



THE OKANAGAN SENATE

MINUTES

21 September 2011 | 3:30 PM - University Centre Ballroom (UNC-200)

Present:	Prof. Stephen J. Toope (President and Vice-Chancellor, Meeting Chair); Ms. Sarah Morgan-Silvester (Chancellor); Mr. Ramine Adl; Mr. Morgan Andreychuk; Dr. Peter Arthur; Dr. Philip Balcaen; Dr. Gordon Binsted; Ms. Cara Bonini; Dr. Ernest Alan Broome; Dr. Lynn Bosetti; Ms. Melody Burton; Dr. Kenneth Carlaw; Mr. Kirk Chavarie; Dr. Jan Cioe; Dr. Fes de Scally; Dr. R. Robin Dods; Dr. Miriam Grant; Mr. Jordan Haynes; Ms. Fern Helfand; Dr. Kasun Hewage; Dr. Sandy Hilton; Dr. Jim Johnson; Dr. Carolyn Labun; Ms. Kaitlyn Levy; Dr. Cynthia Mathieson; Dr. Abbas Milani; Ms. Darby Milner; Dr. Ben Nilson; Dr. Doug Owram; Dr. Gurupdes Pandher; Ms. Laura Patterson; Dr. Wesley Pue; Mr. James Ridge; Dr. Deborah Roberts; Dr. Carole Robinson; Dr. Carol Scarff; Dr. Dwayne Tannant; Dr. Wisdom Tettey; Ms. Kristin Vidi; Mr. Calvin Wain; Dr. Greg Wetterstrand; Dr. Spiro Yannacopoulos
Guests:	As past committee Chairs: Dr. Neil Cadger; Dr. Mercedes Duran-Cogan; Dr. Carl Hodge; Dr. Daniel Keyes; Ms. Emily Landry; Dr. Sharon McCoubrey
Regrets:	Dr. Tyseer Aboulnasr; Dr. Linda Allan; Mr. Ian Cull; Mr. Christopher Gorman; Mr. Christopher Howe; Dr. Daniel Murray; Dr. Dan Muzyka; Mr. Yaw Obrenu-Yamoah; Dr. Andre Phillion
Senate Secretariat:	Mr. Christopher Eaton; Ms. Nathalie Hager; Ms. Stephanie Oldford; Mr. Steve Siblock (Recording Secretary);
Call to Order:	The President called to order the first regular meeting of the third triennium of the Okanagan Senate, 2011 - 2012 academic year, at 3:43 pm.

Senate meeting schedules: <http://www.senate.ubc.ca/okanagan/schedule.cfm>

Format of the Meeting

It was noted that this first meeting of the third triennium of the Okanagan Senate would be divided into three segments: a welcome and orientation, secondly the regular business of Senate, to be followed by a welcome reception immediately thereafter. The venue would return to more typical Senate format for subsequent meetings.

Welcome and Orientation

Chancellor Sarah Morgan-Silvester opened the Senate orientation, thanking all Senators for their service, recognizing the time commitments given by the student senators, and emphasizing the important role that Senate plays in managing change through a time of dramatic growth at the Okanagan campus.

President Toope thanked the Chancellor for her gracious voluntary time commitments both on Senate and on the Board of Governors. He provided an overview of the bicameral governance of the University, emphasizing the importance of Senate in helping to set the direction for the University community, thanked all members of Senate for their time and expertise, and emphasized the importance of commitment to the standing committees of Senate.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr. Doug Owram presented a history and overview of the Okanagan Senate and the Council of Senates, citing the uniqueness and challenges of operating two independent Senates in a multi-campus University, and acknowledging the development of unique Okanagan Senate traditions and practices as carried forward from UBC's rich history. Dr. Owram remarked on future opportunities for new faculty to participate in Senate as they establish their involvements on campus, the evolving influence of international involvement and research on the Okanagan campus, and underlined the importance of strategic debate during the meetings of committees and Senate.

