

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.77-03

MEMORANDUM

To MEMBERS OF SENATE

From SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGENDA AND RULES

Subject PROVISION FOR QUESTIONS AT SENATE

Date JANUARY 25, 1977

The Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules has received a request from Senator R. A. Ironside that the Rules of Senate be amended in order to provide a Question Period as a regular agenda item for meetings of Senate. A copy of Senator Ironside's request is attached for the information of Senate.

The request for the creation of a questioning session was considered by the Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules at its meeting of January 25, 1977, with considerable discussion relating to the various forms a session for questions may take and the nature of some of the Rules of Senate that would result. The Committee considers that the proposal as presented is inconclusive and wishes to clarify such features as:

Would Senate prefer that a session for questioning be formal or informal;

What would be the purpose of providing opportunity for questions;

To whom would questions be addressed;

Would it be mandatory that questions be presented in writing?

Regardless of the form the session may take it seems desirable that a time limitation be established.

Would a Senator have the option of accepting or refusing to answer a question;

If a formal question period is to be established would this lead to Beauchesne's Rules of Procedure?

A major question is the nature of chairing.

Would there be restrictions placed on the topics that could be discussed, etc.?

There was general agreement that before changes to the rules and procedures for the conduct of meetings of Senate could be presented for the consideration of Senate, some guidance as to the

preferences of Senate was desirable and more detailed consideration by the Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules required concerning the form of the session for questions and the Rules of Senate necessary for its operation.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules invites Senators to submit written or oral comments and suggestions to the Committee. The Chairman also wishes to invite Senator Ironside to participate with the Committee in the development of recommendations for the formal consideration of Senate at a future meeting.

encl.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To The Secretary of Senate

From Richard Ironside

Senator.

Subject Amendment to the Rules of Senate

Date January 17, 1977.

This is to provide Senators with notice that at the next regular meeting of Senate I shall make the following motion.

Moved:

"that the Rules of Senate be amended in Section 'G', "Order of Business", number 2, to include "Question Period" between "Notices of Motion" and "Information", as outlined in the accompanying document."

Ironside

R

JA

R

SECRETARY OF SENATE

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To..... Members of Senate

From..... Richard Ironside

..... Senator

Subject..... 'Question Period'

Date..... January 17, 1977.

Moved:

"that the Rules of Senate be amended in Section 'G', (Order of Business), Number 2, to include "Question Period" between "Notices of Motion" and "Information", as outlined in the accompanying document."

The proposed question period is envisioned as operating with the following guidelines:

1. Questions may be directed to any Senator by any other Senator.
2. Questions must be submitted in writing to the appropriate Senator through the Chairman of Senate at least 4 days before the Senate Meeting.
3. Questions must pertain to the areas of responsibility of Senate as outlined in the Universities Act, or be accepted by the Chairman of Senate in consultation with the Senator of whom the question is asked.
4. Questions and responses will be treated as a normal part of the business of Senate, and will be recorded in the Minutes as such.

S.77-04

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To Members of Senate


From Dean of Graduate Studies Office

Subject Ph.D. Language Requirement

Date January 19, 1977

MOTION: That the Faculty of Science requirement for a language other than English in the Ph.D. programme be removed and appropriate changes be made in the graduate Calendar."

This change in the language requirement for the Faculty of Science was approved by the Senate Graduate Studies Committee on January 17, 1977.


Jon Wheatley
Dean of Graduate Studies.

mm/

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

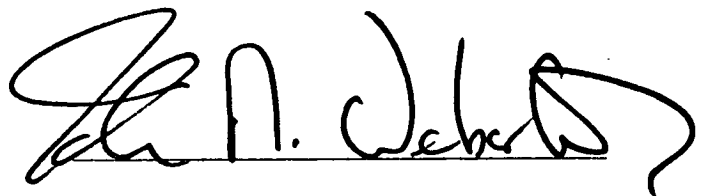
To.....	Marian McGinn, Secretary	From.....	J.M. Webster, Dean
	Senate Graduate Studies Committee		Faculty of Science
Subject.....	Ph.D. Language Requirement	Date.....	December 10, 1976

The Faculty of Science, at its meeting of December 2, 1976, passed the following motion:

"That the Faculty of Science requirement for a language other than English in the Ph.D. programme be removed and appropriate changes be made in the graduate calendar."

The rationale for the motion is provided below. This proposal is hereby forwarded to the Senate Graduate Studies Committee for consideration.

Rationale: The requirement of a language other than English in the Ph.D. programme has always been a contentious issue, but changing times are such that the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee considered it necessary that the Faculty address itself to this problem. It is clear that the present requirements do not ensure a useful or necessary learning experience for all students, and do not generally ensure a real reading knowledge of a second language. Historically this type of requirement has appeared to give added strength to a degree, but contemporary translation services and language use suggest that we would better serve the students' needs to have the Faculty requirements more closely related to the real skills needed by all students in the Faculty. It should be stressed that members of the Committee felt that individual departments, and particularly the senior supervisors, would still be free to require an appropriate second language, if necessary.



/pel

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

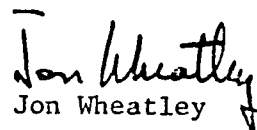
MEMORANDUM

To.....	Dr. John Webster	From.....	Jon Wheatley
	Dean of Science		Dean of Graduate Studies
Subject.....		Date.....	December 21, 1976.

You will be pleased to hear that your proposed change of the Language Requirement passed the Executive Committee Senate Graduate Studies Committee on December 20, 1976. However, there was some confusion in the Committee as to what exactly was intended. I accordingly made the following rulings:

- a) That this changes the Faculty regulations but not the departmental regulations, which could only be changed on the recommendation (through the Faculty Committee) of the individual departments.
- b) That, notwithstanding the rationale offered, it is not within the power of a Senior Supervisor to require a second language. If the department does not require a second language, then a second language could only be required in designing the student's program of study under 6.4 of the General Regulations.

I offer it as a personal opinion that, if a second language will probably be required, there should be an entry in the Calendar to that effect under the appropriate departmental listing.


Jon Wheatley

JW:jm

cc: Mr. H. Evans, Registrar
Ms. M. McGinn, to be distributed to Executive
Committee with the next agenda