



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, March 6, 2023 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)
and via Zoom Video Conferencing

Open Session

Present: Joy Johnson, Chair

Ahsan, Shariq
Andreoiu, Corina
Arseneault, Donovan
Bird, Gwen
Brennand, Tracy
Brooks-Wilson, Angela
Chapman, Glenn
Chessel, Patrick
Coleman, Gordon
Collard, Mark
Daniel, Bryan
Denholm, Julia
Derksen, Jeff
Dhesa, Priyanka
Elle, Elizabeth
Everton, Mike
Faris, Reema
Fiume, Eugene
Gray, Bonnie
Hendrigan, Holly
Herrenbrueck, Lucas
Hogg, Robert (for Tania Bublea)
Karaivanov, Alexander
Kayande, Ujwal
Krogman, Naomi
Kumpulainen, Kristiina
Laitsch, Dan
Leznoff, Daniel
Liu, Connie
Magnusson, Kris
Martell, Matt
Masri, Kamal
Masri, Lynn
McKenzie, Janis
Muntean, Reese
Murphy, David
Myers, Gord

Nagy, Judit
Nelson, Todd
Neustaedter, Carman
O'Neil, Dugan
Pantophlet, Ralph
Parmar, Abhishek
Percival, Colin
Schiphorst, Thecla
Shinkar, Igor
Silverman, Michael
Spector, Stephen
Stockie, John
Van Veen, Melissa
Weldon, Laurel
Williams, JF
Williams, Vance
Yao, Grace

Absent:

Bhalloo, Shafik
Bubela, Tania
Lam, Allan
McTavish, Rob
Nepomnaschy, Pablo
Parent, Michael
Parkhouse, Wade
Rashmi, Samiya
Sidhu, Harneer
Subbiah, Arun
Tran, Lisa
Vrooman, Tamara

In Attendance:

Davis, Trevor
Naqvi, Zareen
Oldknow, Kevin

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. The Minutes of the Open Session of February 6, 2023 will be considered for approval at the Senate meeting on April 3, 2023**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Report of the Chair

The Chair reported that last month she, in her role as President, attended the Canada-in-Asia conference in Singapore - a joint effort between the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada and Universities Canada. This event brought together academia and the private sector to discuss opportunities for collaboration between Canada and Asia and included a panel on clean technology. The President also met with alumni in Singapore.

The Chair reported that SFU has joined the Immuno-Engineering and Biomanufacturing Hub. Last week the federal government announced an investment of \$10M to support the creation of five research hubs that will accelerate Canada's vaccine and therapeutics production. One of these hubs is a new Immuno-Engineering and Biomanufacturing Hub based out of UBC that will accelerate life sciences research in the province and help us prepare for future pandemics. SFU has signed onto this Hub as a key partner and participation will be led by Dr. Peter Unrau, Professor of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry and expert in RNA biochemistry.

The Chair reported that last week a Medical School engagement session was held for SFU students, staff and faculty to provide an update on this project and answer questions. The main takeaway from the session is that while there is enthusiasm for the program, there's still a lot of questions, and the University has work to do to continue to share information about the new medical program and to involve the SFU community. It was noted that additional engagement activities are planned over the next few months.

The Chair reported that there have been growing concerns about technologies such as Chat GPT and contract cheating. Chat GPT and other forms of Artificial Intelligence are rapidly evolving and there is interest across the sector in the opportunities and challenges associated with these technologies. Regarding academic integrity, the University already has a policy in place that is agnostic to technologies used, and so includes AI already. Instructors need to be clear with students about their expectations, which may include not allowing the software to be used or allowing it to be used with limitations. SFU's Centre for Educational Excellence has developed workshops for faculty members to help them understand this evolving technology and how it can be incorporated into the classroom, and they have posted useful information on their website. The Registrar's Office has also developed suggested language that faculty members can use on their course syllabus, which has been distributed to Academic Integrity Advisors. A review is currently underway of the academic integrity policy. This review will now include consideration of artificial intelligence with respect to the policy and procedures.

