



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on  
Monday, January 7, 2019 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

## Open Session

**Present:** Andrew Petter, Chair

Ali, Mohammed  
Andersen, Holly  
Balka, Ellen (for Aoife Mac Namara)  
Bhalla, Srishti  
Brennand, Tracy  
Bubela, Tania  
Chapman, Glenn  
Christians, Julian  
Collard, Mark  
Derksen, Jeff  
Elle, Elizabeth  
Elmi, Parham  
Fiume, Eugene  
Gajdics, Sylvia  
Gray, Bonnie (via Vancouver videoconference)  
Hendrigan, Holly  
Johnson, Joy  
Keliipio, Kau'i  
Keller, Peter  
Kench, Paul  
Kim, Woo Soo  
Laitsch, Dan (via Surrey videoconference)  
Leacock, Tracey  
Leznoff, Daniel  
Lord Ferguson, Sarah (via Vancouver videoconference)  
Luelfesmann, Christoph  
Luu, Susan  
Magnusson, Kris  
Moens, Alexander  
Mongrain, Steeve  
Myers, Gord  
Parkhouse, Wade  
Percival, Colin  
Planchenault, Gaele  
Pulkingham, Jane (via Vancouver videoconference)  
Sanghera, Simran  
Smith, Judy (for Julia Denholm)  
Somers, Julian  
Stefanovic, Ingrid  
Stockie, John

Tavakoli, Camelia  
Tingling, Peter  
Walsby, Charles  
Wiese, Kay  
Zanette, Amanda

**Absent:**

Bartram, Lyn  
Bird, Gwen  
Buttar, Sumrit Singh  
Chandhok, Vikramaditya  
Dangi, Ridhi  
Dastmalchian, Ali  
Denholm, Julia  
Favere-Marchesi, Michael  
Forde, Nancy  
Freedman, Jackson  
Giardini, Anne  
Ho, Shuna  
Kalra, Mehak  
Mac Namara, Aoife  
Mohar, Amrita  
Nepomnaschy, Pablo  
O'Neill, Susan  
Parent, Michael  
Peters, Joseph  
Plettner, Erika  
Poitras, Geoffrey  
Randhawa, Jaskarn  
Scott, Jamie  
Shaw, Chris  
Sheikh, Daanyaal

**In Attendance:**

MacEachern, James  
Murray, Catherine  
Nordgren, Kris  
Zwagerman, Sean

The Chair acknowledged that SFU is privileged to be situated on the traditional territories of the Tsleil–Waututh, Squamish, Kwikwetlem, and Musqueam nations.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on December 3, 2018**

The minutes of the open session on December 3, 2018 were approved as distributed.

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**4. Report of the Chair**

The Chair reported that in 2017 SFU became the first Canadian university to be invited to join the *University Social Responsibility Network (USRN)*, an international network of universities committed to supporting social development. In December, Vice-President Research and International Joy Johnson, Director of International Community Engagement Shaheen Nanji and Katrina Koehn, a fourth year Health Sciences student, attended the *USRN* summit in Israel.

The Chair reported that the official launch of Canada's BC-based *Digital Technology Supercluster* was held on November 27th. This Supercluster, in which SFU is an active participant, is backed by a federal funding commitment of \$153 million.

The Chair reported that in November, *RADIUS* hosted the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children, and Social Development for a discussion concerning Canada's emerging Social Innovation and Social Finance Strategy.

The Chair reported that SFU continues its commitment to meet *Ashoka U Changemaker Campus* goals, noting that SFU officially gained designation as an *Ashoka U Changemaker Campus* last year. A manager has been hired for the *SFU Changemaker Campus Program* to ensure that progress is being made towards achieving our goals and objectives.

The Chair reported that on December 7<sup>th</sup>, SFU became the national headquarters for the *Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute*, a development building upon SFU's leadership in big data innovation and data science excellence and will strengthen collaboration with researchers, partners and communities across Canada. In other news, *KEY*, SFU's Big Data Initiative, recently wrapped up its Fall Visionaries series on *Artificial Intelligence and Transportation*. A summary report will be made available to the public in Spring 2019.

The Chair reported on upcoming events:

- This semester's *President's Dream Colloquium on HIV/AIDS* gets underway on January 8<sup>th</sup> with an exhibit launch and reception at SFU Harbour Centre featuring Valerie Nicholson and Dr. Julio Montaner. The Colloquium will run most Tuesdays until the end of March.
- The Beedie School of Business will host the *JDC West Business Competition* on January 11th to 14th. It will welcome 650 participants from 12 Western Canadian Business Schools, and marks the first time with SFU as host.

- Vice-President Research and International Joy Johnson and the Chair, in his role as President, will lead a mission to India later in January to advance education, research and innovation partnerships and opportunities.

The Chair acknowledged the sad news regarding Economics professor Ramo Gencay, who passed away while in Columbia following an academic visit. Appreciation was extended to those within the University who spent time over the holiday season providing support to the family and working with the family and with international agencies and the RCMP to gain information.

The Chair reported that the annual Senate – Board of Governors Retreat will be held on March 9<sup>th</sup>, with Senators asked to save the date.

A comment was made to acknowledge the announcement that President Andrew Petter is to be awarded the Order of Canada.

**5. Question Period**

No questions were submitted.

**6. Reports of Committees**

**A) Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules (SCAR)**

**i) Revised SCUTL Terms of Reference (S.19-1)**

Moved by J. Christians, seconded by C. Percival

“That Senate approve the revised terms of reference for the Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning (SCUTL) as set out in the attached document.”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**B) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)**

**i) Academic Plan 2019-2024 (S.19-2)**

Senate received the Academic Plan 2019-2024 for information.

