



# VANCOUVER SENATE

MINUTES OF 17 April 2013

DRAFT

## Attendance

### Attendance

**Present:** Prof. S.J. Toope (President and Chair), Ms L.M. Collins (Secretary), Dr K. Baimbridge, Dr J. Belanger, Dean M.A. Bobinski, Principal H. Brock, Dr L. Burr, Mr C. Chan, Dr G. Chapman, Dr P. Choi, Prof. B. Craig, Dr W. Dunford, Mr P. Edgcumbe, Dr D. Farrar (Provost and Vice-President, Academic), Mr D. Fernandez, Dean B. Frank, Ms V. Goyal, Dr S. Grayston, Mr S. Haffey, Rev. Dr M. Hagemoen, Dr. W. Hall, Dr P. Harrison, Ms J. Jagdeo, Ms N. Karimi, Ms A. Kessler, Dr U. Kumar, Dr B.S. Lalli, Mr J. Lee, Mr C. Leonoff, Dr P. Loewen, Mr T. MacLachlan, Ms K. Mahal, Ms M. Maleki, Dr F. Marra, Ms N. Marshall, Dr P. Marshall, Dr W. McKee, Mr W. McNulty, Dr D. O'Donoghue, Dr I. Parent, Dr K. Patterson, Dean S. Peacock, Dr N. Perry, Dr J. Plessis, Dean *pro tem*. W. Riggs, Dr A. Riseman, Ms T. Rosseel, Dr L. Rucker, Ms T. Shum, Dr S. Singh, Dr R. Sparks, Ms S. Sterling, Dr S. Thorne, Mr D. Verma, Dr M. Vessey, Dr L. Walker, Dr R. Windsor-Liscombe, Dr R. Winter, Dr D. Witt.

**Regrets:** Mr T. Ahmed, Dr R. Anstee, Dean G. Averill, Mr G. Beales, Ms E. Biddlecombe, Dean M.A. Bobinski, Mr B. Caracheo, Rev. Dr S. Farris, Prof. B. Goold, Dean *pro tem*. E. Hall, Dean R. Helsley, Dean J. Innes, Dean M. Isman, Dr I. Ivanov, Dr S. Knight, Dr P. Leung, Prof. B. MacDougall, Ms M. McKenna, Ms S. Morgan-Silvester, Principal L. Nasmith, Ms M. Patton, Dean *pro tem*. S. Porter, Mr M. Prescott, Dr R. Reid, Dean C. Shuler, Dr D. Simunic, Dr B. Stelck, Dean G. Stuart, Mr M. Thom, Dr R. Wilson.

**Guests:** Dr S. Bates, Mr M. Hunter, Mr T. Jefferson, Dr A. Kindler, Dr A. Redish, Mr C. Roach, Mr J. Yang.

**Recording Secretary:** Mr C. Eaton.

## Tributes Committee

### MEMORIAL MINUTE FOR DR MICHAEL SHAW

Michael Shaw was born in the West Indies and came to Canada in 1943. He received a Bachelor of Science (Honours Botany) from McGill University in 1946 and Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Botany and Plant Pathology from Macdonald College of McGill in 1947 and 1949, respectively. Following a period as a National Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow in Cambridge, England, Dr. Shaw joined the Department of Biology at the University of Saskatchewan as an Assistant Professor in 1950 and became Professor and Head of the Department in 1961. An active scientist, Dr. Shaw conducted research on the physiology and biochemistry of the host-parasite relations of rust fungi on wheat and flax. The severe epidemic of wheat rust in the prairies in the 1950's had prompted Dr Shaw to undertake research on this important disease.

In 1967 Dr. Shaw came to UBC as Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and served as Dean until his appointment as Vice-President, Academic in 1975. During his deanship the Faculty name was changed to the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and the Faculty experienced considerable growth and development. His philosophy was that faculties of agriculture should continue to

expand because of the vital importance the discipline in the area of food production. His early concern about agriculture as an ecosystem led to the agro-ecosystem approach forming a framework for the curricula in the Faculty. In addition to his UBC activities he was active in national scientific and academic associations. He initiated the formation of the Association of Faculties of Agriculture in Canada and was President of this group in from 1974 to 1975.

