



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Senate of Simon Fraser University held on
Monday, November 2, 2015 at 5:30 pm at the West Mall Complex (Room 3210)

Open Session

Present: Andrew Petter, Chair

Baharmand, Iman
Bird, Gwen
Brennand, Tracy
Budra, Paul
Burley, David
Chapman, Glenn
Chen, Larissa
Craig, John
Curry, Joanne
Driver, Jon
Easton, Stephen
Glässer, Uwe
Hedley, Nick
Hinchliffe, Jo
Johnson, Joy
Kessler, Anke
Kirkpatrick, Ted
Laitsch, Dan
Leacock, Tracey
Lewthwaite, Jayme
MacAlister, David
Mac Namara, Aoife
Magnusson, Kris
Markey, Sean (for I. Stefanovic)
Marks, Laura
McTavish, Rob
Menon, Carlo
Myers, Gordon
Najaf, Ali
Nanjundappa, Abhishek
Ng, Dorothy
Parkhouse, Wade
Paterson, David
Percival, Colin
Percival, Paul

Peters, Joseph
Reich, Blaize
Ruben, Peter (for C. Cupples)
Spector, Stephen
Tingling, Peter
Weng, Enoch
Williams, Tony
Yang, Kathleen
Yano, Brady
Zaranyika, Rudo

Absent:

Abramson, Neil
Arzanpour, Siamak
Bartram, Lyn
Birmingham, Elina
Cupples, Claire
Eikerling, Michael
Gajdics, Sylvia
Giardini, Anne
Hans, Prabhpal
Jermias, Johnny
Kropinski, Mary-Catherine
Murray, Catherine
Nabbali, Essya Mabrouka
O'Neil, John
Shaw, Chris
Somers, Julian
Stefanovic, Ingrid
Szymczyk, Barbara

In Attendance:

Volcoff, Olga

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session on October 5, 2015

The minutes of the open session on October 5, 2015 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, on behalf of Senate, welcomed the following new Senators:

Faculty Senators: Carlo Menon; Joseph Peters; Tony Williams

The Chair reported that Maclean's has again ranked SFU as Canada's top comprehensive university. Success with faculty and student awards, along with research performance, were noted as contributing factors. Also, Research Infosource ranked SFU first in the comprehensive university category for our research impact, third in publication output, and first among comprehensive universities for partnerships and non-profit organizations.

The Chair noted that the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education released its 2015 Sustainable Campus index, with SFU being one of four Canadian institutions featured as Rising Stars – meaning they increased by more than 15 points over last year. Also, SFU was one of ten Canadian universities to get a gold rating in respect of our commitment to sustainability.

The Chair reported that Chancellor Anne Giardini received a Lifetime Achievement award that will be presented to her by the Western Canada General Counsel Awards. Also, The Chair reported the winning of the Governor General's Literary Award for non-fiction by Mark Winston, for his book "Bee Time: Lessons from the Hive." The jury statement read: "...Winston distills a life's devotion to the study of bees into a powerful and lyrical meditation on humanity. This compelling book inspires us to reevaluate our own relationships both with each other and the natural world. Vital reading for our time."

The Chair noted that SFU VentureLabs is again listed as BC's top-performing accelerator in capital formation. In the latest quarterly report from the BC Acceleration Network, VentureLabs attracted \$9 million in new private investment in the first quarter of 2015/2016.

As part of SFU's 50th Anniversary celebrations, the Chair reported that the VP Research has created a website showcasing how discovery, collaboration, and innovation can drive SFU research.

The Chair noted the success of the Fall Convocation ceremonies, featuring Charter Alumni and notable honorary degree recipients Sut Jhally, Bill Nye, Harry Gray, and Nancy Turner. Each recipient expressed how special it was to be part of SFU's 50th Anniversary Convocation.

The Chair reported that, on behalf of the university, he appeared before the province's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services, speaking in support of the Research Universities' Council of BC presentation, which called for a major reinvestment of the \$50

million that has been cut by the province over the last three years. Focus was placed on deferred maintenance needs on the Burnaby campus, and on our aspirations for expansion of the Surrey campus. The Chair congratulated the GSS and the SFSS who also made powerful presentations from a student perspective speaking to many of the same needs.

