



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, April 6, 2020 at 5:30 pm via Zoom Video Conferencing

Open Session

Present: Andrew Petter, Chair

Andreoiu, Corina
Bartram, Lyn
Bird, Gwen
Brennand, Tracy
Bubela, Tania
Burley, David
Chapman, Glenn
Chenier, Elise
Chou, Jennifer
Collard, Mark
Denholm, Julia
Derksen, Jeff
Driver, Jon
Dunsford, Russell
Elle, Elizabeth
Favere-Marchesi, Michael
Fiume, Eugene
Forde, Nancy
Fowler, Colin
Gajdics, Sylvia
Gunn, Alexandra
Hall, Peter
Hendrigan, Holly
Heng Hartse, Joel
Hillman, Sterling
Hogg, Robert
HoSang, Giovanni
Johnson, Joy
Keliipio, Kau'i
Kench, Paul
Krauth, Brian
Krogman, Naomi
Laitsch, Dan
Leacock, Tracey
Lord Ferguson, Sarah
Luu, Susan
Mirhady, David
Myers, Gord

O'Neill, Susan
Parkhouse, Wade
Parmar, Abhishek
Percival, Colin
Poitras, Geoffrey
Raza, Samad
Shapiro, Lisa
Stockie, John
Somers, Julian
Tingling, Peter
Underhill, Owen
Zanette, Amanda

Absent:

Aistov, Nikita
Dastmalchian, Ali
Giardini, Anne
Gray, Bonnie
Ho, Shuna
Hoffer, Andy
Kim, Woo Soo
Kimathi, Natasha
Luelfesmann, Christoph
Nepomnaschy, Pablo
Parent, Michael
Planchenault, Gaelle
Plettner, Erika
Shaw, Chris
Tavakoli, Kimia
Taykandy, Mason
Walsby, Charles
Weldon, Steve

In Attendance:

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of February 3, 2020

The minutes of the open session on February 3, 2020 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 reported that efforts to meet the challenges resulting from COVID-19 are ongoing and continue to be guided by the advice and direction provided to the post-secondary sector by the Provincial Health Officer and by provincial health authorities. SFU is also communicating through *Universities Canada* with the federal government. Via this two-way interaction, SFU receives advice and direction from provincial health authorities, but also communicates some of the needs and concerns of the University, and also recommends actions to be taken. Efforts have been closely associated with other research universities through the *Research University Council of BC*. Acknowledgement was given to members of Senate and those throughout the University community for their efforts to adapt to this extraordinary and unfortunate environment. Concern was raised about the well-being of students, noting that many are suffering a sense of stress and dislocation due to changes in teaching methodology, coupled with financial pressures resulting from lost job opportunities and uncertainty. In recognition of this, and in addition to existing support, the COVID-19 Student Support Fund has been launched to raise funds for the University on behalf of students experiencing difficulty. This week, the Provincial Government announced \$145,000 in emergency funding towards student emergency assistance. Also, the SFSS has approved an emergency student fund of \$150,000. Considerable effort has been placed in communicating with both levels of government about the student situation and it has been reported that both the federal and provincial governments will announce initiatives around student employment and student financial aid. Considerable work is being done with government to contribute equipment, supplies, advice, facilities and anything that can be used in the efforts to address COVID-19. In this respect, acknowledgement was offered to faculty members in support of COVID-19 efforts:

- Health Sciences Researcher Julia Smith is co-leading an international research team funded by the *Canadian Institute of Health Research* to identify gender related effects of COVID-19 and will also identify gaps in preparation and response measures, providing recommendations for those developing policy to improve public health responses.
- Physics professor Nancy Ford has organized a campus supply drive to collect critically needed gloves, face masks and other supplies to be donated to protect health care workers. Many faculty members are also providing expert commentary through main stream media and social media.
- Andrew Wister, Director of the SFU Gerontology Research Center, has provided suggestions for how we can protect and support elders at this time.
- Health Sciences professor Scott Lear has stepped up with a blogpost with how to stay healthy at home.
- Lieke ten Brummelhuis Associate Professor in Beedie School of Business, has provided information on things people can do to manage stress and stay focused while working remotely.

