

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, April 3, 2006 at 5:30 pm in Room 3210 WMC
Open Session

Stevenson, Michael, President and Chair of
Senate

Present:

Apaak, Clement
Breden, Felix
Budd, James
Caufield, Sarah
Copeland, Lynn
Dickinson, Peter
Easton, Stephen
Ester, Martin
Gordon, Irene
Grimmett, Peter
Harder, Derrick
Hauerland, Norbert
Hayes, Michael
Heift, Trude (representing J. Driver)
Horvath, Adam
Hunsdale, Shawn
Javed, Waseem
Joffres, Michel
Krane, Bill
LaBrie, John
Lewis, Brian
Love, Ernie
MacKenzie, Christine
MacLean, David
Magee, Sean
Percival, Colin
Percival, Paul
Pierce, John
Pinto, Mario
Schellenberg, Betty
Scott, Jamie
Uhlmann, Sasha
van Baarsen, Amanda
Warner, D'Arcy
Waterhouse, John
Williams, Peter
Wong, Josephine
Woodbury, Robert

Absent:

Black, Sam
Brennand, Tracy
Corbett, Kitty
Dickinson, John
Fizzell, Maureen
Fleming-Saraceno, David
Gordon, Robert
Halpern, Erica
Honda, Barry
Louie, Brandt
McArthur, James
Plischke, Michael
Smith, Don
Tilley, Kevin
Weeks, Daniel
Zandvliet, David

In attendance:

Archibald, Tom
Friskin, Barbara
Gill, Warren
Grieve, Tom
Kirkpatrick, Ted

Heath, Nick, Associate Registrar
Watt, Alison, Director, University Secretariat
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 March 6, 2006

Following a brief clarification about the wording of the last full paragraph at the bottom of page 6 concerning the Chair of the Board of IBT, and a spelling correction, the Minutes were approved as distributed.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

i) Paper S.06-47 – Revised Coat of Arms

Moved by J. Waterhouse, seconded by J. Pierce

“that Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the revision of the University’s Coat of Arms to replace each crosslet with a book, with the corresponding change being made in the University’s flag”

W. Gill, Vice-President, University Relations was in attendance in order to respond to questions. In answer to a question, it was confirmed that the only change being proposed is to replace each crosslet with a book, and the ribbon would not be changed.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

4. Report of the Chair

i) Amendment to the University Act

The Chair reported that the clause in the University Act that prevented international students from being elected as student representatives on university Boards of Governors has been repealed by the BC Legislature. Clement Apaak who had worked passionately over the last few years to obtain this legislative change was congratulated on this accomplishment.

ii) Budget

The Chair advised Senate that the budget reflected a positive commitment from the Government to sustain the level of competitive excellence of universities on the research front, but was disappointing in that the Government would not commit to inflation adjustments to the grant provided for enrolment growth and would not commit to the funding of graduate studies. The Chair stressed that the University has respected academic priorities by allocating 80% of growth income (grant and tuition fee revenues) to academic programs.

At the Federal level, the Chair informed Senate that the Government had not indicated any particular interest in education as a priority but had indicated during the election a commitment to dedicated transfers for higher education. Efforts are being made to persuade the Government to act on this commitment in the near future.

5. Question Period
There were no questions.

6. Reports of Committees

A) Senate Committee on University Priorities

i) Paper S.06-48 – External Review – Department of English

Moved by J. Waterhouse, seconded by J. Pierce

“that Senate concur with the recommendation of the Senate Committee on University Priorities concerning advice to the Department on priority items resulting from the external review”

T. Grieve, Chair, Department of English, was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Paper S.06-49 – New Options: Industrial Mathematics Program

Moved by J. Waterhouse, seconded by C. MacKenzie

“that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors, a revision to the Major and Honors Program in Industrial Mathematics to include Option A: Operations Research (Surrey), Option B: Scientific Computing (Burnaby), and Option C: Discrete Mathematics (Burnaby)”

T. Archibald, Chair, Department of Mathematics, was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iii) Paper S.06-50 – New Program: Major and Honors Program in Biological Physics

