



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, February 3, 2014 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

Open Session

Present: Andrew Petter, Chair

Brennand, Tracy
Corbett, Kitty
Craig, John
Eikerling, Michael
Flodr, Sarah-Sophia
Francis, June
Geisler, Cheryl
Guttman, Julian
Haunerland, N (for M. Pinto)
Hedley, Nick
Jozaghi, Ehsan
Laitsch, Dan
Leacock, Tracey
Lehal, Japreet
Lu, Yoko
Magnusson, Kris
Myers, Gordon
Norouzi, Yasmine
Owen, Brian
Pappas, Panayiotis
Parkhouse, Wade
Percival, Colin
Percival, Paul
Perry, Tom
Pierce, John
Quarmby, Lynne
Rajapakse, Nimal
Ruben, Peter
Shapiro, Daniel
Shapiro, Lisa
Smith, Jon
Somers, Julian
Truong, Tesicca
Wakarchuk, Forrest
Warner, D'Arcy
Wussow, Helen

Absent:

Acierno, Kyle
Antle, Alissa
Bell, Lynne
Birmingham, Elina
Burley, David
Chapman, Glenn
Cupples, Claire
Delgrande, Jim
Driver, Jon
Easton, Stephen
Elle, Elizabeth
Golnaraghi, Farid
Jawanda, Harvey
Jermias, Johnny
Kessler, Anke
Khan, Humza
Kopahi, Moe
Kwon, Caleb
Leznoff, Daniel
McTavish, Rob
O'Neil, John
Paterson, David
Shaffer, Catherine
Shaw, Chris
Taylor, Carole
Thiara, Karanvir Singh
Tingling, Peter

In Attendance:

Krane, Bill

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on January 6, 2014

The minutes of the open session on January 6, 2014 were approved as distributed, with a minor edit.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Report of the Chair

The Chair reported that on January 8th SFU hosted the national funding announcement for the Canadian Foundation for Innovation's John R. Evans Leaders Fund. The announcement included six SFU projects, which received over \$1 million.

The Chair reported on his recent mission to India with the Vice President, Research, and the Vice President, External Relations. Agreements were reached with IIT Bombay (solar energy and fuel cell research); Indian Oil Corporation (fuel cell research); and with the Bombay Stock Exchange Institute and Ryerson University (international incubator-accelerator program for student start-ups). Meetings were held with: Jawaharlal Nehru University (linguistics research); Tata Institute of Social Sciences (social and environmental policy); Development Alternatives Group; TERI University; organizers of the Jaipur Literature Festival and Indian Summer Festival; the Director General of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations; and Lady Shri Ram College (university engagement).

The Chair reported on the launch of the Canadian International Institute for Extractive Industries and Development, a collaboration between SFU, UBC and École Polytechnique de Montréal. The institute is funded by a \$25 million grant from the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Trade and Development and \$15 million from coalition partners. The mission of the institute will be to assist governments in developing countries to manage their natural resources in a way that generates long-term livelihoods, supports healthy communities, and protects environmental values.

The Chair reported on research grant successes. Elliot Goldner of Health Sciences has received a seed grant of \$250,000 from Grand Challenges Canada for a feasibility study in northern Vietnam to train primary health care providers in mental health delivery. Health Sciences PhD candidate Mark Labrecque has received a \$40,000 grant from Prostate Cancer Canada for his research into the genetic composition of prostate cancer cells. Semios, an emerging leader in the development of sustainable pest management technology and a client of SFU's Venture Labs, received \$285,000 as winner in the sustainability category of Verizon Powerful Answers Award.

Finally, the Chair reported on the opening of the Trottier Studio for Innovative Science Education and the announcement of plans for the Trottier Observatory and Courtyard, a \$4.4 million project made possible by the support of the Trottier Family Foundation headed by Lorne and Louise Trottier.

5. Question Period

There was a question submitted to Senate after the deadline. This question will be answered at a Senate meeting in the future.

6. Reports of Committees

A) Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning (SCUTL)

i) Task Force on Flexible Education (TFFE) (S.14-27)

Moved by P. Pappas, seconded by J. Francis.

“That Senate endorse the creation of a Task Force on Flexible Education based on the terms of reference listed in the attached proposal.”

Bill Krane, Special Advisor to the Vice-President Academic and Provost, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was asked regarding the selection process for the members of the task force. Senate was informed that the Vice-President, Academic, would be appointing the members of the task force.

A question was asked why there were only two faculty member positions on the task force. Senate was informed that the task force would operate as an executive steering committee and that there would be a number of working groups established based on themes that emerge through community consultation. These working groups would be composed primarily of faculty members and students.

A concern was noted that the task force has a “top-down” approach and that flexible education is assumed to be positive.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

B) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

i) Curriculum Revisions – Beedie School of Business (S.14-28)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, added new courses and made revisions to existing courses and programs in the Beedie School of Business.

ii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (S.14-29)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, added new courses and made revisions to existing courses in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School of Communication; School for the Contemporary Arts; and School of Interactive Art and Technology).

iii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Health Sciences (S.14-30)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing courses in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

iv) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.14-31)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, added new courses and made revisions to existing courses and programs in the Faculty of Science (Biological Sciences; Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology; Chemistry; Earth Sciences; Mathematics; Molecular Biology and Biochemistry; Physics; Statistics and Actuarial Science).

A question was asked regarding new course PHYS 432, which will be scheduled for two semesters, whether an in-progress (IP) grade will impact graduate school applications. Senate was informed that an IP grade on an applicant's transcript would be a non-issue.

A question was asked whether an IP grade would impact scholarships, which may require a certain number of credits per term. Senate was informed that the Registrar would accept this IP course grade and the scholarship would not be lost; however, the question would be reviewed further for a response at the next Senate meeting.

A question was asked whether a two-semester course could be run without a grade. Senate was informed that the answer to the question would be provided at the next Senate meeting.

C) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)

i) Professional Master's Program in Big Data under Special Arrangements (S.14-32)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the full program proposal for the Professional Master's Program in Big Data under Special Arrangements, effective Fall 2014.

A question was asked why limited term faculty would be used for the specialized lab courses in the program. Senate was informed that this special arrangements program would utilize limited term faculty hired from industry for their expertise in the field to teach the lab courses and that regular faculty would teach the classroom courses.

ii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (S.14-33)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing courses and programs in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School for the Contemporary Arts; and School of Interactive Art and Technology).

iii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.14-34)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, added a new course and made revisions to existing programs in the Faculty of Science (Chemistry).

D) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)

i) Senate Committee Elections (S.14-35)

Senate received for information a summary of the nominations, positions elected by acclamation, and outstanding vacancies for the Senate committees. Senate was informed that an online election would be held following the Senate meeting to elect members of the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies.

7. Other Business

i) Revision to the Rules of Senate (S.14-36)

Moved by G. Myers, seconded by J. Pierce.

“That Senate approve the revisions to the Rules of Senate as per the attached document, effective immediately.”

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

8. Information

i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, March 3, 2014.

Open session adjourned at 6:02 pm and Senate moved into the closed session.

Jo Hinchliffe
Acting Executive Director, Student Enrolment, and Associate Registrar