Following Dr. Owram's remarks, the past chairs of each Senate subcommittee were called upon to present a brief overview of the roles and responsibilities of their respective committees, and examples of the types of work performed during the year. The persons presenting committee overviews were: Dr. Daniel Keyes (Academic Building and Resources); Dr. Jan Cioe (Academic Policy); Dr. Sharon McCoubrey (Admissions and Awards); Ms. Emily Landry (Agenda); Dr. Neil Cadger (Appeals of Standing and Discipline); Dr. Carl Hodge (Curriculum); Dr. Peter Arthur (Learning and Research); and Dr. Mercedes Duran-Cogan (Nominating).

The President welcomed the new Provost for the Okanagan campus, Dr. Wesley Pue.

	<p>The Secretary of Senate, Mr. James Ridge, introduced the Manager of the Senate Secretariat, Mr. Steve Siblock, and initiated a round of introductions by each member present.</p> <p>The regular agenda of the Senate meeting commenced at 4:23 pm.</p>
<p>1. Senate Membership</p>	<p>Mr. Ridge presented the 2011 – 2014 election results and the accompanying membership of the 2011 – 2014 Okanagan Senate.</p> <p>Mr. Ridge presented the membership of the Nominating committee as elected by the Senate. This item was submitted for information and not an item of approval as noted on the agenda.</p> <p>Mr. Ridge declared the following Senate vacancies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. One (1) representative of the Faculty of Health and Social Development ii. One (1) representative of the graduate students iii. One (1) representative of the students of the Faculty of Education iv. One (1) representative of the students-at-large <p>Mr. Ridge advised Senate that the election of the Vice-Chair of the Okanagan Senate would take place at the October 26, 2011 meeting, and that nominations were to be received by the Senate Secretariat by October 14, 2011.</p>
<p>2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting</p>	
<p>Mr. C. Wain; Dr. J. Cioe</p>	<p>} <i>That the minutes of the meeting of May 19, 2011 be approved as circulated with a minor amendment to page 4 correcting the anticipated opening of the Engineering, Management, and Education building from September 2012 to August 2011.</i></p> <p>Carried.</p>
<p>3. Business Arising from the Minutes</p>	<p>Dr. Jim Johnson noted that although the minutes were correct, the nature of his enquiry noted on master page 10 was whether or not the process to recruit a full-time Dean of the Faculty of Management had been initiated. Dr. Owrarn responded that a first consultation meeting with the Faculty of Management to advance the process was pending within the next week, and that an update would be brought forward to the next Senate meeting.</p>

4. **President's Comments and Related Questions**

President Toope announced the following updates to senior administration portfolios: Dr. Louise Cowin as the new Vice-President Students effective October, 2011; the upcoming end-of-term vacancy of the Vice-President External and Community with a search committee already struck; and the continued work of the advisory committee to recommend a new Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the Okanagan campus.

President Toope congratulated all colleagues responsible for the successful build-out of the undergraduate and graduate student populations as envisioned by the University and Government. Campus undergraduate enrolment was up thirteen percent at 2600 new undergraduate students, with 2048 of those being first-year students.

Citing the potential for improvement and current activity for re-imagining the role and operation of intercollegiate sports, President Toope indicated that he co-chairs a new Canada West task force to make recommendations to Canada Interuniversity Sport (CIS) by the early part of the new year. The presidents of CIS universities would be forming a task force in order to make recommendations to ensure that the CIS is fulfilling its mission and mandate, to review appropriate scholarship support and the structure of competitions to continue to benefit students across Canada and at UBC, and to help make Canadian universities the destinations of choice for more top athletes.

The financial picture for UBC – Vancouver and Okanagan – was described as healthy with solid pension funds, strong community support, and the best fundraising of any University in the country, while having to make difficult decisions to reduce administrative expenses. Concerns do exist regarding enhanced financial pressures at the provincial level; however, the University is committed to articulate to Government as clearly as possible that the universities represent a fundamental investment to the future social, cultural, and economic health of the province.

President Toope referred to the circulated Record of President's Activities from March 14, 2011 to May 6, 2011 and May 7, 2011 to August 19, 2011.

