

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S. 308

MEMORANDUM

To Senate

From L.M. Srivastava

Acting Vice-President, Academic

Subject Constitution of the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board

Date December 29, 1969

The final composition of Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board as passed at the last meeting of Senate (December 8, 1969) is the following:

Academic Vice President - Chairman (non voting, except in case of a tie)

Three faculty members

Three students

Registrar or his designate (non voting)

Director of Admissions (non voting)

Recording Secretary (non voting)

Since this composition is an amended version of the one proposed in paper S.293 presumably other parts of that paper apply. Accordingly:

"One of the three faculty members shall be elected Vice-Chairman and shall serve as Chairman in the absence of the Academic Vice-President. While acting as Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall only vote in case of a tie. This smaller Committee would require a smaller quorum; the Committee recommended that a quorum be four voting members".

It is needless to remind the Senate that the above constitution was arrived at after a lengthy and for most part frustrating debate, rejection of two well thought out proposals, and numerous ad hoc amendments which, while ultimately returning a composition similar to that in the Sayre motion, failed to include those safeguards that are necessary for an adequate functioning of the Admissions Board.

In my opinion this constitution has serious drawbacks and must be amended. For instance:

1. It is a bad practice where major decisions are arrived at by the Chairman's vote; yet the above constitution caters to that situation.
2. In the absence of the Academic Vice-President, the effective voting strength will be reduced to five and a quorum of four is much too high for that situation.
3. It is left undefined how the three faculty members are to be chosen. I think they must be people familiar with undergraduate studies and as such must be drawn from the Undergraduate Curriculum Committees. Their terms of office are undefined.

4. It is not clear how student representatives are to be appointed, what Faculties they would come from and what their terms of office would be.
5. The rationale for both Registrar and Director of Admissions being on the Board is not clear. Two highly paid officials of the University, three if one includes the Academic Vice-President, should not be sitting on the Board when all they can do is provide information.

Accordingly I would recommend the following amended constitution of the Admissions Board and further request that this constitution either be accepted or rejected but not amended in any way.

Amended Constitution of Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board:

1. Academic Vice-President or his designate as Chairman - (non-voting except in case of a tie).
2. Three faculty members, one elected by each Faculty from its Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for a two year term, with provision for an alternate to be named by each Faculty (voting)
3. Three students, one from each Faculty selected by Student Council for one year terms, with provision for an alternate for each student representative (voting)
4. One Senator elected by Senate for a two year term (voting)
5. Director of Admissions (voting)
6. Recording Secretary (non voting)
7. A quorum shall be five voting members.

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