



SENATE SUMMARY MEETING OF NOVEMBER 4, 2024

1. Report of the Chair

The Chair welcomed newly elected Senators Harinder Khangura (Applied Sciences) and Kirsten Zickfeld (Environment).

The Chair reported that SFU was recently named the top comprehensive university in Canada by Maclean's, a ranking held for 16 of the past 17 years.

A question was asked regarding if SFU will lose the status of *comprehensive university* with the establishment of a medical school. Senate was informed that the answer to that question is unknown at this time. It was noted that Memorial University of Newfoundland is the one exception of a university in Canada having a medical school and still be considered a comprehensive university.

With over 600 staff and volunteers from across the university, the Chair thanked all those involved in October convocation.

The Chair reported that government relations continue to be a priority for the executive team. A government relations strategy is in development and Trevor Boudreau, former director of GR at YVR, has been hired to lead those efforts at the university moving forward. With more certainty around what the provincial government will look like, SFU has reached out to offer meetings and times to connect with local MLAs and key members of official opposition. Further, SFU has doubled the number of interactions with the federal government this year over last year and will continue to advocate for the post-secondary sector and SFU at all levels of government.

The Chair reported that she, in her role as President, was recently in London to connect with SFU alumni and had meetings with the High Commission of Canada in London and the London School of Economics. The Chair was also in Ottawa last week for the Universities Canada membership meeting in which she was officially appointed vice-chair of the Universities Canada Board of Directors for a one-year term.

The Chair reported that she recently gave her annual address to the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade on the topic of partnerships. The University continues to look for ways to expand SFU's reach and reputation and demonstrate its impact on the economy in B.C. and Canada and this is one part of that campaign.

Senate was informed that teams across the university have been working over the spring and summer to prepare for the development of the 2025-26 budget and its now in the discussion and consultation phase. Thanks was extended to the VPA and VPFA and to their teams for their continuing work. Consultation has been completed with student groups and there is a budget info session for faculty and staff coming up on November 18th.

The Chair reported that SFU is hosting the Royal Society's annual Celebration of Excellence & Engagement later this week. The event will provide an opportunity to welcome academic colleagues to Vancouver, celebrate the newest members of the Royal Society and engage in a symposium on community-centred climate innovation.

2. Proposed Amendments to Policy B10.00 (S.24-149)

Senate received Proposed Amendments to Policy B10.00 for information.

3. Senate Committee on Continuing Studies (SCCS) Annual Report 2023/2024 (S.24-150)

Senate received the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies (SCCS) Annual Report 2023/2024 for information.

4. Undergraduate Program Changes (S.24-151)

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

i) Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology

a) School of Communication

- Program: Communication Honours (effective Fall 2025)

ii) Faculty of Environment

a) Geography

- Program: Geographic Information Science Major (effective Spring 2025)

5. Undergraduate New Course Proposals (S.24-152)

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

i) Faculty of Health Sciences

- Course (new): HSCI 480

6. Undergraduate Course Changes (S.24-153)

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

i) Faculty of Health Sciences

- Course (prerequisite): HSCI 350

7. New and Removed WQB Designations (S.24-154)

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

i) New WQB Designations

- Course (B-Hum): CHIN 190 (**effective Fall 2024**)
- Course (B-Soc): PLCY 200
- Course (B-Soc): SA 216

ii) Removal of WQB Designations (effective Fall 2025**)**

- Course (W designation, B-Sci): PSYC 109W
- Course (Q designation): BUS 316, 320, 321
- Course (Q designation): ECON 302, 305, 310, 325, 331, 333, 342, 345, 355W, 362, 381, 392, 393, 402, 403, 410, 428, 435, 446, 450W, 455W, 460, 490, 492
- Course (Q designation): PSYC 201W, 410, 411
- Course (B-Soc): PSYC 106, 260

8. Graduate General Regulation 1.3.6c Admissions to an Accelerated Master's (S.24-155)

Senate approved revisions to Graduate General Regulation 1.3.6c Admissions to an Accelerated Master's, effective Summer 2025.

9. Graduate New Course Proposals (S.24-156)

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

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

a) *School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering*

- Course (new): MSE 713

10. Senate Committee Elections (S.24-157)

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

11. New Ministry Program Proposal Criteria (S.24-158)

Senate received New Ministry Program Proposal Criteria for information.

The approved Senate minutes will be available online following the January Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the November 2024 Senate documents: <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-36859>.

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