

## SENATE SUMMARY MEETING OF MAY 15, 2023

### 1. **Report of the Chair**

The Chair offered congratulations to Sarah Johnson, lecturer in the Department of Physics, for winning a 2023 3M National Teaching Fellowship Award. This award is Canada's most prestigious recognition of exceptional contributions to education at the post-secondary level.

The Chair reported that last week she, in her role as President, announced that Bob Copeland, Senior Vice-President of McLaren Global Sport Solutions, has been selected as the Special Advisor to review options and search for a sustainable way forward for football at SFU. That work will begin immediately and will involve consultation with many stakeholders across the SFU community. Efforts are being directed towards supporting current football student-athletes, including ensuring that their scholarships continue through degree completion and connecting them with other teams if they choose to transfer.

The Chair reported that last month SFU celebrated the City of Burnaby's \$5M commitment to the First Peoples' Gathering House on Burnaby campus. That same day, the Chair, in her role as President, attended SFU's inaugural Honouring Indigenous Students Powwow, hosted by the First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association on Burnaby campus. Last week, SFU held an Indigenous Circle meeting for students, faculty and staff to share progress and updates around three Indigenous leadership roles being developed.

The Chair reported that in April SFU signed a letter of intent to partner with the world's top agritech university, Wageningen University & Research (WUR). In the years ahead, food security and sustaining agriculture in the face of climate change will become increasingly pressing issue in B.C. and around the world. This partnership will see SFU and WUR working together to set up a collaborative innovation ecosystem through the BC Centre for Agritech Innovation (BCCAI), along with exploring a range of academic and research activities such as joint research, student exchanges and collaborations to address food security. Thanks was offered to BCCAI for hosting an event in celebration of the partnership, and to Netherlands Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation Liesje Schreinemacher and WUR President Dr. Sjoukje Heimovaara for visiting the Surrey campus.

The Chair reported that on May 8th she, in her role as President, had the opportunity to meet with the newly appointed Ambassador of Switzerland to Canada, Olaf Kjelsen. SFU has a number of research connections in Switzerland, particularly in science and the applied sciences. This year, the Consulate has invited SFU to join as a core partner in the delivery of Swiss Innovation FEST 2024, which will have a focus on cleantech.

The Chair reported that at the beginning of May, she, in her role as President, and VP External Relations Joanne Curry, met with B.C. Premier David Eby and Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation Brenda Bailey to share updates and discuss ways that SFU can use its expertise and capacity to support the province in Making a Difference for B.C.

The Chair reported that on May 1st graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, faculty and colleagues across Canada staged a nation-wide Support Our Science walk-out to advocate for increased federal support and funding through awards and grants. On May 8th, the Chair, in her role as President, had the opportunity to join a meeting with the federal Minister of Industry, Science and Economic Development to discuss the pressing need for additional funding for research and graduate students.

The Chair reported that the Research Ethics Board Special Joint Committee continues to meet and make progress in ensuring that REB policies and procedures support research excellence at SFU and comply with national standards. Thanks was expressed to Senators Laitsch and Spector for their work in this regard, and it's anticipated that Senate will receive an update in either late June or early July.

The Chair reported that later this week SFU will open its Phase 2 Residences (369 student beds), joined by the Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills, Selina Robinson. Phases 3 and 4 are expected to have 445 and 520 beds respectively, relieving pressure on the rental housing market and providing more students with the opportunity to join the community on Burnaby Mountain.

The Chair reported that after months of consultation with the community, Yabome Gilpin-Jackson and her team in the Equity Office have completed the Equity Compass - a strategic framework outlining the focus for SFU's institutional EDI work over the next five years.

The Chair reported that the University is in the final stages of hiring a new Provost and that an announcement will be made as to the successful candidate on May 18th.

## **2. Report of the Provost**

The Provost thanked Jane Pulkingham and Dugan O'Neil for chairing the search committees for the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Vice-President, Academic, respectively. The Dean of Graduate Studies will be announced on either May 17th or 18th and efforts are being taken to coordinate that announcement with the candidate's home institution. Thanks was also extended to Jeff Derksen for his leadership over the last six years in supporting graduate studies, advocating for graduate students, and playing an important role at Senate.

The Provost reported that the open forums for the Associate Vice-President, Academic were held today. Information on how to view them and how to provide feedback was provided earlier in the day. Also, the Search for the next Associate Vice-President, Learning and Teaching is underway and applications from internal candidates has closed. The search committee is meeting this week to begin its work of evaluating applications for the role.

The Provost reported that SFU has already announced the appointment of Catherine Stoddard as the Executive Director of Faculty Relations, and that it can now be reported that Adam James has been appointed as the new Director of Faculty Labour Relations. The filling of these positions should result in better support for faculties, faculty members and the Faculty Association.

The Provost reported that last week, SFU held a consultation session on indigenous leadership with faculty, staff and students. One of the roles under discussion is the Vice-Provost, Indigenous Academic initiative. This role has been planned for the better part of three years and consultation

has been ongoing with indigenous leadership. The search committee for this role should be constituted in the next couple of months.

