



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, March 2, 2020 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

Open Session

Present: Andrew Petter, Chair

Andreoiu, Corina
Bird, Gwen
Brennand, Tracy
Bubela, Tania
Burley, David
Chapman, Glenn
Chou, Jennifer
Collard, Mark
Dastmalchian, Ali (via Vancouver videoconference)
Denholm, Julia
Driver, Jon
Druick, Zoe (for Jeff Derksen)
Favere-Marchesi, Michael
Fiume, Eugene
Fowler, Colin
Gajdics, Sylvia
Gray, Bonnie (via Vancouver videoconference)
Gunn, Alexandra (via Vancouver videoconference)
Hall, Peter
Hendrigan, Holly
Heng Hartse, Joel (via Vancouver videoconference)
Hoffer, Andy
HoSang, Giovanni
Johnson, Joy
Keliipio, Kau'i
Kench, Paul
Kim, Woo Soo
Krauth, Brian
Laitsch, Dan
Leacock, Tracey
Lord Ferguson, Sarah (via Vancouver videoconference)
Luelfesmann, Christoph
Luu, Susan
Mirhady, David
Myers, Gord (via Vancouver videoconference)
O'Neill, Susan
Parkhouse, Wade
Parmar, Abhishek
Percival, Colin
Raza, Samad
Shapiro, Lisa

Stockie, John
Tingling, Peter
Underhill, Owen
Yang, Dongya (for Naomi Krogman)
Zanette, Amanda

Absent:

Aistov, Nikita
Bartram, Lyn
Chenier, Elise
Derksen, Jeff
Dunsford, Russell
Elle, Elizabeth
Forde, Nancy
Giardini, Anne
Hillman, Sterling
Ho, Shuna
Hogg, Robert
Kimathi, Natasha
Krogman, Naomi
Nepomnaschy, Pablo
Parent, Michael
Planchenault, Gaelle
Plettner, Erika
Poitras, Geoffrey
Shaw, Chris
Somers, Julian
Tavakoli, Kimia
Taykandy, Mason
Walsby, Charles
Weldon, Steve

In Attendance:

Bernie, Steve
Clark, David
Dill, Ryan
Naqvi, Zareen
Roman, Mark
Verkerk, Kathryn

Kris Nordgren, Senate Secretary pro tem
Steven Noel, Recording Secretary

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of February 3, 2020

The minutes of the open session on February 3, 2020 were approved as distributed.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Report of the Chair

The Chair reported, as was noted earlier that day in a communication to SFU community members, the University was subject to a privacy breach that affected the personal information of faculty, staff, students and alumni associated with the University prior to June 20, 2019. The breach occurred when SFU's system was subjected to a ransomware attack on February 27th. The issue was discovered and corrected on February 28th. Although Computing ID passwords were within that information, they are encrypted and therefore the advice is that they likely have not been compromised but out of an abundance of caution, people are being cautioned to change their SFU Computing ID password and use the new password when connecting to SFU Wi-Fi and online applications. No SFU systems are currently exposed.

The Chair reported that Dugan O'Neil has been appointed Vice-President, Research and International pro tem for the period July 1st, 2020 to June 31st, 2021.

The Chair reported that SFU has signed an agreement with Langara College that paves the way for Indigenous students to more easily transfer from the college to SFU to complete their degree programs. It will become effective in September 2020 and is a part of SFU's commitment to make it possible for more Indigenous students to study at SFU.

The Chair reported that SFU and the *First Nations Health Authority (FNHA)* announced a ground-breaking agreement that increases indigenous determination for Health Research. The agreement provides the *Health Authority* research affiliate status with SFU, and furthers SFU's commitment to reconciliation and recognizes the right of First Nations to control all aspects of health research and data that impacts them.

The Chair reported that Education professor Daniele Moore has been named a *Knight in the Order Plumes Academiques* by the Government of France. This highly prestigious national order is bestowed on distinguished academics and figures in the world of culture and education recognizing their outstanding contribution in their field.

The Chair reported on recent research grant successes:

- Fiona Brinkman of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry received \$22,500 from *the Mitacs Accelerate Program*.
- Faranak Farzan of Mechatronics Systems Engineering received \$480,000 from the *Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR)*.
- Kate Salters of Health Sciences received \$340,000 from *CIHR*.
- David Voadlo of Chemistry, Canada Research Chair in Chemical Biology, received \$120,000 from *F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd*.

