#### DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY SENATE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on Monday, March 1, 2010 at 7:00 pm in Room 3210 WMC

#### Open Session

Present: Stevenson, Michael, President and Chair

Absent:

Bezglasnyy, Anton Brennand, Tracy Chapman, Glenn Copeland, Lynn Cormack, Lesley Dow, Greg Driver, Jon Easton, Stephen Fizzell, Maureen Funt, Elliot Geisler, Cheryl Gordon, Robert Hannah, David Harding, Kevin Joffres, Michel Krane, Bill Laba, Martin Laitsch, Dan Lewis, Cynthia Leznoff, Daniel Magnusson, Kris Myers, Gordon Nesbit, Tom O'Neil, John Parkhouse, Wade Patel, Ravi Paterson, David Percival, Colin Percival, Paul Peters, Joseph Pierce, John Pinto, Mario Plischke, Michael Rajapakse, Nimal Ruben, Peter

Scott, Jamie

Shapiro, Daniel

Warner, D'Arcy

Williams, Tony Zelezny, Joseph

Beale, Alison Chiu, Christina Francis, June Godson, Ali Golnaraghi, Farid Hiscocks, Graham Janes, Craig Lee, Shara Li, Fiona Louie, Brandt MacGrotty, Alysia McArthur, James Moubarak, Cristel Nadison, Ada Noble, Cameron Pavsek, Christopher Russell, Robert Sahinalp, Cenk Thompson, Steve Tiffany, Evan van der Wey, Dolores Wakkary, Ron

Woodbury, Rob

In attendance: Anderson, Robert Beck, Kumari Connolly, Deb Cramer, Peter Dutton, Paul Herdman, Tony Ilieva, Roumi Kawasaki, Tsuyoshi Krieger, Charles Lougheed, Patrick Osborne, Judith Perry, Tom Silverman, Michael

Ross, Kate, Registrar & Senior Director Student Enrolment Grant, Bobbie, Recording Secretary

# 1. <u>Approval of the Agenda</u>

The Agenda was approved as distributed.

# 2. <u>Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of February 8, 2010</u> The Minutes were approved as distributed.

# 3. <u>Business Arising from the Minutes</u>

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

# 4. Report of the Chair

The Chair wished to acknowledge for the record his great satisfaction with the appointment of Andrew Petter as the next President of Simon Fraser University. He felt that the combination of Professor Petter's exemplary record both academically and in the public service was an excellent fit for SFU. Participation in the search process was an enormous service to the University and, on behalf of Senate and the University, he wished to acknowledge and thank the following Senators who were involved in the search process for their extraordinary service to the University: Lesley Cormack, Ali Godson, Kevin Harding, Gord Myers, Ravi Patel, Paul Percival, and Daniel Shapiro.

Commenting on SFU's involvement in the Olympics, the Chair reported that the suspension of classes was a significant service as it created an enormous amount of flexibility in the public transit system and contributed to effective transport management during the Olympic period. The utilization of parking space at the Burnaby campus as a staging ground for transport to and from venues was also a significant contribution which proved to be very successful. The downtown campuses were also heavily involved and played an important role: the Segal Graduate School of Business was taken over by the Royal Canadian Mint, the Harbour Centre campus was the site of German House, the Wosk Centre for Dialogue was used by the Americans, and SFU's participation in the Cultural Olympiad, particularly the production of Robert Lepage's Blue Dragon was a phenomenal success and a very important demonstration to the public of Contemporary Arts in theatre and multi-media. The Chair wished to thank all those who volunteered and others for their involvement and efforts to make the 2010 Olympics such a success.

# i) Report on Kamloops Program

Referring to recent reports in the media relating to SFU's presence in Kamloops, the Vice-President Academic wished to provide Senate with some background information and explain decisions taken by the University in this regard.

Senate was reminded that SFU has been offering programs physically located on the Kamloops Indian Band reservation for approximately 20 years. The initiative started by faculty members in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and a consortium of First Nations Bands in the Kamloops area. In the last five years, programs have been run through an agreement solely with the Kamloops Indian Band. Programming activities provide opportunity for a BA degree, BGS degree, a Certificate in Language Proficiency which focuses on aboriginal languages, and a small pre-nursing program that prepares

