



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, May 16, 2016 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

Open Session

Present: Andrew Petter, Chair

Baharmand, Iman
Birmingham, Elina
Brennand, Tracy
Budra, Paul
Burley, David
Chapman, Glenn
Dastmalchian, Ali
Driver, Jon
Druick, Zoe (for Aoife Mac Namara)
Eikerling, Michael
Gajdics, Sylvia
Galilee, Patty (for Gwen Bird)
Glässer, Uwe
Hans, Paul
Haunerland, Norbert (for Joy Johnson)
Jermias, Johnny
Laitsch, Dan
Leacock, Tracey
Liljedahl, Peter (for Wade Parkhouse)
MacAlister, David
Magnusson, Kris
McTavish, Rob
Myers, Gordon
Najaf, Ali
Pappas, Panayiotis
Paterson, David
Percival, Colin
Percival, Paul
Peters, Joseph
Pulkingham, Jane
Somers, Julian
Spector, Stephen
Tabin, Yvonne
Tingling, Peter
Williams, Tony
Yang, Kathleen
Yano, Brady

Absent:

Abramson, Neil
Bartram, Lyn
Bird, Gwen
Chen, Larissa
Cupples, Claire
Easton, Stephen
Giardini, Anne
Hedley, Nick
Johnson, Joy
Kessler, Anke
Kirkpatrick, Ted
Kropinski, Mary-Catherine
Lewthwaite, Jayme
Mac Namara, Aoife
Marks, Laura
Menon, Carlo
Mundy, Arjan
Nabbali, Essya Mabrouka
Nanjundappa, Abhishek
Ng, Dorothy
O'Neil, John
Parkhouse, Wade
Shaw, Chris
Stefanovic, Ingrid
Szymczyk, Barbara
Weng, Enoch
Zaranyika, Rudo

In Attendance:

Cardozo, Nancy
Hinchliffe, Jo
Teepel, Gary

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on April 4, 2016

The minutes of the open session on April 4, 2016 were approved as distributed, with one correction.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

At the July 2015 Senate meeting a question was asked regarding the adding of majors to the parchment. A response was provided at the September 2015 Senate meeting citing a cross-country survey and stating a target date of June 2016 for implementation. Senate was informed that further consultation needs to occur with the faculties, especially around the issue of adding double minors to the parchment.

4. Report of the Chair

The Chair reported that the deadline to apply for funding from the \$2 billion Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund was moved up to May 9th. A willingness by the province to entertain cost-sharing proposals meant that SFU was able to put before the province, and then the federal government, proposals for infrastructure investments that could meet the very aggressive timelines of the program, which are to have the infrastructure substantially completed within a two-year window. We were able to put forward two major proposals, both of which reflect the highest priorities within the deferred maintenance or replacement categories. In the replacement category we have proposed a Life Sciences Building to replace the Biology Building. Though the focus of the federal initiative is on research, this new the building would not be exclusively for research. It would include educational and lab facilities, allowing for more interdisciplinary activity. Our second proposal is for a new facility at the Surrey campus which is being called a Sustainable Energy and Environmental Engineering Building. It would accommodate the current Mechatronic labs located at the Surrey City Center. It would also accommodate a new program in Energy and Environmental Engineering. If approved, we would see significant opportunities for replacement of a high priority building and the development of a high priority expansion facility that would help us better accommodate the needs of the Surrey campus, particularly in respect to Mechatronics.

The Chair noted a proposal advanced by the University of Victoria for major upgrades to the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre. Programming is shared by SFU with four other universities (University of Victoria, University of British Columbia, University of Calgary, and the University of Alberta) and would require us to provide funding of \$300,000 over two years.

The Chair reported that a number of deans, vice-presidents, and faculty members participated in a two-day mission to Ottawa. With the federal government announcing the development of an innovation agenda, allocating \$800 million dollars over four years starting in 2017, the goal of this mission was to strengthen SFU's profile and better position ourselves to take advantage of this funding. We presented to the Liberal Post-Secondary Education and Innovation Caucus, met with key government officials, and held meetings with Universities Canada, who represent our and other universities' interests in Ottawa.

The Chair reported on meetings in Ottawa with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, to brief them on the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) and SFU's role as Canadian executing agency - meaning we are the deliverer of Canadian research funds to the CCICED, which provides high-

level research and advice to the government of China on matters concerning the environment and development. This meeting was to brief the new minister about the Council, about its importance, and about the importance of Canada's role. SFU's role as executing agency is also mirrored by a second role, which is to be the international representative of the Secretariat. As a result we have a unique role and relationship as an important provider of research and information on environment and development issues in respect of China.

