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MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION Senate
FROM Bill Krane, Associate Vice-President, Academic
RE: Department of Archaeology Transfer from Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to Faculty of Environment (SCUP 10-63)

DATE October 8, 2010
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At its September 22, 2010 meeting SCUP reviewed and approved the transfer of the Department of Archaeology from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to the Faculty of Environment, effective April 1, 2011.

Motion

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the transfer of the Department of Archaeology from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to the Faculty of Environment, effective April 1, 2011.

encl.

c: C. D'Andrea
J. Pierce



DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY
MEMORANDUM

To: SFU Senate

From: Catherine D'Andrea, Chair, Archaeology

Re: Department of Archaeology Transfer from FASS to FEnv
Date: 12 October 2010

On 10 September 2009, the Department of Archaeology voted unanimously in favour of the following motion: "to begin the process of transferring the Archaeology Department from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) to the Faculty of the Environment (FEnv)". There are no SFU policies that indicate the correct procedures to follow in such a case, but there was a genuine attempt to make the process as transparent as possible. Appendix 1 summarises the meetings and discussions that have taken place since the beginning of this process.

The rationale behind this decision lies primarily in potential synergies between Archaeology and units in FEnv. This document provides a brief introduction to the Department of Archaeology, and highlights areas where synergies between Archaeology and FEnv have been identified.

The Department of Archaeology

The SFU Archaeology Department is composed of an active group of scholars, staff, and students. We have garnered "an international reputation as one of the top archaeological research and teaching programmes in the world"¹. Despite being one of the smallest units in FASS, our research grant total per FTE faculty has consistently ranked 3rd or 4th in FASS since 2003². Two of our senior faculty members have been recently inducted into the Royal Society of Canada. In addition, two CRC Chairs have been awarded to Archaeology (one joint appointment with REM), and our department is home to the only SSHRC MCRI grant thus far awarded to SFU. The Archaeology Department is recognized as an innovative and research-intensive department and for the integration of archaeological sciences into teaching and research programmes³. Our 15 faculty members embrace a diversity of theoretical perspectives running the archaeological gamut from aboriginal identity to human evolutionary studies. Our mission is to deliver undergraduate and graduate programmes related to archaeology and biological anthropology around the world with a majority of faculty research and expertise centered in the Pacific Rim. The department also holds strengths in archaeological science, environmental archaeology, human evolutionary studies, forensics, heritage management, and First Nations studies. Many faculty conduct research in one or more of these areas. In addition we have a strong interest in applied research and are conducting community-based work both locally and internationally. We believe these strengths position our department well for a transfer to FEnv.

¹ Archaeology Department External Review, 2005.

² Academic Information Report, Office of the VP, Academic, SFU.

³ Archaeology Department External Review 2005.

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In planning for this possible transfer, the Archaeology Department does not expect to experience changes in space allocation, budgets (which include Operating, Laboratory, Museum, TA/TI, Capital Renovations), and we expect to retain all current APSA/CUPE staff positions.

Potential Synergies between Archaeology and Units in FEnv

1. Interdisciplinarity. The Department of Archaeology is similar to the Department of Geography and REM in that our research and teaching spans the humanities, social and natural sciences. We offer undergraduate courses and graduate research opportunities in archaeological sciences (palaeoethnobotany, zooarchaeology, geoarchaeology, materials conservation, archaeometry), social and applied sciences (anthropological archaeology, theory, quantitative methods, cultural resource management), biological sciences (human osteology, human evolutionary studies, forensics, primatology, molecular bioarchaeology), and humanities (cultural history of South Pacific, Pacific Northwest, North & South America, the Far East and Africa, historical archaeology, Indigenous art, museology). We have common interests with Geography in a wide range of areas (GIS/SIS, physical geography, earth sciences, environmental history, the built environment) and currently share field vehicles. Archaeology is interested to jointly develop and cross-list undergraduate courses with REM and Geography to expand our teaching in archaeological science. We already have links with FEnv in terms of a cross-appointment with REM (Welch), faculty collaboration on research projects (Lepofsky), and REM graduate student participation in an archaeological project (D'Andrea). We are enthusiastic about the possibility of naturally-occurring cross-appointments with FEnv, such as a geomorphologist who works on archaeological projects, a biologist involved in Quaternary palaeoenvironmental reconstruction, or a social scientist interested in tourism development and heritage management. Our priority in our next faculty position, as outlined in our 3-year plan, is in the area of archaeological sciences. This position can be formulated to be consistent with FEnv priorities. In addition, we have a long history of involvement with field schools, which could provide excellent opportunities for interdisciplinary research, teaching, and learning.