In response to a question regarding statements about international students made by the Premier, President Toope stated that meetings with Government have taken place through the Research Universities Council of BC, and was pleased that the Government recognizes the importance of international students to the culture, society, and the economy of British Columbia. The long-term doubling of international student enrolment across the entire sector of education from kindergarten to graduate studies must be calibrated effectively to maximize the potential for student success and ensure the necessary facilities are in place.

	<p>In response to a question regarding the funding between the UBC Vancouver and Okanagan campuses, President Toope explained that before the funding is received by the University, it is already largely divided between the campuses, based on campus-specific student enrolment, tuition, and research funding. Because UBC Okanagan has been in a growth phase, the firewall between the budgets of the two campuses has served the Okanagan campus well.</p> <p>Continuing the discussion of finances, Dr. Ooram commented that although the current economic environment is not conducive to receiving capital money directly from Government, the University needs to demonstrate the need for enhanced funding of graduate students; for facilities such as expanded library, classroom, and theatre space, and be prepared and ready when provincial monies become available.</p>			
5.	<p>Deputy Vice-Chancellor’s Remarks</p> <p>Dr. Ooram continued his remarks by welcoming and thanking the assembly, noting the contributions made by all to arrive at the current campus enrolment figures.</p>			
6.	<p>Approval from the Board of Governors</p> <p>President Toope reported that all proposals from the Senate meetings included in the agenda had been approved by the Board of Governors as required under the <i>University Act</i>.</p>			
7.	<p>Report from the Admissions and Awards Committee</p> <p>Dr. S. McCoubrey presented the report.</p>			
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8.	Report from the Curriculum Committee		<p>Dr. Carl Hodge presented the report.</p>
	<p>Dr. S. McCoubrey; Dr. N. Cadger</p>	}	<p><i>That Senate approves the new course and the new programs brought forward by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and Creative and Critical Studies as set out in the attached proposals.</i></p> <p>Carried.</p>
9.	Report from the Nominating Committee		<p>In the absence of a Chair for the Nominating committee, Mr. Christopher Eaton presented the report.</p>
	<p>Dr. F. deScally; Dr. W. Tettey</p>	}	<p><i>That Senate approves the membership of the Committees of Senate for the 2011 – 2014 triennium as circulated; and</i></p> <p><i>That the composition of the Learning and Research Committee be amended to grant voting privileges to the Director of the Centre for Teaching and Learning.</i></p>
	<p>By unanimous consent</p>	}	<p><i>That the motion brought forward by the Nominating committee be divided as follows:</i></p> <p><i>Part 1: That Senate approves the membership of the Committees of Senate for the 2011 – 2014 triennium as circulated;</i></p> <p><i>Part 2: That the composition of the Learning and Research Committee be amended to grant voting privileges to the Director of the Centre for Teaching and Learning.</i></p> <p>Carried.</p>
<p>Discussion</p> <p>Dr. Johnson noted that the Nominating committee should be documented as five non-student senators and two student senators. In addition, the question of potentially having a non-Senator as a voting member of the Learning and Research committee was raised. Mr. Eaton responded that the Nominating committee had decided to extend voting privileges to the Ex Officio position for the Director of the Centre for Teaching and Learning, thereby allowing the appointment of a further faculty member on the committee. Dr. Johnson spoke against the second motion and the decision was taken to divide the two motions put forth by the Nominating committee.</p>			

		It was noted that the Agenda committee was not on the list of committees circulated. Mr. Eaton responded that the Agenda committee membership was almost all Ex Officio.
	Dr. F. de Scally; Dr. W. Tetley	<p><i>That Senate approves the membership of the Committees of Senate for the 2011 – 2014 triennium as circulated;</i></p> <p>Carried.</p>
	Ms. M. Burton; Dr. J. Cioe	<p><i>That the composition of the Learning and Research committee be amended to grant voting privileges to the Director of the Centre for Teaching and Learning.</i></p> <p>Carried by visible majority vote.</p>

There being no further business, the President adjourned the meeting and invited all present to join the welcome reception.

Adjournment:	5:10 pm
Next Meeting:	October 26, 2011