



# OKANAGAN SENATE

MINUTES OF 28 JANUARY 2021

**DRAFT**

## Attendance

**Present:** S. Ono, K. Ross, L. Cormack, A. Mukherjee-Reed, H. Berringer, P. Simpson, J. Olson, B. Traister, S. Tomaskova, B. Frank, R. Sugden, G. DiLabio, R. Campbell, J. Cioe, T. Ebl, J. Eikenaar, K. Hodges M. Evans, G. Binsted, G. Garrard, R. Johnson, Y. Lucet, P. Lasserre, S. Hilton, P. Arthur, J. Picault, K. Ragoonaden, S. Willis-Stewart, M. Legault, B. Marcolin, R. Laonde, S. Cherkowski, S. McNeil, L. Markley, M. Libben,, M. Reeves, T. Forneris, J. Jakobi, R. Frost, R. Herzberg, J. Lee, K. Morgan, R. Petillion, B. Heerema, , R. Metcalfe, V. Tamandong, J. Naqvi, G. Singh, S. Cannon, A. Alnaar, M. Arthur.

**Regrets:** S. Point, S. Bates, P. Barker, J. Holzman S. O’Leary, B. Le Normand M. Pilin, D. Jarrouj, M. Lunde,

**Guest:** R. Sadiq

**Clerk:** C. Eaton

## Call to Order

The Chair of Senate, Dr Santa Ono called the fifth regular meeting of the Okanagan Senate to order at 3:35 pm.

## Minutes of Previous Meetings

Jan Cioe	}	<i>That the Minutes of the Meetings of 17 December 2020 adopted as presented.</i>
Barbara Marcolin		

Approved

## Remarks from the Chair

Dr Ono began his remarks by thanking Western Economic Diversification Canada for providing \$1.9 million in funding to the Okanagan campus to develop an innovation hub that will promote clean technologies that convert carbon-based additives and components into new, sustainable products. This will allow UBC to work with manufacturing, mining and lumber companies in Western Canada to research how industrial waste can gain a second life as high-quality carbon products.



Dr Ono congratulated Professor Mohammad Arjmand of the School of Engineering and his PhD Student, Farhad Ahmadijokani for their recent development of a cost-effective material that can help remove toxic chemicals from water supplies.

Dr Ono noted that all of the UBC community have made sacrifices over the past year, and expressed his thanks to the entire Okanagan campus – faculty, students and staff – for their efforts, whether through research, through adjustments to online learning and remote work, through helping others in the community or by coming to campus to keep the university functioning. He noted that we would have to continue to be patient as vaccines were distributed as it would be many months before campus could return to normal activities. To that end, UBC was preparing for that eventuality; while remote instruction would remain in place, we hoped to expand in person instruction when safe to do so. Dr Ono said that UBC was mapping out scenarios for the 2021/22 Winter Session. Key to being able to contemplate a return to largely in-person instruction will be the ability to travel more freely and gather in greater numbers than is currently possible. Recognizing the continued uncertainty regarding COVID-19, and the vaccine rollout, the President said that we could not confirm specific timelines at this stage but would communicate any decisions as soon as possible.

The President noted that this Senate meeting was on Bell Let's Talk Mental Health Day. Dr Ono reminded senators that suicide was the second leading cause of death in Canada for those between the ages of 15 and 24, and COVID-19 has only made things worse. Since the start of the pandemic, 27 per cent of Canadian post-secondary respondents have contemplated suicide, 30 per cent said they've considered quitting school and 29 per cent have considered self-harm. Dr Ono further noted that Black people, Indigenous people, and people of colour in particular have been impacted.

Dr Ono also noted that next month would be Black History Month. He said that while we should celebrate Black history and excellence any day and every day, this is an opportunity for a focused, intentional, and elevated reflection and recognition of Black history and achievement - and the many contributions of Black Canadians, Black British Columbians and Black students, faculty, and staff at UBC. Dr Ono suggested that this was an opportunity for us – both as individuals and as a university community – to reaffirm and critically reflect on our commitments and efforts to acknowledge and tackle anti-Black racism and to better support Black students, faculty, and staff. To that end, Dr Ono said that he was pleased to note UBC's commitments to recruit, retain and support Black students, faculty and staff and share some initial progress to date – from developing recruitment awards and mentorship programs for Black students, to supporting Black spaces, and doing the groundwork towards the creation of a Black studies program.

Senator McNeil said that the logistical challenges around the vaccine could be helped by using campuses as vaccination sites for university students.

