

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

Minutes of a meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on  
Monday, December 7, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 3210 WMC

Open Session

Present: Blaney, Jack, President and Chair

Berggren, Len  
Boland, Larry  
Bowman, Marilyn  
Burton, Lynn Elen  
Chan, Albert  
Cheng, Winnie  
Clayman, Bruce  
Coleman, Peter  
Copeland, Lynn  
D'Auria, John  
Dunsterville, Valerie  
Emerson, Joseph  
Emmott, Alan  
Finley, David  
Fletcher, James  
Gagan, David  
Heaney, John  
Jones, Colin  
Jones, John  
Kirczenow, George  
Marteniuk, Ron  
Mathewes, Rolf  
Morris, Joy  
Osborne, Judith  
Percival, Paul  
Perry, Thomas (representing J. Pierce)  
Peters, Joseph  
Peterson, Louis  
Reader, Jason  
Russell, Maya  
Russell, Robert  
Waterhouse, John  
Wortis, Norman

Absent:

Akins, Kathleen  
Beattie, Suzan  
Dhillon, Khushwant  
Giffen, Ken  
Gillies, Mary Ann  
Harris, Robert  
Kanevsky, Lannie  
Lewis, Brian  
Mauser, Gary  
McInnes, Dina  
Naef, Barbara  
Ogloff, James  
Overington, Jennifer  
Sanghera, Balwant  
Segal, Joseph  
Veerkamp, Mark  
Warsh, Michael  
Weeks, Daniel  
Wickstrom, Norman  
Zazkis, Rina

Heath, Ron, Dean of Student Services and Registrar  
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 2, 1998  
The Minutes were approved as distributed.
3. Business Arising from the Minutes  
Reference was made to the previous meeting's consideration of the Burnaby Mountain Community Corporation, and Senate was advised that Board of Governors has now approved the constitution and membership of the Board and the Advisory Committee.
4. Report of the Chair  
The Chair was happy to report that Simon Fraser University had again placed number one in the Maclean's ranking for the third year in a row. Although there was some skepticism with respect to the criteria used by Maclean's, the Chair stressed the importance in the ranking of such factors (as measures of excellence) as student achievement, faculty productivity, faculty receipt of national prizes, and the general reputation of SFU in the community. The Chair was also delighted to have cosponsored with the Student Society an event in the Pub last Thursday to celebrating this honour.

The Chair reported that Gail Anderson, Biological Sciences and Criminology, was a speaker at the Vancouver Institute on 5 December. She spoke to a full house and gave an outstanding lecture.

5. Reports of Committees
  - i) Senate Committee on Academic Planning
  - ii) Paper S.98-95 – Diverse Qualifications Admission Policy – Recommendation for extension

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Osborne

“that Senate approve as set forth in S.98-95, that the Diverse Qualifications Admission Policy be extended by five years to Fall semester 2004, with a review to occur in 2003”

When the policy was initially approved, concern was raised about how much staff and faculty time would be required to administer the policy. It was noted that the documentation before Senate indicated that because the numbers were so low, there was insufficient data to draw firm conclusion about the success of the policy, and inquiry was made as to whether there was any quantitative measure of the time involved to process the applications. The processing procedure was briefly explained and a total of approximately 24 hours per semesterly consideration of applications was estimated although it was pointed out that it varied by semester.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Paper S.98-96 – Faculty of Science – Centre for Environmental Biology

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by C. Jones

“that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.98-96, the proposed Centre for Environmental Biology within the Department of Biological Sciences”

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

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

i) Paper S.98-97 – Undergraduate Calendar Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved curriculum revisions in the following Schools:

- a) School of Computing Science: Deletion of CMPT 103, 112, 402, 468, 493; Enrolment Limitations – addition of a statement regarding not awarding credit for missing prerequisites; Changes to Upper/Lower Division requirements; Changes to the Certificate Program and the Specialist Program in Multimedia Computing; Changes due to the course deletions; and minor changes to existing courses.
- b) School of Kinesiology: Change of admission requirements; Deletion of KIN 141; New courses: KIN 381, 444, 445; and minor changes to existing courses.

ii) Paper S.98-98 – Undergraduate Calendar Revisions – Faculty of Arts

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Reader

“that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.98-98, the proposed Certificate Program in Community Economic Development”

In response to an inquiry as to why an additional administrator was required, Senate was advised that while the proposed Certificate complemented the current program it would have separate sets of regulations thus requiring separate sets of advising and processing. The Centre for Community Economic Development was very small and did not have the flexibility to absorb new tasks. However, any additional administrative costs would be absorbed within the Faculty's current budget.

