



## Okanagan Senate

### Minutes of 26 March 2014

#### Attendance

Present:	Prof. S.J. Toope (President and Chair); Dr K. Ross (Secretary); Mr R. Adl; Dr L. Allan; Dr P. Arthur; Ms H. Berringer; Dr G. Binsted; Dr E. A. Broome; Mr S. Bullock; Prof. D. Buszard; Mr J. Byron; Dr J. Cioe; Mr D. Daniluck; Mr N. Dodds; Dr R. R. Dods; Mr B. Edwards; Ms K. Fujii; Ms A. Geddes; Dr T. Heilke; Ms F. Helfand; Dr K. Hewage; Dr J. Johnson; Dr C. Labun; Ms E. Lorie; Dr Y. Lucet; Mr C. MacKay; Dr B. Marcolin; Dr C. Mathieson; Mr W. McLean; Dr A. Milani; Ms L. Patterson; Dr A. Phillion; Dr D. Roberts; Dr C. Robinson; Dr B. Rutherford; Ms S. Sneg; Dr R. Sugden; Dr D. Tannant; Dr E. Taylor; Dr W. Tettey; Mr C. Tse; Dr P. van Donkelaar; Dr G. Wetterstrand; Mr D. Whitelaw
Regrets:	Dr P. Balcaen; Dr K. Carlaw; Mr I. Cull; Dr F. de Scally; Ms S. Morgan-Silvester; Dr B. Nilson; Prof. M. Parlange; Dr C. Scarff; Ms S. Smith; Dr I. Stuart; Dr S. Yannacopoulos
Guests:	Ms M. O'Neill; Dr L. Parrott
Recording Secretary:	Mr C. Eaton

#### Call to Order

President Stephen J. Toope called the sixth regular meeting of the Senate for the 2013/2014 Academic Year to order at 3:37 pm

#### Minutes of the Previous Meeting

*Jan Cioe* } *That the Minutes of the Meeting of 26 February*  
*Curtis Tse* } *2014 be adopted as presented.*

Approved

#### President's Remarks

The President noted that his successor has been announced: Dr Arvind Gupta, a professor of computer science at the Vancouver campus and head of Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems (MITACS).

Professor Toope described the federal budget as the best for Universities since the late 1990s. The new Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) is essentially the Advantage Canada Research Excellence (ACRE) fund proposal renamed. The purpose of the fund would be to support excellent research at a global level of influence, and UBC should benefit substantially; the President emphasized the support that former Finance Minister Flaherty gave to the proposal.

Further, a commitment was made for untargeted funding for the granting councils for the first time since 2006, significant support - \$220M over the next 5 years was promised for the Tri-University Meson Facility (TRIUMF) and additional funding for MITACS to support Canadian students studying and researching abroad.

The President went on to note that the provincial budget was unfortunately not as beneficial for UBC. The 1% cut for 2014/2015 has been confirmed and a 1.3% cut is still projected for next year. He advised that these are not large decreases by themselves, but with unfunded wage mandates, lack of inflationary growth in grant funding, and capital cuts, this works out to around a 12% cut over 5 years. Professor Toope further commented on the very narrow perception of what constitutes “training” for our society in Government funding priorities.

In terms of Provincial finances, the President reminded Senate that the University was still in the midst of a CORE review across all government sectors including universities. This process was to consider our operational elements in a six-to-eight-week review, which the President described as very quick and unfortunately not able to allow for a consultative process. As a result, the University has decided to use our annual plan and reports to inform our responses. We have identified three themes that we are trying to project: Economic and Social Development of the interior; reshaping health education, research, and delivery; and transforming the way BC students learn.

Finally, the President noted that the Student Services Review that was recently completed. This was the first major administrative review and student services was selected because of its size complexity and importance.

Senator Cioe noted that we hoped that federal funding would help offset provincial changes in support; he asked if this would be the case.

Professor Toope replied that the CFREF funding would be targeted to research excellence while provincial funding was more fungible. The University would be able to make its own proposals in three areas: research excellence at a global level, international collaboration for research, and knowledge translation.

Senator Arther asked if the Province was still proposing a shared service model to offset cuts.

The President replied that yes they are, and there has been some success there: UBC’s Chief Information Officer, Oliver Gruter-Andrew is chairing the implementation committee across the province. The issue for UBC is that we are so large that we already benefiting from economies of scale internally; the process was likely to general savings for smaller institutions however.

Senator Dods asked how researchers could work with CFREF.

Professor Toope replied that this was still being determined by the granting councils. He noted that the money would not go to individual researchers, but rather to the universities who proposed research plans. UBC and some other universities were trying to avoid an

open competition but rather having the large institutions be given a notional assignment based on granting council competitions with funding also reserved for smaller institutions.

Senator Tse asked what the next steps would be for the student services report.

Professor Buszard replied that her administration was working through the report now and will be meeting throughout this week to consider changes to address the recommendations.

