Attendance

Present: President S. J. Toope, Mr. F. Vogt (Acting AVP and Registrar), Dr. A. S. Abd-El-Aziz (Provost), Dean T. Aboulnasr, Dr. P. Arthur, Dean R. Belton, Ms. S. Bertrand, Ms. M. Burton, Mr. N. Cadger, Dean R. Campbell, Dr. J. Castricano, Mr. R. Chavarie, Dr. J. Cioe, Ms. C. Cody, Dr. F. de Scally, Mr. C. Devenish, Ms. L. Driscoll, Dr. M. Duran-Cogan, Dr. J. Gustar, Dr. J. Johnson, Dr. D. Keyes, Mr. M. Koovisk, Dean M. Krank, Ms. C. Kuhn, Ms. R. L’Orsa, Dr. R. Lalonde, Mr. G. Lepp, Dr. G. Lovegrove Dr. S. McCoubrey, Acting Dean C. Mathieson, Dr. H. Najjaran, Dr. B. Nilson, Dr. B. O’Connor, Dr. D. Owram (Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Vice-Chair), Dr. G. Pandher, Ms. L. Patterson, Dr. M. Rheault, Dr. C. Robinson, Acting Dean K. Rush, Dr. C. Scarff, Dr. B. Schulz-Cruz, Dean I. Stuart, Ms. S. Syal, Ms. J. Walker, Dr. S. Yannacopoulos, Ms. G. Zilm.

By Invitation: Dr. B. Bauer, Ms. L. Collins (Associate Secretary), Mr. C. Eaton, Ms. M. Kruiswyk, Dr. D. Tannant.

Regrets: Ms. S. Morgan-Silvester (Chancellor), Mr. G. August, Dr. J. Cheng, Mr. M. Dobson, Mr. P. Emerson, Dr. C. Hodge, Dr. A. Joy, Dr. C. Mitton, Ms. T. Palynchuk, Mr. B. Silzer (AVP & Registrar).

Recording Secretary: Ms. K. Ross.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order.
Minutes of the Previous Meeting, 11 February 2009

Moved:  Dr. Cioe
Seconded:  Dean Krank

That the minutes of the Okanagan Senate Meeting of 11 February 2009 be adopted as circulated.

CORRECTIONS
Dean M. Krank was added to the Attendance section, under Present. Ms. L. Driscoll was added to the Attendance section, under Regrets.

The meeting minutes were approved as amended.

Business Arising from the Minutes
None.

Chair’s Remarks and Related Questions

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION FOR SENATORS
In recognition of their service to the Senate, the President presented certificates of appreciation to all Student Senators.

BUDGET UPDATE
The President announced that overall there had been some positive news in relation to provincial and federal budgetary support. The provincial government had recently promised increased funding for higher education. The investment would include a plan to reconsider how student spaces were funded at UBC Okanagan. The President added that a special fund for infrastructure improvement had recently been created and that special weighting would be given to research success.

The President expressed his gratitude to the province for their support and encouragement to the sector. He noted that the federal government had made some tough decisions on how to allocate their infrastructure funding, which would benefit UBC in the near future.

ADMINISTRATIVE RELATIONSHIPS
The President reported that a small working group chaired by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor had been reflecting on how relationships between the UBC campuses might be improved. He noted that the community would need to contemplate the University in three parts: as a system, as UBC Okanagan and as UBC Vancouver.

ABORIGINAL STRATEGIC PLAN
The President encouraged Senators to review the Aboriginal Strategic Plan. The plan was available on the UBC website at: http://www.vpacademic.ubc.ca/Aboriginal/ASPRestrap2_2.pdf.
SUSTAINABILITY
The President was encouraged to report that work continued by the University to engage the UBC community to give prominence to sustainability in the overall UBC Strategic Plan. He invited Senators to engage in opportunities for wide-spread consultations on this matter at both UBC campuses.

Discussion
Dr. Johnson asked a question about discussions between the Sauder School of Business at UBC Vancouver and the Faculty of Management at UBC Okanagan with respect to a potential merger. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor responded that he had been encouraged by the preliminary discussions between Dean Muzyka of the Sauder School, the President and the Provost (Okanagan). He remained hopeful that a mutually agreeable relationship could be determined. The President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor echoed their support for a robust business program at UBC Okanagan.

