



The Okanagan Senate

MINUTES

SIXTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE 2011/2012 ACADEMIC YEAR

29 February 2012 | 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. | ASC 130

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| Present: | Mr. James Ridge (Secretary); Mr. Ramine Adl; Dr. Linda Allan; Mr. Morgan Andreychuk; Dr. Peter Arthur; Dr. Philip Balcaen; Dr. E. Alan Broome; Ms. Melia Campos; Dr. Kenneth Carlaw; Dr. Jan Cioe; Mr. Ian Cull; Dr. R. Robin Dods; Mr. John Fache; Ms. Mayling Fennell; Ms. Fern Helfand; Dr. Kasun Hewage; Dr. Sandy Hilton; Dr. James Johnson; Dr. Carolyn Labun; Ms. Kaitlyn Levy; Dr. Cynthia Mathieson; Dr. Abbas Milani; Ms. Darby Milner; Dr. Ben Nilson; Dr. Gurupdes Pandher; Ms. Laura Patterson; Dr. Andre Phillion; Dr. Wesley Pue; Dr. Deborah Roberts; Dr. Carole Robinson; Dr. Caro Scarff; Dr. Dwayne Tannant; Dr. Wisdom Tettey; Dr. Paul van Donkelaar; Dr. Greg Wetterstrand; Dr. Spiro Yannacopoulos |
| Regrets: | Dr. Gordon Binsted; Ms. Cara Bonini; Dr. Lynn Bosetti; Ms. Melody Burton; Mr. Kirk Chavarie; Dr. Fes deScally; Mr. Christopher Gorman; Dr. Miriam Grant; Dr. Eric Hall; Mr. Jordan Haynes; Mr. Josiah McDermott; Ms. Sarah Morgan-Silvester; Dr. Daniel Murray; Mr. Kyle Nolan; Dr. Doug Owram; Ms. Kristin Vidi; Mr. Calvin Wain |
| By Videoconference | Prof. Stephen J. Toope (President) |
| Guests: | Ms. Jackie Podger, Associate Vice-President, Finance and Administration; Ms. Stephanie Barclay-McKeown, Director, Educational Research, Planning, and Analysis; Ms. Catherine Alkenbrack, Associate Director, Facilities Planning; Ms. Teresa Syrnyk, Senior Planner |
| Senate Secretariat: | Mr. Christopher Eaton; Ms. Nathalie Hager; Mr. Steve Siblock (Recording Secretary) |

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| Call to Order: | Acting Chair Dr. Peter Arthur called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m. |
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President Stephen J. Toope participated by videoconference from the Vancouver campus. In the absence of both the President and the Vice-Chair of Senate, Dr. Peter Arthur presided as Acting Chair. Prior to continuing with the Agenda, Dr. Arthur announced the recent passing of a UBC Okanagan student, Mr. Coby Cross, a classmate of many of the student senators. A moment of silence was observed in Mr. Cross' honour.

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| 1. | Minutes of the Previous Meeting | | |
| | Dr. Johnston noted that Dr. Dan Muzyka ought to be removed from the list of regrets for the meeting. | | |
| | Dr. J. Cioe; Dr. R. Dodds | } | <i>That the minutes of the meeting of January 25, 2012 be approved as circulated with the friendly amendment to remove Dr. Muzyka's name on the list of regrets.</i> |
| | | | Approved. |
| 2. | Business Arising from the Minutes | | |
| | The Chair noted there was no business arising from the previous Minutes. | | |
| 3. | President's Comments and Related Questions | | |
| | The President extended his thanks to Dr. Arthur for presiding as Chair. | | |
| | Speaking to the budget, Professor Toope informed Senate of a commitment from the provincial government to provide funding for capital investments on deferred maintenance and maintenance projects, with the clarification that this funding did not apply to new building construction. These funds help offset the reduction in the annual capital grant which the University used to receive for building maintenance, which has been reduced from \$27 million to \$2 million over the past four years. In addition, he explained that the Presidents of the large research universities were in urgent discussion with Government regarding an unexpected gradual cut to their operating grants, noting that no other social service ministries were experiencing bottom-line cuts to their operating grants. | | |
| 4. | From the Board of Governors | | |
| | The Chair reported that at their February 2, 2012 meeting, the Board of Governors had approved recommendations made by Senate from the December 15, 2011 and January 25, 2012 meetings as required under the <i>University Act</i> . | | |

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| 5. | Report from the Admissions and Awards Committee | | |
| | <p>Dr. Yannacopoulos presented the report from the Admissions and Awards Committee, introducing a new joint policy <i>J-52: Admission for Secondary School Applicants following the BC/Yukon Curriculum</i></p> <p>In response to a question from Dr. Carol Robinson, Ms. Michelle Davis outlined the process whereby for a capped program, the admissions process would not immediately reject any students who might be flagged with an initial false refusal early in the admissions cycle. From a further question from Dr. Cioe, Ms. Davis outlined how students in a capped program with a waitlist would be processed. Students on a waitlist would be admitted in a phased approach based on ranking and probability of consistent final official grades.</p> | | |
| | <p>Dr. S. Yannacopoulos; Dr. D. Tannant</p> | } | <p><i>That Senate approve Policy J-52 as submitted by the Committee.</i></p> <p>Approved.</p> |
| 6. | Report from the Curriculum Committee | | |
| | <p>Dr. Dwayne Tannant presented the report, outlining curriculum proposals from the Faculties of Education, and Health and Social Development. Dr. Carol Scarff provided additional details on the changes being brought forward from the Faculty of Education. Dr. Scarff indicated that the changes being proposed were in response to student concerns regarding obtaining their full B. Ed. degree and their professional teaching certifications. The second reason for the proposals was in response to changing government regulations in the Ministry of Education Teacher Regulation Branch, mandating that two courses in Special Needs Education and Aboriginal Education be adopted into the program.</p> <p>Comments were received pertaining to the apparent heavy course load in the program, which awarded 60 credits over a twelve-month period, and the effect this would have on the student experience. Concerns were also raised regarding the credit value over the duration of the program, compared to other traditional university programs.</p> <p>In response to a question from Dr. Phillion, Dr. Tannant explained that the two new courses being added were already approved at the previous Senate meeting.</p> <p>At the request of Dr. Cioe, abstentions from the vote were recorded.</p> | | |
| | <p>Dr. D. Tannant; Dr.</p> | } | <p><i>That Senate approve the revised program and the new policy brought forward by the Faculties of Education, and Health and Social</i></p> |