The Chair reported that in the QS World University Rankings by Subject, SFU featured among the world's elite institutions in 18 of the 42 subjects. We ranked among the top 5 in Canada in archaeology (number 4), computer science (number 5), and social policy and administration (number 5). Our Geography and Archaeology are ranked in the top 100 globally, while scores for computer science, psychology, geography and mathematics are in the top 20% globally.

The Chair noted the launch of the SFU Innovates microsite on May 2nd, which serves as a hub for researchers, students, entrepreneurs, partners and others interested in SFU's innovation activities.

The Chair noted that SFU sponsored the 6th annual SFU Opportunity Fest at SFU Surrey, which is a community event hosted by the Beedie School of Business, involving about 40 student competitors who showcased their entrepreneurial spirit through a diversity of projects.

The Chair recognized a number of awards and honours: Martin Andresen, Professor of Criminology, received the 2016 Western Society of Criminology Fellows Award for important contributions to the field. Working with data from SFU's Institute for Canadian Urban Research Studies (ICURS), Dr. Andresen's research analyzes individual crime types at the micro-spatial scale, knowledge that is relevant to crime prevention; Kieran Egan, Professor of Education, won the Paz Buttedahl Career Achievement Award for his community contributions outside of academia. Kieran also won the Cmolik Prize for Enhancement of Public Education in B.C in the same month; and Meghan Winters, Assistant Professor in Health Sciences received the Early in Career Award from CUFA BC for her public policy contributions and community outreach.

The Chair noted some recent and upcoming events: the sold-out Edward Snowden event at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre on April 5th, with 3,000 people in attendance and about 6,000 viewers online; alumni receptions recently held in Edmonton (April 12) and Toronto (April 28) in conjunction with the 50th anniversary; the Burnaby Festival of Learning from May 1-7, in which we co-presented with the City of Burnaby; the Alumni Association AGM on May 26th at the Segal Graduate School of Business; and the SFU Athletics Scholarship Breakfast on May 30th at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

The Chair, on behalf of Senate, expressed appreciation to the following Senators whose terms of office expire on May 31, 2016: Stephen Easton; Michael Eikerling; Johnny Jermias; Anke Kessler; Laura Marks; Carlo Menon; Arjan Mundy; Essya Mabrouka Nabbali; Ali Najaf; Abhishek Nanjundappa; Dorothy Ng; Panayiotis Pappas; Julian Somers; Enoch Weng; Kathleen Yang; Brady Yano; Rudo Zaranyika.

A question was asked about what the total request amount was for our infrastructure needs. Senate was informed that for the Life Sciences Building the request is for \$62.5 million, with a \$20 million fit-out to be done after the second year. For the Sustainable Energy and Environmental Engineering Building the request is between \$75 and \$90 million, with a

subsequent fit-out of \$10 to \$25 million depending upon how much can be completed within that two-year window.

A question was asked about how the remaining money would be raised for these new infrastructure projects. Senate was informed that for the Life Sciences Building SFU would cost-share the remaining \$20 million with the provincial government. The \$10 million is subject to SFU getting increased funding from internal financing. In the case of the Sustainable Energy and Environmental Engineering Building the remaining fit-outs are costs that can hopefully be secured in combination with the province, perhaps from Canada Foundation for Innovation and/or from Western Economic Diversification. We would at minimum have two of the floors completed in Surrey, fully accommodating the Mechatronics program, but hope to have three completed.

5. **Question Period**

A question was asked if a new timeline has been established for the adding of majors to the parchment. Senate was informed that consultation will begin after the June Convocation, but due to the potential need for systems changes no specific end date could be provided.

6. **Reports of Committees**

A) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)

i) Annual Report (For Information) (S.16-53)

Senate received for information the Senate Committee on University Priorities Annual Report for 2015-2016.

ii) External Reviews for 2016 – 2017 Academic Year (For Information) (S.16-54)

Senate received for information the list of external reviews and external review updates that are scheduled for the 2016 - 2017 academic year.

iii) Hellenic Studies Professorship (For Information) (S.16-55)

Senate received for information the proposal to create the Hellenic Studies Professorship in Aegean and Mediterranean Societies and Cultures of the Modern Era.

iv) Terms of Reference for the Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation Clinical Care Research Professorship (S.16-56)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by S. Spector

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Terms of Reference for the Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation Clinical Care Research Professorship.”

Nancy Cardozo (Director of Advancement, Faculty of Science) was in attendance to respond to questions.