During his career, he achieved international recognition as a plant pathologist, making pioneering contributions to research on the physiology and biochemistry of host-parasite relationships. As both dean and vice-president, Dr. Shaw brought vision and commitment to his years of academic service. He encouraged the creation of many new programs and he supported funds for university programs in the interior and the north of BC that enhanced access for students from the entire province. His leadership and administration were grounded in the highest academic standards and what was best for UBC students and for the province. Dr Shaw retired in 1989 after a distinguished association of 22 years with UBC and was named University Professor and Dean Emeritus. In recognition of his service to the University and to agricultural science a scholarship fund was established in his name. In retirement he maintained an active interest in agricultural research and in academic affairs.

Dr Shaw received several prestigious honours and distinctions. Particularly noteworthy were his election to the Royal Society of Canada in 1962, the honorary Doctor of Science from his alma mater, McGill University (1975) and the Royal Society of Canada's Flavelle Medal, their highest award for research achievements in the biological sciences (1976). For his substantial international impact in the world of plant sciences and his contribution to the University, Dr. Shaw was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science by UBC in 2003.

The Senate sends its condolences to Dr. Shaw's family and friends.

Sally Thorne  
Joseph Belanger

} *That Senate approve the Memorial Minute for Dr Michael Shaw, that it be entered into the Minutes of Senate, and that a copy be sent to the family of the deceased.*

**Approved.**

#### **MEMORIAL MINUTE FOR DR LEONHARD MARTIN WEDEPOHL**

Martin Wedepohl was born in Pretoria, South Africa in 1933. He matriculated from Grey College, Bloemfontein, South Africa in 1949. In 1953 he graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Engineering) cum laude from the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. He joined the British General Electric Company (GEC) in 1954 as a graduate apprentice and from 1954 to 1957 was with A. Reyrolle and Company as a research engineer. During this time he developed the world's first transmission line protection system based on emerging transistor technology. He was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy for this work by the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST) in 1957. In 1964, he was appointed to

the Department of Electrical Engineering at UMIST, going on to serve as chair of the department from 1969 to 1974.

In 1974 he became Professor and Dean of Engineering at the University of Manitoba. He was appointed to the Board of Manitoba Hydro Electric Corporation in 1975 and became Vice Chairman and pro tem Chairman from December 1978 to October 1979. During his term in Winnipeg he helped establish the Manitoba High Voltage Direct Current Research Laboratory and the Manitoba Micro Electronics Institute. In recognition of his outstanding contribution and service to the Manitoba Hydro Electric Board, Dr. Wedepohl was the recipient of the Award of the Bison by the Government of Manitoba.

In 1979, Dr. Wedepohl was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science at UBC, a post he held until 1985. During this time he was chairman of the task force which prepared a report for the government of British Columbia on major expansion of the University's School of Engineering. He was also chairman of the planning committees which specified the new mining engineering building and the building for the western division of the Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada. After completing his term as dean, he continued on as a professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering until 1985.

He was appointed to the board of the British Columbia Hydro Electric Corporation from 1980 to 1984 and chairman of the energy sub-committee of that board. He served as a member of the Science Council of British Columbia from 1981 to 1985 and a member of the Arts, Science and Technology Council of British Columbia from 1982 to 1985. He was faculty advisor and sponsor to a team of UBC students who won first prize in the Innovative Vehicle Design Competition at Expo '86.

Dr. Wedepohl authored more than 30 papers in the Proceedings of the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) in London and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (IEEE) in New York. He was a Fellow of the Institution of Electrical Engineers in London and of the Engineering Institute of Canada.

The Senate expresses its condolences to Dr. Wedepohl's family and friends.

