

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, June 3, 2002 at 7:00 pm in Room 3210 West Mall Centre

Open Session

Present: Stevenson, Michael
President and Chair of Senate

Aloi, Santa
Apaak, Clement
Atkins, Stella
Blackman, Roger (representing J. Pierce)
Bourke, Brynn
Cameron, Rob (representing B. Lewis)
Chan, Albert
Chen, Danny
Clayman, Bruce
Copeland, Lynn
Davidson, Willie
Driver, Jon
Dunsterville, Valerie
Garcia, Carlos
Gordon, Robert
Grimmett, Peter
Gupta, Kamal
Hill, Ross
Horvath, Adam
Jackson, Margaret
Jones, Colin
Jones, John
Joyner, Charles (representing C. Yerbury)
Kemper, Michelle
Krane, Bill
McArthur, James
Meredith, Lindsay (representing E. Love)
Peters, Joseph
Poletz, Taira
Russell, Robert
Tyab, Azam
Vaisey, Jacques
Van Aalst, Jan
Warren, Joel
Waterhouse, John
Weldon, Larry
Wessel, Silvia
Zaichkowsky, Judith

Absent:

Barrow, Robin
D'Auria, John
Gerson, Carole
Gill, Alison
Hauerland, Norbert
Heaney, John
Higgins, Anne
Jensen, Britta
Mauser, Gary
McFetridge, Paul
McInnes, Dina
Naef, Barbara
Percival, Paul
Phipps, Kate
Sekhon, Devinder
Thandi, Ranbir
Wong, Milton

In attendance:

Egan, Kieran
Krebs, Dennis
Loo, Tina
Wong, Amy
Wortis, Michael

Heath, Ron, Dean of Student Services and Registrar
Watt, Alison, Director, University Secretariat
Grant, Bobbie, Recording Secretary

1. Approval of the Agenda

The Chair requested that the agenda be changed to include the election of a Vice-Chair for the meeting in order to allow the motion from Senator Warren (Agenda Item 7.i) to proceed. Following this change, the agenda was approved as amended.

In response to a call for nominations from the floor of Senate, Colin Jones was nominated and agreed to serve as Vice-Chair.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of May 13, 2002

Reference was made to the last paragraph of the Chair's report on page 2 and Senators attention was drawn to the editorial changes to this paragraph on the revised page distributed at the meeting. Following this change, the Minutes were approved.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

4. Report of the Chair

The Chair reported that senior administration members have been advocating the interests of the University with Government and referred to a successful event organized by the University and held in Victoria. "SFU Day in Victoria" was well attended and provided an opportunity to bring to the attention of MLAs and senior officials of the Ministry particular interests and issues important to the University. A well attended evening event was held with SFU alumni at the conclusion of the day in Victoria.

The Chair concluded with a report that the Minister of Advanced Education had been on the Burnaby campus that day, meeting with a range of individuals and learning more about SFU.

The Chair welcomed the new members of Senate to their first meeting.

5. Question Period

There were no questions submitted.

6. Reports of Committees

A) Ad Hoc Senate Committee to Review and Develop the Undergraduate Curricula

i) Paper S.02-46 – Report – For Discussion

Senate was reminded that the ad hoc committee had been struck by Senate a year ago and the committee's penultimate report was before Senate for discussion. The Committee wished to have Senate's views on its recommendations, and following completion of the consultation process, the committee will report

formally to SCUP. Upon approval of the report in principle, SCUP will then undertake detailed implementation considerations.

The following members of the Ad Hoc Committee were in attendance in order to respond to questions: D. Krebs (Chair), K. Egan, T. Loo, J. Peters, A. Wong, and M. Wortis. M. Fizzell was unable to attend the meeting.

By way of introduction to the report, Senate was advised that the Committee had not looked at the specific curricula of particular departments but rather looked at the curricula of the University as a whole with a view towards providing a general/liberal education. University-wide consultation resulted in the set of recommendations contained in the report which the Committee felt would be a very good starting point at SFU for change to the university wide curriculum. It was recommended that as a University SFU adopt a set of requirements that must be met by all students in order to receive Bachelor degrees. The requirements include that all students must take two writing intensive courses (W), two quantitative intensive courses (Q), and eight breadth courses (B). Information was provided to Senate with respect to details concerning the implementation of the W/Q/B course requirements and it was pointed out that there were exemptions built into the regulations to handle exceptional circumstances and allow departments flexibility. The Committee's goal was to give a sense of how the requirements should be framed but has recommended that a task force be formed to work out the details of the recommendations. Senate was being asked to provide feedback about the general spirit of the recommendations and whether implementing them would significantly enhance the educational experience at SFU, and to provide input about the details/suggestions with respect to implementation.

