

SM 29/18/66

Student Rep. on
Senate

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

3 B

MEMORANDUM

FILE

To..... President.
.....
Subject..... Rector.

From..... R. J. Baker,
..... Head, Department of English.
Date..... July 12, 1966.

STUDENT REPRESENTATION ON SENATE.

I would like to put on the agenda for the next Senate meeting the motion that I gave notice of at the last meeting. I propose that Senate add a member elected by the students, and that such a member be called a Rector.

The Rector would not be a student or a member of faculty. He would be elected by bona fide students for a period of three years; he should be a resident of British Columbia.

The Rector would not be directly responsible to the student body but he would address them once a year. His particular responsibility in Senate would be the welfare of students.

The position is well established in Scottish Universities, and our name, and links with Lord Lovat, would make it appropriate for us to use the same term. I attach the statement made by President Mackenzie on his retirement; it will be noted that he recommended that the Rector be a member of the Board of Governors. It is not, however, within the power of Senate to make such a proposal.

- R. J. Baker.

Att'd.
RJB:bl

RECEIVED

JUL 14 1966

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
FILE

SM 29/8/66

Senators Rep on Senate

3B CONTD

If the Faculty are to be represented, I suggest that the student body should also be represented. I would arrange this through the creation of a new office—that of Rector—one which is traditional in many universities in the United Kingdom and at Queen's in Canada. The Rector would be elected by the current student population for a period of five or six years. He would be a distinguished citizen resident in British Columbia. His office and title would be largely honorary and his duties would include the giving of a Rectorial address at least once each year and voting membership on the Board of Governors. He would not be responsible to or report back to the student body save in the most general way, but he would in a sense be the friend and advocate of the students in the affairs of the University.

The President's Report (1961 - 62.),
The University of British Columbia.

SM 2918/66

Student Rep on Senate

3 B

TO: Members of the Senate

FROM: Thomas H. Brose

DATE: August 1st 1966

STUDENT REPRESENTATION ON SENATE

That the Act establishing Simon Fraser University government did not include representation for students is one of the serious omissions in the document.

I think students should be represented on Senate, and I thus support this aspect of Professor Baker's fine suggestion that Senate proceed to create a seat for the students.

However, I think the person chosen should be the students' choice -- with no prior restrictions imposed by us. Only the students can best judge who can best represent them. Further, since Simon Fraser University has proclaimed itself in favor of educational innovation, we should encourage this innovation. Rather than reaching across the seas or the border for a precedent, we have the opportunity to join those very few universities who have recognized this generation's students' desire to be involved in their university. The students do not want the paternalism of which much of past university-student relationships consisted. There is no master-servant relationship in a healthy democratic community. Those who wish to continue such a system were born in the wrong age. The university, in my opinion, should be a workshop, a microcosm, of the kind of society Canada is striving for -- not a haven for tradition at the expense of the realities of the time in which we live.

Therefore I wish to offer the following amendment to the proposal of Professor Baker:

That the Senate authorize a seat under its power in Sect. 23, (i), and that it designate that seat as the seat of the student representative.

Further, that we request the students to nominate a person residing in British Columbia and to elect their representative sometime in October so as to have a representative at the new session of Senate.

Finally, the title of the representative -- if we need a title -- should be the choice of the students. Let us create our own traditions.