Dr Ono said that we are having those conversations with the ministries of Health and Advanced Education; he did advise that one reason for an expedited return to in-person or hybrid instruction was that there were mental health concerns around fully remote instruction.



Senator Cioe noted that he and Senator Eikenaar had been on the President's recent podcast and expressed his thanks for that opportunity.

Senator Sugden said that we know about the schedule for BC but many of our students come from outside of BC, be that nationally or internationally. He noted that his Faculty of Management was roughly 30% international and was very aware of global differences and implications of the pandemic beyond the immediate medical issues. For his faculty, virtual access remained crucial to support all of our students.

The President said that the issues of safety and border restrictions were being discussed at the federal level by the U15 group of universities and that discussions were ongoing.

### **Remarks from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor**

The Principal and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Dr Lesley Cormack, noted the importance of the relationship between the Okanagan campus and its local community. Dr Cormack noted the many research projects being conducted in partnership with the Okanagan region, and their economic, academic, and cultural connections. To that end, she advised that they were working for a regional branch office of Western Economic Development Canada to be established in Kelowna. If successful, that would bring tremendous possibilities to the region for both the University and local industries.

Secondly, Dr Cormack noted that consultation was ongoing for the downtown Kelowna campus development. Dr Cormack expressed the eagerness of the city and region to support the campus.

Dr Cormack noted that last week the campus had presented its one-year report on the campus achievements towards its Truth and Reconciliation Committee commitments, and advised that tangible progress has been made.

In closing, Dr Cormack noted the recent campus Society of Scholar's "Life raft debate" where she was one of five scholars who argued for the importance of their discipline for the survival of society. She graciously congratulated Dr Ray Taheri of the School of Engineering for his victory.

### **PROVOST'S REMARKS**

The Vice-President Academic and Provost, Dr Ananya Mukherjee-Reed updated the Senate on planning for the 2021 Winter Session, noting that this was difficult due to the constantly evolving situation. A message has been sent from her office to the faculties to prepare for the fall with the expectation that most activities will be in person.

With respect to faculty hiring, Dr Mukherjee-Reed noted that the faculty were moving forward with offers for new positions, and in particular, there was more action for hiring faculty who self-



identified as indigenous, black or persons of colour. The Provost noted that an anti-racism initiative fund had been established where faculty, staff, and students could apply for funding.

The Provost noted that the enrolment report was to be reviewed later this meeting, and enrolment targets would be considered at the next Senate meeting.

In closing, Dr Mukherjee-Reed noted that as Dr Sugden had raised, there were particular challenges for international students who are concerned that they may not be able to attend in person due to either vaccine availability and travel restrictions. The Provost advised that the student support funding made available for the online transition would be maintained if needed.

### **Admission & Awards Committee**

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

#### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY TEST OPTIONS**

Tamara Ebl	}	<i>Senate approves the proposed English Language Test Options as presented for admission to the 2021 Session Winter only.</i>
Barbara Marcolin		

Senator Cioe question on diversity and the issue of costs associated with testing instruments. He asked why we didn't use lower cost options.

The Registrar, Dr Kate Ross, said that she would take the matter to admissions for further review.

Dean Traister noted that we would be accepting the Duolingo assessment for the first time. He said that two years ago we decided not to use it as it wasn't verified yet and it had issues. He asked if something has changed in the past two years, or is it more about the availability and cost.

The Registrar said that both the assessment and our understanding of it has been further developed and they felt it should be used in this context.

Dean Traister said that he understood the reluctance but also the cost issues. He said that he hoped we would track how those students performed at university to see if the test should continue to be used.

Senator Lucet asked if this was just for undergraduate applicants or for all applicants.

Ms. Ebl said that this particular proposal was for undergraduate admissions but that Graduate Studies was looking at similar changes.



Senator Cioe said that graduate admission was more individual and program specific in its admission considerations.

Approved

#### NEW AND REVISED AWARDS

*See Appendix A: Awards Report*

Tamara Ebl Venedict Tamandong	}	<i>That Senate accept the new and revised awards as listed, that they be forwarded to the Board of Governors for approval, and that letters of thanks be sent to the donors.</i>
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Approved

#### Agenda Committee

The Chair of the Senate Agenda Committee, Dr Jan Cioe, presented.

