



OKANAGAN SENATE

MINUTES OF 25 JANUARY 2018

DRAFT

Attendance

Present: Prof. S. Ono (Chair) Dr K. Ross (Secretary), Mr A. Aghshahi, Dr P. Arthur, Dr P. Barker, Ms H. Berringer, Dean G. Binsted, Dr D. Buszard, Dr R. Campbell, Dr D. Carter, Dr J. Cioe, Ms C. Comben, Dr J. Corbett, Dr I. Cull, Ms T. Ebl, Dr J. Eikenaar, Chancellor L. Gordon, Dr J. Gustar, Ms G. Hardy-Legault, Ms M Harper, Dr M. Hoorfar, Dr J. Hossain, Dr J, Jakobi, Dr D. Kandie, Dr R. Lalonde, Dr R. Lawrence, Dr S. Lawrence, Dr M. Legault, Ms E. Lewis, Dr Y. Lucet, Ms M. Ly, Ms B. MacKenzie-Dale, Dr B. Marcolin, Dr C. Mathieson, Dr S. McNeil, Ms K. Morgan, Dr S. O’Leary, Dean W. Tettey, Ms H. Tjioe, Dean B. Traister, Dr G. Wetterstrand.

Regrets: Dr S. Alam, Mr M. Campbell, Ms K. DesRoches, Dean *Pro Tem.* B. Frank, Dean M. Grant, Dr J. Jonson, Mr K. Lee, Mr J Loepky, Dean *Pro Tem.* J. Olson, Mr F. Pena, Dr M. Reekie, Dr D. Roberts, Dean R. Sugden, Ms J. Tom, Dr P. Wylie.

Clerk: Mr C. Eaton

Call to Order

The Chair of the Senate, President Santa J. Ono, called the Senate to order at 3:32 pm

Minutes of 14 December 2017

Peter Arthur
Wisdom Tettey

} *That the Minutes of the Meeting of 14 December 2017 be adopted as corrected:*

Robert Lalonde’s title is to be rendered using the style of Senator in lieu of Doctor.

Senator Comben was president of the Kelowna (instead of Okanagan) Chamber of Commerce.

Approved



Business Arising from the Minutes

Senator Cioe asked if information existed on how many International Doctoral Fellowships were available and what the funding system was for them on the Vancouver campus versus the Okanagan campus.

The Acting Secretary, Mr Eaton, agreed to follow up with the College of Graduate Studies.

Remarks from the President

PROVOST MODEL

Dr Ono said that he heard the Senate's feedback at the last meeting and received further feedback from a former deputy vice-chancellor as well as a document from the Okanagan deans. A few days ago he asked the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Okanagan Provost, and the Vancouver Provost to start thinking about the strategic priorities and the desire to enrich and strengthen the distinctiveness and synergies between the two campuses. Dr Ono noted that that feedback had been very helpful.

He has also received feedback regarding his own authority as President in consideration of UBC's bicameral structure. It has become clear to him that this is his decision as President and that there is no decision yet. He asked to clarify the record and have Senate be aware that he misspoke at the previous Senate and that there is no unanimous recommendation from the Board of Governors. In listening and reading submissions, it is clear that this is an issue of high sensitivity and it is important there is quick closure on this matter. Dr Ono advised that he was expecting to make a final decision in the next week or two.

The Chancellor noted that he was one of 21 governors and apologized for not being at the last Senate. He confirmed that there was no recommendation, proposal, or decision made by, or received by, the Board of Governors. The Chancellor noted that he sat on many boards and viewed its role as strategic oversight, financial oversight, and presidential succession. There are on the University's board 11/21 government appointees and generally these appointees did not come from academia. The Chancellor understood that they were not academics and many had not had an opportunity to become sensitive to local issues on relationship issues between the two campuses. The Board saw this as an academic issue that the President should make with the recommendation of the Senate. He noted that some governors did have opinions but these were not recommendations.

Senator Cioe asked if the Dean's recommendations would be made available to Senate.

Dean Binsted replied yes.

The President suggested that the draft foundational document could also be shared.



STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

The President thanked everyone who worked on the strategic plan. He reiterated that the plan must be ours as a university and not his as president. In looking at the plan he noted there are pillars that cut across the University and a set of strategies. He noted that the Senate would need time to consider and make recommendations. He asked for commentary today and in upcoming days with the final plan to be brought to the next Senate meeting for endorsement. Dr Ono reminded senators that this was to be a high-level plan; in a follow-up phase an implementation plan will be that will define specific programs for each pillar and strategy.

Senator S. Lawrence said that he found the draft alienating. He said that it seemed naïvely optimistic about change and enthusiastic in an uncritical way and described a sort of institution where he would not be comfortable. In particular, he noted that there were some nods towards academic freedom but then a lot towards greater collaboration that may challenge that.

Dr Ono noted other concerns regarding the prose, and noted that the document had both an internal audience and an external audience. We don't want to alienate anyone but have to make it open to audiences.

