

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA | OKANAGAN



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Okanagan Senate

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 31, 2006

Attendance:

Present: President S. Toope (Chair), Dr. A. McEachern (Chancellor), Deputy Vice-Chancellor D. Owrap, Acting Registrar and Secretary F. Vogt, Mr. P. Arthur, Mr. G. August, Dr. J. Bassett-Smith, Dean B. Bauer, Dean R. Belton, Dean J. Bottorff, Ms. M. Burton, Acting Dean R. Campbell, Dr. J. Cioe, Dr. R. Currie, Ms. M. Fiske, Dr. J. Gustar, Dean M. Isaacson, Dr. D. Keyes, Dr. R. Klukas, Mr. M. Koovisk, Dean M. Krank, Dr. A. Labun, Dr. R. Lalonde, Dr. S. McCoubrey, Ms. N. Neumann, Dr. D. Salhani, Dr. M. Williams, Dr. P. Wrzesniewski.

By Invitation: Dr. A. Abd-El-Aziz, Associate Vice-President, Academic & Research; Mr. C. Eaton, Enrolment Services; Ms. S. Grass; Ms. B. MacDonald, Enrolment Services.

Regrets: Mr. R. Adl, Dr. W. Broughton, Dr. E. Butz, Mr. C. Carta, Dr. J. Castricano, Ms. L. Driscoll, Dr. M. Duran-Cogan, Ms. K. Fiske, Mr. B. Ford, Mr. P. Garrick, Ms. E. Johnston, Ms. D. Polson, Dr. S. Reid, Dr. C. Scarff, Dr. D. Senese, Dr. M. Ungureanu, Dr. P. Wylie, Ms. G. Zilm.

Recording Secretary: Ms. L. M. Collins.

Call to Order

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Dr. J. Cioe

Dr. S. McCoubrey }

That the minutes of the meeting of September 27, 2006 be adopted as circulated.

There were two editorial corrections: to the spelling of Dr. Abd-El-Aziz's surname, and to the name of a spectrometer known as "LAM-ICPMS."

The motion was put and carried.

2. Business Arising From the Minutes

None.

3. Chair's Remarks

President Toope introduced Ms. Barbra MacDonald, a temporary Administrative Assistant in the Senate Secretariat.

He invited general questions from the floor.

Dr. Williams asked about Professor Toope's goals during his term as President, particularly whether he shared former President Piper's goal to make UBC the premier undergraduate university in Canada. Dr. Williams asked whether the President could share his views on two or three primary objectives for UBC Okanagan over the following two years, and about his plans for implementation. President Toope agreed to respond more fully to this question at the following meeting of the Senate.

President Toope noted that UBC Okanagan, as a small campus with dedicated faculty and staff and increasingly excellent students, would raise the overall profile of the University. He noted the difficulty associated with defining "the premier undergraduate university," given that UBC was ranked globally in different positions by different organizations. President Toope felt it realistic to acknowledge that UBC would not displace all other Canadian institutions in the rankings within the next three years. He stated that it was a worthy goal to create at UBC Okanagan the best possible undergraduate experience, which included academic programs, residence life, student services, and athletic programs. President Toope was hopeful that the small size of UBC Okanagan would facilitate innovation that was not possible on a larger scale. He noted that current faculty recruitment efforts would shape the campus for decades to follow.

President Toope indicated his endorsement of the UBC Okanagan Academic Plan. He described it as vital and noted that it was more specifically tailored to address the student experience than were the *Trek 2010* goals. Dr. Cioe described the Academic Plan as a tool for evaluating progress toward institutional goals. If progress were not being made, he stated that the campus would need to either reevaluate the goals or create a context for change.

Dr. Owrap stated that he and Dr. Abd-El-Aziz would be working to align budgets with the goals articulated in the Academic Plan. President Toope stated that he had committed to this alignment for the University as a whole. Dean Belton cited a recent example of a decision to cancel plans to construct a cinematheque in favour of a fixed-seat lecture theatre with no apparent consultation, and noted a possible detriment to campus life. Dr. Owrap stated that he had recently been informed about this change in plans and would respond shortly. President Toope agreed that appropriate consultation was important.

