

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA | OKANAGAN



OKANAGAN SENATE
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OKANAGAN SENATE

MINUTES OF 12 SEPTEMBER 2007

Attendance

Present: Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr. D. Owram (Vice-Chair), Dr. A. S. Abd-El-Aziz, Mr. R. Adl, Mr. P. Arthur, Ms. S. Barnard, Dr. J. Bassett-Smith, Dean B. Bauer, Dean R. Belton, Dean J. Bottorff, Dr. W. Broughton, Dr. E. Butz, Dr. J. Castricano, Dr. J. Cioe, Dr. M. Duran-Cogan, Ms. E. Johnston, Dr. D. Keyes, Dr. R. Klukas, Mr. M. Koovisk, Dean M. Krank, Dr. A. Labun, Dr. R. Lalonde, Ms. V. Lymberopoulos, Dr. S. McCoubrey, Dr. C. McFadyen, Ms. N. Neumann, Mr. O. Penner, Dr. S. Reid, Dr. C. Scarff, Dr. M. Ungureanu, Mr. F. Vogt (Acting Registrar & Secretary), Dr. M. Williams, Ms. M. Wilson

By Invitation: Dr. R. Currie, From Enrolment Services: Ms. L. M. Collins, Mr. C. Eaton

Regrets: President Stephen Toope, Mr. G. August, Ms. M. Burton, Dean R. Campbell, Mr. R. Chavarie, Ms. L. Driscoll, Mr. R. Gandha, Dr. J. Gustar, Dean M. Isaacson, Mr. G. Lepp, Mr. D. Lubbers, Chancellor Dr. A. McEachern, Ms. M. Patapoff, Mr. B. Silzer, Mr. C. Wilson, Dr. P. Wrzesniewski, Ms. G. Zilm

Recording Secretary: Ms. N. Limbos-Bomberg

Call to Order

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Doug Owram called the meeting to order.

Agenda

The Agenda was accepted by consent.

Senate Membership

On behalf of the Secretary to Senate, Mr. Fred Vogt declared a vacancy for one representative of the Joint Faculties to replace resigning Senator Dr. Donna Senese.

Mr. Vogt called for nominations to replace Dr. Peter Wylie and Dr. Donna Senese (Representatives of the Joint Faculties) plus two additional Representatives of the Joint Faculties; Mr. Eaton noted that information on the nomination deadline will follow via broadcast email.

Mr. Vogt declared a vacancy and called for nominations for one Faculty Member or Dean to replace Dr. Peter Wylie on the Nominating Committee for the remainder of this Senate term until 31 August 2008 and thereafter until replaced. Nominees should identify themselves to the Senate Secretariat no later than 4pm on 28 September 2007.

Mr. Vogt announced the replacement of Dr. Richard Klukas (Representative of the Faculty of Applied Science) by Dr. Spiro Yannacopoulos effective 1 November 2007.

Lastly, Mr. Vogt welcomed Dean Ian Stuart to the Okanagan Senate in his ex officio role as the Dean of Management. All Senators applauded in welcoming Dean Stuart to the University of British Columbia and the Okanagan Senate.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved: Dr. Keyes

Seconded: Mr. Koovisk

That the minutes of the Okanagan Senate Meeting of 23 May 2007 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Mr. Koovisk inquired as to the current status of the student graduand discussed in camera at the last Senate meeting. Mr. Vogt noted for Senate that the matter has been settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

Vice-Chair's Remarks and Related Questions

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Doug Oworm welcomed all Senators back to the 2007-2008 academic year and noted several highlights for the coming year:

- Sixty new faculty members have been welcomed to UBC Okanagan with new hires starting soon.