Secondly, Dr Ono said that solitary disciplinary activities had value even though collaboration was a frequent desire cited in consultation.

Senator S. Lawrence raised a concern with “You can't manage what you can't measure” as some things are not measurable. He replied with Einstein quote “not all that counts can be counted”. Secondly, the emphasis on learning objectives seemed prejudicial towards things not in a teleological manner; some disciplines do not have finite end points.

Dean Tetley said that a set of objectives does not mean that you are looking at things teleologically necessarily.

Senator Marcolin noted the lack of regionalism represented in the document's places. She noted the Okanagan Regional Socioeconomic Development Institute. This was an opportunity to show regional examples. She suggested that too many examples were Vancouver-based.

Senator Jakobi spoke in favour of the snapshots but did notice in reading that the Okanagan was minimized in the snapshots compared to the prose.

Dr Ono noted that there was a minority opinion to delete the snapshots but that they were useful for external audiences.

Senator Roberts spoke in favour of Strategy 7: Shared Infrastructure. Okanagan needs more shared infrastructure.



Dr Ono noted that this feedback would be useful during implementation.

Senator Bryce Trotter also spoke in favour of the snapshots. He appreciated creativity being included especially with the innovation pillar. He suggested a creativity snapshot.

Dr Ono suggested that we focused on innovation without enough on knowledge for knowledge and creativity for creativity's sakes.

Senator Corbett appreciated the indigeneity and community content included but we should not lose sight of socially-engaged research, generally.

Senator Hardy-Legault expressed a concern with “legacy” and “co-develop” on page 23 and suggested that less political language would be helpful.

Senator S. Lawrence said that education is an end of itself: a pure good. Local purposes are side effects and we cannot restrict ourselves if we are to be a university.

Dean Tetley echoed the concerns regarding needing shared infrastructure. We worry that we will lose good faculty because we do not have the resources as a young campus that they need despite the expectation that we operate at the same level of excellence as Vancouver.

Dr Ono said that it was clear we needed to have further conversations on implementation and resource allocations.

Remarks from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Dr Buszard reflected on January being sexual assault awareness month and took the opportunity to reiterate the message that the wellbeing of the students, faculty, and staff on this campus was her higher priority, and that we all work hard to create and foster a respectful environment. She asked for an opportunity to take a moment to share with Senate her personal views on this important issue and to remind people of the various sources of support that are available on this campus.

We work hard to create and foster a respectful environment where students, faculty, and staff can study, work, and live free from any kind of misconduct. Dr Buszard said that she was truly saddened any time she heard of anyone in our community having to deal with such an experience.

Dr Buszard reminded the Senate that UBC has enacted a number of policies to make our university as supportive as possible. We have also invested in resources available to all students. These include counselling services, health clinics, crisis lines, and most recently, a Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office. She explained that if someone has experienced a sexual assault, this office can provide support, facilitate referrals, coordinate accommodations, and help them make a report or lodge a complaint. UBC takes complaints of inappropriate



behaviour very seriously. We act quickly to conduct a fair and thorough investigation. In the case of sexual assault or misconduct; how those investigations are conducted and UBC's guiding principles are described in our Sexual Assault and Other Sexual Misconduct Policy.

Dr Buszard went on to state that she understand that our community, both on and off campus, may feel frustrated when we are unable to share all of the information about any particular case. We are bound by provincial legislation designed to protect the privacy and confidentiality of all parties. This is not only a matter of law but also one of principle. It is designed to ensure that everyone is treated fairly and with impartiality. This is true not only for those facing accusations but just as importantly for those making complaints or raising issues. We run the very real risk of alienating people or discouraging them from coming forward if they believe their story will be on display in public or in the press.

The Principal then summarized UBC's detailed sexual assault policy as follows: UBC will always treat concerns with care and respect and we will always protect a person's privacy. If anyone has experienced any kind of inappropriate behaviour, we want them to come forward because their wellbeing matters. We will listen and take action. We will treat their complaint with compassion and confidentiality. We will do everything in our power to make it safe for them to tell their story.

In closing, Dr Buszard advised that sexual assault, harassment, or other inappropriate behaviour has no place on our campus or in society. She pledged to do everything she can to combat it from where she stood and hoped UBC can give people the tools and the confidence to combat it from where they did so.

Senator Cioe said that policy 131 was a major improvement in a fundamental way. He noted that previously the process was adversarial towards complainants, and it is to the University's credit that we have changed to a sensitive approach. However, he still raised concerns regarding privacy law trumping freedom of information and he said he would take that matter up with the FOIPP commissioner.

Senator Wetterstrand said that no matter what the University does [?] we holds ourselves up to criticism. Much of what we do, by its nature, is reactive. He wondered if we should be putting more resources to being proactive and reducing the number of these incidents in our environment.

Dr Buszard said that the purpose of having a full-time coordinator in the office is to provide education and training so we can be proactive in this matter.

Nominating Committee



The Chair of the Senate Nominating Committee, Dr Jannik Eikenaar presented.

