



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

SENATE SUMMARY MEETING OF JUNE 8, 2020

1. **Report of the Chair**

The Chair reported that efforts to address challenges resulting from COVID-19 and its consequences are ongoing:

- The University continues to be guided by health authorities and the Province to ensure the health and safety of the SFU community.
- The Provost's recent update (May 20) notes that the majority of staff and faculty remain working remotely, with the exception of those required to work on campus to support essential services and priority on-campus research.
- The University is working carefully and cautiously to allow additional on-campus research when possible, as well as limited in-person instruction and activities in the fall.
- Faculties have been working on their fall course offerings, and making recommendations as to which courses, or parts of courses, should include in-person components.
- In order to ensure consistency and maintain safe numbers of people across all campuses, authorization for in-person instruction will be made by a university committee co-chaired by the VPA and AVPA.
- Decisions are expected this week, and information about modes of delivery will be available before registration for fall classes begins.
- The University is working to provide resources for instructors and students who will be engaging in remote learning, and will be paying particular attention to the needs of new students.
- It will take time to develop a university-wide process to oversee health and safety compliance, and to ensure physical distancing for people on campus. Guidelines are being developed for all areas to follow, with different groups helping to inform and coordinate recovery efforts.
- In addition to academic and research groups, committees have been established to determine the requirements for PPE, cleaning, physical distancing and health screening on campus.
- The Provost, the Dean of Graduate Studies, the Vice-Provost Students & International and the Chair, in his role as President, participated in a virtual Town Hall with students last month and another is being planned for Faculty and Staff.
- Appreciation was expressed for the dedication and resiliency of faculty, staff and students.

The Chair reported that recent incidents of anti-Black racism and violence in the US and Canada have been deeply disturbing for the university community. Across the university there's been an outpouring of opposition to racially motivated violence and discrimination, and of support for Black students, faculty and staff, as well as members of other marginalized groups. In addition to issuing a statement condemning anti-Black racism, SFU

is providing additional resources and support to those working to break down barriers to inclusion through the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion process led by Joy Johnson.

The Chair reported that SFU faculty members continue to combat COVID-19, through research and other activities:

- In May SFU presented at the Virtual GovTech Summit, to leaders of government organizations that included Canada Border Services Agency, Statistics Canada and Employment and Social Development Canada. The presentation by Fred Popowich, Scientific Director of SFU's Big Data Initiative, focused on how governments can use data responsibly and ethically to solve COVID-19 challenges.
- SFU Gerontology professor Andrew Wister is co-leading a new study with 11 other Canadian institutions, to provide new insights into the impacts of COVID19 on aging populations.

The Chair reported on recent research successes:

- 50 SFU researchers were awarded a total of \$11,312,360 from the Natural Science Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) as part of the Discovery Grants - Individual Program. This was awarded amongst 50 projects.
- Four SFU researchers were awarded a total of \$1,582,076 from Canadian Institutes of Health Research as part of the Project Grant Program.

The Chair reported that SFU extended the terms of the two Scholars at Risk, who were scheduled to finish their attachment at the end of the summer semester. Their positions have been extended to the end of December in light of COVID-19 and the challenges it presents to finding paid positions in Canada.

The Chair reported on the announcement last week that the BOG has appointed Tamara Vrooman to become SFU's 12th chancellor effective June 13, taking over from Anne Giardini who has served in this role since 2014. Tamara is currently the President and CEO of Vancity credit union, and next month takes over as CEO of the Vancouver Airport Authority. Tamara and Vancity have worked closely with SFU on many initiatives, including the creation of the Vancity Office of Community Engagement, support for RADIUS (SFU's pioneering social innovation hub), and sponsorship of the annual SFU Public Square Community Summit. She is a visionary leader who brings a wealth of experience, a passion for social justice and a strong commitment to community engagement.

The Chair reported that all are invited to join the virtual Convocation ceremony on Thursday, June 11th from 5:30 to 6:00 pm to honour our Spring 2020 graduates. The online celebration will be hosted by the Chancellor and the President, and includes the granting of degrees, messages from spring honorary degree recipients and other special guests. In addition to the Virtual Convocation Celebration, the Indigenous Honouring Ceremony takes place on June 21st at 1:00 pm and celebrates 140 Indigenous graduates in 2019-20. It was noted that this Convocation is Anne Giardini's last as Chancellor of SFU. A tribute video to Anne will be shown during Convocation to thank her for the extraordinary service she has

provided to the university over the past decade, as Board of Governors member and Deputy Chair and as Chancellor.

2. Senate Appeals Board (SAB) Annual Report 2019 (S.20-70)

Senate received the Senate Appeals Board (SAB) Annual Report 2019 for information.

