

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



OKANAGAN SENATE SECRETARIAT

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Senate and Curriculum Services

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THE OKANAGAN SENATE

MINUTES - **DRAFT**

Wednesday October 27, 2010

3:30 pm to 5:30 pm

ART 386 | OKANAGAN CAMPUS

Attendance

Present: Dr. D. Owram (Vice-Chair), Mr. J. Ridge (Secretary), Dr. A. Abd-El-Aziz (Provost and Vice-Principal), Dr. P. Arthur, Dr. P. Balcaen, Dean L. Bosetti, Ms. M. Burton, Mr. N. Cadger, Dr. J. Castricano, Dr. J. Cioe, Dean M. Courtney, Dr. J. Holzman, Mr. A. Hu, Mr. S. Joseph, Dean M. Krank, Dr. B. Lalonde, Ms. E. Landry, Ms. S. Larose, Dr. S. McCoubrey, Dr. B. Mack, Dean C. Mathieson, Dr. H. Najjaran, Dr. B. Nilson, Mr. C. Norman, Ms. L. Patterson, Acting Dean K. Phillips, Dr. B. Schulz-Cruz, Ms. L. Super, Mr. D. Vineberg, Mr. C. Wain, Ms. A. Weiss, Ms. M. Woodward, Dr. S. Yannacopoulos, Ms. G. Zilm

Guests: Ms. L. Collins, Mr. C. Eaton, Ms. N. Hager, Mr. L. Mueller, Mr. F. Vogt

Regrets: Dean T. Aboulnasr, Dr. J. Cheng, Dr. F. de Scally, Ms. L. Driscoll, Dr. M. Duran-Cogan, Dr. C. Hodge, Dr. J. Johnson, Dr. G. Jones, Dr. D. Keyes, Ms. M. Laviolette, Ms. S. Morgan-Silvester (Chancellor), Dean D. Muzyka, Dr. B. O'Connor, Dr. G. Pandher, Mr. B. Paton, Dr. M. Rheault, Prof. S. J. Toope (President)

Recording Secretary: Ms. K. Ross

Call to Order

In the absence of the President, Vice-Chair Dr. Owram called to order the second regular meeting of the Senate for the 2010/2011 academic year.

Approval of the Agenda

As requested by Dean Krank, Dr. Owram asked that the Joint Report of the Admissions and Awards Committee and the Curriculum Committee be withdrawn from consideration by the Senate. The revised agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Senate Membership

Nominating Committee

Motion: Dr. Abd-El-Aziz
Seconded: Dr. Yannacopoulos

That Dr. Gordon Lovegrove be elected to serve on the Nominating Committee until 31 August 2011 and thereafter until a successor is elected.

The motion was put and carried.

Call for Nominations

Vice-Chair of Senate

The Secretary issued a first call for nominations for one (1) Senator to serve as Vice-Chair of Senate for a term of not more than one year, pursuant to s.37(1)(a) of the *University Act*. Dr. Cioe nominated Dr. Owram to be Vice-Chair of Senate for a second consecutive term and the following motions were called:

Motion: Dr. Cioe
Seconded: Dr. Abd-El-Aziz

That nominations be closed.

The motion was put and carried.

Motion: Dr. Cioe
Seconded: Dr. Abd-El-Aziz

That Dr. Doug Owram be elected as Vice-Chair of Senate until October 26, 2011.

The motion was put and carried.

The Secretary issued a second call for nominations for one (1) student representative to replace Ms. Stephanie Bertrand to serve on the Nominating Committee until March 31, 2011 and thereafter until a successor is elected.

Minutes of Previous Meeting, 22 September 2010

Moved: Dr. Cioe

Seconded: Ms. Zilm

That the minutes of the Okanagan Senate meeting of September 22, 2010 be adopted with a minor amendment.

The motion was put and carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Fees Associated with VGRS 599 (0): Visiting Graduate Research Students

In response to a question from Dr. Cioe, Mr. Ridge confirmed that this item remained under consideration by the Dean's Council.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor's Remarks

New Ministry of Science and Universities

Dr. Owram reported that Premier Gordon Campbell's recent provincial cabinet realignment had split the former Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development into two the new ministries: the Ministry of Regional Economic and Skills Development and the Ministry of Science and Universities respectively. Dr. Owram noted that he had recently met with the Honorable Ida Chong, the new Minister of Science and Universities, and despite some concerns over the new overall ministerial structure, was hopeful that the new Minister would be familiar with the needs of UBC's Okanagan campus due to her former 2005 position as Minister of Advanced Education.

Robert Silverman

Dr. Owram reported that Robert Silverman, one of Canada's premiere pianists, had recently performed a number of Beethoven's sonatas at the Okanagan campus.

Academic Policy Committee

Committee Chair, Dr. Jan Cioe presented the report.