The Chair reported news of a settlement process that has brought the TSSU strike to an end. Grades are now in the process of being returned and Senate will no longer have to deal with figuring out what to do with incomplete transcripts resulting from job action. Bargaining is not over but because there is now a process to bring outstanding issues to a final conclusion through final offer selection, both sides have agreed to treat this as a settlement, which means job action will cease.

The Chair informed Senate that the Vice President, External Relations search process has begun, and an open forum will be held to get community input on the kinds of qualifications that people would like to see in a new Vice President, External Relations. The forum takes place Thursday, November 5 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

The Chair noted that if you walk through the AQ you will see Bill Reid's Black Eagle canoe - a replica produced under the oversight of Bill Reid. The Chair thanked Facilities, and Rob Gordon, for their work in bringing the canoe to SFU, making it a wonderful addition to the Bill Reid Gallery and Collection.

The Chair reported on some recent events: our first President's Faculty lecture with Krishna Pendakur took place at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts in Burnaby; Jack P. Blaney Award for Dialogue winner Tim Flannery gave a lecture hosted by the Centre for Dialogue; the Vancouver Campus held a well-attended open house; the Surrey campus held its annual Gala Dinner, attended by Surrey mayor Linda Hepner; and Health Sciences held its 10th anniversary dinner event.

The Chair highlighted SFU Public Square's 2015 Community Summit on City-Building entitled "We The City", consisting of a range of activities. The signature event is called "An Evening at the Centre", featuring Buffy Sainte-Marie. She, along with Teju Cole, will be speaking about the role of arts in city-building.

5. Question Period

There were no questions submitted for question period.

6. Reports of Committees

A) Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP)

i) Dissolution of the Centre for Workplace Health and Safety (S.15-124)

Moved by J. Driver, seconded by S. Spector

"That Senate approve the dissolution of the Centre for Workplace Health and Safety as a Research Centre."

Question was called and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

ii) Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: External Review Update for the Department of English (S.15-125)

Senate received for information the External Review Update Report for the Department of English.

iii) Renaming of the Dena Wosk Professor of Arts & Culture in the School for Contemporary Arts (S.15-126)

Senate received for information the proposal for renaming the Dena Wosk Professor of Arts & Culture in the School for the Contemporary Arts to the Grant Strate Professor of Arts & Culture in the School for the Contemporary Arts.

A concern was raised that approval for this renaming was given before it was presented to the Senate Committee on University Priorities, and that in the future consultation should precede approval. The Chair acknowledged that time did not allow for the customary channel of consultation and that efforts should be made to avoid this in the future.

B) Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)

i) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences (S.15-127)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to an existing program and course in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Computing Science).

ii) Curriculum Revisions – Beedie School of Business (S.15-128)

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

iii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (S.15-129)

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

iv) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Science (S.15-130)

Senate received information that the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to an existing program and courses in the Faculty of Science (Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology; Physics)

C) Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)

i) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Applied Sciences (S.15-131)

Senate received information that the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, acting under delegated authority, made revisions to existing programs in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (School of Computing Science; School of Engineering Science).

Clarification was asked regarding the choosing between the course option and the portfolio option within the Master of Engineering program. Senate was informed that the answer would be investigated and provided to Senate at a future meeting.

ii) Curriculum Revisions – Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (S.15-132)

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

A question was asked about how students achieve the 12 units required to complete a PhD in SIAT for students having already completed their master's (MA or MSc). Senate was informed that the answer would be investigated and provided to Senate at a future meeting.

7. Other Business

i) Election Report (S.15-133)

Senate received for information a summary of the results of the faculty election for positions on Senate.

8. Information

i) Date of the next regular meeting – Monday, December 7, 2015.

Senate was informed that, as customary, a holiday dinner would precede the December Senate meeting.

Open session adjourned at 5:54 p.m. and Senate moved into the closed session.

Jo Hinchliffe
Associate Registrar