Attendance


Clerk: C. Eaton

Call to Order

Vice-Chair Deborah Buszard called the meeting to order at 3:36 pm.

By general consent, the budget presentation was tabled to the next meeting, and an item was added under other business: an information item from the Provost regarding the establishment of the Green Construction Research and Training Centre.

Minutes of 28 February 2019

Jan Cioe
Peter Arthur

That the Minutes of the Meeting of 31 January 2019 be adopted as corrected:

Capitalisation of President and University as appropriate on page 2.

 Addition of the word “not” before “contemplate in the first paragraph of page 3.

 Addition of “Cioe” after “Senator” on page 8.

Several missing hyphens on pp 5-9.
Remarks from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Dr Buszard noted that the Council of Senates met earlier in the day; this was the first meeting of the Council since 2009. The Council has now resolved to meet at least every triennium. Since the last meeting, UBC has had 4 presidents and all the vice-presidents have changed over.

Senator Cioe said that the purpose of the Council was to resolve conflicts between the campuses; one reason why it hasn’t met is that each senate has respected each other’s jurisdictions.

Senator Cioe asked what the status was of the Dean of Graduate Studies search.

The Provost said the committee has now been formed and was starting its work.

Senator Cioe said the external review of Arts and Science was completed as of January, but noted that the faculty was being asked to consider splitting and having that report available would help inform that decision.

Certificates

The Vice-Chair presented certificates of thanks to those students who served on Senate over the past year.

Admission and Awards Committee

The Chair of the Senate Admissions & Awards Committee, Dr Gregory Wetterstrand, presented

NEW AWARDS

See Appendix A: Awards Report

Greg Wetterstrand
Catherine Comben

} That Senate accept the new awards as listed and forward them to the Board of Governors for approval; and that a letter of thanks be sent to the donors

Approved
CHANGES TO THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Greg Wetterstrand
Jan Cioe

That Senate approve the revised English Language Proficiency admissions requirements for Master’s and Doctoral Degrees.

By general consent, the proposal was amended to add “A minimum score of” prior to “90”.

Senator McNeil pointed out that those programs with their own averages for the former paper exam would need to propose corresponding changes.

Approved as Amended

Curriculum Committee

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

MARCH CURRICULUM PROPOSALS

See Appendix B: Curriculum Report

Peter Arthur
Tamara Ebl

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors for approval the new courses brought forward from the Faculty of Applied Science, the new courses brought forward from the Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies, the revised Post-Baccalaureate Education Program brought forward from the Faculty of Education and the new course brought forward from the Faculty of Health and Social Development.

Senator Cioe said that one of the English courses was targeted towards international students in its rationale but in the course description it said it would be of use to both domestic and international.

Senator Traister said this course replaces ENGL009; the current enrolment pattern for that course includes domestic and international students. There is not attempt to limit this course to students admitted as domestic or international. We will offer sufficient sections for expected enrolment needs.
In follow up, Senator Cioe asked if the program requirements of Bachelor of Managements students were considered.

Bryce said no, because those students generally took ENGL112.

Jan said that this would require adjustments in other places.

Bryce said a few sections of ENGL009 would be offered during a transition year.

Senator S. Lawrence said that ENGL112 would continue to offered.

Senator Marcolin asked about ENGL115 and the use of the word “prototyping” without a qualifier.

Dean Traister said he could not come up with a modifier on the floor that may help address the senator’s concern.

Senator Cioe said that faculties could add descriptor notes to the registration system.

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Report of the Chief Librarian

Ms Heather Berringer, Chief Librarian of the Okanagan campus, presented.

Ms Berringer noted the following highlights for the Senate:

- This year, the Library answered almost 28,000 individual questions at our two primary service points – the campus Library’s single service desk and the Innovation Library, located in downtown Kelowna at Okanagan Regional Library’s Kelowna branch on Ellis Street. In addition to these walk-in inquiries, 2,050 in-depth research consultations were performed by our professional librarians.
- Our Writing & Research Centre had student satisfaction rates of 96% based on their post-appointment surveys (and, as always, our Centre for Scholarly Communication is at 100% utilization – the appointments are snatched up as quickly as we can increase their availability).

