

SENATE SUMMARY

MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

1. **Report of the Chair**

On behalf of Senate, the Chair welcomed Dr. Peter Keller, our new Vice-President, Academic and Provost. The Chair also welcomed back Gord Myers, our Associate Vice-President, Academic, who was away over the summer for health reasons and thanked Senator Wade Parkhouse for stepping in during his absence.

The Chair reported that the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities approved accreditation for Simon Fraser University. Senate was thanked for its contribution throughout the accreditation process, with a reminder that accreditation is an ongoing process and in order to maintain good standing with the Northwest Commission we will have to continue to examine our programs and demonstrate progress. In addition to granting us accreditation, the commission commended SFU for our achievements and for the role of the University's governance process in maintaining academic freedom.

The Chair reported on a number of construction projects: construction is complete on our new downtown graduate residence and innovation centre, with students having already moved in; we are hoping to move forward with the first phase of the residence expansion plan for the Burnaby campus. The goal is to double our residence capacity on this campus starting with undergraduate accommodation, but moving to some graduate housing as well; UniverCity has decided to proceed with a rental apartment facility that will target the low-end-of-market in terms of trying to create affordable family housing suitable for graduate students; construction is underway on the new student union building near convocation mall, with credit to the SFSS and the student body for their support; we are still awaiting a formal response to our applications for capital projects under the Federal Provincial Strategic Investment Fund. We're optimistic that one of our applications, for the first phase of the Surrey Expansion, will be approved for a new Sustainable Energy and Environmental Engineering Building. We are less optimistic that the replacement of the Biology Building with a new Life Sciences Building will be approved, but we will continue to push this as a high priority project; we are likely to see the approval of funding for upgrades to the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre, which is a collaboration amongst five universities; we have seen a significant increase in the allocation of funding from the provincial government for routine maintenance. This year will see around \$17 million allocated, with hope it will rise to \$20 million in each of the next two years; and the construction of the new CompuCanada Data Centre is well underway.

The Chair noted a number of Strategic Initiatives: SFU Innovates, our new innovation strategy, continues to gain recognition and support. Sarah Lubik, Director of Entrepreneurship, was named one of Canada's 10 Innovation Leaders

helping to shape Canada's Innovation Strategy; work is well underway on the development of our Big Data Initiative, overseen by our Vice- President, Research Joy Johnson. This initiative looks to provide service and capacity to the entire university community, on both the teaching and research side in terms of the uses of Big Data, how Big Data can inform the way we understand, the way we research, and the way we affect both its uses and abuses; work is underway to develop our response to the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and develop an agenda for the university with respect to Indigenous programming and initiatives. It's being co-chaired by our Dean of Education, Kris Magnusson, and a member of our Board of Governors and an Alumnus, Chris Lewis, from the Squamish First Nation. Their goal is to listen, consult, and provide feedback as to how we can best respond to the calls to action for reconciliation through our educational and non-educational activities; and we are seeking to place major focus in the coming year on how we can improve the quality of student life at SFU. Though we already do a lot, we can do better job in informing people about the services we already provide and the opportunities that already exist, but also to work with our students to increase the quality of their experience at SFU.

The Chair reported that the Vice-President, Research has undertaken major consultations towards the development of a new Strategic Research Plan. The plan was recently considered by the Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP) and will be coming to Senate later this fall. Also, the process that was launched last year to develop a new policy on Sexual Violence and Misconduct continues. The process was being led by John Driver as Provost and he has agreed, despite no longer being Provost, to continue to lead that process through the fall. We hope to have a draft policy to share with the SFU community later this fall. We need to get this policy right and ensure that we create the safest and most supportive campus environment for students, for faculty and for staff.

The Chair noted some research updates: a number of months ago we signed a memorandum of understanding with the Societe d'Acceleration du Transfer de Technologies (SATT) Grand Centre and the City of Surrey to collaborate on a range of innovative projects involving SFU's Digital Health Hub within Innovation Boulevard. SATT Grand Centre is a key player in France in advancing technology transfer, with a broad ecosystem that includes seven universities, two science and technology centres, and six graduate schools. Their focus on diagnostics and medical devices aligns with some of the work being done at our Gerontology Research Centre and Digital Health Hub in conjunction with AGE-WELL network; Gerhard Gries, Professor and NSERC Industrial Research Chair in Multimodal Animal Communication Ecology, received a Recognition Award in Insect Physiology, Biochemistry, and Toxicology from the Entomological Society of America for his research, teaching and outreach contributions in urban entomology; and Blaize Reich, former Dean of the Beedie School of Business and now RBC Professor of Technology and Innovation, received an Academic Fellow Award from the International Council of Management Consulting Institutes for her leadership in furthering innovations between academia and the management consulting profession.

