SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, December 3, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

Open Session

Present: Andrew Petter, Chair

Ali, Mohammed
Andersen, Holly
Bartram, Lyn
Bird, Gwen
Brennand, Tracy
Buttar, Sumrit Singh
Chapman, Glenn
Collard, Mark
Denholm, Julia
Elle, Elizabeth
Favere-Marchesi, Michael
Fiume, Eugene
Forde, Nancy
Gajdics, Sylvia
Gray, Bonnie
Hendrigan, Holly
Ho, Shuna
Keliipio, Kau'i
Keller, Peter
Leacock, Tracey
Lord Ferguson, Sarah
Luu, Susan
Mac Namara, Aoife
Moens, Alexander
Mohar, Amrita
Myers, Gord
Nepomnaschy, Pablo
O'Neil, Dugan (for Joy Johnson)
Parkhouse, Wade
Percival, Colin
Peters, Joseph
Poitras, Geoffrey
Pulkingham, Jane
Randhawa, Jaskarn
Sheikh, Daanyaal
Somers, Julian
Stockie, John
Tingling, Peter
Walsby, Charles

Wiese, Kay
Zanette, Amanda

Absent:

Bhalla, Srishti
Bubela, Tania
Chandhok, Vikramaditya
Christians, Julian
Dangi, Ridhi
Dastmalchian, Ali
Derksen, Jeff
Elmi, Parham
Freedman, Jackson
Giardini, Anne
Johnson, Joy
Kalra, Mehak
Kench, Paul
Kim, Woo Soo
Laitsch, Dan
Leznoff, Daniel
Luelfesmann, Christoph
Magnusson, Kris
Mongrain, Steeve
O'Neill, Susan
Parent, Michael
Planchenault, Gaelle
Plettner, Erika
Sanghera, Simran
Scott, Jamie
Shaw, Chris
Stefanovic, Ingrid
Tavakoli, Camelia

In Attendance:

Krauth, Brian
Naqvi, Zareen
Nordgren, Kris
Toward, Jeff

Rummana Khan Hemani, Registrar
Steven Noel, Recording Secretary

1.   **Approval of the Agenda**
        The agenda was approved as distributed.

2.   **Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on November 5, 2018**
        The minutes of the open session on November 5, 2018 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 welcomed new Senators Daanyaal Sheikh (Art and Social Sciences), Amrita Mohar (Communication, Art and Technology), and Mohammed Ali (Education).

        The Chair reported that he, in his role as President, along with Vice-President Research and International Joy Johnson, led a mission to Hong Kong, South Korea and Taiwan to strengthen SFU partnerships in East Asia and visit partner universities to renew MOUs, sign student exchange agreements, pursue joint academic programs and explore research collaborations. Visits included City University of Hong Kong, Chinese University, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong Baptist University, Seoul National University, Yonsei University, and Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology. It was noted that SFU entered a "2+2" arrangement with Hong Kong Baptist University that will enable Actuarial Science students to complete their studies and graduate at SFU. Mission members also attended National Taiwan University 90th anniversary celebrations, hosted two alumni receptions (one in Hong Kong and one in Seoul) and promoted APAIE 2020, the annual *Asia-Pacific Association for International Education* conference that SFU will host in the spring of 2020.

        The Chair reported on recent research grant successes:

   - Michael Adachi of Engineering Science has been awarded about $200,000 from *Defense Research and Development Canada's IDEaS* program for his project on *Highly Sensitive and Portable Chemical and Biological Agent Detectors Using Monolayer Acoustic Wave Technology*.
   - Ryan Morin from Molecular Biology and Biochemistry has been awarded $150,000 from the *American Society of Hematology* for his project *Integrative Genomic Analysis of Aggressive Lymphomas*.
   - Peter Ruben from Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology has received over $130,000 from *Akseera Pharma Corp.* for his work on *The Effect of CBD/THC Combinations on Voltage-Gated Ion Channels in Prostate Cancer Cells*.
   - SFU's 4D LABS has received over $1.9 million *from Western Economic Diversification Canada* (*WD*). The funds will be used to equip the new *Centre for Advanced Manufacturing and Integration* with state-of-the-art machinery to help prototype and manufacture advanced micro and nanotechnology.

        The Chair reported on recent research awards and honours:

   - *RE$EARCH Infosource*, Canada's R&D intelligence and ranking system, has ranked SFU Canada's top comprehensive university for publication impact.