students for transfer to Thompson Rivers University. In spite of considerable effort both on the part of the University and on the part of the Band, it has become clear that the programs are no longer sustainable so, in accordance with the agreement, SFU has given the Band one year notice that the programs will no longer be offered in their current location on the Reserve. The state of the buildings have deteriorated to the point of being sub-standard so new space would have to be created if the programs were to be continued, and the cost of running an academic program with low enrolment (typically less than five students per course) is too expensive. In addition, Thompson Rivers University has now been established in the Kamloops area and it has a mandate to assist with the education of First Nations peoples so the Provincial Government has been reluctant to fund SFU programs in the same area. Taking all of these factors into consideration, especially taking into account the inability to find or renovate new space for the programs, SFU informed the Kamloops Band, SFU employees, and the students in Kamloops of their intention to close the Kamloops location. The University will work with employee groups in a more formal way to deal with layoffs and possible movement of personnel, and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences is assessing where students are in their programs and trying to find ways of helping them complete their studies. Courses are expected to be offered in the Summer and possibly in the Fall depending on the needs of students and discussions are underway with the Dean of Arts and Social Sciences about the possibility of continuing to run the language programs which are located not only in Kamloops but throughout the Province and into the Yukon.

In response to inquiries, Senate was advised that no SFU degree programs would be formally cancelled; they just would not offered at the specific location in Kamloops. However, the pre-nursing program may cease to exist but it does not lead to a degree.

Opinion was expressed that in addition to expanding into new areas, it was just as important to review existing programs to determine if there were any areas where adjustments could be made. Congratulations were extended to the Vice-President Academic and the senior administration for making a decision to cut back in an existing area that could no longer be sustained.

#### 5. Question Period

There were no questions in Question Period.

## 6. Reports of Committees

- A) Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules
- i) <u>Paper S.10-27 Procedures for the Appointment of the Chancellor (For Information)</u>
- J. Osborne, Vice-President, Legal Affairs was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Senate was reminded of the recent amendment to the University Act which changed the method by which the Chancellor of the University is appointed from an election by

Convocation to selection by the Board of Governors on nomination by the Alumni Association and after consultation with Senate. The approach outlined in the documentation before Senate has been agreed upon by all BC universities.

Reference was made to the timeline in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2, and opinion was expressed that it would be more logical to have a different timeline under 3.2. A suggestion to change the wording of 3.2 from 'Approximately eighteen (18) months before the expiry of the term, a joint committee...' to 'After completion of the action taken in 3.1, a joint committee...' was accepted.

Brief discussion ensued about whether Senate as a whole should be consulted after nomination and, if so, opinion was expressed that it might be necessary to insert an extra step in 3.4 after (c) to provide opportunity for ratification by Senate before the candidate is taken forward to the Board of Governors for official appointment. It was pointed out because there are active members of Senate on the search committee; Senate has in fact a more involved role than mere consultation. It was also noted that the process in some ways mirrors aspects around the selection of the University President. It was important to protect candidates who are under active consideration from embarrassment in public which was also a motive for this kind of delegated process.

Following the above discussion/amendment, the document was accepted by Senate.

- A) Senate Committee on University Priorities
- i) Paper S.10-28 Change of Program Name from Development Studies Program to Development and Sustainability Program

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by K. Harding

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the name change of the Development Studies Program within the Faculty of Environment to the Development and Sustainability Program"

Robert Anderson, Director of the Program, was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Paper S.10-29 - Centre for Research on International Education

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by K. Harding

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the creation of the Centre for Research on International Education as a Research Centre within the Faculty of Education for a five year term" K. Beck and R. Ilieva from the Faculty of Education were in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Reference was made to page 4, and a minor editorial amendment to the term 'Faculty of Arts and Sciences' was noted for correction.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

# iii) Paper S.10-30 – External Review – Action Plan, Department of Linguistics

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by K. Harding

"that Senate approve the recommendation from the Senate Committee on University Priorities to implement the Action Plan for the Department of Linguistics that resulted from its External Review"

T. Perry, Chair of the Department of Linguistics was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

In response to an inquiry about comments by the reviewers that PhD students were not strongly present in the Department, Senate was advised that PhD students were in fact quite active in the Department. The Department was quite surprised by this statement and could not understand where it came from. Referring to page 14, Recommendation 8, a Student Senator expressed agreement with the comments concerning Linguistics 110.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

## iv) Paper S.10-31 – Graduate Certificate in Neuroscience

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by P. Ruben

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Neuroscience"

C. Krieger, School of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology, T. Herdman, Department of Psychology, and M. Silverman, Department of Biological Sciences were in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Appreciation was expressed for the development of this Certificate and comment made that it would be nice to see an interdisciplinary neurosciences graduate program evolve from this initiative.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