- Psychology professor Lara Aknin has shared recommendations on how to maintain resilience and remain happy during these challenging times.
- Business Professor David Hannah shared information on avoiding COVID-19 misinformation and practicing workplace compassion.
- Food Systems Planning researcher Tammara Soma has shared advice on staying healthy and how we can ensure food secured communities during self-isolation and social distancing.

The Chair reported that Laya Behbahani, PhD student in the School of Communication and Director of the Student Experience Initiative, has been appointed one of sixteen 2020 *Trudeau Foundation Scholars* and will engage in a three-year program of education and empowerment. Also, Denise Williams, CEO of the *First Nations Technology Council* and SFU alumnus and a member of the SFU Board of Governors, has been named one of this year's mentors by the *Trudeau Foundation*.

The Chair reported that the difficult decision has been made to cancel the in-person June Convocation. Planning will instead focus on providing a vibrant online program to honor Spring 2020 graduates. Graduates will be offered the opportunity to take part in in-person convocation ceremonies in either October or June 2021, as there are plans to expand those ceremonies to accommodate increased numbers so that students will not be deprived of the opportunity to participate in convocation. It was noted that even though students will not convocate in June, they will graduate in June, subject to Senate approval.

Relating to Convocation, the Chair reported that honorary degree candidates have all been notified of the change in plans with respect to June. Their names were announced in conjunction with the announcement regarding convocation arrangements and candidates will be invited to participate in the June virtual convocation celebration, but will also be given an opportunity to attend to October or June 2021 convocation ceremonies. If someone is unable to attend either of those ceremonies, alternate arrangements will be sought, with the approval of Senate, for them to be granted their degrees at a different time.

The Chair reported on recent events:

- The Annual SFU Awards Dinner, which celebrates faculty, students and staff members who have achieved awards over the year, was held at the Diamond Alumni Club on March 5th.
- On March 10th, a luncheon was held to honor the 8 SFU faculty members recognized last year by the *Royal Society of Canada* and the 3 faculty members recognized by the *Canadian Academy of Engineering*.
- Also on March 10th, the Library held their annual Celebration of SFU Authors to mark the achievements of authors of monographs or chapters within monographs. There were 116 SFU faculty, staff, students, alumni and partners who accomplished books or book chapters this past year who were recognized at that event.

5. Question Period

No questions were submitted.

6. Reports of Committees

A) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)

i) External Reviews for 2020-2021 (S.20-41)

Senate received External Reviews for 2020-2021 for information.

Noting that a number of external reviews are scheduled for the upcoming academic calendar, a question was asked as to how the units involved would satisfy the requirements of the review. Senate was informed that two reviews scheduled to take place this year have been cancelled and will have to be integrated into future scheduling. Normally, reviews take place in the spring, however, given the uncertainty of the current situation a determination has not yet been made on how to approach scheduled reviews. One option is to use remote means, even though reviewers will not be able to inspect physical facilities. Much of the work of the external review consists of meetings, so it may be possible to modify the process given the restrictions of social distancing requirements. It was noted that SCUP will be bringing some new guidelines for external reviews for Senate to consider. Also, work is being done to align the disciplinary accreditation process with the external reviews process.

ii) Establishment of the SFU Africa Research Centre (S.20-42)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by C. Percival

“That Senate approve the establishment of the SFU Africa Research Centre as a research centre for a five year term.”

