



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on  
Monday, April 4, 2016 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

## Open Session

**Present:** Andrew Petter, Chair

Bartram, Lyn\*  
Bird, Gwen  
Birmingham, Elina  
Budra, Paul  
Burley, David  
Chapman, Glenn  
Chen, Larissa  
Driver, Jon  
Eikerling, Michael  
Gajdics, Sylvia\*  
Glässer, Uwe  
Gotfrit, Martin (for Aoife Mac Namara)  
Hedley, Nick  
Johnson, Joy  
Kessler, Anke  
Kirkpatrick, Ted\*  
Kropinski, Mary-Catherine  
Laitsch, Dan\*  
Leacock, Tracey  
Lewthwaite, Jayme  
MacAlister, David  
Magnusson, Kris  
McTavish, Rob  
Menon, Carlo  
Myers, Gordon  
Najaf, Ali  
O'Neil, John  
Parkhouse, Wade  
Paterson, David\*  
Percival, Colin  
Percival, Paul  
Peters, Joseph  
Pulkingham, Jane  
Shaw, Chris\*  
Somers, Julian  
Szymczyk, Barbara

Tabin, Yvonne  
Tingling, Peter  
Weng, Enoch  
Williams, Tony

**Absent:**

Abramson, Neil  
Baharmand, Iman  
Brennand, Tracy  
Cupples, Claire  
Dastmalchian, Ali  
Easton, Stephen  
Giardini, Anne  
Hans, Paul  
Jermias, Johnny  
Mac Namara, Aoife  
Marks, Laura  
Mundy, Arjan  
Nabbali, Essya Mabrouka  
Nanjundappa, Abhishek  
Ng, Dorothy  
Pappas, Panayiotis  
Spector, Stephen  
Stefanovic, Ingrid  
Yang, Kathleen  
Yano, Brady  
Zaranyika, Rudo

**In Attendance:**

Andresen, Martin  
Arnet, Chris  
Davies, Garth  
Gerolymatos, Andre  
Hinchliffe, Jo\*

*\*via Surrey campus videoconference*

The Chair welcomed Senators joining remotely from the Surrey campus and noted this is the first night of a trial that will become a permanent fixture, and be extended to the Vancouver campus, should it prove successful.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on March 7, 2016**

The minutes of the open session on March 7, 2016 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 on the recently released federal budget, noting that within the budget there is some positive news and opportunities for post-secondary institutions and researchers. There is a significant increase in funding for the tri-councils, with 95 million dollars per year starting this fiscal year. There is a significant increase in discovery based research to be distributed through the competitive processes of the tri-councils and comes without specific conditions attached so that it will be distributed towards general research. Other positive news within the budget included a significant investment in university and post-secondary infrastructure. The commitment by the federal government of 2 billion dollars over the next 3 years to support post-secondary infrastructure places emphasis on infrastructure that contributes towards research, innovation and commercialization. It is hoped this investment will be matched by the provincial government, so SFU will be advancing the case for investments both on this campus and a potential expansion in Surrey, along with the needs for upgrades and other improvements to our infrastructure. There was also a commitment by the Federal Government to develop an innovation strategy and to invest a significant amount, 800 million dollars over 4 years starting next fiscal year, to support innovation networks and clusters. Given the strength that SFU has already established in terms of our innovation networks, our incubation acceleration facilities, our student entrepreneurship and student incubation, we may be able to take advantage of some of that funding to further contribute in these areas. There was also support in for new co-op placements and work integrated learning opportunities.

The Chair reported that the BC Government announced 14 million dollars in funding to SFU from the BC Knowledge Development Fund, which matches the federal Canadian Foundation for Innovation funding for research infrastructure. 11.9 million dollars will go towards the development of the National Data Centre at SFU as part of the Advanced Research Computing Platform managed by Compute Canada. The remaining 2.1 million dollars will be distributed amongst four other projects: 1 million dollars to support SFU's participation in GlycoScreen, the Alberta-BC Glycan Screening Centre; 0.5 million dollars to provide support for participation in the GRIFFIN spectrometer project; 410 thousand dollars to support the Silicon Quantum Information Laboratory for research and development in quantum information technologies; and 200 thousand dollars for purchase of a new high resolution mass spectrometer.

