

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA | OKANAGAN



OKANAGAN SENATE
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OKANAGAN SENATE

MINUTES OF 5 DECEMBER 2007

Attendance

Present: Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr. D. Owram (Vice-Chair), Dr. A. S. Abd-El-Aziz, Mr. P. Arthur, Dean B. Bauer, Dean J. Bottorff, Dr. W. Broughton, Ms. M. Burton, Dr. E. Butz, Dean R. Campbell, Mr. R. Chavarie, Dr. J. Cioe, Ms. L. Driscoll, Dr. M. Duran-Cogan, Mr. R. Gandha, Dr. J. Gustar, Dean M. Isaacson, Ms. E. Johnston, Dr. D. Keyes, Mr. M. Koovisk, Dean M. Krank, Dr. A. Labun, Dr. R. Lalonde, Mr. D. Lubbers, Ms. V. Lymberopoulos, Dr. S. McCoubrey, Dr. C. McFadyen, Ms. N. Neumann, Dr. S. Reid, Dr. C. Scarff, Mr. F. Vogt (Associate Registrar & Acting Secretary), Dr. M. Ungureanu, Dr. M. Williams, Ms. M. Wilson, Dr. P. Wrzesniewski, Dr. Spiro Yannacopoulos, Ms. G. Zilm

By Invitation: From Enrolment Services: Mr. C. Eaton

Regrets: President Stephen Toope (Chair), Chancellor Dr. A. McEachern, Mr. R. Adl, Mr. G. August, Ms. S. Barnard, Dr. J. Bassett-Smith, Dean R. Belton, , Dr. J. Castricano, Ms. L. M. Collins (Enrolment Services), Mr. G. Lepp, Mr. B. Silzer (AVP and Registrar)

Recording Secretary: Ms. K. Ross

Call to Order

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

Agenda

Vice-Chair Dr. Owram reminded Senators that the final item on the agenda would be an 'in-camera' item. The Agenda was accepted by consent.

Senate Membership

Mr. Vogt announced the start of the UBC Okanagan by-elections to accept faculty nominations for four faculty members to serve for the remainder of this Senate (until 31 August 2008).

Mr. Vogt noted the following changes in Senate and Committee Membership:

That Ms. Rachael L'Orsa be appointed as the Representative of Students of the Faculty of Applied Science as until March 31, 2008 or thereafter until a successor is elected.

By applause, Ms. L'Orsa was welcomed to the Senate.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting, 7 November 2007

Moved: Mr. Lubbers

Seconded: Dr. Lalonde

That the minutes of the Okanagan Senate Meeting of 7 November 2007 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED.

Vice-Chair's Remarks and Related Questions

Vice-Chair Dr. Owram noted two items for information:

Firstly, that the UBC Board of Governors met on November 28, 2007 and approved several items. Both Senates approved an amended Policy #21 (Academic Administrative Appointments) with "...such approval to expire on June 30, 2008." This date coincides with the replacement of the (dual campus) Faculty of Applied Science Dean (Dr. Michael Isaacson who is concluding his term 30 June 2008. Additionally, the Board of Governors released \$71 million for construction of the Okanagan Engineering/Management building. Finally, the Board accepted all Okanagan Senate recommendations to approve the 7 November Senate curriculum changes (Management) and new awards. For more information see: <http://www.bog.ubc.ca/packages/2007/28nov2007.pdf>

A second item for information: In response to a question from the floor of the 7 November Senate, Vice-Chair Dr Owram followed up that the University and the City of Kelowna are aggressively pursuing the plans for a safe bikeway on

Highway 97 leading into campus and around the traffic circle. Vice-Chair Dr. Ooram remains unsure of the timeline for the completion of this project.

Vice-Chair Dr. Ooram concluded his remarks by wishing all Senate members a wonderful holiday.

Policies & Procedures Committee

Course Withdrawal Regulations

On behalf of the Policies and Procedures Committee, Chair Dr. Keyes presented for approval a new policy.

Moved: Dr. Keyes

Seconded: Mr. Gandha

That the policy on Course Withdrawal Regulations, as recommended by the Policies & Procedures Committee, be approved.

CARRIED.

Admissions and Awards Committee

Admissions Requirement to ETEP

On behalf of the Admissions and Awards Committee, Chair Dr. McCoubrey presented the following new proposal.

Moved: Dr. McCoubrey

Seconded: Dean Campbell

That the Senate approve the proposal from the Faculty of Education to adjust the admission requirements for ETEP.

CARRIED.

ELAS

On behalf of the Admissions and Awards Committee, Chair Dr. McCoubrey presented the following new proposal.

Moved: Dr. McCoubrey

Seconded: Dean Campbell

That the Senate approve the proposed changes to ELAS.

