

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

S.78-38

To SENATE

From SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGENDA AND RULES

Subject STUDENT REPRESENTATION ON BOARD AND
SENATE
CHANGES TO LEGISLATION

Date MARCH 20, 1978

MOTION 1: "That Senate request its Chairman to petition, at an appropriate time, the Minister of Education for legislative change to the Universities Act such that each university senate would have authority to identify the nature of student representation on its governing bodies as most appropriate to the university, within the overall general and numerical limits established by the statute."

Rationale:

The Universities Act prescribes the number of students to be elected to the Board of Governors. It also prescribes by a ratio formula the number of students to be elected to Senate with provision for representation from each Faculty. In addition, however, it now requires that those elected be full-time students.

The Senate of Simon Fraser University at recent meetings has indicated generally a desire to provide for representation also of part-time students, particularly as some forty percent of undergraduate students are part-time. The present legislation prevents such representation and is considered unnecessarily restrictive.

The intent is not to change the numbers elected to the bodies, but rather to provide authority to Senate to identify the nature of qualifications of candidates as deemed most appropriate from time to time, including provision for representation by one or more part-time students if desired.

MOTION 2: "That Senate request that the Minister of Education consult with Senate before presenting legislative changes, which will directly affect the university, to the Legislature."

Rationale:

1. It is certain that the Universities Act will continue to evolve in time. Such evolution should be designed to benefit both the province and the university. Consultation before legislation would help direct such evolution along its most effective path.

2. Such consultation would allow Senate to better comprehend the intent of the Minister and the legislation.
3. Such consultation would help the Minister understand the needs and desires of this university.
4. It is appreciated that a body which is directly impacted by proposed legislation be properly consulted before the proposal is made to the Legislature.

MOTION 3: "That Senate request the Chairman of Senate to write to the Minister of Education regarding Motions 1 and 2, ensuring that the intent of Senate is clear."

MOTION 4: "That Senate recommend to the Board of Governors that it consider Motions 1, 2, and 3."