OKANAGAN SENATE

MINUTES OF 23 FEBRUARY 2017

DRAFT

Attendance

Present: Dr D. Buszard (Vice-Chair), Dr K. Ross (Secretary), Ms L. Allan, Dr P. Barker, Ms H. Berringer, Dean B. Binsted, Mr M. Campbell, Dr R. Campbell, Dr D. Carter, Ms C. Comben, Dr J. Corbett, Mr I. Cull, Dr R. Eggleston, Dr M. Evans, Dean M. Grant, Dr J. Johnson, Mr D. Kandie, Dr D. Keyes, Dr R. Lalonde, Mr J. Lammers, Dr R. Lawrence, Dr S. Lawrence, Dr M. Legault, Ms K. Lu, Dr Y. Lucet, Dr V. Magnat, Dr C. Mathieson, Dr S. McNeil, Dr S. O’Leary, Dr S. Ono (via telephone), Ms A. Park, Dr F. Pena, Dr R. Sadiq, Ms S. Sneg, Dean R. Sugden, Ms K. Trapara, Ms J. Vinek, Dr D. Walker, Dr G. Wetterstand, Dr P. Wylie

Regrets: Dr P. Arthur, Mr N. Azu, Ms P. Babunga, Dr L. Berg, Ms E. Gallaccio, Chancellor L. Gordon, Dr J. Jakobi, Dr C. Labun, Mr J. McEwan, Dean M. Parlange, Dr J. Stites Mor, Dr E. Taylor, Dean W. Tettey

Clerk: Mr K. McCleery

Call to Order

Professor Deborah Buszard, Vice-Chair of Senate, called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Catherine Comben
Shira Sneg

That the Minutes of the Meeting of 26 January 2017 be adopted as circulated.

Approved

Business Arising from the Minutes

Mr. McCleery noted that a concern had been raised at the meeting of 26 January 2017 regarding the scheduling of the fall midterm break in the 2017/18 academic year presented by the Registrar. A Senator had suggested that the fall midterm break should be scheduled on the Tuesday following the Remembrance Day statutory holiday, rather than the Friday preceding the holiday.
Mr. McCleery advised that Enrolment Services had considered the comments made at Senate and the implications of both options for scheduling the midterm break. Having found no compelling reason to change the academic year as presented to Senate on 26 January 2017, Enrolment Services has decided that the midterm break will remain on Friday, November 10th, 2017 as originally scheduled.

**Remarks from the President**

Prof. Ono addressed Senate by telephone, and apologized for being unable to attend in person.

The re-appointment request of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal of UBC Okanagan is under review. This process is nearing its end and it is hoped that it will be possible to communicate the results of the review shortly.

The search for a new Provost and Vice-President Academic for UBC Vancouver is also underway. The search committee has met and narrowed the large pool of candidates to six semi-finalists, who will be interviewed in the coming weeks. The semi-finalists will be narrowed to a pool of two to three finalists. Prof. Ono advised that his hope is that it will be possible to announce the finalists and have them appear in person.

The search for a new Vice-President of Research, a position with system-wide responsibility, is also ongoing. The position was previously titled “Vice-President of Research and International”, but the role will be split between two individuals. The title may change to “Vice-President of Research and Innovation” to align with the significant focus on innovation at the Provincial and Federal levels of government, but a final decision has not yet been made. The search is going well, and it has been gratifying to receive significant interest in the role from many well-qualified candidates. This pool has not yet been narrowed to an intermediate stage, but this will be done in the next several weeks.

The University also needs to make a decision regarding the role of Vice-President Development and Alumni Relations. This position is currently held by Barbara Miles, who is nearing the end of her second term. University regulations indicate that Vice-Presidential appointments are normally limited to two terms, but it is possible that, in consultation with the Board of Governors, Ms. Miles’ tenure could be extended past the two term limit. Conversations with the Board of Governors are ongoing, and a decision has not yet been made. This position also has significant system-wide responsibilities.

