

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.01-46

Senate Committee on University Priorities

For Information

Memorandum

TO: Senate

FROM: John Waterhouse, SCUP Chair
Vice President, Academic

RE: Annual Report from the
Senate Committee on
University Priorities

DATE: 17 May 2001

Under its term of reference, the Senate Committee on University Priorities reports to Senate in May of each year on its activities for the previous year.

The attached annual report represents the first report to Senate for the recently formed Senate Committee on University Priorities, covering the period June 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000.

Attachments.

Senate Committee on University Priorities

ANNUAL REPORT - 2000

The Senate Committee on University Priorities held its first meeting in June 2000. Since then it has held 10 meetings, 6 in the year 2000. The Committee's primary responsibilities include:

- (1) the operation of the system of academic planning;
- (2) the review and approval of new program proposals and letters of intent;
- (3) the operation of the system of external reviews;
- (4) the receipt and review of recommendations for the establishment / dis-establishment of Centres and Institutes; and,
- (5) the provision of advice to the President on annual operating and capital budgets.

Most recommendations of SCUP go forward to Senate for action or information.

ACADEMIC PLANNING

SCUP reviewed two framework documents to guide the Three Year Academic Planning Process including:

- A guide to Support the Three-Year Academic Planning Process (provided to Chairs/Directors)
- Addendum - A guide for Deans in Support of the Three Year Planning Process

PROGRAMS APPROVED FOR FURTHER PLANNING

SCUP did not consider any program proposal for further planning during its first 6 months of operation.

NEW PROGRAMS APPROVED

SCUP did not consider any full program proposal during its first 6 months of operation.

EXTERNAL REVIEWS

SCUP has assumed an active interest in the external review process of academic units. It has instituted a process of providing recommendations to Senate outlining what it believes to be priority areas for action arising from the external review of an academic unit. As part of this process, SCUP has initiated, where appropriate, annual follow-up reporting requirements from some academic units to SCUP.

SCUP received reports and developed recommendations for priority action items on the following external reviews:

- School of Computing Science (June 2000)
- Department of French (June 2000)
- Faculty of Business Administration (June 2000)
- Department of Biological Sciences (September 2000)
- Department of Geography (September 2000)
- Department of Archaeology (September 2000)
- Gerontology Research Centre and Programs (November 2000)
- Department of Political Science (December 2000)

SCUP has also commenced an evaluation of the external review process to ensure that the process is effective both in substantive and financial terms.

CENTRES AND INSTITUTES

SCUP recommended to Senate and the Board of Governors the establishment of the following:

- Teaching Support Centre (later renamed the Instructional Development Centre)

SCUP also considered and recommended to Senate adoption of a document outlining Library Resource Requirements at the proposal stage for new Centres and/or Institutes. This document was returned to SCUP from Senate for further consideration.

BUDGET ISSUES

SCUP received budget documents and updates regularly to gain a familiarity with operating and capital budget issues at the university.

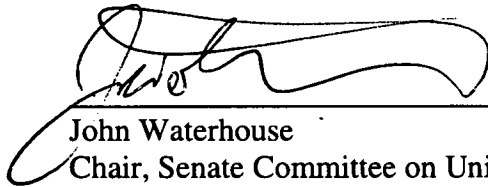
SCUP developed a document to guide its consideration of budget information and to establish a framework for prioritizing budget recommendations to the President.

OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED BY SCUP

- Consideration of the Strategic Research Plan for the Canada Research Chairs Program

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP IN 2000

J. Waterhouse, B. Clayman, L. Copeland, J. Pierce, R. Marteniuk, C. Gerson,
J. Zaichkowsky, P. Grimmett, J. Peters, L. Weldon, V. Dunsterville, J. Gupte, A. Hold,
W. Wattamaniuk



John Waterhouse
Chair, Senate Committee on University Priorities
16 May 2001