The President noted in response to a query from Dr. Cioe that the G13 (Group of Thirteen) would strongly advocate at an upcoming meeting in Ottawa for the continued government support of the three research councils (Tri-Council). He summarized that the Tri-Council need was comprised of three parts: people, funding and infrastructure. The G13 would encourage an increase for operating revenue, which would allow professors and their students to work effectively on research projects. The President expressed that the problem of targeted funding by the federal government, without an expansion of the overall support for research, would remain a top advocacy item for the G13.

In response to a question from Dr. Rheault, the President noted that the provincial government had resumed the funding for graduate students in the form of scholarships. The President noted that the Vancouver Senate had recently approved four-year funding packages for Ph.D. students. He indicated that the Okanagan campus could consider a similar item to potentially attract more graduate students. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor added that UBC Okanagan does not receive differential funding for graduate students; therefore support packages for graduate students would be helpful.

From the Board of Governors
The Senate received for information confirmation that the following items approved by the Okanagan Senate had been subsequently approved by the Board of Governors as required under the University Act.

Senate Meeting of December 10, 2008
1. Curriculum from the Faculty of Applied Science.
2. New Awards.

Senate Meeting of January 14, 2009
1. Curriculum from the Faculties of Arts and Sciences, Health and Social Development, and the College of Graduate Studies.
2. New Award.
Agenda Committee

ORAL UPDATE ON STUDENT SENATOR REPRESENTATION AT MEETINGS OF THE SENATE

On behalf of the Agenda Committee, the Chair Mr. Chavarie presented an oral update on Student Senator participation at Senate meetings. The Committee agreed that one way to increase Student Senator participation would be for the UBC Okanagan Student Union and the Okanagan Senate Secretariat to coordinate efforts to inform students of Senate responsibilities prior to their candidacy for the positions.

Discussion

Dean Aboulnasr expressed her discontent with a previous Senate decision to allow only the President and Chancellor to participate at meetings of the Senate via videoconference. She suggested that other Okanagan Senators should be able to participate via videoconference, alongside the Chancellor and President, from a location at the Vancouver campus.

Moved: Dean Aboulnasr
Seconded: Dr. Duran-Cogan

That the Senate refer to the Agenda Committee consideration of the inclusion of other Okanagan Senators in meetings of the Senate via videoconference from the President’s Office at the UBC Vancouver campus; and

That the Committee report back to the Senate by 08 April 2009 with any necessary recommendations.

The motion to refer was put and carried, 6 abstained, 3 opposed.

Academic Policy Committee

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair Dr. Cioe announced that the Administrative Organization of Graduate Studies at UBC Okanagan discussion paper would be available for information following the meeting. Dr. Cioe noted that an extensive consultation schedule had been organized to include two open forums occurring on March 25 & 26, 2009. Dr. Cioe confirmed that a Committee recommendation would be presented at the April 8, 2009 meeting of the Senate.

Curriculum Committee

As a non-member of Senate, Acting Chair Mr. Eaton was granted leave by the Senate to present the report of the Curriculum Committee.

See also, ‘Appendix A: Curriculum Summary.’

Moved: Mr. Koovisk
Seconded: Dr. Cioe
That Senate approve the new courses brought forward by the Faculties of Arts and Sciences and Creative and Critical Studies as set out in the attached proposals.

Motion to Divide

Moved: Dr. Cioe
Seconded: Mr. Koovisk

That Senate divide the first-year English prerequisites proposal from the new courses brought forward by the Faculties of Arts and Sciences and Creative and Critical Studies.

Carried.

Discussion on First-Year English Prerequisites

In response to a question from Ms. Patterson, Mr. Eaton noted that the non-credit WRIT 098 and WRIT 099 would be offered without credit through Community and Continuing Studies; these courses would not be listed with credit courses in the University Calendar.

