



**OKANAGAN SENATE SECRETARIAT**

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## **OKANAGAN SENATE**

### **MINUTES OF 09 APRIL 2008**

#### **Attendance**

**Present:** Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr. D. Owram (Vice-Chair), Mr. B. J. Silzer (Secretary), Dr. A. S. Abd-El-Aziz (Provost), Mr. P. Arthur, Dr. J. Bassett-Smith, Dean B. Bauer, Dean R. Belton, Ms. S. Bertrand, Mr. C. Devenish, Mr. M. Dobson, Dr. G. Binsted, Dean J. Bottorff, Dr. W. Broughton, Ms. M. Burton, Dean R. Campbell, Dr. J. Castricano, Mr. R. Chavarie, Dr. J. Cioe, Dr. M. Duran-Cogan, Dr. J. Gustar, Dr. J. Johnson, Dr. D. Keyes, Mr. M. Koovisk, Ms. C. Kuhn, Ms. R. L'Orsa, Dr. A. Labun, Dr. C. Labun, Dr. R. Lalonde, Mr. G. Lepp, Dr. G. Lovegrove, Acting Dean C. Mathieson, Dr. S. McCoubrey, Dr. C. McFadyen, Ms. T. Palynchuk, Dr. S. Reid, Dr. C. Scarff, Mr. B. Steinberg, Dr. M. Ungureanu, Mr. R. Whitehouse, Dr. M. Williams, Dr. P. Wrzesniewski, Dr. S. Yannacopoulos, Ms. G. Zilm

**Guests:** Ms. L. M. Collins (Associate Secretary), Mr. C. Eaton, Ms. N. Limbos-Bomberg, Mr. F. Vogt (Associate Registrar)

**Regrets:** President S. J. Toope (Chair), Mr. R. Adl, Mr. G. August, Dr. E. Butz, Mr. C. Devenish, Ms. L. Driscoll, Dean M. Isaacson, Ms. V. Lymberopoulos

**Recording Secretary:** Ms. K. Ross

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#### **Call to Order**

Vice-Chair Dr. Owram called the Senate to order.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved by consent.

## **Senate Membership**

Secretary Mr. Brian Silzer welcomed the new and returning Student Senators serving a one-year term from 01 April 2008 to 31 March 2009. Four new Joint Faculties Members with a term-ending on 31 August 2008 were also made welcome. One vacancy for a student representative for the Faculty of Education was declared.

## **Minutes of the Previous Meeting, 12 March 2008**

*Moved: Mr. Koovisk*  
*Seconded: Dr. Gustar*

*That the minutes of the Okanagan Senate Meeting of 12 March 2008 be adopted as circulated.*

*CARRIED.*

## **Vice-Chair's Remarks and Related Questions**

Vice-Chair Dr. Owram noted the meeting regrets of President Toope.

The Vice-Chair noted the following highlights:

- All Okanagan Senate recommendations of 10 October 2007, 07 November 2007, 16 January 2008, and 13 February 2008 had been approved by the Board of Governors.
- On 16 April, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr. Owram and Okanagan Senator Dr. Cioe would attend the Vancouver Senate meeting to discuss aspects of the overall UBC system from an Okanagan campus perspective.
- An April meeting to discuss the 2008 UBC Okanagan Budget would be organized between the Council of Senates Okanagan Budget Sub-Committee and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor's Office. The Vice-Chair noted that the overall \$4.5 million cut to UBC Okanagan's incremental budget is correct. He added that a 2.6% reduction across the board to all BC colleges and universities had been announced in April by the Ministry of Advanced Education. This reduction will likely slow UBC Okanagan's growth rate although Dr. Owram confirmed that operations would continue without the need to close programs or schools. Further, the hiring freeze has been removed and hiring new faculty will move forward as anticipated.
- Vice-Chair Dr. Owram, although admittedly taken aback by the provincial budget processes, remained hopeful, in part due to the continued support of the Okanagan campus from regional and provincial communities.

## Discussion

Dr. Cioe reiterated a media comment, asking whether the Deputy Vice-Chancellor's Office could confirm whether UBC Okanagan's growth target would remain as initially announced by the Government. In response to Dr. Cioe, Vice-Chair Dr. Owram noted that

it was still too early to report enrolment figures. However, he suggested that the enrolment vision to enroll 7,500 students would remain unchanged.