2. Human-Environment Interactions. Many researchers in FEnv are concerned with examining environment and sustainability with humans as an important component. Archaeology provides a deeper chronological context of human-environmental interactions, examining the impacts of human activities on palaeoenvironments as well as the influence of environments on ancient societies. The majority of Archaeology faculty members have active research programmes in environmental studies broadly defined to include prehistoric human ecology, palaeoecology, human adaptation, ancient and modern resource management, and the built environment (Burley, Collard, D'Andrea, Driver, Hayden, Jamieson, Lepofsky, Muir, Nicholas, ross, Reimer, Skinner, Welch, Yellowhorn, Yang). GIS/SIS and remote sensing is a critical growth area in archaeology and most faculty with ongoing field research programmes employ these methods of analysis (Burley, D'Andrea, Jamieson, Lepofsky, Muir, Reimer, Welch).

3. Past Biodiversity Dynamics. It is increasingly recognized that to evaluate current and future changes in biodiversity, it is necessary to have a robust understanding of biodiversity at different periods in the past (see D. Erwin's "A call to the custodians of deep time" in *Nature* 19 November 2009). Several archaeology faculty members have expertise in the identification of animal/human and plant species from archaeological remains (Collard, D'Andrea, Driver, Lepofsky, Muir, Skinner, Yang). Furthermore, we have four newly-built laboratories and a CFI-funded research facility that support such research (laboratories for ancient DNA, zooarchaeology, palaeoethnobotany, human evolutionary studies, and a

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morphometrics and phylogenetics facility). We propose capitalising on this concentration of expertise and facilities to develop with colleagues in FEnv a research and teaching programme on past biodiversity dynamics, which have been specifically identified as an SFU strength in the draft strategic plan recently circulated by the VP Research. We envisage that this programme may also allow synergies to develop with UBC's Centre for Biodiversity Research, since the latter is entirely focused on current and future biodiversity.

4. First Nations Studies. The Archaeology Department has been a major proponent of SFU's First Nations Studies Programme (FNST), and has been directly involved in all facets of its development. Archaeology is currently the home department for the First Nations programme and we have a joint major with FNST. Our proposed transfer to FEnv would not affect our major with FNST or our association with FNST faculty. Three FNST faculty members are jointly appointed in archaeology and they have project lab space housed within our department. We will continue to support FNST faculty conducting archaeological research in our labs. We envision continued close relationships when FNST becomes a department. Three FNST faculty are actively conducting research relating to archaeological sciences and/or environmental issues. As stated in the draft SFU Strategic Research Plan, First Nations issues in relation to the environment is a priority area for FEnv. Two FNST faculty members are archaeologists who completed part of their education in our department. As such, we are attractive to students of First Nations descent and have had some success in training First Nations students. Currently four of our graduate students have self-identified as being of First Nations descent.

5. Cultural Resource Management & Community Engagement. Cultural resource management is an identified area of growth for our department. It is the research focus of several faculty members (Burley, Lepofsky, Muir, Nicholas) and our CRC Chair jointly appointed with REM (Welch). We were in the advanced planning stages of developing an M.A. in Cultural Resource Management based at Surrey, when two promised positions were frozen. We will continue to explore this option, perhaps as a premium fee programme, which will allow us to take advantage of a growing global demand for professionals in cultural resource management. The department brings with it a history of community engagement in research programmes internationally (Burley, D'Andrea, Jamieson) and with British Columbia and other local First Nations (Lepofsky, Muir, Nicholas, Ross, Reimer, Welch, Yellowhorn). The Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology has been an integral part of the Archaeology Department since its inception in 1968 and as such it also would move to FEnv if approved by Senate. The transfer of the Museum would provide opportunities for collaboration with FEnv units to develop museum and web-based virtual exhibits on environmental history, First Nations studies, and related topics.

6. International Research. The Archaeology Department would increase the international research profile of the FEnv. Currently we have active field research programmes in the Pacific Rim region including Borneo, China, Ecuador, Polynesia, and SE Asia (Burley, Galdikas, Hayden, Jamieson, Lepofsky, Yang) as well as in Jamaica (Burley), USA (Welch, Driver), and Africa/Near East (D'Andrea).