Comment was made that it might be better to use an in-house examination for the writing requirement rather than the LPI which was administered outside SFU, and concern was expressed about the impact of the breadth requirements on students with double/triple majors. Senate was advised that the Committee had reviewed the LPI and felt it was a reasonable test that had a long history of use. It was also noted that Continuing Studies at SFU offered pre-university courses in writing which could help students improve their writing ability to a level where they could pass either the LPI or equivalent test. With respect to students with multiple majors, it was pointed out that the W and Q courses could also be counted as breadth courses.

Depending on how a department interpreted its freedom within the regulations, concern was expressed that students could be required to take one or two extra semesters in order to fulfill the requirements. Particular concern was expressed about the impact of the breadth requirements on students trying to do sequential courses outside their area. Detailed discussion using the Chemistry curriculum as an example took place with respect to how the regulations might be implemented. Senate was assured that it was not the Committee's intention to require students to take an extra semester but it was hoped that departments would cooperate in doing their share to help meet these general education requirements by incorporating them into existing programs. It was suggested

that the document was not clear as to whether the breadth courses were to be an integral part of a program or an add on.

Concern was expressed about the grade requirements especially for the Q courses and the impact it might have on student access. It was pointed out that they were not entrance requirements; they were standards which would exempt students from the suggested placement tests. In response to an inquiry as to how the recommendations would affect current students, Senate was informed that there was no intention to retroactively apply the regulation and that existing students would be required to fulfill the requirements that were in effect at the time they entered the university.

Discussion turned to the question of how Q requirements could be built into programs in a way that was relevant to students in Humanities and Fine Arts programs. The Committee acknowledged that programs had different needs and it would be more difficult in some programs than others. The Committee believed however that it could be done in a way that was relevant to all students and programs but that it might require the development of some new courses. Inquiry was made about how many Arts students enter with Grade 12 Math and if there was a breakdown available between Social Science students and Humanities students in this regard. It was suggested that the Q requirement might discourage students interested in the Humanities and Fine and Performing Arts from coming to SFU. It was stressed that these requirements are not entrance requirements, and that students would have until the end of the first year to bring their writing and quantitative abilities up to the level required in the placement tests.

Reference was made to the writing courses and concern was expressed about the expense and considerable workload attached to these courses. A discussion ensued in which a number of models were discussed in regard to delivery method and resource requirements.

Discussion turned to recommendation four with respect to GPA calculation and a senator asked whether there would be three different grade point averages on a student's transcript. Senate was informed that the addition of a GPA for the Major program was an attempt to decrease the barriers to breadth and that the Major GPA would be used for qualification inside the program and for scholarships, etc. It was pointed out that program GPAs were already in existence at the University so this was new. It was suggested that instead of so many sets of GPAs, some W/Q/B courses could be graded on a pass/fail basis.

Concern was expressed that the implementation might have a host of exceptions and would turn out to be bureaucratically difficult. It might be better to have simpler regulations with fewer exceptions.

It was noted that there was a history and tradition at SFU for a great deal of independence and these recommendations were a change to that culture. It was suggested that the University needed to address the underlying principle of

what the University, as a whole, would like to see in an undergraduate education before deciding whether the requirements are reasonable and worthwhile.

On behalf of Senate the Chair thanked members of the Committee for the report and their attendance at the Senate meeting. Speaking personally, the Chair felt the report was a very thorough and thoughtful piece of work that promised to produce for Senate policy changes and recommendations that would advance the cause of undergraduate education at SFU.

B) Senate Committee on University Priorities

i) Paper S.02-47 – Transition of TechBC Graduate Programs

Moved by J. Waterhouse, seconded by J. Driver

“that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors the extension of the Cohort Special Arrangements in Computing Arts and Design Sciences to include PhD students as outlined in S.02-47”

Tables 1 and 2 were omitted from the original documentation but were distributed to Senate at the meeting.

Concern was expressed that the wording of the motion was too general and in order to clarify issues raised within the document support papers, the following revision proposed by C. Jones was accepted as a **friendly amendment**

“that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors the extension of the Cohort Special Arrangements in Computing Arts and Design Sciences to include PhD students as outlined in S.02-47. No new admissions to the PhD program be permitted unless a regular graduate program in this area has been approved by Senate”

Senate was informed that the motion would allow existing TechBC doctoral students to continue in their programs and two things were expected to happen. One was that the cohort program would continue until the time described in the document and students would graduate as part of the Cohort Special Arrangements Program, or the program would act as a temporary solution to allow students to continue in their programs until a permanent graduate program was put in place at SFU at which time they would be transferred.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

C) Senate Committee on University Honours

i) Paper S.02-48 – New Honorary Degree Designations

Moved by V. Dunsterville, seconded by A. Chan

"that Senate approve the following Honorary Degrees for award by the University:

D.Litt. (Letters)	for outstanding achievement in literature
D.Sc. (Science)	for outstanding achievement in science, engineering science, computing science, medicine
D.F.A. (Fine Arts)	for outstanding achievement in the fine and performing arts
LL.D. (Laws)	for outstanding achievement in other areas

The Senate Committee on University Honours will make recommendations to Senate regarding both the names of individuals to be honoured and the degree to be awarded in each instance."