**ii) External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Environmental Science Program (S.19-3)**

Senate received the External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Environmental Science Program for information.

**iii) External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Gerontology (S.19-4)**

Senate received the External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Gerontology for information.

**iv) External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Psychology (S.19-5)**

Senate received the External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Psychology for information.

**v) Dissolution of the Latin American Studies Master of Arts (S.19-6)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by J. Johnson

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the dissolution of the Latin American Studies Master of Arts within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2019.”

Sean Zwagerman, Associate Dean - Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**vi) Establishment of the SFU Morgan Centre for Labour Research (S.19-7)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by J. Derksen

“That Senate approve the establishment of the SFU Morgan Centre for Labour Research as a research centre for a five-year term.”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**vii) External Review of the Department of Earth Sciences (S.19-8)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by D. Leznoff

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

James MacEachern, Professor – Department of Earth Sciences, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was asked about research challenges and why the establishment of a committee of junior departmental members was considered the solution. Senate was informed that the committee is comprised of younger faculty members who were not in place at the inception of the department in 1995, and who will be able to carry forward the focus of the department as more retirements set in.

A concern was raised about the desire to make EASC 101 mandatory, or at least listed as an option, for all science degrees, thereby addressing decreasing enrolment and a low TA quota. Senate was informed that the primary goal is to increase Earth Science literacy within the overall student body.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**viii) Name Change for the Certificate in Labour Studies (S.19-9)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by J. Johnson

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the name change from the Certificate in Labour Studies to the Labour Studies Certificate in Workplace Rights, in the Labour Studies Program within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Fall 2019.”

Catherine Murray, Associate Dean - Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**ix) Suspension of Admission to the Bachelor of Arts, Environmental Specialty Major and Honours Programs (S.19-10)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by I. Stefanovic

“That Senate approve the suspension of admission to the Bachelor of Arts, Environmental Specialty Major and Honours programs in the Department of Geography within the Faculty of Environment, effective Summer 2019.”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**x) Suspension of Admission to the Certificate in Liberal Arts (S.19-11)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by J. Pulkingham

“That Senate approve the suspension of admission to the Certificate in Liberal Arts within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2019.”

Catherine Murray, Associate Dean - Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was asked if this is a suspension towards dissolution or revision. Senate was informed that the intention is to revive this certificate, with the discussion to do so beginning in February, alongside a discussion of other humanities programs.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**xi) Suspension of Admission to the Linguistics Minor Program (S.19-12)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by J. Pulkingham

“That Senate approve the suspension of admission to the Linguistics Minor program in the Department of Linguistics within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2019.”

Catherine Murray, Associate Dean - Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**xii) Suspension of Admission and Dissolution of the English and French Literatures (Joint) Master of Arts (S.19-13)**

**Motion 1:**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by J. Derksen

“That Senate approve the suspension of admission to the English and French Literatures (Joint) Master of Arts in the Departments of English and French within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2019.”

Sean Zwagerman, Associate Dean - Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**Motion 2:**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by A. Moens

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the dissolution of the English and French Literatures (Joint) Master of Arts in the Departments of English and French within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2019.”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**C) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)**

**i) Program Changes (S.19-14)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made program changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (Mechatronic Systems Engineering), the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management), and the Faculty of Science (Chemistry, Data Science, Statistics and Actuarial Science).

**ii) New Course Proposals (S.19-15)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School for Contemporary Arts), the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management), the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA).

**iii) Course Changes (S.19-16)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School of Interactive Arts and Technology, School for Contemporary Arts), the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management), and the Faculty of Science (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Physics, Statistics and Actuarial Science).

**iv) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS) Annual Report 2017-2018 (S.19-17)**

Senate received the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies Annual Report 2017 – 2018 for information.

A concern was raised about the tendency to have a far greater number of courses approved than deleted, and how does our overall number of courses compare across institutions. Senate was informed that the exact numbers would have to be looked up, but that under the new Academic Plan, one of the key principles is reexamining curriculum.

**v) Canadian (non-BC) High School Admission Requirements for Fall 2020 (S.19-18)**

Moved by W. Parkhouse, seconded by J. Somers

“That Senate approves the following changes to the undergraduate admission requirements for Canadian (non-BC) high school applicants, effective Fall 2020.”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**vi) BC High School – Faculty Course Lists (S.19-19)**

Senate received the BC High School – Faculty Course Lists for Information.

A question was asked as to why Biology 11 can't be substituted as a requirement with either Chemistry 11 or Physics 11. Senate was informed that such decisions were made at the faculty curriculum committee level, and in this instance the Faculty of Science has determined the most relevant prerequisites for their programs.

A question was asked about the large number of courses now being accepted that either did not exist in the past or were not accepted, and if these courses have been vetted. Senate was informed that these courses have been vetted by the appropriate department, school or faculty. It was noted that there are a number of new courses being accepted, for example in social studies, but in some cases old courses have been renamed.

A question was asked if consideration has been given to the potentiality of grading disparity between schools with the introduction of new courses. Senate was informed that a review of grade data will be done after two to three years to look at trends, determine how many students are taking specific courses, and determine if there are grading differences across schools.

**D) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)****i) Program Changes (S.19-20)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved a program change in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (English), the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management), and the Faculty of Health Sciences.

**ii) Graduate New Course Proposals (S.19-21)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management), and the Faculty of Health Sciences.

**iii) Graduate Course Changes (S.19-22)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the Faculty of Science (Statistics and Actuarial Science).

**iv) Graduate Course Changes (S.19-23)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Computing Science).

**E) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)**

**i) Senate Committee Elections (S.19-24 Revised)**

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

**7. Other Business**

**8. Information**

**i) Date of the next regular meeting – – Monday, February 4, 2019.**

Open session adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Rummana Khan Hemani  
Registrar