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

B) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

i) Program Changes (S.20-43)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved program changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Computing Science, School of Sustainable Energy Engineering), the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (English, Global Asia Program, School for International Studies, Linguistics, Political Science, Sociology and Anthropology), the Beedie School of Business, the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School for the Contemporary Arts, Publishing Program), the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management), the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the Faculty of Science (Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology).

ii) New Course Proposals (S.20-44)

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 Computing Science), the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Cognitive Science Program, School of Criminology, School for International Studies, Linguistics, Sociology and Anthropology), the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School for the Contemporary Arts), and the Faculty of Health Sciences.

iii) Course Changes (S.20-45)

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 Computing Science, School of Engineering Science, School of Mechatronic Systems

Engineering, School of Sustainable Energy Engineering), the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (School of Criminology, Economics, English, School for International Studies, Philosophy, Political Science, Sociology and Anthropology), the Beedie School of Business, the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (Publishing Program, School of Communication, School for the Contemporary Arts), the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management), the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the Faculty of Science (Physics, Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology).

C) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)

i) Program Changes (S.20-46)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved program changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering), the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Economics, Psychology, School of Public Policy), the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School for the Contemporary Arts, Publishing Program), the Faculty of Education, and the Faculty of Environment (Ecological Restoration).

ii) New Course Proposals (S.20-47)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering), the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Economics, School for International Studies, School of Public Policy), the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (Publishing Program), and the Faculty of Education.

iii) Course Changes (S.20-48)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School for the Contemporary Arts), the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the Faculty of Science (Physics).

D) Senate Library Committee (SLC)

i) Report on Open Access Policy (S.20-49)

Senate received the Report on Open Access Policy for information.

Senate was informed that in 2015 an Open Access Advisory Committee was formed by the Senate Library Committee to develop an Open Access Policy for SFU. This policy was brought to and endorsed by Senate in January 2017. Within the policy was a provision for it be reviewed after three years and a report presented to Senate. Since the formation of the policy, the global situation with respect to Open Access has advanced substantially with the development of *Plan S* coming out of Europe and *cOAlition S*, with the Chief Science Advisor of Canada releasing a *Roadmap for Open Science* in February 2020. Since the implementation of the Open Access Policy, SFU has seen increased awareness and use of the central Open Access fund to cover article processing charges for publication in global Open Access journals. It has also seen a doubling of the rate of deposits in institutional repositories. The goal is to ensure that the outputs of research conducted at SFU are widely available to those beyond the academic community. A question was asked if researchers should be depositing papers to Summit or is that intended for fields where there's not already an online repository. Senate was informed that there are many disciplines without a disciplinary archive so this provides a repository. It also functions as a way

for SFU to track the collective output of research at SFU, which is not possible if papers are only distributed to disciplinary repositories.

A question was asked if indexing is being addressed at a national level and if SFU has signed an agreement with Elsevier, thereby making it easier to share documents. Senate was informed that SFU does collaborate nationally and internationally with COAR and other groups that are working on linking repositories around the globe. SFU also follows an open archive protocol that makes material discoverable on the web. Rather than building an index, it exposes the metadata, allowing it to be discoverable on the web and linked with other repositories. SFU licenses Elsevier material through a federal consortium called the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN). Normally, *CRKN* has a three-year term for a license with Elsevier and SFU is currently in its final year, so negotiations have already begun. Through this federal consortium, SFU is negotiating with about 72 other universities across Canada to strike an agreement with Elsevier.

Noting that only about 10% of journal articles get uploaded into Summit, a question was asked on how to encourage or incentivize the uploading of faculty journal articles into Summit. Senate was informed that the task of uploading articles into a repository can be quite onerous, especially when factoring in the entering of metadata. It was also noted that there can be confusion around copyrights when trying to submit articles to various publishers.

E) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)

i) Senate Committee Elections (S.20-50)

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

7. Other Business

i) Grading Practices and Deadlines under Public Health Emergency (S.20-51)

Senate received the Grading Practices and Deadlines under Public Health Emergency for information.

8. Information

i) Date of the next regular meeting – Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Open session adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Kris Nordgren
Senate Secretary pro tem