

SENATE SUMMARY MEETING OF MAY 19, 2020

1. Report of the Chair

The Chair reported that efforts to address challenges resulting from COVID-19 and its consequences are ongoing. The health and safety of the university community remains the priority, and SFU will continue to be guided in this regard by the advice and direction provided by health authorities and by the Province. The University has been working closely with other BC research universities to compare and coordinate responses. With these considerations in mind, the Provost announced last week that most Fall classes will be delivered remotely, except for courses where learning outcomes cannot easily be replicated remotely, and where health and safety requirements can be maintained. Examples might include certain labs, field courses and graduate classes where in-person instruction is essential. Meanwhile, support will be provided to instructors to enhance the quality of remote teaching to ensure that the student experience and educational standards are maintained to the highest extent possible. Work is being done to ensure that students are able to access the full range of support services required to effectively participate in and benefit from remote learning. Work is also underway to ensure safe ways for select in-person research to take place. Decisions will be made in collaboration with faculties and will strictly adhere to the health and safety protocols offered by health authorities and the Province.

The Chair reported that during this time, faculty, staff and students have displayed tremendous dedication and resiliency, however, concerns remain for the well-being of the university community, and especially for students. Ottawa's announcement of \$9 billion in funding to support post-secondary students and recent graduates was welcome news and there was a remarkable response to the COVID-19 Student Support Fund, including major gifts from the SFFSS (\$150,000), SFU Alumni Association (\$55,000), the First National Student Association (\$40,000) and more than 200 individual gifts from faculty and staff. The \$335,000 raised thus far has increased the University's capacity to help students adversely affected by the crisis. Drawing on these and other University funds, Student Services has distributed \$3 million to support students. SFU has launched SFU CAN (COVID Action Now), a university-wide initiative to harness and support all of the efforts and resources directed at pandemic response and recovery. A key component is a Response and Recovery Network to help people across SFU to connect, share resources, and enhance their impact. To date, over 240 people have joined the Network. SFU CAN will also help keep the broader community informed of programs and initiatives designed to promote social connection, foster dialogue and support community recovery, such as those being offered by SFU Public Square, the Morris J Wosk Centre for Dialogue, and SFU Woodward's.

The Chair reported that SFU faculty members continue to combat COVID-19, through research and other activities:

- Health Sciences Professor Kelley Lee has received funding from the *New Frontiers in Research Fund* to lead a project supporting the global coordination of the COVID-19 outbreak response.
- Dr. Caroline Colijn, Canada 150 Research Chair in Mathematics for Evolution, Infection and Public Health, has been appointed to the federal government's COVID-19 expert panel. She's also working with The BC Centre for Disease Control, where her research and modelling methods have been helping to inform B.C.'s health policy.
- Andy Hoffer, professor of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology has received FDA approval for *LungPacer* – his invention that helps wean COVID-19 patients from ventilators.
- A team led by SFU molecular biology and biochemistry professors Drs. Lena Dolgosheina and Peter Unrau is using RNA imaging technology to develop advanced coronavirus testing kits.

The Chair reported on recent grant successes:

- SFU researchers were awarded over \$1 million from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for four projects as part of the *Operating Grant: Canadian 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Rapid Research Funding Opportunity Program*.
- In the latest Canada Foundation for Innovation's John R. Evans Leaders Fund competition, SFU researchers received over \$3.3 million for 19 projects.
- The Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada awarded SFU researchers over \$2.5 million for three projects as part of the Partnership Grant Program.
- In the latest Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada's Insight Grants competition, 13 SFU researchers received over \$2.1 million, marking a 69.7 percent success rate (compared to a national success rate of 40.7%).

The Chair reported that in-person June Convocation ceremonies will be replaced by a vibrant online celebration to honour Spring 2020 graduates. Graduates will also be given the opportunity to participate in a future in-person Convocation ceremony. The Virtual celebration will take place on June 11th from 5:30 to 6:00 pm, and will include a full social media plan – before, during and after the event – to engage graduates and their families. The celebration will be hosted by the Chancellor and the President, and include the granting of degrees and messages from Spring honorary degree recipients. This summer, graduates will be mailed a commemorative box which includes their degree parchment, SFU mortarboard, alumni pin and a printed program listing their name. In addition to the Virtual Convocation Celebration, other planned events include faculty and departmental virtual grad celebrations and an Indigenous Honouring Feast virtual celebration on June 21st at 1:00 pm.