Lisa Castle, the Vice-President of Human Resources, is also nearing the end of her term and has indicated that she intends to retire. A search will be initiated to identify the next Vice-President of Human Resources. This process has not yet commenced due to the other significant search processes already underway. Once a new Provost and Vice-President Academic has been identified for the Vancouver campus, and significant progress has been made in the Vice-President Research search processes, the search will begin for the new Vice-President Human Resources, likely in the summer.

Prof. Ono advised that, earlier in the day, UBC, the University of Washington, and Microsoft announced the beginning of a Microsoft-sponsored collaboration between the University of
Washington and UBC. Microsoft has made an initial $1 million contribution to catalyze this partnership.

This partnership, called the Cascadia Collaborative, will provide matching funds to both institutions to initiate significant and sustainable research collaborations between researchers at the two institutions. The collaborative will also establish a summer program taking place in alternate years at UBC and the University of Washington, focusing initially on how to use data science, and later other fields, to bring about “social good”, including in the areas of health, economy, sustainability, and clean energy.

Prof. Ono explained that the Premier of British Columbia, Christie Clark, has named him British Columbia’s Chief Innovation Officer. In this role, Prof. Ono will work with all of British Columbia’s College and University Presidents as well as Chief Executive Officers, Chief Technical Officers and Chief Scientific Officers of all high-tech firms in the Province to establish a network, perform a gap analysis of the technology ecosystem, and propose to the government of British Columbia changes or investments that can be made by the Province to enhance British Columbia’s innovation pipeline. These efforts will focus on technology transfer, as well as how to best support fundamental science in the Province. This initiative has arisen out of broad agreement between the government and the opposition that while the Provincial economy is currently very strong, it is important for British Columbia to grow its knowledge economy and fuel the growing innovation economy in both the Interior and the Lower Mainland. This interest is in part the result of a global analysis of regions and cities conducted by the Boston Consulting Group which has identified, British Columbia, and the Vancouver-Seattle corridor as among the most promising high-tech regions in the world.

**Remarks from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor**

Dr. Buszard explained that, on February 21, 2017, the BC Minister of Finance tabled the provincial Budget. BC’s economic growth is forecast to be 2.1 per cent in 2017 and 2018, and 2.0 per cent in 2019. The government is projecting a surplus of $295M in 2017/18, with surpluses of $244 million and $223 million in the subsequent two years of the Fiscal Plan.

Increases are proposed for the Ministry of Advanced Education (AVED) budget, but it is not yet clear what these increases represent. Over the three year period, there is a $99 million increase in the AVED budget, to an annual budget of $2.08 billion. The only specific commitments signalled are $14 million over three years to Emily Carr University, $8 million to BCNET for IT, and $5 million toward student mental health.

The increases are in addition to increases last year, which were for wage increases under the government’s “Economic Stability Mandate” (its public sector collective bargaining mandate). The AVED Service Plan released with the budget indicates that the number of post-secondary student spaces (full-time equivalents or FTEs) will increase by 2,168 over the next three years (from 200,341 in 2016/17 to 202,509 in 2019/20).

The BC government is also proposing to lower the interest rate on student loans to prime from August 2017 (from prime-plus-2.5%), this will save those repaying loans $11.3 million this year and $17 million in each of the next two years (student groups have been advocating for this for
years); and committing $2.6 billion of capital spending for new buildings and renewal of infrastructure at post-secondary institutions. UBC’s Life Science Teaching Laboratories and the Teaching and Learning Centre are among the major capital projects receiving government funding.

On Monday, January 30th and Tuesday, January 31st, events were held on campus commemorating the tragic events at the Quebec City Mosque which had occurred over the preceding weekend. It was very clear that Muslim students and others were deeply affected and concerned. We heard various suggestions for future activities to address these concerns and will be working to address this as part of a wider approach to Diversity and Inclusion on campus. Dr. Buszard expressed that she was looking forward to continuing the conversation with students and other groups on this important issue.