- Construction progress includes newly paved roads with infill landscaping occurring over the next few weeks. Early October is the estimated completion date for the new flyover. Construction has started on the new Student Centre forming a new student quad facing the residences. Also of note, the Fipke Centre will open next June for lab and office space.
- Progress in on-campus housing is meeting the high demand with some 1,070 beds and new residences planned for 2009.
- Enrolment is up 17% despite demographic trends; for several reasons: 1) retention rates increases (80% overall; 72% in first year); and 2) 40% of students are from Okanagan and out-of-province numbers are up with the largest numbers from Ontario.
- Additional UBC Okanagan enrolment statistics include more than 200 international students, 250 graduate students (as graduate programs are expanding) and 235 aboriginal students.

Dr. Owrap summarized by stating that despite the fact that enrolment targets of 900 student increases have not been met, these figures speak favorably to a new university campus where students are often choosing to attend Okanagan over Vancouver.

Dr. Cioe inquired about the traffic pattern for the new flyover with a concern over exits; Dr. Owrap noted that these patterns are evolving and special attention is being paid to efficiency and safety for both pedestrians and vehicles.

Dr. Keyes voiced his hope that the new landscaping would take into consideration issues of sustainability raised in the Academic Plan while Ms. Neumann inquired after thoughts to replace pines lost. Dr. Owrap noted all these issues were under consideration.

Lastly, Dr. Owrap noted that a small task force led by Dr. Alaa Abd-El-Aziz will review certain areas of concern to Senate and make recommendations to the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor by January 2008.

From the Board of Governors

Confirmation that the following recommendations of Okanagan Senate were approved as required under the *University Act* Sections 37 (l) (i) (o) (p) and 38.

4 April 2007 Meeting of Senate

Curriculum proposals from the Faculties of Arts and Sciences, Creative & Critical Studies, the College of Graduate Studies, and the Faculty of Management.

New Awards.

25 April 2007 Meeting of Senate

Curriculum proposals from the Faculties of Arts and Sciences, Creative & Critical Studies, and Health & Social Development.

New Awards.

From the Council of Senates

Confirmation that the following recommendations of Okanagan Senate were approved.

7 June 2007 Meeting of the Council of Senates

That the elected terms for the current Convocation & Faculty Representatives to Okanagan Senate be extended by 12 months to 31 August 2008; and

That the election of the 2008-2011 Okanagan Senate occur in the Autumn of 2007, to coincide with the election of Faculty and Staff Representatives to the Board of Governors from UBC Okanagan.

In response to a series of questions from the Senate floor, Mr. Eaton explained the timelines around the election and brought Senate's attention to the recently launched UBC Okanagan website at <http://okanagan.students.ubc.ca/facultystaff/elections.cfm> to manage the four separate elections (in order):

- 1) Joint Faculty Senator Elections;
- 2) Chancellor Election;
- 3) Faculty-specific Senators; and
- 4) By-elections to replace vacancies on this Senate (not yet launched to avoid confusion with the joint faculty Senators); estimated timing: by the end of this term.

Nominating Committee – Dr. Robert Lalonde

Dr. Lalonde reminded Senators of the Triennial Review of the Committees and the deadline to submit feedback to Mr. Eaton or himself as Chair by 1 October 2007.

Membership Adjustment to the Policies and Procedures Committee

Moved: Dr. Lalonde

Seconded: Dean Krank

That the Associate Vice-President, Academic and Research plus one faculty member and one student representative be added to the membership of the Okanagan Senate Policies and Procedures Committee.

CARRIED.

Policies & Procedures Committee – Dr. Daniel Keyes

President's Advisory Committee on Honorary Degrees Report

Dr. Keyes prefaced the receipt of the President's Advisory Committee Report on Honorary Degrees with one comment from the Policies and Procedures Committee; namely, that the limit of only one annual honorary degree generated discussion within the Committee with a general feeling that it would be appropriate for two honorary degree nominations to come forward each year in consideration of the number of graduation ceremonies. Dr. Lalonde concurred with Dr. Keyes.

Dr. Owram noted his support for two annual honorary degree nominees and stressed the importance of assuring high-quality candidates.

Dr. Reid inquired after the designation of the honorary degree and whether it was campus-specific. Ms. Collins noted that the honorary degree will note which Senate conferred the degree (as they do for students) only.

