

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

Minutes of a meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on Monday,
December 1, 1997 at 7:00 pm in Room 3210 WMC
Open Session

Present: Blaney, Jack, President *pro tem* and Chair

Barrow, Robin
Bawa, Parveen
Berggren, J. Len
Boland, Larry
Bowman, Marilyn
Chan, Albert
Clayman, Bruce
Coleman, Peter
D'Auria, John
Dobb, Ted
Emmott, Alan
Gagan, David
Gillies, Mary Ann
Jones, Colin
Jones, John
Kanevsky, Lannie
Kirczenow, George
Marteniuk, Ron
Mathewes, Rolf
Mauser, Gary
Morris, Joy
Naef, Barbara
Ogloff, James
Osborne, Judith
Parmar, Neelam
Percival, Paul
Peterson, Louis
Pierce, John
Reed, Clyde
Russell, Robert
Sanghera, Balwant
Warsh, Michael
Waterhouse, John
Winne, Phil
Wong, Tim
Wortis, Michael
Yagi, Ian
Yerbury, Colin

Absent: Baert, Jessica
Beattie, Suzan
Blazenko, George
Cleveland, William
Dunsterville, Valerie
Etherington, Lois
Giffen, Ken
Hassan, Nany
Howlett, Michael
Lewis, Brian
McInnis, Dina
Nip, Harry
Overington, Jennifer
Segal, Joseph
Tam, Lawrence
Whitbread, Katherine
Wickstrom, Norman

In attendance:
Fizzell, Maureen
Law, Francis
Pinfield, Larry

Watt, Alison, Director, Secretariat Services
Grant, Bobbie, Recording Secretary

1. Approval of the Agenda
The Agenda was approved as distributed.
2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of November 3, 1997
The Minutes were approved as distributed.
4. Report of the Chair
There were no objections to a request from the Chair to move to Agenda Item 4 prior to 'Business Arising from the Minutes'.
 - i) On behalf of Senate, the Chair extended congratulations to Senator Robert Russell on his election to the Board of Governors by and from faculty members jointly.
 - ii) As a result of interest expressed at the last meeting with respect to the Centre for Dialogue, the Chair advised that he wished to present a 90 second informational video for Senate's viewing on the Centre which is being built downtown across from the Harbour Centre campus. He reported that the University has received four million dollars from the Federal Government, construction is now underway and the expected completion time is approximately 14 months.
3. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - i) S.97-81 - SCAR - ad hoc Committee on the Role of Senate/University Governance (For Information)

The Chair reported that the proposal from SCAR had resulted from concerns expressed about Senate's role in reviewing University policies.

In response to an inquiry about the difference in the way faculty and student senators versus administrative senators were selected to the committee, Senate was advised that SCAR felt this was the most expedient way to establish membership.

In response to a request for clarification as to voting members, it was noted that all members are voting and that the Director of Secretariat Services and the Secretary of Senate are ex-officio members.

Concern was expressed about Terms of Reference, point 1. It was suggested that the wording contradicts the University Act which states that academic governance rests with Senate, whereas the wording implies that there are policies affecting academic governance that do not fall directly within the jurisdiction of Senate. Senate was informed that the intent of SCAR was to make mention that some policies currently come before Senate, some do not. Of those which now do not come before Senate, the Committee will review those to determine if any have academic implications and therefore ought to be presented to Senate. The Chair indicated that Point 1 would be reworded to reflect discussion.

Concern was expressed about the deadline of May 30th, and opinion was expressed that some issues, particularly the policy on research ethics, should be addressed before that. The Chair indicated that they would try for the end of March.

5. Reports of Committees

a) Senate Nominating Committee

i) Paper S.97-82 - Elections

Senate was advised that no nominations were received for the one position noted on Senate paper S.97-82 and the vacancy will be carried forward.

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

i) Paper S.97-83 - Proposed Master of Environmental Toxicology Program

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by B. Clayman

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.97-83, the proposed Master of Environmental Toxicology Program, including
New courses: BISC 651, 655, 656, 657, 658, 854, 855, 856"

Francis Law, Department of Biological Sciences, was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Senate was advised that the proposal represents a professional degree rather than a research degree program and, following completion of the program, graduates will be eligible to apply for certification from the American Board of Toxicology. There is significant demand for graduates with this credential in British Columbia and elsewhere in Canada.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Senate received information that SGSC, acting under delegated authority, approved a change of title for BISC 650, 652 and a change of number - BISC 651 to BISC 654.

ii) Paper S.97-84 - Faculty of Education - Graduate Curriculum Revision

Senate received information that SGSC, acting under delegated authority, approved a change of credit requirement for the Intermediate and Elementary Mathematics Program in the Faculty of Education.

iii) Paper S.97-85 - Revised Membership - Assessment Committee for New Graduate Programs

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by B. Clayman

"that Senate approve, as set forth in S.97-85, the following change to the membership of the Assessment Committee for New Graduate Programs (ACNGP):

From: One member from each Faculty elected by the respective Faculty Graduate Studies Committee from the SGSC

To: One member from each Faculty elected by and from the respective Faculty Graduate Studies Committee"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

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

i) Paper S.97-86 - Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions - Faculty of Applied Sciences