The Chair announced 1.4 million dollars in funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for two SFU E-Health research initiatives: *Pill Talk*, led by Communications Professor Ellen Balka, is a software application that promotes better documentation reporting in communication of adverse drug effects and Dr. Balka is working with funding partners such as

the BC college of Pharmacists, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, and Federal Emergency Management Agency; and Dr. Scott Lear, Professor of Health Sciences, in collaboration with the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation will use part of the funding to advance *Curatio*, a digital health platform providing private support networks for heart disease patients. Both projects pair university researchers with companies to utilize expert input from diverse innovation communities and co-develop solutions that will improve health outcomes for Canadians.

The Chair reported that two SFU faculty members in Computing Science will receive almost a million dollars in funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. Professor Greg Mori will receive 528 thousand dollars to develop computer algorithms that automate sports analytics, and Professor Mohammad Hefeeda will receive 445 thousand dollars to design cloud support systems for streaming feature rich videos over mobile networks. These grants build on our track record of using data intensive approaches to produce innovative breakthroughs in the world of technology. The Chair noted that in terms of our research income this year we have again seen a significant increase. The research income for 2015 is over 117 million dollars, which is a 14 percent increase over 2014, a 34 percent increase over 5 years, and a testament to the strength of our research community.

The Chair noted some recent and upcoming events: our first visitor under the India Council for Cultural Relations Visiting Scholar Program, Dr. Envida Abby, who is President of the Linguistic Society of India and former Professor of Linguistics at Jawaharlal Nehru University, gave a lecture on the dying languages of the Andaman islands. Dr. Abby is also here teaching and engaged in research around the Haida language because of her interest in languages that are threatened or endangered. This program will enable us to bring in a visitor from India each Fall and Spring semester for the next five years and hopefully beyond that; the 50th anniversary exhibition opening of the SFU Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology took place last week with representatives from the Indonesian Consulate; on April 5 the President's Dream Colloquium on Big Data features activist and whistleblower Edward Snowden at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre; from April 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> we have the North West Commission on Colleges and Universities Accreditation Site Visit – a visit that will hopefully lead to our accreditation; and from May 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> is the upcoming Burnaby Festival of Learning which we are co-sponsoring with the city of Burnaby.

## 5. Question Period

There were no questions submitted for question period.

## 6. Reports of Committees

### A) Senate Appeals Board (SAB)

#### i) Annual Report (S.16-36)

Senate received for information the Senate Appeals Board Annual Report for 2015.

Mary Catherine Kropinski (Chair, SAB) was in attendance to respond to questions.

### B) Senate Committee on International Activities (SCIA)

#### i) Annual Report (S.16-37)

Senate received for information the Senate Committee on International Activities Annual Report for 2015.

Joy Johnson, Vice-President, Research, was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was asked regarding SFU's connection to UrtheCast Corp. Senate was informed that the Faculty of Applied Sciences collaborates with UrtheCast, who specialize in producing images captured with a camera they have mounted on the International Space Station. Applied Sciences is in the process of establishing a partnership where core students can spend time at the company, or form research collaborations between certain faculty members and the company.

**C) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)**

**i) Revised Membership (S.16-38)**

Motion moved by J. Driver, seconded by P. Percival

"That Senate approve the revised membership for the Senate Committee on University Priorities, effective immediately."

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**ii) Terms of Reference for the Edward and Emily McWhinney Professorship (S.16-39) in International Relations**

Motion moved by J. Driver, seconded by P. Percival

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Terms of Reference for the Edward and Emily McWhinney Professorship in International Relations."

André Gerolymatos, Director - Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre for Hellenic Studies, and Chris Arnet, Executive Director - Advancement, were in attendance to respond to questions.

A comment was made to clarify that an incomplete document was distributed for the March 2<sup>nd</sup> SCUP meeting, thus conversation on this topic was halted and no vote was taken. After the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting a second document was electronically circulated to SCUP containing additional information. Members of SCUP were able to submit questions at the same time as they voted, with answers to those questions provided alongside the voting results.