Ms Berringer advised that collections continued to transition to online sources:

- Total system volumes are approximately 7.8 million. About 5.5 million are print volumes or AV items (with just about 200,000 of them housed on our campus) while over 2.3 million are ebooks.
System wide, print circulation continues on a downward trend, but this is not a surprise given the shift to digital resources, and is in line with the trends seen in other academic research libraries. Many of our electronic collections are subscribed to in large packages that are colloquially referred to as “big deals”, provided by large commercial publishers. Here, you see the pricing for the four top “big deal” packages we subscribe to, and a glance at how their subscription fees are increasing over time.

Ms Berringer advised that the nature of these large packages makes it difficult for libraries to reduce their spending, as the per-title prices, when subscribed to outside of a “big deal”, are such that a library can usually only obtain a small number of titles for a similar price as the entire package. She suggested that it was important to know that at this point there was a movement to start taking a stand against what is considered to be outrageous pricing strategies. Many of you may have heard about the University of California system’s stand against Elsevier. In Europe, countries like Germany and Norway have also undertaken coordinated efforts to curb increases and fight the practice of having journals charge scholars open access fees to publish while also charging their institutions for subscriptions.

In the area of teaching and learning, Ms Berringer advised:

- We explored integrating library-designed instructional tools, modules, and assessments into courses through Canvas. In 2018, we began work on modules that would integrate into Chemistry classrooms, and address questions related to citation. We were also successful in obtaining an ALT grant that will support creation of content in a number of additional disciplines.

- We continued with two ongoing projects (Masters of Social Work + First Year English) to embed library instruction in a scaffolded way throughout a term to find students at their point of need. For 2019, we are looking at how to expand the results of this research to other disciplines.

- We also launched successful peer observation and professional development programming to help our librarians develop their teaching practice.

Finally, Ms Berringer noted the recently-opened “Commons” building, with its 400-seat classroom being the largest on campus, and specifically developed to support innovative pedagogy, including through its unique portable classroom whiteboards. Classes have been scheduled in this space since January, and several major events have already been scheduled and delivered. She also noted the Gallaria space and the D. Ross Fitzpartrick Great Hall as two open collaborative spaces to encourage interaction and active learning.

Senator S. Lawrence asked if university presses were also increasing their prices with the commercial presses.

Ms Berringer replied that they were increased but not nearly as much.
Senator Cioe asked what the limitation was for capacity for the Centre for Scholarly Communications.

Ms Berringer said that barrier was staffing. We did add more staff this year but all those new appointments were booked. We’ve also started peer writing groups, but graduate students really want one-on-one help. Faculty members are also using the service.

Senator Corbett said that Ticouncil requirements for funding in grant applications and open-source publications and if this will affect what universities pay.

Senator Jakobi asked about international and indigenous grad students, often first generation, having a greater need for services as their number grow.

Ms Berringer said we do have research and programming for international students, but our specific work for indigenous students is drop-ins for collegium. Our graduate student work said they like our services but would like more information on other services available for them.

Senator McNeil asked if access to content in the future was an issue with electronic access.

Ms Berringer replied that there were consortium initiatives for preserving content. In many cases we are only paying for access and not ownership. We also keep last copies in preservation storage, and are working with COPPL for shared copies and digital preservation.

Senator S. Lawrence said the journal costs weren’t the library’s problem. He noted that at one time, journals were published by universities at cost. Maybe we should increase the size of our press and trade with others rather than keeping with the commercial providers.

Senator Ebl noted that some of our own material was also kept digitally, such as the Okanagan history. She asked if that material was appropriately backed up and how it was funded.

Ms Berringer said we had duplicate copies. Philanthropy funds that particular project, and the costs were very low.

Senator Tamandong said Make Your Space was being increasingly relied upon by applied science, and students were finding restricted hours or access was a challenge due to its heavy use by APSC.

Ms Berringer said that the make your space was not intended to replace engineering labs. Our goal is to make it more interdisciplinary and collaborative. It will probably mean increased use and will no longer work for faculties who intend to use it heavily.
Inclusion Action Plan (IAP)

The Deputy-Vice Chancellor asked Senate to welcome the Associate Vice-President Equity and Inclusion, Dr Sara-Jane Finlay, to present.

Dr Finlay noted that she reported to the two Academic Vice-Presidents, the Vice-President Human Resources, and the Vice-President students. Under their leadership, her office is working to operationalize the Inclusion priority in UBC’s Strategic Plan. Over the past 10-12 years, a number of reports have laid the foundation for the IAP, which will serve as a capstone. The purpose of the IAP is to operationalize what we mean by inclusion at UBC, and provide goals and actions for both the institution and its units.

The Associate Vice-President noted that the goals set were at a high level and aspirational. It will not be done by 2024. She suggested that this is why measures to show movement are important.

