



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on  
Monday, November 5, 2018 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

## Open Session

**Present:** Peter Tingling, Vice-Chair

Bartram, Lyn (via Vancouver videoconference)  
Bhalla, Srishti  
Bird, Gwen  
Brennand, Tracy  
Buttar, Sumrit Singh  
Chapman, Glenn  
Collard, Mark  
Denholm, Julia  
Derksen, Jeff  
Elle, Elizabeth  
Favere-Marchesi, Michael  
Forde, Nancy  
Freedman, Jackson  
Gajdics, Sylvia  
Gray, Bonnie (via Vancouver videoconference)  
Hendrigan, Holly  
Ho, Shuna (via Vancouver videoconference)  
Keliipio, Kau'i  
Keller, Peter  
Kench, Paul  
Kim, Woo Soo  
Laitsch, Dan (via Surrey videoconference)  
Leacock, Tracey  
Leznoff, Daniel  
Luelfesmann, Christoph  
Luu, Susan  
Mongrain, Steeve  
Myers, Gord  
Nepomnaschy, Pablo  
Oldknow, Kevin (for Eugene Fiume)  
O'Neill, Susan  
Parent, Michael (via Vancouver videoconference)  
Parkhouse, Wade  
Percival, Colin  
Peters, Joseph  
Planchenault, Gaele  
Plettner, Erika  
Poitras, Geoffrey

Pulkingham, Jane (via Vancouver videoconference)  
Scott, Jamie  
Somers, Julian  
Stockie, John  
Tavakoli, Camelia  
Walsby, Charles  
Wiese, Kay  
Zanette, Amanda

**Absent:**

Andersen, Holly  
Bubela, Tania  
Chandhok, Vikramaditya  
Christians, Julian  
Dangi, Ridhi  
Dastmalchian, Ali  
Fiume, Eugene  
Giardini, Anne  
Johnson, Joy  
Kalra, Mehak  
Lord Ferguson, Sarah  
Mac Namara, Aoife  
Magnusson, Kris  
Moens, Alexander  
Petter, Andrew  
Randhawa, Jaskarn  
Sanghera, Simran  
Shaw, Chris  
Stefanovic, Ingrid

**In Attendance:**

Brooks-Wilson, Angela  
Driver, Jon  
Gemino, Andrew (via Vancouver videoconference)  
Nordgren, Kris

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on September 10, 2018**

The minutes of the open session on September 10, 2018 were approved as distributed.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on October 1, 2018**

The minutes of the open session on October 1, 2018 were approved as distributed.

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes**

- i) Noting revisions made to the English Language Admission Requirement at the September meeting, a question was asked if IELTS and TOEFL scores would also change. Senate was informed that when changes were made to the English Language Admission Requirement, a review was also done of IELTS and TOEFL scores. It was determined that the current minimum test scores are equivalent to 70% in high school English, therefore no change was made. It was noted that UBC requires a minimum of 70% in English 12 and UBC's minimum test scores for IELTS and TOEFL are equivalent to SFU's current minimum.

**5. Report of the Chair**

The Vice-Chair noted the regrets of the Chair, who is leading a mission to Hong Kong, Korea, and Taiwan.

The Vice-Chair reported that SFU has again been named Canada's top comprehensive university in *Maclean's* annual rankings. This is the 10th time in 11 years that SFU has been named top comprehensive university, a category that includes post-secondary institutions that have a significant amount of research, a wide range of programs at the undergraduate and graduate level, and professional degrees. SFU also placed 6th amongst 15 comprehensive universities for student satisfaction, and ranked 9th amongst all Canadian universities in the national reputational ranking.