The Chair reported June 12th will be Chancellor Giardini's last day with SFU. A commemorative book and tribute video is in the works. A new chancellor should be announced later this month.

The Chair reported that in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings last month, SFU placed 19th overall in the world out of 766 institutions, and first in the world for its impact on sustainable cities and communities. SFU fares well in traditional university rankings, such as topping the Maclean's Comprehensive University category for 10 of the past 11 years, however, traditional rankings do not capturing the full value of what SFU, as an engaged university, contributes to the communities it serves. The THE Impact Rankings are the first global measurement of universities' impact on society, assessing performance against the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. SFU's top standing globally for Sustainable Cities and Communities is evidence of an extraordinary commitment to provide a sustainable environment for those who work and live in the university community, and SFU's increasing efforts to minimize its environmental footprint. SFU ranked fourth in the world for Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, reflecting strength in university-community engagement, collaborations with national and local governments, and international partnerships. SFU also ranked seventh for supporting aquatic ecosystems and ninth for Climate Action, an area in which the University is determined to make further progress through a new five-year Strategic Sustainability Plan.

2. **Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP) Annual Report 2019-2020 (S.20-52)**
Senate received the Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP) Annual Report 2019-2020 for information.
3. **Full Program Proposal for a Geographic Information Science Minor (S.20-53)**
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the Full Program Proposal for a Geographic Information Science Minor in the Department of Geography within the Faculty of Environment, effective Spring 2021.
4. **Full Program Proposal for Graduate Diploma in Management (S.20-54)**
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for the Graduate Diploma in Management in the Beedie School of Business, effective Fall 2021.
 - Course (new): BUS 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587
5. **Full Program Proposal for Master in Management (S.20-55)**
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for the Master in Management in the Beedie School of Business, effective Fall 2021.
 - Course (new): BUS 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587
6. **Full Program Proposal for a Minor in Indigenous Languages (S.20-56)**
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the Full Program Proposal for a Minor in Indigenous Languages in the Department of Linguistics and the First Nations Languages Program within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Spring 2021.
7. **Name Change of Art, Performance, and Cinema Studies Minor (S.20-57)**
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the program name change from Art, Performance, and Cinema Studies Minor to Art and Performance Studies Minor in

the School for the Contemporary Arts within the Faculty of Communication, Art, and Technology.

8. Name Change of Film and Video Studies Minor (S.20-58)

Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the program name change from Film and Video Studies Minor to Cinema Studies Minor in the School for the Contemporary Arts within the Faculty of Communication, Art, and Technology.

9. Senate Guidelines for External Reviews of Academic Units (S.20-59)

Senate approved the revised Senate Guidelines for External Reviews of Academic Units.

10. Suspension of Admission and Dissolution of the Modelling of Complex Social Systems Graduate Certificate (S.20-60)

Motion 1:

Senate approved the suspension of admission of the Modelling of Complex Social Systems Graduate Certificate within the Faculty of Applied Sciences, Arts and Social Sciences, Environment, Health Sciences, and Science, effective Fall 2020.

Motion 2:

Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the dissolution of the Modelling of Complex Social Systems Graduate Certificate within the Faculty of Applied Sciences, Arts and Social Sciences, Environment, Health Sciences, and Science, effective Fall 2020.

11. Suspension of Admission to the Latin American Studies Graduate Certificate (S.20-61)

Senate approved the suspension of admission to the Latin American Studies Graduate Certificate in the School for International Studies within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Fall 2020.