Considering the rationale for the first-year English courses, Dr. Lalonde reiterated that 10 percent of first-year students have a grade from 50-60 percent in Grade 12 English. Considering the ambitious enrolment goals set for UBC Okanagan, he asked whether it would be wise to exclude 10 percent of new students from entering into first-year English courses. Dr. Keyes expressed the hope that the proposed prerequisites would be viewed as a positive opportunity for support rather than as a deterrent for students who struggle with English. Dr. Cioe expressed his support for proposal, which he described as student-centered.

Dr. Lalonde noted that students taking WRIT 098 or WRIT 099 in first year could permanently be out-of-sync in their studies, which could prove burdensome to students. He asked whether the courses could be available prior to the beginning of Term 1. Dr. Keyes confirmed that both WRIT 098 and WRIT 099 courses would be offered annually to students in August. Ms. Zilm added that both courses could perhaps be available twice in the summer. Mr. Chavarie expressed support for the proposal and suggested that both WRIT 098 and WRIT 099 be available to students in September as well as in August.

Mr. Lepp asked whether the proposed prerequisite would be waived for students registered in ENGL 112. Dr. Keyes confirmed that this would not be the case. Dr. Keyes responded to a question from Ms. Bertrand by confirming that 50 percent would constitute a passing grade in both WRIT 098 and WRIT 099.

Ms. L’Orsa asked about the timing and feasibility of students’ registering for the prerequisite courses when their final high school grades were not verified by Admissions in late August or early September. Mr. Vogt stated that the Ministry informs students of their final grades in mid-July; the Ministry informs UBC of the student’s official grades in late-July or early-August. Ms. L’Orsa expressed that it could be unreasonable to ask
non-domestic students to relocate to the campus to enroll in the prerequisite courses in such a short timeframe. Dr. Duran-Cogan echoed Ms. L’Orsa’s comment by stating that students arriving from abroad would likely incur economic impacts related to additional living and tuition expenses from taking the summer course.

In response to a question from Dean Krank, Dr. Keyes noted that the three-other research-intensive universities in BC currently offer courses similar to WRIT 098 and WRIT 099. He noted that it would be irresponsible for UBC Okanagan to not provide these students with the support required to succeed in their first-year English courses.

Dean Aboulnasr asked why a similar proposal had not been submitted to create prerequisites for Math, Science and other courses. Agreeing with the principle of the proposal, she suggested that perhaps the University minimum should be increased to 70 percent in all high school subjects. Dr. Johnson suggested that those students who fail WRIT 098 or WRIT 099 should be excluded from all first-year courses including English, economics, history, etc. Dr. Keyes stated that he had previously proposed to change the overall admission average to 70 percent at UBC Okanagan; he had however been dissuaded from bringing the proposal forward for Senate approval. He considered the English prerequisite proposal as a useful starting point.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor cited a correlation between student drop-out rates after first year and high school performance, particularly in English and Math. He shared Dr. Keyes’ opinion that it would be inappropriate to admit students to UBC Okanagan without providing them with the support to be successful in their studies.

In response to a question from Dr. Robinson, Dr. Keyes expressed his opinion that the proposed prerequisites would be a good starting point to support those students who are unprepared for first-year English.

Ms. L’Orsa suggested that APSC 176 should be added to the list of first-year English courses included in the proposal. Dr. Keyes noted that the Faculty of Applied Science had supported the first-year English proposal but had not yet brought forward a proposal related specifically to APSC 176.

*The motion to approve new prerequisites for first-year English courses was put and carried, two abstentions.*

Dean Aboulnasr suggested that a feasibility study be conducted by the Senate to determine whether the admission average to UBC Okanagan should be increased to 70 percent. There was general agreement that a Committee of Senate should examine the larger issues around minimum standards for admission and the overall effect of the new first-year English prerequisites.

*Moved: Dr. Cioe  
Seconded: Dr. Keyes*
That the Learning and Research Committee be directed to consider the relationship between potential student success, minimum standards for admission to University, and the overall effect of the new first-year English prerequisites and report back to Senate with any necessary recommendations.

The motion to refer was put and carried.

