

## THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA | OKANAGAN



## OKANAGAN SENATE SECRETARIAT

## Enrolment Services

## Senate and Curriculum Services

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13 February 2008

**Memo to:** Okanagan Senate**From:** Policies and Procedures Committee**RE:** UBC Okanagan Graduation Ceremonies as Meetings of the UBC Convocation

In light of recent discussions about the format and name of UBC Okanagan graduation ceremonies, the Policies and Procedures Committee would like to draw to the Senate's attention the following sections of the *University Act*, under **Part 4 – Convocation**:

- S. 6 A meeting of a convocation may be held for one or more of the following purposes:
- (a) electing the chancellor;
  - (b) conferring degrees, including honorary degrees;
  - (c) awarding diplomas and certificates of proficiency granted by the university;
  - (d) additional purposes the senate may specify.
- S. 9(1) The senate is to make rules governing procedure for the transaction of business by the convocation.

In accordance with these sections, the Committee points out that our graduation ceremonies are formal meetings of the UBC Convocation held at UBC Okanagan for the purposes of conferring degrees. Rules governing procedure at graduation ceremonies therefore fall under the purview of the Senate. In order to clarify the jurisdiction of the Senate for future discussions, the Committee recommends that the Senate resolve as follows:

**Motion:** That it be affirmed that, whereas UBC Okanagan graduation ceremonies are formally “meetings of the convocation” as defined by the *University Act*, these events and their format fall under the jurisdiction of Senate.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel Keyes  
Chair, Policies & Procedures Committee