

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

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To..... Mr. Evans, Secretary of Senate

From..... S. T. Stratton,
Acting Dean of Education

Subject..... Academic Planning at S. F. U.

Date..... July 2nd, 1969

The following is a report of the deliberations of the Faculty at the last regular meeting of the Faculty of Education on May 26th, 1969, on Senate Paper #215 - Academic Planning at S. F. U.:

S. Stratton advised that this paper originally submitted to Senate, had been referred to the Faculties for review and written comments before Senate's thorough discussion of it. Coordinating Council had agreed that the paper presents a statement of facts on the current situation of the University and the need for setting priorities in planning during the present time. Faculty moved into a Committee of the Whole for discussion of the paper.

The intent of the paper was agreed upon. Faculty noted that the paper calls for a more structured system of planning in the introduction of new programs and in establishing priorities of when and how they would come forward. The trimester system was seen as a closely related aspect of this question in the practical applications of policies, but not in matters of procedures for planning in terms of steps that might be followed.

Faculty concurred that criteria must be established to determine the rank ordering of priorities within the University. It was agreed that determination of criteria might be difficult since it would be affected by the particular educational philosophy of those persons charged with developing the criteria. The following suggestions were made:

1. that each Faculty be responsible for drawing up its own priorities which would then be ranked along with priorities for other areas of the University by a Committee overseeing the total University operation.
2. that a Faculty of Education Committee be set up (or an existing one (Coordinating Council) be charged) to determine criteria to be used for ranking departmental proposals. Ranking of proposals could be accomplished without regular referral to Faculty for approval once Faculty had approved the criteria.

3. that the Dean be charged with making decisions on the priority ranking of new programs in his Faculty.

Faculty then noted that there must be academic planning at the Faculty level as well as the University level. In this regard a suggestion was made that a Faculty of Education 4 day concentrated session be arranged to result in the creating of a policy document on the philosophy of the Faculty, indicating the direction in which the Faculty is moving. It was felt that this policy would represent the Faculty to the University, the Community and the Faculty Members themselves, so that firm base can be established from which certain criteria can be drawn up. Faculty emphasised that their agreement to the session was on condition that adequate preparation is made before hand for the production of a document at the end of the session.

The proposal in paper #48 for establishment of a Senate Committee on Interdisciplinary Studies to review and advance proposals from a group of faculty members who are not in the same department was accepted. It was noted that at present there is only one interdisciplinary committee especially, set up for the kinesiology program.

After the meeting had risen from Committee of the Whole, it was moved by J. Ellis, seconded by S. Wassermann:

that the Faculty of Education approve in principle paper #48, but noting especially the need to develop clear and effective mechanisms for establishing criteria for priorities, and establishing executive mechanisms for implementing priorities.

MOTION CARRIED.

Notice of motion was proposed by S. Wassermann, seconded by F. Brown:

that the Senate be urged at the earliest possible opportunity to set up a Committee on Interdisciplinary Studies.

S. Wassermann advised that she would prepare a proposal in support of the motion for the next Faculty meeting.

I trust that this will serve the needs of Senate in responding to the request for a Faculty opinion on this paper.