Dr. Buszard advised Senate that, in recognition of the changing dynamics of UBC’s students -- including the increase in complexity of the diversity of both domestic and international students on both campuses -- the Board of Governors established a Commitment to Diversity Fund in 2016. This fund is intended to engage, enhance and embed diversity into university systems and operations. As part of this university-wide initiative, UBC Okanagan’s Planning and Institutional Research office and the Associate Vice-President Students are conducting a study on equity and diversity and will be facilitating various focus group meetings. This will help the campus to better understand the needs and opportunities to support our diverse student population. Data and findings gathered from students, staff and faculty dialogues will formulate a set of priorities and recommendations for a framework for the student diversity fund for presentation to the Board of Governors in September 2017.

Dr. Buszard explained that a draft vision statement has been created to launch the strategic planning process. The aim is to help articulate UBC’s purpose as a place of teaching and research, and to inform priorities and goals for the coming years. The draft vision statement put forward to serve as a foundation for further conversations is “Learning, research and engagement for a better world.” Everyone has been invited to share their thoughts and comments on what this draft statement means and how we might bring it to life. The President also took part in a live Facebook discussion on the Strategic Planning Process on February 15th. That is also available to be viewed as a video online.

Dr. Buszard advised that various UBC Okanagan related items were received or approved at the February board meeting including $35 M for the construction of the Teaching and Learning Centre, and Sustainability and Enrolment Reports for both campuses. Board agendas, reports and minutes are available on the Board of Governors website.

Dr. Buszard explained that it is her intention going forward to provide a regular email bulletin to the campus community to ensure all staff, faculty and students have the opportunity to follow the UBC governing bodies.

Senator Sneg asked how the provincial funding for student mental health would be spent.

Dr. Buszard responded that the provincial government had not yet announced any details relating to this funding.
Candidates for Degrees

Deborah Buszard
Cynthia Mathieson

That the candidates for degrees and diplomas, as recommended by the faculties and College be granted the degrees for which they were recommended, effective February 2017, and that a committee comprised of the Registrar, the relevant deans, and the Chair of the Senate be empowered to make any necessary adjustments.

Approved

Admission & Awards Committee

ADMISSION REGULATION CHANGES FOR THE FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT

Marianne Legault
Roger Sugden

That Senate approve changes to admission requirements for applicants to the Master of Management program, effective for admission to the 2017 Summer Session and thereafter.

Approved

2017-2018 ENROLMENT TARGETS

Marianne Legault
Catherine Comben

That Senate approve the 2017-18 enrolment targets, as per section 27(2)(r) of the University Act, as outlined in the attached report.

With permission of Senate, the Deputy Registrar, Mr Alfred Vogt, spoke to the report.

Dr Lalonde asked why the UBC Okanagan is targeting the admission of 22 more students than the Ministry of Advanced Education will fund.

Mr Vogt responded that the enrolment targets are above the Ministry targets as there will be a natural oscillation in enrolment from year to year, and the bottom of that isolation should align with 100% of the Ministry targets. The University will be in a better position when speaking with government if it is consistently meeting the Ministry’s targets.

Dr Wylie asked why the enrolment targets for bachelor of arts students has not increased from last year, while there are fairly ambitious increases in enrolment targeted for other programs.

Mr Vogt responded that the University would be happy to enrol more arts students than it did last year if there are a sufficient number of qualified applicants. The enrolment targets
were prepared before data about this year’s applicant pool were available. We now know that there is an 11% increase in domestic arts applications. The University would be quite happy to have an 11% increase in arts enrolment if the applicant pool allows such an increase. If it appears that this increase in demand will be sustained, the University would consider increasing targets in future years.

Dr Ross added that UBC Okanagan is defying national trends with an increase in the number of arts applicants, as there is generally a drop in demand for bachelor of arts programs across Canada.

Dr Wylie noted that total enrolment of bachelor of arts students across four years will be lower in 2017/18 than it was in 2016/17, returning enrolment to 2005 levels and that arts enrolment peaked in 2012. Dr Wylie asked whether arts enrolment has been reduced to allow for growth in other programs, whether it is the explicit policy of UBC Okanagan to reduce bachelor of arts enrolment to allow for expansion in other areas, and if so, whether this policy has been set at the request of the provincial government.