Sally Thorne  
Lance Rucker

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*That Senate approve the Memorial Minute for Dr Leonhard Martin Wedepohl, that it be entered into the Minutes of Senate, and that a copy be sent to the family of the deceased.*

**Approved.**

**Senate Membership**

The Registrar *pro tem*. Introduced the new and returning student representatives to Senate for them term from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014:

APPLIED SCIENCE

Mr Graham Beales

ARTS

Ms. Tanya Shum

COLLEGE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Mr Barak Caracheo

COMMERCE AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SAUDER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS)

Mr Cole Leonoff

DENTISTRY

Mr Jared Lee

EDUCATION

Ms. Melanie McKenna

FORESTRY

Ms. Veni Goyal

GRADUATE STUDIES

Ms. Julianne Jagdeo

LAND AND FOOD SYSTEMS

Mr Mark Prescott

LAW

Mr Tom MacLachlan

MEDICINE

Mr Casey Chan

PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

Ms. Melissa Patton

SCIENCE

Ms. Mona Maleki

MEMBERS AT-LARGE

Mr Philip Edgcumbe, Medicine

Ms Nina Karimi, Arts

Ms Anne Kessler, Arts

Ms Kiran Mahal, Science

Ms Natalie Marshall, Graduate Studies

**Vice-Chair of Senate**

The Secretary announced that Senators Edgcumbe and Haffey had been nominated to Service as Vice-Chair of Senate, each candidate then spoke in favour of their candidacy, and ballots were distributed to Senators with the results to be tabulated and announced later in the meeting.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Katharine Patterson       }  
Lawrence Burr

*That the Minutes of the Meeting of 20 March 2013  
be adopted as corrected.*

*Corrections:*

- *diversify in place of diversity on page 8*
- *Discussion in place of information under  
Proposed Agenda Items.*

**Approved.**

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

The President noted that Senator Loewen had requested a discussion at Senate following the email message on the Flexible Learning Initiative that was distributed at the request of the Provost. Professor Toope stated that he understood that message was to highlight and support those initiatives brought forward at the faculty, departmental, and faculty member level. He had asked the Provost to further report on this matter for Senate's information.

The Provost noted that student learning was our first commitment in Place and Promise: we set as goal to increase the quality and impact of our teaching and to strengthen and support student success, and UBC has been working on these goals for the past 4 years. Dr Farrar noted that there were 9 commitments in Place and Promise and each of these is rolled out in a different way; some, such as the Aboriginal strategy, have been organized by a cohesive group, but for student learning this is something that happens at the faculty, department and faculty member level. Rather than developing a set strategy for Student Learning, his office was and planned to work to support what was going on across the entire University.

Dr Farrar suggested that those who followed the New York Times will be aware of the growing phenomena of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). He noted that UBC has a long history in online and distance learning; the difference now is the massive/open part, and how technology is changing our world. Dr Farrar then referenced Coursera (a Stanford-based online consortium UBC has joined) and Computer Science's example (our first MOOC, with over 175 000 enrolled and nearly 8000 completions), and outlined how MOOCs could differ from UBC's more traditional distance educational offerings, including adjustments to assessments and vast differences between enrolment and completion numbers. The Provost informed Senate that he and the President had recently attended a two day conference on the effect of MOOCs at the University of Pennsylvania; from that and other experiences he expressed his belief that UBC's best option was not to focus on offering MOOCs, but rather to take the technology used for them and apply it to our own classrooms (whether traditional, flipped or blended learning environments) so that students can better apply what they learn outside of class within class.

The Provost noted for Senate that his office would continue to engage and work with the Senate Teaching & Learning and Academic Policy Committee on the academic implications for these initiatives.

Senator Dunford asked if the University was expected to make or lose money on these initiatives.

Dr Farrar replied that UBC was not interested in free courses; we are interested in using learning from these to improve our programs. Increasingly departments are coming to us to talk about first year programming and how we can use this to improve how we offer them. We do have a commitment to lifelong learning and so may put some courses through Coursera but MOOCs are not our primary interest.

