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## SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Senate  
**From:** D'Arcy Warner, on behalf of the Convocation Senators  
**Subject:** Election of a Fourth Convocation Senator  
**Date:** October 14, 2009

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As you may be aware, Michael Letourneau, who was elected to Senate by and from Convocation for term of office to May 31, 2011 has resigned. Under the Rules of Senate, Part C Election Rules, Section L.4:

*"Where a vacancy arises in the case of a member of convocation elected to Senate the remaining convocation senators shall constitute a nominating committee to bring forward at least two name for each such vacancy and Senate shall decide by ballot vote the candidate or candidates selected. It shall be required that there be at least four months in the unexpired term at the time for call for nominations."*

Four alumni who had previously expressed an interest in serving in governance positions were contacted. All four responded that they would like to be considered. The three continuing Convocation Senators have decided to forward to Senate the names of all the candidates who have applied. The candidates are listed below and information provided by them is attached:

Aldona Businkas  
Linda Coyle  
Marlene Hancock  
Cynthia Lewis

Balloting for the election of the fourth Convocation Senator will be done online. Following the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Senate meeting, a web survey ballot will be released with an email announcement to all Senators. Voting will be permitted for approximately 48 hours, and election results will be released within three days of the end of voting.

Respectfully submitted,

D'Arcy Warner  
Jim McArthur  
Colin Percival

Attachments

## **Aldona Businskas**

My association with SFU started in 1978, not long after I moved to Vancouver from Toronto. While teaching sciences at Burnaby North Secondary School, I took evening courses in mathematics, computer science and philosophy – the first two to improve my teaching qualifications, and philosophy purely for the love of it. Bitten by the life-long-learning bug, I enrolled in a Master's program and attained an MSc in Education in 1986.

In 1987 I was seconded to work in the Faculty of Education's Professional Development Program. I spent 3 years as a faculty associate and a further 3 years as campus coordinator in PDP. These years were the most rewarding professional experience of my life.

I returned to my school district in 1994 as a vice-principal at my old school, and later at Burnaby South. During a year's leave of absence, I worked at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu as a teacher and researcher at their lab school. Shortly after my return to Burnaby, I was promoted to District Administrator at the school board office, where I worked until June 2003.

My work in Hawaii rekindled my enthusiasm for teaching mathematics. In 2002, I enrolled in the PhD program in Mathematics Education, successfully defended my thesis in 2008, and happily received my degree at convocation in June.

While studying, I have been working as a sessional instructor in the Faculty of Education, as well as doing consulting work related to mathematics education with local school districts.

In my 30-year involvement with SFU, I have been a student in both undergraduate and graduate programs, and also an instructor in undergraduate, graduate and field programs courses. I've gotten to know the university and seen it through many changes. I look forward to the possibility of engaging in university life again in a different role.

LINDA G. COYLE

**CURRENT INVOLVEMENTS**

*Vice President Emeritus, Kwantlen Polytechnic University*  
*Immediate Past President, Rotary Club of Richmond Sunset*  
*Board Executive, Canadian Club of Vancouver*  
*Volunteer Interviewer and Trainer, Volunteer Richmond Information Services*  
*Trainer, Rotary Leadership Institute*  
*Member, Surrey Social Planning Advisory Committee*  
*Director, Association of Women in Post-Secondary Education in BC (WPSE)*  
*Director, Third Age Learning at Kwantlen*

**PAST INVOLVEMENTS**

*Founding member and first president, Women in Post Secondary Education (WPSE)*  
*Co-Chair, Lower Mainland Multicultural Education Consortium (LMMEC)*  
*Board Member, Surrey Delta Immigrant Services Society (SDISS) [now DiverCity]*  
*Board Member, Tourism Richmond*  
*Director, Richmond Chamber of Commerce*  
*Board Member, Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)*  
*Visible Minority Representative, BC Labour Force Development Board (BCLFDB)*  
*National Board Member, Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF)*  
And the list goes on and on

**EDUCATION**

**Master of Arts** in Administrative Leadership in Education 1988  
Simon Fraser University

**Bachelor of Arts** in Communications 1981  
Simon Fraser University

**Numerous certificates include**  
Executive Coaching  
Appreciative Inquiry  
Negotiation Skills

**Active lifelong learner**

**CAREER HISTORY**

**PRIVATE CONSULTANT/TRAINER/SPEAKER** Since 1990

Researched workplace literacy and essential skills nation wide.  
Executive coach, training trainers, facilitators, instructors, counselors and board members. Consultant on organizational change, policy development, workplace diversity, and employment equity.  
Presenter at conferences and special events.  
Excellent motivational public speaker. Delivered training in several school districts to youth and adults.

