



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, June 8, 2015 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

Open Session

Present: Andrew Petter, Chair

Abramson, Neil
Agnes, George (for W. Parkhouse)
Baharmand, Iman
Bartram, Lyn
Budra, Paul
Burley, David
Chapman, Glenn
Chen, Larissa
Chong, Dion
Craig, John
Curry, Joanne
Driver, Jon
Eikerling, Michael
Fairey, Elaine (for G. Bird)
Gajdics, Sylvia
Glässer, Uwe (for N. Rajapakse)
Guttman, Julian
Hans, Prabhpal
Haunerland, Norbert (for J. Johnson)
Kirkpatrick, Ted
Kropinski, Mary-Catherine
Laitsch, Dan
Leacock, Tracey
MacAlister, David
Magnusson, Kris
Markey, Sean (for I. Stefanovic)
McTavish, Rob
Mundy, Arjan
Murray, Catherine
Myers, Gordon
Nabbali, Essya Mabrouka
Najaf, Ali
Nanjundappa, Abhishek
Ng, Dorothy
O'Neil, John
Paterson, David
Percival, Colin
Percival, Paul

Shaw, Chris
Szymczyk, Barbara
Tingling, Peter
Underhill, Owen
Weng, Enoch
Wiese, Kay
Yang, Kathleen
Yano, Brady
Zaranyika, Rudo

Absent:

Arzanpour, Siamak
Birmingham, Elina
Brennand, Tracy
Cupples, Claire
Easton, Stephen
Giardini, Anne
Hedley, Nick
Kessler, Anke
Lewthwaite, Jayme
Marks, Laura
Pappas, Panayiotis
Reich, Blaize
Somers, Julian
Spector, Stephen

In Attendance:

Mark Walker, Registrar and Executive Director, Student Enrolment
Kris Nordgren, Recording Secretary

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Minutes of the Open Session of May 19, 2015 will be approved at the Senate meeting on July 6, 2015

The minutes of the open session of May 19, 2015 will be presented for approval at the Senate meeting on July 6, 2015.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

The Chair noted that the question regarding Senate document S.15-74 from the May 19th Senate meeting regarding the delegated authority of SCUS to approve program changes is still being investigated. Senator Myers has taken the issue to SCUS and will be reporting back to Senate at the July Senate meeting.

4. Report of the Chair

The Chair, on behalf of Senate, welcomed the following new and re-elected Senators:

New Faculty Senators: Lyn Bartram; Ted Kirkpatrick; Mary-Catherine Kropinski; David MacAlister; Laura Marks; Catherine Murray.

Re-elected Faculty Senators: David Burley; Nick Hedley; David Paterson; Paul Percival; Chris Shaw; Peter Tingling.

New Student Senators: Iman Baharmand; Larissa Chen; Prabhpal Hans; Jayme Lewthwaite; Arjan Mundy; Essya Mabrouka Nabbali; Ali Najaf; Abhishek Nanjundappa; Dorothy Ng; Enoch Weng; Kathleen Yang; Rudo Zaranyika.

Re-elected Student Senators: Dion Chong; Barbara Szymczyk; Brady Yano (formerly Wallace).

The Chair acknowledged the sudden passing of Pat Hibbitts, Vice-President, Finance and Administration, and noted her contributions to the senior administrative team for the past fourteen years, and her commitment to the academic mission of the University and the post-secondary community across Canada. A celebration of Pat Hibbitts life will be held on June 26th. The Chair noted that Judith Osborne, Vice-President Legal Affairs, will be acting in Pat's stead in the short term; Philip Steenkamp, Vice-President External Relations, will continue as Acting VP, Finance and Administration until such time as a new Vice-President is appointed.

The Chair reported that the first meeting of the search committee for the Vice-President, Academic and Provost was held June 8th. There will be an open forum for the University community on June 15th at the IRMACS theatre to discuss the qualities and competencies that the search committee will be looking for in the new VP, Academic and Provost.