Senator Loewen opined that UBC had many shared goals but to hear of these things in an after-the-fact manner was problematic for Senate. He noted that UBC had over 40 000 students for whom we have shared responsibilities, and greater consultation around these initiatives with Senate was needed. He noted that a report was produced for the Provost's office on our Flexible Learning Initiatives and asked if it would be shared with Senate.

The Provost agreed to share the report with any interested Senators but advised that the document was incomplete and very early.

Senator Singh noted that he supported the flexibility in time space and pedagogy that these initiatives offered, but asked for assurances that any additional funding to support these programs would not be to the detriment of other operations.

The Provost assured the senator that money was not being taken away from other initiatives to support flexible learning.

Senator Riseman asked if we had considered a model where the information was free but the transcript cost money.

Dr Farrar replied that several different models were in use. US universities would reframe this as a question of assessment; American schools would assess how much learning you'd done already and deliver the rest of the program to you at a reduced cost. The Provost opined that this was not likely something UBC would be interested in.

Senator Baimbridge asked other than information technology support, what resources would faculty members need to participate and what was available?

The Provost replied that he had asked the Centre for Teaching, Learning, and Technology to think about how they could better support faculty and departments in this area.

With permission of Senate, the Director of the Centre, Dr Simon Bates advised that new technology was not necessarily needed; although high tech was the norm in MOOCs there were many ways to expose students to information ahead of time so we can make more productive use of class time.

The Provost further suggested that students seemed to like both high and low technology methods, but that the middle ground did not seem as supported.

Senator Harrison advised that it would be critical for the discussions and development of these courses to involve students, especially as we would be asking them to use their time devoted to learning differently.

The Provost replied that students have asked us to do that and we recognize that we need to be more communicative with them about how learning may change

Senator Mahal noted that as we start to look to move more content online we need to consider what this does for the student experience and how this affects the campus community and atmosphere. She asked if there there been thoughts to invest more in campus technology so students don't have to carry around laptops, noting that existing computer facilities were in high demand.

Senator Windsor-Liscombe described this as the desiting of a formerly locally based way of learning. He asked if the geopolitical ramifications had been considered.

The Provost replied that Thomas Friedman of the New York Times presented at the Pennsylvania conference and he noted the impact of these kinds of technologies on the newspaper industry. A decade ago there was a sense that this technology would harm smaller papers but the Times thought itself immune. That newspaper of course has been majorly affected. There are huge issues in higher education around the world; the cost of education is becoming prohibitive and a number of issues here could be disruptive for universities.

The President noted that he had a slightly different perspective on MOOCs; he did not believe that MOOCs will be as disruptive as believed. He suggested that it was difficult to discern any profound transformations from the hype. Professor Toope advised that at this year's Davos conference, he and the presidents of several other universities agreed that we had to take something that we can learn from this and use it to benefit our own students in helping them learn better. The President suggested that as this area was moving quickly we needed to find a way to differentiate the "noise" from the benefits of blended learning for our students.

Dr Farrar noted that our Computer Science MOOC had students from almost every country in the world, but that the topic did not necessarily have to be technical – the University of Pennsylvania taught a course on Emily Dickenson to several hundred students versus their usual 20.

The President concluded by noting that MOOCs seemed to work as discrete courses but that he had not yet seen a way where they could work as full programs.

### **International College**

The Provost advised Senate that Vantage College was the name selected by the University Executive for the International College approved by Senate last month.

### **Remarks from the Chair**

The President noted for Senate that recently the Federal Government had restored \$37M cut from the granting councils; however, NSERC's \$15M recapitalization had \$12M of that go towards college and community innovation. He advised that there was a reference made by the Government towards a review of the Indirect Cost of Research that he hoped was in response to our, Toronto, and McGill's requests for this to be revisited given that Canada pays far less towards indirect costs than Australia, the US, or most of Europe. For international education, the President noted that the MITACS Global Link program will see \$13 million in funding over 2 years, and for the first time the federal government will support Canadian students going abroad.

Professor Toope advised Senate that a mediation session between UBC and the Faculty Association was held over the past weekend but no agreement could be found; 3 days have been set aside for arbitration at the start of June.