Dr. Buszard responded that the Okanagan campus is not reducing the number of seats available to bachelor of arts students to create seats in other programs. Today, the Okanagan campus remains below its funded target for domestic students and continues to take all qualified applicants. The term “forecast” is likely more accurate than “target” in this instance. The trend has been towards lower demand for bachelor of arts programs, so the University has been cautious in its projections, but there would be no hesitation in accepting a higher number of arts students than are targeted if there are a sufficient number of qualified applicants.

Dr Wylie asked whether, if UBC Okanagan reaches its complete enrolment targets, other programs would have to contract to allow for growth in bachelor of arts programs.

Dr. Ross responded that this is not the case. The target-setting process begins each year with a clean slate, beginning with projections about the anticipated volume of applications that will be received for each program.

NEW AND REVISED AWARDS

See Appendix A: Awards Report

Dr Legault identified two errors in the report circulated to Senate. On docket page 35 of 54, the rationale for item (g) lists the date of a College of Graduate Studies Council as October 19, 2016. Dr Legault proposed that the materials be amended to correctly list the date of that meeting as April 20, 2016. Similarly, on docket page 36 of 54, the date of the same College of Graduate Studies Council meeting is listed as October 19, 2016. Dr Legault proposed that this page also be amended to correctly list the meeting date as April 20, 2016.
That Senate accept the new and revised awards as amended and forward them to the Board of Governors for approval; and that a letter of thanks be sent to the donors.

Dr Lalonde noted that the proposal to revise the description for the Graduate Dean’s Thesis Fellowship including striking out the phrase “The College of Graduate Studies anticipates awarding twelve awards per year for a total of $72,000”, and asked if this change reflects an intention to reduce the total funding to be distributed under this fellowship.

Dr Grant responded that there remains $72,000 set aside for this award and that funding for the award will remain at this level until the College of Graduate Studies awards allocation increases.

Senator Trapara delivered a statement on behalf of graduate students. Senator Trapara noted that, as many non-Ph.D. and non-M.F.A. graduate students apply for the Graduate Dean’s Thesis Fellowship, to restrict eligibility to Ph.D. and M.F.A. students is of concern to graduate students as it removes a funding opportunity previously available to other graduate students, without providing a replacement.

Dr. Grant agreed with the statement of Senator Trapara, noting that it would be preferable if there was more money available for graduate students. Dr. Grant noted that other graduate students remain eligible for University Graduate Fellowships.

---

Curriculum Committee

FEBRUARY CURRICULUM REPORT

See Appendix B: Curriculum Report

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors for approval the new course brought forward from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the new course brought forward from the Faculty of Health and Social Development.

Dr Allen noted that the rationale provided for the proposed HEAL 100 indicates that the course will be “open as an elective to all students” and asked whether this course would be available to students in the Human Kinetics program as an elective.

Dr Lawrence responded that the credit exclusion for HEAL 100, which precludes students from receiving credit for both HMKN 100 and HEAL 100 would prevent Human Kinetics students from taking HEAL 100 for credit, as they are required to
take HMKN 100.

Report from the University Librarian

Heather Berringer, Chief Librarian of the UBC Okanagan Library, thanked Senate for the opportunity to present the Library’s 2016 accomplishments and priorities for 2017.

In 2016, 37,000 questions were answered at the Okanagan Library service point. This represents nearly one third of all service desk interactions in the UBC Library system. In last year’s LibQUAL+ survey, approximately 86% of respondents rated the library’s customer service as meeting or exceeding their expectations. In a survey of users of the Library’s Writing and Research Services, over 96% of respondents indicated that they would use these services again.

UBC Library collections continue to move online. Approximately 82% of the library’s collection is now digital, an increase of 2.2% over last year. Across the UBC system, print circulation is down 6% from last year, while visits to digital collections are up approximately 23%.

UBC Okanagan Library’s own collections are also becoming increasingly digitized. Through a major reformatting project, over 600 VHS videocassettes deemed essential to teaching and research were converted to DVD. Two Okanagan Library special collections are in the process of being digitized, with nearly 2000 digital assets created. This year, the UBC Okanagan Library launched its first digital collection, the Archibald Murchie Collection, which contains photographs depicting industry and infrastructure development in the Cariboo and Similkameen regions of British Columbia.