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| | <i>P. Balcaen</i> | | <i>Development as set out in the attached proposals.</i> Approved by majority vote, with four abstentions. |
| 7. | Report from the Nominating Committee Dr. Gurupdesh Pander presented the report outlining routine adjustments to Senate Subcommittee memberships. | | |
| | <i>Dr. G. Pandher; Dr. W. Tettey</i> | } | <i>That Mr. John Fache, student, be named to the Admissions and Awards Committee, replacing Mr. Yaw Obrenu-Yamoah, effective until March 31, 2012 and thereafter until replaced.</i> Approved. |
| 8. | Report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr. Wesley Pue, Provost, and Ms. Jackie Podger, Associate Vice-President, Administration and Finance, presented an overview of the 2012/2013 operating budget on behalf of Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr. Doug Oworm. The overall summary represented in the report shows the following key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Okanagan campus is in a good financial position • the campus was well funded at the outset, and the completion of build-out and buildup in enrolment was in alignment with the funding that was given • overall discretionary monies are reduced • the 10 year budget plan has been updated with the assumption that government funding remains stable • any inflationary costs must be covered by the existing budget • the bottom line reflects a balanced budget and a recurrent surplus • recurring surplus funds are to be invested into academic programs and the objectives of <i>Place & Promise</i> • the campus has so far succeeded in reducing its overall debt from \$50 million at startup to \$34 million Infrastructure priorities were identified as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Housing: Phase 5 and 6 • Unfunded Academic Projects: Library, Multi-Purpose Building (including Black-Box Theatre) and Health Building • Rapidly developing record of success in science research is creating pressures on lab space • Improvements in pedagogy are creating pressures with respect to classrooms and learning spaces • Graduate student growth was not anticipated at current levels when campus build-out was planned and is creating significant space demands | | |

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| | <p>Priorities are to be evaluated against the results of the space audit currently in progress.</p> <p>President Toope commented that from the University's perspective as a whole, the purpose of increasing international student enrollment is to enrich the educational experience of all students, starting from an academic perspective and enhancing international engagement in the classroom. He emphasized that a strong cohort of international students with strong academic backgrounds is important to challenge all to think differently.</p> |
| 9. | <p>Report from the Provost</p> <p>Ms. Catherine Alkenbrack, Associate Director, Facilities Planning, and Ms. Teresa Syrnyk, Senior Planner, assisted Dr. Pue in the presentation of the preliminary report on space utilization at the Okanagan campus.</p> <p>Dr. Pue began by noting that the Engineering, Management, and Education building is the last academic building planned. The preliminary results show that campus space needs to be used in different ways, and we need to live better within the buildings we have. He offered praise to the space-planning group from the Vancouver campus who understand and care about meeting university and academic needs. They are experts in space utilization, architecture, and the government's space standards to which the university is held.</p> <p>Dr. Pue outlined the distribution of the preliminary report, including the draft report available from the Provost's web page two weeks ago, a number of email reminders, seven event forums across campus, plus the presentation to Senate.</p> <p>Key space issues, findings, observations, and an outline of the process for moving forward were provided in the report available on the Provost's web page http://www.ubc.ca/okanagan/provost/welcome.html</p> |
| 10. | <p>Report from the Associate Vice-President and Registrar</p> <p>Ms. Stephanie McKeown, Director, Educational Research, Planning and Analysis, presented the report "Enrolment Summary Report for the UBC Okanagan Campus Winter Term 2011/12".</p> <p>At 5:30 p.m., the Acting Chair raised a point of order and called for a motion to extend the meeting beyond the scheduled ending time. A motion to extend the meeting for thirty minutes was moved by Dr. Cioe, seconded by Ms. Patterson, and approved.</p> <p>Highlights of the report included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - between 2010/2011 and 2011/2012, a 10.6% increase in undergraduate enrolment, a 27.3% increase in graduate student enrolment, showing an |

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| | <p>overall increase of 11.9% for the Okanagan campus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- approximately 97% of the Ministry funded target of 6,923 has been achieved- 74% domestic student retention and 61% international student retention at the Okanagan campus, with an overall system retention of 81% and 82% for domestic and international students <p>Ms. McKeown noted that a change in policy which now requires students across many faculties to withdraw for a period of 12 months if they did not achieve a passing academic standing has resulted in lower retention figures, but if the new rule is not applied using the same data, the retention rates were not significantly different from the previous year.</p> |
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| Adjournment: | There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:41 p.m. |
| Next Meeting: | Wednesday, March 28, 2012 |