnson, Joy
Kessler, Anke
Leacock, Tracey
Liu, Ting (Emma)
McTavish, Rob
Ossinsky, Dimitri
Pappas, Panayiotis
Pilarinos, Athina
Quarmby, Lynne
Wallace, Brady

In Attendance:

Dench, Sarah
Gemino, Andrew
Lubik, Sarah
Naqvi, Zareen
Steenkamp, Philip

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on February 2, 2015

The minutes of the open session on February 2, 2015 were approved as distributed.

During the February 2nd Closed Session a question was asked that was not confidential in nature. Senator Driver asked that the question be moved to the Open Session minutes:

i) Question re: SFU Reads

Senator Wallace requested permission to ask the following questions:

As early as November 14, 2014, public posts have been made saying that SFU will participate in a new initiative called SFU Reads, this program is currently being advertised on the homepage of SFU Bookstore website and has a dedicated Facebook group or page called "Simon Fraser University SFU Reads." This program would introduce a mandatory fee requiring 100% student participation and 100% of course materials which will be offered at 50% of the current retail price.

- *Has this program been brought to SFU's mandatory supplemental fee committee?*
- *If the university has committed to the initiative, what has been done to notify Senate?*
- *When will this program be implemented?*
- *Do you consider this program an indirect tuition hike considering that all students will be forced to pay this fee?*
- *What has been done to consult elected student representatives for Senate and elsewhere?*

The Vice President Academic previously expressed support for the Simon Fraser Student Society's BC Open Textbook Campaign- which is working to encourage professors to use Open Access materials as an alternative to costly traditional textbooks. These textbooks have been developed with funding from the BC Provincial Government.

- *By making course materials mandatory under the SFU Reads program, will the university be in conflict with the SFSS and provincial governments efforts to provide free course materials to students?*

The Chair asked Senator Driver if he could provide a response.

Senator Driver informed Senate that commercial publishers have moved away from print-based textbooks and are moving to online textbooks, which are fairly complicated instruments that provide individualized learning software. The SFU Reads program has proposed that SFU should be utilizing these online learning resources. Senator Driver noted that it is much too early to move in this direction without discussion and consultation with interested stakeholders, and identified the following issues: the required purchase of an access code due to the individualized nature of the materials; mandatory course material fees to pay for these online resource materials, which would be a departure from SFU's current practice; restriction of freedom of choice to purchase second-hand, share with a classmate, use library materials on reserve, etc.; potential restriction on faculty members' freedom to select the best learning materials for their courses; need to align with government policy regarding mandatory fees; BC Campus initiative regarding access to free

textbooks; SFU's investment into Canvas, its learning management system. Senator Driver has received a request from faculty members to authorize a mandatory fee for all students in specific courses, but has not yet responded to the request.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

At the February meeting of Senate, it was explained that a reported drop in spending on undergraduate entrance scholarships was due to a reallocation of funds from some automatic entrance scholarships to the Deans' Entrance Scholarships. Senator Colin Percival clarified that this reported drop was merely due to cash flow considerations: The same value of entrance scholarships was awarded in the year in question, but because the Deans' Excellence Entrance Scholarships are disbursed over four terms, only half of the reallocated funding was disbursed in the year in question. In the following year, disbursements on entrance scholarships should return to normal levels since there will be two annual cohorts of recipients of the new scholarships.

4. Report of the Chair

The Chair reported on the recent death of Lorne Davies, SFU's founding athletic director and head football coach. The Chair noted Davies' contribution to the University community and to the development of amateur sports within BC and Canada. On behalf of Senate, the Chair expressed condolences to his wife of 60 years and his two sons. A celebration of Lorne Davies' life will be held on Sunday March 8 in the West Gym.

On behalf of Senate, the Chair welcomed new Senator Joanne Curry, recently appointed Dean pro tem of Lifelong Learning.

The Chair reported on the annual Outstanding Alumni Awards celebration held last week. Four SFU alumni were recognized for their contributions: Darrell Burnham (BA Economics/Psychology '76; MBA, '86), visionary leader in social services, was honoured for his Service to the Community; Diane Cockle (PhD Forensic & Biological Anthropology '13), one of Canada's premier forensic archaeologists, was honoured for Public Service; Kanwal Singh Neel (PhD in Math Education '08), internationally acclaimed math educator, was honoured for Professional Achievement; and Ming-Sound Tsao (BSc Honours '73), world leading cancer researcher, was honoured for Academic Achievement.

The Chair reported on a recent reception to honour student volunteers and noted that LinkedIn released a report ranking SFU among the top five universities in the world with the highest proportion of students and graduates reporting volunteer service.

The Chair reported that Veselin Jungic of the Department of Mathematics was selected as a 3M National Teaching Fellow for 2015. Peter Hollman from the Department of Biological Sciences, Diana Solomon from the Department of English, and Gary Wang from the School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering have all received 2014 Excellence in Teaching awards at SFU.

