

## SENATE SUMMARY

### MEETING OF JANUARY 8, 2024

#### 1. Report of the Chair

The Chair reminded Senate that the Senate/Board of Governors retreat is coming up on Thursday, January 25th.

The Chair reported that the Office of the Indigenous Executive Lead was launched in late 2023, with Chris Lewis appointed to the role of Indigenous Executive Lead in November. Initial priorities for the office include the development of a strategic roadmap for the office and the implementation of the Indigenous governance framework. Chris is also leading work on the Indigenous Welcoming Procedure, which was advanced in the fall, with significant engagement on the procedure taking place with Indigenous community members in November. Key work currently underway on the Indigenous Welcoming Procedure includes the development of an information technology platform to support the administration of the work and securely hold confidential information, while adhering to Indigenous data sovereignty principles. Work is also moving forward on the Indigenous naming project, where the University continues to work with the Host Nations to find names for spaces on SFU's campuses.

The Chair reported that SFU Sustainability (SFUS) reports that all six vice-president portfolios have written detailed implementation plans to achieve the goals and actions within the SFU Strategic Sustainability and Climate Action Plan. 200 activities across the six portfolios will be undertaken throughout 2024 with the support of SFUS.

The Chair reported that SFU was awarded 500 new tech-relevant seats in Data Science, Computing Science, Statistics, Software Systems, Agritech, Social Data Analytics and Business Analytics, and Decision Making to meet the demand for technology workers. In addition to the increased funding for the seats, SFU also received capital funding which will enhance access to programs in demand to Make a Difference for B.C. as part of the provincial Stronger BC Future Ready Action Plan.

The Chair reported that preliminary estimates for the spring 2024 semester show improvement on the summer and fall 2023 semesters, despite continued downward pressure on international undergraduate student enrollments. Overall, undergraduate enrollment remains mixed. Preliminary spring 2024 estimates combined with summer and fall 2023 actuals suggest that for 2023/24, SFU will be 8% below its goal for international enrollments and 6% above its goal for domestic enrollments. SFU's recruitment team has represented SFU at more than 460 recruitment events and school visits around the world in a span of three months.

The Chair reported that at the December Senate meeting, Senate approved a minimum funding level for PhD students. Thanks was extended to everyone on Senate and across the university who helped achieve this goal, especially the Dean of Graduate Studies, Mary O'Brien.

2. **Report of the Provost**  
The Provost reported that the Vancouver and Surrey campuses, whose executive director and personnel previously reported to the Vice-President, External Relations, will now report to the Provost Office. The rationale for the move is to have the campuses guided more directly by an academic vision. With this in mind, Dugan O'Neil, Vice President, Research and International, and Peter Hall, Associate Vice-President, Academic, have been named interim academic leaders in each of the campuses until permanent academic directors can be installed.
3. **Dissolution of the Latin American Studies Minor (S.24-1)**  
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the dissolution of the Latin American Studies Minor in the School for International Studies within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2024.
4. **External Review for the Department of Mathematics (S.24-2)**  
Senate approved the Action Plan for the Department of Mathematics that resulted from its external review.
5. **Program Name Change for the French Language Minor and French Major and Program Changes (S.24-3)**  
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the program name changes from the French Language Minor to Minor in French and Francophone Studies in the Department of French and the French Major, Bachelor of Arts to Major in French and Francophone Studies, Bachelor of Arts in the Department of French within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Fall 2024.
  - Program: French Language Minor
  - Program: French Major
6. **Program Suspension for the Graduate Certificate and Master of Arts, Heritage Resource Management (S.24-4)**  
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the Program Suspensions for the Graduate Certificate and Master of Arts, Heritage Resource Management, effective Summer 2024.
7. **Centres and Institutes Renewal Application (S.24-5)**  
Senate received Centres and Institutes Renewal Applications for information.
8. **Notice of Intent for the Medical Humanities and Social Sciences Minor (S.24-6)**  
Senate received Notice of Intent for the Medical Humanities and Social Sciences Minor for information.
9. **Undergraduate Program Changes (S.24-7)**  
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program changes, effective Fall 2024:
  - i) **Faculty of Applied Sciences**
    - a) *School of Computing Science*
      - Program: Computing Science Major