Policy O-2: Faculty Councils

Moved: Dr. Cioe
Seconded: Dr. Najjaran

That the Senate approve Policy O-2: Faculty Councils.

Discussion

In response to a question from Dr. Lovegrove, Dr. Cioe confirmed that Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised governed the Senate and its Committees.

Dr. McCoubrey asked whether all members of a faculty council were expected to attend all faculty council meetings; Dr. Cioe suggested that not all members would attend all meetings. Dr. Owram added that the policy language should be interpreted to mean that all members of the faculty council 'might' attend.

In response to a question from Dr. Yannacopoulos, Mr. Eaton was recognized by the assembly and stated that the Registrar was secretary to Senate and was thus a non-voting member of each faculty; he/she or a designate would have the option to attend faculty council meetings as required.

The motion was put and carried.

Policy O-5: Research Centres and Research Institutes

Moved: Dr. Cioe
Seconded: Dr. Lalonde

That the Senate approve Policy O-5: Research Centres and Research Institutes.

Discussion

Dr. Lovegrove inquired whether the Okanagan Sustainability Institute (OSI) could independently develop and offer courses. Dr. Cioe confirmed that the OSI could develop courses in collaboration with one or more faculties, schools, colleges, or departments as described in section 1 (a) (x). Dr. Nilson suggested that the language should be clarified to state that any institute may create but not independently offer courses or programs on campus.

Amendment: Section 1 (a) (x): Policy O-5: Research Centres and Research Institutes

Moved: Dr. Abd-El-Aziz
Seconded: Dr. Lalonde

That Section 1 (a) (x) of *Policy O-5: Research Centres and Research Institutes* be amended as follows (proposed text addition shown in bold and underlined): “May **initiate the development** of undergraduate and graduate courses and programs in collaboration with one or more faculties, schools, colleges or departments (in such cases the latter shall remain formally responsible for the offering of the course or program).”

The amendment was put and carried.

The motion to approve Policy O-5: Research Centres and Research Institutes as amended was put and carried.

Policy O-100: Review of Assigned Standing in a Course

Moved: Dr. Cioe

Seconded: Mr. Cadger

That the Senate approve Policy O-100: Review of Assigned Standing in a Course.

Discussion

Acting Dean Phillips suggested that the review of an assigned standing in a course be conducted by two faculty members and not only one faculty member as proposed. He also inquired why the application deadlines had been set so late in the term. In response to Acting Dean Phillips later question; Mr. Eaton noted that the proposed deadlines allowed for sufficient time for the submission of grades and were consistent with UBC's Vancouver campus deadlines.

Dr. Lalonde expressed his opinion that the proposed policy for the review of assigned standing in a course was a radical departure from the current Grade Appeal policy. He enumerated his concerns: 1) the lack of opportunity for redress; 2) the movement away from formal process; and 3) risk of reduced service. On Dr. Lalonde's final concern, Dr. Cioe reassured the assembly that the heads of units or departments would follow the spirit of the policy as it has been written and added that this policy was successfully practiced in Vancouver.

In response to Dr. Lalonde's concern over a student's opportunity for redress, Ms. Collins confirmed that although the Senate Committee on Appeals of Academic Standing and Discipline had no jurisdiction where the sole question raised in an appeal turned on the exercise of academic judgment by a Faculty, the Committee had the jurisdiction to allow an appeal where it determined that the decision had been arrived at through improper or unfair procedures, and that as a result a wrong decision on the merits had or may have been arrived at (for the full procedures see, www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/index.cfm?tree=3,53,106,0).

In response to a question by Mr. Joseph, Dr. Cioe explained briefly that like the current Grade Appeal policy, the proposed Review of Assigned Standing in a Course would be student-focussed. He explained that the proposed process involve a student's appeal of some or all of the material evaluated in contribution to their assigned standing in a course had been incorrectly evaluated or graded. In the latter case, the Faculty, rather than Enrolment Services, would be responsible for addressing his or her appeal. Mr. Wain inquired whether the material in question would be submitted without identifying the name of the student or the original grade. Dr. Cioe replied that whenever possible the anonymity of the student would be preserved; Mr. Eaton added that anonymity might not always be possible in cases where the material was hand-written or was graded with extensive markings. Dr. Lalonde inquired whether the current process under the Grade Appeal policy included the transcription of student materials; Mr. Vogt replied in the negative since both the faculty member and student presented in person at grade appeal hearings.

Dr. Lalonde suggested that the proposed policy would create an administrative burden on a unit or department. Dr. Yannacopoulos shared his experience that the proposed policy reduced a faculty's administrative burden.

In response to a question from Mr. Vineberg related to proposed review timelines, Dr. Cioe highlighted the first paragraph under the proposed Calendar entry: *Process for Academic Review and Communication of Results* which which stated: "The academic unit would submit to Enrolment Services the written results of the review within 30 calendar days from the receipt of the application...". Mr. Ridge added that should the results be given after 30 days the matter would be addressed with the faculty.