The Chair reported on recent research news. Professor JC Liu from the Faculty of Applied Sciences has received the prestigious NSERC Steacie Memorial Fellowship, which carries a \$250,000 research grant over two years and a salary contribution to the institution to enable the Fellow to focus on impactful original research. Professor Liu will be working to develop a

flexible, energy-efficient framework for the sharing of massive media content. SFU will play a key role in the new \$27.3 million Canadian Glycomics Network, GlycoNet, with six SFU scientists on its team: David Vocadlo, Andrew Bennet, Robert Young and Bingyun Sun of Chemistry, and Allison Kermode and Margo Moore of Biology. GlycoNet is one of five new health-related research networks, including AGE-WELL mentioned previously, to receive funding under the federal Networks of Centres of Excellence program. GlycoNet aims to bolster Canada's glycomics research and training, and to deliver novel therapeutics to market. Eight SFU VentureLabs client companies have made this year's Ready to Rocket list of technology companies that are positioned for significant growth. Included among these are: SFU spinout Lungpacer Medical, based on the diaphragm pacing system developed by Andy Hoffer of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology (BPK); Bionic Power, co-founded by BPK associate professor Max Donelan; and Switch Materials, which emerged from smart window technology developed by Neil Branda of Chemistry and SFU's 4D LABS.

The Chair reported on the provincial budget, which included a \$25-million cut to operating grants to the post-secondary education sector. The Chair referenced a recent Conference Board of Canada report that said that the BC economy is losing almost \$5 billion of GDP growth and \$616 million in tax revenues due to a skills shortage and recommended government investment in post-secondary education.

5. **Question Period**

A question was submitted by Senator G. Chapman. The question will be deferred to the April 13 Senate meeting in order to provide a detailed response.

6. **Reports of Committees**

A) Senate Committee on Enrolment Management and Planning (SCEMP)

i) Enrolment Plan 2015/2016; Undergraduate Admission Targets for 2015/2016 (S.15-32)

Motion 1 moved by J. Driver, seconded by E. Jozaghi

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the 2015/ 2016 Enrollment Plan attached as Appendix A to document titled For SENATE March 2, 2015."

Zareen Naqvi, Director of Institutional Research and Planning, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was asked regarding the shortfall of 104.9 full-time equivalent (FTE) international Business student intakes in Table B4. Senate was informed that the pool of qualified students was not deep enough to meet the target.

A question was asked whether the GPA cutoff was higher for the School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering than other schools within the Faculty of Applied Sciences (FAS). Senate was informed that the GPA cutoffs were the same for all schools within FAS.

A question was asked if there was a breakdown of intake by campus. Senate was informed that in previous years the report included the breakdown between the Burnaby, Surrey, and Vancouver campuses because the government had provided funding for 2500 FTE seats in Surrey and required proof that the seats were created and filled. The breakdown and more

detailed information is available on the IRP website via links (password-protected) on pages 4 and 6 of Senate document S.15-32, but was not included in the Senate document.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 2 moved by J. Driver, seconded by E. Jozaghi

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the 2015/2016 DOMESTIC undergraduate admission targets to each Faculty, by semester and basis of admission category as indicated in Table C1 in Appendix C.”

A question was asked regarding the low estimated GPA cutoff for domestic student intakes to the Faculty of Education in Table C3, given that Education overshot enrolment by 97 FTEs in Table B2. Senate was informed that a large share of Education undergraduate student intakes comes from internal transfer.

A question was asked why secondary student intakes for Business require a broad-based admissions (BBA) application whereas post-secondary transfer is based on GPA for nine required courses only. Senate was informed that the broad-based admissions is currently only for secondary student applicants; however, the notion of extending BBA to post-secondary applications is being considered.

A question was asked why the domestic and international GPA cutoffs are the same for some faculties but different for others. Senate was informed that they used to be the same, but were decoupled approximately two years ago. Individual faculties make the decision regarding domestic and international GPA cutoffs.

A question was asked whether the nine required courses for post-secondary Business admission could be listed. Senate was informed that this information would be made more explicit.

A question was asked regarding the similarity in domestic and international targets for Business intakes. Senate was informed that the domestic student target each year is determined by provincial government funding. There is greater flexibility in the number of international students because this target is not determined by government funding. Once the overall target for domestic students is set, SCEMP meets to evaluate the movement of students through graduation, internal transfer, etc. in order determine intake targets to meet the program FTE targets.

A question was asked regarding the increase in international student intakes in relation to domestic students for Business would affect the quality of students with regards to language requirements. Senate was informed that international students are typically college transfers and are resident for a shorter period, so the international student population in Business is closer to 30%, and has been approximately 17% overall. Domestic and international students in the Beedie School of Business are retained at approximately the same rate.

A comment was made that if SFU continues to recruit more international students there should be resources to support both students and faculty. Senate was informed that the Centre for English Language Learning, Teaching and Research, managed through the Faculty of Education, was created to provide all students support with English language skills.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 3 moved by J. Driver, seconded by S. Easton

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the 2015/ 2016

INTERNATIONAL undergraduate admission targets to each Faculty, by semester and basis of admission category as indicated in Table C2 in Appendix C.”

A comment was made that the percentage of international students in the Beedie School of Business is potentially impacting its ability to maintain AASB accreditation and its ability to meet the instructional demands of EAL students. Senate was informed that the percentage of international program FTEs has not changed significantly in recent years.

