



OKANAGAN SENATE

MINUTES OF 30 JANUARY 2019

DRAFT

Attendance

Present: S. Ono (Chair), K. Ross (Secretary), S. Alam, P. Arthur, P. Barker, S. Bates, H. Berringer, G. Binsted, R. Campbell, D. Carter, J. Cioe, C. Comben, K. DesRoches, G. DiLabio, T. Ebl, J. Eikenaar, B. Frank, J. Gustar, J. Jakobi, R. Lalonde, R. Lawrence, S. Lawrence, Y. Lucet, S. McNeil, A. Mukherjee-Reed, J. Olson, F. Pena, M. Reekie, K. Ragoonaden, D. Roberts, B. Rutherford, B. Traister, G. Wetterstrand, C. Yan, R. Jain, G. Jayathilake, J. Lafontaine, K. Morgan, L. Mudde, G. Newry, S. Sandhu, A. Shields, W. Tamandong

Regrets: A. Alnaar, D. Buszard, M. Campbell, J. L. Gordon, M. Hoorfar, J. Hossain, B. Marcolin, S. O’Leary, R. Sugden, S. Chong, D. Efretuei, H. Kang, J. Naqvi

Clerk: C. Eaton

Call to Order

The Chair of Senate, Dr Santa J. Ono called the fifth regular meeting of the Senate to order at 3:34 pm.

Minutes of 19 December 2019

Peter Arthur } *That the Minutes of the Meeting of 19 December*
Jan Cioe } *2019 be adopted as presented.*

Approved

Remarks from the President

Professor Ono reflected on the recent Ukrainian International Airlines tragedy in Iran, and especially those victims associated with UBC, and thanked those who participated in the universities’ national moment of Silence on 15 January, the vigil held on the Okanagan campus on 10 January, and for the community’s collective support. He noted that a new Iranian student memorial award was under development to commemorate this event.



Dr Ono congratulated former senator and Associate Vice-President Students Ian Cull on his appointment as a new Senior Advisor to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor on Indigenous Affairs, and noted that Professor Sheryl Lightfoot was on campus earlier this month for consultations on UBC’s new Indigenous Strategic Plan. He also thanked Ms Michelle Lawton for agreeing to serve as Acting Associate Vice-President Students.

Dr Ono noted the recent announcement on expansion of daycare spaces at the Okanagan campus, and said that he had spent the day at UBC having many conversations, including hearing more about the need for additional childcare spaces. He commented that UBC would do everything it could to further address that need.

The President expressed his congratulations to Vice-Principal Philip Barber who he understood to be reappointed as Vice-Principal Research.

Remarks from the Provost

Dr Ananya Mukherjee-Reed, Vice-President Academic & Provost, acknowledged the Okanagan Nation’s land on which the Senate was meeting that afternoon. She noted that a lot of work is going on for various aspects of Indigenous engagement at UBC. Beyond the Indigenous Strategic Plan, we are working on a variety of other areas related to indigeneity, including graduate studies pathways, and Adrienne Vedan’s work with undergraduate Indigenous students and career connections.

The Provost noted that this is the 15th year of UBC’s Okanagan campus and we are looking for events to celebrate. She noted that an upcoming keynote speaker will be Dr Rajiv Jhangiani from Kwantlen Polytechnic University who will be speaking on open education initiatives. In other news from her portfolio, she noted that Associate Provost Michael Burgess was working on space planning and interdisciplinary space development. Students are very interested in open educational initiatives.

Admission & Awards Committee

The Chair of the Senate Admissions & Awards Committee, Ms Tamara Ebl, presented.

**PSYCHOLOGY MA AND PHD
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
TRANSIFER APPLICANTS**

Tamara Ebl
Peter Arthur

}

That Senate approve revised admission requirements for the MA and PhD Psychology programs;

That Senate approve revised admission requirements for the Bachelor of Education



program.

That Senate approve revised admission requirements for transfer applicants to the University.

Approved

REVISED AWARDS

See Appendix A: Awards Report

Tamara Ebl }
Catherine Comben }

That Senate accept the revised awards as listed and forward them to the Board of Governors for approval.

Approved

Curriculum Committee

The Chair of the Senate Curriculum Committee, Dr Peter Arthur, presented.

JANUARY CURRICULUM PROPOSALS

See Appendix B: Curriculum Report

Peter Arthur }
Tamara Ebl }

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors for approval the new courses and the revised BSc Psychology major brought forward from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, the creation of a new theme, the new and revised courses, and the revised BA Degree Requirements brought forward from the Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies.

