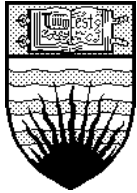


THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



30 May 2007

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To: Council of Senates
From: Elections Committee

Re: Term Length and Elections Schedule for Faculty and Convocation
Representatives to the Okanagan Senate

The Okanagan Senate has formally requested that the Council extend the terms of office for Faculty and Convocation Representatives to that Senate from 31 August 2007 to 31 August 2008. They have also requested that the elections, scheduled for this summer, be delayed until this autumn.

The Committee notes that although the *University Act* specifies three-year terms for these senators, as this was the first iteration of the Okanagan Senate, a decision was made by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, in consultation with the Senate secretariat and the Ministry of Advanced Education to elect the first Okanagan Senate for a two-year term. Such variances are common in British Columbia with the establishment of new Senates. At the time, the decision was made because there were many faculty positions yet to be appointed and thus a “full” electorate did not yet exist, and it was administratively convenient to not elect the Okanagan and Vancouver Senates simultaneously.

The Okanagan Senate has considered the issue and is formally requesting that the *University Act* term length be respected. The Committee agrees with their request and as such recommends the following to the Council of Senates:

That the elected terms for the current Convocation & Faculty Representatives to Okanagan Senate be extended by 12 months to 31 August 2008; and

That the election of the 2008-2011 Okanagan Senate occur in the Autumn of 2007, to coincide with the election of Faculty and Staff Representatives to the Board of Governors from UBC Okanagan.