



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, May 15, 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
Barlow, Leanne
Bird, Gwen
Brooks-Wilson, Angela
Chapman, Glenn
Coleman, Gordon
Denholm, Julia
Derksen, Jeff
Dhesa, Priyanka
Elle, Elizabeth
Everton, Mike
Faris, Reema
Fiume, Eugene
Gray, Bonnie
Hendrigan, Holly
Karaivanov, Alexander
Kingsbury, Paul (for Naomi Krogman)
Kumpulainen, Kristiina
Laitsch, Dan
Leznoff, Daniel
Liu, Connie
Magnusson, Kris
Martell, Matt
Masri, Lynn
McKenzie, Janis
McTavish, Rob
Muntean, Reese
Murphy, David
Myers, Gord
Nelson, Todd
Neustaedter, Carman
O'Neil, Dugan
Parent, Michael
Parkhouse, Wade
Parmar, Abhishek
Percival, Colin
Pratt, Elspeth
Rashmi, Samiya

Schiphorst, Thecla
Shinkar, Igor
Silverman, Michael
Spector, Stephen
Tingling, Peter (for Ujwal Kayande)
Van Veen, Melissa
Weldon, Laurel
Williams, JF
Williams, Vance

Absent:

Arseneault, Donovan
Bhalloo, Shafik
Brennand, Tracy
Bubela, Tania
Collard, Mark
Daniel, Bryan
Herrenbrueck, Lucas
Kayande, Ujwal
Krogman, Naomi
Lam, Allan
Masri, Kamal
Nagy, Judit
Nepomnaschy, Pablo
Pantophlet, Ralph
Schmidt, Michèle
Sidhu, Harneer
Stockie, John
Subbiah, Arun
Tran, Lisa
Vrooman, Tamara
Yao, Grace

In Attendance:

Stewart, Arlette

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of March 6, 2023

The minutes of the open session on March 6, 2023 were approved as distributed.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of April 3, 2023

The minutes of the open session on April 3, 2023 were approved as distributed.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. 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.

i) 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.

6. Question Period

i) Senator Percival submitted the following question:

At the April 1st 1996 meeting of Senate, a motion was passed (S.96-28)"that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.96-28, the proposed policy on undergraduate admissions, for a trial period from Spring Semester 1997 until Fall Semester 1999, with a review by SCAP, with report to Senate, to occur in Summer Semester 1998 before the policy, as described in the attached paper 'Diverse Qualifications Undergraduate Admission Policy' continues, and that an appropriate committee be established for the adjudication of this policy".

At the December 7th 1998 meeting of Senate, a motion was passed (S.98-95) "that Senate approve as set forth in S.98-95, that the Diverse Qualifications Admission Policy be extended by five years to Fall semester 2004, with a review to occur in 2003".

At the October 6th 2003 meeting of Senate, a motion was passed (S.03-92)"that Senate approve the recommendations in the DQAC review of extending the Diverse Qualifications Admission Policy by five years to Fall Semester 2009 with a review to occur in 2008, as set forth in S.03-92".

As far as I'm aware, no further motions have come forward to Senate regarding the Diverse Qualifications Admission Policy since 2003.

Since the University Act (paragraph 37(1)(c)) states that Senate has the power "to determine all questions relating to the academic and other qualifications required of applicants for admission as students to the university [...]" it seems that approving, or failing to approve, the continuation of the Diverse Qualifications Admission Policy is a matter entirely in Senate jurisdiction. As such, I must ask: Under what authority has the Diverse Qualifications Admission Policy continued to operate for the past 14 years?

Tom Nault, in his role as Registrar, responded to this question.

Senate was informed that the dates outlined by Senator Percival are correct and this appears to be an oversight that the Diverse Qualifications Admission Policy process was not actually renewed and operated under the premise that it was. Kathryn Verkerk, Associate Registrar - Student Recruitment and Admissions, will be reviewing this and coming forward with a proposal to renew the policy. Consideration will be given to a short-term resolution to get the process back in line and then steps will need to be implemented to ensure that items passed at Senate on a time limited basis don't fall through the cracks.

