

## SENATE SUMMARY

### MEETING OF OCTOBER 5, 2015

#### 1. Report of the Chair

The Chair reported that after the approval of a motion by Senate to provide accommodation for students to attend the meeting concerning the future of Build SFU, the outcome of that meeting was approval of the debentures and bylaws required to enable that project to proceed. The Chair congratulated the students, and the SFSS, and expressed the University's pleasure with the outcome, and its commitment in working with the SFSS to ensure that project proceeds, and that it achieves its full potential.

The Chair remarked that, despite the fog, we had the largest number of participants ever for the Terry Fox run – over 1500 people, 70 teams, and well over \$24,000 raised towards our \$35,000 goal. The Chair urged further contributions to help close the gap.

The Chair noted the opening of the new VentureLab space in downtown Vancouver, which opened on October 1<sup>st</sup>. This hugely enlarges its space and positions it right in the heart of Vancouver, and will make it the largest business accelerator in the province. This was made possible because it is also becoming part of a pan-Canadian network, with Ryerson University, the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, funded by the Canadian Accelerator Incubator Program of the federal government. As reported previously, SFU received over \$10 million from that program to enable this move to take place, and it's a remarkable space in the Tower Building, right next to our Harbour Centre campus.

Coinciding with the opening of the VentureLab, our Vice President, Research released an innovation strategy for SFU, which tries to tie together a very impressive range of initiatives from right across campus that have been pioneered in different faculties and departments to really drive innovation, and encourage and foster entrepreneurship. Things like: a partnership with Surrey Innovation Boulevard; 4D science labs at the Burnaby campus; Venture Connection, a university-wide student incubator program; and Radius, a social incubator for radical ideas useful for society. These initiatives are now linked without diminishing their individual identities, but linked in a way that will ensure that they benefit from a relationship with each other, and hopefully are identified with SFU's overall commitments to promote innovation, and help us secure more support from governments, and from other individuals. The Chair congratulated Joy Johnson, VP Research, on a successful launch.

The Chair reported that Mental Health Indicators for Canada, SFU's Centre for Applied Research in Mental Health and Addiction, produced Canada's first ever

national set of mental health indicators. The Health Commission of Canada commissioned the Centre, which is led by the Faculty of Health Sciences Professor and Associate Dean, Elliot Goldner, to produce a report listing indicators for distinct groups of Canadians, including children, youths, seniors, and immigrant populations. The Chair congratulated Dr. Goldner for producing what was a breakthrough in terms of a national set of indicators.

The Chair noted that this is rankings season, with two major global rankings having come out in the last few weeks: the QS World University Rankings, and the Times Higher Education Rankings. Both reported good news and less good news. With the emergence of universities in Asia, particularly, and their growth and gaining greater reputation, Canadian universities generally are moving down in the world rankings, not because they're doing any worse, but because some of these universities are doing better. In the QS Rankings, we moved down by a very small amount, to 225 from 222. The good news is, relative to other Canadian universities, we moved up from 12th spot up to 11th spot within Canada. The fact that we're knocking on the door of the top 10 universities in Canada, for a relatively young, comprehensive university, is extraordinary. Even more extraordinary was the fact that QS identified SFU as #2 in Canada, and #66 in the world, in terms of citations per faculty. This is the impact of our research and is recognition of the quality of research produced by our faculty members by virtue of how often they're cited in peer-reviewed journals. The fact that we're second in Canada and 66<sup>th</sup> in the world, according to QS, is a tremendous credit to our faculty and their research efforts.

In the Times Higher Education Rankings we slipped in the world rankings - we're in the 251-300 category, down from the previous category above that, although we're right on the cusp, so we came down a few notches. In Canada, we went up into the top 14 from the top 15 last year. And again, the citations category ranked us in the top 30% in the world, and in this case, #6 in Canada. Slightly different methodology, but very impressive results in terms of our faculty research effort, and the recognition of that effort by their peers, and by researchers around the world.

The Chair reminded Senate that the President's Dream Colloquium is underway, with a focus on traveling for health, international dimensions of health. This is open to the university community and is very much designed to foster interdisciplinary dialogue. It's organized in cooperation with the Dean of Graduate Studies Office, and put together by some very dynamic faculty members from various disciplines, with some very exciting talks coming up. Hopefully, those who are interested will take the time to attend, but if not, they are also webcast and are archived.

