

SENATE SUMMARY

MEETING OF NOVEMBER 6, 2017

1. Report of the Chair

The Vice-Chair, on behalf of Senate, welcomed the following new Senators:

New Faculty Senators: Jamie Scott; Pablo Nepomnaschy; Julain Somers; Nancy Forde.

New Student Senators: Jeffrey Leung; Abdul Ahad Memon; Thomas Budd

The Vice-Chair noted the regrets of the Chair, who is leading an SFU mission to Asia and will provide an update of the mission at the December Senate meeting.

The Vice-Chair reported that SFU graduated its 150,000 student and bestowed honorary degrees on three outstanding honorary degree recipients at the Fall Convocation ceremonies.

The Vice-Chair reported that the SFU Aboriginal Reconciliation Council presented its final report, *Walk This Path With Us*, to President Petter at a traditional witnessing ceremony in Convocation Mall attended by First Nations and Metis peoples, students, faculty, staff, and the broader community. The University has committed to consider and act upon the report's 33 calls to action.

The Vice-Chair reported that *Maclean's* magazine confirmed SFU's ranking as Canada's top comprehensive university, a position held by SFU for 9 of the past 10 years. SFU also climbed from the 10th to the 9th spot in *Maclean's* reputational ranking of all Canadian Universities.

The Vice-Chair reported on recent research grant successes:

- Five SFU research projects will benefit from infrastructure funding totalling \$21.7M from the *Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)*. The federal contribution is expected to more than double through provincial and partner contributions. The *CFI*-funded projects led by SFU are:
 - *Centre for Wearable Biomedical Technologies*. Project leader: Carlo Menon, School of Engineering Science.
 - *High-Momentum and High-Luminosity Muon Beam Lines for Molecular and Materials Science and Fundamental Muon Physics*. Project leader: Jeff Sonier, Department of Physics.
 - *The Silicon Quantum Leap: Tools for Building a Universal Quantum Computer*. Project leader: Michael Thewalt, Department of Physics.

- *Multi-scale Remote Sensing: From Imaging to Immersive Communications*. Project leader: Rodney Vaughan, School of Engineering Science.
- *ATLAS Tier-1 Data Centre*. Project leader: Michel Vetterli, Department of Physics.
- SFU is collaborating on three *CFI Innovation Fund* projects led by other Canadian institutions. The projects, and collaborating SFU researchers, are:
 - *National Facility of Seismic Imaging*. SFU project lead: Andy Calvert, Department of Earth Sciences. (Lead institution: Dalhousie University.)
 - *The CRDCN Transition to High Performance Computing: Liberating Data for Research and Policy*. SFU project lead: Jane Friesen, Department of Economics. (Lead institution: McMaster University.)
 - *Upgrades to the ATLAS Detector at the Large Hadron Collider*. SFU project lead: Bernd Stelzer, Department of Physics. (Lead institution: University of Toronto.)

The Vice-Chair reported that SFU Innovates ecosystem has been focusing on community engagement. Highlights included:

- *Vancouver Startup Week*, at which SFU VentureLabs hosted *Demo Day*, showcasing ventures from VentureLabs, Venture Connection and other accelerators, as well as a networking event that attracted 400 participants.
- SFU Innovates was a sponsor of the Innovates Now Canada conference hosted by the *Rideau Hall Foundation* and *CityAge* at the Vancouver Convention Centre. Sarah Lubik, SFU's Director of Entrepreneurship was MC, while Elicia Maine, Academic Director of SFU's Graduate Certificate in Science and Technology Commercialization, and SFU alumnus and entrepreneur Charles Chang were panel speakers.

The Vice-Chair reported that *KEY*, SFU's Big Data Initiative, is launching a seed fund to support interdisciplinary collaborations that transform the use of data to accelerate discoveries. *The Next Big Question in Big Data Fund* will provide awards of up to \$25,000 per project.

The Vice-Chair reported that SFU International has become a member of *Scholars at Risk*, a network of 450 institutions worldwide that places scholars who face persecution for their academic work. An academic advisory committee and process have been established to select, receive and support scholars.

The Vice-Chair reported that Madhu and Hari Varshney Visiting Scholar, Dr. Kanika Bhal, will deliver a public lecture at the Segal Graduate School of Business on Monday, November 27th on *Belief Systems and Business: Indian Cultural Values and Their Interpretation in the Contemporary Business Context*. Dr. Bhal is a professor at IIT Delhi and is currently working with the Jack Austin Centre for Asia Pacific Business Studies at the Beedie School of Business.

2. **Research Ethics Board (REB) Annual Report 2016-2017 (S.17-97)**
Senate received for information the Research Ethics Board annual report for 2016-2017.
3. **Senate Committee on Continuing Studies (SCCS) Annual Report 2016-2017 (S.17-98)**
Senate received for information the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies annual report for 2016-2017.
4. **External Review of the School of Resource and Environmental Management (S.17-99)**
Senate approved the Action Plan for the School of Resource and Environmental Management that resulted from its External Review.
5. **Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences (S.17-100)**
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2018:
 - a) ***School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering***
 - Program: Mechatronic Systems Engineering Major
 - Course (prerequisite): MSE 220
 - Course (equivalency): MSE 321
 - b) ***School of Computing Science***
 - Program: Geographic Information Science Honours
 - Program: Geographic Information Science Major
6. **Revisions to the English Language Admission Requirement (S.17-101)**
Senate received for information revisions to the English Language Admission Requirement.
7. **Election Report to Senate (S.17-102)**
Senate received for information a summary of the results of the student election to Senate and the Board of Governors, the convocation election to Senate, and the faculty election to Senate.

The approved Senate minutes will be available online following the December Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the November 2017 Senate documents <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-31893>

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

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