



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, September 14, 2020 at 5:30 pm via Zoom Video Conferencing

Open Session

Present: Joy Johnson, Chair

Andreou, Corina
Bartram, Lyn
Bird, Gwen
Bubela, Tania
Burley, David
Chapman, Glenn
Chenier, Elise
Coleman, Gordon
Collard, Mark
Daniel, Bryan
Denholm, Julia
Derksen, Jeff
Driver, Jon
Elle, Elizabeth
Everton, Mike
Favere-Marchesi, Michael
Fiume, Eugene
Gemino, Andrew
Gildersleve, Corbett
Hall, Peter
Hendrigan, Holly
Hoffer, Andy
Hogg, Robert
Kench, Paul
Kim, Woo Soo
Krogman, Naomi
Lam, Allan
Lam, Daniel
Laitsch, Dan
Leznoff, Daniel
Liosis, Gabe
Lord Ferguson, Sarah
Luu, Susan
Martell, Matt
Masri, Kamal
McTavish, Rob
Mirhady, David
Mohamed, Osob

Myers, Gord
Nepomnaschy, Pablo
O'Neil, Dugan
O'Neill, Susan
Parkhouse, Wade
Parmar, Abhishek
Percival, Colin
Pulkingham, Jane
Raza, Samad
Spector, Stephen
Stockie, John
Tingling, Peter
Walsby, Charles
Weldon, Steve
Wong, Alan

Absent:

Brennand, Tracy
Gray, Bonnie
Gunn, Alexandra
Krauth, Brian
Modi, Nafoni
Nguyen, Candy
Shaw, Chris
Singh, Harry Preet
Singh, Tanishvir
Underhill, Owen
Vrooman, Tamara

In Attendance:

Blair, Alison
Blue, Dan
Chu, Gloria
Naqvi, Zareen
Wong, Jimmy

Kris Nordgren, Senate Secretary pro tem
Steven Noel, Recording Secretary

The Chair acknowledged that SFU is privileged to be situated on the traditional territories of the Tsleil–Waututh, Squamish, Kwikwetlem, and Musqueam nations.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of June 8, 2020

The minutes of the open session on June 8, 2020 were approved as distributed.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of July 6, 2020

The minutes of the open session on July 6, 2020 were approved as distributed.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

- i) At the April meeting Senator Hendrigan asked a question about how to encourage or incentivize the uploading of faculty journal articles into Summit. Senate was informed that there are a number of initiatives being worked on to encourage faculty to deposit their research publications into Summit. This includes encouraging faculty members to obtain an Orcid iD, reminding faculty members of the Open Access Policy, the ongoing development of several tools to access other publication databases currently used by SFU authors, and the continuing work on a research enterprise system that could later be linked to CV-management tools. Although it will be easier to deposit articles once these tools have been implemented, it was noted that this does not guarantee an increased deposit rate.

5. Report of the Chair

The Chair acknowledged the recent passing of Ali Dastmalchian, Dean of the Beedie School of Business. Ali will be deeply missed by the SFU community and by his colleagues around the world. Condolences have been extended to his family and the University will be looking for ways to honour his remembrance and the important work he did.

The Chair reported that SFU is in the midst of its month of welcome to students, with activities taking place to welcome students in the faculties and also through Student Services. It was noted that it's important, especially in these times, to provide students with creative opportunities to engage with the University and to engage with one another.

The Chair, in her role as President, noted that it's an honour to serve as SFU's tenth president and recognized that it's a challenging time to take on the presidency. Thanks was offered to faculty, staff, and students for the incredible work done over the past months. Though it is common for a new president to embark on a strategic planning process, it was noted that now is not the time to do so. Focus should be given to taking care of the University and ensuring the continuance of offering high quality programs. As such, the Chair identified the following priorities in the coming months:

- To ensure that SFU is a resilient and adaptive institution that can thrive despite challenges and be able to recognize the opportunities that lie ahead.

- To ensure SFU students are provided with a positive, healthy and exciting environment in which to learn and thrive.
- To deliver on the recommendations of the Aboriginal Reconciliation Council's report and to ensure that SFU is a place where indigenous people can flourish.
- To focus on equity, diversity, inclusion, and antiracism to ensure that SFU is a community where all feel welcome, safe and accepted.

i) Annual Financial Report (S.20-93)

Senate received the Annual Financial Report for information.