The Chair reported that another area being considered within the academic integrity policy review is contract cheating. The Registrar's Office is working with Campus Public Safety, General Counsel and Facilities to try and address advertising for companies that have engaged in contract cheating on campus. Instructors should report suspected contract cheating through the official reporting tool, and discuss with their Department Chair or their Departmental Academic Integrity Advisor. The University's Academic Integrity Coordinator is also available to support faculty members who have specific concerns related to contract cheating.

The Chair reported that SFU's executive team is committed to enhancing transparency and engagement in decision-making at all levels of the university. As one step to that goal, the University will continue to hold a number of town halls on issues that are important to the community. Going forward, the VP Open Session Board reports will be posted on the Board of Governors website, so the community is aware of key issues the executive team is managing. The executive team is also focusing on ways to enhance change management at SFU.

5. Question Period

i) Senator Hendrigan submitted the following question:

I would like to follow up on a matter the Chair reported in the December meeting. In November 2023, the Bennett Library was evacuated after asbestos debris was found in a 5th floor office. The cause was due to the failure of the ceiling's texture coat. The Library has since re-opened, but the 5th floor, which houses 600,000 print books, 55 computer workstations, 124 study carrels, and dozens of librarian and graduate student offices, remains closed and full abatement will take six to eight months.

The closure has had a serious impact on the University's academic mission, particularly for students and researchers in the following disciplines: Communications, Computing Science, Contemporary Arts, Criminology, Economics, Education, Linguistics, Literature, Math, and Political Science. SFU's legal and government documents collections are also housed there. The majority of SFU's subject librarians work on this floor, thus disrupting their ability to work on campus.

My colleagues at Bennett Library are doing their best in this bad situation. They have increased access to bookable spaces elsewhere and, of course, the SFU community can always rely on Interlibrary Loans. The latest plan involves moving 10,000 of the highest-use titles to another floor, but this is a very labor-intensive process. Bottom line, the prolonged closure of the 5th floor has negatively impacted the Library's mission to support teaching and research. Can the University inform Senate how it will improve the inspection protocols listed in the Asbestos Exposure Control Plan, and when can we expect the improved inspection protocols to be implemented?

The Chair, in her role as President, responded to this question, citing information provided by Melinda Skura, Senior Director - Environmental Health & Safety.

Senate was informed of the following:

- A qualified consultant continues to perform weekly inspections in the library to confirm the effectiveness of encapsulation.
- A consultant was retained to re-assess the condition of the texture coat in seven additional buildings at the Burnaby campus, including Lorne Davies Complex, AQ, Shell House Residence, Shrum Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Transportation Centre. The assessment is complete and the consultant identified some minor deficiencies but did not find any immediate health & safety concerns.
- An RFP for hazmat consultant is being finalized. The role of the hazmat consultant is to oversee all abatement work at SFU. The first project assigned to the successful consultant will be the inspection of all friable ACM across the Burnaby campus.
- Annual inspections of friable asbestos containing materials will be performed going forward.

6. Reports of Committees

A) Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules (SCAR)

i) Research Ethics Board and Policy R20.01 (S.23-30)

Trevor Davis, Executive Director - Research Operations, was in attendance to respond to questions.

Motion 1:

Moved by S. Spector, seconded by D. Laitsch

“That an ad-hoc Special Joint Committee (SJC) of the Board of Governors (BOG) and the Senate be formed to review and if appropriate, recommend changes to R20.01 policy and procedures.

- The SJC will be comprised of 2 members of the BOG chosen by the BOG and 2 members of the Senate selected by the Senate.
- The scope of work for the SJC will be focused on the composition of the REB, the appointment and removal process for REB members and how the REB chair is selected. It will address the role of the BOG and the Senate in these processes.
- The committee will report back no later than 30 June 2023 to both the BOG and the Senate on any recommended changes to R20.01 policy or procedures.”

An amendment to this motion was suggested by the mover to include an ex-officio member of the Research Ethics Board.

Motion:

Moved by S. Spector, seconded by C. Percival

“That the SJC will be comprised of 2 members of the BOG chosen by the BOG, 2 members of the Senate selected by the Senate, *and an ex-officio non-voting member of the Research Ethics Board.*”

Citing concerns over the REB member being non-voting, an amendment to the amended motion was suggested to make the REB member a voting member elected by the REB.