In the area of student experience, the Okanagan Library’s 2016 commitment to teaching and learning support included the expansion of the Academic Integrity Matters (AIM) program. The program received 44 referrals in its pilot year, including instructor, peer, and self-referrals. The program assists students in understanding the meaning of academic integrity, teaches how to properly credit and cite research, and provides strategies to ensure responsible academic writing. The Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences has embedded AIM into its student success initiatives, and the Faculty of Critical and Creative Studies is taking steps to do the same in 2017.

2016 marked the completion of the Okanagan Library’s Inclusive Technology Lab (ITL). This is a vital, supportive environment that empowers students with disabilities by giving them the tools they need to become effective learners. The ITL is unique in a BC Library setting for its combination of space, technology, and lending support services. The success of the ITL so far has inspired two anonymous donors to commit an additional $80,000 in support of the ITL.

The Okanagan Library has continued to work closely with the Office of Research Services. This has included further development of the services underpinning the Research and Infrastructure Management Enterprises Services (RIMES) Portal, additional training opportunities for tools such as UNIWeb, and in the continued support of research data management, access to measures of global and local impact and cIRcle, UBC’s institutional repository. The Library has also
begun a close collaboration with University Relations, assisting in identifying UBC Okanagan research stories to be shared with the world.

The UBC Innovation Library, the Library’s space inside the Kelowna branch of the Okanagan Regional Library, thrived in 2016. The Innovation Library has a new, more visible space in the branch that allows it to better host workshops and teach classes. This year, the Innovation Library has already hosted community members from the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society enrolled in UBC Okanagan’s Downtown Education Project, and UBC Okanagan’s 2017 Writer in Residence. With the addition of a co-operative education student from the School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies funded by the Irving K. Barber Learning Fund, the Library will be better able to reach out to local organizations such as Project Literacy to offer workshops and access to resources in the Innovation Library space. This year, the Innovation Library will also pilot a writing consultant available once per week as requested by mature students.

In 2016, the Library also hosted its most successful Leader in Residence program to date, welcoming Pilar Martinez, CEO of the Edmonton Public Library, and expanded its OneBook program. The Library also conducted a comprehensive records survey for the campus, developing a set of recommendations aimed at reducing risk, increasing compliance with statute, internal policy, and business need, and ensuring the long-term preservation of the campus’ archival record.

The Library’s priorities for 2017 include the following:

Assessing the needs of UBC Okanagan’s growing international student body to ensure their needs are being met.

Re-imagining how front-line services are offered in response to research demonstrating that large, imposing desks are barriers for people with physical disabilities, create anxiety in students, and inhibit teaching and learning opportunities.

Continue conversations with colleagues in Advanced Research Computing to develop seamless experiences for researchers who need to manage research data and create and curate digital assets.

Engage in dialogue about how to manage institutional records, whether paper-based or electronic. An Okanagan-based face to the institutional Records Management Office will be created to help organize units and implement a university archives program on the Okanagan campus to ensure the long-term preservation of the campus history.

In the summer of 2017, the Okanagan Library will formally launch the first phase of the Okanagan History Regional Digitization program. This is a donor-funded initiative that will allow the Library to deploy student digitization teams on-site with portable technology to local community archives, museums, historical societies, and other organizations to digitize priority collections.

The biggest challenge facing the Library is the currency exchange rate, which has reached crisis-levels. For every penny the Canadian dollar drops, the Library system loses nearly $100,000.00
in purchasing power. This impacts the growth of the Library’s collections and its ability to support new programs, increasing student enrolment, and new research funding secured by Faculty members. In general, electronic collections are subscribed to in large packages. This makes it difficult to reduce spending, as the per-title cost of subscriptions is much lower as part of a package as compared to subscribing individually to a publication.

