

SENATE SUMMARY MEETING OF NOVEMBER 3, 2025

1. Report of the Chair

The Chair reported that SFU has again been named the top comprehensive university in Canada according to Maclean's magazine. This marks the 16th time SFU has earned this title in the past 17 years.

The Chair reported that she, in her role as President, was in Ottawa last week to attend Universities Canada's annual membership meeting. At the meeting members were presented with some new polling data that—for the first time in years—showed an upturn in Canadians who feel positively about universities. The data also showed that we are living in an age of precarity, with people living in an ongoing state of uncertainty and anxiety. Given this, universities have an opportunity to offer a message of reassurance and hope—through research, teaching, learning and work, and to act as a stabilizing force for communities and for the country. The Chair added that at this meeting she was officially installed as chair of the Universities Canada Board. As a B.C. university, SFU has struggled to get traction in Ottawa in the past, and it's hoped that this appointment will help give SFU a lift in terms of visibility and influence on the east coast.

The Chair reported that Premier David Eby visited the Surrey campus last month to share news about where the new location of the medical school facility is going to be and opening admissions to the medical school. Though much work remains, thanks was extended to Senator Price and the medical school team for their work up to this point.

The Chair reported that she, in her role as President, along with an SFU delegation, travelled to Victoria for the annual caucus receptions. Meetings were held with both the NDP and Opposition caucuses to share the latest from SFU. Senator Price also joined to speak to the School of Medicine. It was noted that building up goodwill and demonstrating to the government that SFU can be a good partner for them is going to be helpful in the long term, especially given the continuing need to have conversations about ensuring a sustainably-funded post-secondary sector.

The Chair reported that after receiving approval from Senate, the 2025-2030 Academic Plan was formally released and shared with students, faculty and staff last month. This plan was the result of many months of hard work by faculty and staff across the university and thanks was given to those who contributed to the process. The Academic Plan outlines SFU's ongoing commitment to the academic mission and creating an exceptional educational experience for students, while also reflecting strategic direction and priorities as outlined in What's Next and research priorities as outlined in the Strategic Research Plan.

The Chair highlighted the following upcoming engagement opportunities:

- November 6: SFU Strategic Research Plan Town Hall - SFU is now at the midway point of the 2023-2028 Strategic Research Plan, and will take this as an opportunity to share the

- progress made so far and to hear from community members and look ahead from now through to 2028.
- November 20: Budget Info Session - Faculty and staff are invited to join SFU leadership for a virtual info session that will provide insights into the university's 2026-27 budget planning process. This session will help faculty and staff better understand and engage with budgetary discussions in their departments and units.
2. **Consultation Plan for R30.04 Copyright Compliance and Administration Policy (S.25-170)**
Senate received Consultation Plan for R30.04 Copyright Compliance and Administration Policy for information.
3. **Consultation Plan for R50.03 Postdoctoral Fellows Policy (S.25-171)**
Senate received Consultation Plan for R50.03 Postdoctoral Fellows Policy for information.
4. **Senate Committee on Continuing Studies (SCCS) Annual Report 2024/2025 (S.25-172)**
Senate received the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies (SCCS) Annual Report 2024/2025 for information.
5. **Full Program Proposal for a Theatre and Performance Minor (S.25-173)**
This item was tabled until the December 2025 Sente meeting.
6. **Full Program Proposal for a Theatre and Performance Extended Minor (S.25-174)**
This item was tabled until the December 2025 Sente meeting.
7. **External Review Report and Action Plan for the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies (S.25-175)**
Senate approved the Action Plan for the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies that resulted from its External Review.
8. **Program Name Change for the Urban Studies Certificate (S.25-176)**
Senate approved and recommend to the Board of Governors the program name change from the Urban Studies Certificate to Urban Change Certificate in the Department of Geography within the Faculty of Environment, effective Summer 2026.
9. **Undergraduate Program Changes (S.25-177)**
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program changes, effective Summer 2026:
- i) **Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology**
- a) ***School of Communication***
- Program: Business and Communication Joint Major
- b) ***School of Interactive Arts and Technology***
- Program: Interactive Arts and Technology Second Degree BA
- Program: Interactive Arts and Technology Second Degree BSc