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by P. Bawa

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.97-86, the proposed Certificate in Applied Human Nutrition including: New courses: KIN 111, 212, 312"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Senate received information that SGSC, acting under delegated authority, approved curriculum revisions to a number of existing undergraduate courses and programs in the School of Communication, School of Computing Science, School of Engineering Science, and the School of Kinesiology.

ii) Paper S.97-87 - Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions - Faculty of Arts

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Osborne

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.97-87, the following curriculum revisions for the Faculty of Arts:

Department of Psychology

- Addition to regulations governing admission to the Psychology Honours Program;

Department of Sociology/Anthropology

- Proposed Joint Major between Sociology/Anthropology and Criminology
- Proposed Joint Major between Sociology/Anthropology and Communication"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Senate received information that SGSC, acting under delegated authority, approved curriculum revisions to a number of existing undergraduate courses and programs in the Department of Archaeology, Cognitive Science Program, School for the Contemporary Arts, School of Criminology, Department of Economics, Department of English, First Nations Studies, Department of French, Department of Geography, Gerontology Program, Department of History, Interdisciplinary Studies, Latin American Studies Program, Department of Linguistics, Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Spanish Program, Department of Women's Studies.

- iii) Paper S.97-88 - Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions - Faculty of Business Administration

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Waterhouse

"that Senate approve the revised admission criteria for the Faculty of Business Administration as set forth in S.97-88"

Larry Pinfield, Associate Dean, Faculty of Business Administration and Maureen Fizzell, Undergraduate Curriculum Chair, Faculty of Business Administration were in attendance in order to respond to questions.

A general concern was expressed about the establishment of direct entry to programs, especially in Category 1, and opinion was expressed that this process contradicted the original philosophy of the University. Senate was advised that the intent of the policy was to offer direct admission to a limited number of students in order to attract some top level students which the Faculty felt they were losing to other institutions who admit directly to their programs. The intended distribution of admissions is Category 1 - 15%, Category 2 - 10%, Category 3 - 40%, and Category 4 - 35% of students admitted. Although the Faculty would like to leave a little flexibility in the distribution, there was no objection to limiting Category 1 to 15%. It was also pointed out that the percentages relevant to the other categories represented historical averages and little change would occur from current practice. Concern was expressed that the document did not reflect the Faculty's intention and request was made that the document be amended with respect to 15% limit for Category 1. The Chair noted that the document would be so amended.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Senate received information that SCUS, acting under delegated authority, approved a number of curriculum revisions to existing undergraduate courses and programs within the Faculty of Business Administration.

iv) Paper S. 97-89 - Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions - Faculty of Education

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by R. Barrow

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, the curriculum revisions for the Faculty of Education as set forth in S.97-89 - Proposed Minor in Curriculum and Instruction"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Senate received information that SCUS, acting under delegated authority, approved curriculum revisions to a number of existing undergraduate courses and programs within the Faculty of Education.

v) Paper S.97-90 - Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions - Faculty of Science

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by C. Jones

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.97-90, the following curriculum revision for the Faculty of Science: Proposed Applied Physics Honors Program"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Senate received information that SCUS, acting under delegated authority, approved curriculum revisions to a number of existing undergraduate courses and programs in the Department of Chemistry, Applied Physics Program, Biochemistry Program, Department of Biological Sciences, Actuarial Certificate Program, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Environmental Science Program, Department of Biological Sciences, Earth Sciences Program, Department of Physics, and the Physical Geography Program.

6. Other Business

Concern was expressed with respect to Monday, December 6th being referred to as a "Free Day for make up classes and labs" rather than the last day of classes for the Fall semester 1997. Senate was reminded of a motion passed several years ago specifying that when the semester commenced in the middle of the first week, then the semester would officially continue on to include a day such as Monday, December 6th as a formal class day. The intent of the motion was to compensate students losing lectures on statutory holiday Mondays. Opinion was expressed that calling it a "make-up day" results in confusion as to whether or not it should be treated as a formal class day or not. R. Heath explained that the wording had been changed in an attempt to clear up confusion with the original

wording but there was no problem changing it back if Senate wished. There appeared to be a consensus to change back to the original wording "last day of classes."

Reference was made to the Maclean's issue relating to university ratings. Although it was nice to see that Simon Fraser University was ranked at the top of the overall ranking in the comprehensive category for the second year in a row, concern was expressed about the low ranking SFU received in the 'First Year Classes Taught by Tenured Faculty' category. Senate was advised that the Maclean's information is provided by Analytical Studies and SFU has consistently been below 40% in this category in recent years. D. Gagan informed Senate that he has previously raised this issue with the Deans and that these statistics were of concern to his office.

It was suggested that there may be a problem with the methodology used by Maclean's to collect and analyze the data. D. Gagan advised Senate that the problem was wide spread across the University and was not merely a function of methodology. Brief discussion ensued with regard to methodology and some teaching practices specific to SFU. The Chair indicated that the Vice-President, Academic will attempt to check out the methodology used by Maclean's and will review the information and make further investigations into this issue.

7. Information

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate will take place on Monday, January 5, 1998.

The Open Session adjourned at 7:30 pm. Following a brief recess, the Assembly moved into Closed Session.

Alison Watt
Director, Secretariat Services