CARRIED.

British Columbia Provincial Examinations as Admission Requirements

The Committee had circulated for information a proposal to change UBC Okanagan admissions policy for applicants following the British Columbia secondary school curriculum such that provincial examinations would not be

required for admission to UBC Okanagan starting September 2008. For applicants who chose to write provincial examinations, the examination scores would only be considered if they increased the applicant's admission average. The Admissions and Awards Committee had intended to present this item for approval, but had recently been informed that it would be useful to wait one or two months to allow ongoing discussions between the University and the Ministry of Education to conclude. The item was therefore presented for information only, with the understanding that the Admissions and Awards Committee would report again on this issue for approval in the near future.

Discussion

Vice-Chair Dr. Owram added that the results of provincial examinations have not been available until the first week of August each year, meaning that admission offers could not be confirmed until after that time. Thus it would be to UBC Okanagan's advantage to make final offers as early as possible so as to attract the best students and to compete with Ontario and Alberta universities that were making final offers to BC students in April and May. Dean Isaacson noted that the UBC Vancouver had some grief in relation to this item. Firstly, the Senate Admissions Subcommittee Report circulated to both Senates was generated by administrators and not by academics (faculties). Secondly, several differing viewpoints were stated at the UBC Vancouver Senate and therefore the subcommittee's report should be endorsed by the Faculties prior to being endorsed by the Senate. Dr. McCoubrey noted that the Deans or designates are members of the Admissions and Awards Committee, which allowed for comments, and substantive debate, from the faculties. Vice-Chair Dr. Owram clarified to Senate members that the UBC Okanagan and UBC Vancouver Senates may approve separate results on this item. Dean Isaacson was unconvinced that the four options considered in the Senate Admissions Subcommittee report captures all of the options and added that the Senate should ask that other options be considered. Dr. Broughton requested that the Admissions and Awards Committee add a clear motion to the item proposal when recommended to the Senate for approval. Several Senate members discussed the usefulness of the provincial exams including the standardization of provincial high schools as well as the motivation of the Ministry of Education to change some of the previously required provincial exams to optional, see: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/reports/pdfs/exams/opt/prov.pdf>.

Learning and Research Committee

UBC Okanagan Scheduling Guidelines

On behalf of the Learning and Research Committee, Chair Mr. Arthur presented the following new proposal.

Moved: Dr. Cioe
Seconded: Ms. Neumann

That the Senate approve the proposed UBC Okanagan Scheduling Guidelines.

Discussion

Dean Stuart asked whether the item of scheduling guidelines should come forward to the Senate as 'information' rather than for 'approval'. Mr. Eaton expressed that the scheduling item has been approved by the Senate in Vancouver since the 1930s and as far as the Senate Secretariat can tell, this item is "near and dear to faculty hearts". In response to a question from Dean Bauer, Mr. Vogt stated that the Academic Council, which includes an administrator from the Barber School, was consulted on the scheduling guidelines. Dr. Reid took issue with the schedule imbalance between labs and afternoon lectures. Mr. Vogt wholeheartedly agreed that consultation on this item is important and offered to discuss the current scheduling guidelines proposal further with the faculties prior to a Senate decision. Procedurally Mr. Eaton clarified that this item cannot be tabled but postponed until a future meeting.

*Moved: Mr. Lubbers
Seconded: Dean Bauer*

To postpone approval of the UBC Okanagan Scheduling Guidelines until February 13, 2008.

Discussion

Vice-Chair Dr. Oworm suggested that UBC Okanagan would continue with the current scheduling system for another year until further consultation is completed.

The motion was put and CARRIED, two opposed.

Other Business

Dean Bauer asked whether the Senate would entertain a new policy on the cancellation of classes in the final week of classes before exams. Vice-Chair Dr. Oworm suggested that this item be added to the February Senate agenda or to be considered by a Senate Committee. Dr. Cioe recommended that the Learning and Research Committee might address this and the makeup class item presented by Dr. McFadyen.

Policies and Procedures Committee -- *in camera*

Committee Chair Dr. Daniel Keyes presented the report.

Candidates for Honorary Degrees

The Policies and Procedures Committee had prepared a list of candidates for honorary degrees to be conferred during graduation ceremonies to take place in 2008. Dr. Keyes reminded Senators that the list was to remain confidential until such time as the candidates had agreed to accept the degree and a public announcement was made.

Moved: Dr. Keyes

Seconded: Mr. Koovisk

That Senate approve the list of candidates for honorary degrees.

CARRIED.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.

The following regular Senate meeting was scheduled to be held on Wednesday 16 January 2008 at 3:30pm to 5:30pm in Library 317.