

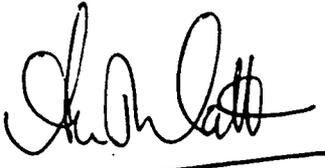
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Memorandum

To: Senate
From: Alison Watt
Director, University Secretariat
Date: June 27, 2000
Subject: Revisions – Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

MOTION

“that Senate approve the revisions to the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies as outlined in S.00-67”



Alison Watt

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Memorandum

To: Senate

From: Allan MacKinnon, Chair
Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

Subject: Membership of SCUS

Date: June 6, 2000

On May 4, 2000, SCUS discussed its draft terms of reference and proposed restructuring with the Vice President, Academic, Jock Munro, and his assistant, Alison Watt.

The proposed restructuring of SCUS involves adding a second committee member from each faculty to the committee. This will increase the size of our committee substantially, making scheduling more complicated and meeting deliberations potentially more cumbersome.

With respect, SCUS members questioned the rationale of Senate for changing the composition of SCUS. The rationale provided was that, in light of the fact that SCUS will no longer be reporting to SCAP but directly to Senate, there should be more people scrutinizing SCUS discussions and decisions.

In particular, SCUS disagrees with the idea of adding to our committee another representative from each faculty. We offer the following considerations:

- Undergraduate program matters may be more extensive than graduate programs, but they are also more homogeneous. The same policies and standards apply to all of them.
- Currently, the Chair of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee of each faculty sits on SCUS. When an undergraduate change is proposed it moves up through department curriculum committees to faculty curriculum committees to SCUS. Along the way faculty in departments are given an opportunity to see and comment on the changes.

- During the past years we have developed efficient means of communicating within our faculties about SCUS matters through e-mail and internet and we are confident that adequate consultations have occurred regarding our business. Frankly, we cannot see how our confidence in consultation would increase with additional faculty representation at our meetings and, though it is not our place, we worry about adding further administrative demands on our professorate.
- The Chair of the Faculty Curriculum Committee represents the issues raised by the faculty and departments along the way. Putting another faculty member from each Faculty on SCUS will not add to the careful deliberations given by SCUS to proposed changes. The extra faculty member will have to be a member of the Faculty UG Curriculum Committee and will, therefore, do double duty by attending both the Faculty Curriculum Committee and SCUS. It is not clear to the current members of SCUS what additional input can be provided by this additional faculty member.

SCUS recommends that

"SCAR recommend to Senate that the additional 5 faculty representatives added to SCUS on the recommendation of the Senate Review Committee be removed".

Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

Terms of Reference

1. Taking into consideration the need for coordination and development of undergraduate programs within the University, SCUS shall:
 - a) review and make recommendations to Senate on curriculum changes of a major nature and general matters affecting the curriculum;
 - b) review and approve, where appropriate, all proposed new courses, course deletions and program revisions of a minor nature. These changes shall be reported in summary form to Senate.
2. To recommend to Senate grading, examination, standing and continuance policies.
3. To recommend to Senate policies on undergraduate admissions, re-admissions, and credit transfer and where necessary, to provide general direction to the Registrar's Office in the interpretation of such policies.
4. To consider and decide on policy recommendations concerning undergraduate course registration and course withdrawal procedures and on the administration of undergraduate student records.
5. To consider and recommend to Senate policy recommendations from the Committee to Review University Admissions.
6. To consider and recommend to Senate policy recommendations from the Diverse Qualifications Adjudication Committee.

19 May, 2000