4. Deputy Vice-Chancellor's Remarks

Dr. Owrap noted that Ms. Sharon Thesen, Associate Professor of Creative Writing, had been nominated for a 2006 Governor General's Literary Award for her book of poetry entitled *The Good Bacteria*. He congratulated Ms. Thesen on her nomination.

Dr. Owrap reported that Enrolment Services had received 230 requests from graduates of Okanagan University College to convert their degrees to UBC degrees under the arrangement approved by the Senate in September 2006. One applicant happened to be a UBC Okanagan staff member, and a special presentation of a framed parchment had been made to honour the occasion.

Dr. Owrap reported that the UBC Faculty Association had recently held a reception to welcome him as Deputy Vice-Chancellor. The reception had led to an opportunity for him to attend a class, which he described as fun and informative. Dr. Owrap indicated interest in attending future classes upon invitation from instructors.

On a less positive note, Dr. Owrap reported that some vandalism had recently taken place in the student residences. He stated that he would be working closely with the Vice-President, Students, the Associate Vice-President, Students, and the Associate Vice-President, Operations to ensure that similar incidents did not occur in future. He indicated that the problem appeared to be restricted to a small group of students.

5. From the Board of Governors

Dr. Oworm confirmed for information that the following recommendations from the Okanagan Senate had been approved by the Board of Governors, as required under the *University Act* Sections 37(1)(i)(o)(p) and 38. Approval was subject where applicable to the provisos that any new programs are not implemented without formal reference to the President; and that the Deans and Heads concerned with new programs be asked to indicate the space requirements, if any, of such new programs.

Meeting of May 12, 2006

- a. The co-conferral of the Bachelor of Business Administration with Okanagan College;
- b. New Awards;
- c. New Awards Program: Graduating Medals for Heads of Class;
- d. Curriculum proposals from the Faculties of Arts & Sciences and Creative & Critical Studies.

6. Nominating Committee: Appointment of Senators to the Council of Senates and Recommendation of 4th Standing Committee Chair to Serve on the Council of Senates

As Chair of the Committee, Dr. Lalonde presented the report.

Dr. Lalonde

Mr. Koovisk }

That the following Standing Committee appointments be made:

Committee	Senator
Council of Senates Okanagan Representative Committee One	Dr Jan Cioe
Council of Senates Okanagan Representative Committee Two	Dr Mercedes Duran-Cogan
Council of Senates Okanagan Representative Committee Three	Dr Carol Scarff
Council of Senates Okanagan Representative Committee Four	Dean Joan Bottorf
Council of Senates Okanagan Representative Committee Five	Ms Melissa Ficke

And;

That these appointments made are until the conclusion of this Senate (August 31 2008), except in the case of Ms Ficke, whose appointment is until March 31 2007, and are made with the understanding that should one of the above persons cease to be a member of Senate, he or she will be replaced on the relevant Committee by Senate at its earliest convenience;

And;

That Senate recommend to those members of the Council of Senates who elect Committee Chair representatives that the Chair of the Learning & Research Committee serve on the Council of Senates ex officio.

The motion was put and carried.

7. Policies & Procedures Committee: Changes to Course Withdrawal Regulations

Committee Chair Dean Isaacson withdrew the proposal and indicated that the Committee had received additional information it wished to consider before making a recommendation to the Senate.

8a. Joint Report from Curriculum and Admissions & Awards Committees: Bachelor of Arts in Health Studies

Curriculum Committee Chair Dr. Gustar presented the joint report. She reported that, due to processing problems in the Senate Secretariat, the proposal had not been considered by the Admissions & Awards Committee in the normal way. It had been circulated by e-mail, rather than considered at a meeting. Although both Committees strongly supported the proposal in principle, there remained several minor issues to be considered by both the Admissions & Awards Committee and Curriculum Committee.