12. Undergraduate Program Changes (S.20-62)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program changes, effective Spring 2021:

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

a) School of Engineering Science

- Program: Engineering Science, Computer Engineering Option Major
- Program: Engineering Science, Electronics Engineering Option Major
- Program: Engineering Science, Systems Engineering Option Major
- Program: Engineering Science, Biomedical Engineering Option Honours
- Program: Engineering Science, Computer Engineering Option Honours
- Program: Engineering Science, Electronics Engineering Option Honours
- Program: Engineering Science, Engineering Physics Option Honours
- Program: Engineering Science, Systems Engineering Option Honours

- b) *School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering***
 - Program: Mechatronic Systems Engineering Major
 - Program: Mechatronic Systems Engineering Honours
- c) *School of Sustainable Energy Engineering***
 - Program: Sustainable Energy Engineering Major

ii) Faculty of Environment

- a) *School of Environmental Science***
 - Program: Environmental Science Major
 - Program: Environmental Science Honours
- b) *Geography***
 - Program: Global Environmental Systems Major
 - Program: Global Environmental Systems Honours

13. Undergraduate New Course Proposals (S.20-63)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following new course proposals, effective Spring 2021:

i) Faculty of Environment

- a) *School of Environmental Science***
 - Course (new): EVSC 489

14. Undergraduate Course Changes (S.20-64)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Spring 2021:

i) Faculty of Applied Sciences

- a) *School of Computing Science***
 - Course (equivalency): CMPT 295
 - Course (prerequisite): CMPT 371, 379, 433
 - Course (deletion): CMPT 150, 250, 261, 301, 401, XX1
 - Course (temporarily withdrawn): CMPT 126, 170, 305, 408, 461
- b) *School of Engineering Science***
 - Course (deletion): ENSC 304, 374, 472, 489
 - Course (prerequisite): ENSC 220, 225, 320, 324, 380, 386, 470
- c) *School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering***
 - Course (deletion): MSE 400, 401, 411W
 - Course (prerequisite): MSE 222, 223, 250, 280

-

d) School of Sustainable Energy Engineering

- Course (prerequisite): SEE 225, 230, 251, 351

ii) Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

- Course (deletion): BUEC 433
- Course (deletion): CHIN 185
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): COGS 381, 480
- Course (deletion): CRIM 333, 334, 336, 384, 440, 450
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): DIAL 460
- Course (deletion): EAS 101
- Course (deletion): ECON 353, 388, 404
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): ECON 368
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): ENGL 342, 349, 468W
- Course (deletion): FNST 402
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): FNST 363, 376, 383
- Course (deletion): GERM 104
- Course (deletion): GSWS 334
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): GSWS 432
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): HIST 321
- Course (deletion): HUM 152, 321
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): HUM 422
- Course (deletion): IS 209W
- Course (deletion): ISPO 431
- Course (deletion): LANG 222, 272
- Course (deletion): LAS 498
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): LING 441
- Course (deletion): POL 211, 462
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): POL 251, 456, 470
- Course (deletion): PSYC 335, 462, 463, 479
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): PSYC 430
- Course (deletion): SA 357W, 421
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): SA 210, 245, 418
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): SPAN 204, 301, 303, 304

iii) Faculty of Environment

- Course (deletion): ENV 197, 198, 222W

a) Archaeology

- Course (deletion): ARCH 335

b) School of Environmental Science

- Course (temporarily withdrawn): EVSC 399, 499
- Course (title, prerequisite): EVSC 490W

c) *Geography*

- Course (deletion): GEOG 422, 426, 466, 468
- Course (temporarily withdrawn): GEOG 362, 381, 417, 455
- Course (title, description): GEOG 356

iv) Faculty of Health Sciences

- Course (Temporarily withdraw): HSCI 140, 215, 439, 458, 460

15. Implementation of the SETCwg and TAWG Reports on Teaching Assessment (S.20-65)

Senate approved the implementation plan for teaching assessment, including four explicit actions, as recommended by the Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning.

16. Graduate New Course Proposals (S.20-66)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following new course proposal, effective Spring 2021:

i) Faculty of Science

a) *Physics*

- Course (new): PHYS 816

17. Graduate Course Changes (S.20-67)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Spring 2021:

i) Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology

a) *Publishing Program*

- Course (deletion): PUB 897

ii) Faculty of Health Sciences

- Course (title, description): HSCI 803

18. Senate Committee Elections (S.20-68)

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

19. Elections Report to Senate (S.20-69)

Senate received for information a summary of the results of the student election to Senate and the Board of Governors, the convocation election to Senate, and the faculty election to Senate.

The approved Senate minutes will be available online following the July Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the May 2020 Senate documents: <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-34221>.

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