7. Centre for Forensic Research. Archaeology will continue to participate and have a leading role in the Centre for Forensic Research. Several aspects of Forensic Centre research fit well within a FEnv context, including the development of new methods of age at death determination from bone histology; the development of more sensitive DNA techniques for identifications of degraded forensic human remains and endangered or smuggled wild animal and plant species; measurement of physiological stress from human hair morphology;

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predictive archaeological modeling of mass grave locations; and critical analysis of response to mass disasters. Forensic centre members (Skinner, Yang) also regularly participate in case work in collaboration with the BC Coroner's office and have been consulted on high-profile crime cases in the Lower Mainland. Researchers also have directed and participated in international forensic investigations into war crimes and assisted in mass disaster relief efforts.

8. Experiential Learning. We have an internationally acclaimed undergraduate programme including a significant focus on laboratory courses. We are committed to the continuation of our field schools which have taken place in British Columbia (Lepofsky, Muir, Nicholas, Welch), China (Yang) and the South Pacific (Burley). We believe there is great potential in developing joint field schools between archaeology and FEnv units. Our graduate programme has been very successful and is strongly oriented toward field-based research.



Enclosures (2)

cc: John Pierce, Dean, Faculty of the Environment
John Craig, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
File

Appendix 1

At an Archaeology Department Faculty meeting held on 12 March, 2009, it was suggested that we consider the possibility of transferring from FASS to FEnv. The Dean of FEnv (John Pierce) was informed shortly after the meeting and stated that he was open to further discussion of this matter. On 25 March 2009, I met with the Dean of FASS (Lesley Cormack) and informed her about the faculty meeting and that I would be gathering information and preparing a document over the summer on the feasibility of such a transfer. She requested that I keep her informed of any developments. On 7 April 2009, Ken Lertzman (Chair of REM), Dave Burley (Archaeology), and I met with John Pierce. John and Ken advised us on how best to approach a transfer and directed me to relevant documents about the new faculty. I completed a discussion paper outlining potential impacts of such a transfer, which was circulated to Archaeology Department members and discussed at a faculty meeting on 10 September 2009. After discussion, a vote was taken in favour of proceeding with the move. I requested a meeting with Lesley Cormack which took place on 14 September 2009, during which I informed her of the outcome of the vote. She supported the decision and did not raise any significant objections or concerns (see enclosed memo from John Craig, Dean Pro Tem, FASS).

Over the next few months an ad-hoc committee of Archaeology faculty (Dana Lepofsky, Mark Collard, and I) met with the FEnv Dean's Advisory Committee (2 February 2010), and we were invited to faculty meetings in REM (8 February 2010), and Geography (18 March 2010). We circulated the discussion document as well as a list of publications by Archaeology faculty that outlined our contributions to human environmental studies (broadly defined). Support for the possible move was indicated at these meetings. In addition discussions took place between John Pierce and Lesley Cormack. Preliminary discussions also took place on 9 September 2010 at a meeting chaired by Sarah Dench (Director University Curriculum and Institutional Liaison) and included Paul Budra (Associate Dean, FASS), Paul McFetridge (Associate Dean, FASS), Michele Black (Manager, Academic Programmes and Services, FEnv), Chris Papianni (Department Manager, ARCH), and Shannon Wood (Laboratory Manager, ARCH). The purpose of the meeting was to explore any issues that may arise if the move were approved by Senate.

A revised document was circulated to SCUP. John Pierce and I met with SCUP on 22 September 2010, and several issues were raised by the committee. SCUP members stated that the document to be circulated to Senate should include a written statement from the Dean of FASS and they suggested that we be more explicit about the process followed. Consequently, this current document is a revision of that presented to SCUP and now includes a description of procedures, a letter from the current Dean of FASS, and other modifications.



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ATTENTION Cathy D'Andrea, Chair, Archaeology

FROM John Craig, Dean Pro Tem

RE Transfer to Faculty of Environment

DATE September 27, 2010

The proposal to transfer the Department of Archaeology from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to the Faculty of Environment had the full support of Dr Lesley Cormack, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (2007-2010). Dean Cormack was first made aware of the proposal to transfer on 25 March 2009 and between that date and her departure, she gave unqualified support to the initiative.

John Craig
Dean
JC/jl