Mr. Lepp inquired to whether cuts to the 2008/2009 Budget would influence the plans for the new Faculty of Management and the School of Engineering building. Vice-Chair Dr. Ooram confirmed that the new building would proceed.

In response to a query from Dr. Keyes, Vice-Chair Dr. Ooram noted that a budget update would be presented to the Board of Governors on 10 April 2008. The final budget would be submitted to the Board at its June 2008 meeting.

Dr. Williams asked about the status of the Strategic Planning Initiative (SPI). In light of the budget, Vice-Chair Dr. Ooram confirmed that the SPI would likely be on hold until the fall.

A few Senators discussed the paving status of the temporary parking lot, located behind the future Student Union Building. Vice-Chair Dr. Ooram indicated that he would investigate any plans for paving in that area.

## **Nominating Committee**

### ***Senate Committee Assignments***

The Committee Chair Dr. Robert Lalonde recommended the following motions to Senate.

*Moved: Dr. Lalonde*

*Seconded: Dr. Cioe*

*That Dr. Gordon Binsted be appointed to the Committee of Appeals of Standing and Discipline as Faculty Representative until 31 August 2008 and thereafter until replaced.*

AND

*That Dr. Carolyn Labun be appointed to the Committee of Appeals of Standing and Discipline as Faculty Representative until August 2008 and thereafter until replaced.*

AND

*That Dr. James Johnson be appointed to the President's Advisory Committee for the Selection of the Registrar.*

AND

*That Dr. Jennifer Gustar be appointed to the President's Advisory Committee for the Selection of the University Librarian.*

AND

*That Dr. Gordon Lovegrove be appointed to the Council of Senates Budget Committee until 31 August 2008 and thereafter until replaced.*

**CARRIED.**

## **Policies & Procedures Committee**

The Committee Chair Dr. Daniel Keyes presented the report.

### ***Granting of Graduate Degrees***

The Committee had circulated a proposal to approve an interim arrangement for the granting of graduate degrees. The group of candidates expected to graduate in June 2008 include the degrees of Master of Arts in Education, Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies, Master of Education, Master of Fine Arts in Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies, Master of Science in Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies, Master of Science, Master of Nursing, and Master of Social Work. The Committee recommended that as the faculties of Arts and Sciences, Creative & Critical Studies, Education, and Health & Social Development have each delegated to the College of Graduate Studies the responsibility of recommending candidates to the Senate for the granting of their respective graduate degrees at its May 2008 meeting, the name of the College shall appear as the recommending body on corresponding degree parchments and the Dean of the College shall sign such parchments in addition to the Chancellor, President and Registrar.

*Moved: Dr. Keyes*

*Seconded: Dr. Abd-El-Aziz*

*That the Senate approve the interim arrangement for the granting of graduate degrees in May 2008, as recommended by the Policies & Procedures Committee.*

*CARRIED.*

## **Curriculum Committee**

The Committee Chair Dr. Jennifer Gustar presented the report from the Faculties of Arts and Sciences, and Creative and Critical Studies.

*That Senate approve the new courses brought forward by the Faculties of Arts and Sciences as set out in the attached proposals.*

*Moved: Dr. Gustar*

*Seconded: Dr. Cioe*

### **Discussion**

A friendly amendment, offered by Dr. Cioe to edit the spelling of the word ‘behavior’ as proposed in the new course title, PSYO 442: Interpersonal Behaviour and Psychopathology, was accepted.

*The motion was put and carried.*

Dr. Gustar asked that the new course JPST 420 and CULT 420: Gaming Theories, Methodologies, “Japaneseness” – cross-list, be withdrawn from consideration by the Senate at this time.

*That Senate approve the new courses brought forward by the Faculties of Creative and Critical Studies as set out in the attached proposals.*

*Moved: Dr. Gustar*  
*Seconded: Dr. Williams*

### Discussion

In response to a question from Ms. L'Orsa, Dr. Gustar noted that proposed new course FREN 299: French Literature in Translation would be taught in English. Dr. Williams asked whether FREN 299 could then be counted for credit toward a major in English. Dr. Gustar informed Dr. Williams that the Faculty's Curriculum Committee would likely discuss this item at its next committee meeting. Mr. Dobson asked whether FREN 299 should then be proposed as an English course, rather than as a French course. Dr. Gustar stated that although the course is English language-based, French Literature is the primary focus of the course and expressed the opinion that its FREN subject code was appropriate. She added that the proposed new course would not apply to a minor or major in language.

