

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.75-190

MEMORANDUM

To SENATE

From SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGENDA AND RULES

Subject NOTICE OF MOTION - AMENDMENT TO THE
RULES OF SENATE

Date NOVEMBER 18, 1975

Notice is hereby given of the following motion to be put to the January meeting of Senate:

MOTION: That Senate amend Section V "Meetings" Sub-section A. 6 of the Rules of Senate

From: "Meetings will be called to order at 7:30 p.m."

To: "Meetings will be called to order at 7:00 p.m."

Note: Alterations to the Rules of Senate require an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the voting members present to carry.

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MEMORANDUM

To SENATE

From SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGENDA AND RULES

Subject RESULTS - QUESTIONNAIRE

Date NOVEMBER 13, 1975

On October 20, 1975 a questionnaire was sent to all members of Senate on behalf of this Committee. A copy of the questionnaire and covering memo are attached as Appendix A for reference.

Fifty-two questionnaires were distributed with thirty-six responses received. The Senators who replied have indicated their preference that the present practice of holding the Open Session prior to the Closed Session continue. The preferred starting time of the Open Session is 7:00 p.m., with supper to begin at 6:00 p.m., although a starting time of 6:30 p.m. with supper beginning at 5:30 p.m. ranked a fairly close second choice. Complete details are attached as Appendix B.

Section V - "Meetings," subsection A 6, of the Rules of Senate specifies that meetings will be called to order at 7:30 p.m. Therefore, to change the starting time from 7:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. a written notice of motion is required at a regular meeting of Senate prior to the meeting at which a vote on the proposed alteration is taken.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY *APPENDIX A*

MEMORANDUM

To SENATORS

From H.M. EVANS, SECRETARY

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGENDA AND RULES

Subject

Date OCTOBER 20, 1975

On occasion various Senators have raised questions concerning the desirability of Senate continuing its present practice of holding the Open Session of Senate before the Closed Session. It has also been requested that consideration be given to confirming that the present starting time of Senate meetings is the most advantageous in terms of providing adequate opportunity for all Senators to attend meetings, providing sufficient time to complete the business on the agendas and minimizing inconvenience to Senators.

In response to these concerns, the Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules is asking each Senator to complete the attached questionnaire. It is the intent of the Committee to review the findings of this survey with information on the preferences indicated by Senators to be presented to Senate at its meeting of December 1, 1975.

Please complete and return the questionnaire to this office not later than Friday, October 31, 1975. A return envelope is enclosed.

HDN/dp

H.M. EVANS, SECRETARY

QUESTIONNAIRE

ORDER OF SESSIONS

Indicate your preference for either (A) or (B).

- A) That Senate continue its present practice of holding the Open Session of meetings of Senate prior to the Closed Session. ()

or

- B) That Senate change the order of the Open Session and Closed Session to have the Closed session precede the Open Session. ()

STARTING TIMES

Rank the following options in order of your preference from 1 to 5 with 1 having the highest rank.

- a) That Senate continue its present practice of starting its meetings at 7:30 p.m., preceded by supper beginning at 6:30 p.m. ()
- b) That Senate convene its meetings at 7:00 p.m., preceded by supper beginning at 6:00 p.m. ()
- c) That Senate convene its meetings at 6:30 p.m., preceded by supper beginning at 5:30 p.m. ()
- d) That Senate convene its meetings at 3:00 p.m. with supper to follow the meetings. ()
- e) That Senate convene its meetings at 3:00 p.m. with a break between sessions for supper. ()

COMMENTS

(Signature)

QUESTIONNAIRE - RESULTS

APPENDIX B

Number of questionnaires distributed - 52
 Number of responses received - 36
Order of Sessions

- A. Open prior to Closed - 23
- B. Closed prior to Open - 11

Starting Times

	a 7:30	b 7:00	c 6:30	d 3:00	e 3:00 with break
P					
R					
E					
F					
E					
R					
E					
N					
C					
E					
S					
1	5	10	9	8	4
2	5	9	4	3	7
3	6	3	17	0	1
4	2	9	0	10	4
5	10	0	0	6	9

COMMENTS

- Afternoon sessions (d & e) would probably create difficulties for students and almost certainly for Lay Senators. Probably (?) the earlier we begin the earlier we finish - but I doubt that people can get home and back by 5:30. On the other hand, those of us at the university could well begin supper at 5:30 with less time to spend waiting for Senate to begin.
- 1) Closed session to start which means outside people would have to wait an indeterminate time for the beginning of the open session.
- 2) In addition to starting at 6:30 I would like to see a fixed adjournment time of 10:00 p.m. Sensible decisions are not made by tired individuals.
- Starting time e) seems impractical if order of Session B) is adopted. Starting time d) seems impractical both from the caterer's point of view,

Continued

and in that it adds an unnecessary pressure to conclude the meeting expeditiously.

- Options d) and e) are really impossible with other meetings, teaching schedules etc. Options b) and c) will likely only lead to longer meetings.
- If we reverse the sessions and begin at 3:00 p.m. we will possibly have free time before dinner on some occasions. Is there a lounge area that would be made available for the off campus Senators in that event?
- NA - 3:00 meetings totally inapplicable to Student Senators. Establishment of such a time for meetings will likely meet with strong student resistance.
- To me it is a matter of principle that Senate should not award degrees when everyone is maximally tired.