

SENATE SUMMARY

MEETING OF NOVEMBER 4, 2013

1. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

A question was asked regarding a question raised at the September 2013 Senate meeting regarding the community engagement portion of the Annual Financial Report. Senate was informed that a response should be available for the next Senate meeting.

2. **Report of the Chair**

The Chair welcomed a new faculty Senator, Julian Guttman, and a new Convocation Senator, Rob McTavish.

The Chair noted that this was the last meeting for Senator Charles Eckman, Dean of Library Services, and thanked the senator for his contributions to Senate.

The Chair reported on the recent rankings of Canadian universities. Simon Fraser University has moved into second place in the Maclean's rankings of comprehensive universities, behind the University of Victoria. SFU remained second in reputational ranking and remained strong in areas relating to faculty and students. SFU was in 20th place in the Research Infosource ranking, based on the 2012 financial year results. The University was generally positive in research income, rising 6% to \$95.6 million. In research output, SFU moved up to 2nd in total number of publications amongst comprehensive universities. SFU remained in first place amongst comprehensive universities in terms of research impact.

The Chair reported on recent research accomplishments. The Intellectual Property Issues in Cultural Heritage (IPinCH) project, led by George Nicholas of the Department of Archaeology, received the first SSHRC Partnership Award, valued at \$50,000. IPinCH, which includes nine Canadian and 19 international universities, indigenous communities, and 11 other organizations, examines intellectual property issues and their implications for theory, policy and practice. Automobile Partnerships Canada has invested \$3.4 million toward the \$6.5 million project to establish a fuel cell testing facility with Eric Kjeang of the School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering as principal investigator and Ballard Power Systems as an industrial partner.

The Chair reported that he would be leading a delegation to China, visiting Beijing, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Hangzhou and Hong Kong. The delegation will be attending the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) annual general meeting. Since 1992, SFU has served as the Canadian executing agency and has housed the secretariat international support office for CCICED. The Chair is also visiting the Beijing Institute of Technology, Jilin University, Zhejiang University, and Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

The Chair reported that he will miss the December Senate meeting as he is attending the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) conference on university autonomy. The purpose of the conference is to have a serious discussion about what Canadian universities can do to protect institutional autonomy and to better educate the public and government about the value of universities.

3. **Research Ethics Board (REB) Annual Report (S.13-133)**
Senate received the Research Ethics Board annual report for 2012-2013 for information.
4. **Suspension of Admission to the Ergonomics and Human Factors Concentration in Kinesiology (S.13-134)**
Senate approved the suspension of admission to the Ergonomics and Human Factors Concentration, Kinesiology Major and Honours Program in the Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology within the Faculty of Science, effective Summer 2014.
5. **Dissolution of the Ergonomics and Human Factors Concentration in Kinesiology (S.13-135)**
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the dissolution of the Ergonomics and Human Factors Concentration, Kinesiology Major and Honours Program in the Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology within the Faculty of Science, effective Summer 2014.
6. **Certificate in Genomics in the Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry (S.13-136)**
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the Full Program Proposal for a Certificate in Genomics in the Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry within the Faculty of Science, effective Summer 2014.
7. **External Review of the Department of Geography (S.13-137)**
Senate approved the Action Plan for the Department of Geography that resulted from its External Review.
8. **External Review Update for the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies (S.13-138)**
Senate received for information the External Review Update Report for the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.
9. **External Review Update for the Department of Linguistics (S.13-139)**
Senate received for information the External Review Update Report for the Department of Linguistics within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

- 10. External Review Update for the Department of Philosophy (S.13-140)**
Senate received for information the External Review Update Report for the Department of Philosophy within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.
- 11. Requirement Term Language for SFU Credentials (S.13-141)**
Senate approved the following Calendar language:

“The requirements that apply to a particular student are generally those in effect at the time of admission, known as the requirement term. The requirement term for university-level requirements is the time of university admission; the requirement term for faculty-level requirements is the time of faculty admission; and the requirement term for a specific subject or concentration is the time of approved declaration of the subject or concentration. However, the ability to use the requirements at the time of admission is not indefinite. University and faculty level requirements apply for at most 8 years, while subject or area of study requirements apply for at most 6 years. If a graduation check determines that a student has not completed requirements within these limits, the term of the graduation application becomes the requirement term. Students may take advantage of new curriculum by changing their requirement term at any time.”
- 12. Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Beedie School of Business. (S.13-142)**
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2014:
 - Course (temporarily withdrawal): BUS 451
- 13. Senate Committee Elections (S.13-143)**
Senate received for information a summary from the Senate Nominating Committee regarding election results, nominations received and outstanding vacancies for positions on Senate committees that are elected by Senate.
- 14. Election Report to Senate (S.13-144)**
Senate received for information the results of: the faculty, student and convocation election to Senate during the Fall 2013 term; the election for one faculty member of Senate to the Presidential Re-Appointment Review Committee; and the election for one faculty member and one student member of Senate to the Chancellor Selection Committee.

The approved Senate minutes will be available online following the next Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the November Senate documents <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-21475>.

If you have any questions regarding this summary, please contact Kris Nordgren, Senate Assistant, at 778-782-3168 or kristofer_nordgren@sfu.ca.