Brief discussion took place as to what 'other areas' would include.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

D) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

i) Paper S.02-51 – School of Engineering Science – Changes to BAsC and BAsC (Honors) programs

Moved by R. Cameron, seconded by J. Jones

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors the proposal from the School of Engineering Science to refine the existing BAsC program to provide both a general and an honors degree as set forth in S.02-51, effective September 2002. Furthermore, Senate affirms that the designation BAsC (Honors) may be used by those who have graduated from the BAsC program prior to Fall 2002, provided that both a CGPA and a UDGPA of least 3.0 were obtained on graduation"

Inquiry was made as to what options were available to current students not meeting the 3.0 GPA requirement or who do not complete the undergraduate thesis. Senate was advised that students could obtain a Bachelor of General Studies from Applied Sciences but substantial additional work would be required to obtain a Bachelor of Science.

Question arose as to whether it was intended to retroactively reproduce academic records and parchments for students who had graduated prior to Fall 2002. Senate was advised that there was no intention to do that but students would be entitled to use the Honors designation.

In response to an inquiry as to why 2.4 was chosen as the graduation requirement, Senate was advised that because of the high academic standard the program had built a reputation with respect to the quality of its students. There had been some concern within the School that a general degree would dilute that reputation so 2.4 was chosen as a compromise.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

E) Senate Nominating Committee

i) Paper S.02-49 – Elections

A revised paper showing additions and deletions was distributed to Senators along with additional information supplied by candidates. The following are the results of elections by Senate to Senate committees:

Senate Committee on Disciplinary Appeals (SCODA)

Three Faculty Members (at-large) (1 Regular, 1 Alternate).

Elected by acclamation as Regular member
for term of office to May 31, 2004:

Colleen Collins-Dodd

Elected by acclamation as Alternate members
for terms of office to May 31, 2003:

Sam Black
Cathy D'Andrea

Five Students (at-large) (3 Regular, 2 Alternate) for terms of office to May 31, 2003

Elected as Regular members:

Brynn Bourke
Danny Chen
Michelle Kemper

Elected as Alternate members:

Gina Fernandez
Chris Steinbach

Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)

Five Faculty Senators (one from each Faculty) for terms of office to May 31, 2004

Elected (Applied Sciences)

Joseph Peters

Elected by acclamation (Arts)

Carole Gerson

Business Administration

Vacant

Elected by acclamation (Education)

Peter Grimmett

Elected (Science)

Paul Percival

Two Student Senators elected for terms of office to May 31, 2003

Elected

Brynn Bourke
Azam Tyab

Lay Senator elected for term of office to May 31, 2004

Elected by acclamation

Valerie Dunsterville

Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules (SCAR)

Two Senators (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2004

Elected

Peter Grimmett

One Student Senator for term of office to May 31, 2003
Elected by acclamation
Margaret Jackson
Carlos Garcia

Senate Committee on Continuing Studies (SCCS)

Four Faculty Senators for terms of office to May 31, 2004
Elected by acclamation
Margaret Jackson
Gary Mauser
Rob Gordon
Larry Weldon

One Student Senator for term of office to May 31, 2004
Elected by acclamation
Joel Warren

One Alternate (at-large) Student for term of office to May 31, 2004
Elected by acclamation
Muneer Esmail

Senate Committee on University Honours (SCUH)

One Senator (Faculty of Science) for term of office to May 31, 2005.
Elected by acclamation
Norbert Haunerland

Two Lay Senators for terms of office to May 31, 2005
Elected by acclamation
Valerie Dunsterville
James McArthur

One Student (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003
Elected
Kate Phipps

One Student Senator for term of office to May 31, 2004
Elected by acclamation
Britta Jensen

Senate Library Committee (SLC) and Library Penalties Appeal Committee (LPAC) – Dual Position

One Undergraduate Student Alternate for term of office to May 31, 2004
Elected by acclamation
Jennifer Siegfried

One Graduate Student Alternate for term of office to May 31, 2004
Vacant

Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)

Four Senators (at-large) for terms of office to May 31, 2003
Elected by acclamation
Carole Gerson
Ross Hill
Jan Van Aalst
Vacant

One Student Senator for term of office to May 31, 2003
Elected by acclamation
Joel Warren

One Student Alternate (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003
Elected
Reza Pourvali

Senate Policy Committee on Scholarships, Awards & Bursaries (SPCSAB)

One Faculty Senator (as Chair) for term of office to May 31, 2005
Elected by acclamation
John D'Auria

One Faculty Member (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2004. Balloting resulted in a tied vote between M.A. Gillies and K. Gupta. K. Gupta subsequently withdrew his nomination.