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

6. Question Period

No questions were submitted.

7. Reports of Committees

A) Calendar Committee (CC)

i) Revision to Academic Dates 2020/2021 (S.20-92)

Moved by P. Tingling, seconded by S. Spector

"That Senate approve the revised schedule of academic dates for the Fall 2020, moving the Fall 2020 Convocation ceremony from October 8 & 9, 2020 to October 22 & 23, 2020."

Gloria Chu, Director – Ceremonies and Events, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

B) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)

i) Full Program Proposals for Indigenous Business Leadership Programs (S.20-94)

Motion 1:

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by A. Parmar

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for a Graduate Diploma in Business Administration in Indigenous Business Leadership within the Beedie School of Business, effective Fall 2021."

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 2:

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by S. Spector

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for a Certificate in Business Administration in Indigenous Business Leadership within the Beedie School of Business, effective Fall 2021.”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 3:

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by G. Liosis

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the full program proposal for a Indigenous Business Leadership Executive Master of Business Administration within the Beedie School of Business, effective Fall 2021.”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Name Change of First Nations Programs (S.20-95)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by J. Pulkingham

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the following program name changes

- First Nations Studies Major
- Archaeology and First Nations Studies Joint Major
- First Nations Studies and Linguistics Joint Major
- First Nations Studies Minor
- First Nations Studies Research Certificate
- First Nations Studies Post Baccalaureate Diploma
- First Nations Studies Co-operative Education Program

to:

- Indigenous Studies Major
- Archaeology and Indigenous Studies Joint Major
- Indigenous Studies and Linguistics Joint Major
- Indigenous Studies Minor
- Indigenous Studies Research Certificate
- Indigenous Studies Post Baccalaureate Diploma
- Indigenous Studies Co-operative Education Program

within the Department of Indigenous Studies within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2021.”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

C) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

i) Program Changes (S.20-96)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved program changes in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Indigenous Studies), the Beedie School of Business, and the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School of Communication).

ii) New Course Proposals (S.20-97)

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 Sustainable Energy Engineering), and the Faculty of Environment (Archaeology).

iii) Course Changes (S.20-98)

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), the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Semester in Dialogue), the Beedie School of Business, and the Faculty of Environment (Archaeology, Geography).

iv) Withdrawal Deadline Changes for 2020/2021 (S.20-99)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved withdrawal deadline changes for 2020/21.

D) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)

i) Program Changes (S.20-100)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved program changes in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Sociology and Anthropology).

ii) Course Changes (S.20-101)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering).

E) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)

i) Senate Committee Elections (S.20-102 Revised)

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

F) Senate Policy Committee on Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries (SPCSAB)

i) President's and Dean's Honour Roll - Revised Terms of Reference (S.20-103)

Senate received the President's and Dean's Honour Roll - Revised Terms of Reference for information.

8. Other Business

i) Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) Report: 2019/20 Grades Report (S.20-104)

Senate received the 2019/20 Grades Report for information.

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

A question was asked as to how the implementation of a pass/fail grading system impacted grade calculation. Also, a comment was made noting that it would be useful to see a breakdown of grades by term, and also by department. Senate was informed that work is being done to break down grades by term, especially the summer and fall terms compared to the spring term. In terms of how pass/fail grades impacted grade calculation, because pass/fail grades were not assigned a numeric grade, they were removed from the calculation. This is one of the reasons grades were inflated in 2019.

A question was asked if there any constraints that would affect next year's ability to properly account for the anomalous nature of the data from this year. Senate was informed that breaking down the grades report by term will help to explain some of the differences existing between 2020 and other years. Also, work is being done to look at some connections between grading policy and other kinds of performance measures used for students. Once that is done, consideration will be given on how best to present this information in next year's report.

ii) Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) Report: 2019 Undergraduate Student Survey (UGSS) Report

Senate received the 2019 Undergraduate Student Survey (UGSS) Report for information.

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

A comment was made noting that it would be useful to see the data more specifically broken down to provide indications of how certain patterns occur, particularly with respect to gender, year of study, and whether students are domestic or international.

9. Information

i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, October 5, 2020

Open session adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Kris Nordgren
Senate Secretary pro tem