With respect to Political Science 100, Senator Cioe asked how 1.5 hours would work for a discussion and 1.5 hours for lectures.

With permission of Senate, Associate Dean Bernard Momer replied, saying that the class would be broken into smaller groups for discussions.



Senator Cioe noted that Creative and Critical Studies was proposing courses without vectors. He recognized that the Faculty has decided not to have them, but expressed a concern that this meant the format of the class wouldn't be clear to students.

Senator Morgan acknowledged that vectors represented potentially useful information for students, but in practice students learned similar information from the registration system.

Senator Roberts said that she also found vectors to be important as an academic in reviewing courses. She suggested that the Curriculum Committee should review this matter.

The President noted that we had discussed this last February. He suggested that the matter be referred to the Curriculum Committee.

Approved

By general consent, the agenda was amended to add a motion on course vectors.

COURSE VECTORS

Deborah Roberts Robert Lalonde	}	<i>That the issue of course vectors being required for new and revised course curriculum proposals be referred to the Senate Curriculum Committee for review.</i>
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Approved

Joint Reports of the Admission & Awards and Curriculum Committees

The Chair of the Senate Curriculum Committee, Dr Peter Arthur, presented.

NEW PROGRAM: BACHELOR OF NSYILXCEN LANGUAGE FLUENCY DEGREE

Peter Arthur Jan Cioe	}	<i>That Senate approve the Bachelor of Nsyilxcen Language Fluency Block Transfer Agreement with Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, Bachelor of Nsyilxcen Language Fluency program and related new courses brought forward from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.</i>
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Senator Cioe spoke in favour of the motion, noting the importance of keeping languages alive and having a diversity of languages both culturally and for cognitive and intellectual development.

Approved

BACHELOR OF SUSTAINABILITY

Peter Arthur Barbara Rutherford	}	<i>That Senate approve the Bachelor of Sustainability program and related new courses brought forward from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.</i>
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Senator Cioe spoke against the 123 credit requirement, noting that 120 credit requirement was the normal credit load and that there were a number of electives in the program . He questioned the need for the extra 3 credits.

Associate Dean Bernard Momer said that they had a number of discussions regarding the credit requirements. Some of the concentrations (e.g., Green chemistry) had an increased need for credits. He noted the issues with Biochemistry not having sufficient room for elective courses.

Senator Cioe said that each concentration had at least 9 credits of electives.

Senator Jain agreed with Senator Cioe for reasons of consistency between programs.

Stephen McNeil Bryce Traister	}	<i>That this proposal be referred back to the Senate Curriculum Committee for review of the required credits.</i>
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Senator Lucet noted that three courses of 1 credit were required in each year in years 2, 3 and 4, and this was likely why it is 123 credits total. He suggested that it probably developed at 120 and then had 3 credits added.

Senator McNeil said that this was still overall a larger course load. This was also a further \$523 in tuition.

The Provost spoke against the idea of Senate amending programs on the floor.



Senator S. Lawrence disagreed with the Provost's assertion that Senate shouldn't modify credits in proposals.

Senator Lucet said that if we reduced the number of credits it would be a challenge.

Senator Morgan spoke in favour of the program as proposed. When students sign up for a degree they should understand what is expected of them. If this is properly communicated at the start, that should be supported.

Senator Binsted said that until this time, no one has noticed this issue and that it was valid to send it back for another look.

Motion to Refer
Approved

Learning and Research

Interim Report on Student Evaluations of Teaching

Senator Bates presented. Noting that in November 2018 a working group was established to look at student evaluations of teaching (SEOT) following media reports and a recent arbitration decision. In conversations with the two provosts, the scope was broadened to both campuses with Co-Chairs from both campuses. In addition to a list of working group members in the distributed materials for this agenda item, he noted that Senator Barbara Rutherford was a new member. Dr Bates advised that the working group would report back by the end of this academic year and that a fairly extensive consultation practice was being undertaken. So far in its work, a few principles have been established or reaffirmed:

- The importance of student voices;
- Feedback is a valuable source of data, but student feedback is not a sole measure of teaching effectiveness and teaching effectiveness needs a synthesis of data; context matters (department, course, discipline, instructor, cohort). Looking at feedback outside of context is not just.
- The literature on SEOT is huge, and the literature on bias is mixed, especially around transferability and generalization; and
- Bias will always exist, so we must mitigate bias.

Senator Ebl said that she was pleased to see the interim report and commended the group for all the thoughtful consideration given.