The President noted that he recently spoke at a meeting of the Board of Governors of the University of Alberta with the Minister of Advanced Education for Alberta. He noted that there



was a high degree of uncertainty for higher education funding across Canada and that the University of Alberta recently received an unexpected 7.3% budget cut.

As an update to Start an Evolution, the President advised that we have raised \$213 million this year (and are now at \$1.1 billion towards the campaign total) and had 45095 alumni engaged this year.

Senator Baimbridge asked if we have specifically addressed the question of operating grants with the Tricouncils. He suggested that the CIHR cut-off levels have become absurd.

The President advised that we make this point constantly – and supported by statistics – but without success.

Senator Hall asked if we have raised the issue of PHD student funding. In category A it was 13% and B is 14%; she opined that we cannot support students at those rates.

Professor Toope replied that we have advised that we are dramatically underperforming compared to the EU, Australia and the US; we produce far fewer PhDs and master students. The unfortunate response is that outside of academia there is a very low premium on having a PhD in Canadian salary structures and thus it is not supported.

### **From the Board of Governors**

The President confirmed that the following items approved by the Vancouver Senate were subsequently approved by the Board of Governors as required under the *University Act*:

### **Senate Meeting February 13, 2013**

- Curriculum proposals from the Faculties of Applied Science, Arts, Dentistry, Graduate Studies (Arts, Education, Forestry, Law, Medicine, and Science), Land and Food Systems and Law
- New program – Master of Laws in Taxation
- Student Awards

### **Senate Meeting March 20, 2013**

- Curriculum proposals from the Faculty of Graduate Studies (Applied Science)
- Name Change from the Faculty of Graduate Studies to the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies effective July 1, 2013
- Establishment of the UBC International College effective May 1, 2013
- Disestablishment of College of Interdisciplinary Studies effective October 1, 2013
- New program – Master of Urban Design
- Student Awards

### **Admissions Committee**

*See Appendix A: Admissions Summary*

The Chair of the Senate Admissions Committee, Dr Robert Sparks, presented.

**GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN SOCIOLOGY (DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY AND MASTER OF ARTS) –  
ADDITION OF GRE REQUIREMENT**

**GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN FORESTRY (DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY, MASTER OF SCIENCE,  
MASTER OF APPLIED SCIENCE AND MASTER OF FORESTRY) – MINIMUM TOEFL  
REQUIREMENT**

**BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE – READMISSION**

Robert Sparks	}	<i>That Senate approve changes in admission requirements for applicants to graduate programs in Sociology (Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Arts), effective for admission to the 2013 Winter Session and thereafter;</i>
Rhodri Windsor-Liscombe		<i>That Senate approve changes in admission requirements for applicants to graduate programs in Forestry (Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Science, Master of Applied Science and Master of Forestry), effective for admission to the 2013 Winter Session and thereafter; and</i>
		<i>That Senate approve the proposed calendar entry on readmission to the Bachelor of Applied Science program, effective for the 2013 Winter Session and thereafter.</i>

Dr Sparks briefly outlined the nature of each of the proposals.

**Approved.**

**ESSENTIAL SKILLS AND ABILITIES FOR THE PHARMACY PROGRAM**

Robert Sparks	}	<i>That Senate approve the policy entitled ‘Essential Skills and Abilities for the Pharmacy Programs’ for students in the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy program.</i>
Lance Rucker.		

Dr Sparks explained the nature of the essential skills document, noting that it was modelled on a similar document, technical standards, prepared by the Ontario medical schools and that our own Faculty of Medicine has a similar document. The idea is to have applicants fully understand the

scope of practice in pharmacy as the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy is an entry-to-practice program.

**Approved.**

### **Vice-Chair of Senate**

The President announced that Mr Philip Edgcumbe was elected vice-chair of Senate for a term of one (1) year.

### **Joint Report of the Admissions and Curriculum Committees**

The Chair of the Senate Curriculum Committee, Dr Peter Marshall, presented.