## v) Paper S.10-32 - Certificate in Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by K. Harding

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for a Certificate in Medieval and Renaissance Studies in the Department of Humanities within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences"

P. Dutton from the Department of Humanities was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Concern was expressed that the Certificate was not interdisciplinary and could be obtained by taking courses entirely in the Department of Humanities and inquiry was made as to the purpose of certificates in general. Senate was advised that certificates tend to be a combination of existing courses that have a thematic focus and provide students with physical evidence on their transcript that they have taken a set of courses that gives them a degree of specialization in a particular field. The Vice-President, Academic expressed a concern over the proliferation of undergraduate certificate programs in general and advised Senate a review will be undertaken in the near future to determine how popular certificates are, whether they are being utilized, and if they are compounding the course accessibility problem.

In response to an inquiry as to whether there was student demand for this particular certificate, Senate was advised that it was student driven in part from students who wanted to go on to graduate school and wanted some indication that they had some expertise in this field at the undergraduate level.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

#### vi) Paper S.10-33 – Certificate in Creative Writing

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by R. Patel

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for a Certificate in Creative Writing in the Department of English within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences"

P. Cramer from the Department of English was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

# vii) Paper S.10-34 – Certificate in Writing and Rhetoric

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by K. Harding

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for a Certificate in Writing and Rhetoric in the Department of English within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences" P. Cramer from the Department of English was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

## viii) Paper S.10-35 – Minor in Asia-Canada Studies

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by R. Patel

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for a Minor in Asia-Canada Studies in the Asia-Canada Program within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences"

T. Kawasaki, Director, Asia-Canada Program, was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ix) <u>Paper S.10-36 – Concentration in Applied Behaviour Analysis, BA Psychology</u>
<u>Major</u>

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by A. Bezglasnyy

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for a Concentration in Applied Behaviour Analysis in the BA Psychology Major in the Department of Psychology within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences"

D. Connolly, Department of Psychology, was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Opinion was expressed that this was a very interesting collaboration with Douglas College and inquiry was made as to whether this was an innovation for the University or if there were other similar programs. Senate was advised that although there were other collaborations, this program was particularly interesting because it draws on the strengths of the College and the University to bring two levels of expertise together and create a program which will be very useful to students in terms of moving forward to graduate studies and moving into the workplace.

In response to questions concerning SFU credit for Douglas College courses, Senate was advised that courses relevant to applied behavioural analysis would count for credit towards the BA degree in Psychology and if students subsequently transferred to another Faculty, that Faculty would have to determine whether those courses would articulate into their program.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

# x) Paper S.10-37 – SFU Academic Plan, 2010-2013 (For Information)

Further information was requested with respect to the notation on page 23 that the Faculty of Business Administration aspired to launch an Executive MBA for First Nations Students. Senate was advised that this program would partner with various private sector partners who it is hoped would fund the tuition for First Nations students and the program would be customized to their needs. The curriculum would be developed in conjunction with the partners of the program and while some of the program would be very standard Business Administration, some of it would be unique to First Nations people. A unique set of admission requirements, coupled with highly subsidized tuition, would allow First Nations students the opportunity to take this kind of program. In response to an inquiry as to whether this program would come to Senate for approval, it was noted that if a cohort was simply added to the Executive MBA program it might not be necessary but the Dean of Business Administration was happy to provide that commitment should Senate desire it. The Chair stressed that if there were changes in admission standards or curriculum it would have to come to Senate.

While support was expressed with respect to the desire of the Faculty of Business Administration to better serve the needs of First Nations students, concern was raised about having differential standards for admission, and limiting admission to a graduate program to members of a particular group.

Reference was made to Goal 1.2, point four, concerning the improvement of financial support for undergraduate and graduate students, and inquiry was made as to where the funding would come from. Senate was advised that the Vice-President, Advancement has been strongly advised that one of the primary goals of fundraising over the next few years should be to improve the number of scholarships available for both undergraduate and graduate students.

Referring to the same Goal 1.2, point 1 concerning the expansion of the Student Success Program, inquiry was made as to whether this issue would come through Senate because there were concerns in the past about the cost of the program versus the end results. Senate was advised that the program was now largely run on a cost recovery basis, the program has been expanded to all Faculties, and there was about a 70% success rate of students getting back into good academic standing. The expansion would be aimed at supporting more students on Academic Probation rather than waiting until they are Required to Withdraw so there would be no significant change to bring forward to Senate. However, should the academic standing policy change, then that would come to Senate.

