

## SENATE SUMMARY

### MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

#### 1. Report of the Chair

The Chair, on behalf of Senate, welcomed the following new members:

- Dr. Dilson Rassier, SFU's new Provost and Vice-President, Academic;
- Dr. Mary O'Brien, the new Dean of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies;
- Dr. Dan Laitsch, formerly elected as a Senator for the Faculty of Education and now as the Dean of the Faculty of Education;
- Dr. Peter Hall, professor in Urban Studies, the new Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Academic.

The Chair reported that Dr. Ujwal Kayande, Dean of the Beedie School of Business, will be leaving SFU at the end of the year. The Chair thanked Ujwal for his service and contributions to SFU and to Beedie and noted that, as per Policy A13.05, the University will be forming a committee and launching the search for a new dean in 2024.

The Chair reported that the annual Senate-Board of Governors retreat will be happening on November 24th. Senators are asked to save the date and watch for an invitation.

The Chair reported that since the launch of *What's Next* earlier this year, SFU has been working to ensure that there is a plan to implement the strategy across the University. An important part of implementation will be making sure that activities are aligned with and supportive of the academic mission. Over the summer, each strategic priority co-lead met with their Strategic Priority Teams -- made up of key stakeholders from leadership and programs across SFU -- and completed draft one-year strategic plans. These plans include high-level goals, objectives, metrics and actions to drive SFU's work as a leading research university, advancing an inclusive and sustainable future.

The Chair reported that construction began this summer on the First Peoples' Gathering House, a space long advocated for by Indigenous students, faculty and staff.

The Chair reported that on September 6th, Chief Jen Thomas of Tsleil-Waututh Nation and herself, in her role as President, signed an inaugural relationship protocol agreement between SFU and the Nation. SFU's Burnaby campus is located in the core territory of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation and this protocol agreement will help deepen this relationship to address Tsleil-Waututh Nation priorities and guide SFU on the path of Reconciliation.

The Chair reported that on Wednesday, September 13th, SFU will hold its first-ever Welcome Feast for new and returning Indigenous students.

The Chair reported the following achievements by SFU faculty members:

- Five SFU researchers were awarded as new and renewed Canada Research Chairs;

- Nine faculty members were recognized as 2023 Distinguished SFU Professors;
- Three SFU scholars were recently named to the Royal Society of Canada – Canada’s highest academic honour. Congratulations was offered to Caroline Colijn, Isabelle Côté, and Bohdan Nosyk.

The Chair reported that work on the medical school continues. With the business case having been submitted to government, one of the challenges being faced is with the government’s desire to have those materials embargoed until they go to Treasury Board. Given the desire for transparency, the University is pushing to have those materials available before that time.

The Chair thanked Senate for its collaboration on changes to the Research Ethics Board Policy and Procedures. With an interim policy in place until December, based on the work of the Senate/Board Special Joint Committee, consultation with the wider community has now begun and the final materials based on that consultation will come to Senate for approval in January.

The Chair reported that the federal government recently announced they are looking to address international student enrolments, which they contend are putting unprecedented levels of demand on the housing market. One proposal included putting a cap on the number of international student visas issued each year. The B.C. Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills is also floating the idea of a cap on international student numbers. As an executive member of University Canada, the Chair noted that the whole sector is very concerned about this proposal and it is top of mind for post-secondary institutions across the country. Over the coming months SFU will be working to help people understand everything that international students bring to the campus community and highlight the work being done to decrease pressure on the housing market, including building on-campus housing.

The Chair reported that SFU broke ground on the Marianne and Edward Gibson Art Museum during an Indigenous-led ceremony on August 1st, recognizing a donation from Marianne Gibson and contributions of \$1 million or more from the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation, the Tuey Charitable Foundation and an anonymous donation in honour of SFU president emeritus Andrew Petter.

**2. Report of the Provost**

The Provost expressed his gratitude in joining the SFU community and being a member of Senate. Since his arrival less than a month ago, he has been meeting with as many people as possible, including deans, administrators, staff members, and students and looks forward to providing Senate with updates at future meetings. He then passed things over to Senator Magnusson for an update on the medical school.

**3. Annual Financial Report (S.23-105)**

Senate received the Annual Financial Report for information.

**4. Senate Review (S.23-106)**

Senate received the Senate Review document for information.

5. **Full Program Proposal for a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Worlds (S.23-107)**  
Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the Full Program Proposal for the Urban Worlds Major in the Urban Studies Program within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Department of Geography within the Faculty of Environment.
6. **Renewal Extension for the Centre for Forensic Research (S.23-108)**  
Senate received Renewal Extension for the Centre for Forensic Research for information.
7. **Aboriginal University Admission Policy Name Change (S.23-109)**  
Senate approved the policy name change from Aboriginal University Admission Policy (AUAP) to Undergraduate Admission Policy for Indigenous Students (UAPI).
8. **Duolingo English Test Pilot (S.23-110)**  
Senate approved the extension of the Duolingo English Test pilot for the Spring 2024 through to Fall 2024 terms.
9. **Guidelines for Courses in the Event of a Labour Dispute (S.23-111)**  
Senate approved the revised Guidelines for Courses in the Event of a Labour Dispute.
10. **Undergraduate Program Changes (S.23-112)**  
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program change, effective Fall 2024:
  - i) **Faculty of Education**
    - Program: Teacher Education, Professional Linking Program (PLP)
11. **Undergraduate New Course Proposals (S.23-113)**  
Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following new course proposal, effective Fall 2024:
  - i) **Faculty of Applied Sciences**
    - a) *School of Computing Science*
      - Course (new): CMPT 303
  - ii) **Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**
    - a) **Urban Studies Program**
      - Course (new): URB 101, 201
  - iii) **Faculty of Education**
    - Course (new): EDUC 407, 408, 409

**12. Undergraduate Course Changes (S.23-114)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Summer 2024:

**i) Faculty of Education**

- Course (units): EDUC 403 (effective Fall 2024)

**ii) Faculty of Environment**

**a) Archaeology**

- Course (title, description, prerequisite): ARCH 200

**13. Graduate Program Changes (S.23-115)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following program changes, effective Summer 2024:

**i) Beedie School of Business**

- Program: Executive MBA

**ii) Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology**

**a) Centre for Digital Media**

- Program: Digital Media MDM

**14. Graduate New Course Proposals (S.23-116)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following new course proposal, effective Summer 2024:

**i) Beedie School of Business**

- Course (new): BUS 605

**15. Graduate Course Changes (S.23-117)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following course changes, effective Summer 2024:

**i) Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**

**a) Economics**

- Course (short title, description, prerequisite): ECON 832

**i) Beedie School of Business**

- Course (description, grading basis): BUS 687

- 16. Senate Committee Elections (S.23-118 Revised)**  
Senate received a summary of the nominations, positions elected by acclamation, positions requiring an online vote, and outstanding vacancies for Senate committees.
- 17. Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) Report: 2022/23 Grades Report (S.23-119)**  
Senate received Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) Report: 2022/23 Grades Report for information.
- 18. Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) Report: 2022 Undergraduate Student Survey (UGSS) Report (S.23-120)**  
Senate received Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) Report: 2022 Undergraduate Student Survey (UGSS) Report for information.

The approved Senate minutes will be available online following the November Senate meeting. For more detailed information on each Senate item, please refer to the September 2023 Senate documents: <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-36280>.

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