A question was asked whether term limits should appear in the terms of reference. Senate was informed that in accordance with policy A10.06 the terms of reference for this position state that the holder will be normally be selected for a minimum of 5 years and a maximum of 10 years, and the appointment may be renewed.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**D) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)**

**i) IP Notation (S.16-40)**

Motion moved by G. Myers, seconded by C. Percival

"That Senate approve the following calendar language changes:

FROM:

'An In Progress grade of IP is a temporary grade assigned for incomplete practicum courses in the Faculty of Education. The grade has no numerical equivalent and is not included in the grade point average. IP grades will convert to P or W.

TO:

'In Progress (IP) is a notation assigned i) in the first term of a two term thesis course, ii) in the first term(s) of a multi-term course or iii) to Education 404, (course work semester). The notation has no numerical equivalent and is not included in the grade point average.”

RATIONALE: To provide flexibility for academic programming when appropriate.

A question was asked about theses that last more than two terms. Senate was informed that *part ii* of the motion would cover this scenario.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

**ii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences (S.16-41)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing programs and courses in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering, School of Computing Science).

A comment was made that since CMPT 320 *Social Implications for Computer Society* was established in 1973 it is no longer relevant to current students who grew up with computers as a fundamental part of their daily lives. It was suggested that Computing Science students would benefit more from a newly created course along the lines of Engineering 406 *Engineering Ethics, Law, and Professional Practice*. Senate was informed that because the course has been around for so long it has proven its value, as it is important for graduates of Computing Science to learn about the social implications of computer science.

**iii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (S.16-42)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing programs and courses in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (English, First Nations Studies, French, History, School for International Studies, Labour Studies Program, Linguistics, Philosophy, Political Science, Sociology and Anthropology, World Literature Program).

A question was asked if the course proposal for SA 257 should have been approved if it overlaps with the existing STAT 203. Senate was informed that there is within SCUS a process for dealing with potential overlaps and in the case of SA 257 it was agreed by those involved that this course should proceed.

**iv) Curriculum Revisions – Beedie school of Business (S.16-43)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to an existing programs and courses in the Beedie school of Business.

**v) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (S.16-44)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing programs and courses in the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (School for the Contemporary Arts, School of Communication, School of Interactive Arts and Technology).

**vi) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Education (S.16-45)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to an existing course in the Faculty of Education.

**vii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.16-46)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing programs and courses in the Faculty of Science (Physics).

**E) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)****i) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (S.16-47)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing programs and courses in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (School of Criminology, French, Humanities, Political Science).

**ii) Curriculum Revisions – Beedie School of Business (S.16-48)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing programs and courses in the Beedie School of Business.

A question was asked about when those applicants required to write the GMAT will be informed of this requirement. Senate was informed that this decision will be made at the time of the application and be based on the information they have received.

**iii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.16-49)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to an existing course in the Faculty of Science (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry).

**iv) Curriculum Revisions – Special Arrangement Program (S.16-50)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing courses in the Special Arrangement Program.

**v) Proposal for Professional Master's Program in Terrorism, Risk, and Security Studies (Cohort Special Arrangement Program) (S.16-51)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the Cohort Special Arrangement proposal for a Professional Master's Program in Terrorism, Risk, and Security Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and forwarded it to SCUP for information.

Garth Davies, Associate Professor - Criminology, Andre Gerolymatos, Director - Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre for Hellenic Studies, and Martin Andresen, Professor and Associate Director of Graduate Programs - Criminology, were in attendance to respond to questions.

A comment was made that when describing online curriculum it is very important to be clear as to which components are face to face and which are online, and then to clearly define the nature of those components.

A suggestion was made that *on* instead of *in* should be used in the naming of this program. Senate was informed that this suggestion would be accepted.

A comment was made that S.16-51 does not provide specific and measurable learning outcomes. Senate was informed that this proposal was completed before the learning outcomes were known and that this program's learning outcomes will adhere to university policy. It was noted this is a cohort Special Arrangement Program which will be tested for about 3 years, with a full program proposal anticipated in the second year.

**F) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)**

**i) Elections by Senate (S.16-52)**

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

**7. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**8. Information**

**i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, May 16, 2016.**

Open session adjourned at 6:15 p.m. and Senate moved into the closed session.

Rummana Khan Hemani  
Registrar (pro tem)