- Ly Vu of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry received a grant of \$872,000 from *CIHR*, \$300,000 from the *Provincial Health Services Authority*, and \$125,000 USD from the *American Society of Hematology* for her research projects on leukemia.

The Chair reported that SFU is collaborating with *Women in High Performance Computing (WHPC)*, an international organization dedicated to promoting equality for women in the field of advanced computing, to host the inaugural WHPC Summit at SFU Vancouver. The Summit will bring together 350 leaders and innovators to celebrate the contributions, careers, and leadership of women in high performance computing, AI and Big Data.

The Chair reported that SFU and *Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)* will host a hackathon at SFU Vancouver during which students from both SFU and UBC will collaboratively explore solutions to real-world problems using publicly-available data.

The Chair reported that SFU Knowledge Mobilization Hub recently announced the appointment of Lupin Battersby as SFU's first knowledge mobilization officer. The Hub will support knowledge mobilization, the university-wide initiative focused on growing SFU's culture of sharing knowledge and transferring it to end users in our communities.

The Chair reported that SFU recently hosted Governor General of Canada Julie Payette and Lieutenant Governor of BC Janet Austin at the Surrey campus to engage with students and learn more about SFU's programming, projects and priorities.

The Chair reported that SFU recently renewed its collaborative agreement with *Navitas*, which operates Fraser International College (FIC), providing students with a pathway into SFU. This partnership is the largest international student pathway of its kind.

The Chair reported that the *Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE)*, acting on SFU's advice, made the difficult decision, in light of concerns relating to the spread of the Covid 19 virus, to postpone the *APAIE 2020 Conference and Exhibition* until 2021. The conference was scheduled for the end of March in Vancouver, but it became clear it would be irresponsible to risk the health and welfare of participants and the host community, along with the fact that increasing national and international travel restrictions were preventing many delegates in Asia from attending. Though a considerable amount of work has already gone into hosting this conference, the *APAIE* has allowed SFU to host in 2021.

The Chair reported that a decision has been made to cancel the Senate-Board of Governors Retreat planned for April 4th. There were a number of reasons for this decision, one of which related to the COVID-19 virus and the unexpected work taken on by the Vice-President, Academic portfolio to manage this serious and developing situation.

The Chair reported that SFU Public Square's eight annual Community Summit on *Overcoming Inequality: What Will it Take?* will be held April 1-9. It will confront social and economic inequalities and invite participants to consider strategies for creating a more equitable, just and prosperous society for all. Full details for Community Summit activities, including an event showcasing innovations in research, will be available online.

The Chair reported that the Library will host its annual Celebration of Authors on March 10th. This event celebrates SFU authors and recognizes their contributions to academic dialogue and

knowledge mobilization. It was also noted that the President's Faculty Lecture Series continues on March 10th at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts with a talk by Paul Budra on *The Shakespeare Conspiracy*.

Regarding the data breach, a comment was made to clarify that what has been referred to as encrypted passwords is in fact hashed passwords, meaning that breaking a particular code would have to be done individually, password by password, rather than as group. Senate was informed that this is correct, however, it was advised that all users should change their passwords to be safe.

5. Question Period

It was noted that a question was submitted after the deadline and will be considered for a future meeting.

6. Reports of Committees

A) Senate Committee on Enrollment Management and Planning (SEMP)

i) Enrollment Plan 2020/2021; Undergraduate Admissions Targets for 2020/2021 (S.20-28)

Motion 1:

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by A. Parmar

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the 2020/2021 Enrollment Plan attached as Appendix A to document titled *For SENATE March 2, 2020*.”

Zareen Naqvi, Director - Institutional Research and Planning, and Kathryn Verkerk, Associate Registrar - Student Recruitment & Admissions, were in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was asked about the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences again falling short of its enrollment targets, despite assurances in the previous year that it would attain 2400 enrollments in 2020. Senate was informed that FASS simply missed its targets, noting that newly implemented admission requirements significantly affected the Faculty, particularly on second choice points.

Noting that FASS has seen a 28% reduction in intake targeting over the past five years, and yet despite the decrease, continues to be SFU's largest faculty responsible for 40% of admissions, a question was asked if other faculties will be able to increase their intake should this trend continue. Senate was informed that both provincially and nationally, decreases are being experienced in the number of domestic students entering certain disciplines. In particular, there has been a decline in students 18-24 years old in the province, which is expected to turn around in 2022/2023. Specifically relating to FASS, an aggressive recruitment initiative has been implemented which is anticipated to take a couple of years to bear fruit. Also, FASS has initiated a plan to retain more students, thereby decreasing the need to recruit as many new students.