It was agreed by consent to receive the Report of the President's Advisory Committee on Honorary Degrees.

Curriculum Committee

Curriculum Proposals from the Faculties of Arts & Sciences and Management

On behalf of the Committee, Acting Chair Dean Krank presented curriculum proposals from the Faculties of Arts & Sciences and Management.

Moved: Dean Krank

Seconded: Dr. Williams

That Senate approves the new undergraduate courses brought forward by the Faculties of Arts & Sciences and Management as set out in the attached packages.

Dr. Labun inquired if the new proposed management course had already started; Dean Stuart noted that MGMT 355 is a replacement for a course that will be moved to fourth year and will have a January start.

The motion was put and CARRIED.

Admissions and Awards Committee

Degree Recognition at UBC: Applicants from a College or University

On behalf of the Admissions and Awards Committee, Dr. McCoubrey presented the proposals for approval.

Moved: Dr. McCoubrey

Seconded: Dr. Labun

That Senate approves the proposal from Undergraduate Admissions to further define and clarify Degree Recognition at UBC.

As past Chair of the Campus Alberta Quality Council, Dr. Owram expressed some concern about case-by-case consideration of institutions. He expressed support for the proposed policy as an interim measure, but indicated that it might be improved upon in future. He suggested he would communicate his thoughts on this discussion to the Chair of the Admissions and Awards Committee.

Dr. Williams inquired if there was a statute of limitations on a student's academic record, for example, if a student did poorly in first year and years later attempted to re-apply to UBC, how would his or her academic record be interpreted. Mr. Eaton noted that a student may at any time appeal any element of a transcript.

Dr. Cioe inquired about the consequences for a student who does not disclose attendance and/or academic record at another post-secondary institution. Ms. Collins noted that the student would be at risk for all the entire academic record.

Dr. Labun asked about rehabilitation. Ms. Collins noted that there are mechanisms to either admit a student with a poor post-secondary record and/or default to the high school transcripts. Alternatively Ms. Collins noted, if a student does not meet admission requirements, the student would be advised to complete two years of college and then re-apply.

The motion was put and CARRIED.

Admission Requirements for ETEP and STEP – Item withdrawn by the Faculty of Education

BFA Entrance Requirements Exemption

Moved: Dr. McCoubrey

Seconded: Dean Belton

That the Senate approve the attached proposal to extend the exemption to the entrance requirement for BFA students in Visual Arts for one additional year, ending in 2007, and that the admission requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts be reviewed with a deadline of November 2007 to report back to the Admissions and Awards Committee.

Discussion

Dr. Lalonde commented that not all faculties and departments lower their admission requirements to meet enrolment targets and added that he found it problematic to make an exception in this case.

Dean Belton clarified that the exemption was required for additional reasons the most key being that some BC high schools do not offer four provincially-examinable subjects (the standing requirement in question) making it impossible for students from those schools to meet UBC's current admission requirements. Dean Belton further noted that the BFA is a different degree than others and required thoughtful consideration of specialized admission requirements.

Dr. Lalonde thanked Dean Belton for this additional information and restated his position supporting the exemption.

Dean Krank voiced his support for the overall notion that different programs do at times require different admission requirements. Dr. McCoubrey brought Senate's attention to the second part of the motion requesting a review of the overall admissions for the BFA with a report back obligation to the Admissions and Awards Committee. Dean Belton summarized that it is the Faculty's intention to bring four examinable subjects into the admission requirements; they had hoped to do so in a staged program, but that has not proved possible.

The motion was put and CARRIED.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20pm.

The following regular meeting was scheduled to be held on Wednesday 10 October 2007 at 3:30pm to 5:30pm in Library 317.

*Note that the new 2007-2008 Senate & Committee Meeting Schedule is available on the Okanagan Senate website at:

<http://okanagan.students.ubc.ca/senate/schedule.cfm>.