



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
THINKING OF THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on  
Monday, December 6, 2010 at 7:00 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

## Open Session

**Present:** Petter, Andrew, President and Chair

Acierno, Kyle  
Black, Sam  
Brennand, Tracy (also representing John Pierce)  
Brinkhurst, Marena  
Chapman, Glenn  
Corbett, Kitty  
Craig, John  
Cupples, Claire  
Dhillon, Arinder  
Driver, Jon  
Easton, Stephen  
Eckman, Charles  
Fizzell, Maureen  
Garneau-Scott, Christi  
Geisler, Cheryl  
Gordon, Robert  
Janes, Craig  
Kong, Shuyu  
Kopahi, Moe  
Krane, Bill  
Lee, Benjamin  
MacGrotty, Alysia  
Myers, Gordon  
O'Neil, John  
Parkhouse, Wade  
Percival, Colin  
Peters, Joseph  
Pinto, Mario  
Rajapakse, Nimal  
Ruben, Peter  
Saif, Mehrdad  
Shaw, Chris  
Somers, Julian  
Toohey, Kelleen (representing K. Magnusson)  
Tashakor, Pasha  
van der Wey, Dolores  
Warner, D'Arcy  
Woodbury, Rob  
Wussow, Helen

**Absent:**

Bezglasnyy, Anton  
Brandhorst, Bruce  
Cyr, Dianne  
Dow, Greg  
Francis, June  
Golnaraghi, Farid  
Kropinski, Mary Catherine  
Laitsch, Dan  
Law, Mona  
Lewis, Cynthia  
Leznoff, Daniel  
Li, Fiona  
Louie, Brandt  
Mann, Geoff  
McArthur, James  
Moghaddamjoo, Sarah  
Morrison, John  
Patel, Ravi  
Paterson, David  
Patidar, Risha  
Patidar, Trisha  
Pavsek, Christopher  
Percival, Paul  
Russell, Robert  
Sahinalp, Cenk  
Shapiro, Daniel

**In attendance:**

Geiger, Andrea  
Hankivsky, Olena  
Lacombe, Dany  
Rose, Gordon  
Spector, Stephen  
Verdun-Jones, Simon  
Weinberg, Hal  
Zandvliet, David

Hinchliffe, Jo, Assistant Registrar (representing K. Ross)  
Gair, Shelley, Recording Secretary

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of November 1, 2010**

The minutes were approved as distributed.

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**4. Report of the Chair**

The chair, on behalf of Senate, welcomed Pasha Tashakor, a graduate student senator from the Faculty of Applied Sciences, to his first meeting of Senate.

The chair commented that his visit to the academic units is almost complete and has been very helpful to meet people and to become familiar with the institution. In February, a strategic visioning process, called Envision SFU, will begin within the university and the external community. Lynn Copeland will be assisting the president with this process. Three suggested touchstones for that process are as follows: an institution that is student centered, research driven, and community engaged. The final result will be a strategic vision document that will replace the president's agenda and will help to provide guidance over the next five years. The chair also commented on how steps have been taken to maintain contact with the government during this time of change.

The assistant registrar spoke about a new resource that will soon be available to the public that allows for online searching of Senate documents dating back to 1965.

**5. Question Period**

There were no questions submitted for Question Period.

**6. Reports of Committees****A) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)****i) Name change of the Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health S.10-134 (postponed item from November 1, 2010 Senate meeting)**

Olena Hankivsky, Director of the Institute, was in attendance to respond to questions.

Moved by Jon Driver, seconded by Kitty Corbett

“that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the name change of the Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health to the Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy.”

A question was raised regarding whether the field has changed enough over the last five years to justify a name change. It was explained that a more integrated approach to this field has been used over the past few years instead of gender being the primary way of explaining people's experiences and health needs.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**ii) External Review of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology S.10-135**

Dany Lacombe, Acting Chair of Sociology and Anthropology, was in attendance to respond to questions.

Moved by Jon Driver, seconded by John Craig

“that Senate approve the recommendation from the Senate Committee on University Priorities to implement the Action Plan for the Department of Sociology and Anthropology that resulted from its External Review.”

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**iii) External Review of School of Engineering Science S.10-146**

Moved by Jon Driver, seconded by Maureen Fizzell

“that Senate approve the recommendation from the Senate Committee on University Priorities to implement the Action Plan for the School of Engineering Science that resulted from its External Review.”

A question was raised as to why faculty was being hired now for the Mechatronics program when there was approval to hire faculty before the program began. Senate was advised that due to delays with the budgeting and hiring approval process, three positions that were approved are still vacant and the hope is that two of those positions will be filled over the next two years.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**iv) Creation of the Institute for Environmental Learning S.10-147**

David Zandvliet, from the Faculty of Education, was in attendance to respond to questions.

Moved by Jon Driver, seconded by Steve Easton

“that Senate approve the creation of the Institute for Environmental Learning as an Institute for a 5 year term.”

