

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**  
**Senate Committee on University Priorities**  
**Memorandum**

**TO:** Senate

**FROM:** John Waterhouse  
Chair, SCUP  
Vice President, Academic

**RE:** Centre for Education Research  
and Policy (SCUP 07-67)

**DATE:** December 11, 2007

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At its November 21, 2007 meeting SCUP reviewed and approved the proposal for the creation of the Centre for Education Research and Policy (CERP). This Centre will be a Schedule B Centre .

**Motion**

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the creation of the Centre for Education Research and Policy (CERP) as a Schedule B Centre.

.encl.

c: J. Friesen

**Proposal for the establishment of a Centre for Education  
Research and Policy  
Simon Fraser University**

The Centre for Education Research and Policy (CERP) will coordinate the research, teaching and community outreach/knowledge translation activities of a multi-disciplinary group of researchers interested in issues related to the organization and funding of education systems and the role of education systems in the context of diverse communities. The activities of the Centre will initially focus on achieving the objectives with respect to research, training and knowledge translation of the SFU Community Trust Endowment Fund (CTEF) project on "Education organization and outcomes in diverse communities". Researchers affiliated with the Centre will:

- a) engage in highly-visible, internationally-recognized research on education and education policy using a wide range of methods and approaches drawn from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives;
- b) develop and implement an innovative strategy for integrating community and stakeholder groups in the design, conduct, interpretation, application and evaluation of research, and ensuring uptake of research results within relevant communities;
- c) engage students and train new researchers in disciplinary and inter-disciplinary research focused on education and education policy; and
- d) establish links with education and education policy research groups both domestically and abroad, in order to raise SFU's research profile, establish collaborations with other scholars, and develop exchange opportunities for graduate students.

The creation of this Centre will have no new budgetary or resource implications for the university. The research group that will form the nucleus of the Centre is already housed in an institute space located within the Department of Economics, and substantial research funding has been committed through a CTEF grant over the next four years. Longer term funding will be secured through external research grants and contracts.

**Proposed Constitution for  
The Centre for Education Research and Policy (CERP)  
Simon Fraser University**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1. The Centre for Education Research and Policy (CERP) will coordinate the research, teaching and community outreach/knowledge translation activities of a multi-disciplinary group of researchers interested in issues related to the organization and funding of education systems and the role of education

systems in the context of diverse communities. The goal is to generate and disseminate high quality evidence that is useful and used by policy-makers, practitioners and the community.

- 1.2. The Centre is affiliated with Simon Fraser University and conducts its activities in such a way as to enhance the reputation and the programs of the University.
- 1.3. The Centre is committed to developing long-term collaborative relationships with the education system in British Columbia and elsewhere, and with other research institutes and institutions of higher education, across Canada and internationally.

## 2. Governance

- 2.1. The Centre is constituted as a Schedule B Centre at Simon Fraser University under the terms of SFU Policy R 40.01, comes under the direct authority of the Vice-President, Research and conducts its affairs in accordance with all other University policies. An annual report on the Centre's activities and financial status from April 1 to March 31, including the current membership of the Steering Committee and the Advisory Board, will be submitted to the Vice-President, Research, by the Director before June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.
- 2.2. The Centre is governed by a Steering committee and headed by a Director. In addition, membership of the Centre includes Affiliated Scholars.
- 2.3. The Director of the Centre is an SFU faculty member appointed by the Vice President, Research, upon nomination by the Steering Committee. The Director serves a renewable three-year term. The Centre's first director will be a faculty member directly appointed by the Vice-President, Research from the initial membership of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee elects an Associate Director from its' members, who fulfills the Director's responsibilities in his/her absence.
  - 2.3.1. The Director's tasks include the following responsibilities, which he or she may delegate but not abrogate.
    - Chairing the Steering Committee;
    - Overseeing the Centre's finances;
    - Recruiting Affiliated Scholars;
    - Hiring Centre personnel, including support staff and research assistants;
    - Preparing the annual report to the Vice President, Research.
- 2.4. The Steering Committee of the Centre consists of 5-6 faculty members including the Director, who will serve as Chair. All members of the Steering Committee must hold full-time tenured or tenure-track positions within SFU. Members of the Committee serve one-year renewable terms. The composition of the Committee will represent as much as possible the range of disciplinary

perspectives of the faculty members affiliated with the Centre. The task of the Steering Committee is to determine the overall direction of the Centre and to oversee the management of its operations. While it normally operates by consensus, when necessary it can make decisions by majority vote, including the appointment of new members of the Steering Committee, as well as nominating the Director and the Associate Director of the Centre.

2.4.1. Initial Steering Committee members are:

Jasmina Arifovic, Ph.D., Department of Economics  
Jane Friesen, Ph.D., Department of Economics (Centre Director)  
Simon Woodcock, Ph.D., Department of Economics  
Nancy Olewiler, Ph.D., Department of Economics and Graduate Public Policy Program  
Steven Wright, Ph.D., Department of Psychology  
Dan Laitsch, Ph.D., Faculty of Education

The work of the Centre is supported by Affiliated Scholars, individuals from the university or the external communities, and may include faculty, staff, or students. Status as Affiliated Scholar is approved by the Steering Committee based on the recommendation of the Director.

2.4.2. In addition to those on the initial Steering Committee, initial Affiliated Scholars are all faculty members who are listed as Collaborators on the Community Trust Endowment Fund Project "Education organization and outcomes in diverse communities." These are:

Peter Grimmet, Ph.D., Faculty of Education  
Olena Hankivsky, Ph.D., Graduate Public Policy  
Christoph Luelfesmann, Ph.D., Department of Economics  
Brian Krauth, Ph.D., Department of Economics  
Krishna Pendakur, Ph.D., Department of Economics  
John Richards, Ph.D., Graduate Public Policy Program  
John Nesbit, Ph.D., Faculty of Education  
Phil Winne, Ph.D., Faculty of Education  
Mark Winston, Ph.D., Department of Biological Sciences

2.5. Initial funding for the activities of the Centre will be provided by SFU's Community Trust Endowment Fund project "Education organization and outcomes in diverse communities." Additional and ongoing funding will be secured from sources external to the university.