The Chair reported that the President's Faculty Lecture Series is starting up on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Professor Krishna Pendakur is giving a talk at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts. This is a series that showcases our faculty, and our research faculty, to the community at large. Professor Pendakur will be talking on "What does inequality mean in Canada?" Then on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Marianne Ignace will be

speaking on why First Nations languages matter. She is the lead on a major partnership grant project that SFU's involved in on indigenous languages.

The Chair encouraged Senate to check out the First Peoples Gathering Space: a space that's not exclusively limited to First Nations or indigenous peoples, but is very much designed in a way that is respectful and recognizes the strong presence of First Nations locally and of Metis and Inuit across the country. It's been nicely designed, and if you go into Harbour Centre and turn left at the first corridor and go down to the end, it's a very nicely presented space, that was opened on September 29<sup>th</sup>.

The Chair also encouraged Senate to check out the immersive exhibits that have been brought to SFU at the Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, as part of our 50th anniversary. Three archaeological exhibits, and some that are more artistic in nature, which you can access on the 50th anniversary webpage, and you can book them. The exhibits will not be around much longer, and the only other place in North America they've appeared is at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

The Chair noted some upcoming events: the SFU Public Square Community Summit is going to be held from October 30 to November 7, on the theme "We the City", looking at the theme of city-building; a Vancouver campus Open House on October 21<sup>st</sup>; and convocation is going to take place later this week, and some extraordinary ceremonies are coming up with honorary degree recipients like Bill Nye, the Science Guy, and Nancy Turner.

The Chair reminded Senate that the federal election is coming up, and there have been some special voting offices set up here on campus in Burnaby. They will be here October 5-8, and students, staff, or faculty can vote at these special offices. You can vote in any constituency or any riding across the country, through these offices. You are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity.

2. **Centre for High-Throughput Chemical Biology (C-HTCB) (S.15-113)**  
Senate approved the establishment of the Centre for High-Throughput Chemical Biology (C-HTCB) as a Centre for a five year term.
3. **Chair in Technology Innovations for Youth Addiction Recovery and Mental Health (S.15-114)**  
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the Terms of Reference for the Chair in Technology Innovations for Youth Addiction Recovery and Mental Health.
4. **Tom Foord Professor of Practice in Entrepreneurship and Innovation (S.15-115)**  
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the Terms of Reference for the Tom Foord Professor of Practice in Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

- 5. External Review of the Beedie School of Business (S.15-116)**  
Senate approved the Action Plan for the Beedie School of Business that resulted from its External Review.
- 6. Name Change for the CIBC Centre for Corporate Governance and Risk Management (S.15-117)**  
Senate approved the name of the CIBC Centre for Corporate Governance and Risk Management be changed to the Centre for Governance and Sustainability.
- 7. Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Beedie School of Business (S.15-118)**  
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Fall 2017:

  - Program: Business Major and Joint Major admission requirements
- 8. Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.15-119)**  
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2016:

*a) Mathematics*

  - Program: Mathematics and Computing Science Joint Major
- 9. Graduate General Regulation (GGR) Revisions (S.15-120)**  
Senate approved the revisions to GGR 1.9.4 (Preparation for Examination of Doctoral Thesis); GGR 1.9.5 (The Role of the External Examiner); GGR 1.9.6 (Notification of Doctoral Thesis Examination)
- 10. Graduate Curriculum Revisions - Beedie School of Business (S.15-121)**

  - Program: Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) admission change
  - Program: Master of Business Administration (MBA)
  - Program: Management of Technology Master of Business Administration (MOT MBA)
  - Courses (equivalency, description): BUS 510; 511; 552; 555; 556; 557; 702; 703; 705; 707; 708, 719; 751; 753; 754; 764; 766
- 11. Graduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Health Sciences (S.15-122)**

  - Course (description): HSCI 808
- 12. Senate Committee Elections (S.15-123)**  
Senate received a summary of the nominations, positions elected by acclamation, positions requiring an online vote, and outstanding vacancies for the Senate committees.

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 October 2015 Senate documents <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-27949>

If you have any questions regarding this summary, please contact Steven Noel, Senate Assistant, at 778-782-3168 or [senate@sfu.ca](mailto:senate@sfu.ca).