By general consent the Senate Agenda was amended to add consideration of a motion allowing for the delegation of powers of appointment to President’s advisory committees for senior appointments to the Senate Nominating Committee.

PRESIDENT’S ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Jannik Eikenaar
Cynthia Mathieson

} *That Senate delegate to the Senate Nominating Committee the power to make appointments to the President’s Advisory Committee for the Selection of a Vice-President Finance and Operations, the President’s Advisory Committee for the Selection of a Vice-President Development and Alumni Engagement, and the President’s Advisory Committee for the Extension of Appointment of the Registrar.*

Approved

COUNCIL OF SENATES

Jannik Eikenaar
Cynthia Mathieson

} *That Dr Ramon Lawrence, Dr Barbara Marcolin, Dr Jennifer Jakobi, and Dean Wisdom Tettey be appointed to Council of Senates Representative Committees 1, 2, 3, and 4, respectively; and*

That Ms Catherine Comben be re-elected to the Council of Senates.

Approved

Report from the Provost



2017-2018 REPORT ON ENROLMENT

The Provost invited the Deputy Registrar for the Okanagan campus, Mr Alfred Vogt to present.

Mr Vogt presented overall system enrolment numbers and Okanagan highlights, noting that we were currently slightly over Government funded targets, and expected to fall to that target by the date the formal accounting occurs in March.

The 6.9% indigenous enrolment was similar to the demographics of the Okanagan valley.

Mr Vogt then went over the Vancouver highlights for comparison and gave senators an overview of UBC's strategic undergraduate enrolment initiatives.

Senator Cioe asked if there was overlap between youth aging out of care and aboriginal enrolments.

Dr Ross replied yes but it was still smaller numbers. The issue is more that these students are not graduating in many cases from secondary school. The government program doesn't cover all students who want support so we will continue the tuition waiver with them.

Senator Corbett asked if Okanagan would also move towards going past 100% of government funding such as Vancouver has done. Is our intent to slow down?

Mr Vogt replied that 103 to 105% sounded reasonable. 110% was likely stretching us too far. This would be a matter of continuing discussion. Next month's target proposal will be for an increase of a few percentage. Four years ago we went under a drop in enrolment and those students are now graduating.

Dr Buszard said that the Government looked at universities fulfilling their targets. Having a small cushion was useful in ensuring we stay above the line.

Senator Lalonde noted that our completion rates have plateaued at 15% below Vancouver. He asked why?

With permission of Senate, Dr Stephanie McEwan spoke, stating that many students were transferring out to different programs.

Senator Cioe said that it was also a matter of student quality; Vancouver has a higher admission bar; ours is going up but we do have more students who may struggle.

Senator Lewis asked how students were recorded if they transferred campuses.

Dr McEwan said that they were kept in the Okanagan graph if they started here.



The Chancellor asked if the Okanagan campus could learn from Vancouver; asking why the province does not fund more seats when there was more demand.

Dr Ross said no, the Government won't give us more money, as overall, the BC post-secondary system had a surplus of seats because some institutions were well below their targets.

Dr Buszard said that demographically BC had enough seats; it was a question of allocation to different institutions.

Dr Buszard noted our grade distribution and the effect of the aboriginal access program in entry to first year, which did lower our entry averages, but produced students who had the same standing in second year as non-access students.

Senator Cull noted that only 25% of our incoming class come from the region and it is harder to keep non-local students as they are more mobile.

Senator Ebl asked if we had information on where our alumni go and if this could be a marketing opportunity.

The President replied that Alumni UBC can provide this data.

Senator Cull said that 60% of our graduates stay in the region.

Senator Tettey noted that graduate enrolment was becoming a major part of the campus but that there was an issue of the funding for graduate and undergraduate students.

Dr Buszard said that we were funded at a single rate for virtually all of our seats. It was \$10 000 in 2005, and it's; now \$9 500. In real dollars this is a huge diminution. Whenever we speak to Government it is at the top of our thinking, but for this government, graduate students and research excellence are a lesser priority than expanding access overall. The new engineering seats, however, will be funded at a different rate.

Senator Rahim asked how our funding compared to Thompson Rivers University (TRU) or the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC).

Dr Buszard replied that TRU was funded slightly lower than us but they had more distance students. UNBC is funded at \$14 000 per seat and it's only at 60% capacity.

The Registrar noted that TRU came from the college system where funding was by program not by institution. They inherited and befit from that variability.



Senator Cioe noted that we could use either model, but it would be useful to know what our funding would be under the standard model that differentiated between undergraduate and graduate seats.

Dr Buszard said that we have modeled what our budget would be if we were within the mid-range; we can come back with what that information would look like.

Senator Lalonde said being over target was fine but we also have some of the largest class sizes in the province. He asked if we could reiterate that point with the Province.

Dr Buszard advised that the Ministry was well aware.

Dr Mathieson said overall she thought we were doing well. She also thanked the recruitment and communications staff.

Other Business

Senator Comben presented a book on the History of Kelowna to Dr Ono.

Adjournment

Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:12 pm.