A question was asked about SFU's reliance on international students and if consideration has been given to circumstances, such as COVID-19, that may restrict or prevent international travel. Senate was informed that consideration has been given to this, but it was noted that such

concerns are at least partially buffered by the fact that Fraser International College (FIC) provides 1050 out of 1491 admitted international students.

A question was asked as to how SFU compares in meeting its admission targets to the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the University of Victoria (UVic). Senate was informed that all three institutions have experienced similar declines in demographics and falling admissions in particular academic streams. It was noted that SFU has been affected by both UBC and UVic missing their admissions targets, meaning that they have been make late offers to students that had already received offers from SFU.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 2:

Moved by J. driver, seconded by A. Parmar

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the 2020/2021 Proposed Domestic Undergraduate Admission Targets by Faculty and Basis of Admission -All Campuses (Headcount), as indicated in Table C1 in Appendix C.”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 3:

Moved by J. driver, seconded by A. Parmar

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the 2020/2021 Proposed International Undergraduate Admission Targets by Faculty and Basis of Admission - All Campuses (Headcount), as indicated in Table C2 in Appendix C.”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

B) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)

i) External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the School for International Studies (S.20-29)

Senate received the External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the School for International Studies for information.

ii) External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Linguistics (S.20-30)

Senate received the External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Linguistics for information.

iii) Full Program Proposal for the Professional Kinesiology Certificate (S.20-31)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by A. Hoffer

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for the Professional Kinesiology Certificate in the Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology within the Faculty of Science, effective Fall 2020.”

Ryan Dill, Undergraduate Program Chair, and David Clarke, Associate Professor - Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology, were in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

C) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

i) Program Changes (S.20-32)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved program changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering), the Beedie School of Business; and the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management).

ii) New Course Proposals (S.20-33)

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

iii) Course Changes (S.20-34)

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 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (English), the Beedie School of Business, the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management, Geography), and the Faculty of Science (Physics).

iv) Blended Courses (S.20-35)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the definition for Blended Courses.

A concern was raised about the scheduling pattern requiring *pairing with another course to share alternating weeks* and how this would be facilitated. Senate was informed that such facilitation will not be done through faculties or departments and will be instead done through the Registrar's Office using scheduling software capable of finding partners across disciplines.

v) Program GPA (S.20-36)

Moved by W. Parkhouse, seconded by T. Bubela

“That Senate approve the changes to the Program GPA definition in the Academic Calendar to ensure the consistency of its calculation across all departments, as detailed in the attached document.”

Steve Birnie, Associate Registrar - Information, Records & Registration Services, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A concern was raised about the timing of the implementation of this change and if there will be a provision to allow for departments to continue their current practice while transitioning. Senate was informed that the intention is to have this change reflected in the Fall 2020 Calendar. Work has been ongoing with the faculties in consultation with their Undergraduate Curriculum Committees since Fall 2019. With respect to FASS, the Associate Dean has been in discussion with departments that may want to want to implement a subject specific GPA to ensure that was done at the same time.

A concern was raised that the new definition of Program GPA does not provide clarity in terms of what is considered minimum requirements. Senate was informed that the word *minimum* was added during the discussion at SCUS in part because program requirements and interpretations of what program requirements means is not always self-evident. It was added to reinforce that this refers to courses specifically in the program requirement section of the calendar and anything beyond that is included in cumulative GPA (cGPA) and upper division GPA (UDGPA). This approach aligns with how advisors do their work and also aligns with the Academic Progress Report (APR).

To clarify, a question was asked as to which courses would count towards the minimum requirement if a student took more than the required number of courses. Senate was informed that the highest graded set of courses would be used towards the minimum requirement, with additional courses counting towards the cGPA or UDGPA.

Noting that jurisdiction for this matter lies solely in the Senate, a friendly amendment was accepted to remove the words *and recommend to the Board of Governors* from the motion.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

D) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)

i) Program Changes (S.20-37)

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

ii) New Course Proposals (S.20-38)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Beedie School of Business.

iii) Course Changes (S.20-39)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Beedie School of Business, and the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management).

E) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)

i) Senate Committee Elections (S.20-40 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

8. Information

i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, April 6, 2020

Open session adjourned at 6:15 p.m.