Senator Lalonde asked if the committee would weigh in on whether SEOT will be used in formative or summative evaluations for promotion and tenure. He noted that at other institutions this had led to problems.



Senator Bates said that this was outside of the working group's mandate. There is a need to do this work first to understand the literature and the UBC data, and this will inform any subsequent reviews or revisions of the policy. He noted that discussions were still ongoing at Okanagan campus.

Senator Lalonde said that a flawed process could still be of use for improving teaching, but he had a concern if it was used summatively.

Senator Bates said that the Ryerson arbitration has precipitated a lot of discussions. At Ryerson these instruments are Faculty Course Surveys, and they can still be used if the end users are educated on the surveys.

Senator Roberts said that Okanagan does not have its own policy, but will be developing one once the working group reports back.

Senator Cioe said that he doesn't object to using them for summative purposes, so long as we recognize that this is a rough instrument. We need to hear the voices of our students.

Senator S. Lawrence said that we were being overly optimistic about the ability to contextualize these data. If we produce a number, that number will be abused. Secondly, the use of SEOT in summative ways can distract from teaching as people will teach to the test being given to them.

The Provost said that there will always be questions around data points and bias. Somewhere, somehow, we need to discuss the lived experiences of both our students and our instructors and SEOT should not be the only place where we hear concerns about the learning environment or teaching techniques.

A student senator said that a survey halfway through a course would be more useful.

Senator Bates said that the students in Vancouver had the same sentiment – providing informal feedback midway through a course, and where that feedback was paid attention to – made them more motivated and engaged in the formal SEOT. They asked us to mandate it.

Senator DeLabio said that midterm feedback can be a very valuable tool.

With permission of Senate, Dr Peter Newbury spoke and said that next week faculty would be given an opportunity to request a mid-term survey.

Senator Ebl said that students are asking where they can send feedback regarding courses already this term.

Nominating Committee



The Chair of the Senate Nominating Committee, Dr Jannik Eikenaar, presented.

PRESIDENT’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE SELECTION OF AN ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH

<p>Jannik Eikenaar Jan Cioe</p>	}	<p><i>That Drs Sean Lawrence and Yves Lucet be appointed to the President’s Advisory Committee for the Selection of an Associate Vice-President Research and Innovation.</i></p>
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Approved

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

<p>Jannik Eikenaar Tamara Ebl</p>	}	<p><i>That Ms Catherine Comben be appointed to the Council Budget Committee until 31 August 2020 and thereafter until replaced, to fill a vacancy; and</i></p>
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That Dr Stephen McNeil be appointed to the Senate Learning & Research Committee until 31 August 2020 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Dr Peter Wylie.

Approved

Report from the Provost

The Vice-President Academic and Provost, Dr Ananya Mukherjee-Reed, presented.

2019-2020 ENROLMENT REPORT

The Provost thanked Dr Stephanie McEwan and her team at Planning and Institutional Research, Fred Vogt and his team at Enrolment Services, and the faculties for their work on this report.



Dr Mukherjee-Reed outlined UBC's system and the Okanagan campus enrolment as set out in the distributed report. She noted that the Okanagan campus was now on enrolment stabilization and has not increased targets. Presently, the campus was at 114% of government funded targets.

Senator Cioe asked if we were ok with 114% or do we want to go down?

The Provost said that the numbers came from the deans after discussions with their faculties and programs. Targets are decided annually so we can revisit this annually.

Senator S. Lawrence said that we mentioned stabilizing due to space concerns, but have we debated philosophically what size of place we want to have.

The Provost said that in 2014 we had a lot of discussions in many places including Senate. There were several different approaches – one is that we wouldn't set a target based on revenue impacts, but rather programs should tell us how they wanted to grow. The other notion was that there should be a balance among disciplines, and that is how we are managing enrolment.

Senator S. Lawrence said that to him this felt entirely like a conversation on how to manage growth.

The Provost didn't agree, noting that this year we decided not to grow. The question was what will deliver the best experience with the resources we have or expect to have in the near future. We can have further discussions on the overall balance in any useful forum.

The Provost then highlighted where the Okanagan campus's new students were coming from and the differences in diversity of origin/nationality between undergraduate and graduate students.

Senator Ebl said that she appreciated knowing where our students come from, but she again asked for information on where our graduates go to.

The Provost said that we did have data on how many stay in the Okanagan and she could share what she had.

Senator Ebl said that on Table 1, the yield rates were consistent across campuses, but the admit rate was drastically different. She expressed a concern that this looked like a lowering of standards.