Motion:

Moved by M. Collard, seconded by T. Schiphorst

“That the SJC will be comprised of 2 members of the BOG chosen by the BOG, 2 members of the Senate selected by the Senate, *and a voting member of the Research Ethics Board elected by the Research Ethics Board.*”

Following the motion to amend the amendment, a motion to divide the amended motion was suggested. This would separate consideration for the REB member to be a voting member and consideration for the REB member to be elected by the REB into separate votes.

Motion:

Moved by C. Percival, seconded by

“That consideration of the amended amendment be divided into two votes: one vote for the REB member to be a voting member and one vote for the REB member to be elected by the REB.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

With the motion to divide the motion being approved, the question was called and a vote taken on the amendment for the REB member to be a voting member.

The question was called and a vote taken.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Following approval of the amendment to include a voting REB member on the SJC, the question was called and vote taken on the amendment for the REB member to be elected by the REB.

The question was called and a vote taken.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

Following approval of two amendments to the original amendment, the question was called and a vote taken on the original amended motion.

Motion 1 - Amended with two additional approved amendments:

“That an ad-hoc Special Joint Committee (SJC) of the Board of Governors (BOG) and the Senate be formed to review and if appropriate, recommend changes to R20.01 policy and procedures.

- The SJC will be comprised of 2 members of the BOG chosen by the BOG, 2 members of the Senate selected by the Senate, and a representative of the Research Ethics Board, elected by the Research Ethics Board.
- The scope of work for the SJC will be focused on the composition of the REB, the appointment and removal process for REB members and how the REB chair is selected. It will address the role of the BOG and the Senate in these processes.

- The committee will report back no later than 30 June 2023 to both the BOG and the Senate on any recommended changes to R20.01 policy or procedures.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Following approval of the amended motion, and citing concerns over how the Senate members would be selected for the SJC, a further amendment was suggested to state that the members from Senate be elected following the normal procedures for committee elections.

Motion:

Moved by C. Percival, seconded by G. Coleman

“That the Senate members be elected following the normal procedures for committee elections.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

With this amendment having passed, the question was called and a vote taken on Motion 1.

Motion 1 - including all approved amendments:

“That an ad-hoc Special Joint Committee (SJC) of the Board of Governors (BOG) and the Senate be formed to review and if appropriate, recommend changes to R20.01 policy and procedures.

- The SJC will be comprised of 2 members of the BOG chosen by the BOG, 2 members of the Senate elected by the Senate following the normal procedures for committee elections, and a representative of the Research Ethics Board, elected by the Research Ethics Board.
- The scope of work for the SJC will be focused on the composition of the REB, the appointment and removal process for REB members and how the REB chair is selected. It will address the role of the BOG and the Senate in these processes.
- The committee will report back no later than 30 June 2023 to both the BOG and the Senate on any recommended changes to R20.01 policy or procedures.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 2:

Moved by S. Spector, seconded by A. Parmar

“That Senate ratifies the renewal of Wayne Marigold, Angela McIntire, Helene Love, Wendy Thornton, Victoria Claydon, David Whitehurst, and Theresa Cheung as members of the REB for the period ending September 30, 2023, and Wendy Thornton as Chair until May 31, 2023.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 3:

Moved by S. Spector, seconded by

“That Senate ratifies the appointment of Professor Jeannie Kerr as a member of the REB for the period ending September 30, 2023.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 4:

Moved by S. Spector, seconded by A. Parmar

“That while the Special Joint Committee is carrying out its work, Senate recommends that the procedures of Policy R20.01 as set out in Schedule A be suspended, and that they be replaced by the original N2/CAREB SOPs 201 and 202 and a SFU-specific interim Terms of Reference, allowing REB work to resume immediately. Senate further recommends that the Director Research Ethics put in place a process to work with the REB and external experts as required to ensure that all remaining N2/CAREB SOPs are implemented in a way that enables an effective, compliant, and continuous operation of the research ethics review process at SFU.”

A motion to suspend the rules of Senate was suggested to allow a former member of the REB to address Senate for five minutes.

