



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on  
Monday, June 10, 2019 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

## Open Session

**Present:** Andrew Petter, Chair

Aistov, Nikita  
Bartram, Lyn (via Vancouver videoconference)  
Bird, Gwen  
Bubela, Tania  
Chapman, Glenn  
Chenier, Elise  
Denholm, Julia  
Derksen, Jeff  
Dunsford, Russell  
Elle, Elizabeth  
Favere-Marchesi, Michael  
Fiume, Eugene  
Forde, Nancy  
Fowler, Colin  
Gajdics, Sylvia  
Gunn, Alexandra  
Hall, Peter  
Hillman, Sterling  
Hogg, Robert  
Johnson, Joy  
Keliipio, Kau'i  
Keller, Peter  
Kim, Woo Soo  
Kimathi, Natasha  
Krauth, Brian  
Leacock, Tracey  
Leznoff, Daniel  
Lord Ferguson, Sarah (via Vancouver videoconference)  
Luelfesmann, Christoph  
Luu, Susan  
Magnusson, Kris  
Mirhady, David  
Parkhouse, Wade  
Parmar, Abhishek  
Percival, Colin  
Planchenault, Gaelle

Poitras, Geoffrey  
Poyntz, Stuart  
Pulkingham, Jane  
Raza, Samad  
Tavakoli, Kimia  
Tingling, Peter  
Walsby, Charles  
Weldon, Steve  
Zanette, Amanda

**Absent:**

Brennand, Tracy  
Chou, Jennifer  
Collard, Mark  
Dastmalchian, Ali  
Giardini, Anne  
Gray, Bonnie  
Hendrigan, Holly  
Ho, Shuna  
Hoffer, Andy  
HoSang, Giovanni  
Kench, Paul  
Laitsch, Dan  
Myers, Gord  
Nepomnaschy, Pablo  
Parent, Michael  
Plettner, Erika  
Shaw, Chris  
Somers, Julian  
Stefanovic, Ingrid  
Stockie, John  
Taykandy, Mason

**In Attendance:**

The Chair, on behalf of Senate, welcomed the following new and re-elected Senators:

**New Faculty Senators:** Elise Chenier; Peter Hall; Andy Hoffer; Robert Hogg; Brian Krauth; David Mirhady; Steve Weldon

**Re-elected Faculty Senators:** Bonnie Gray; Dan Laitsch

**New Student Senators:** Nikitia Aistov; Jennifer Chou; Russell Dunsford; Colin Fowler; Alexandra Gunn; Sterling Hillman; Giovanni HoSang; Natasha Kimathi; Abhishek Parmar; Samad Raza; Kimia Tavakoli; Mason Taykandy

**Re-elected Student Senators:** Shuna Ho; Kau'i Keliipio; Sarah Lord Ferguson; Susan Luu

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed.

**2. Minutes of the Open Session of May 21, 2019 will be considered for approval at the Senate meeting on July 8, 2019**

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**4. Report of the Chair**

The Chair reported that at the *Map the System Challenge* (formerly known as the *Oxford Global Challenge*), a global competition organized by the University of Oxford to challenge students to think differently about social or environmental change, a team from SFU placed first with a project looking at issues related to the wildfire crisis in British Columbia. This marks the second time in the past three years that a team from SFU has won this competition.

The Chair reported on recent research grant successes:

- Gerhard Gries from Biological Sciences has been awarded \$860,000 from the *NSERC Discovery Grant Program* for his project *Multimodal Animal Communication Ecology*.
- Robert Briton from Chemistry has been awarded \$525,000 from the *NSERC Discovery Grant Program* for his project *Discovery and Development of Enabling Tools for the Synthesis and Late Stage Modification of Natural Products and Pharmaceuticals*.
- Michael Adachi from Engineering Science has been awarded \$486,000 from *Western Economic Diversification* for his project *Fabrication of High Flexibility High Conversion Efficiency Heterojunction Si Solar Cells*.
- Tianzheng Wang from Computing Science has been awarded \$181,250 from *Huawei Technologies* for his project *Enabling Cloud-Native Main-Memory Database Systems*.
- Chris Beh from Molecular Biology and Biochemistry has been awarded \$150,000 from *NSERC's Research Tool and Instruments Program* for his project *High-pressure Freezing unit for Visualizing Cellular Ultrastructure by Electron Microscopy*.
- Daniel Leznoff from Chemistry has been awarded \$149,937 from *NSERC's Research Tools and Instruments Program* for his project *X-ray diffractometer detector upgrade for accessing challenging crystal structures and in situ powder diffraction*.