#### **MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH/MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING DUAL DEGREES OPTION**

Peter Marshall	}	<i>That Senate approve the new dual degrees option for the Master of Public Health and Master of Science in Nursing.</i>
Katharine Patterson		

Dr Marshall explained that these were not new programs; this is just an opportunity for students to complete both programs with efficiencies in the required credits.

**Approved.**

### **Curriculum Committee**

*See Appendix B: Curriculum Summary*

The committee chair, Dr Peter Marshall, presented.

#### **APRIL CURRICULUM REPORT**

Peter Marshall	}	<i>That the new courses, changed courses, new subject codes, and program changes brought forward by the Faculties of Applied Science, Arts, Education, Forestry, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (Arts), Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Science be approved.</i>
William Dunford		

Dr Marshall briefly outlined the package presented for Senate's consideration.

**Approved.**

### **Nominating Committee**

*See Appendix C: Presidential Search Committee Terms of Reference*

The Committee Chair, Dr Rhodri Windsor-Liscombe, presented.

#### **PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE**

Rhodri Windsor-Liscombe	}	<i>That Senate approve the procedures for the recommendation and selection of candidates for President of The University of British Columbia as attached, with the understanding that “faculty member” as used therein shall continue to be defined as set out in the University Act.</i>
Lance Rucker		

Dr Windsor-Liscombe explained that his committee and their Okanagan counterpart had met jointly to consider and recommend the Board’s proposal for the next Presidential Search. He also took the opportunity to thank the current President for his service to the academy.

**Approved.**

### **Student Awards Committee**

*See Appendix D: Awards Summary*

Dr Sue Grayston, Chair of the Student Awards Committee, presented.

Sue Grayston	}	<i>That Senate accept the awards as listed and forward them to the Board of Governors for approval; and that letters of thanks be sent to the donors.</i>
Lawrence Burr		

A senator asked how many Major Entrance Scholarships would be offered; The Registrar *pro tem.* agreed to have this information for the next meeting.

**Approved.**

### **Report from the Provost**

## **PRINCIPLES, PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES FOR EXTERNAL ACADEMIC UNIT REVIEWS**

The Provost, Dr David Farrar, presented for information. He noted that the Senate and Board had policies relating to external reviews; the document circulated was to assist faculties and his office for their implementation.

Senator Dunford noted that the document set out guideline for external reviews to occur infrequently; if we were serious wouldn't we do an annual review?

With permission of Senate, Vice-Provost Kindler advised the review frequency had to be balanced between the cost incurred and benefits found.

Senator Dunford followed by noting that some UK universities had less intensive but more frequent external reviews.

Senator Loewen expressed his appreciation for review summaries being brought forward to Senate annually.

Senator Baimbridge noted that we moved away from making this a policy but expected it to be mandatory. Why are we not making these guidelines formal requirements?

Vice-Provost Kindler replied that the Academic Policy Committee had considered updating our policy in 2007 but upon consideration decided that we needed guidelines on policy implementation rather than changes to the policy itself.

Senator Baimbridge noted that follow up on reviews was often not forthcoming. He suggested that UBC needed a 2 year review to report back to the Provost on the steps taking to implement an action plan developed in response to a review.

Senators generally agreed with Senator Bainbridge's suggestion.

Senator Mahal noted that section 3.6 talked about formal advising, was there any interest in adding student well being metrics to things being considered.

The Provost replied that we are working with Planning and Institutional Research to have a much more robust set of metrics in this area.

Vice-Provost Kindler replied that we have had some discussions about concerns with metrics driving behavior. Numbers may not reflect quality or value of experiences.

Senator Thorne spoke in favour of Dr Kindler's comments and noted that colleagues around the world were being negatively affected by the inappropriate use of metrics. Academic units should propose their own ways of measuring student wellbeing.

Senator Vessey asked under whose auspices these reviews occur.

Associate Registrar Eaton replied that the Senate directed that they occur.

Senator Peacock noted that the largest reason why reviews did have their recommendations implemented was due to resources.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.