Motion:

Moved by H. Hendrigan, seconded by A. Parmar

“That the rules of Senate be suspended to allow a former member of the REB to address Senate for five minutes.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Following approval of the motion, Wendy Loken Thornton, REB Chair, addressed Senate to voice concerns over the proposed REB changes.

Noting concerns over the suspension of Schedule A, the mover of Motion 4 withdrew the motion and forwarded a new motion that would allow Schedule A to be followed as the university transitions to N2/CAREB SOPs.

Motion 4:

Moved by S. Spector, seconded by J. Stockie

“That while the Special Joint Committee is carrying out its work, Senate recommends that the procedures of Policy R 20.01 as set out in Schedule A be followed as we transition to N2/CAREB SOPs, allowing REB work to resume immediately. Senate further recommends that the Director Research Ethics put in place a process to work with the REB and external experts as required to ensure that N2/CAREB SOPs are implemented in a way that enables an effective, compliant, and continuous operation of the research ethics review process at SFU.”

A question was asked as to who this motion is making its recommendation to. Senate was informed that the recommendation in the Motion 4 is for the administration and the REB to work together.

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

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

i) Enrollment Plan 2023/2024; Undergraduate Admission Targets for 2023/2024 (S.23-31)

Zareen Naqvi, Director - Institutional Research and Planning, and Kevin Oldknow, Senior Advisor, Academic Planning, were in attendance to respond to questions.

Motion 1:

Moved by E. Elle, seconded by JF Williams

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the SFU Enrolment Plan for fiscal year 2023/2024 as shown in the following tables”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 2:

Moved by E. Elle, seconded by A. Parmar

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Proposed Domestic Undergraduate Admission Targets by Faculty and Basis of Admission – All Campuses (Headcount), for fiscal year 2023/2024 as shown below.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 3:

Moved by E. Elle, seconded by S. Spector

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Proposed International Undergraduate Admission Targets by Faculty and Basis of Admission – All Campuses (Headcount) for fiscal year 2023/2024 as shown below.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

C) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)

i) Revised Terms of Reference for the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science Endowment (S.23-32)

Moved by E. Elle, seconded by C. Liu

“That Senate approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Rajan Family Endowment supporting the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Suspension of Admission: MSc in Ecological Restoration (S.23-33)

Senate received Suspension of Admission: MSc in Ecological Restoration for information.

iii) Notice of Withdrawal: Master in Management (S.23-34)

Senate received Notice of Withdrawal: Master in Management for information.

D) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

i) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS) Annual Report 2021/2022 (S.23-35)

Senate received the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS) Annual Report 2021/2022 for information.

ii) Program Changes (S.23-36)

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 Computing Science), the Beedie School of Business, the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School for the Contemporary Arts, School of Interactive Arts and Technology), the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management), and the Faculty of Science (Earth Sciences, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry).

iii) New Course Proposals (S.23-37)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School for the Contemporary Arts), and the Faculty of Science (Earth Sciences).

iv) Course Changes (S.23-38)

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 Computing Science, School of Engineering Science), the Beedie School of Business, the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School for the Contemporary Arts), the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management), the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the Faculty of Science (Earth Sciences, Mathematics, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry).

E) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)

i) Graduate General Regulation 1.5 Graduate Grading Systems and Policies (S.23-39)

Moved by J. Derksen, seconded by S. Spector

“That Senate approve the revisions to Graduate General Regulation 1.5.2 Competency Grading Basis.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Program Changes (S.23-40)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved program changes in the Faculty of Applied Science (School of Computing Science), the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Political Science), and the Beedie School of Business.

iii) Graduate New Course Proposals (S.23-41)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Beedie School of Business, and the Faculty of Science (Biology, Earth Science, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry).

iv) Graduate Course Changes (S.23-42)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Computing Science), the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Political Science), the Beedie School of Business, and the Faculty of Science (Earth Sciences, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry).

v) Graduate Course Deletions (S.23-43)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved a course deletion in the Faculty of Science (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry).

F) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)

i) Senate Committee Elections (S.23-44)

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

8. Other Business

9. Information

i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, April 3, 2023

Open session adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Tom Nault
Senate Secretary