In order to address this issue, the Library tries to balance the research, teaching, and learning materials needed by faculties with the external factors impacting its collections budget. The Library is working with its Vancouver colleagues to consult with faculties and prioritize materials that support curriculum, teaching, and research needs for monographs. A greater emphasis needs to be placed on purchasing large, multi-disciplinary, perpetual access e-book packages, negotiating with library resource vendors, and prioritizing resources at the Faculty level. A long-term resolution of this issue will require strategic coordination between institutions with involvement beyond that of University Libraries.

On a more positive note, the biggest news of 2016 was the funding announcement that has allowed the University to move forward with construction of the Teaching and Learning Centre, which will be connected to the existing Library. The project is scheduled to open in Spring 2018. The 60,000 square foot addition will include a 400 seat classroom, a variety of options for collaborative and independent study and learning, a graduate student commons, a digital media centre, and a new special collections and archive vault facility for long-term preservation of materials.

Nominating Committee

APPOINTMENTS TO THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE SELECTION OF A VICE-PROVOST INTERNATIONAL

Daniel Keyes
Cynthia Mathieson

That Dr Suzanne Gott, Associate Professor, Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies, and Dr Mike Deyholos, Professor, Faculty of Arts and Sciences (also known as the Barber School of Arts and Sciences), be selected to serve on the President's Advisory Committee for the selection of a Vice-Provost International.

Dr. Johnson asked whether the advisory committee would be involved in the selection of a vice-provost for the Vancouver campus or the Okanagan campus.

Dr. Buszard responded that the vice-provost would be based on the Vancouver campus and report to the UBC Vancouver Provost, but would have some system-wide responsibility.

Dr. Johnson asked that future materials referring to the Provost be specific as to campus.
Other Business

Dr. O’Leary advised that he would like to ask the Dean of the College of Graduate Studies about the current funding model for Ph.D. students, and suggest that mandatory minimum funding for doctoral students be considered.

Dr. Buszard suggested the topic be brought to the appropriate Senate Committee and then brought back to Senate for discussion by that Committee.

IN CAMERA – HONORARY DEGREE

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:11 pm.
Appendix A: Awards Report

New Awards:

a) Proposed Award Title: Morag Margaret Broughton Memorial Bursary in Nursing

A $1,000 bursary is offered to a first-year student in the School of Nursing in the Faculty of Health and Social Development at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. This award, funded by family and friends, is in memory of Morag Margaret Broughton and in recognition of her career as a registered nurse. Preference is given to a student with assessed financial need and who has one or more dependents. (First award available for the 2017 Winter Session)

b) Proposed Award Title: Frederick William (Bill) Broughton Memorial Bursary in Engineering

A $1,000 bursary is offered by the family, to a first- or second-year student in the School of Engineering in the Faculty of Applied Science at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. The award is given in memory of Frederick William (Bill) Broughton in recognition of his career as a Mechanical Engineer. The bursary is given to a student with assessed financial need. (First award available for the 2017 Winter Session)

c) Proposed Award Title: Scholarship in Philosophy, Politics and Economics

Two scholarships of $2,500 each are offered by Dr. Roger Gale – one to a student who has completed his/her second year and one to a student who has completed his/her third year in the Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) program in the Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. Preference will be given to a student who has demonstrated academic excellence. (First awards available for the 2017 Winter Session)

d) Proposed Award Title: Bursary in Philosophy, Politics and Economics

Two bursaries of $2,500 each are offered by Dr. Roger Gale – one to a student who has completed his/her second year and one to a student who has completed his/her third year in the the Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) program in the Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. Preference will be given to a student who has demonstrated assessed financial need. (First awards available for the 2017 Winter Session)

e) Proposed Award Title: Doug and Ruth Pearce Engineering Capstone Prize

A $500 prize is offered by Doug and Ruth Pearce in memory of Dr. Spiro Yannacopoulos to the team of fourth-year students in the School of Engineering in the Faculty of Applied Science at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus, who place first in the Capstone Design Project course. (First award available for the 2016 Winter Session)