#### SENATE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2021-2022

Jan Cioe Peter Arthur	}	That, in accordance with Rule 15 (b), the regular Senate meeting schedule for 2021-2022 be established as follows: 30 September 2021, 28 October 2021, 25 November 2021, 16 December 2021, 27 January 2022, 24 February 2022, 31 March 2022, 28 April 2022, 19 May 2022.
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Approved

#### Curriculum Committee

The Chair of the Senate Curriculum Committee, Dr Yves Lucet, presented.

*See Appendix B: Curriculum Report*

Yves Lucet Brendan Heerema	}	<i>That the new courses, revised courses, discontinued course, and revised programs brought forward by the Faculties of Applied Science, Arts and Social Sciences, Creative and</i>
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*Critical Studies, and Health and Social  
Development be approved*

Senator Cioe commented on the Bachelor of Arts program revisions and the need for students to have a wide range of courses. He asked senators to encourage their colleagues to submit courses

Senator Marcolin asked if students in the Bachelor of Arts had room in their program to complete the new minor option in Management.

Senator Cioe said that the Bachelor of Arts changes provided students with more flexibility, as did the recent Bachelor of Science changes.

Approved

**Joint Report of the Admission & Awards and Curriculum Committees**

The Chair of the Senate Curriculum Committee, Dr Yves Lucet, presented.

**UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN COMMUNICATIONS AND RHETORIC**

*See Appendix B: Curriculum Report*

Yves Lucet  
Bryce Traister

}

*That the Undergraduate Certificate in  
Communications and Rhetoric and new courses  
brought forward by the Faculty of Creative and  
Critical Studies be approved.*

Approved

**MASTER OF MANAGEMENT DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM OPTION**

*See Appendix B: Curriculum Report*

Yves Lucet  
Kristen Morgan

}

*That the Master of Management Dual Degree  
Program Option brought forward by the Faculty  
of Management, and the related Dual Degree  
Program Option Calendar entries brought  
forward by the Faculties of Arts and Social  
Sciences, Creative and Critical Studies, Health  
and Social Development, Science, and Applied  
Science be approved.*



Senators Cioe and Eikenaar asked about how we would ensure we are consulting with our indigenous partners on relevant proposals.

The President said that Lightfoot and Moss were working on improving our consultation mechanisms with indigenous nations and peoples. He suggested that they be invited to a future Senate meeting to speak on this work.

Approved

## Nominating Committee

The Chair of the Senate Learning & Research Committee, Dr Jannik Eikenaar presented.

### COMMITTEE ADJUSTMENTS

Jannik Eikenaar	}	<i>That Stephen O’Leary be appointed to the Council</i>
Jan Cioe		<i>Budget Committee until 31 August 2023 and</i>
		<i>thereafter until replaced, to fill a vacancy;</i>

*That Karen Hodges and Mistaya Arthur be appointed to the Admissions & Awards Committee until 31 August 2023 and thereafter until replaced, to fill vacancies;*

*That Mistaya Arthur be appointed to the Learning & Research Committee until 31 August 2023 and thereafter until replaced, to fill a vacancy and*

*That Ruth Frost be elected to the Council of Senates to replace Karen Ragoonaden.*

In response to a question from Senator Evans, Dr Eikenaar said that the Nominating Committee considered a desire for a diversity of voices, including experience, disciplinary and demographic balance, and expressed interest in making recommendations. The Committee also considered the views of committee chairs. He noted that mid-term replacements were more difficult to balance than new appointments at the start of each triennium.

Approved

## Report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

### INCLUSION ACTION PLAN



The Deputy Vice-Chancellor introduced Dr Sara-Jane Finlay Associate Vice-President Equity and Inclusion.

Dr Finlay noted that she had brought the Inclusion Action Plan to the Okanagan Senate in draft form in November 2019. Since that time, we have worked on a final draft and on implementation plans. She noted that the plan was institutional, designed to be a guiding framework for the next 7-10 years, and was formed following broad community feedback. It was meant to be adaptable so that academic and operational units could incorporate it into divisional planning or strategic planning, or into their own inclusion plans. She noted that one of the things they recognized was that there is a great deal of very good work going on across both our campuses already.

Dr Finlay said that the goal of the plan broadly was to build a more inclusive campus, and to bring work together under a single framework. Over the next year, they would be developing some key performance metrics and some case studies so that we would be able to report on the progress and support the accountability around inclusion to understand the impact of this work at UBC. Dr Finlay said that the plan itself consisted of five goals: Recruitment, Retention, & Success; Systems Change; Capacity Building; Learning, Research, & Engagement; and Accountability. Under each of those high-level goals are a number of actions. Dr Finlay said that it wasn't the expectation that any one unit in the University would take all of these actions and implement them all.