The Chair reported that the Honorable Michelle Rempel, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification (WED), recently announced that WED would be contributing \$3.5 million in funding for SFU and the City of Surrey to establish the ImageTech Lab at Surrey Memorial Hospital. The funding, with significant in-kind support from Philips Healthcare, will help the lab acquire two key pieces of equipment, an MRI and an MEG machine. This equipment will

provide unique ways to examine brain function and provide significant opportunities to develop new diagnostics and treatments.

The Chair reported that the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) has named SFU Engineering Science associate professor Lesley Shannon an NSERC Chair for Women in Science and Engineering. The goal of the chairs, now five across Canada, is to increase the presence of women and establish role models for young women in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields. Each chair will receive \$475,000 in funding over five years, with matching funds from the universities and industry partners. The chair is established in partnership with Simba Technologies, which is providing \$175,000 in funding to SFU. Simba Technologies' CEO and SFU alumnus, Aryn Rajan, is hugely committed to increasing diversity within the field of engineering and computing science.

The Chair reported that last week Scotiabank announced \$1 million to support RADIUS, SFU's social innovation lab and venture incubator. The funding will help RADIUS continue its track record of successful student social innovation initiatives.

The Chair reported that Russell and Ellen Cmolik and the Cmolik Foundation have endowed \$1.3 million to the Faculty of Education to establish the Cmolik Prize for the Enhancement of Public Education. The annual prize recognizes recipients who have developed and implemented an invention, innovation, or process that enhances educational practice in the K-12 public school system. The first prize this year will go to the Surrey School Board, which is being recognized for their initiative involving online delivery of ongoing assessment of students.

The Chair reported that SFU will host the 2017 CUEXpo, the Canadian-led international conference held every two years to promote university-community relationships. The Chair acknowledged Stephen Dooley, Executive Director of SFU Surrey, and associate professor Julian Somers, from the Faculty of Health Sciences, for putting together SFU's proposal.

The Chair noted that SFU's 50th anniversary is fast approaching. The SFU homepage has been updated with information regarding the daytime ceremony and evening celebration on September 9th.

The Chair noted that the Spring Convocation will take place between June 9th and 12th and encouraged Senate to participate in this celebration of SFU student success and nine outstanding honorary degree recipients.

5. Question Period

i) A question was submitted to Senate by Senator Budra regarding the Centre for English Language Learning, Teaching and Research (CELLTR):

“At the March 2nd Senate meeting during the Senate discussion of the Enrolment Plan, Senator Driver referred to the new SFU Centre for English Language Learning, Teaching and Research (CELLTR). Could Senate have an update on the activities of this new initiative?”

Senator Driver responded that SFU is situated in a multi-linguistic community in the Lower Mainland area and that the SFU community reflects this fact. He noted that, although this is sometimes characterized as a problem, the fact is that we are all going to be working in a multi-linguistic community and that SFU should be proud that it graduates large numbers of students

who are competent in more than one language. Nevertheless, the English-language abilities of some SFU students can make it more difficult for them to progress through their programs; therefore, a few years ago the Vice-President Academic pulled together a small committee to scope out the issues. Based on the committee's report and informed by his own research, Senator Driver determined that the right approach to supporting students for whom English is not the first language is to integrate support across the University. Recognizing that many units have developed initiatives in this area, he put together terms of reference and sent out a call for proposals to establish a small unit that would coordinate and communicate the existing efforts around the University, to develop new ideas, and to undertake research on the experiences of students in an English-speaking university for whom English is not the primary language. The most comprehensive proposal came back from the Faculty of Education and so the Vice-President Academic asked Education to develop this program.