A question was asked whether the softening in international undergraduate enrolment is due to the tuition fee increase that took place in the past year and if the trend will continue with planned increases in tuition. Senate was informed that an analysis of the impact of the tuition fee increase has not been done; however, the issue is complex in that competition for international students has increased, China is developing superb universities, etc.

A concern was raised regarding the lack of geographical and overall diversity in terms of where international students originate. Senate was informed that our geographical position and makeup of the population in the Lower Mainland are factors in where international students are coming from.

A question was asked whether the targets actually mean anything other than for financial planning purposes, if they can be overshoot or undershot so readily. Senate was informed that in the past, when domestic and international admission GPAs were tied together the targets were not as accurate. Since the GPAs were decoupled, the international enrolments are managed more closely to target.

A comment was made that the admission GPA for Fraser International College (FIC) transfer students (3.0) is lower than the college transfer GPA (3.5). Senate was informed that because of the arrangement with FIC, there is quality control at FIC that SFU does not have with other colleges and so FIC students are treated like internal transfers.

A comment was made that faculty budgets are determined by enrolment targets and may be clawed back if a faculty does not meet its enrolment target. Senate was informed that budgets are determined by enrolment targets and are adjusted at year-end from budget to actual enrolment.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

B) Senate Committee on International Activities (SCIA)

i) Annual Report (S.15-33)

Senate received for information the Senate Committee on International Activities Annual Report for 2014.

Philip Steenkamp, Vice-President, External Relations, was in attendance to respond to questions.

C) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)

i) First Nations Health Authority Chair in Heart Health and Wellness at St. Paul's Hospital (S.15-34)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by J. O'Neil.

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Terms of Reference for the First Nations Health Authority Chair in Heart Health and Wellness at St. Paul's Hospital."

Senator John O'Neil, Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences was in attendance to respond to questions.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) St. Paul's Hospital Chair in Addictions Research (S.15-35)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by J. O'Neil.

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Terms of Reference for the St. Paul's Hospital Chair in Addictions Research."

Senator John O'Neil, Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences was in attendance to respond to questions.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iii) Full Program Proposal for a Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship (S.15-36)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by S. Spector.

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Full Program Proposal for a Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship within the Beedie School of Business, effective Fall 2015."

Andrew Gemino, Associate Dean, Beedie School of Business, and Sarah Lubik, faculty member from the Beedie School of Business, were in attendance to respond to questions.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iv) Title Change for the Bachelor of Arts in Visual Culture and Performance Studies (S.15-37)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by O. Underhill.

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the title change for the Bachelor of Arts in Visual Culture and Performance Studies to the Bachelor of Arts in Art, Performance and Cinema Studies in the School for the Contemporary Arts within the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology, effective Fall 2015."

A question was asked whether there are two or three streams in this program. Senate was informed that the title was changed to identify cinema studies and that performance studies and visual arts are grouped together in the program.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

v) Full Program Proposal for a Master of Arts in Comparative Media Arts (S.15-38)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by C. Shaw.

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Full Program Proposal for a Master of Arts in Comparative Media Arts in the School for the Contemporary Arts within the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology, effective Fall 2015.”

Senator Parkhouse, Dean of Graduate Studies, Senator Underhill, Dean pro tem of the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (FCAT); Zoe Druick, Associate Dean (FCAT), were in attendance to respond to questions.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

vi) External Review Update for the Department of Economics (S.15-39)

Senate received for information the external review update for the Department of Economics.

D) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

i) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences (S.15-40)

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 Applied Sciences (School of Computing Science; School of Engineering Science; School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering).

ii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.15-41)

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 Science (Biological Sciences; Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology; Chemistry; Mathematics; Physics; Statistics and Actuarial Science).

E) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)

i) Graduate General Regulation 1.5.1 Normal Grading System (S.15-42)

Moved by W. Parkhouse, seconded by E. Jozaghi.

“That Senate approve the proposed revision to GGR 1.5.1, Normal Grading System.”

A question was asked whether the N grade could be changed when applied. Senate was informed that the question relates to recent changes to the undergraduate grading policy, which is currently being worked on.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences (S.15-43)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, added new courses and a new program in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering).

iii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (S.15-44)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, added a new course and made revisions to an existing course and existing programs in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Economics; Linguistics).

iv) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (S.15-45)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, added a new course and made revisions to existing courses in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School for the Contemporary Arts).

vi) Curriculum Revisions – Special Arrangements Program (S.15-46)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, added a new course in the Special Arrangements program.

vii) Annual Report (S.15-47)

Senate received for information the Senate Graduate Studies Committee 2014 annual report.

F) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)

i) Senate Committee Elections (S.15-48)

Senate received a summary of the nominations, positions elected by acclamation, positions requiring an online vote, and outstanding vacancies for the Senate committees.

7. Other Business

8. Information

i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, April 13, 2015.

Open session adjourned at 6:57 p.m. and Senate moved into the closed session.

Mark Walker

Registrar and Executive Director, Student Enrolment