In response to a Senator's opposition to cross-listed courses, Dr. Gustar commented that cross-listing arrangements have been working successfully in the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies. She added that the Faculty has found that, by combining various levels of expertise and disciplines related to literature, English, cultural studies, and others, cross-listed courses are effective in cases such as minor and major degrees. Dr. Wrzesniewski asked whether cross-listed courses would be counted twice for credit. Dr. Gustar stated that the cross-listed special topics courses are differentiated from one another with a letter; therefore they cannot be counted twice unless the material is substantively different from course to course. In response to a question from Dr. A. Labun, Mr. Eaton confirmed that should cross-listed courses diverge, then one of the two courses would become a new course, while the other would remain as a special topics course.

Dr. Ungureanu asked about the stylistics aspect of the proposed FREN 453 *Advanced Syntax and Stylistics*; she noted that there is no mention of stylistics in the course description, which could be misleading to students considering FREN 453. She was invited by Dr. Gustar to refer additional queries to the French program in the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies.

*The motion was put and carried.*

### **Admissions and Awards Committee**

The Committee Chair Dr. Sharon McCoubrey presented the reports:

#### ***New Award***

*Moved: Dr. McCoubrey*  
*Seconded: Mr. Koovisk*

*That the Senate accept the new award as listed and forward it to the Board of Governors for approval, and that a letter of thanks be sent to the donors.*

### **UBC Okanagan International Community Achievement Award**

Three awards of \$3,000 each are offered by the International Student Initiative to continuing international students at The University of British Columbia Okanagan who have demonstrated leadership in one or more of the following areas: community service, cross-cultural relations, promotion of diversity, intellectual pursuits, and artistic or athletic endeavours. The award is made on the recommendation of Student Development in consultation with the International Student Initiative and Faculties at The University of British Columbia Okanagan. (First awards available for the 2008/09 Winter Session)

### **Discussion**

In response to a question from the Senate, Dr. McCoubrey confirmed that only undergraduate students would be eligible for the proposed new award.

*The motion was put and carried.*

### ***Provincial Examinations Calendar Entry***

The Committee had proposed a Calendar entry reflecting the recent Senate decision to change UBC Okanagan admission requirements to discontinue the requirement for final BC Provincial Examinations for admission to UBC Okanagan.

*Moved: Dr. McCoubrey*

*Seconded: Dr. Cioe*

*That the Senate accept the provincial examinations Calendar entry as set out in the attached proposal.*

*CARRIED.*

### ***Academic Leave Policy***

The Committee had proposed Calendar entry on academic leave from any UBC Okanagan undergraduate program.

*Moved: Dr. McCoubrey*

*Seconded: Dr. Cioe*

*That the Senate accept the academic leave policy as set out in the attached proposal.*

### Discussion

Mr. Silzer responded to a question by stating that, the measure of good standing, as noted in the calendar entry, would be specified by each program. In addition, he confirmed that students returning to their programs following an academic leave would be required to meet the academic regulations and program requirements in effect at the time of admission, although the returning student would not be required to meet new admission requirements.

*The motion was put and carried.*

### ***Mature Student Policy***

The Committee had circulated a proposal to revise the definition of Mature Students in the Calendar entry entitled Classification of Students.

*Moved: Dr. McCoubrey*  
*Seconded: Dr. A. Labun*

*That the Senate accept the mature student policy as set out in the attached proposal.*

### Discussion

Several Senators expressed concerns that the proposed mature students' classification focused heavily on "achieved excellence", which could exclude some potential students' entry to UBC Okanagan. Mr. Silzer stated that the proposed mature student policy should broaden the access point for students and would provide another avenue to UBC other than through Access Studies. He confirmed that each mature student applying for admission to UBC Okanagan would be considered individually.

Dr. McFadyen spoke in favour of the motion, noting that the Faculty Dean would consider the likelihood of the student's success prior to admitting them. Dr. Gustar, noting her support of the overall principle of the proposal, stated that she would prefer to adopt a variation of the outlined processes included in the proposal.