On the topic of external reviews, the Provost reported that due to the deferment of site visit reviews and abbreviated reviews for accredited units during the pandemic, the University has begun looking at the fact of many accredited programs having to go through both an external review and an accreditation review. Given this overlap, work is being done to access any missing points or gaps in the accreditation reviews. This was done for the first time with Health Sciences this year. A remote site visit was held May 4th and 5th, and that report is expected mid-June. The School of Interactive Arts and Technology site visit was held at the end of October 2022 and the report was received in early January 2023. The draft action plan has been discussed by the SIAT Director and the FCAT Dean and the final action plan is expected in either late June or early July, at which point it goes on to SCUP. Site visits for Mathematics and Psychology were conducted in March and the reports for both units have been received and distributed for consideration. The Beedie School of Business is the next academic unit to be assessed. They have been accredited by two different accrediting bodies and the action plan is based on the recommendations of those accrediting bodies. The action plans and supporting documents will be forwarded on to SCUP for review and will ultimately come to Senate.

The Provost reported that the interim business case for the medical school is progressing well. Over the last month, most of the work has been determining the workforce and infrastructure requirements, as well as writing and editing the submission. In terms of infrastructure, SFU must have both an interim space and a long-term building built for the program. Costing numbers are only now coming in due to the difficulty in determining those workforce numbers and the broad capital requirements. Over the next couple of weeks SFU will continue to get feedback from the ministries, the First Nations Health Authority, and Fraser Health. Fraser Health is also submitting a business case to the Ministry of Health and the University will be cross referencing for duplication over the next little while. One of the key elements needed moving forward is to establish a founding dean for the medical school in order to meet the implementation timelines. The intent is to begin that search in the coming months by striking a search committee and securing an appointment for 2024.

3. **Student Discipline Matters Annual Report 2021-2022 (S.23-59)**  
Senate received the Student Discipline Matters Annual Report 2021-2022 for information.
4. **Change to Membership and Chair of Senate Library Committee (S.23-60)**  
Senate approved changes to the membership of the Senate Library Committee.
5. **Special Joint Committee – Membership (S.23-61)**  
Senate approved the extension of Stephen Spector as a member on the Special Joint Committee until the committee has concluded its work.
6. **Program Name Change for the Business and Geography Joint Major (S.23-62)**  
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the program name change from the Business and Geography Joint Major to the Geo Business Joint Major in the Department of Geography within the Faculty of Environment and the Beedie School of Business, effective Fall 2023.

7. **Termination and Dissolution of the Health and Fitness Studies Certificate (S.23-63)**  
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the termination and dissolution of the Health and Fitness Studies Certificate in the Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology within the Faculty of Science, effective Fall 2023.
8. **Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP) Annual Report 2022/2023 (S.23-64)**  
Senate received the Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP) Annual Report 2022/2023 for information.
9. **Notice of External Reviews for 2023/24 (S.23-65)**  
Senate received Notice of External Reviews for 2023/24 for information.
10. **External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Archaeology (S.23-66)**  
Senate received External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Archaeology for information.
11. **External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of English (S.23-67)**  
Senate received External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of English for information.
12. **External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry (S.23-68)**  
Senate received External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry for information.
13. **External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Sociology and Anthropology (S.23-69)**  
Senate received External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the Department of Sociology and Anthropology for information.
14. **External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the School of Communication (S.23-70)**  
Senate received External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the School of Communication for information.
15. **External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the School for the Contemporary Arts (S.23-71)**  
Senate received External Review Mid-Cycle Report for the School for the Contemporary Arts for information.
16. **Undergraduate Program Changes (S.23-72)**  
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program changes, effective Spring 2024:
  - i) **Beedie School of Business**
    - Program: Business Major
    - Program: Business Honours

**ii) Faculty of Environment**

**a) Geography**

- Program: Geographic Information Science Major
- Program: Geographic Information Science Honours

**17. Undergraduate New Course Proposals (S.23-73)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following new course proposal, effective Fall 2023:

**i) Faculty of Applied Sciences**

**a) School of Computing Science**

- Course (new): CMPT 263

**18. Undergraduate Course Changes (S.23-74)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Spring 2024:

**i) Faculty of Applied Sciences**

**a) School of Computing Science**

- Course (prerequisite): CMPT 363

**ii) Beedie School of Business**

- Course (prerequisite): BUS 374, 381
- Course (equivalency): BUS 237, 303, 343, 346, 347, 393
- Course (deletion): BUS 415

**iii) Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology**

**a) School of Communication**

- Course (temporarily withdrawn): CMNS 483

**b) School for the Contemporary Arts**

- Course (prerequisite, description): CA 129
- Course (prerequisite, equivalency): CA 124, 216

**19. Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning (SCUTL) Annual Report 2022/2023 (S.23-75)**

Senate received the Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning (SCUTL) Annual Report 2022/2023 for information.

**20. Graduate Course Changes (S.23-76)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Spring 2024:

**i) Faculty of Applied Sciences**

**a) School of Computing Science**

- Course ((title, prerequisite): CMPT 742, 743
- Course (prerequisite): CMPT 782, 783

**21. Senate Committee Elections (S.23-77)**

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

**22. Election Report to Senate 2023 (S.23-78)**

Senate received Election Report to Senate 2023 for information.

The approved Senate minutes will be available online following the July Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the May 2023 Senate documents: <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-35988>.

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