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## Okanagan Senate

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2006

### **Attendance:**

**Present:** President S. Toope (Chair), Dr. A. McEachern (Chancellor), Deputy Vice-Chancellor D. Owrap, Associate Vice-President & Registrar B. Silzer, Mr. R. Adl, Mr. P. Arthur, Mr. G. August, Dr. J. Bassett-Smith, Dean B. Bauer, Dean R. Belton, Dr. W. Broughton, Ms. M. Burton, Dr. E. Butz, Dr. R. Campbell, Dr. J. Castricano, Dr. J. Cioe, Dr. R. Currie, Ms. L. Driscoll, Dr. M. Duran-Cogan, Mr. B. Ford, Ms. K. Ficke, Ms. M. Ficke, Mr. P. Garrick, Dr. J. Gustar, Dean M. Isaacson, Ms. E. Johnston, Dr. D. Keyes, Mr. M. Koovisk, Dean M. Krank, Dr. A. Labun, Dr. R. Lalonde, Dr. S. McCoubrey, Ms. N. Neumann, Dr. S. Reid, Dr. C. Scarff, Dr. D. Senese, Dr. M. Ungureanu, Dr. P. Wrzesniewski, Dr. P. Wylie, Ms. G. Zilm

**By Invitation:** Ms. L. M. Collins, Mr. C. Eaton (Enrolment Services), Dr. A. Abd-El-Aziz (AVP Academic and Research), Mr. B. D. Sullivan (Vice-President, Students), Ms. S. Grass

**Regrets:** Dean J. Bottorff, Dr. R. Klukas, Ms. D. Polson, Dr. D. Salhani, Dr. M. Williams

**Recording Secretary:** Mr. P. Arney

**Call to Order**

## **Senate Membership – Registrar and Secretary to the Senate, Mr. Brian Silzer**

### *Introduction of New Members:*

Associate Vice-President & Registrar Brian Silzer introduced and welcomed to Senate President Stephen Toope, New Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President, Academic, Dr. Doug Owram.

Mr. Silzer took the opportunity to thank Ms. Kelly Ross for her work with Senate and UBC Okanagan and wished her well in her new endeavor and introduced Mr. Paul Arney as her replacement.

### **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

*Moved: Ms. G. Zilm*  
*Seconded: Mr. M. Koovisk*

*That the minutes of the meeting of May 12, 2006 be adopted as circulated.*

*The motion was put and carried.*

### **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

### **Chair's Remarks – President Stephen Toope**

President Toope remarked that he was delighted to be at UBC Okanagan for his first Okanagan Senate meeting. He commented that the Senate at UBC Okanagan is central to the academic life of the university, a body to provide reasoned deliberation without being ponderous. He stated that the role of the Senate is not the same as the role of the Board of Governors, that the Board of Governors has no fundamental role in the academic and that the same was true of the Senate with respect to the fiscal matters of the university. He added that clarity was important to maintain the roles and responsibilities between each governing body.

President Toope said that his preferred style as chair was to keep the agenda items moving and he hoped that members would restrict repetitive comments on an item. He understood that this was not often practical and would remain relaxed and informal within this context. Dr. J. Cioe took this opportunity to express his concern that perhaps it was not the chair's right to limit debate under

the terms of our Senate procedures. President Toope agreed with the sentiment and expressed his hope that members would exhibit a measure of self-restraint.

### **Deputy Vice-Chancellor's Remarks – Dr. Doug Owram**

DVC Owram expressed his sincere appreciation to everyone for their welcome and support upon his arrival to UBC Okanagan. He acknowledged that like many here he was new and learning. He introduced Dr. Alaa Abd-El-Aziz, the new Associate Vice- President, Academic & Research.

DVC Owram commented on two things that to him marked the beginning of UBC Okanagan; primarily the students, who are vital to fulfilling the Academic Plan and secondly the pace of construction over the next few years which can be a challenge both to the daily university operation and to the budget.

He recognized the \$5 million donation made by Charles Fipke toward the Fipke Centre as a sign of progress toward the long-term achievement of the Academic Plan. In addition Mr. Fipke had graciously donated a further \$1 million to purchase a LAM-ICPMS – a state-of-the-art mass spectrometer that uses lasers to analyze sample materials.

