



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

SENATE SUMMARY MEETING OF OCTOBER 7, 2024

1. **Report of the Chair**

The Chair reported that three weeks ago, the federal government announced a further 10% reduction of international student permits over the next two years. It was also announced that the international student cap is now inclusive of graduate and doctoral students. Provincial allocations related to the cap are still being determined, but it is known that 12% of permits will be reserved for master's and doctoral students. It was noted that the Vice-President, Academic and his team are on an international trip talking about international student recruitment and will continue to advance an International Enrolment Strategy and invest in key areas related to international enrolment.

The Chair reported that she, in her role as President, and the Vice-President, Research, were in Ottawa when the international student cap changes were announced to meet with federal representatives and advocate for SFU and the post-secondary sector. Over the course of three days, 26 meetings were held with a range of Members of Parliament, political staff, and senior bureaucrats from several federal offices, agencies and Ministries. These meetings largely centred around student housing, visa and work permits for international students, AI and quantum and clean tech.

The Chair reported that the search for a new Vice-President, Finance and Administration is well underway, led by PFM Executive Search. A Search Committee has been formed and has convened several times, and community consultation has been completed. The intention is to fill the role prior to the retirement of the current Vice-President, Finance, to ensure a smooth transition.

The Chair reported that Gohar Ashoughian has been appointed as SFU's new Dean of Libraries and University Librarian, as of November 15, 2024.

Noting that this would be the last Senate meeting for Gwen Bird, the Chair, on behalf of Senate, thanked Senator Bird for her work as Dean, and to the overall SFU community, since 2014. Senator McKenzie (Librarian) also spoke briefly on Gwen's leadership and her commitment to listening and inclusion.

2. **Adjustments – Graduate and Undergraduate Credentials (S.24-132)**

Senate received Adjustments – Graduate and Undergraduate Credentials for information.

3. **Establishment of the Global Institute for Agritech (S.24-133)**

Senate approved the establishment of the Global Institute for Agritech for a five-year term.

4. **Establishment of the Centre for Research and Practice in Teacher Education (S.24-134)**

Senate approved the establishment of the Centre for Research and Practice in Teacher Education for a five-year term.

5. **External Review Report for the School for International Studies (S.24-135)**
Senate approved the Action Plan for the School for International Studies that resulted from its external review.
6. **Full Program Proposal for the Certificate in Data Science in Physics (S.24-136)**
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for the Certificate in Data Science in Physics in the Department of Physics within the Faculty of Science, effective Fall 2025.
7. **External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the School of Computing Science (S.24-137)**
Senate received External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the School of Computing Science for information.
8. **Proposal for a Faculty of Graduate Studies (S.24-138)**
Senate received Proposal for a Faculty of Graduate Studies for consultation.
9. **High School Admission Requirement Changes - Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (S.24-139)**
Senate approved the revised changes to the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology Grade 12 admission requirements, effective Summer 2025.
10. **Undergraduate Program Changes (S.24-140)**
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program changes, effective Summer 2025:
 - i) **Faculty of Applied Sciences**
 - a) ***School of Computing Science***
 - Program: Computing Science Major
 - Program: Computing Science Dual Degree Program
 - Program: Computing Science Second Degree
 - Program: Computing Science Minor
 - Program: Computing Science Honours
 - Program: Computing Studies Certificate
 - b) ***School of Engineering Science***
 - Program: Engineering Science, Computer Engineering Option Major
 - Program: Engineering Science, Computer Engineering Option Honours
 - c) ***School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering***
 - Program: Mechatronic Systems Engineering Major
 - Program: Mechatronic Systems Engineering Honours
 - Program: Mechatronic Systems Engineering and Business Double Degree Program

ii) Faculty of Environment

a) *Dean of Environment Office*

- Program: Creation of a Second Undergraduate Degree option for BA, BEnv and BSc

11. Undergraduate Course Changes (S.24-141)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Summer 2025:

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

a) *School of Computing Science*

- Course (equivalency): CMPT 476

b) *School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering*

- Course (prerequisite): MSE 112

c) *School of Sustainable Energy Engineering*

- Course (equivalency): SEE 100

ii) Faculty of Science

a) *Molecular Biology and Biochemistry*

- Course (prerequisite): MBB 110, 229, 342 (effective Fall 2025)

12. New WQB Designations (S.24-142)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following new WQB designations, effective Summer 2025:

i) University Curriculum and Institutional Liaison

a) *Breadth-Humanities*

- Course (B-Hum): GA 210, 211
- Course (B-Hum): HUM 381

b) *Breadth-Social Sciences*

- Course (B-Soc): HIST 130

13. Graduate General Regulation 1.7.7a Transfer Credit; 1.7.7b Advance Credit; 1.12.1 Time Limit; 1.12.2 Extensions (S.24-143)

Motion 1:

Senate approved revisions to Graduate General Regulation 1.7.7a Transfer Credit and 1.7.7b Advance Credit.

Motion 2:

Senate approved revisions to Graduate General Regulation 1.12.1 Time Limit and 1.12.2 Extensions.

14. Graduate New Course Proposals (S.24-144)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program changes, effective Summer 2025:

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

a) *School of Sustainable Energy Engineering*

- Course (new): SEE 795, 830
- Course (new): SEE 870 (effective Fall 2025)

15. Graduate Course Changes (S.24-145)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Summer 2025:

i) Faculty of Health Sciences

- Course (title, description): HSCI 885

16. Graduate Course Deletions (S.24-146)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course deletions, effective Summer 2025:

i) Faculty of Environment

a) *School of Environmental Science*

- Course (deletion): ECO 600, 611, 621, 622, 630, 640, 641, 645, 650

17. Senate Committee Elections (S.24-147)

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 December Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the October 2024 Senate documents: <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-36829>.

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

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