The Provost said that she and the faculties had regular meetings with admissions and go through the nature of the pool for all programs. She said that one issue could be second offers, but we monitor quality closely.



The Registrar added that the yield wasn't a measure of quality, but rather of acceptance of offers.

Finally, the Provost highlighted three focus student groups:

Youth Formerly in Government Care

There are currently 54 former youth in government care students studying at UBC and receiving a tuition waiver. This is a 20% increase over last year.

World University Service of Canada (WUSC)

New-to-UBC WUSC students enrolled this year; there are currently 38 Students in total on both campuses.

Vantage College

In 2019/20, students transitioned into Arts (Vancouver campus), Science (Vancouver) and Engineering (Okanagan and Vancouver). This year there are 235 students in the Arts Vantage stream, 136 in the Science stream, and 69 in the Applied Science stream.

2018-2019 EXTERNAL REVIEW REPORT

The Provost noted that the distributed materials for this meeting were summaries of the external reviews for the Okanagan Library; the School of Health and Exercise Sciences; the Faculty of Arts & Sciences, and the departments of Chemistry; Computer Sciences, Mathematics, Physics & Statistics; and Earth, Environmental, and Geographic Sciences.

Adjournment

Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.



Appendix A: Awards Report

REVISED AWARDS:

a) Existing Award Title: Master of Data Science Domestic Scholarship

Existing description:

Master of Data Science Domestic Scholarship is a \$5,000 entrance scholarship **Entrance scholarships of up to \$25,000 each are** offered annually to a domestic students in the Master of Data Science program at UBC Okanagan. The scholarships recognizes a students who has **have** demonstrated academic and leadership achievements in their undergraduate or graduate program, field or industry. The award is **scholarships are** made on the recommendation of the Master of Data Science Admissions Committee.

Amended Award Title: Master of Data Science Domestic Scholarship

Amended Description:

Entrance scholarships of up to \$25,000 each are offered annually to domestic students in the Master of Data Science program at UBC Okanagan. The scholarships recognize students who have demonstrated academic and leadership achievements in their undergraduate or graduate program, field or industry. The scholarships are made on the recommendation of the Master of Data Science Admissions Committee.

b) Existing Award Title: Master of Data Science International Scholarship

Existing description:

Master of Data Science International Scholarship is a \$5,000 entrance scholarship **Entrance scholarships of up to \$25,000 each are** offered annually **for** to an international students in the Master of Data Science program at UBC Okanagan. The scholarships recognizes a students who has **have** demonstrated academic and leadership achievements in their undergraduate or graduate program, field or industry. The award is **scholarships are** made on the recommendation of the Master of Data Science Admissions Committee.

Amended Award Title: Master of Data Science International Scholarship

Amended Description:

Entrance scholarships of up to \$25,000 each are offered annually for international students in the Master of Data Science program at UBC Okanagan. The scholarships recognizes students who have demonstrated academic and leadership achievements in their undergraduate or graduate program, field or industry. The scholarships are made on the recommendation of the Master of Data Science Admissions Committee.

Rationale:

The MDS program is requesting that the domestic and international MDS scholarships approved by Senate in April 2019 be amended as indicated below. The rationale behind this change is to allow more flexibility in the amount awarded and a higher maximum amount, up to \$25,000 instead of \$5,000. In addition, more than one scholarships may now be awarded in each category. These are in lockstep with the MDS program changes recently submitted for the Vancouver MDS program.



Appendix B: Curriculum Report

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

New Courses:

SOCI 228 (3) Sociology of the Anthropocene
SOCI 373 (3) Sociology of Punishment and Captivity
SOCI 429 (3) Globalization, Social Justice and Human Rights
SOCI 492 (3) Surveillance and Society
POLI 100 (3) Introduction to Politics

Revised Program:

Psychology Major, BSc

FACULTY OF CREATIVE AND CRITICAL STUDIES

Revised Program:

MA English, Literature and Place

New Courses:

WRLD 151 (3) Introduction to Language and Culture: Mandarin Chinese
WRLD 152 (3) Introduction to Language and Culture: Modern Korean
WRLD 153 (3) Introduction to Language and Culture: French in Canada
WRLD 154 (3) Introduction to Language and Culture: Modern Farsi (Iranian)
WRLD 155 (3) Introduction to Language and Culture: Modern Maya

Revised Course:

ENGL 109 (6) Studies in Composition (Enhanced)

Revised Program Requirements:

BA Degree Requirements