

For Information

S.92-77

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Memorandum

TO: Senate

FROM: R. Blackman, Chair
Senate Committee on University Budget

DATE: November 20, 1992

SUBJECT: Annual Report

I enclose the Senate Committee on University Budget's annual report to Senate.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Blackman". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "R" and a cursive "Blackman".

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY BUDGET
REPORT TO SENATE
NOVEMBER 4, 1992

(I) THE COMMITTEE

The Senate Committee on University Budget (SCUB) is a standing Committee of the Senate of Simon Fraser University and is designated as a confidential Committee advisory to the President.

The membership, as determined by Senate at its meeting of December 1st, 1980, consists of those members of Senate elected by and from Senate to the Senate Committee on Academic Planning.

The Chair is elected by and from the voting members of the Committee. The present Chair is R. Blackman, Faculty Senator. The other members as of November 4, 1992 are: Faculty Senators: M. Covell, J. D'Auria, M. Bowman, and K. Heinrich; Lay Members of Senate: A. Wotherspoon, V. Nielsen; Student Senators: D. Fickling, S. Wade, T. Morrison. Other members who have served this past year but are no longer on SCUB include S. Verdun-Jones, T. Lindberg and K. Giffen. The Director of Analytical Studies, W. Wattamaniuk, serves as (non-voting) Secretary. The Vice-President of Financial Services, R. Ward, also attends meetings as a non-voting resource person on a regular basis. Other Vice-Presidents and the President attend at the invitation of the Committee.

The proceedings of the Committee, information received by it from the administration, and the specifics of the advice given by the Committee are confidential. Only the activity reports that the Committee makes to Senate are not subject to this rule of confidentiality.

(II) ACTIVITY REPORT

This report covers the period from December 11, 1991 to November 4, 1992. Within this period, SCUB was chaired by R. Blackman and met in Committee 10 times.

At each meeting, SCUB was briefed by R. Ward regarding the budget situation at SFU, on expectations for provincial funding, and on overall allocations within the University once revenues and budget were established. SCUB has also received for information from the Office of Financial Services the following:

- Financial Statements
- Operating Budget Summaries for BOG
- Operating Budget Application
- Capital Budget Application
- Tuition Fee Proposals for BOG
- SFU's Submission to the Operating Grant Equity Study
- 1993/94 Operating Budget Principles and Processes
- The Meekison Report on Resource Allocation and Management

The Meekison Report included consideration of SCUB's role in the context of Section 36(e) of the University Act, in which Senate is authorized "to establish a standing committee to meet with the president and assist him with the preparation of the university budget". Dr. Meekison offered two alternatives to current practice, involving the establishment of "a new committee on university priorities and budgeting or a President's Advisory committee on Priorities and Budgeting." The new committee would significantly modify SCUB to include representatives from the ranks of VPs, Deans and academic staff. On the other hand, the latter alternative would maintain SCUB in its present role, and add the Chair of SCUB to the VP/Deans group for liaison on budgetary matters. SCUB has strongly recommended to the president that the second approach is to be preferred, since it would ensure that the President continued to receive timely, informed and independent budgetary advice from a group of elected senators. The university administration appears to fully support SCUB's view on this important issue.

SCUB has provided written advice and recommendations to the President on the following items in the past year:

- Newly authorized faculty positions in the 1992/93 Budget.
- Undergraduate Visa Student Tuition fee proposals for 1992/93
- The Meekison Report on Resource Allocation and Management

Meetings with President and Vice-Presidents

- December, 1991.....with R. Saunders, Associate Vice-President Academic, to discuss Computing Services and Financial Aid.
- January, 1992.....with J. Munro, VP Academic, to discuss the 1992/93 Academic Budget and Financial Aid.
- February, 1992.....with Wm. Saywell, President, to discuss the 1992/93 Budget.
- April, 1992.....with Wm. Saywell, President, to discuss the 1992/93 Budget.
- June, 1992.....with J. Munro, VP Academic, to discuss the 1992/93 Academic Budget
- October, 1992.....with J. Munro, VP Academic, to discuss the 1992/93 Academic Budget and decentralization
- November, 1992.....with Wm. De Vries, Vice-President, Administration, to discuss the 1993/94 Capital Five Year Plan.