- John Bechhoefer from Physics has been awarded \$146,725 from *NSERC's Research Tools and Instruments Program* for his project *High-speed Feedback Trap Based on Optical Tweezers*.
- Jeremy Venditti from Geography has been awarded \$116,124 from *NSERC's Research Tools and Instruments Program* for his project entitled *Multifrequency Acoustic Doppler Profilers*.

The Chair reported that SFU VentureLabs has received a contribution agreement to become the western regional hub for the Government of Canada's *Women's Entrepreneur Knowledge Hub*. The hub will focus on gathering data, building knowledge and sharing best practices for diversity and the development for women entrepreneurs and business leaders.

The Chair reported that SFU was a mobilizer for the 2019 *Women Deliver Conference*, the world's largest gathering on gender quality and the health, rights and wellbeing of women and girls. SFU was involved in numerous conference-related activities, including participation by the Chair, in his role as President, in a *University Canada's* panel on *Equity, Diversity and Inclusion*.

The Chair reported that this year's *Coast Capital Savings Venture Prize* competition saw more women-led companies competing as finalists than ever before. *Spexi GeoSpatial* won the competition, taking home a cash and in-kind prize package worth \$ 35,000.

The Chair reported that SFU RADIUS Refugee Livelihood Lab Co-Founder Nada El Masry won the *B.C. Multiculturalism Award*. Also, SFU did well in the recent competition for Canada's *Digital Technology Supercluster* funding, with three of the thirteen projects selected to go to full application having SFU as an academic partner.

The Chair reported that SFU's Spring Data Visionaries series brought together diverse people to discuss how big data is changing how we perceive and participate in our democracies. The Data Visionaries series has engaged over 900 attendees, including members from the general public, government and industry to raise awareness of SFU's leadership in big data and build relationships with strategic influencers.

The Chair reported that he, in his role as President, along with Vice-President, Research Joy Johnson, attended and made presentations to the *Canada-Mexico Binational Forum on Science, Technology and Development* in Mexico City on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The forum brought senior university representatives and government officials together to discuss the critical role universities play in generating research and innovation, and to explore opportunities for greater collaboration.

The Chair reported that the Faculty of Education celebrated the formal opening of its new Research Hub, a centre for research and knowledge mobilization focused on creative, collaborative and interdisciplinary scholarship and associated programming.

The Chair reported that on May 27<sup>th</sup> Burnaby Council gave approval in principle to the Burnaby Mountain urban gondola proposal. *TransLink* will now undertake a public consultation that will focus on three possible routes.

The Chair reported that Convocation takes place from June 11-14, with an Indigenous Honouring Feast on Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**5. Question Period**

No questions were submitted.

**6. Reports of Committees****A) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)****i) Program Changes (S.19-74)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved program changes in the Faculty of Science (Biology).

**ii) New Course Proposals (S.19-75)**

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

**iii) Course Changes (S.19-76)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management), and the Faculty of Science (Biology, Chemistry).

**B) Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning (SCUTL)****i) Annual Report 2018-2019 (S.19-77)**

Senate received the Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning Annual Report 2018-2019 for information.

A question was asked about the distinction between the SCUTL sub-committee Student Evaluation of Teaching and Courses Working Group (SETCWG) and the Teaching Assessment Working Group (TAWG). Senate was informed that SETCWG preceded TAWG and came up with a comprehensive report of suggestions drawn from literature on evaluation in teaching. Once the TAWG report is finalized, both of these reports can be brought together for assessment by the university community.

**C) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)****i) Senate Committee Elections (S.19-78 Revised)**

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

**7. Other Business****i) Electronic Senate Meetings**

Senate discussed the feasibility of holding electronic Senate meetings under certain limited circumstances when the agenda does not warrant meeting in person. It was agreed there is sufficient support at Senate to look into this issue further.

**8. Information****i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, July 8, 2019.**

Open session adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Kris Nordgren  
Senate Secretary pro tem