

MINUTES OF THE SENATE OF SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
HELD IN THE BOARD AND SENATE ROOM  
ON MONDAY, JUNE 6, 1966 AT 1.30 PM.

*E. J. McNamee*

PRESENT: P.D. McTaggart-Cowan, Chairman  
D. Baird  
R.J. Baker  
A.E. Branca  
T.H. Brose  
A.B. Cunningham  
A.J. Ellis  
G.J. Frederickson  
W.M. Hamilton  
A.F.C. Hean  
G. Kirchner  
I. Koerner  
C.H. McLean  
A.R. MacKinnon  
R. Maud  
C.D. Nelson  
G.N. Perry  
K.E. Rieckhoff  
E.M. Shoemaker  
D.H. Sullivan  
  
D.P. Robertson, Secretary

ABSENT: M. Bawtree  
T.B. Bottomore  
G.L. Bursill-Hall  
J.L. Dampier  
J.F. Ellis  
E.S. Lett  
G.M. Shrum  
A.M. Unrau  
W. Vidaver

Before commencing the business of the meeting the Chairman warmly welcomed the new members of Senate and introduced them to the other members. He then noted that this was the first meeting of the complete Senate and expressed the regrets of those who had been unable to be present. For the benefit of the new members, the Chairman briefly outlined the work done by the Board of Governors, acting both as the Board and as the Senate until the Senate was formed, and of the Committee of Heads and of the Senate. The Chairman then stressed the importance of close liaison between the Senate and the Board of Governors so that the academic goals of the University could be met.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of May 2, 1966 were approved as recorded.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Spring Semester Examinations Results

The Registrar briefly reported on the recommendations contained in his statement on the spring semester grades.

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Exam  
Grading  
Elimination

In the ensuing discussion A.F.C. Hean asked if Senate should consider the question of further reducing the importance of final examinations. It was pointed out that this was a matter for departmental discretion at this time, partly because of the inherent differences in the various disciplines. There was general approval for working towards reducing the importance of final examinations and it was felt that a study of this question should be made after a few more semesters; not from the point of view of establishing uniformity, but to publish a study which would challenge others to look at the situation.

The Chairman then requested the Senate to rule on the four specific recommendations made by the Registrar, with the following results:

- a) It was moved by K.E. Rieckhoff, seconded by D.H. Sullivan,  
"that this recommendation be approved." CARRIED
- b) It was moved by K.E. Rieckhoff, seconded by T.H. Brose,  
"that this recommendation be approved." CARRIED
- c) It was moved by K.E. Rieckhoff, seconded by D.H. Sullivan,  
"that this recommendation be approved." CARRIED
- d) It was moved by T.H. Brose, seconded by D.H. Sullivan,  
"that this recommendation be approved." CARRIED

b) Grading System

A.B. Cunningham reported that the Faculty of Arts at its meeting of June 3 had earnestly requested that Senate reconsider the restoration to the grading scale of A- and C+ while accepting the elimination of D+ and D-.

The Registrar reported that instructions on the new grading system approved by Senate had already been issued to faculty and to students and requested assurance from Senate that any change would be deferred at least for this semester and preferably longer.

The Chairman reported that there would have to be the normal supporting papers to consider changing the grading system and the difficulties which such a change would present would be considered at that time.

A.B. Cunningham requested that the matter be placed on the agenda of the July Senate meeting.

3. NEW BUSINESS

a) Election of Members of Senate to Board of Governors

The Registrar advised that he wished to change the proposal set out in his paper on the manner of handling the election. He now proposed a simple ballot form to fill the three positions, rather than the weighted transferable ballot. Those eligible for election would be asked if they were willing to stand for election before the ballot was prepared.

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*Election  
Bd. of Gov.  
Library  
University Act  
Amendments*

It was moved by K.E. Rieckhoff, seconded by A.R. MacKinnon,

"that the amended suggestion of the Registrar be adopted."

CARRIED

b) Election of Members of Senate to Senate Library Committee

The Chairman reported that the building up of the Library was a critical area in the growth of the University and that the Library Committee would be a hard-working Committee. He therefore recommended that this election be deferred until after the election of members to the Board of Governors, as it would be onerous for any one member to serve on both. It was agreed that the matter be deferred. The Chairman will consult with the Senate members and bring in nominations after it is known who has been elected to the Board of Governors.

The Chairman then reported that one of the early recommendations made by the Librarian was substantial investment in serials and commended him for the foresight which had made it possible for this University to have one of the best serial collections in Canada. The Librarian outlined to the Senate the procedure for working with the faculties on acquisitions.

c) Request from Faculty Council for Clarification of Section 64

The Chairman pointed out that the reason for the request for guidance from Senate had reference to the words "general rules" in Section 64 and finding the line between general rules and specific rules.

D.H. Sullivan mentioned a \$25.00 fine which had been levied and was ruled out of order by the Chairman as the discussion related to general rules and not to specific cases. R. Maud suggested that Senate might make recommendations to Faculty Council on general rules. It was then pointed out that the principle of fines was in the Act as part of the duties of Faculty Council and that if a member wished Senate to discuss recommendations to the Faculty Council a discussion paper should be presented to Senate.

It was then moved by K.E. Rieckhoff, seconded by R.J. Baker,

"that any general rule or regulation which affected a large number of people required the approval of Senate."

CARRIED

d) Registrar's Report on Summer Registration

The Senate took note of this report from the Registrar.

e) Registrar's Report on High School Liaison

In presenting this report the Registrar advised that he considered it important for Senate to know of the extent of the liaison work done with the high schools.

In the ensuing discussion C.J. Frederickson asked if the Registrar planned to advise each high school of the marks of students from that school. The Registrar advised that he intended to do so, but that the information would be confidential and for the guidance of the counsellors only.

K.E. Rieckhoff advised that not all members of faculty were aware of the liaison work done by the Registrar and requested that all faculty be informed.

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*Admissions  
Committee of Heads*

I. Koerner asked about the guidance given to students entering the University particularly from private schools. The Registrar advised that one of the reasons for going to the high schools was to enable counsellors to give the proper guidance. Advisors are also available in the Registrar's Office and prior to registration there will be a week during which Faculty Advisors will be available to the students.

The Senate commended the Registrar on his report, with the recommendation that efforts be continued along these lines, with particular note to consider the private schools where it was probable that counselling service was not as extensive as in the public schools.

f) Registrar's Report on Admissions Test

In presenting his report the Registrar outlined the procedure for admission at the University. This procedure is primarily based on provincial examinations, which are very good in this province.

After considerable discussion it was agreed that no recommendation for action be made at this time. The Registrar will keep in close touch with the group and other interested parties, will assess the study as it progresses, and will keep the Senate informed of developments. The present admission procedure should continue and no indication will be given at this time that the University will join the Admission Service.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

R. Maud advised that he and T.H. Brose had requested the April report to the faculty from the Committee of Heads be discussed in Senate. The report in question dealt with the possibility of establishing an additional faculty category which might be identified as "tutor".

The Chairman advised that there were two ways to deal with this question in Senate. The matter could be placed on the agenda for Senate with a discussion paper, or Senate could invite a report from the Committee of Heads as soon as possible.

In the following discussion R. Maud indicated he was not prepared to present a paper to Senate on this question. The subject will therefore be presented to Senate through the Committee of Heads.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman announced that the next meeting would be held on July 4th at 1.30 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 3.50 PM.

D. P. Robertson  
Secretary