10. Undergraduate New Course Proposals (S.25-178)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following new course proposal, effective Fall 2026:

i) Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology

a) School of Interactive Arts and Technology

- Course (new): IAT 370, 371, 372

11. Undergraduate Course Changes (S.25-179)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Summer 2026:

i) Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology

a) School of Communication

- Course (description): CMNS 230

b) School of Interactive Arts and Technology

- Course (temporarily withdrawn): IAT 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397

ii) Faculty of Education

- Course (description): EDUC 407 (effective Fall 2026)
- Course (description): EDUC 408, 409

iii) Faculty of Science

a) Chemistry

- Course (temporarily withdrawn): CHEM 109, 191, 192
- Course (equivalency): CHEM 481
- Course (title, description, equivalency): CHEM 484

b) Mathematics

- Course (prerequisite): MATH 110

12. Learning & Teaching with Artificial Intelligence Guidelines (S.25-180)

Senate approved the Learning & Teaching with Artificial Intelligence Guidelines at Simon Fraser University.

13. Graduate General Regulation 1.6 Supervision (S.25-181)

Senate approved the revisions to Graduate General Regulation 1.6 Supervision, effective Summer 2026.

14. Graduate Program Changes (S.25-182)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program change, effective Summer 2026:

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

a) School of Sustainable Energy Engineering

- Program: Sustainable Energy Engineering MEng **(effective Fall 2026)**

ii) Faculty of Environment

a) School of Environmental Science

- Program: Environmental Science PhD

15. Graduate New Course Proposals (S.25-183)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following new course proposal, effective Summer 2026:

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

a) School of Sustainable Energy Engineering

- Course (new): SEE 777 **(effective Fall 2026)**

ii) Faculty of Environment

a) Archaeology

- Course (new): ARCH 740, 773, 777, 782, 783

b) School of Environmental Science

- Course (new): EVSC 808

16. Graduate Course Changes (S.25-184)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Summer 2026:

i) Faculty of Environment

a) School of Resource and Environmental Management

- Course (prerequisite): REM 612

ii) Faculty of Graduate Studies (all temporarily withdrawn and deleted courses effective Fall 2026)

- Course (temporarily withdrawn): BUS 579, 588, 589, 590, 634, 762, 786, 792, 793, 805, 866
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): CMPT 745
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): DDP 7XX, 8XX
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): ENSC 701, 833

- Course (temporarily withdrawn): MSE 801, 821, 881, 901
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): FREN 816, 826
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): GERO 801
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): GSWS 820
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): IS 815, 816, 835
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): LING 813, 850, 855
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): POL 846
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): CA 888
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): CMNS 820, 844, 859, 860, 881, 894
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): ARCH 591
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): GEOG 611
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): REM 8XX
- Course (deletion): EDPR 549, 550, 552, 555, 557, 558, 559, 560, 564, 565, 566, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 576, 578, 579, 580, 587, 590, 591, 592, 593, 596, 598, 599
- Course (deletion): CMPT 706, 772, 780, 784, 787, 813, 822, 828, 843
- Course (deletion): ENSC 702, 703, 852, 853
- Course (deletion): MSE 794, 884, 900, 921, 922, 995
- Course (deletion): SEE 821
- Course (deletion): HIST 826, 845
- Course (deletion): IS 802, 803, 813
- Course (deletion): LAS 898
- Course (deletion): LING 805
- Course (deletion): POL 829
- Course (deletion): SA 815, 835
- Course (deletion): TRSS 721, 731, 740, 798
- Course (deletion): URB 615
- Course (deletion): IAT 856
- Course (deletion): CMNS 856, 882, 8cc
- Course (deletion): REM 606, 614, 655
- Course (deletion): SD 801
- Course (deletion): HSCI 807, 808, 847
- Course (deletion): EASC 621, 625
- Course (deletion): MBB 724, 761
- Course (deletion): ONC 548
- Course (deletion): PHYS 833, 863
- Course (deletion): STAT 641, 842, 857

17. Senate Committee Elections (S.25-185)

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

18. Welcome Day Programming Spring Term 2026 (S.25-186)

Senate received Welcome Day Programming Spring Term 2026 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 2025 Senate documents: <https://www.sfu.ca/senate/documents/years/2025/nov.html>.

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