Citing the need for an interim motion to grant authority for the continued use of the Diverse Qualifications Admission Policy and to cover students admitted under the policy while it was lapsed, the following motion was moved:

Motion:

Moved by C. Percival, seconded by V. Williams

“That Senate approve the Diverse Qualifications Adjudication Committee’s mandate until December 31, 2023, and that its mandate be approved retroactively to cover students admitted while the Diverse Qualifications Admission Policy was lapsed.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Referring to the Provost’s medical school update, a question was asked as to why SFU is hiring a dean given that neither Senate or the Board of Governors has approved the establishment of a medical school. Senate was informed that a search committee will be initiated, but that Senate processes will be followed before completing any contracts. It was added that one of the unique features of a medical school is that you must be accredited in advance of going forward with your first set of students, meaning that SFU must be accredited in 2025. As such, a founding dean must be in place to move forward with the accreditation process.

7. Reports of Committees

A) Student Discipline Matters

i) Annual Report 2021-2022 (S.23-59)

Senate received the Student Discipline Matters Annual Report 2021-2022 for information.

Arlette Stewart - Academic Integrity Coordinator, David Murphy - UBSD Coordinator, and Shafik Bhalloo - SCODA Chair, were in attendance to respond to questions.

B) Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules (SCAR)

i) Change to Membership and Chair of Senate Library Committee (S.23-60)

Moved by W. Parkhouse, seconded by S. Spector

“That Senate approve changes to the membership of the Senate Library Committee.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Special Joint Committee – Membership (S.23-61)

Moved by W. Parkhouse, seconded by A. Parmar

“That Senate approve the extension of Stephen Spector as a member on the Special Joint Committee until the committee has concluded its work.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

C) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)**i) Program Name Change for the Business and Geography Joint Major (S.23-62)**

Moved by W. Parkhouse, seconded by S. Bhalloo

“That Senate approve and recommend 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”

A comment was made that changes to programs require at least a semester between approval by Senate and implementation within the calendar, meaning that this name change should not take effect until Spring 2024. Senate was informed that it is practice to have a one semester interval, however, Senate has on occasion allowed for exceptions provided that the calendar can be updated accordingly.

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Termination and Dissolution of the Health and Fitness Studies Certificate (S.23-63)

Moved by W. Parkhouse, seconded by R. McTavish

“That Senate approve and recommend 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.”

The question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

iii) Annual Report 2022/2023 (S.23-64)

Senate received the Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP) Annual Report 2022/2023 for information.

iv) Notice of External Reviews for 2023/24 (S.23-65)

Senate received Notice of External Reviews for 2023/24 for information.

v) 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.

vi) 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.

vii) 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.

viii) 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.

ix) 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.

x) 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.

D) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

i) Program Changes (S.23-72)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved program changes in the Beedie School of Business, and the Faculty of Environment (Geography).

ii) New Course Proposals (S.23-73)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved a new course proposal in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Computing Science).

iii) Course Changes (S.23-74)

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), the Beedie School Business, the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School of Communication, School for the Contemporary Arts), and the Faculty of Science (Mathematics).

E) Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning (SCUTL)

i) Annual Report 2022/2023 (S.23-75)

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

A question was asked to outline what the aspirations are with respect to open textbook publishing and how hands-on support might be. Senate was informed that the first step is to better understand the landscape at SFU. It is currently unknown how many people are working towards publishing an open textbook or who otherwise would need support in doing so, but funding has been allocated to hire someone to do that work. Once that information is known, it can be used to inform setting up an office within the library to take that work further. It was added that since SCUTL has been requested to provide Senate with updates on OER, the committee will be in a better position next year to provide more information.

F) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)

i) Graduate Course Changes (S.23-76)

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).

G) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)

i) 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.

8. Other Business

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

Senate received Election Report to Senate 2023 for information.

9. Information

i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, June 5, 2023

The Chair, on behalf of Senate, expressed appreciation to the following Senators, whose terms of office expire on May 31, 2022: Shariq Ahsan; Corina Andreoiu; Donovan Arseneault; Gordon Coleman; Bryan Daniel; Kristiina Kumpulainen; Allan Lam; Lynn Masri; Rob McTavish; David Murphy; Judit Nagy; Pablo Nepomnaschy; Samiya Rashmi; Harneer Sidhu; Stephen Spector; Arun Subbiah; Lisa Tran; Melissa Van Veen; Grace Yao.

Open session adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Tom Nault
Senate Secretary