



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on  
Monday, September 10, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

## Open Session

**Present:** Andrew Petter, Chair

Agnes, George (for Jeff Derksen)  
Andersen, Holly  
Bhalla, Srishti  
Bird, Gwen  
Bubela, Tania  
Buttar, Sumrit Singh  
Chandhok, Vikramaditya  
Chapman, Glenn  
Christians, Julian  
Collard, Mark  
Denholm, Julia  
Fiume, Eugene  
Forde, Nancy  
Gajdics, Sylvia  
Gray, Bonnie  
Ho, Shuna  
Johnson, Joy  
Kalra, Mehak  
Keliipio, Kau'i  
Keller, Peter  
Kench, Paul  
Kim, Woo Soo  
Leacock, Tracey  
Leznoff, Daniel  
Lord Ferguson, Sarah  
Luu, Susan  
Mac Namara, Aoife  
Magnusson, Kris  
Moens, Alexander  
Myers, Gord  
Nepomnaschy, Pablo  
O'Neill, Susan  
Parkhouse, Wade  
Percival, Colin  
Planchenault, Gaelle  
Plettner, Erika

Poitras, Geoffrey  
Pulkingham, Jane  
Sanghera, Simran  
Scott, Jamie  
Stefanovic, Ingrid  
Stockie, John  
Tavakoli, Camelia  
Tingling, Peter  
Wiese, Kay  
Zanette, Amanda

**Absent:**

Bartram, Lyn  
Batish, Harman  
Brennand, Tracy  
Dangi, Ridhi  
Dastmalchian, Ali  
Derksen, Jeff  
Favere-Marchesi, Michael  
Freedman, Jackson  
Giardini, Anne  
Johal, Rumneek  
Laitsch, Dan  
Luelfesmann, Christoph  
Mongrain, Steeve  
Parent, Michael  
Randhawa, Jaskarn  
Shaw, Chris  
Somers, Julian

**In Attendance:**

Blair, Alison  
Wong, Jimmy

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on June 11, 2018**

The minutes of the open session on June 11, 2018 were approved as distributed.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on July 9, 2018**

The minutes of the open session on July 9, 2018 were approved as distributed.

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes**

- i) At the June meeting Senator Leacock asked a question about BPK 326 only being offered to students doing a Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology major due to limited resources and if it is possible to offer a less resource intensive version of this for non-majors given the demand. Senate was informed that the Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology does offer BPK 325, Basic Human Anatomy, specifically for minor and non-major students. It was noted that having the exclusion statement in the BPK 326 description will help clarify to students that BPK 326 is designed specifically for students doing a BPK major.

**5. Report of the Chair**

The Chair reported that for the Fall term SFU welcomed 5125 new undergraduate students and 1500 graduate students from 45 countries, along with 57 new faculty members.

The Chair reported on recent research grant successes:

- The *CIHR* announced \$800,000 in funding to expand SFU's *iReceptor* initiative, led by Felix Breden of Biological Sciences. *iReceptor* is a platform for managing massive repositories of data that researchers can access to develop new therapies for autoimmune and infectious diseases, and for cancer.
- Nosyk Bohdan from SFU's Faculty of Health Sciences was awarded \$486,000 for a 3-year project titled *Toward a comprehensive performance measurement system for opioid use disorder in British Columbia, Canada*. This project is funded by *Health Canada* under the *Toxic Substance Research Initiative*.
- 21 SFU researchers were awarded a total of \$216,000 from *Mitacs* through the *Accelerate Graduate Research Partnership* and *Globalink Research Award* programs.
- Six SFU researchers attracted \$146,000 in funding in the latest round of *NSERC Engage Grants*. These grants allow researchers to collaborate with industrial partners on a project that apply their expertise to address a company challenge.
- Peter Ruben from the Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology received \$131,000 from *Akseera Pharma Corporation* for their collaborative project *Testing the effects of CBD/THC combinations on voltage-gated ion channels in prostate cancer cells*.

The Chair reported that 10 students from *the Indian Institutes of Technology* have completed 12 week research terms at SFU and 10 SFU students are wrapping up their research terms at *IITs* in India under a new SFU-India Initiative supported by *Mitacs*.

The Chair reported that SFU and the *Free University of Amsterdam* were successful in their application to the European Union's *Erasmus+* program. The program funds exchanges of faculty and students and will support collaboration between our Faculty of Health Sciences and VUA's Medical Centre.

The Chair reported that SFU was invited to join the *University Social Responsibility Network (USRN)*. The *USRN* is an international network of 16 universities worldwide with a vision of community engagement. Joy Johnson, VP Research and International, will be attending the annual conference at the *University of Hiafa* in December to discuss global perspectives. Joining the *USRN* positions SFU amongst a small group of recognized universities committed to social responsibility as a core part of their mandates and activities.

The Chair reported that Bob Anderson from FCAT was announced as the winner of this year's *Chris Dagg Award*.