It was noted that embedded in this item is a naming provision requiring the consultation of Senate.

An observation was made that the document sent to Senate contained a prematurely added signature. Senate was informed that this was an oversight and efforts would be made to prevent this from reoccurring.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

v) Full Program Proposal for a Major in Labour Studies (S.16-57)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by P. Budra

“That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Full Program Proposal for a Major in Labour Studies in the Labour Studies Program within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Spring 2017.

Gary Teeple (Director, Labour Studies Program and the Morgan Centre for Labour Research) was in attendance to respond to questions.

A question was asked about having potential employment opportunities for graduates assessed by an independent party, rather than relying upon the program to comment on their own prospects. Senate was informed that we have recently received new instructions from the Ministry about the kind of information that has to be submitted with new program proposals, and given the increased interest in aligning the post-secondary sector with the labor market we have been instructed to include information about the employability of graduates. In certain fields there is a strong relationship between the degree that a student obtains and their future employment prospects. Analysis shows that graduates, particularly of social science programs, end up in a wide of range of jobs once they graduate. Though it can be difficult to predict exactly how a degree will translate into employability, regardless of the program, SFU graduates tend to have very good employment prospects.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

B) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

i) School of Interactive Art and Technology Admission Requirement Changes (S.16-58)

Moved by G. Myers, seconded by T. Leacock

“That Senate approve the admission requirement changes for post-secondary transfer students in the School of Interactive Art and Technology within the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology.”

A request was made to elaborate on the rationale behind this admission requirement change. Senate was informed that the language on the program page needed to be consistent with the language used on the SFU Admissions page. The content was the same but the wording was different and the unit wanted to follow what was on the Admissions page.

A question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (For Information) (S.16-59)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to an existing course in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (History).

iii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Health Sciences (For Information) (S.16-60)

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 Health Sciences.

iv) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (For Information) (S.16-61)

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, Biological Sciences, Earth Sciences, Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology).

A question was asked about Physics not allowing substitutions for certain prerequisites, when these changes are taking affect and how many students will be impacted if they in good faith took equivalent courses now not considered to be official prerequisites. Senate was informed that these changes are effective Spring 2017, and in such cases we would always try to do what is to the student's advantage.

A question was asked about the rationale for students being eligible to receive a Bachelor of Science degree after the completion of their second year of professional study if they have completed at least 90 units. Senate was informed that this is a way of encouraging students to do their pre-medical studies at SFU rather than at another university and it is meant to make the procedures somewhat parallel between students that do their basic sciences at SFU before going into a clinical program and students who complete the pre-med program at UBC.

C) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)

i) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (For Information) (S.16-62)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to a course in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Urban Studies Program).

ii) Proposal for Graduate Certificate in Professional Heritage Resource Management (Cohort Special Arrangement) (For Information) (S.16-63)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved the Cohort Special Arrangement proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Professional Heritage Resource Management in the Faculty of Environment, effective Fall 2016.

7. Other Business

i) TFFE Action Plan (S.16-64)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by T. Leacock

“That Senate approve the action plan for the implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force on Flexible Education.”

A request was made to expand upon if and how recommendations for flexible education will be funded. Senate was informed that we already put a lot of resources into support for Teaching and Learning, so some of the recommendations in the task force report are more about reorienting existing units and using resources in a different manner rather than directing new resources to these initiatives. Until an audit is done, it's unlikely new resources would be devoted until we have accessed current activities and whether we are using our current resources effectively.

A comment was made on how the inability to access reliable wifi runs counter to implementing remote learning or online flexibility, and that a priority should be made to provide each student and classroom with access to SFUNet-Secure.

A comment was made in support of utilizing existing support structures for Teaching and Learning rather than focusing on the creation of new services. Instead of splintering resources we should look to raise awareness of current services and fully utilize what is already available.

A question was asked if there will be any support for Teaching and Learning at the Surrey and Harbour Centre campuses. Senate was informed that there is a tendency to centralize services on the Burnaby campus and increasing support beyond Burnaby is something we need to assess and consider.

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Election Report to Senate (For Information) (S.16-65)

Senate received for information a summary of the results of the student election for positions on Senate, the Board of Governors, the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, and the results of the faculty election for positions on Senate and the Board of Governors.

Senator Paul Percival reported that the Electoral Standing Committee (ESC) received and considered several complaints alleging misconduct in this election. After due deliberation, the ESC disqualified two students.

8. Information

i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, June 6, 2016.

Open session adjourned at 6:27 p.m. and Senate moved into the closed session.

Rummana Khan Hemani
Registrar (pro tem)