

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

**Senate Committee on University Priorities
Memorandum**

TO: Senate

FROM: John Waterhouse
Chair, SCUP
Vice President, Academic

RE: Sierra Wireless Professorship in Mobile Communication – Terms of Reference (SCUP 07-52) **DATE:** September 24, 2007

At its September 12, 2007 meeting SCUP reviewed and approved the terms of reference for the Sierra Wireless Professorship in Mobile Communication.

Motion

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the terms of reference for the Sierra Wireless Professorship in Mobile Communication.

encl.

c: R. Vaughan, B. Lewis

MEMO

To: SCUP
From: Brian Lewis, Dean Faculty of Applied Sciences
Date: September 5, 2007

Regarding: Sierra Wireless Professorship in Wireless Communication

In December 2003, SFU announced the creation of the Sierra Wireless Chair in Wireless Communication. This was funded through annual donations for a three year period and proved to be a fruitful and beneficial relationship for the Faculty of Applied Sciences. Sierra Wireless has offered to continue and enhance this partnership through the creation of an endowed Sierra Wireless Professorship in Mobile Communication.

The Sierra Wireless Professorship in Mobile Communication will be administered according to Policy A10.06, Appointment of Specially Funded Chairs, University Professors and Fellows, and the terms of reference have been reviewed and approved by the Director, Academic Relations in regard to this.

The Faculty of Applied Sciences welcomes the opportunity to make this a permanently endowed position. As described in the attached Terms of Reference, the Professorship will promote and enhance the quality and quantity of research conducted in wireless mobile communication at SFU. This fits well within the mandate of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, and will contribute to the Faculty's commitment to form partnerships that advance applied research in the area of wireless communication.

As this is a previously existing position, we do not anticipate that the creation of this Professorship will have any financial consequences for the Library.

Enclosures : Terms of Reference



SIERRA WIRELESS PROFESSORSHIP IN MOBILE COMMUNICATION ENDOWMENT FUND

Terms of Reference Between Simon Fraser University and Sierra Wireless Inc.

The Sierra Wireless Professorship in Mobile Communication (the Professor) is to be established in 2007 by two founding partners: Sierra Wireless and Simon Fraser University (SFU). The Professor will hold a tenure track faculty appointment in the Faculty of Applied Sciences in the School of Engineering Science.

The Professor will promote and enhance the quality and quantity of research conducted in wireless mobile communication at SFU.

1. Name of Fund

This Endowment Fund shall be known as the Sierra Wireless Endowment Fund (the "Fund") and will be established at Simon Fraser University ("SFU").

The Fund will support the Sierra Wireless Professor in Mobile Communication (the Professor).

2. Use of Capital

The Fund shall be created by the contribution of \$600,000 from Sierra Wireless ("SW") and \$600,000 from SFU's Burnaby Mountain Endowment Fund. Sierra Wireless will make five equal pledge payments of \$120,000 a year for five years. SFU will make its \$600,000 contribution upon receipt of the first pledge payment.

The capital of the Fund shall be held by SFU as a permanent endowment fund administered in accordance with the University's Endowment Management Policy.

SFU may accept further contributions, from any other source, whether by gift, will or otherwise, or may otherwise add to the capital of the Fund, provided that the terms and conditions of any donation or addition to the capital of the Fund are in keeping with the original spirit and intent of the Professorship.

3. Use of Income

The income of the Fund shall be distributed to support a tenure track faculty appointment at the rank of Professor to enhance the quality and quantity of research conducted in wireless communications at SFU. The activities of the Sierra Wireless Professor in Mobile Communication will include teaching, research and community outreach.

The Professor will be appointed to a position with SFU providing a base compensation package comparative to other professors of similar rank and responsibilities. Income from the Sierra Wireless Endowment Fund will be used to supplement the Professor's salary and benefits package. Any unused portion of this earned income will be made available to the Professor for research or reinvested in the Fund.

The unused portion of the earned income may be used to:

- (1) develop and disseminate new research initiatives;
- (2) support graduate student and post-doctoral trainee(s);
- (3) defray the travel and conference expenses of the Professor and members of the Professor's team;

- (4) other expenses related to the Professor's research.

4. Purpose of the Endowment

The purpose of the Sierra Wireless Endowment is to promote and enhance excellence in research and teaching in the area of wireless communication in the Faculty of Applied Sciences, School of Engineering Science, through the appointment of the Sierra Wireless Professor.

5. Sierra Wireless Liaison

Sierra Wireless will designate an individual to act as a liaison to ensure on-going interaction and communication between Sierra Wireless and the Professor. Sierra Wireless may also choose to designate a technical liaison who is knowledgeable about current wireless research and advancement to communicate directly with the professor.

The Sierra Wireless liaisons will work with the Professor to set mutually agreeable goals and objectives. It is understood that some of these goals and objectives will be in research areas of long range interest to Sierra Wireless. It is anticipated that there will be ongoing dialogue and informal communication between the Professor and the Sierra Wireless liaisons. However, Sierra Wireless may choose to request an annual report of research accomplishments from the Professor as well as annual goals and objectives.

6. Appointment

SFU will appoint the Professor in accordance with SFU policy A 10.06: **Appointment of Specially Funded University Chairs, University Professors and Research Fellows** for a five year renewable term. The Professor will hold a tenure track academic appointment in the School of Engineering Science, Faculty of Applied sciences. The Professor may be reappointed for further five year terms pursuant to the renewal process set out in A10.06 and in consultation with Sierra Wireless. He or she will be an established scholar of national or international reputation consistent with an appointment at a Professor level.

All of the other terms and conditions of the Professor's employment will be consistent with SFU policy as established or amended from time to time.

7. Naming of the Sierra Wireless Mobile Communication Lab

In addition to the \$600,000 endowment contribution, Sierra Wireless will be donating \$400,000 to SFU for an antenna chamber in the wireless communications research lab. In recognition of this generosity, SFU will be naming this facility the Sierra Wireless Mobile Communication Lab (the Lab). The Lab will retain the Sierra Wireless name for at least 10 years, at which point it is anticipated that the Lab will require renewal and updated equipment.

8. Variation of Terms

If in the opinion of the University, the operation of the Fund becomes impossible or impractical or is not achieving its purpose in a satisfactory manner, the Board of Governors of Simon Fraser University is hereby authorized to make any changes it may deem necessary in the terms or use of the Endowment Fund or the Professorship. It shall be administered for teaching and research in a field or fields as closely associated as possible to that for which the Professorship was established and in keeping, as far as possible, with the original spirit and general intent of the Endowment Fund. Simon Fraser University will make a reasonable effort to contact and consult with Sierra Wireless regarding any changes deemed necessary for the terms or Professorship.