- *RE$EARCH Infosource* has also ranked SFU the #1 comprehensive university in its *University Patent Leader 2013-2017* category.
- *UBI Global Accelerator Rankings* has ranked SFU's VentureLabs the top North American university-linked accelerator.

The Chair reported that twelve of India's top new entrepreneurs are visiting SFU VentureLabs after winning the *Next BIG Idea* contest sponsored by *Zone Startups India,* a Mumbai based accelerator that SFU has partnered in with Ryerson University and the Bombay Stock Exchange Institute. The visit is part of a two-week *Market Access Program* prize that includes visits to Toronto and Calgary to explore Canada's startup and innovation ecosystem with a view to expanding businesses into North America.

The Chair reported that on December 7th SFU will become the headquarters for *CANSSI* – the *Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute*. The collaboration with CANSSI builds upon SFU's leadership in big data innovation and data science excellence and will help strengthen collaborations between researchers, partners and communities across the country.

The Chair reported that the Department of First Nations Studies recently celebrated its 20th anniversary, and that the Beedie School of Business's Executive MBA Program recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

The Chair reported that SFU has received funds to create a 12,000-square-foot art museum on Burnaby Mountain thanks to a significant gift from the Gibson Family Trust. The museum will offer new opportunities for art education, appreciation and community engagement, thereby enriching the cultural landscape of Metro Vancouver. It will be located next to the campus on the west side of UniverCity, situated to serve both the university and the broader community.

The Chair reported that his second term as President will end in August 2020 and that he has notified the Board of Governors that he will not seek a third term. As a consequence, a presidential search process will get underway shortly, including the formation of a search committee and the convening of community consultations. Senators are encouraged to be involved in this important process.

5. Question Period

i) Senator Buttar submitted the following questions:

1. *In the Academic Plan 2019-2024 for the Faculty of Health Sciences, it is mentioned that there is an over-reliance on sessional instructors especially in core courses which should be taught be continuing faculty wherever possible. First, what are the figures, as in how many sessional instructors are currently and proposed to be employed in the next semester in the Faculty of Health Sciences? And second, what ways are there to relieve the reliance on sessional instructors and still maintain the budget and resources allocated to the faculty?*

Peter Keller, Vice-President, Academic and Provost, responded to the questions.

Senate was informed that approximately 25% of courses in the Faculty of Health Sciences are taught by sessional instructors (15% in Fall 2018, 34% in Spring 2019). The Dean has noted that as part of the implementation of the Faculty's Academic Plan, and in accordance with the SFU's Academic Plan, the faculty is engaging in curriculum reforms to look at courses that have low enrollments and courses that no longer meet strategic curriculum needs. This review will be done in a budget neutral reallocation of teaching resources within the faculty.

2. *In the draft Academic Plan Phase 1 - 2017, there is critical mention of how a significant percentage of international students come from a small number of countries and international students not distributed equally across SFU campuses or academic units. In the Fall International Student Report 2018, it indicates that 20% SFU undergraduates are international students, 57% of them from China and Hong Kong, (52.1% from China, 4.9% from Hong Kong), which is a definite outlier compared to other countries. Meanwhile, in the Engagement section of the Academic Plan 2019-2024, there are 7 points listed to strengthen the connection and collaborations between SFU and the world. My question is what are the action plans to relieve the reliance on students from China and Hong Kong. For example, can the University divert the resources that are spent on different university exhibitions for marketing purposes in Hong Kong in China to other countries in Eastern Europe or other regions?*

Senate was informed that the overreaching objective driving SFU's undergraduate international recruitment strategy is the recruitment and then enrollment of suitably qualified students as laid out by Senate approved enrollment aspirations. It was noted that there is a misperception that all international students come from outside of Canada, given that many international students complete high school in Canada and have already committed to studying in Canada. It was also noted that SFU is always interested in attracting and expanding the geographic distribution of international students and that SFU is aware that the exchange rates and relative economic power make it more realistic and more attractive to study in Canada in some parts of the world then in others. The specific reference to students coming from China and Hong Kong in part reflects long standing relationships between SFU, China and Hong Kong, and also reflects the economic strength of China and Hong Kong. It was noted that while the absolute number of students from China and Hong Kong has increased, their relative share compared to the entire undergraduate international student body has declined over recent years.