Moved by J. Waterhouse, seconded by C. MacKenzie

“that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors, the proposal for a Major and Honors Program in Biological Physics”

B. Frisken, Chair, Department of Physics, was in attendance in order to respond to questions. In response to an inquiry about the impact of this new program on MBB courses, Senate was advised that enrolments in the new program would not significantly impact other courses.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

B) Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning

i) Paper S.06-51 – Revision to the Policy for Excellence in Teaching

Moved by J. Waterhouse, seconded by I. Gordon

“that Senate approve the changes to the criteria for the Excellence in Teaching Award as outlined in the document “Award for Excellence in Teaching”, prepared by the Excellence in Teaching Award Committee”

T. Kirkpatrick, Chair, Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning, was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

C) Senate Graduate Studies Committee

i) Paper S.06-37 – Frequency of Awarding of Graduate Degrees

Moved by T. Heift, seconded by C. Apaak

“that Senate approve in principle a change to the schedule for the awarding of graduate degrees so that graduate degrees may be awarded at any Senate meeting”

Concern was expressed that allowing the awarding of degrees at an earlier point in a semester creates a continuity problem for student registration, since under the current system students can only register at the beginning of a semester, and once a degree has been awarded, the student would no longer be considered registered and thus lose his/her student status.

Considerable discussion ensued with respect to the registration issue raised. Senate was advised that since this option would only be implemented at the request of the student, students could postpone the completion of one degree to coincide with their registration of another degree, or if they preferred could apply to have the date of degree completion recorded on their transcript without delay.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Paper S.06-38 – Changes to Graduate General Regulations (For Information)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved changes to the following Graduate General Regulations: GGR 1.2 – Senate Graduate Studies Committee, GGR 1.8.2 – Review of Unsatisfactory Progress, GGR 1.3.12 – English Language Competence, GGR 1.5.1 – Normal Grading System.

iii) Paper S.06-39 – Graduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Education (For Information)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved a prerequisite change for EDUC 867 and a change to Graduate Diploma in Advanced Professional Studies in Education with regard to course credit transfers.

iv) Paper S.06-40 – SGSC Annual Report (For Information)

Brief discussion took place with respect to the figures for the doctoral degrees on page 6, and an inquiry was made about why the SSHRC data was not separated into Post-Graduate Scholarships and Canada Graduate Scholarships as had been done for the NSERC scholarship data. The Associate Dean of Graduate Studies indicated that the inquiry would be passed on and the information provided if available.

v) Paper S.06-52 – Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Health Sciences (For Information)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved revisions to requirements and existing courses in the M.Sc. in Population and Public Health program and the Graduate Diploma in Global Health.

vi) Paper S.06-53 – Curriculum Revisions – Department of Psychology (For Information)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, re-defined PSYC 807 and 980 to fulfill accreditation requirements of the professional program by creating new courses with special identification (807a-e and 907a-f), approved a prerequisite change to PSYC 824, and approved minor revisions to Calendar wording for existing course and degree requirements.

E) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

i) Paper S.06-54 – Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences (For Information)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved minor revisions to existing courses and programs in Engineering Science and Kinesiology.

ii) Paper S.06-55 – Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Business Administration (For Information)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the deletion of BUS 131 and the designation of BUS 360 as a (W) Writing course.

iii) Paper S.06-56 – Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (For Information)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved revisions to existing courses and programs in Mathematics and Statistics.

F) Paper S.06-57 -Senate Committee on International Activities – Annual Report (For Information)

Senate received the Annual Report for the period January – December 2005 of the Senate Committee on International Activities for information.

7. Other Business

i) Paper S.06-58 – 40th Anniversary Open House (For Information)

Senate received information about the 40th Anniversary Open House on Saturday, June 3, 2006 including a proposal to have an information table on governance issues that cover both the Board of Governors and Senate. Senators interested in participating were asked to contact Alison Watt directly.

8. Information

The date of the next regular meeting of Senate is Monday, May 15, 2006.

Open Session adjourned at 6:20 pm and Senate moved directly into Closed Session.

Alison Watt, Director, University Secretariat