Brief discussion ensued with respect to the replacement of a 400-level seminar course with courses involving a lecture, tutorial and distance education and inquiry was made as to who would be teaching these courses. Senate was advised that CED had a very small core of CFL faculty and depended on sessional and limited term appointments. It was noted that this practice was consistent with many other

Certificate and PBD programs across Faculties. Reference was made to the Maclean's ranking with regard to courses taught by Faculty and concern was raised about the introduction of new courses whose offering would depend on sessional appointments.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved curriculum revisions in the following Departments/Schools/Programs:

- a) Department of Archaeology: Change of requirements – Minor program and Joint Major in Anthropology and Archaeology; New course – ARCH 226; and minor revisions to existing courses.
- b) Asia Canada Program: Minor program – change to optional courses, upper division and language requirements; Certificate in Chinese Studies – change of description and program requirements; Change to Chinese and Japanese language course placement regulations; New course – ASC 205; and minor revisions to existing Asia Canada, Chinese, and Japanese courses.
- c) Canadian Studies Program: Changes to course list for Canadian Studies program and Certificate in French Canadian Studies; New courses – CNS 392, 481; and minor revisions to existing courses.
- d) Community Economic Development: Course deletion – CED 400; New courses – CED 201, 301; Change of description – PBD program; and minor revisions to existing courses.
- e) School for the Contemporary Arts: Course deletions – FPA 141, 216, 228, 242, 258, 264, 314, 315, 382, 384, 423, 424, 429, 439, 448, 449, 458, 459, 469; New courses – FPA 226, 357; Change of requirements to Major, Minor, Joint Major and Extended Minor programs; minor revisions to existing courses.
- f) School of Criminology: Course deletions – CRIM 100, 102, 415; New course – CRIM 315; Change of requirements – Major program; Editorial changes to the General Certificate in Criminology and Joint Major in Criminology and Sociology/Anthropology; and minor revisions to existing courses.
- g) Department of Economics: Program changes to Major, Joint Major, Honors and Joint Honors programs; Calendar statement re Exchange and Visiting Students; New course – ECON 325; and minor revisions to existing courses.
- h) Family Studies Certificate: Addition to courses on Optional List
- i) Department of Geography: Change to Section B and C list – Geography BA Major Program; Addition of Environmental Science and Resource and Environmental Management to list of Departments from which Faculty of Arts breadth requirements may be selected; and minor revisions to existing courses.
- j) Gerontology Program: Minor revisions to existing courses
- k) Department of History: New courses – HIST 215, 308, 309, 365, 382, 384, 409, 421, 422; Course deletions – HIST 314, 380, 381, 383, 408; and minor revisions to existing courses
- l) Humanities Program: Course deletion – HUM 376; Change to Calendar description of the Minor program; and minor revisions to existing courses
- m) Integrated Studies Program: New courses – GS 420-429
- n) Latin American Studies Program: Co-operative Education option – Calendar statement; minor revisions to existing SLAS and LAS courses

- o) Department of Philosophy: Minor revision to an existing course
  - p) Department of Political Science: New courses – POL 327, 356, 436; Course deletion – POL 425; and minor revisions to existing courses
  - q) Department of Sociology/Anthropology: Change of requirements – Major, Minor, PBD in Ethnic and Intercultural Relations, and Joint Major in Criminology and S/A programs; and minor revisions to existing courses
  - r) Department of Women's Studies: New courses – WS 207, 208
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- c) Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules
  - i) Paper S.98-99 – 1999/2000 Schedule of Dates

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Osborne

“that Senate adopt the Schedule of Dates for 1999/2000 as set out in Schedule 2”

Opinion was expressed that the reading days should be scheduled later than Week 7, perhaps Week 9 or 10, because a much greater amount of material would have been covered by then and students would have a better opportunity to prepare for their final exam.

It was noted that the proposed reading break had been scheduled as a result of consultations with the Student Society following a referendum on the issue in their electoral process.

Amendment moved by J. Morris, seconded by J. Reader

“that Schedule 2 be deleted and replaced with Schedule 1”

Opinion was expressed that Schedule 2 added a fair amount of extra time to the process which was felt to be unjustified since not a lot was accomplished on the last day of classes, and therefore preference was expressed for Schedule 1.

It was pointed out that although the extra class day may not be as important to classes that meet several times a week, it was crucial for courses that meet on Monday only once a week, because the loss of that one day resulted in the loss of one week's worth of work.

It was pointed out that both Schedules benefited only some students and in order to benefit the majority of the student body, a reading break should be a week in length.