Clarification was requested on whether there would be opportunities for undergraduate students to be involved with this institute. It was confirmed that through independent study terms and a new undergraduate research assistant program, undergraduates will be encouraged to become involved in research activities.

Questions were raised regarding the number of members involved at the centre and the number of published research papers that will originate from the centre. Senate was advised that ten active

researchers are interacting with approximately 800 network members and that an estimated twenty to thirty papers will be published per year.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**v) Creation of the Institute for Values in Policy and Science S.10-148**

Moved by Jon Driver, seconded by Alysia MacGrotty

“that Senate approve the creation of the Institute for Values in Policy and Science (VIPS) as an Institute for a 5 year term.”

Clarification was requested about the focus of the institute, the choice of a director from philosophy, and the specific meaning of the word “values” as used in this context. It was agreed that the values with which the institute is concerned would not be limited to those studied by philosophy. A suggestion, to include students on the steering committee, was accepted and will be raised with the steering committee.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**vi) Centres and Institutes Report 2009/2010 (For Information) S.10-149**

Senate received the Centres and Institutes report for 2009/2010 as information.

**B) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)**

**i) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences S.10-150  
(For Information)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved minor revisions to existing courses in the Faculty of Applied Sciences.

**ii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences S.10-151  
(For Information)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved minor revisions to existing courses in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

**iii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Business Administration S.10-152  
(For Information)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved minor revisions to existing courses in the Faculty of Business Administration.

**iv) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Communication, Art and S.10-153**

### **Technology (For Information)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved new courses and minor revisions to existing courses and programs in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology.

**v) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Education (For Information) S.10-154**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved minor revisions to existing courses in the Faculty of Education.

**vi) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (For Information) S.10-155**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved minor revisions to existing courses in the Faculty of Science.

**C) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)**

**i) Closure of Student Record (For Information) S.10-156**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the closure of a student's record when Senate awards a graduate student's credential.

**ii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (For Information) S.10-157**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved new courses and minor revisions to existing courses and programs in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

**D) Senate Committee on Continuing Studies (SCCS)**

**i) Annual Report (For Information) S.10-158**

Senate received the 2009/2010 SCCS annual report for information.

**E) Senate Library Committee (SLC)**

**i) Annual Report (For Information) S.10-159**

A question was raised regarding whether the library geo-spatial materials and mapping resources are reviewed by the library committee or a different committee. An answer will be brought to the next Senate meeting since there was no one to respond to this question. Senate received the 2009/2010 SLC annual report for information.

**F) Research Ethics Board (REB)**

**i) Annual Report (For Information) S.10-160**

S. Verdun-Jones, Chair of the Research Ethics Board, was in attendance to respond to questions. Senate received the annual report for information.

**G) Student Discipline Matters**

**i) Annual Report (For Information)**

**S.10-161**

The following were in attendance to respond to questions: Jo Hinchliffe, Assistant Registrar and Academic Integrity Coordinator; Gordon Rose, Coordinator, University Board on Student Discipline; and Andrea Geiger, Chair, Senate Committee on Disciplinary Appeals.

A question was raised regarding specific efforts to decrease the percentage of international students who have academic dishonesty issues. The response was that efforts should be made to work together with departments, SFU International, and Admissions to orient international students regarding the standards at SFU and what resources are available.

In May 2009, a new academic dishonesty policy was implemented which centralized information and improved the reporting structure. It was pointed out that even though the number of reported cases has increased, which is likely due to faculty having more information and an easier reporting system, the number of repeat cases is small.

The annual report was received by Senate following the above discussion.

**H) Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning (SCUTL)**

**i) Report - Evaluating How We Evaluate (For Information)**

**S.10-162**

Stephen Spector, Chair of SCUTL, was in attendance in order to respond to questions.

Senate was advised by the vice-president, academic that his intention is to take this report, together with the recommendations of the task force on Teaching and Learning, and to develop a document on best practices that can be used by academic units, departments, schools, and faculties to develop measures of performance, for anyone that has an instructional role, that would be relevant to the kinds of teaching and learning that takes place in different academic units. This process will involve consultation with the people being evaluated as well as students and should take place over the next year. A few suggestions were voiced by senators to be considered throughout this process.

**I) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)**

**i) Elections**

**S.10-163**

A revised Senate paper, distributed prior to the start of the meeting, showed all positions that were elected by acclamation, a position on CRUA that required balloting, and outstanding vacancies that would be carried forward to the next Senate meeting. [Note: Laura Stewart was elected as an undergraduate student (regular) to CRUA for term of office to May 31, 2011.]

**7. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**8. Information**

The date of the next meeting of Senate is Monday, January 10, 2011 in the West Mall Complex (room 3210).

Open session adjourned at 8:00 pm and Senate moved directly into closed session.

Jo Hinchliffe  
Assistant Registrar