The Vice-Chair reported on recent research grant successes:

- Yuezhi Zhao from the School of Communication will receive \$1.4 million over seven-year period from the *Canada Research Chairs* program in *Political Economy of Global Communication*, Tier 1 Renewal.
- Sharon Gorski from the department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry has been awarded a project grant of \$956,250 from the *Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)* for her project *Investigating the relationship between HER2 and ATG4B in cancer*.
- Zabrina Brumme from the Faculty of Health Sciences has been awarded a project grant of \$761,176 from *CIHR* for her project *Integrated Phylogenetic, Molecular and Functional Analyses of the Within-Host Latent HIV Reservoir*.
- Fiona Brinkman from the Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry has been awarded a team grant of \$900,000 from *CIHR* for her project *Common Infrastructure for National Cohorts in Europe, Canada, and Africa*.

- Felix Breden from the Department of Biological Sciences has been awarded a team grant of \$99,800 from *CIHR* for his project *A Scalable Platform for the Integration of Disrupted Repositories of Antibody and T-cell Receptor Sequence Data*.
- Lynne Quarmby from the Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry has been awarded \$117,271 from *Genome British Columbia* for her project *Understanding the Algal Microbiomes Living on Alpine Snowfields in South-Western British Columbia*.
- Steven Holdcroft from the Department of Chemistry has been awarded \$465,000 from the *Natural Science Engineering Research Council (NSERC)*, plus \$290,625 FROM *Ionomer Innovations INC.*, for his project *Flexcoat – Flexible Coating with Inline QC for Customized Production of Hydrocarbon Membranes for Next-Generation Electrochemical Devices*.
- Michael Adachi from the School of Engineering Science has been awarded \$360,000 from *NSERC* for his project *Fabrication of High Flexibility High Conversion Efficiency Heterojunction Si Solar Cells*.
- Frank Gobas from the School of Resource and Environmental Management has been awarded \$304,825 from *NSERC* for his project *Wetland Treatment of Oil Sands Process Water*.
- Majid Bahrami from the School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering has been awarded \$125,000 from *NSERC* for his project *Development of Waste-Heat Driven Sorption Air Conditioner*.
- Oliver Schulte from the School of Computing Science has been awarded \$570,633 from *NSERC* for his project *Reinforcement, Learning and Sport Analytics*.
- Carlo Menon from the School of Engineering Science has been awarded \$505,823 from *NSERC* for his project *Seamless Interaction*.
- Byron Gates from the Department of Chemistry has been awarded \$106,000 from *WorkSafeBC's Innovation at Work* program for his project *Detection Kits with Enhanced Sensitivity for Heavy Metal Contaminants in the Workplace*.

The Vice-Chair reported on recent research awards and honours:

- Faculty of Health Sciences Dean Tania Bubela has joined the ranks of the *Canadian Academy of Health Sciences*, one of the highest honours in Canada's academic community.
- Mathematics professor and Tier 1 *Canada Research Chair* Bojan Mohar has received the *Royal Society of Canada's John L. Synge Award* in recognition of his transformative research in topological graph theory. Earlier this year, he was elected a *Fellow of the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics*.

The Vice-Chair reported on SFU Innovates updates:

- *Innovate BC* awarded \$841,500 to accelerate four SFU research projects (including projects led by Steven Holdcroft & Majid Bahrai).
- SFU's *VentureLabs* has been recognized as the top North American university-linked accelerator by *UBI Global*.
- The *Surrey City Lab*, a partnership between SFU and *Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU)*, made its debut this September under the umbrella of the SFU Change Lab Program.

- SFU Director of Entrepreneurship Sarah Lubik has been named one of six innovation experts leading the Government of Canada's recently launched national consultation on digital and data transformation.

The Vice-Chair reported that SFU recently became the first Canadian institution to join the *University Social Responsibility Network*. VP Research and International Joy Johnson will speak at the *USRN Annual Summit* at the *University of Haifa* in Israel in December.