The Chair reported on upcoming events:

- The *President's Dream Colloquium* returns on September 13<sup>th</sup> with Jevin West as the speaker. The theme of the Colloquium will be *Making Knowledge Public*.
- The *Outstanding Alumni Awards* are coming up on September 26<sup>th</sup>, honoring a number of worthy recipients, including Chemistry Professor and *CRC Chair in Electrochemical Materials* Steven Holdcroft.
- The annual *Terry Fox Run* takes place on September 28<sup>th</sup> at all three campuses.

**i) Annual Financial Report (For Information) (S.18-83)**

Senate received the Annual Financial Report for information.

Alison Blair, Associate Vice-President, Finance, and Jimmy Wong, Associate Director, Financial Services, were in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was asked about how funding for the *Student Experience Initiative (SEI)* will be directed. Senate was informed that a full list of initiatives can be found on the *SEI* website, but initiatives include:

- *Home Away From Home*: creates spaces and opportunities for commuter students to stay on campus between classes and engage more fully with SFU campus communities.
- *Destination SFU*: makes the physical campuses more vibrant and exciting.
- *Navigating SFU*: aims to provide effective interaction with SFU systems, and supports student-centred policies and processes for all three campuses.
- *Healthier Campus Community*: mental health and well-being have been identified by students as a key area of concern. The healthy campus community key project area will significantly advance activity in this area.
- *Supervision for the 21st Century*: improves the supervisory experience for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.
- *Improving communication with students*: develops a university-wide strategy for communicating with students.
- *Building community and a sense of belonging*: works to evoke a sense of belonging and connection, ensuring SFU is a welcoming, safe, equitable, and inclusive for all students.

## 6. Question Period

- i) Senator Scott submitted the following question:

*I would like to ask that the Senate review the issue of the Associate Deans taking positions in Senate that are meant for faculty. The University Act delineates administration related Senate positions from faculty positions and student positions thus it does not make sense to me that Associate Deans who are members of the administration are a part within that structure and are allowed to serve faculty positions similar to Deans, Associate VPs and VPs, Associate Deans or members of faculties.*

The Chair, in his role as Chair of the Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules, responded to this question.

Senate was informed that the University Act specifies that Deans of Faculties are members of Senate, not referring to them as administrators. It goes on to explain who is eligible to hold faculty positions and the definition of faculty member is defined within the University Act as meaning a person employed by the University as an instructor, lecturer, assistant professor, associate professor, professor or an equivalent position as designated by the Senate. It has been the view in the past that because Associate Deans do hold faculty positions in one of those categories, that they do qualify as faculty members. It should be noted that associate deans only become members of Senate if they are voted on by other faculty members. This is a permissive provision that allows them to be considered and supported as Senators but only if faculty members who vote so choose or if there is failure for someone else's name to be put forward and they were to be appointed by acclimation.

## 7. Reports of Committees

### A) Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules (SCAR)

#### i) Addition of the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Learning and Teaching to Senate (S.18-84)

Moved by P. Keller, seconded by C. Percival

“That Senate approve, pursuant to the provisions of Section 35(2)(k) of the University Act, the Associate Vice-President, Learning and Teaching hold membership on Senate, with such membership adding two faculty members to be elected under Section 35(2)(g), and one student member to be elected under Section 35(2)(h).”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

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

#### i) Program Changes (S.18-85)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made program changes in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School of Communication), and Faculty of Science (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Statistics and Actuarial Science).

**ii) New Course Proposals (S.18-86)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Faculty of Science (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Statistics and Actuarial Science).

**iii) Course Changes (S.18-87)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School of Communication), and Faculty of Science (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry).

**iv) BC High School Admission Requirements for the Sustainable Energy Program (S.18-88)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved changes to the Grade 11 and Grade 12 List A and List B high school courses required for admission to the Sustainable Energy Engineering Program (SEE) within the Faculty of Applied Sciences.

**v) Revisions to the English Language Admission Requirement (S.18-89)**

Moved by W. Parkhouse, seconded by A. Mac Namara

“That Senate approve the following revisions to the University's English Language admission requirement, increasing the minimum final grade in English 12 (or equivalent) to 70% effective Fall 2019.”

Noting the revisions made to the English Language Admission Requirement, a question was asked if IELTS and TOEFL scores would also change. Senate was informed that an answer would be sought and brought back to Senate.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**C) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)****i) Program Changes (S.18-90)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved a program change in the Faculty of Environment (Sustainable Development Program).

**ii) Course Changes (For Information) (S.18-91)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Engineering Science), the Beedie School of Business, and Individualized Interdisciplinary Studies.

**iii) Calendar Revision (S.18-92)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved a calendar revision in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School of Interactive Arts and Technology).

**D) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)**

**i) Senate Committee Elections (S.18-93 Revised)**

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

**8. Other Business**

**9. Information**

**i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, October 1, 2018.**

Open session adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Rummana Khan Hemani  
Registrar