A question was asked the potential vulnerabilities of relying on a single country for international enrollment. Senate was informed that international students make up roughly 20% of the undergraduate student population and though SFU would be vulnerable should enrollment from China and Hong Kong fall off, there is no indication of that happening. It was noted that in the last two years the fastest growing international student population has been from India, which reflects the efforts being made to diversify the international student population.

6. Reports of Committees

A) Research Ethics Board (REB)
i) Annual Report 2017 – 2018 (S.18-118)
Senate received the Research Ethics Board Annual Report 2017 – 2018 for information.

Jeff Toward, Director - Office of Research Ethics, was in attendance to respond to questions.

B) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)
i) 2017/18 Centres and Institutes Renewal Applications (S.18-119)
Senate received the 2017/18 Centres and Institutes Renewal Applications for information.

ii) Centres and Institutes Annual Report 2017/18 (S.18-120)
Senate received the Centres and Institutes Annual Report 2017/18 for information.

iii) Dissolution of Community Health Solutions as a Research Institute (S.18-121)
Moved by P. Keller, seconded by J. Somers

"That Senate approve the dissolution of Community Health Solutions as a research institute."

A question was called and a vote taken.   MOTION CARRIED

iv) Suspension of Admission and Dissolution of the Graduate Certificate in Neuroscience (S.18-122)

Motion 1:
Moved by P. Keller, seconded by A. Mac Namara

"That Senate approve the suspension of admission to the Graduate Certificate in Neuroscience within the Faculty of Science, effective Summer 2019."

A question was called and a vote taken.   MOTION CARRIED

Motion 2:
Moved by P. Keller, seconded by A. Mac Namara

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the dissolution of the Graduate Certificate in Neuroscience within the Faculty of Science, effective Summer 2019."

A question was called and a vote taken.   MOTION CARRIED

v) External Review of the Department of Economics (S.18-123)
Moved by P. Keller, seconded by J. Pulkingham

"That Senate approve the Action Plan for the Department of Economics that resulted from its External Review."

Brian Krauth, Chair - Department of Economics, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was called and a vote taken.   MOTION CARRIED

C)   Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)
i)   Program Changes (S.18-124)
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made program changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Engineering Science), the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Economics, English, History, Labour Studies Program, Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology), the Beedie School of Business, the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology, and the Faculty of Science (Data Science, Statistics and Actuarial Science).

ii)   New Course Proposals (S.18-125)
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Engineering Science), The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Co-operative Education, French, History, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, School for International Studies, Labour Studies Program, Political Science, Psychology), and the Beedie School of Business.

iii)   Course Changes (S.18-126)
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Engineering Science, Sustainable Energy Engineering Program, Mechatronic Systems Engineering Program), the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Economics, English, First Nations Studies, French, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, History, Humanities, School for International Studies, Labour Studies Program, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology), the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School of Communication), the Faculty of Environment (Archaeology, Bachelor of Environment Program, Environmental Science Program, Geography), and the Faculty of Science (Data Science, Mathematics, Statistics and Actuarial Science).

D)   Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)
i)   Program Changes (S.18-127)
Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved a program change in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, Humanities, School for International Studies, Linguistics), the Beedie School of Business, the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management), the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the Faculty of Science (Mathematics, Physics).

ii)   Graduate New Course Proposals (S.18-128)
Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Political Science), and the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management).

iii)   Graduate Course Changes (S.18-129)
Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (School for International Studies, Linguistics, School of Public Policy), the Beedie School of Business; and the Faculty of Health Sciences.

E)   Senate Library Committee (SLC)
i)   Senate Library Committee (SLC) Annual Report 2017 – 2018 (S.18-130)
Senate received the Senate Library Committee Annual Report 2017 – 2018 for information.

F)   Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)
i)   Senate Committee Elections (S.18-131 Revised)
Senate received a summary of the nominations, positions elected by acclamation,and outstanding vacancies for Senate committees.

7.   Other Business
i)   Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) Report – 2017/18 Grades Report (S.18-132)
Senate received the Institutional Research and Planning Report – 2017/18 Grades Report for information.

Zareen Naqvi, Director - Institutional Research and Planning, was in attendance to respond to questions.

8.   Information
i)   Date of the next regular meeting – – Monday, January 7, 2019.

Open session adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Rummana Khan Hemani
Registrar