The Vice-Chair reported on recent events:

- SFU hosted its annual Diwali Gala at the *Aria Banquet Hall* in Surrey on November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Fall Convocation ceremonies took place in early October with honorary degrees bestowed upon primatologist Jane Goodall and psychology professor Alison Gopnick. Lieutenant Governor Janet Austin attended and spoke at the ceremony honouring Jane Goodall.
- SFU and UBC held a special joint convocation ceremony on October 19th at which each conferred an honorary Doctor of Laws degree on His Highness the Aga Khan in recognition of His Highness's lifelong philanthropic and humanitarian contributions.

## 6. Question Period

- i) Senators Plettner and Forde submitted the following questions:

*Preamble: The two recent and publicized emergency situations at SFU (one a violent outburst by a student, the other a medical emergency) have prompted discussions with our colleagues and our students. There is a sense of unease and even fear about situations such as these, prompted by lack of professional training in how to deal with emergency situations and/or personal experience with past traumatic events. We ask the following questions with the aim of providing answers back to our "constituents" and to help inform discussions about how we can do better in the future. We believe these issues are highly relevant for Senate discussion because they impact directly the learning environment at SFU.*

Peter Keller, Vice-President, Academic and Provost, responded to the questions.

Senate was informed that SFU recently had two difficult incidents. It was acknowledged that in the first incident (the outbreak of violence in a classroom), that while the instruction staff handled the response extremely well, things did not go as smoothly in the follow-up with the students and instructors. Concern was expressed for all the students and faculty involved in this incident. For the second incident (a medical emergency), condolences were offered to the family and friends of the deceased student.

1. *What are the resources and protocols, for all SFU community members, for responding to an emergency situation? An example of this would be: signage in every classroom with the location of the nearest AED. Are there plans to improve these protocols and awareness thereof?*

Senate was informed that SFU has Safety and Risk Services (SRS), which participates in and organizes events and emergency drills for all three campuses on various topics throughout the year. SRS also provides a number of educational opportunities to the campus community, including participation in new staff and faculty orientations, in student orientation and workshops, and in guiding various topics as requested. On the question of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) it was noted SFU has a comprehensive AED program covering all three campuses, with mapped locations being identified on the SRS website. Adjacent to each AED cabinet is a poster of AED use and what to do in case someone has a sudden cardiac arrest. SRS also offers a free 40 minute Lunch and Learn training session to the SFU community on CPR and AED use. The openings for those training sessions are generally publicized through university communications in weekly newsletters. SRS is working with IT Services to add AED locations to their snap app. As to general procedures, emergency procedure posters have been distributed across all three campuses, while poster content and design is under review. SRS will launch new emergency procedures posters to be distributed throughout all classrooms by the end of this fiscal year. The University also has SFU Alerts, which is an urgent notification system that allows the University to quickly notify students, faculty and staff using a variety of methods. Finally, SFU has GP 31 (Emergency Policy) which is supported by a comprehensive emergency management plan.

2. *What is the protocol for short-term psychological support and follow-up (on-site, in person) for all survivors/witnesses of an incident?*

Senate was informed that the response will be guided by the situation and by the unique requirements of those involved in the incident. Broadly speaking, the current model for providing mental health is to ensure campus public safety as first responders relay information about the incident to an Incident Response Committee. That Committee is comprised of University members from student leadership, Student Services, SRS, University Communications, the President's Office, and legal counsel. As part of the overall response, this group will mobilize psychological support as appropriate, which may include mental health professionals on staff from Health and Counselling Services, and/or emergency response teams from the My SSP initiative.

3. *What is the protocol for longer-term follow-up with survivors?*

Senate was informed that many factors may influence the response and that follow-up is incident specific. Student Services will respond according to the nature of the incident and who was involved. Also, Health and Counselling and the Interfaith Centre are usually involved with every response effort, while other areas may rotate in and out according to the nature of the situation. For example, if an incident includes international students, then the International Student Services office will be included. The coordinated response plan will most often involve academic programs to ensure that those affected are provided with wraparound care.

