

## SENATE SUMMARY

### MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 2019

#### 1. Report of the Chair

The Vice-Chair noted the regrets of the Chair, who is away for personal reasons.

The Vice-Chair reported that a new *AGE-WELL National Innovation Hub* was recently announced at SFU's Surrey campus, together with \$3.5 million in funding from *Western Economic Diversification Canada*. The hub will address aging challenges through digital technologies aimed at improving seniors' quality of life.

The Vice-Chair reported that the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology welcomed *Canada 150 Research Chair in New Media* Wendy Hui Kyong Chun at a reception in mid- January. Chun joins FCAT's School of Communication and will lead the University's Digital Democracies Group.

The Vice-Chair reported that President Petter and Vice-President, Research and International Joy Johnson led a ten-day SFU mission to Jaipur, Mumbai, and Delhi to develop and strengthen educational, research and cultural relationships with key partners in India. President Petter will report more fully on this mission at the next Senate meeting.

The Vice-Chair reported that SFU and the *Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee* signed a collaborated Relationship Agreement in early January that builds on the University's continuing commitment to be an instrument for reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. Pursuant to the agreement, SFU and the Leadership Committee will work together to better address the educational, research and community engagement needs of Surrey's rapidly growing urban Indigenous population.

The Vice-Chair reported that on January 11-13, the Beedie School of Business, for the first time, hosted *JDC West*, Western Canada's biggest and most prestigious business competition. The competition brought about 1,300 attendees to SFU, with SFU emerging as the overall winner.

The Vice-Chair reported that SFU Public Square's 7th annual Community Summit, *Confronting the Disinformation Age*, will be held April 10-18. The summit will explore how a proliferation of disinformation is impacting society and challenging citizens' ability to make informed decisions about their economic, social and political lives. Early bird tickets are now available for the April 16th keynote event, presented in partnership with *Vancity* at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. The event will feature three leading Canadian commentators - David Frum, Sue Gardener and Christopher Wylie. The conversation, moderated by the CBC's Ian Hanomansing, will consider the distortion of our information

landscape and what we can do together to confront it. Full program details for all Community Summit activities, including an event showcasing SFU research, will be announced mid-February.

**2. Undergraduate Program Changes (S.19-25)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program changes, effective Fall 2019:

**i) Faculty of Environment**

**a) Geography**

- Program: Geography Major
- Program: Geography Minor
- Program: Certificate in Spatial Information Systems

**b) School of Environmental Science**

- Program: Environmental Science Honours
- Program: Environmental Science Major

**3. Undergraduate New Course Proposals (S.19-26)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following new course proposals, effective Fall 2019:

**i) Faculty of Environment**

**a) School of Resource and Environmental Management**

- Course (new): REM 202W

**b) Geography**

- Course (new): GEOG 364

**ii) Faculty of Science**

**a) Molecular Biology and Biochemistry**

- Course (new): MBB 326

**4. Undergraduate Course Changes (S.19-27)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Fall 2019:

**i) Faculty of Environment**

**a) School of Resource and Environmental Management**

- Course (prerequisite): REM 221
- Course (units, prerequisite): REM 370

**b) *Geography***

- Course (description, equivalency): GEOG 215

**c) *School of Environmental Science***

- Course (units, prerequisite): EVSC 305 (effective Spring 2020)

**ii) Faculty of Science**

**a) *Earth Sciences***

- Course (title): EASC 210

**b) *Molecular Biology and Biochemistry***

- Course (title, description): MBB 427
- Course (description, prerequisite): MBB 471
- Course (title): MBB 496, 498

**5. Graduate Program Changes (S.19-28)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program changes, effective Fall 2019:

**i) Faculty of Applied Sciences**

**a) *Sustainable Energy Engineering***

- Program: Sustainable Energy Engineering MASC
- Program: Sustainable Energy Engineering PhD

**6. Senate Committee Elections (S.19-30)**

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 March Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the February 2019 Senate documents: <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-33465>

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