In response to further comments and recommendations from the Senate Mr. Silzer noted that Enrolment Services would take them under advisement. He suggested that Senators draft a separate proposal related to the processing of Mature Student Applications at some point could be prepared and circulated to the Senate in future.

*The motion was put and carried. Three opposed.*

## **Learning and Research Committee**

### ***UBC Okanagan Scheduling Guidelines***

The Committee had circulated a proposal to endorse the UBC Okanagan Scheduling Guidelines. The policy had been brought to Senate on 16 February 2008 and was referred back to the Learning and Research Committee for further consultation. That consultation had been completed. The Committee Chair Mr. Arthur noted that, the most recent draft of

the guidelines benefited from the additional consultation, which has been incorporated into the proposal.

To differentiate between an item being approved or endorsed, the Vice-Chair looked to Ms. Collins. She noted that, the Senate shows their support for an item through endorsement, which applies generally to guidelines. Principles however would be approved, as is the case with the following motion related to UBC Okanagan Scheduling Principles. Vice-Chair Dr. Owram reminded Senators that finding a balance between ‘processes and principles’ remains a challenge.

*Moved: Mr. Arthur*

*Seconded: Mr. Koovisk*

*That Senate endorse the Scheduling Guidelines for UBC Okanagan as presented by the Learning & Research Committee.*

### Discussion

In response to Dr. Lalonde, Mr. Vogt confirmed that the afternoon sessions as shown in the proposal are scheduled based on 1.5 hour standard timetable blocks.

Dean Bottorff acknowledged that #8 of the current Scheduling Guidelines as enclosed has been problematic to the new Faculty of Health and Social Development programs. She requested that given strong instructor preferences in her Faculty, fewer one-hour blocks be utilized. To date, the Faculty had chosen to schedule three-hour evening classes, rather than accept one-hour blocks. Dean Bottorff stated that therefore she could not support the 40% of one-hour blocks as recommended in the Guidelines. Mr. Vogt verified that the results of several faculty surveys showed that, 70% of faculty members preferred the one-hour blocks.

*“8. For lecture sessions held between 9:30 am and 2:00 pm, faculties normally schedule 40% in one-hour blocks and 60% in 90-minute blocks. The Dean and/or Provost are consulted on any variance of this distribution,”*

Dr. Reid noted that the limitation of the scheduling guidelines seems to be the lack of classroom space, which therefore impacts how class time is organized. Mr. Silzer confirmed that, classes are scheduled to balance the optimization of building space while servicing the need of students to fulfill their program requirements. He added that, without infinite resources, any adopted scheduling model would have some impact on individual circumstances. The scheduling guidelines are designed to accommodate the most people that we can within the system. Vice-Chair Dr. Owram added that the administrative side of the class scheduling activity must also be considered. Dr. Cioe expressed the opinion that the Senate could choose the appropriate level of detail for its consideration of the scheduling guidelines.

In response to a question from Dr. Duran-Cogan, Vice-Chair Dr. Owram confirmed that, UBC does not have a faculty attendance policy.

*The motion was put and carried. Two opposed.*

## **Policies and Procedures Committee**

### ***UBC Okanagan Scheduling Principles***

Dr. Keyes introduced the report by stating that, the work of the Learning and Research Committee is to develop sound policies and procedures related to the area of Scheduling Guidelines a policy gap had been observed. Therefore, the Committee Chair proposed the following amended motion.

*Moved: Dr. Keyes  
Seconded: Dr. Broughton*

*That Senate direct the Learning and Research Committee to prepare for Senate's consideration no later than December 2008 a policy setting out principles for course scheduling and mechanisms to establish or amend scheduling guidelines at UBC Okanagan*

*CARRIED.*

## **Ad Hoc Committee to Consider the Format of the UBC Okanagan Convocation Ceremonies**

Dr. Reid asked that the text 'if feasible' be struck from item e. as noted below. The Committee also requested that it be discharged.