Dr Finlay then went over the implementation and institutional support structure for the plan as outlined.

Senator McNeil asked if students still had to select a gender on applications

Dr Ross said that with Edplanner BC we will have a gender question that gives more options for next year.

Senator Gerrard asked about the Equity leads. He asked how that responsibility would interface with the usual faculty/director level leaderships for strategic planning.

Dr Finlay said that the desire of the Inclusion Action Plan was to provide support to the people doing this work within units. She said that these who were interested could have someone attend their community of practice meetings to understand the tool available.

Senator Garrard said he appreciated the idea of the community of practice but expressed a concern with the language around "responsible for coordinating the implementation of commitments" as this suggested a management role.

Dr Finlay said that the selection of these people was up to the relevant unit.

Dr Mukherjee-Reed said that the overall plan would need to be customized for the Okanagan campus as they didn't need the levels of





people that a larger campus such as Vancouver may need. She said that they were working on a local implementation and that this would be brought to Senate.

Senator Hodge asked about the granularity of data that could be considered, noting that University or campus-level data wouldn't tell us what units were being more or less successful. She noted that this was a high-level document but that detailed data would be required for units to know what to do.

Dr Finlay said that we were working to improve our data, in particular on students. Only a limited amount of demographic data was available for students presently. A project was underway between her office, the Registrar, and PAIR, to see if more data could be collected on those students who registered at UBC.

Senator Ragoonaden said that we should ensure that we had a diversity of representation in terms of gender, race, and other areas of background when expressing ourselves to the local community.

#### INCLUSION ACTION PLAN ENDORSEMENT

Lesley Cormack  
Barbara Marcolin

}

*That Senate endorse the Inclusion Action Plan as set out in the distributed material.*

Approved

#### Report from the Provost

##### 2020 ENROLMENT REPORT

Provost introduced Deputy Registrar Alfred Vogt who presented. He noted that it was presented now for information and as at the next Senate meeting Senate would be asked to consider enrolment targets for next year as a matter of approval. In addition to the written report, Mr Vogt highlighted some matters for Senate. He noted that UBC saw a 3% increase in headcount this year and we have 17% of our students that are enrolled in the Okanagan and the other 83% are enrolled on the Vancouver campus and in terms of full-time equivalency (FTE).

With particular respect to the Okanagan campus, Mr Vogt noted that the campus now had 11 562 students, an 8% increase over the previous year. It was now at 114% of its government-funded target for domestic students. 8% of the student body identified as Aboriginal, and 19% of the undergraduate and 36% of the graduate student body was international.

With respect to the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on applications, Mr Vogt noted that there was still a very strong applicant pools this year: domestic applications were up domestic



undergraduate applications were up 8% from last year and international applications were up by 3%. He noted that uncertainty was growing last spring as UBC began to make offers to students, and there were many lots of new factors which meant we were not sure what our yield would be from admission offers. As a result, a strategic decision was made to increase the number of offers being made as a result. As it turns out, the yield did not change and so the number of students admitted went up

Senator Ebl expressed a concern over our over-enrolment and the costs incurred by the University for educating students beyond those supported by the government grant.

The President said that there were funding risks around dropping below those government targets but understood the point as being we should be closer to the targets.

Senator Eikenaar noted that our retention rate after first year was around 90%, but asked why our completion rate was only 70% and if we could do anything to help that number improve.

The Provost noted that both our retention and completion rates were overall good in comparison to other institutions.

Senator Cioe noted that the campus lost some students as transfers to the Okanagan. He said that if the system didn't lose students it wasn't as much of a concern. In some cases, students want specific programming that is only available on the other campus.

The President said that this was a good reason to have further conversations around cross-campus collaboration.

Dr Ross noted that this was a six- year completion rate not overall completion. One thing we did know is that the students were on average taking more time to complete their degrees, either due to co-operative education opportunities or taking a reduced course load.

## **Adjournment**

Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:21 p.m.