**KWANTLEN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

Vice President, Chief operating officer, Kwantlen Foundation 2001 – 2003  
Vice President, Ventures and Finance 1999 – 2001  
Dean, Customized Training and Contract Service 1997 – 1999  
Director, Customized Training and Business Development 1995–1996  
Coordinator, Employment and Educational Access Programs 1986 – 1994  
Coordinator, Counselling and Admissions Services 1985

## Cynthia Claire Lewis

I am pleased to submit my name for a mid-term appointment as a Convocation Senator at Simon Fraser University. During my career as an educator in the public school system in British Columbia, I have maintained a close relationship with Simon Fraser. The University has provided me with excellent continuing educational opportunities including two terms as Faculty Associate, and my Masters of Arts and Phd programs. In addition, innovative programs through the Faculty of Education such as the Graduate Diploma in Field Programs have contributed to first class career learning opportunities for the teachers and administrators in the school districts in which I worked. I have had experience in helping design and deliver various preservice, in service and graduate programs, in English and in French, both as a secondee to SFU and as a school district administrator in partnership with the University. My most recent positive partnership occurred during my term as the Co-Chair of the SFU Surrey-Surrey School District Liaison Committee and a member of the SFU Surrey Advisory Committee. I was excited to help cultivate innovative and forward thinking relationships between the new campus and the community in Surrey. Now semi retired, I look forward to finding a way to offer service in return for all that SFU has meant to me.

Briefly, I believe the following elements of my professional background contribute to my suitability for this position:

- Over 35 years experience as an elementary, secondary and post secondary teacher, Principal, and Assistant Superintendent ( mostly in the Surrey School District).
- As a member of the senior administrative team in SD36, significant experience with community outreach, policy development, program development and evaluation, recruitment and supervision of personnel, budgetary alignment and facilities management.
- Currently working part time as an educational researcher, as well as Adjunct Faculty for the Educational Doctorate Program at SFU Surrey.
- Currently completing my term as a Director at Large of the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you require more information, please contact my former supervisor, Dr. Fred Renihan ([frenihan@sfu.ca](mailto:frenihan@sfu.ca)) , Dr. Diane Dagenais ([dagenais@sfu.ca](mailto:dagenais@sfu.ca)) and/or Ms. Joanne Curry, Executive Director, SFU Surrey.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Claire Lewis, PhD

**Marlene R. Hancock** (summary of her submission)

I am a professor of Political Science at Douglas College in New Westminster, BC. I have been teaching Political Science and Middle Eastern Studies at the College for the past 17 years.

The interest that I have in the Middle East is reflected in my academic work and teaching. As a direct result of traveling to Lebanon, Syria and Jordan in my youth, I have never lost my interest in the region. While in the Middle East, I lived among the Arabs and Palestinians. It is during this time that I learned about the Palestinian/Israeli conflict. This interest in the Middle East was reflected in my Masters degree which focused on "The Role of the Elite Political Development: The Case of Saudi Arabia." The thesis traces the development of Saudi Arabia from 1744 to current times. My Masters thesis has been cited in books published by MacMillan and St. Martin's Press. The thesis is also on file with the Ministry of Information in Saudi Arabia. Their interest in the thesis is due to the fact that I was one of the few women who have written about their society and government.

I continue to travel in the region. As organizer and faculty advisor of the Douglas College International Model United Nations conference, I have taken groups of students to Egypt to attend the Model United Nations conference there hosted by the American University of Cairo. Since 1997, I have made five trips. This experience continues to give me the opportunity to meet other scholars, ambassadors, United Nations' representatives and members of Palestinian Authority. Also, as result of these trips, I have been able to do consulting work for the Egyptian Bureau of Education and Culture in Canada. This relationship has made each of my trips to Egypt a rich experience.

In April/May of 2005 I was the guest of the Jordanian government and spent some time meeting government officials and visiting a Palestinian refugee camp. This trip only confirms that there is a need to bring an understanding to this region and its complex problems.

To add to my experience, as a scholar, I have had the privilege to study one term at the School of Oriental and African Studies, in London, England. This school is famous for its expertise in Middle Eastern Studies. I was also visiting professor at the Adelaide College of the Arts and Education in South Australia for one term. While there I lectured on Middle East politics.

I have been invited and contributed to the Canadian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs on the role of Canada at the United Nations in New York. I have participated in many international conferences on Political Science in places such as Washington, DC and Berlin. I was twice invited and attended two meetings on GATT and WTO at Wilton Park in Sussex, England. These meetings were open to academics and permanent members of the United Nations. This experience combined with my education has added value to my career as a professor and writer.

At Douglas College I am currently teaching a course on Middle Eastern politics. The course concentrates on two areas: Islam and the study of Middle East leadership styles. As a Comparative Studies course, it covers the following countries: Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq. I also include Palestine since the plight of the Palestinians plays a major role in Middle East politics.

I have co-edited a book on Canadian Government and Politics with colleagues in Political Science at Douglas College. During the seventeen years of teaching I have reviewed many textbooks and have been included in the acknowledgements. Some of the publishers include: Prentice Hall, ITP Nelson, Oxford University Press, and McGraw Hill.