Dr Finlay noted that the definition for inclusion in the IAP was as follows

“At UBC, inclusion is a commitment to creating a welcoming community where those who are historically, persistently, and systemically marginalized are treated equitably, feel respected, and belong. Inclusion is built by individual and institutional responsibility through continuous engagement with diversity to inspire people, ideas, and actions for a better world.”

Senator Cioe said that using AND instead of or in the marginalized line was limiting.

Dr Finlay went on to specify the five goal areas for the IAP:

- Capacity Building: UBC will enhance institutional and individual capacities and skills to succeed in and advance inclusive environments.
- Diverse People and Success: UBC will actively recruit, support, retain, and advance students, faculty, staff, and leaders from systemically marginalized populations.
- Systems Change: UBC will be intentional and proactive in changing systems, structures, policies, practices, and processes to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion. Learning, Research & Engagement: UBC will foster environments of learning, research, and engagement that value building and exchanging multiple and intersectional ways of knowing.
- Accountability: UBC will hold itself accountable to its commitment to inclusion through clear and timely processes, thorough evaluation, and transparent reporting to the UBC communities on its progress on this action plan.

Senator Marcolin asked if the tools being prepared for managers could also work for faculty members.

Dr Finlay said they are working on inclusive teaching tools.
Senator Roberts asked why we don’t say we want to include everyone rather than delineating specific groups who have tended to be excluded.

Dr Finlay said the goal was to focus our work on those most systemically disadvantaged; as an example the cited UBC’s work on preferred name usage.

Senator McNeil noted that we asked applicants for their name and their gender as the first two questions on our application. Why can’t we just change that?

The Registrar, Dr Ross, said it was a lot of work across the province. The registrars of BC post-secondary institution are continuing to work there.

Other business

GREEN CONSTRUCTION RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTRE

The Provost, Dr Ananya Mukherjee-Reed, announced the established of the Green Construction Research and Training Centre in the Faculty of Applied Science pursuant to Senate Policy O-5.

Senator Cioe asked Senator Sadiq if Applied Science had worked with those faculty members working on sustainability in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Senator Sadiq said yes they were involved.

Adjournment

Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.
Appendix A: Awards Report

NEW AWARDS:

Master of Data Science Domestic Scholarship

Master of Data Science Domestic Scholarship is a $5,000 entrance scholarship offered annually to a domestic student in the Master of Data Science program at UBC Okanagan. The scholarship recognizes a student who has demonstrated academic and leadership achievements in their undergraduate or graduate program, field or industry. The award is made on the recommendation of the Master of Data Science Admissions Committee. (First award available for the 2019/20 Winter Session)

Master of Data Science International Scholarship

Master of Data Science International Scholarship is a $5,000 entrance scholarship offered annually to an international student in the Master of Data Science program at UBC Okanagan. The scholarship recognizes a student who has demonstrated academic and leadership achievements in their undergraduate or graduate program, field or industry. The award is made on the recommendation of the Master of Data Science Admissions Committee. (First award available for the 2019/20 Winter Session)

Lieutenant Governor’s Medal for Inclusion, Democracy and Reconciliation

One medal is offered annually by the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia to a student graduating from any four-year undergraduate degree program who demonstrates academic merit and contribution to the life of the University and/or to their community in the areas of inclusion, democracy, and/or reconciliation. Contributions in the area of inclusion refer to the promotion of diversity and inclusion and demonstration of strong collaboration and unifying efforts through the promotion and display of tolerance and respect for others. Contributions in the area of democracy refer to the strengthening of democracy through civic engagement or the advancement of human rights and demonstration of the recognition of the fundamental rights and dignity of all persons at a local, national, or global level. Contributions in the area of reconciliation refers to action taken to transform society by establishing a renewed relationship with Indigenous peoples and efforts undertaken to heal communities. This award has no monetary value. The award is made on the recommendation of the Lieutenant Governor’s Medal Committee. (First award available for the 2018/2019 winter session)
Appendix B: Curriculum Report

FROM THE FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE
ENGR 424
ENGR 441
ENGR 448
ENGR 457

FROM THE FACULTY OF CREATIVE AND CRITICAL STUDIES
ENGL 109
ENGL 155, DIHU 155
ENGL 430
FREN 457
HEBR 101, HEBR 102

FROM THE FACULTY OF EDUCATION
Post-Baccalaureate Education Program

FROM THE FACULTY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
HEAL 101