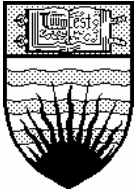


THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



10 December 2008

AGENDA COMMITTEE

Okanagan Senate
c/o Enrolment Services
 2016 - 1874 East Mall
 Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6T 1Z1
 Tel: (604) 822-9952 Fax: (604) 822-5945
 christopher.eaton@ubc.ca

To: Okanagn Senate
 From: Agenda Committee
 RE: Participation in Meetings of Senate via Videoconferencing (approval)

The Committee has considered the matter of non-traditional forms of participation and attendance at meetings of Senate.

A review has been undertaken of senates across the country, and currently, no Senate allows for participation or attendance via video or teleconference. The Committee is of the view that this is generally appropriate given the needs of a deliberative assembly to debate matters in an effective manner, and the consensus that to debate in person is the most effective means of doing so. That said, we believe that there are some extraordinary circumstances in regards to one member of the Senate – namely the president – due to the incumbent's residence and principle office being located at UBC Vancouver, and that an exception should be made to allow the president to participate in the deliberations of Senate. The intent of the the specific reference to participation versus attendance is to preclude the president from being required to chair a meeting via videoconference or from casting a vote while not in attendance.

The Committee therefore recommends

That that Rules and Procedures of Senate be amended to add the following:

- 23. Senators may only attend and participate in debate at Meeting of Senate in person.**
- 24. Section 23 notwithstanding, the President may participate in debate via videoconference upon recognition by the chair, but shall not be considered in attendance while doing so; his participation in such a manner shall be minuted appropriately.**

That all subsequent sections be renumbered accordingly; and

*That Section 37 (b) be amended as follows (new text in **bold**, old text ~~struck through~~):*

*The Nominating Committee shall make a recommendation required under Section ~~37~~ **39** (a) (i-iv) within two (2) months of a declaration of a vacancy on the Council of Senate.*