Question was called on the amendment, and a vote taken.

AMENDMENT FAILED

Question was called on the main motion, and a vote taken.

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

ii) Paper S.98-100 – Calendar Committee – Membership and Terms of Reference

Moved by D. Gagan, seconded by J. Morris

“that Senate approve the membership and the terms of reference – Calendar Committee – as set out in S.98-100”

Amendment moved by J. D’Auria, seconded by A. Chan

“that at least one member of the Committee be a member of Senate”

Opinion was expressed that there should be good communication between this committee and Senate and having a Senator on the committee would serve this purpose. It was pointed out that the Registrar was a member of Senate and could keep Senate informed of the committee’s activities. It was noted that the amendment might create some logistical difficulties in that there may be no Senate members on either SCUS or the SGSC. Clarification of the amendment was requested and brief discussion took place.

Moved by J. Reader, seconded by L. Boland

“that the issue be referred back to the Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules for reconsideration”

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION TO REFER CARRIED

Discussion ensued and the following concerns were raised. The Chair indicated that the comments would be forwarded to SCAR for consideration.

- Concern was raised as to the autonomy of the committee and suggestion was made that the under Item 2 of the Terms of Reference the words ‘if appropriate’ and ‘information, advice or’ be struck so that the sentence would read “To consider potential changes to established practice, and refer to Senate for approval recommendations relating to content or presentation.”
- Reference was made to item 3 of the Terms of Reference, and suggestion was made that Senate should approve the calendar of dates rather than just the principles on which it was established

iii) Paper S.98-101 – Working Group – Policy I 10.10 (For Information)

Senate was advised that Tina Loo was not available to serve on the Committee and that the membership issue would go back to SCAR for resolution by the next meeting of Senate.

d) Senate Library Committee and Library Penalties Appeal Committee

i) Paper S.98-102 – Annual Report (For Information)

In response to an inquiry about the Collections budget, Senate was advised that although additional funds had been received from the University, the increase in the cost of journals had been greater and the Library was forced, on two occasions,

to cut back on purchases. It was noted that this situation was not unique to SFU. It had become a tremendous problem for university libraries world wide.

Brief discussion followed with respect to the size of the cuts and the process followed to determine which journals would be cut. With respect to the overall university-wide budget allocations, the Chair indicated that the same process as last year would be followed which included consultation with departments and areas concerned.

6. Other Business

Senate was advised that undergraduate students were experiencing difficulties in registering for lower level courses in certain programs because these programs were restricting registration at the lower levels in order to give preference to their own majors. Specific reference was made to Computing Science 150 and 201 which had turned away non-Computing majors even though the courses were not yet full because the spaces left had been designated for majors in Computing Science. Until now, preferential registration for Majors only applied to upper level courses and concern was expressed about the practice at the lower levels. It was noted that the University now admitted students directly from Grade 12 as majors and course spaces needed to be available for them. It was pointed out that programs like Computing Science are inundated with applications and just the demand from students who wish to be majors, irrespective of the demand for service teaching, could not be accommodated. Senate was advised that additional funds had been provided to Computing Science to provide course spaces in high demand courses like Computing 150 and 201 so that students from all Faculties would have an opportunity to enrol in those courses. The registration statistics provided for Computing Science 150 and 201 were disputed by J. Peters from Computing Science and he indicated he would check on the numbers and report back to Senate. Concern was expressed that Senate may not have been fully aware of this particular consequence of the direct admission policy at the time the policy was approved.

Opinion was expressed that the direct admission policy in Applied Sciences resulted in very high quality students and allowed departments like Computing Science to compete with UBC for the best students. Even if the policy were not in place, Computing Science and other high demand programs would still have difficulty fulfilling the demand for their courses. It was noted that programs like Computing Science could double or triple in size at this time but because additional access funds were not available to create extra spaces, there would always be a percentage of students who would not have access to certain courses, even prerequisite courses.

Opinion was expressed that priority registration in lower level courses appeared to circumvent the University's policy on the registration priority number system, and although there may be good arguments to restrict registration in lower level courses, the principle should be debated by Senate.

The Chair suggested that the Registrar, together with the Dean of Applied Sciences, report back to Senate in terms of whether or not the direct admission policy provided for priority registration and whether departments, in general, were conforming to policy with respect to registration priority.

7. Information

The date of the next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate has been rescheduled from January 4, 1999 to Monday, January 11, 1999.

The Open Session adjourned at 8:00 pm. Following a brief recess, the Assembly moved into Closed Session.

Alison Watt  
Director, Secretariat Services