



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
THINKING OF THE WORLD

## SENATE SUMMARY MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

1. **Senate Membership**

The Chair welcomed the following to their first meeting of Senate in their official capacity as Dean: Kris Magnusson, Dean, Faculty of Education; John Pierce, first Dean of the new Faculty of Environment; Tom Nesbit, Interim Dean of Continuing Studies; and Cheryl Geisler, first Dean of the new Faculty of Communication, Art & Technology.

2. **Enrolment – Fall 2009**

Although a detailed report on enrolment was not available at this point, the Chair reported that both the domestic and international undergraduate enrolment was above expectations, and he wished to extend thanks to everyone from Student Services through to faculty and staff members in Faculties/Departments for the success of the recruitment/admission cycle.

3. **Student Orientation**

The Chair also extended a special note of thanks to the Student Society and to the student volunteers for their tremendous contribution in making this Fall's Orientation for new students such a success.

4. **Budget**

Commenting on recent press releases about the Provincial budget, the Chair reported that in comparison to many other public sectors, advanced education has been relatively well protected in that revisions to the earlier pre-election budget are minimal. The Chair pointed out however that advanced education is not entirely unaffected. Firstly, there has been a one-third cut to the ancillary capital budget which means that some urgent capital renovations and/or maintenance will not go forward this year, and secondly, there has been a global cut to student financial assistance, but again, the affect on university students at research institutions is not as great as at other post-secondary institutions. Because of the University's legal obligation to accommodate disabled students, cuts in this area will have to be picked up by the University. Cuts to the Michael Smith Foundation will affect funding for appointments and other research activities and collaborations at the research universities, and one of the biggest concerns is that transfers to post-secondary institutions will be frozen for the next three years which means that the costs of inflation will have to be absorbed through adjustments to expenses in the operating budget.

The Chair announced that consultations within the University will begin in the near future to address the difficulties of the budget cuts and how to respond to a freeze in funding over the next two to three years.

5. **Annual Financial Statement – Paper S.09-96**  
[http://www.sfu.ca/uploads/page/24/SFU\\_FinancialStatements\\_2009.pdf](http://www.sfu.ca/uploads/page/24/SFU_FinancialStatements_2009.pdf)

The Annual Financial Statements for the fiscal period ending March 31, 2009 were received by Senate for information.

6. **Change to the Membership and Terms of Reference of the Senate Committee on International Activities (SCIA), and dissolution of the International Student Exchange Committee (ISEC) – Paper S.09-97**

Senate approved, effective immediately, changes to enlarge SCIA membership to include all Faculties; the transfer of the functions of ISEC to SCIA (including the approval for student exchange agreements); and the delegation of responsibility for the administration and approval of individual student exchanges from SCIA to SFU International. Following approval of these changes, Senate approved the dissolution of ISEC, effective immediately.

7. **Dissolution of the B.C. Synchrotron Institute – Paper S.09-98**

Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors, that the B.C. Synchrotron Institute be dissolved as a Schedule A Centre in the Department of Physics in the Faculty of Science.

8. **New Centre for Research on Sexual Violence – Paper S.09-99**

Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors, that the Centre for Research on Sexual Violence be created as a Schedule A Centre based in the School of Criminology in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

9. **New Program: Certificate in Police Studies – Paper S.09-100**

Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors, the proposal for a new undergraduate program – Certificate in Police Studies – in the School of Criminology in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

10. **New Program: Master of Arts in Humanities – Paper S.09-101**

Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors, the proposal for a new graduate program – MA in Humanities – in the Department of Humanities in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

11. **Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Business Administration – Paper [S.09-102](#)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following revisions:

- a) Revision to the eligibility calculation for admission of Category 2, 3, and 4 students to provide a relevant and consistent base of admission for internal and external students transferring to Business Administration at SFU
- b) Revision to requirements for the Honors program to allow the additional 12 units of 400 division courses required for an Honors program to qualify for concentrations
- c) Extension of the SFU Business Broad Based Admission Pilot program for Fall 2010.

12. **Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Education – Paper [S.09-103](#)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the reinstatement of two temporarily withdrawn courses – EDUC 342 and EDUC 343.

13. **Undergraduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science – Paper [S.09-104](#)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions:

- Biological Sciences
  - Changes to the upper division requirements and electives in the Major program to reflect a change from four streams to the following three streams:
    - Cells, Molecules and Physiology
    - Ecology, Evolution and Conservation
    - Open

14. **Graduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Health Sciences – Paper [S.09-105](#)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions:

- Change of title and description: HSCI 900-1
- Change of title, description and grading: HSCI 901-1

**15. Graduate Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science – Paper [S.09-106](#)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the following curriculum revisions:

- a) Department of Chemistry
- New Course: CHEM 808-3 PhD Candidacy Examination
  - Change to course work requirements in the PhD program

**16. Senate Committee Elections – Paper [S.09-107](#)**

Names of candidates elected by acclamation to Senate Committees can be found on Senate paper S.09-107. Vacancies will be carried forward to the next meeting of Senate.

**17. SFU Academic Vision, Outcomes and Vice-President Academic Goals for 2013 – Paper [S.09-108](#)**

Senate received the above-noted document from the Vice-President Academic for information. The document will guide the planning process in 2009 that will result in a strategic academic plan for 2010 to 2013.

**18. Date of the Next Regular Senate Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Senate is Monday, October 5, 2009.

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FOR INFORMATION ONLY. If further details are required, reference should be made to Senate papers which are available on the Web through the above-noted links or by referencing the Senate Minutes which may be viewed on the Web at <http://www.sfu.ca/senate/> (access through Summaries of Senate Meetings).