f) Proposed Award Title: Dorothy Anna Proudfoot Memorial Scholarship in Nursing

A $7,000 scholarship has been endowed by the estate of Dorothy Anna Proudfoot for a graduate student enrolled in the Master of Science in Nursing program in the School of Nursing at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. Preference will be given to the student with the
highest admission GPA. The award is made on the recommendation of the College of Graduate Studies in consultation with the School of Nursing. Dorothy Proudfoot (1929-2015) had an intriguing nursing career which spanned many decades, starting in Humboldt, Saskatchewan, and ending in long-term care in Kelowna, BC. She flew with the Saskatchewan Air Ambulance and served as a nurse in Japan during the Korean War. Dorothy worked in community health for many years in Kelowna and she was also involved in home nursing, long-term care assessment, and administration. (First award available for the 2017 Winter Session)

**Revised Award:**
(Previously-approved awards with changes in terms or funding source):

**g) Existing description: Graduate Dean’s Thesis Fellowship**
The Graduate Dean’s Thesis Fellowship is a merit-based fellowship that is awarded to full-time, thesis-based **graduate MFA and PhD** students who are approaching their final year and are focusing on the completion of their thesis or dissertation. This scholarship is intended to provide financial support while students are engaged in the final writing stages of their graduate programs.

The award value is $6,000. The **College of Graduate Studies anticipates awarding twelve awards per year for a total of $72,000.** Students may apply for this funding **three times per year.** Graduate programs may submit up to two nominations per award cycle to the College of Graduate Studies. The College of Graduate Studies Scholarship and Awards Committee will review and rank nominations received from graduate programs and provide recommendations to the Dean, who will determine the final awardees.

(Revised award effective session 2017W)

**Amended Description:**
The Graduate Dean’s Thesis Fellowship is a merit-based fellowship that is awarded to full-time, thesis-based MFA and PhD students who are approaching their final year and are focusing on the completion of their thesis or dissertation. This scholarship is intended to provide financial support while students are engaged in the final writing stages of their graduate programs.

The award value is $6,000. Students may apply for this funding **two times per year.** Graduate programs may submit up to two nominations per award cycle to the College of Graduate Studies. The College of Graduate Studies Scholarship and Awards Committee will review and rank nominations received from graduate programs and provide recommendations to the Dean, who will determine the final awardees.

(Revised award effective session 2017W)

**Rationale:**
The proposed changes to the Graduate Dean’s Thesis Fellowship awarding process are the outcome of multiple conversations with staff, faculty, and faculty administrators, culminating in a meeting of College of Graduate Studies Council on October 19, 2016, in which these changes were approved by a formal vote of the members present. A thrice-per-annum award cycle weighed too heavily on CoGS staff resources and placed unjustifiable demands on supervisors of graduate students and on adjudicators of the award process. Two award cycles are more consistent with the limited amount of funding available for this award, available UBCO staff and faculty resources and with the intention of the award. The total funding amount for this award will remain the same: it will simply be allocated twice a year, and only among PhDs and MFAs.
In keeping with the Canada-wide emphasis at research universities on promoting first and foremost the PhD or terminal disciplinary degrees such as the MFA, the College of Graduate Studies Council proposes (by unanimous vote) to make the limited funds available for this award accessible only to Ph.D. students and MFA students engaged in the final writing stages of their graduate programs.

A note on the “terminal” MFA: some would argue (and did at the College of Graduate Studies Council meeting on October 19, 2016) that an MFA is not necessarily terminal. A few Universities in Canada offer PhD degrees in MFA areas. At many universities and Canada and elsewhere, however, the MFA remains a terminal disciplinary degree, which is the case at UBC Okanagan. Accordingly, the College of Graduate Studies Council found this argument to be persuasive and are therefore treating the MFA as a terminal degree for purposes of this award.

A note on the title of the award: “Graduate Dean” is not the official title of the Dean of the College of Graduate Studies, but it is the commonly used short-hand title, and much less cumbersome for the title of this award than the “official” language would be. Everyone recognizes its meaning.
Appendix B: Curriculum Report

FROM THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

New Course:

ECON 321 (3) Experimental Economics

FROM THE FACULTY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

New Course:

HEAL 100 (3) Introduction and Principles of Health and Wellbeing