Amendment to the Proposal

There was discussion about the nature and scope of the issues remaining before the Committees, and about how best to proceed. As a result of this discussion, the following three sections were deleted from the proposal for approval to allow for refinement of these sections by the Committees and presentation for Senate approval at a later date:

1. Progression Requirements;
2. Minor in Health Studies;
3. Paragraph on p. 5 beginning, "Note that all baccalaureate courses delivered in Health Studies by the Faculty of Health and Social Development..."

Dr. Gustar

Dr. Salhani }

That the Bachelor of Arts in Health Studies and its related courses be approved as amended.

Discussion

Dr. Labun expressed concern about the admission requirement of Principles of Mathematics 11. He suggested that because numerical and quantitative analyses would be required in the program, it would make sense to require Principles of Mathematics 12. Dean Bauer stated that the Bachelor of Arts in Health Studies was modeled on the Bachelor of Arts, but was in fact a different program. Dean Bottorff stated that she was confident that the grade 11 mathematics course would provide sufficient background.

Dr. Williams expressed concern about the presentation of the proposal for Senate approval without full consideration by the Admissions & Awards Committee. He did not wish this to set a precedent, as he felt the Committee consideration was essential. Dr. Cioe presented the opposite argument, stating that there may be occasions where the Senate wished to take a decision without, or in spite of, a recommendation from a Committee.

The motion was put and carried.

8b. Joint Report from Curriculum and Admissions & Awards Committees: Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Biology

Curriculum Committee Chair Dr. Gustar presented the joint proposal to establish two new graduate programs.

Dr. Gustar

Dean Krank }

That the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Biology and their related courses be approved.

Discussion

Dean Krank clarified that, although the College of Graduate Studies had reviewed and supported the proposal, the two new programs would be administered by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

The motion was put and carried.

9a. Admissions & Awards Committee: New Award

Committee Chair Dr. McCoubrey presented the Sun-Rype Founders' Scholarship for approval. She requested that the award description be corrected to indicate that the first award would be available in 2007/2008.

Dr. McCoubrey

Dr. Currie }

That the new award be accepted and forwarded to the Board of Governors for approval, and that a letter of thanks be sent to the donors.

Carried.

9b. Admissions & Awards Committee: Revision of Admission Statement for Trades and Technology Education

Committee Chair Dr. McCoubrey presented the report.

Dr. McCoubrey

Acting Dean Campbell }

That the revisions to the admission statement for Trades and Technology Education be approved.

Carried.

10. Other Business: Speaking Rights

Dr. Cioe recalled that the Senate had previously discussed the section of its Rules and Procedures that regulated how many times a Senator may speak on an item, and requested that the Policies & Procedures Committee revisit the matter.

Dr. Cioe

Dr. Gustar }

That the matter of speaking rights for Senators at meetings of the Senate be directed to the Policies & Procedures Committee for consideration for inclusion on a future Senate meeting agenda.

Carried.

10. Other Business: Design Guidelines Steering Committee

On behalf of absent Senator Dr. Reid, Dean Bauer gave a brief update on the activities of the Design Guidelines Steering Committee. He reminded Senators that this Committee had been tasked with providing guidelines about issues such as building design, signage, colours, etc. for the UBC Okanagan campus. The Committee's report was in its penultimate stage and would soon be available on the web. Following presentation to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor's Executive Council, the report would be sent to the Property & Planning Committee of the Board of Governors.

10. Other Business: Honourary Degree Nominations

As Policies & Procedures Committee Chair, Dean Isaacson reported that few nominations of candidates for honourary degrees had been received to date. He reminded Senators that the granting of honourary degrees to prominent people would raise the profile of UBC Okanagan, and encouraged Senators to consider submitting nominations.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The following regular meeting of the Senate was scheduled to take place on November 24, 2006.