DVC Owram identified the demand for UBC Okanagan as a significant challenge and that as demand increased so did the need for corresponding recruitment of faculty and staff in conjunction with provision of adequate residence space and student services. Dr. Reid expressed the need to enhance on-campus life. DVC Owram agreed and stated the desire to improve and develop all facets of the student experience including intramurals programs as well as a student life centre. President Toope indicated that the Board of Governors was not only aware of these issues but that they shared the sentiment of the Okanagan Senate.

### **From the Council of Senates – Registrar and Secretary to the Senate, Mr. Brian Silzer**

Mr. Silzer provided a report to Senate on the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council of Senates as reports from the Council of Senates were to be given to Senate following each Council of Senate meeting. At the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting Council approved granting of degrees for a group of OUC graduates and also accepted some recommendations on Council of Senates membership. The next meeting of the Council of Senates was to be held in December 2006.

## **From the Board of Governors – Deputy Vice-Chancellor Doug Owram**

DVC Owram presented the following items approved by the Board of Governors; Confirmation that the Board of Governors has accepted the recommendations of Senate in approving the following items:

### **a. Senate Meeting of March 21, 2006**

Curriculum proposals from the Faculties of Arts and Sciences, and the Creative and Critical Studies: (new courses).

### **b. Senate Meeting of April 20, 2006**

Curriculum proposals from the Faculties of Arts and Sciences, and the Creative and Critical Studies: (new courses).

## **Nominating Committee – Dr. Robert Lalonde**

*Call for Nominations:*

Dr. Lalonde issued a call for nominations for one student representative to serve on the Council of Senates. Dr. Lalonde asked Senators to e-mail self-nominations by October 4, 2006 to Paul Arney in the Senate Secretariat.

## **Policies and Procedures Committee – Dr. Michael Isaacson**

### ***Council of Senates Membership and Changes to the University Act***

Dean Isaacson presented the report, recalling that there had been deliberation at both Senates about: (a) the merits of equal versus unequal representation for each campus on the Council of Senates, and (b) whether the Chair of the Council ought to be elected by and from the members of the Council. The present report reflected the Committee's assessment of the best action in the short term, while waiting for possible changes to the *University Act* that the government might undertake in future.

*Moved: Dean M. Isaacson*

*Seconded: Dr. J. Cioe*

*That the changes to the Rules and Procedures of Senate on page 4 of this report, entitled "Rules and Procedures of the Okanagan Senate" under "Changes to the Rules and Procedures of the Okanagan and Vancouver Senates Not Incumbent on Changes to the University Act," and the subsequent directives listed regarding the memberships of the proposed committees be approved.*

***Council of Senates Membership and Changes to the University Act,  
continued***

Discussion:

Dean Bauer noted on page 7) that 'for' should change to 'from'.

*The motion was put and carried.*

***Membership of the Chancellor on the Policies and Procedures Committee***

Dean Isaacson presented a report that contained the following recommendation, explaining that the change would allow the Chancellor to participate in selecting candidates for honorary degrees.

The following changes to the *Rules and Procedures of Senate* are recommended:

27. *The President is an ex-officio member of all Senate standing committees, except that the President is not a member of ~~a standing committee considering student appeals on academic discipline.~~ **the Appeals of Standing and Discipline Committee. The Chancellor is an ex-officio member of the Policies and Procedures Committee.** The Registrar or designate is an ex-officio member of all Senate committees and shall serve as committee secretary, but has no right to vote as such.*

NB: New text is in **bold**; removed text is ~~struck through~~.

*Moved: Dean M. Isaacson  
Seconded: Dr. J. Cioe*

*That the Senate accept the recommendation of the Policies and Procedures Committee to amend Section 27 of the Rules and Procedures of the Okanagan Senate.*

*The motion was put and carried.*

***Granting of Degrees in November***

Dean Isaacson spoke to a proposal to provide for the granting of degrees by the Senate each November. The November group of graduates would be invited to attend convocation the following June.