The Chair reported that Zoya Jiwa, a fourth year sociology student, was named YWCA Young Woman of Distinction for 2016. During her fellowship with RADIUS, our social and innovation lab and venturing incubator, Zoya, who has lupus, founded As We Are, an online forum where people with health challenges can share their stories and discuss functional fashion. That is just one example of the huge amount of student engagement going on across this university and an example of some of the recognition that our students are getting.

The Chair highlighted some recent and upcoming events: the first lecture of the President's Dream Colloquium: Returning to the Teachings: Justice, Identity and Belonging, by Chief Robert Joseph, was well attended, with further lectures through the fall by some very exciting speakers. Of note, Wab Kinew, a well-known broadcaster and Aboriginal leader will be speaking at the Playhouse Theatre, on September 29th; our Terry Fox Day Walk & Run is on September 30th; and Convocation is coming up on October 6th and 7th.

2. **Academic Dates 2017-2019 (S.16-90)**
Senate approved the Schedule of Academic Dates 2017-2019.
3. **Full Program Proposal for a Graduate Certificate in the Linguistics of a First Nations Language (S.16-91)**
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the Full Program Proposal for a Graduate Certificate in the Linguistics of a First Nations Language in the Department of Linguistics within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2017.
4. **Suspension of Admission to the Graduate Diploma in Global Health Program (S.16-92)**
Senate approved the suspension of admission to the Graduate Diploma in Global Health Program in the Faculty of Health Sciences, effective Spring 2017.
5. **The Science and Technology for Aging Research (STAR) Institute (S.16-93)**
Senate approved the establishment of the Science and Technology for Aging Research (STAR) Institute as an Institute for a five-year term.
6. **Enrollment Priority for Newly Admitted Secondary School Students (S.16-94)**
Senate approved, effective Fall 2016, newly admitted secondary school students be assigned priority enrollment for their first two terms. Subsequent enrollment priority will be based on current rules for continuing students. A review of this process is to be conducted two years after implementation.
7. **Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences (S.16-95)**
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2017:

a) School of Computing Science

- Program: Computing Studies Certificate (effective Spring 2017)
- Course (prerequisite): CMPT 373

b) School of Engineering Science

- Program: Engineering Science, Biomedical Engineering Option Honours
- Program: Engineering Science, Computer Engineering Option Honours
- Program: Engineering Science, Electronics Engineering Option Honours
- Program: Engineering Science, Engineering Physics Option Honours
- Program: Engineering Science, Systems Option Honours
- Program: Engineering Science, Computer Engineering Option Major
- Program: Engineering Science, Electronics Engineering Option Major
- Program: Engineering Science, Systems Option Major

c) School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering

- Program: Mechatronic System Engineering Major
- Program: Mechatronic System Engineering Honours

8. Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Beedie School of Business (S.16-96)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2017:

- Program: Business Honours
- Program: Business Honours (with Term at the Segal Graduate School of Business)
- Program: Business Major
- Course (new): BUS 221 (effective Fall 2017)
- Course (prerequisite): BUS 336, 483

9. Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (S.16-97)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2017:

a) Publishing Program

- Course (description, prerequisite): PUB 210W, 331, 332
- Course (title, description, prerequisite): PUB 212
- Course (prerequisite): PUB 438, 456
- Course (description): PUB 478

b) School of Interactive Arts and Technology

- Program: Interactive Arts and Technology Major BA
- Program: Interactive Arts and Technology Major BSC
- Program: Interactive Arts and Technology Honours BA

- Program: Interactive Arts and Technology Honours BSC
- Program: Communication and Interactive Arts and Technology Joint Major
- Program: Interactive Arts and Technology and Business Joint Major BA or BBA
- Program: Interactive Arts and Technology and Business Joint Major BSC
- Course (description): IAT 244

10. Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.16-98)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2017:

a) Statistics and Actuarial Science

- Course (new): STAT 452 (effective Fall 2017)

b) Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

- Course (new): MBB 200
- Course (prerequisite): MBB 402

11. Graduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (S.16-99)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2017:

a) Sociology and Anthropology

- Program: Master of Arts in Sociology
- Program: Master of Arts in Anthropology

12. Graduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (S.16-100)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Fall 2017:

a) Publishing Program

- Course (title, description): PUB 800

13. Graduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Environment (S.16-101)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Spring 2017:

- Course (new): ARCH 591

14. Graduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.16-102)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting

under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Spring 2017:

a) *Physics*

- Course (new): PHYS 890, 891

b) *Statistics and Actuarial Science*

- Course (new): STAT 641, 642

15. Senate Committee Elections (S.16-103)

Senate received a summary of the nominations, positions elected by acclamation, positions requiring an online vote, and outstanding vacancies for the Senate committees.

16. Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) Reports (S.16-104)

Senate received the 2015/16 Grades Report, and the 2015 Undergraduate Student Survey (UGSS) Report for information..

The approved Senate minutes will be available online following the November Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the September 2016 Senate documents <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-29514>

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