Clarification was requested with respect to Goal 1.5. Senate was advised that this was an amalgamation of a number of goals to try to create a more diverse set of experiences for students such as greater access to international activity, greater understanding of First Nations cultures, and a greater exposure to interdisciplinary activity. Referring to points 6 and 7 concerning policies that block interdisciplinary activity and the development of new interdisciplinary graduate programs, inquiry was made as to how these goals would be realized. Senate was reminded that this was essentially a plan and that all details were not

worked out. In the case of interdisciplinary graduate programs, perhaps the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Senate Graduate Studies Committee could be asked to come up with some suggestions, and in the case of looking at policies that seem to create barriers to interdisciplinary activity, perhaps discussions with the Deans would identify where formal policy changes were necessary.

Inquiry was made as to what was meant by open admission for mature students (Goal 1.3) and how this differed from the current admission process for mature students. Senate was advised that at many other universities mature students enter the University on a conditional basis and by doing so they are given entrance requirements to complete within the first 6–18 months of their admission. This has proved quite attractive to many students and SFU would like to explore its feasibility.

Further information was sought with respect to Goal 5.6 with respect to a review of graduate tuition and support. Senate was informed that the existing graduate tuition structure was extremely complex and should be reviewed at the very least for simplicity's sake. In addition, the tuition fee policy was based on a model of graduate education that no longer applies to most universities. For example, some programs result in a MA degree at the end of three semesters, others take six semesters and cost the students twice as much, but both emerge with the same credential. With respect to financial support for graduate students, given that there are very different levels of research intensive in graduate programs across campus, suggestion has been made that greater financial support should be directed to students who are in research intensity programs and lesser financial support to students who are in primarily course based programs. Senate was advised that these are the kinds of issues that will be reviewed to make sure the tuition system and graduate funding is fair to all students.

Speaking on behalf of students in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, A. Bezglasnyy wished to advise Senate that Arts Central is working well and is well-used by students and he hoped that funding for this initiative would be continued.

Following discussion, the Academic Plan, 2010-2013 was received by Senate.

xi) Paper S.10-38 – Response to Report of the Advisory Committee on Colleges (For Information)

Senate received the Vice-President, Academic's response to the Report of the Advisory Committee on Colleges for information.

- C) <u>Senate Committee on Enrolment Management and Planning</u>
- i) Paper S.10-39 Undergraduate Admission Targets for 2010/11

#### Motion 1

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by R. Patel

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the 2010/11 Enrolment Plan which is appended to Senate Paper S.10–39 Enrolment Information for February 10, 2010 SCEMP Meeting"

The rather large number of international students admitted over target was noted and inquiry was made as to whether there were plans or changes in procedures to avoid this happening in the future. Senate was advised that this is a problem that has appeared within the last year and attempts are being made to figure out why and what can be done in the future to prevent it occurring again. Preliminary analysis suggests that different admission standards for international and domestic students might have to be established but that would require a very serious analysis and discussion at Senate, and at this point, it was not known whether such action would be legally acceptable.

In response to an inquiry about how SFU evaluates qualifications from outside the country, the Registrar provided Senate with a brief explanation of the process followed.

It was pointed out that Senate had set a maximum target for international student enrolment which is still on the books and should be looked at either to remove the limit or to develop a policy so that the target can be adhered to. The Chair provided Senate with brief background information as to the history of the quota and the introduction of differential fees for international students. He expressed opinion that SFU, in comparative terms against the major research universities of the world was still at a remarkably low level of international recruitment, and that adjusting the Senate quota with a clear indication of the way in which the additional resources would flow would benefit the academic programs that accommodate an expanded population.

In response to an inquiry about the wide range in ratios of international students by Faculty, Senate was informed that there was no quota system in place for individual programs. The Vice-President, Academic indicated however that he has requested two studies to be done - one on the whole issue of admission of international students and whether or not targets for individual programs should be set and the consequences of doing that; and secondly, a study has been requested on what the University is currently doing around English language training and support and what could be done in the future. Inquiry was made as to whether there were any issues with teaching classes that have a very high fraction of international students. M. Fizzell noted that for the Faculty of Business Administration for Fall 2009, the number of international new admits exceeded new domestic admits, and advised that originally money from the differential fees paid by international students flowed into the Faculty's base budget as the international student population grew but in recent years that funding has not been received. In addition, because the Faculty admitted such a large number of international students, some domestic students have been displaced because there are only so many spaces in each class and the Faculty does not reserve spaces for specific groups of students. The Vice-President, Academic pointed out that as domestic and international enrolments have increased, a portion of the tuition revenue has flowed back to the Faculties to cover the additional costs of teaching.