A student senator asked if we had a long-term plan to address provincial funding being cut or not keeping up with increases in expenses.

The President replied that he suspected it would be a combination of approaches: firstly trying to diversify revenue sources – given that we have gone from 41 to 36% of our budget being provincially funded – through initiatives such as summer use of campus, student mix, and professional/continuing education programs. Secondly we would need to look for new mechanisms at the federal level for support, and we will also continue advocating at the provincial level and to see if we can benefit from the province's interest in skills training. Finally, partnership models needed to be explored further to save resources through collaboration.

The President then presented certificates to student senators who were completing their terms of office on 31 March 2014. He and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Buszard thanked them for their service to the Senate, campus, and University.

### **Deputy Vice-Chancellor's Remarks**

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor thanked those who met with the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) representative this month during their preliminary visit. She noted that the Presidents selected for the next visit would be from Laurentian University and universities of Regina and Montreal.

Professor Buszard reminded Senate that the Aspire campus vision process was progressing: one theme emerging is our unique level of community engagement and this has led what we are doing around innovation and community partnerships. She noted that as mentioned previously, UBC was meeting with UNBC and TRU to talk around program partnerships and work is being done on the research side already around collaborate grant applications. In addition, we have another partner in Okanagan College and we are going to continue building on that relationship.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor noted the support shown by the Provincial government for the campus, with the Ministry of Technology, Innovation, and Citizens' Services seconding an employee to the campus to support its work for the Okanagan Valley.

### **Academic Policy and Admission & Awards Committees**

The chair of the Academic Policy Committee, Dr Jan Cioe, presented.

**VISITING INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH STUDENT (VIRS) CLASSIFICATION**

*Jan Cioe* } *That Senate approve the student classification*  
*Dwayne Tannant* } *and calendar entry proposed for Visiting*  
*International Research Students for inclusion in*  
*the 2014/15 version of the Academic Calendar, as*  
*set out in the attached two-column forms*

Senator Cioe explained the background of the proposal. He noted that there was a previous proposal to try to address this issue, but the costs were viewed as excessive. The Okanagan campus and thus had worked with the Vancouver campus to develop a new proposal that will benefit the students but not be an unreasonable drain on the University's resources.

Senator Daniluk asked what the changes in costs were for students.

Senator Cioe replied that at the moment the zero-credit course was charged 1 credit, but the international student costs were over \$1000. This proposal would reduce this cost by roughly half.

Approved

**Admissions Committee**

The Chair of the Senate Admissions Committee, Dr Abbas Milani, presented.

**NEW AWARD**

*See Appendix A: Award Report*

*Abbas Milani* } *That Senate accept the new award as listed and*  
*Josh Byron* } *forward it to the Board of Governors for*  
*approval; and that a letter of thanks be sent to the*  
*donor.*

The President noted that Joseph Yu was a Hong Kong resident who done much to help form and support our alumni branch there.

Approved

**CHANGES TO BACHELOR OF EDUCATION SECONDARY TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM  
(STEP) PHYSICAL EDUCATION SPECIALTY**

*Abbas Milani* } *That Senate approve the admission requirements*  
*E. Allan Broome* } *for the Bachelor of Education Secondary Teacher*  
*Education Program Physical Education*  
*Specialty, for entry to the 2015 Summer Session*  
*and thereafter.*

Senator Milani explained that this proposal was to add a new physical education specialty within the Bachelor of Education Secondary program and would allow students in the Bachelor of Human Kinetics program of the Faculty of Health & Social Development to progress to a degree to teach physical education.

Approved

**Curriculum Committee**

*See Appendix B: Curriculum Report*

The Chair of the Senate Curriculum Committee, Mr Ramine Adl, presented.

*Ramine Adl* } *That the new courses brought forward by the*  
*Katelyn Fujii* } *faculties of Education and Applied Science be*  
*approved.*

Mr Adl briefly outlined the new courses proposed.

Approved

**Report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor**

**BUDGET UPDATE**

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor introduced Associate Vice-President Michael Shakespeare, who with consent of senate presented a financial and budget update.

Mr Shakespeare noted that this will be the 8<sup>th</sup> year in a row of the central budget being balanced with around a 50/50 share in budget between the faculties and central administrative expenses.

Where we have had growth it has been put into new positions. At present, we are planning to spend down around 2.6M in faculty reserves for next year, mostly for one-time investments.

The Associate Vice-President opined that we needed to move to a driver-based faculty budget model. With leadership changes on campus we are not as far along with that as we would have liked but are still moving forward. Such a model would be a significant contributor to aligning resources with needs at the faculties.

The campus long-term budget strategy is still diversification from Provincial grant funding, finding new mechanisms to access Federal support, and partnership opportunities.

Mr Shakespeare noted that there were small structural deficits in our information technology, student services, and infrastructure budgets that the campus needed to address.