- Program: Computing Science Second Degree Major
- Program: Computing Science Honours
- Program: Computing Science Minor
- Program: Computing Science Post Baccalaureate Diploma
- Program: Computing Science Dual Degree Program
- Program: Information Systems in Business Administration and Computing Science Joint Major
- Program: Computing Science and Linguistics Joint Major
- Program: Software Systems Major

**b) *School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering***

- Program: Mechatronic Systems Engineering Major
- Program: Mechatronic Systems Engineering Honours
- Program: Mechatronic Systems Engineering and Business Double Degree Program

**ii) Faculty of Environment**

**a) *School of Resource and Environmental Management***

- Program: Resource and Environmental Management Major
- Program: Resource and Environmental Management Honours
- Program: Sustainable Development Minor

**iii) Faculty of Science**

**a) *Molecular Biology and Biochemistry***

- Program: Molecular Biology and Biochemistry Major
- Program: Molecular Biology and Biochemistry Honours

**b) *Statistics and Actuarial Sciences***

- Program: Statistics Major
- Program: Statistics Minor
- Program: Statistics Honours
- Program: Actuarial Science Major
- Program: Actuarial Science Honours
- Program: Data Science Major
- Program: Data Science Honours

**10. Undergraduate New Course Proposals (S.24-8)**

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

**i) Faculty of Applied Sciences**

**a) *School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering***

- Course (new): MSE 103

**ii) Faculty of Science**

**a) *Molecular Biology and Biochemistry***

- Course (new): MBB 448

**11. Undergraduate Course Changes (S.24-9)**

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

**i) Faculty of Applied Sciences**

**a) *School of Computing Science***

- Course (prerequisite): CMPT 353, 478

**b) *School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering***

- Course (description, prerequisite): MSE 220
- Course (number, title, units, description, prerequisite, equivalency): MSE 221 (effective Spring 2025)
- Course (description, prerequisite): MSE 222 (effective Fall 2025)
- Course (number, prerequisite, equivalency): MSE 223 (effective Fall 2025)
- Course (title, description, prerequisite, equivalency): MSE 280 (effective Fall 2025)
- Course (units): MSE 310
- Course (title, units, prerequisite): MSE 312 (effective Fall 2026)
- Course (prerequisite, equivalency): MSE 321
- Course (prerequisite): MSE 320, 381 (effective Fall 2026)
- Course (title, units, description, prerequisite): MSE 352 (effective Fall 2026)
- Course (prerequisite): MSE 250 (effective Fall 2025)

**ii) Beedie School of Business**

- Course (description, prerequisite): BUS 479
- Course (deletion): BUS 459

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

**a) *Publishing Program***

- Course (description): PUB 480

**iv) Faculty of Science**

**a) *Earth Sciences***

- Course (description, prerequisite): EASC 204

**b) *Molecular Biology and Biochemistry***

- Course (title): MBB 445

*c) Statistics and Actuarial Sciences*

- Course (units, corequisite): STAT 260, 310, 360
- Course (deletion): STAT 261, 311, 361
- Course (prerequisite): STAT 350, 403, 445, 452, 475, 485

**12. Graduate Program Changes (S.24-10)**

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

**i) Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**

*a) Psychology*

- Program: Master of Arts in Psychology
- Program: Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

**13. Graduate Course Changes (S.24-11)**

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

**i) Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**

*a) Gerontology*

- Course (description): GERO 803

*b) Psychology*

- Course (description, title, prerequisite, repeat for credit): PSYC 809

**14. Graduate Course Reinstatements (S.24-12)**

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

**i) Faculty of Education**

- Course (reinstatement): EDUC 859

**15. Senate Library Committee (SLC) Annual Report 2022/2023 (S.24-13)**

Senate received the Senate Library Committee (SLC) Annual Report 2022/2023 for information.

**16. Senate Committee Elections (S.24-14 Revised)**

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

The approved Senate minutes will be available online following the February Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the January 2024 Senate documents: <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-36434>.

If you have any questions regarding this summary, please contact Steven Noel, Senate Assistant, at [senate@sfu.ca](mailto:senate@sfu.ca).

<https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-36434>