SENATE SUMMARY
MEETING OF September 14, 2015

1. **Report of the Chair**

   On behalf of Senate, the Chair congratulated Kris Nordgren on his promotion to his new job as Assistant Registrar, Records and Registrartion. The chair then welcomed Steven Noel as new Senate Assistant and Electoral Officer.

   The chair acknowledged the incredible work done by people throughout the University last week, when we marked our 50th anniversary celebration. We had nearly 240 charter alumni – students here when the university first opened its doors; 24 charter faculty/staff; approximately 1500 people who attended the kickoff; and up to as many as 2000 people for the evening event. It was remarkable to see the degree of support for the university from the broader community, and that speaks well to our accomplishments over the past 50 years. The Chair noted we are in the midst of a fundraising campaign, which we hope will meet its target of $250 million to support students, research, and our community endeavours. The chair reminded Senate that the 50th anniversary is also continuing throughout the year, and there are a number of very exciting events and activities scheduled, of both an academic, and an entertainment and educational nature. It's exciting to see how people are using the 50th anniversary as an opportunity to share with the university community, and with the broader community, some of the things that we're doing that demonstrate the value of Simon Fraser University.

   The chair noted we continue to meet our enrollment targets. The task force on Flexible Education has completed its report, and that report will be discussed in Senate committees, and then come to Senate for consideration of its recommendations.

   The chair reported that the implementation of a new system of student evaluation is proceeding steadily. The work being done on the evaluation of both courses and instructors is progressing, and reflects the effort that took place through Senate on behalf of the university over the past year or two.

   The Chair reported that the Vice President, Research, is going to be launching a formal process of university-wide consultations to develop a new, updated Strategic Research Plan that will look forward for the next five years. The SFU community is encouraged to engage in the process through an online survey, consultation sessions, and Twitter discussion. It focuses on some important questions around what kind of research-intensive university SFU should be, what areas of research make SFU distinct and have the potential to position us as a national or global leader, and how we can strengthen services, linkages and structures to better serve researchers and students at SFU. The feedback will be summarized at an open forum later this fall, and that, in turn, will provide the

input for the development of a new research plan to guide the university over the next five years.

The Chair acknowledged the efforts being made to pull together the strengths that have emerged over many years at SFU in support of innovation and entrepreneurship. Under the leadership of our Vice President, Research, a plan has been developed, which will be unveiled formally as an SFU Innovation Strategy, pulling together our strengths, and seizing on how they might be further enhanced and mobilized in the future. This will take place on Thursday, October 1st. It's an exciting time because we, along with Ryerson University and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, were successful in gaining a grant of over $10 million from the Federal Government's Incubator and Accelerator Fund. This has resulted in us being able to open a new incubator/accelerator space right in Harbour Centre, next to our current campus, with a focus on digital technology. We will announce the strategy at the same time as we open that space on October 1st. This is very important launch and will both shine a light on what we're currently doing and hopefully point the way to how we can do even more in assisting students, faculty and others to demonstrate our strength as an innovator and an innovation leader.

The Chair confirmed that CFI has awarded $30 million to the SFU-led Advanced Research Computing Art platform, which is managed by Compu Canada through ARC SFU. We, along with other universities, will be able to develop a high-performance cyber network that will enable big data research, connecting the scientific, social, health, and economic spheres. This is going to significantly increase our research computing capacity, and become an important part of the grid of all universities. It means SFU is establishing itself as a leader in respect to computing services to all universities across the country.

The Chair acknowledged a $6.5 million grant from CHR's inaugural Foundation Grants Program to Professor Robert Hogg to research health inequalities among vulnerable HIV-positive populations in BC and the rest of Canada. The recognition that was given to Professor Hogg through this grant will enable him to strengthen SFU's engaged research contributions to health scholarship. The Chair noted that we should be particularly proud of the leadership he's shown in this important area.

2.   **Annual Financial Report (S.15-104)**
     Senate received for information the Annual Financial Report.

3.   **Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences (S.15-105)**
     Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Fall 2015:

a) School of Engineering Science
- Program: Biomedical Engineering Honours
- Program: Computer Engineering Honours
- Program: Computer Engineering Major
- Program: Electronics Engineering Honours
- Program: Electronics Engineering Major
- Program: Engineering Physics Honours
- Program: Systems Honours
- Program: Systems Major

4. **Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (S.15-106)**
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2016:

a) Cognitive Science
- Program: Cognitive Science Honours
- Program: Cognitive Science Major
- Program: Cognitive Science Minor

5. **Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Beedie School of Business (S.15-107)**
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2016:

- Program: Innovation and Entrepreneurship Certificate
- Program: Business Major
- Program: Double Degree program (with Mechatronic Systems Engineering)
- Program: Business and Economics Joint Major
- Program: Interactive Arts and Technology and Business Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Business Administration
- Program: Interactive Arts and Technology and Business Bachelor of Science
- Program: Business Honours
- Program: Business and Economics Joint Honours
- Program: Honours program with term at Segal
- Program: Business Second Bachelor Degree Bachelor of Business Administration
- Course (prerequisite): BUS 443
- Course (new): BUS 291, 292
- Course (title/prerequisite): BUS 439
- Course (title/description): BUS 464
- Course (prerequisite): BUS 474

6. **Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Health Sciences (S.15-108)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2016:

- Program: Health Sciences BSc Honours - Population and Quantitative Health Sciences concentration
- Program: Health Sciences BSc Major - Population and Quantitative Health Sciences concentration

7. **Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.15-109)**
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2016:

a) Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology
- Program: Behavioural Neuroscience Honours
- Program: Behavioural Neuroscience Major
- Course (title/description): BPK 207

b) Chemistry
- Program: Continuance requirement changes to the Chemistry Major

c) Earth Sciences
- Courses (prerequisite): EASC 205, 207
d) Mathematics
- Course (description/prerequisite): MATH 125, 126

e) Molecular Biology and Biochemistry
- Course (title/ description/prerequisite): MBB 481 , 482, 483
- Course (title): MBB 490, 491, 496

f) Statistics and Actuarial Science
- Course (prerequisite): STAT 270
- Course (description): STAT 285
- Course (prerequisite): STAT 300W, 305

8. **Senate Committee Elections (S.15-110)**
Senate received a summary of the nominations, positions elected by acclamation, positions requiring an online vote, and outstanding vacancies for the Senate committees.

9. **Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) Reports (S.15-111)**
Senate received the 2014/15 Grades Report, and the 2014 Undergraduate Student Survey (UGSS) Report for information.

10.   Academic Accommodation Motion (S.15-112)
Senate approved the motion that, in recognition of the Simon Fraser Student Society's commitment to ensuring that all members of the Society are able to attend and participate fully in the upcoming Annual General Meeting taking place on September 22nd from 3:00pm - 5:00pm, Senate encourages all instructors to accommodate, without academic penalty, any students who communicate in advance their intention to participate in the Annual General Meeting.

The approved Senate minutes will be available online following the next Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the September 2015 Senate documents: https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-27881

If you have any questions regarding this summary, please contact Steven Noel, Senate Assistant, at 778-782-3168 or senate@sfu.ca.