Discussion ensued about the process of setting targets, and the Associate Vice-President, Academic provided Senate with a detailed explanation of the process. Considerable discussion then took place with respect to the issue of admission standards for both domestic and international students, the FTE differences between Faculties, and the student faculty ratios between Faculties.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

**MOTION #1 CARRIED** 

#### Motion 2

Prior to moving the motion, the Vice-President, Academic advised Senate of an amendment to Table D1 in Appendix B for the Faculty of Business Administration, under fiscal year 10/11. The total should be changed from 598 to 530 with corresponding adjustments to each category.

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by M. Fizzell

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the 2010/11 Domestic undergraduate admission targets to each Faculty, by semester and basis of admission category, as indicated in Table D1 as amended in Appendix B"

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION #2 (AS AMENDED) CARRIED

#### Motion 3

Prior to moving the motion, the Vice-President, Academic advised Senate of an amendment to Table I1 in Appendix C for the Faculty of Business Administration, under the fiscal year 10/11. The total should be changed from 84 to 87 with corresponding adjustments to each category.

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by P. Percival

"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the 2010/11 International undergraduate admission targets to each Faculty, by semester and basis of admission category, as indicated in Table I1 as amended in Appendix C"

Reference was made to page 14, Table D4, 1107, the GPA column for Science, and a suggestion that the 50% should in fact be 80% was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Objection to the motion was made and opinion was expressed that the motion was fundamentally dishonest because Senate was setting a target which would essentially be ignored. It was pointed out that by setting targets the University was attempting to spread out international student enrolment between Faculties and the magnitude of being over or under target would influence the way in which adjustments are made in the future so it was important to establish such targets.

Question was called, and a vote taken.

MOTION #3 (AS AMENDED) CARRIED

- D) <u>Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies</u>
- i) Paper S.10-40 Curriculum Revisions Faculty of Applied Sciences (For Information): Engineering Science

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved new courses and vector changes to existing courses in the School of Engineering Science.

ii) Paper S.10-41 – Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (For Information): Criminology

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the reinstatement of CRIM 231 from temporarily withdrawn status.

iii) Paper S.10-42 - Curriculum Revisions - Faculty of Education (For Information)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved a new course and minor revisions to to existing courses and program requirements in the Faculty of Education.

iv) <u>Paper S.10-43 – Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Environment (For Information)</u>: Geography

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, minor revisions to existing courses in Geography.

v) <u>Paper S.10-44 – Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (For Information):</u> Mathematics, Physics, Statistics & Actuarial Science, Earth Sciences

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved a new course and minor revisions to existing courses and program requirements in the Faculty of Science.

- E) Senate Graduate Studies Committee
- i) Paper S.10-45 Curriculum Revisions Faculty of Communication, Art & Technology (For Information): Interactive Arts & Technology

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved a new course in the School of Interactive Arts & Technology.

## ii) Paper S.10-46 – Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Education (For Information)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved minor revisions to the M.Ed. program in the Faculty of Education.

# iii) Paper S.10-47 – Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Environment (For Information): Geography

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved a new course in Geography.

## iv) Paper S.10-48 – Annual Report (For Information)

Senate received the 2009 Annual Report of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee for information.

- F) Senate Policy Committee on Scholarships, Awards & Bursaries
- i) Paper S.10-49 President's and Dean's Honour Rolls (For Information)

It was pointed out that the Faculty of Business Administration has had a very successful Dean's Honours Roll for many years. The top Business students have received both the University Honours Roll and the Dean's Honours Roll and there have not been any problems with that. Concern was expressed that under this new regulation, the Faculty would no longer be able to recognize its very top students since it could only recognize students between 3.5 and 4.0. There were a lot of advantages to having students recognized within their own Faculty as well as at the University level, and a suggestion was made that the Committee should reconsider this item to allow Faculties to also acknowledge their very top students.

The Chair of the Committee agreed to take it back to the Committee for further consideration.

#### 7. Other Business

There was no other business.

#### 8. Information

The date of the next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate is Monday, April 12, 2010

Open Session adjourned at 9:00 pm and Senate moved directly into Closed Session.

Kate Ross

Registrar and Secretary of Senate