Our revenue projection for this year is \$123.1 M, and our budget for next year proposes \$126.1 M, a \$3M increase, all from tuition (inflation for domestic, inflation and new FTEs for international). Otherwise our revenue is flat.

The budget proposal for next year is to put \$1.5 M into faculties on a recurring basis, \$1M from drawdowns, and make modest investments into innovation and the new Vice-Principal Research position.

The Annual Capital Allowance (ACA), formerly \$2M for this campus, has been effectively reduced to zero. Our maintenance budget is presently \$850k. Mr Shakespeare noted that we mostly have new buildings but this will only help in the short term.

Mr Shakespeare then presented a five-year budget outlook. We have two expectations for how we will fund costs around general wage increases, either the government will fund them, or we will be forced to do so ourselves. We are expecting to diversity our revenues, from 44% non-public funding today to 56% by 2020.

Senator Cioe asked if we were expecting to double our international FTE by 2020.

Mr Shakespeare replied yes, 10% increase a year. We have been averaging 13% a year and applications look promising.

Senator Cioe asked if we had active plans to diversity our international student body with that proposed increase.

Mr Shakespeare replied that our finances were agnostic to that question.

The President replied that yes, this was still our ambition and we are making investments to look at a broad set of countries. We are growing concerned that it will take some time to get this balance right. We need a diversity of students to ensure we gain insights from around the world in our student mix.

Senator Dods asked how from a budget perspective we would support international students here.

Mike replied that we were budgeting \$7.5M for international strategy/student support.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor added that this was also part of our student service work, Aspire, and our campus master plan.

Senator Tse asked how we could stay ahead of maintenance cost increases as the campus aged so we did not have the deferred maintenance problem of Vancouver, SFU, or the University of Victoria.

Mr Shakespeare replied that we have a good set of data and a 20-year forecast for what long-term maintenance we expected; what we need was to ensure we could pay for it.

The President noted that we simply did not have the resources to match the need, especially in Vancouver. Thankfully this campus can spend enough now but we cannot save money to pay for the future investments we know we will need. The Ministry does understand our problem, and this is one area where we see hints that the province may be willing to support costs.

Senator Fujii asked if funding for a bike path was included this year.

Mr Shakespeare replied no, but that this conversation was ongoing. We do not believe we should be fully funding a municipal service. In a follow-up to Dr Cioe, he added that the relevant court case was still being considered.

### **Report from the Provost**

**CHANGE IN INSTITUTE NAME: FROM “THE INSTITUTE FOR SPECIES AT RISK AND HABITAT STUDIES (SARAHS)” TO “THE OKANAGAN INSTITUTE FOR BIODIVERSITY, RESILIENCE, AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (BRAES)”**

*Cynthia Mathieson  
Jan Cioe*

}

*That the name of the Institute for Species at Risk and Habitat Studies (SARAHS) be changed to The Okanagan Institute for Biodiversity, Resilience, and Ecosystem Services (BRAES), effective immediately.*

With consent of Senate, Dr Lael Parrott, the SARAH’s director, explained that in 2004 SARAHS was established with a CFI grant to develop the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Science. The name was set to be strategic around research funding but was never a full description of the membership of the Institute. She expressed her hope that the new name reflects better reflects who the Institute was and the current state of research.

Approved

## Report from the Registrar

### 2014-2015 SENATE MEETING DATES (APPROVAL) AND TERM DATES

*Jan Cioe* } *That Senate approve the 2014/2015 Okanagan*  
*Curtis Tse* } *Senate meeting dates as proposed.*

Senator Lucet asked if it was necessary to bring this motion forward every year.

The secretary agreed to review the rule in question with the Senate Agenda Committee.

Approved

## Other Business

Senator Bullock informed Senators that the student representatives to Senate had formed a student caucus akin to that on the Vancouver campus, and that they hoped to work collectively to share student input and views with the rest of the Senate.

Senator Tse thanked President Toope for his service to the University on behalf of the student representatives to Senate.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:59 pm.



## **Appendix A: Awards Report**

### **Joseph YU Global Leadership Award**

An award of up to \$35,000 is offered to an outstanding female international student from Asia entering her first year of a UBC undergraduate degree path either through Vantage College or direct entry into one of the Faculty's degree programs. Students attending UBC's Vancouver and Okanagan Campuses are eligible. The award is made on the basis of academic excellence, leadership, and financial need with preference given to a student from Hong Kong or China. The awards can be renewed for up to \$35,000 per year for years 2-4 of a UBC four year degree program. The recipient must hold a valid Canadian Study Permit (student visa). The award is made on the recommendation of the International Student Initiative. (First Award Available in the 2014/2015 Winter Session).

## **Appendix B: Curriculum Report**

### Faculty of Applied Science

*New Course:*

ENGR 573 (3) Quantum Photonics

### Faculty of Education

*New Courses:*

*EPSE 433 (3) Assessment and Positive Behavioural Support in School and Community Settings*

*EPSE 565 (3/6) d Special Topics in Inclusive Education*