

*As amended by  
Senate June 5/95*

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE  
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SENATE OF SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY HELD  
ON MONDAY, MAY 15, 1995 IN ROOM 3210 WMX, 7:00 P.M.  
OPEN SESSION

Present: Boland, L., Acting Chair

Alderson, E.  
Amason, K.  
Bullock, D.  
Chan, K.  
Clayman, B.  
Cohen, M.  
D'Auria, J.  
Dean, C.  
Dhir, R.  
Dobb, T.  
Driver, J.  
Frindt, R. (representing C. Jones)  
Gill, W. (representing J. Blaney)  
Hafer, L.  
Heinrich, K.  
Jahn, R.  
Luk, W.S.  
Marteniuk, R.  
Mathewes, R.  
McAskill, I.  
McInnes, D.  
Morrison, T.  
Osborne, J.  
Percival, P.  
Perry, T.  
Peterson, L.  
Rawicz, A.  
Sanghera, B.  
Shapiro, S.  
Stewart, M.L.  
Swartz, N.  
Underhill, O.  
Vining, A.  
Wideen, M.  
Winne, P.

Absent: Bacani, J.  
Barrow, R.  
Beattie, S.  
Ciria, A.  
Dunsterville, V.  
Eaton, C.  
Einstein, D.  
Etherington, L.  
Giffen, K.  
Hoeflich, K.  
LeMare, L.  
Lord, T.  
Mauser, G.  
Munro, J.  
Naef, B.  
Segal, J.  
Stubbs, J.  
Warsh, M.  
Wickstrom, N.  
Wu, S.

In attendance:

Dyck, I.  
Gee, E.  
Poole, G.

Heath, W.R., Secretary  
Grant, B., Recording Secretary

1. Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of March 6, 1995

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

4. Report of the Chair

i) Paper S.95-22 - Election Report - For Information

A report outlining the results of faculty and student elections to Senate and the Board of Governors was received by Senate for information.

5. Report of Committees

a) Senate Committee on Academic Planning

i) Paper S.95-23 - External Review - Department of Chemistry - For Information

Following a brief discussion, the External Review Report of the Department of Chemistry was received by Senate for information.

ii) Paper S.95-24 - Institute of Governance Studies

Moved by J. Osborne, seconded by B. Clayman

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors as set forth in S.95-24, the formation of the Institute of Governance Studies"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

b) Senate Committee on Academic Planning/Senate Undergraduate Studies Committee

i) University College of the Fraser Valley

a) Paper S.95-25 - Science 400

Moved by J. Osborne, seconded by E. Alderson

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.95-25, the following new course to be offered at the University College of the Fraser Valley: Science 400 History and Philosophy of Science"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

b) Paper S.95-26 - Major Programs in History and English

Moved by J. Osborne, seconded by E. Alderson

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.95-26, the following new programs to be offered at the University College of the Fraser Valley commencing September 1995: Major Program in History; Major Program in English"

*Undergraduate Studies Committee*  
I. Dyck, Chair, /Department of History was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

In response to an inquiry concerning the status of the agreement between SFU and UCFV, Senate was informed that although UCFV has been given degree-granting status they wish to retain ties with SFU in areas with similar programs and reasonable resources in order to establish a curriculum base for themselves. This will provide time under their autonomous status to develop more independent programs in other areas.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Faculty of Science

a) Paper S.95-27 - Revisions to Science 010

Moved by J. Osborne, seconded by P. Percival

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.95-27, the changes to SCI 010 - Contemporary Topics in the Natural Sciences"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

b) Paper S.95-28 - Revisions to B.Sc. General Science Degree

Moved by J. Osborne, seconded by P. Percival

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.95-28, the changes to the requirements for the B.Sc. - General Science Program, effective September 1996"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

- c) Senate Committee on Academic Planning/Senate Graduate Studies Committee
- i) Paper S.95-29 - Curriculum Revisions - MRM Program

Moved by B. Clayman, seconded by J. Osborne

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.95-29, the proposed

- i) New course MRM 643-5 Environmental Conflict and Dispute Resolution
- ii) Change to calendar entry for graduate program
- iii) Change to description of Co-operative Education
- iv) Add section on Tourism under Co-operative Education calendar entry
- v) Add heading to Master Program calendar entry
- vi) Change to list of required courses for MRM Degree
- vii) Change to list of elective courses"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Acting under delegated authority of Senate, the SGSC has approved the following course revisions: Change of title and description MRM 601,602,631; Change of description MRM 610,613,647,671,690,699; Change of title MRM 664.