The Committee presented the following report for information:

*Senators may recall that in March 2008 the Senate established an Ad Hoc Committee to Consider the Format of the UBC Okanagan Convocation Ceremonies. The Ad Hoc committee was delegated Senate authority to make decisions with respect to the format of the June 2008 Okanagan graduation ceremonies.*

- a. **Emeriti:** The current practice of inviting professors emeriti to attend Convocation will continue.*
- b. **Faculty Participation:** In an effort to increase faculty participation, UBC Okanagan faculty members will be invited to participate in Convocation by printed invitation, followed by a reminder by e-mail.*
- c. **Welcome Walk and Exit Applause:** That the Ceremonies Office would coordinate, through the graduation marshals, the 'welcome walk' to include all faculty members and other members of the UBC Okanagan community, as the student graduates advance from the central courtyard to the graduation ceremonies held in the gymnasium. A similar 'applause guard' will be present as the students exit the graduation ceremonies and advance towards the courtyard;*

- d. **Enhanced Music:** *A fuller, regional musical experience inside the gymnasium will be coordinated by the Ceremonies Office, so as to improve the overall experience for guests attending the graduation ceremonies.*
- e. **Bagpipes:** *If feasible, Bagpipes will be included to lead the student and faculty processions from the courtyard to the gymnasium for the graduation ceremonies. In the event that a bagpiper is not available, the Ceremonies Office will coordinate, with Senate approval, an equally evocative musical choice.*

#### Discussion

Dr. Cioe expressed concern that professional development funds cannot be utilized to purchase graduation gowns. In an effort to increase faculty participation, he encouraged the Learning and Research Committee to consider the authorization of professional development funds to be used in this manner. Dr. Cioe congratulated the ad hoc committee on their work. Dr. Williams suggested that the faculties might rent generic graduation gowns for their faculty members. Vice-Chair Dr. Owram noted that this matter would be considered.

Dean Belton reminded Senators that sustainability is a pillar of the university and that encouraging print invitations does not support this. Dr. Reid noted that the Committee is maintaining a current practice of mailing invitations to faculty members. Vice-Chair Dr. Owram asked that all Deans remind their faculty members to attend the graduation ceremonies.

In response to an additional question from Dean Belton, Dr. Reid noted that the Okanagan region holds much musical talent that should be utilized for the graduation ceremony. He added enhancements to the music would improve the convocation experience for all participants.

*Moved: Mr. Koovisk  
Seconded: Dr. Lalonde*

*That the Senate thank and discharge the Ad Hoc Committee to Consider the Format of the UBC Okanagan Convocation Ceremonies.*

*CARRIED.*

#### **Report from the University Librarian –Ms. Melody Burton, Head, UBC Okanagan Library**

Ms. Burton had circulated a link to the electronic version of the 2006/2007 Report of the University Librarian to the Senate, which was available at:

[www.library.ubc.ca/home/UBC\\_RS\\_2006-07\\_fa.pdf](http://www.library.ubc.ca/home/UBC_RS_2006-07_fa.pdf).

Themes from the 2006/2007 year for the Okanagan Library included the following:

- The continued growth of the distinctly different UBC Okanagan branch within the unified UBC Library system.
- The electronic resources are now as significant as the tally of book resources. Whether in print or electronic, the most critical contribution the Library makes is to the student learning and faculty research.
- The ability for the Okanagan Library to purchase new monographs – almost 10,000 last year. A significant \$20,000 gift from Kenneth Whittall allowed for the purchase of mathematics monographs.
- The contribution of numerous e-resources to the UBC Library system including: ARTSTOR, Emerald, Backfiles, Ageline, and American Film Institute catalog.
- Although the Okanagan Library is currently limited by physical space, the planned opening of the south wing of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre in Vancouver is an exciting venture that combines learning spaces, a traditional study hall, and more, to be the only one of its kind in Canada.

### Discussion

In the spirit of collaboration, Dr. Keyes asked whether a Western Canadian consortium-type arrangement with the University of Alberta has been considered. Ms. Burton confirmed that the universities already collaborate by negotiating collectively with national vendors when purchasing new materials for the Library.

In response to from Dr. Williams, Ms. Burton stated that a survey related to library space at the Okanagan campus has been recently circulated. The results of a survey circulated last year showed that, the university community requires additional space and longer library hours during peak periods. Ms. Burton is hopeful that additional study and collection space would be available in the longer term. Vice-Chair Dr. Owram noted that once the campus has sufficient classroom space, then the Library could expand to the second and third floors of the Library building.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The following regular meeting of the Senate was scheduled to be held on Thursday 15 May 2008 at 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm in Library 317.

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