3. Undergraduate Program Changes (S.20-71)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program changes, effective Spring 2021:

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

a) School of Computing Science

- Program: Computing Science Dual Degree Major
- Program: Computing Science and Linguistics Joint Major
- Program: Computing Science Major
- Program: Computing Science Honours

ii) Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

- Changes to the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Degree Requirements

a) Humanities

- Program: Humanities Major
- Program: English and Humanities Joint Major
- Program: French and Humanities Joint Major
- Program: History and Humanities Joint Major
- Program: Humanities and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Joint Major
- Program: Philosophy and Humanities Joint Major
- Program: Humanities Minor
- Program: Humanities Extended Minor
- Program: Certificate in Medieval and Renaissance Studies
- Program: Certificate in Religious Studies
- Program: Certificate in Hellenic Studies

iii) Faculty of Environment

a) School of Environmental Science

- Program: Environmental Science Major
- Program: Environmental Science Honours

b) Geography

- Program: Human Geography Major
- Program: Human Geography Honours
- Program: Global Environmental Systems Major
- Program: Global Environmental Systems Honours

- Program: Physical Geography Honours
- Program: Urban Studies Certificate

iv) Faculty of Science

a) *Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology*

- Program: Behavioural Neuroscience Major
- Program: Behavioural Neuroscience Honours
- Program: Kinesiology Major
- Program: Kinesiology Honours
- Program: Biomedical Physiology Major
- Program: Biomedical Physiology Honours
- Program: Biomedical Physiology Minor

b) *Statistics and Actuarial Science*

- Program: Actuarial Science Major (effective Fall 2020)
- Program: Actuarial Science Honours (effective Fall 2020)

c) *Data Science Program*

- Program: Data Science Major (effective Fall 2020)
- Program: Data Science Honours (effective Fall 2020)

4. Undergraduate New Course Proposals (S.20-72)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following new course proposals, effective Spring 2021:

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

a) *School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering*

- Course (new): MSE 412

ii) Faculty of Environment

a) *Archaeology*

- Course (new): ARCH 105, 374

b) *Geography*

- Course (new): GEOG 365

iii) Faculty of Science

a) *Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology*

- Course (new): BPK 411, 447

5. Undergraduate Course Changes (S.20-73)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Spring 2021:

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

a) School of Computing Science

- Course (prerequisite): CMPT 300
- Course (title, description) CMPT 461

b) School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering

- Course (prerequisite): MSE 101W, 102

ii) Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

a) First Nations Languages Program

- Course (new acronym): INLG
- Course (title, description, prerequisite, equivalency): FNLG 130, 133, 134, 158, 200, 233, 234, 258, 300, 333, 334, 335, 358, 433, 434, 435, 458

b) Humanities

- Course (deletion): HUM 201, 216, 321
- Course (title, description, prerequisite): HUM 202
- Course (prerequisite): HUM 203, 204, 211, 222, 240
- Course (title): HUM 381
- Course (equivalency, description, repeat for credit): HUM 309

c) Hellenic Studies Program

- Course (deletion): HS 303, 307, 309, 403, 422, 477
- Course (number, equivalency): HS 100, 216, 312
- Course (number, equivalency, prerequisite) HS 201
- Course (equivalency, acronym): HS 150, 209, 231, 232, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 304, 313, 349, 359, 364, 441, 476
- Course (acronym, equivalency, description): HS 460
- Course (units, equivalency, acronym): HS 275
- Course (prerequisite, equivalency, acronym): HS 318, 418

iii) Beedie School of Business

- Course (title, description prerequisite): BUS 446

iv) Faculty of Environment

a) Archaeology

- Course (number, equivalency): ARCH 201
- Course (prerequisite): ARCH 272W, 273, 285, 286, 312, 340, 348, 349, 363, 365, 372, 375, 376, 377, 383, 386, 388, 390, 425, 471W

- Course (title, unit, prerequisite): ARCH 321, 331
- Course (units): ARCH 322, 323
- Course (unit, prerequisite): ARCH 329

b) *Geography*

- Course (temporarily withdrawn): GEOG 102, 322, 362, 417, 455

v) Faculty of Science

a) *Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology*

- Course (title, description, prerequisite): BPK 303
- Course (description, prerequisite): BPK 412, 457, 481
- Course (description): BPK 343, 482

6. Graduate New Course Proposals (S.20-74)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following new course proposals, effective Spring 2021:

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

a) *School of Computing Science*

- Course (new): CMPT 724, 728

ii) Faculty of Environment

a) *School of Environmental Science*

- Course (new): EVSC 695

7. Graduate Course Changes (S.20-75)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course change, effective Spring 2021:

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

a) *School of Computing Science*

- Course (number, title, description, equivalency): CMPT 825

8. Graduate General Regulation (GGR) Revisions (S.20-76)

Senate approved revisions to GGR 1.11.3 (Postponement of Publication).

9. Senate Committee Elections (S.20-77 Revised)

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

The approved Senate minutes will be available online following the September Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the June 2020 Senate documents: <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-34249>.

If you have any questions regarding this summary, please contact Steven Noel, Senate Assistant, at 778-782-3168 or senate@sfu.ca.