



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, February 4, 2019 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

Open Session

Present: Peter Tingling, Vice-Chair

Ali, Mohammed
Bartram, Lyn (via Surrey videoconference)
Bhalla, Srishti
Collard, Mark
Dangi, Ridhi
Dastmalchian, Ali (via Vancouver videoconference)
Derksen, Jeff
Elle, Elizabeth
Elmi, Parham
Fiume, Eugene
Gallilee, Patty (for Gwen Bird)
Kalra, Mehak
Laitsch, Dan (via Surrey videoconference)
Leacock, Tracey
Leznoff, Daniel
Lord Ferguson, Sarah (via Vancouver videoconference)
Luu, Susan
Magnusson, Kris
Moens, Alexander
Mohar, Amrita
Mongrain, Steeve
Myers, Gord
Nepomnaschy, Pablo
O'Neil, Dugan (for Joy Johnson)
Parkhouse, Wade
Percival, Colin
Peters, Joseph
Planchenault, Gaelle
Plettner, Erika
Poitras, Geoffrey
Pulkingham, Jane (via Vancouver videoconference)
Scott, Jamie
Sheikh, Daanyaal
Stockie, John
Tavakoli, Camelia
Walsby, Charles
Wiese, Kay
Zanette, Amanda

Rummana Khan Hemani, Registrar
Steven Noel, Recording Secretary

Absent:

Andersen, Holly
Bird, Gwen
Brennand, Tracy
Bubela, Tania
Buttar, Sumrit Singh
Chandhok, Vikramaditya
Chapman, Glenn
Christians, Julian
Denholm, Julia
Favere-Marchesi, Michael
Forde, Nancy
Freedman, Jackson
Gajdics, Sylvia
Giardini, Anne
Gray, Bonnie
Hendrigan, Holly
Ho, Shuna
Johnson, Joy
Keliipio, Kau'i
Keller, Peter
Kench, Paul
Kim, Woo Soo
Luelfesmann, Christoph
Mac Namara, Aoife
O'Neill, Susan
Parent, Michael
Petter, Andrew
Randhawa, Jaskarn
Sanghera, Simran
Shaw, Chris
Somers, Julian
Stefanovic, Ingrid

In Attendance:

Bhakthan, Manoj
Dawson, Rachel
Nordgren, Kris
Spector, Stephen

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on January 7, 2019

The minutes of the open session on January 7, 2019 were approved as distributed.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Report of the Chair

The Vice-Chair noted the regrets of the Chair, who is away for personal reasons.

The Vice-Chair reported that a new *AGE-WELL National Innovation Hub* was recently announced at SFU's Surrey campus, together with \$3.5 million in funding from *Western Economic Diversification Canada*. The hub will address aging challenges through digital technologies aimed at improving seniors' quality of life.

The Vice-Chair reported that the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology welcomed *Canada 150 Research Chair in New Media* Wendy Hui Kyong Chun at a reception in mid-January. Chun joins FCAT's School of Communication and will lead the University's Digital Democracies Group.

The Vice-Chair reported that President Petter and Vice-President, Research and International Joy Johnson led a ten-day SFU mission to Jaipur, Mumbai, and Delhi to develop and strengthen educational, research and cultural relationships with key partners in India. President Petter will report more fully on this mission at the next Senate meeting.

The Vice-Chair reported that SFU and the *Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee* signed a collaborated Relationship Agreement in early January that builds on the University's continuing commitment to be an instrument for reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. Pursuant to the agreement, SFU and the Leadership Committee will work together to better address the educational, research and community engagement needs of Surrey's rapidly growing urban Indigenous population.

The Vice-Chair reported that on January 11-13, the Beedie School of Business, for the first time, hosted *JDC West*, Western Canada's biggest and most prestigious business competition. The competition brought about 1,300 attendees to SFU, with SFU emerging as the overall winner.

The Vice-Chair reported that SFU Public Square's 7th annual Community Summit, *Confronting the Disinformation Age*, will be held April 10-18. The summit will explore how a proliferation of disinformation is impacting society and challenging citizens' ability to make informed decisions about their economic, social and political lives. Early bird tickets are now available for the April 16th keynote event, presented in partnership with *Vancity* at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. The event will feature three leading Canadian commentators - David Frum, Sue Gardener and Christopher Wylie. The conversation, moderated by the CBC's Ian Hanomansing, will consider the distortion of our information landscape and what we can do together to confront it. Full program details for all Community Summit activities, including an event showcasing SFU research, will be announced mid-February.

5. Question Period

No questions were submitted.

6. Reports of Committees**A) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)****i) Program Changes (S.19-25)**

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made program changes in the Faculty of Environment (Geography, School of Environmental Science).

ii) New Course Proposals (S.19-26)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved new course proposals in the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management, Geography), and the Faculty of Science (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry).

iii) Course Changes (S.19-27)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, approved course changes in the Faculty of Environment (School of Resource and Environmental Management, Geography, School of Environmental Science), and the Faculty of Science (Earth Sciences, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry).

B) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)**i) Program Changes (S.19-28)**

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, approved program changes in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (Sustainable Energy Engineering).

C) Senate Nominating Committee (SNC)**i) Senate Committee Elections (S.19-29)**

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

D) Senate Policy Committee on Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries (SPCSAB)**i) Annual Report 2017-2018 (S.19-30)**

Senate received the Senate Policy Committee on Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries Annual Report 2017-2018 for information.

Noting a practice of redistributing approximately 25% of international tuition fees back into international bursaries, a question was asked if any thought has been given to reconsidering this practice. Senate was informed that consideration has not been given to changing this practice. It was noted that the 25% redistribution doesn't solely go towards bursaries, but to other support services for international students as well.

A comment was made that it would be useful to see the breakdown of bursary distribution by country, adding that if the goal is to diversify the international student population, bursaries are not the means by which to do so.

A comment was made to clarify that bursaries are need-based and not intended to identify students based on their academic merits. If eligible, students receive bursary funding mid-way through the term thereby allowing them to complete their semester.

7. Other Business

8. Information

i) **Date of the next regular meeting – – Monday, March 4, 2019.**

Open session adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Rummana Khan Hemani
Registrar