- ii) Paper S.95-30 - Curriculum Revisions - Criminology

Moved by B. Clayman, seconded by E. Alderson

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.95-30, the renumbering of CRIM 870 and 871 and the proposed New courses CRIM 872-3 Selected Topics; CRIM 873-3 Selected Topics"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

- iii) Paper S.95-31 - Curriculum Revisions - Geography

Moved by B. Clayman, seconded by E. Alderson

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.95-31, the proposed  
New courses: GEOG 718-4 Soil Science; GEOG 731-4 Hydrology;  
Deletion of GEOG 721-4 Biogeography of Wetlands; GEOG 724-4  
Measurement and Modelling of Heat and Mass Transfer; GEOG  
727-4 Field and Analytical Techniques in Geomorphology; GEOG  
730-4 Fossil Landforms; GEOG 747-4 Transportation; GEOG 758-

4 Heritage Resource Management; GEOG 761-4 Chrono-geography"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iv) Paper S.95-32 - Curriculum Revisions - Philosophy

Moved by B. Clayman, seconded by E. Alderson

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.95-32, the proposed (i) changes to the requirements for the M.A. and Ph.D. programs; (ii) change in credit hours from 3 to 5 for PHIL 805,815,825,845,855"

In response to a concern about the evaluation of student performance in cases where there is no thesis, it was pointed out that this option, previously approved by Senate, is quite common in many programs across North America. Brief discussion took place with regard to the proposed number of pages set as a maximum length for the M.A. thesis.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

v) Paper S.95-33 - Curriculum Revisions - Education

Moved by B. Clayman, seconded by P. Winne

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.95-33, the proposed new courses EDUC 877-5 Contemporary School Counselling; EDUC 855-5 Multicultural and Race Relations Education: Policy Development and Program Implementation"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

Motion Carried

vi) Paper S.95-34 - Curriculum Revisions - Biological Sciences

Moved by B. Clayman, seconded by R. Mathewes

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.95-34, the change of credit hours from 3 to 6 for MASC 501 Special Topics"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

d) Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning  
Paper S.95-35 - Annual Report - For Information

E. Gee, Chair of SCUTL, and G. Poole, Secretary of SCUTL, were in attendance in order to respond to questions.

In response to an inquiry about codification of data from the evaluation of teaching questionnaires, Senate was advised that the evaluations will be processed using the services and equipment at UBC.

Senate was informed that the questionnaire at this point is a test instrument, the results of which the committee will submit to factor analysis. The overall plan, which arises from a SCIMO recommendation, is to have a university-wide instrument for all teaching units to use. In addition, however, Departments and individual instructors will also be free to use their own questionnaires. SCUTL believes that if teaching is going to be evaluated in any constructive way, it must be evaluated in multi-dimensional ways, and SCUTL would like to explore a three-tiered approach to the evaluation of teaching. Firstly, a standard component for the university in general; secondly, a tier that is departmentally or discipline specific, and a third tier that is structure specific.

Opinion was expressed that there is considerable cynicism among students about how the evaluations are used by administrators such as Chairs and Deans, and inquiry was made as to how much credence is given to the information collected. It was pointed out that evaluation on teaching is not only taken into consideration for tenure, promotion and salary review, it is viewed as an ongoing feedback process so that if a problem is discovered it can be brought to the instructor's attention. Suggestion was made that the issue of student cynicism and ways to reduce it might be addressed by the Committee.

Discussion turned to specific questions on the questionnaire with concerns being expressed regarding (i) Q.16, 22 and 27 in respect to the student's ability to judge knowledge; (ii) lack of questions concerning student background and time commitment to the course; (iii) separation of the course and the instructor e.g. the importance of students' having appropriate prerequisites; and (iv) the amount of redundancy in the form.

Referring to the concerns regarding students' ability to judge knowledge, it was pointed out that the intent of these questions is to get an impression of the student's perception of credibility.

Senate was advised that the items on the questionnaire were derived from research that links certain teaching behaviors with student performance and the intent was to begin the pilot with items that have been correlated in some way to student performance; therefore, many questions that are used on standardized forms across the university do not appear on this questionnaire.

In response to a suggestion that students be advised that the form is a test instrument which contains a considerable amount of redundancy, opinion was expressed that doing so would compromise the ability to carry out factor analysis but students perhaps could be informed that the test version is somewhat longer than the one that would eventually be used.

In response to an inquiry about student access to teaching evaluations, it was noted that currently under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act student access was not possible.

- e) Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board  
Paper S.95-36 - Annual Report - For Information

The Annual Report of the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board was received by Senate for information.

- f) Senate Appeals Board  
Paper S.95-37 - Annual Report - For Information

The Annual Report of the Senate Appeals Board was received by Senate for information.

6. Other Business

On behalf of Senate, the Chair extended thanks to the following retiring Senators: A. Ciria, J. Driver, T. Perry, M. Cohen, A. Vining, J. Bacani, K. Hoeflich, D. Einstein, and S. Wu.

7. Information

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate will take place on Monday, June 5, 1995.

The Assembly moved directly into Closed Session at 8:05 p.m.

W. R. Heath  
Secretary of Senate