4. *In the case of mental health issues or past trauma experienced by our students, being aware of potential trigger points for students in our classes would be helpful for us as instructors (and for our TAs). Is there a way that such information can be provided to us, without breaching privacy concerns? Are there protocols for reporting and documenting concerning incidents on campus?*

Senate was informed that there is tension between privacy and a student's health. Though it is understood that it would help instructors to have access to this information, the reality is that the University must comply with privacy legislation. GP25 (Response to Violence and Threatening Behaviour) governs how the University responds to student threats. It was noted that Student Services has put together a guide for supporting students in stress, which outlines who to contact when a student requires assistance.

5. *Given recent events and perceptions of safety on campus, as well as increasing rates of student distress and isolation, should SFU consider adopting the Mental Health Commission of Canada's National Standard for Psychological Health and Safety? We can find no mention of psychological or mental health in the university's current occupational health and safety policy GP17. This new Psychological Health and Safety Standard is the first of its kind in the world, and adopting it would enable SFU to take a proactive stance on these issues.*

Senate was informed that GP17 (Occupational Health and Safety) was last revised in 2005 and revision will require the addition of language addressing mental health. It was noted that much around psychological health and safety is already being done at SFU and that after each incident much can be learned from the response and follow-up to improve best practices.

A question was asked about mobile phone coverage being limited in certain areas around campus and if any consideration had been given to addressing this. Senate was informed that the University is aware of this issue and is considering options including adding more receiving stations or moving cellphones over to the Wi-Fi network.

A question was asked about the availability of mental health services and the perception that current services are understaffed and how to address this long term. Senate was informed that as a first step students now have access to My SSP, which is available 24/7 in multiple languages. It was noted that this does not address long term support and that answers are being sought as to how best to address long term mental health support.

## **7. Reports of Committees**

### **A) Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules (SCAR)**

#### **i) Revised Terms of Reference for Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS) (S.18-100)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by C. Percival

"That Senate approve the revisions to the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies' (SCUS) Terms of Reference."

A question was called and a vote taken.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **B) Senate Committee on Continuing Studies (SCCS)**

#### **i) Annual Report (S.18-101)**

Senate received the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies Annual Report 2017-2018 for information.

**C) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)****i) External Review of the Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology (S.18-102)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by D. Leznoff

“That Senate approve the Action Plan for the Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology that resulted from its External Review.”

Angela Brooks-Wilson, Professor and Chair - Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was asked about the impact of raising the entrance average from secondary school to 90% and what the transfer threshold is for the department. Senate was informed that the review is written such that it identified ways to control incoming enrollment from high school due to it being difficult to adjust to increasing enrollments. The Department currently accepts about 185 incoming students from high school with an average of 85%. Though the incoming rate of 85% matches that of other departments in Science, BPK does have a higher maintenance GPA of 2.5. If a student falls below 2.5 in seven critical classes they are removed from the program. To re-enter the program or enter as an internal transfer the GPA is 2.7.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**ii) Full Program Proposal for the Master of Applied Science in Sustainable Energy Engineering (S.18-103)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by K. Wiese

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for the Master of Applied Science in Sustainable Energy Engineering within the Faculty of Applied Sciences, effective Fall 2019.”

Kevin Oldknow, Associate Dean - Faculty of Applied Sciences, and Director - Sustainable Energy Engineering Program, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was asked if research facilities will be in place in time for Fall 2019. Senate was informed that the process is under way of hiring the first cohort of faculty, with the intention of having them in place for Fall 2019.

A concern was raised about the language used in the admission requirements which states that applicants must have an undergraduate degree and then proceeds to list a number of engineering specific fields. The concern is that this language will discourage eligible applicants from non-engineering fields. Senate was informed that consideration would be given to revising the language to make it more encompassing.

A question was asked as to why the program is thesis based rather than practicum based. Senate was informed that this is one part of a larger sequence of activities associated around Sustainable Energy and Engineering. It is anticipated that as resources come online and as programs are established, opportunities to build course based projects and a professional program will be implemented.