Senator Paterson, the director of CELLTR, acknowledged Senator Driver and Senator Kris Magnusson, Dean of Education, for their administrative support in setting up the new centre. He noted that CELLTR will be looking at the integration of research and service delivery for English-language student support, and that everything they do will have a research component. CELLTR will be coordinating with faculties to plan future programs and services for students, and will review available research in order to build in impact assessments to evaluate these innovations as they move forward. CELLTR has built a website highlighting existing programs and services for EAL students and interested faculty. The centre has produced a newsletter for distribution to interested members of the community. In partnership with the Teaching and Learning Centre, CELLTR has undertaken a series of workshops for instructors with high concentrations of EAL students. The construction of the Burnaby office in the West Mall Complex will be completed later in June and full open in Fall 2015. The centre has secured two appointments: a tenure-track faculty member to assist with the development of the centre and an academic director.

A question was asked regarding CELLTR's plans for supporting the Vancouver and Surrey campuses. Senate was informed that the Burnaby office is the first stake in the ground and that having both a physical and online presence that serves students on all campuses is an important part of the mission and work of CELLTR.

6. Reports of Committees

A) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)

i) HIV/AIDS Research Centre (HRC) (S.15-75)

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

"That Senate approve the establishment of the HIV/AIDS Research Centre (HRC) as a Centre for a five-year term."

Senator O'Neil was available to respond to questions.

A question was asked whether there was a plan for the HIV/AIDS Research Centre to actively pursue membership from faculty and researchers from across the SFU campus. Senate was informed that the Faculty of Health Sciences has a large critical mass of researchers in the area of HIV/AIDS who collaborate with one another, so the impetus was for those researchers to put

together the research centre. The new director of the HIV AIDS Research Centre intends to seek out other members from across the campus to participate in the activities of the centre.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Pacific Water Research Centre (PWRC) (S.15-76)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by D. Burley

“That Senate approve the establishment of the Pacific Water Research Centre (PWRC) as a Centre for a five-year term.”

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iii) External Reviews for 2015 – 2016 Academic Year (S.15-77)

Senate received for information the list of external reviews and external review updates that are scheduled for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Senator Driver noted that a revised version of this information item had been circulated at Senate.

C) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

i) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences (S.15-78)

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 – Beedie School of Business (S.15-79)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to an existing course and existing programs in the Beedie School of Business.

iii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (S.15-80)

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 Communication, Art and Technology (School for the Contemporary Arts; School of Interactive Arts and Technology).

A question was asked regarding the rationale for removing two capstone courses (IAT 403 and 405) and replacing them with six units from within the program for the SIAT joint major. Senate was informed that the capstone courses are no longer offered because of limited enrolment. The School of Interactive Arts and Technology is currently investigating alternatives for students who wish to take a capstone-like course combined with a co-op work term or equivalent internship activity.

A comment was made that course and program revisions should include a rationale for the revisions for archival purposes within the academic unit and to inform the general body, such as Senate.

iv) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Health Sciences (S.15-81)

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

viii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.15-82)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing programs in the Faculty of Science (Mathematics; Physics).

A comment was made that language in the rationale for the revisions to the Operations Research honours program was troubling and not collegial. Senate was informed that SCUS encourages collegial communication across the faculties where there are overlap concerns in courses and programs.

D) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)**i) Master of Arts in Heritage Resource Management under Special Arrangements (S.15-83)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the Master of Arts in Heritage Resource Management under Cohort Special Arrangements and added new courses within the Faculty of Environment (Archaeology), effective Fall 2016.

ii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (S.15-84)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, reinstated an existing course in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Political Science).

A question was asked about the rationale for POL 844 being reinstated for the Fall 2015 term when it temporarily removed for the Summer 2015 term. Senate was informed that the answer would be investigated and provided to Senate at a future meeting.

A comment was made that including the rationale in the documentation would be beneficial in cases like this one.

iii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.15-85)

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 Science (Chemistry; Molecular Biology and Biochemistry).

F) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)**i) Senate Committee Elections (S.15-86)**

Senate received a summary of the nominations, positions elected by acclamation, positions requiring an online vote, and outstanding vacancies for the Senate committees. Senate was informed that online voting would be held from June 9th to 11th, 2015.

7. Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Information

i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, July 6, 2015.

Open session adjourned at 6:13 p.m. and Senate moved into the closed session.

Mark Walker
Registrar and Executive Director, Student Enrolment