Dean Krank inquired if the policy would not apply to graduate programs including master theses or doctoral dissertations. Mr. Eaton indicated that the master theses would be included under the policy as written.

Amendment: 'Exclusions' section of Policy O-100: Review of Assigned Standing in a Course

Moved: Dean Krank
Seconded: Mr. Calvin Wain

That 'Graduate Theses and Dissertations' be added to the Exclusions section of Policy O-100: Review of Assigned Standing in a Course and to the attendant Calendar statement.

Discussion on the amendment:

Dr. Owram indicated that graduate students would normally have their thesis or dissertation reviewed by a panel for procedural effectiveness.

The amendment was put and carried.

The motion to approve Policy O-100: Review of Assigned Standing in a Course as amended was put and carried.

Admissions and Awards Committee

Committee Chair Dr. Sharon McCoubrey presented the report.

Admissions Proposals

Four admissions proposals were presented:

i. **Canadian Aboriginal Applicants**

A proposal had been received to revise the Calendar entry to direct-entry degree programs.

ii. **Bachelor of Applied Science – Admission Requirements**

A proposal had been received to revise the Calendar entry to reflect current admissions practice and requirements, and to clarify that only the most recent grades will be used in the calculation of an admission average.

iii. **Admission Requirements for ETEP and STEP**

A proposal had been received to 1) adjust the document deadline to May 31; and 2) clarify the requirement that students must maintain a minimum average for admission based on their final results to retain their offer of admission.

iv. **Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP)**

A proposal had been received to 1) remove references to program changes made in 2008; and 2) change the course level of the credits required for History and Geography for both the Humanities and Middle School Education Specialities.

Moved: Dr. McCoubrey

Seconded: Dr. Najjaran

That Senate approve the proposed changes to the Calendar entry ‘Canadian Aboriginal Applicants’; and

That Senate approve the proposed changes to the Calendar entry Bachelor of Applied Science – Admission Requirements, Admission from a Post-Secondary Institution’; and

That Senate approve the proposed changes to the Calendar entry 'Admission Requirements for ETEP and STEP'; and

That Senate approve the proposed changes to the Calendar entry 'Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP), Admission Requirements'.

Discussion

In response to a question from Ms. Landry, Dr. Najjaran confirmed that the proposed admission requirement revisions to the Bachelor of Applied Science program reflected the current admissions practices and requirements: the grade point average of 65% was equivalent to a GPA of 2.5 (calculated on a 4.0 point scale).

Committee Member Dr. Mack clarified that as a revision to the Calendar entry for Canadian Aboriginal Applicants would be to admit Aboriginal students directly to the degree program as follows (proposed changes shown in bold and underlined):

UBC Okanagan **will** admit Aboriginal **students to direct-entry degree** programs who have completed 18 university-level credits with a minimum 60% in each course and a 60% or C average overall. 12 credits of this coursework must be from UBC Okanagan courses, of which 3 credits must be from either ENGL 112 or ENGL 114. **Students** must also satisfy program prerequisites and admission requirements set by the individual faculties and schools.

The motion was moved and carried.

Nominating Committee

Committee Member Dr. Cioe presented the report.

Adjustment to Senate Committee Membership

Moved: Dr. Cioe
Seconded: Mr. Cadger

That Dr. Jodey Castricano replace Dean Daniel Muzyka on the Academic Policy Committee until August 31, 2011 and thereafter until replaced.

The motion was put and carried.

Okanagan Representatives of Okanagan Senate Committees One (1) and Four (4), Membership Adjustments

*Moved: Dr. Cioe
Seconded: Ms. Patterson*

That Senate appoint Dr. Gareth Jones to replace Dr. Carol Scarff on Council of Senates Okanagan Representative Committee One (1);

and

That Senate appoint Acting Dean Kenneth Phillips to replace Dr. Robert Belton on Council of Senates Okanagan Representative Committee Four (4).

The motion was put and carried.

Okanagan Representative for the President's Advisory Committee for the Selection of the Associate Vice-President for Research and International

That Senate appoint Dr. Gurupdes Pandher as the Okanagan Senate Representative on the President's Advisory Committee for the Selection of the Associate Vice-President, Research and International.

*Moved: Dr. Cioe
Seconded: Dr. Yannacopoulos*

The motion was put and carried.

Discussion

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor expressed interest in the assignment of Okanagan representation to what he viewed as a Vancouver-based and focused position. He noted his own research title and responsibilities for the Okanagan Campus and stated concern with the Associate Vice-President position being treated as system-wide.

The Secretary agreed to pass on Dr Owram's remarks to the University Counsel for consideration when this appointment policy is reviewed.

The motion was put and carried.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The following regular meeting of the Senate was scheduled for Wednesday November 24, 2010 at 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm in ART 386.