## **Granting of Degrees in November, continued**

*Moved: Dean M. Isaacson*

*Seconded: Dr. J. Cioe*

*That the Senate approve in principle that a list of candidates for degrees shall be considered for approval at the regular meeting of the Senate scheduled in November of each year; and*

*That the candidates for degrees, as approved each November by the Senate, be eligible to attend the subsequent meeting of the convocation in the Okanagan for conferral of their degree by the Chancellor.*

*The motion was put and carried.*

## **Granting of UBC Degrees to OUC Graduates**

Dean Isaacson presented a proposal to implement the arrangement for converting a group of degrees granted by Okanagan University College to UBC degrees, as approved in principle by the Council of Senates at its June 8 meeting.

*Moved: Dean M. Isaacson*

*Seconded: Dean R. Belton*

*That the Senate approve the attached list of Okanagan University College (OUC) degree holders as eligible for converting their OUC degrees to the corresponding UBC degrees;*

*That a committee, consisting of the Registrar and the Chair of Senate, be struck and empowered to make any necessary adjustments to the approved list;*

*That the Senate grants the above-mentioned UBC degree to each candidate on the approved list upon application to the Registrar; and*

*That the Senate direct that the list of those persons who have applied for and thus been granted the above-mentioned degrees be presented to the Chancellor for conferral of the degrees at the next regular meeting of the Convocation in the Okanagan.*

## Granting of UBC Degrees to OUC Graduates, continued

### Discussion:

There was discussion regarding whether a time limit for application for the converted degrees would be reasonable, but no such limit was imposed. Mr. Silzer noted that the list of candidates for these converted degrees would remain as approved by Senate, with the exception of any necessary correction of errors made while compiling the list.

There was discussion about whether candidates for the converted degrees should be invited to attend a ceremony or other kind of celebration. Dean Isaacson proposed the following amendment to the motion:

In amendment,

*Moved: Dean M. Isaacson*

*Seconded: Dean R. Belton*

*That the last paragraph of the motion be amended as follows (addition in bold):*

*That the Senate direct that the list of those persons who have applied for and thus been granted the above-mentioned degrees be presented to the Chancellor for conferral of the degrees at the next regular meeting of the Convocation in the Okanagan, **and that the University enact an appropriate ceremony associated with the granting of these degrees.***

*The amendment was adopted by unanimous consent.*

*The amended motion was put and carried.*

### Further discussion:

Mr. Silzer clarified that the University would collect a \$100 application fee from each candidate coming forward to accept their converted degree. Dr. Cioe noted his disagreement with the collection of a fee for this purpose.

## Curriculum Committee – Dr. Jennifer Gustar

Dr. Gustar presented a proposal to establish new courses IGS 530, 540, 550, and related changes to program descriptions.

## **Curriculum Committee, continued**

*Moved: Dr. J. Gustar*  
*Seconded: Dean M. Krank*

*That the new courses and changed program descriptions be approved.*

### Discussion:

Dr. Cioe asked if there was a system issue or technical problem with adding course numbers. Mr. Silzer clarified that there is a convention around the assigning of course numbers. Dean Krank noted that and the problem must be fixed so that the IGS program can register students and grow as there will be other courses coming forward.

*The motion was put and carried.*

## **Admissions and Awards-- Dr. Sharon McCoubrey**

### ***New Awards***

Dr. McCoubrey presented a list of new awards for approval.

*Moved: Dr. S. McCoubrey*  
*Seconded: Dean M. Isaacson*

*That the new awards be accepted as listed and forwarded to the Board of Governors for approval, and that letters of thanks be sent to the donors.*

### Discussion and amendment:

Following discussion about the award terms for the Rick and Yasmin THORPE and Friends Entrance Scholarship, this scholarship was removed from consideration by unanimous consent and referred to the Admissions and Awards Committee for further consideration.

*The motion, as amended, was put and carried.*

### ***Admissions Report***

Dr. McCoubrey presented a proposal to change the admissions statement for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing to add Principles of Math 11 and a clarifying statement about the presentation of courses by transfer applicants.



## **Admissions Report, continued**

*Moved: Dr. S. McCoubrey*

*Seconded: Ms. M. Ficke*

*That the admissions changes for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing be approved.*

### Discussion:

Mr. Adl suggested some revisions to the Calendar language on “transfer students.” It was agreed that approval would be subject to editorial changes by the Admissions & Awards Committee prior to inclusion in the Calendar.

*The motion was put and carried.*

## **Adjournment**

There being no other business the meeting adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Okanagan Senate was scheduled to be held on October 31, 2006.