## Appendix A: Awards Report

### NEW AWARD:

Proposed Title: **Lesley Cormack Travel and Research Enhancement Award**

Travel awards totalling \$2,000, ranging in value from \$250 to \$1,000, have been made available through an endowment established by Lesley Cormack, along with matching funds from The University of British Columbia, to full-time graduate students at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. Candidates must be presenting their work or research at major national and/or international conferences or are travelling to develop their research. Preference given to students in non-stem disciplines. The awards will be adjudicated by the College of Graduate Studies. (First awards available for the 2025/26 Winter Session)

### PREVIOUSLY APPROVED AWARD WITH CHANGES IN TERMS OR FUNDING SOURCE:

Existing description (2020):

Award Title: UBC Okanagan Management Student Association Scholarship

**Six** Three \$2,000 scholarships have been made available annually through a gift from the UBC Okanagan Management Student Association, **along with matching funds from The University of British Columbia**, for continuing undergraduate students in the Faculty of Management at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. The scholarships will be adjudicated by Enrolment Services. (First awards available for the 2020/21 Winter Session)

Amended Description: UBC Okanagan Management Student Association Scholarship

Six \$2,000 scholarships have been made available annually through a gift from the UBC Okanagan Management Student Association, along with matching funds from The University of British Columbia, for continuing undergraduate students in the Faculty of Management at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. The scholarships will be adjudicated by Enrolment Services. (First awards available for the 2020/21 Winter Session)

Rationale: The University has matched the donor funds

Existing description (2017):

Award Title: Paul Jubinville Memorial Bursary in Engineering

A \$2,000 bursary **has been made available through an endowment established** is offered by the family and friends of Paul Jubinville, **along with matching funds from The University of British Columbia**, to an **fourth-year** electrical engineering student in the School of Engineering in the Faculty of Applied Science at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. Preference is given to a **fourth-year** student who demonstrates an assessed financial need. Paul was from Kamloops and attended Thompson Rivers University before UBC Okanagan, where he received his undergraduate Engineering degree in spring of 2016, shortly before he passed away from brain cancer. In loving memory, Paul is remembered as a witty and intelligent young man of strong character who was just starting his journey in life. **The bursary will be adjudicated by Enrolment Services.**

Amended Description: Paul Jubinville Memorial Bursary in Engineering



A \$2,000 bursary has been made available through an endowment established by the family and friends of Paul Jubinville, along with matching funds from The University of British Columbia, to an electrical engineering student in the School of Engineering in the Faculty of Applied Science at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. Preference is given to a fourth-year student who demonstrates an assessed financial need. Paul was from Kamloops and attended Thompson Rivers University before UBC Okanagan, where he received his undergraduate Engineering degree in spring of 2016, shortly before he passed away from brain cancer. In loving memory, Paul is remembered as a witty and intelligent young man of strong character who was just starting his journey in life. The bursary will be adjudicated by Enrolment Services.

Rationale: The family has decided to endow the award



## **Appendix B: Curriculum Report**

### **FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE**

APSC 530 – New course

APSC 547 – New course

Master of Engineering, Program Requirements

### **FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

ANTH 210 – New course

ANTH 277 – New course

PHIL 240 – New course

Bachelor of Arts Programs, Degree Requirements for students entering the program in 2021/2022 or later

### **FACULTY OF CREATIVE AND CRITICAL STUDIES**

CCS 510 – New course

CCS 511 – New course

CCS 512 – New course

CRWR 580 – Discontinuation of course

CRWR 581 – New course

CRWR 582 – New course

Specialization in Creative Writing)

CULT 360 – New course

CORH 360 – New course

Bachelor of Arts Programs, Cultural Studies

### **FACULTY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

HES 515 – New course

HES 516 – New course

HES 525 – New course

HES 526 – New course

HES 535 – New course

HES 536 – New course

NRSG 554 – Revised course

NRSG 580 – Revised course

NRSG 601 – Revised course

### **FACULTY OF CREATIVE AND CRITICAL STUDIES**

Undergraduate Certificate in Communications and Rhetoric

CORH 206 – New course

CORH 216 – New course

CORH 321 – New course

CORH 331 – New course

CORH 499 – New course

### **FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT**

Master of Management Dual Degree Program Option, Program Overview,



Admission Requirements, Degree Requirements, Academic Regulations

**FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Dual Degree Program Option: Bachelor of Arts and Master of Management

**FACULTY OF CREATIVE AND CRITICAL STUDIES**

Dual Degree Program Option: Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Management

Dual Degree Program Option: Bachelor of Media Studies and Master of Management

**FACULTY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

School of Health and Exercise Sciences, Dual Degree Program Option: Bachelor of Health and Exercise Sciences and Master of Management

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE**

Dual Degree Program Option: Bachelor of Science and Master of Management

**Faculty of Applied Science**

Dual Degree Program Option: Bachelor of Applied Science and Master of Management