Given the need of library collections support for this new program, and noting that no new program can be offered unless adequate library resources are in place, a concern was raised that funding has not yet been identified for library collections. Senate was informed that money has been received from the Ministry to cover the operational costs of the program, and consideration is being given as to how much will be allocated to the library.

A question was asked about the hiring of new faculty and if current faculty members will be involved in teaching SEE courses. Senate was informed that the program will be shaped by a steering committee comprised partly of existing faculty members, particularly those active in related fields. It was noted that although the descriptions for SEE courses state that new faculty will be teaching those courses, there are options within the program that allow students to take courses from existing units to satisfy degree requirements.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**iii) Full Program Proposal for the Doctor of Philosophy in Sustainable Energy Engineering (S.18-104)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by K. Wiese

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for the Doctor of Philosophy in Sustainable Energy Engineering within the Faculty of Applied Sciences, effective Fall 2019.”

Kevin Oldknow, Associate Dean - Faculty of Applied Sciences, and Director - Sustainable Energy Engineering Program, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was asked if any consideration was given for direct entry into the PhD program. Senate was informed that students are required to start the Master’s program, and in some cases may move into the PhD program.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**iv) Full Program Proposal for the Master of Engineering in Mechatronic Product Realization (S.18-105)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by J. Peters

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for the Master of Engineering in Mechatronic Product Realization within the Faculty of Applied Sciences, effective Fall 2019.”

Kevin Oldknow, Associate Dean - Faculty of Applied Sciences, and Director - Sustainable Energy Engineering Program, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED



**v) Full Program Proposal for the Master of Arts in Heritage Resource Management (S.18-106)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by J. Derksen

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for the Master of Arts in Heritage Resource Management within the Faculty of Environment, effective Fall 2019.”

Jon Driver, Professor - Department of Archaeology, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**vi) Full Program Proposal for the Graduate Certificate in Heritage Resource Management (S.18-107)**

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by T. Brennand

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for the Graduate Certificate in Heritage Resource Management within the Faculty of Environment, effective Fall 2019.”

Jon Driver, Professor - Department of Archaeology, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**D) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)**

**i) Program Changes (S.18-108)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made program changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (Sustainable Energy Engineering Program), the Beedie School of Business, the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School of Interactive Arts and Technology), and the Faculty of Science (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry).

**ii) New Course Proposals (S.18-109)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Beedie School of Business, and the Faculty of Health Sciences.

**iii) Course Changes (S.18-110)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering), the Beedie School of Business, the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School of Communication, School of Interactive Arts and Technology), the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the Faculty of Science (Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Statistics and Actuarial Science).

**iv) Program Changes (S.18-111)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made program changes in the Beedie School of Business.

**v) New Course Proposals (S.18-112)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Beedie School of Business, and the Faculty of Science (Biological Sciences).

**vi) Course Changes (S.18-113)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Beedie School of Business, and the Faculty of Science (Statistics and Actuarial Science, Biological Sciences, Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics).

**E) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)**

**i) Program Changes (S.18-114)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved a program change in the Beedie School of Business.

**ii) CSAR Master of Science in Accounting with Cognitive Analytics (S.18-115)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the Cohort Special Arrangements proposal for Master of Science in Accounting with Cognitive Analytics in the Beedie School of Business.

Andrew Gemino, Associate Dean - Graduate Programs, was in attendance to respond to questions.

**iii) CSAR Graduate Certificate in Accounting with Digital Analytics (S.18-116)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the Cohort Special Arrangements proposal for Graduate Certificate in Accounting with Digital Analytics in the Beedie School of Business.

Andrew Gemino, Associate Dean - Graduate Programs, was in attendance to respond to questions.

**F) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)**

**i) Senate Committee Elections (S.18-117 Revised)**

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

**8. Other Business**

**9. Information**

**i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, December 3, 2018.**

Open session adjourned at 6:32 p.m.