Elected

Mary Ann Gillies

One Undergraduate Student (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003. The student elected to this committee also becomes a member of SUAAC. Prior to balloting, B. Bourke withdrew her nomination.

Elected by acclamation

Taira Poletz

Note: T. Poletz subsequently withdrew her nomination. The vacancy will be carried forward to next meeting of Senate.

One Graduate Student (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003. The student elected to this committee also becomes a member of SGAAC.

Elected by acclamation

Amit Goel

Senate Undergraduate Awards Adjudication Committee (SUAAC)

One Lay Senator for term of office to May 31, 2004

Elected by acclamation

James McArthur

One Undergraduate Student (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003

Elected

Kate Phipps

Senate Graduate Awards Adjudication Committee (SGAAC)

One Lay Senator for term of office to May 31, 2004

Vacant

One Graduate Student (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003

Elected

Mavis MacMillen

Senate Appeals Board (SAB)

Two Faculty Members (at-large) (1 Regular, 1 Alternate) for terms of office to May 31, 2004. Candidates were elected by acclamation, balloting was required to determine committee position.

Elected as Regular member

Mark Wexler

Elected as Alternate member

Sam Black

Two Graduate Students (at-large) for terms of office to May 31, 2004. Candidates were elected by acclamation, balloting was required to determine committee position.

Elected as Regular member

Peg (Randy) Peters

Elected as Alternate member

Peter Liljedahl

Committee to Review University Admissions (CRUA)

One Faculty Member (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2004

Elected by acclamation

Geoff Madoc-Jones

Two Graduate Students (at-large) for terms of office to May 31, 2004. Candidates were elected by acclamation, balloting was required to determine committee position.

Elected as Regular member

Clement Apaak

Elected as Alternate member

Felix Tang

Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

Two Undergraduate Students (at-large) for terms of office to May 31, 2003.

Elected

Danny Chen
Graham Percival

Senate Committee on Enrolment Management and Planning (SCEMP)

Two Faculty Senators for terms of office to May 31, 2004

Elected

Kamal Gupta
Larry Weldon

One Undergraduate Student (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003

Elected

Azam Tyab

One Graduate Student (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003

Elected by acclamation

Felix Tang

Electoral Standing Committee (ESC)

Three Senators (one of whom must be a student) for terms of office to May 31, 2004.

Elected by acclamation

Brynn Bourke
Jon Driver
Vacant

Senate Committee on International Activities (SCIA)

Two Faculty Senators for terms of office to May 31, 2004

Elected

Colin Jones
Larry Weldon

One Undergraduate Student Senator for term of office to May 31, 2004

Elected by acclamation

Taira Poletz

Secretary's Note: T. Poletz has subsequently withdrawn her nomination; the vacancy will be brought forward to the next meeting of Senate.

One Graduate Student (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2004

Elected by acclamation

Clement Apaak

One Senator (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2004

Elected by acclamation

Valerie Dunsterville

International Student Exchange Committee (ISEC)

Two Faculty Members (at-large) for terms of office to May 31, 2004

Elected by acclamation

John Bechhoefer
Anne Higgins

One Student (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003

Elected

Clement Apaak

Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning (SCUTL)

One Faculty Member (at-large from the Faculty of Arts) for term of office to May 31, 2005

Elected by acclamation

Tom Grieve

One Faculty Member (at-large from the Faculty of Science) for term of office to May 31, 2005

Elected by acclamation

Bernard Roitberg

One Undergraduate Student (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003. Balloting resulted in a tied vote between D. Chen and J. Siegfried. D. Chen subsequently withdrew his nomination.

Elected

Jennifer Siegfried

Diverse Qualifications Adjudication Committee (DQAC)

One Lay Senator for term of office to May 31, 2004

Elected

Barbara Naef

Two Undergraduate Students (at-large) for terms of office to May 31, 2003

Elected

Kate Phipps

Taira Poletz

Calendar Committee

One Student (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003

Elected

Graham Percival

Vice-Chair of Senate

One Senator (at-large) for term of office to May 31, 2003.

Elected

Paul McFetridge

7. Other Business

i) Paper S.02-50 – Motion from Senator Warren

Michael Stevenson and John Waterhouse left the meeting at this point. Colin Jones took the Chair and invited Senator Warren to move the motion. J. Warren yielded to the floor.

Moved by M. Kemper, seconded by C. Garcia

“that the motion be tabled”

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION TO TABLE CARRIED

8. Information

The date of the next regular meeting of Senate is Monday, July 8, 2002.

Open Session adjourned at 9:10 pm; the Assembly moved directly into Closed Session.

Alison Watt
Director, University Secretariat