Discussion on Motion to Approve the Remaining Curriculum Proposals

In response to a question from Dr. Rheault, Dean Belton directed Senators to a note listed on page 24 of the B.A. Minor in Visual Arts proposal, which stated that the program may take more than the traditional four years to complete. Dr. Rheault expressed his general opposition to extending the typical length of programs at UBC Okanagan beyond four years. Mr. Cadger verified the significant demand for the B.A. Minor in Visual Arts and expressed the belief that the majority of interested students seem quite prepared to extend their studies by one term in order to complete the proposed 42-credit B.A. Minor in Visual Arts.

In response to a question related to the number of credits proposed for the Minors in Interdisciplinary Performance and Visual Arts, Mr. Eaton indicated that the number of credits proposed is beyond the number of credits required for most minors. The proposed number of credits reflects the immense amount of course and studio work taught in each program. In response to a comment from Dr. Cioe, Dean Belton stated that these proposals are an interim solution to progress students through their first two years of study without restructuring the program.

The motion was put and carried.

Learning and Research Committee

Regalia Colours for Bachelor of Arts in Health Studies, Faculty of Health and Social Development

Dr. Arthur recommended the following regalia colours for the Bachelor of Arts in Health Studies, Faculty of Health and Social Development.

Moved: Dr. Arthur
Seconded: Mr. Koovisk

That regalia colours for the Bachelor of Arts in Health Studies be approved as University blue with a scarlet cord.

Carried.

Number of Teaching Days in Term 1

In response to a referral to the Learning and Research Committee by the Senate, Committee Chair Dr. Arthur stated that the Committee did not recommend any change to
the Academic Year as received by the Senate in February 2009; the 2009/2010 Academic Year included 60 teaching days in Term 1 and 63 teaching days in Term 2.

**Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics and the UBC Okanagan Academic Year**

The Committee had circulated a report for approval by the Senate.

**Moved:** Dr. Arthur  
**Seconded:** Dean Campbell

That the 2009/2010 UBC Okanagan Academic Year be modified to extend the Term 2 mid-term break by one week to span the period from February 15 through February 26, 2010, and

That the last day of the April 2010 examination period be set as April 30, 2010.

**Discussion on the Main Motion**

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor reminded Senators that this item had been considered by the Senate in February 2008; the motion to extend the Term 2 mid-term break had failed. He stated that approval of the motion could mean increases in student housing and other associated costs. Mr. Chavarie asked for an estimate of what the financial implications. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor noted that in advance of the Senate meeting the AVP Students had indicated that additional costs would be incurred and passed on to students; detailed information about those costs was not yet known.

In response to an additional question from Mr. Chavarie, Ms. Collins referred to page four of the proposal under *Appendix A: Proposal to Extend Mid-term Break in Term 2, 2010 at UBC Okanagan*, for the actual and proposed length of Term 2. She confirmed that the existing Senate policy on Examination Hardships would apply to those students who were scheduled to write three exams in a 24-hour period.

Ms. Driscoll stated that despite being a member of the Senate Learning and Research Committee that she would not support the motion due to the perceived cost implications initially expressed by Mr. Cull, AVP Students at the committee meeting. Dr. de Scally hoped that an analysis had been submitted to substantiate the number of students participating in the Winter Olympics. There was some discussion about the loss of teaching days for Co-op students, the effect on teaching pedagogy with a two-week break, as well as the suggested cost implications that could be incurred by the students. Ms. L’Orsa confirmed that approximately 50 percent of the Engineering students at UBC Okanagan had not been in support of the proposal.

The Provost confirmed that instructors could grant academic concession for students, staff and faculty members participating as athletes or volunteers at the Vancouver 2010 Winter Games through the existing Senate policy on *Academic Concession*. In response to a query from Dr. Johnson, Mr. Eaton briefly summarized the *Academic Concession* policy.
The policy was available on the UBC website at:

The motion failed.

The Provost moved the following motion.

That Senate direct Faculties to grant academic concession under the existing Senate policy on Academic Concession to those students participating as volunteers or athletes in the Vancouver 2010 Olympic or Paralympic Games.

The motion on academic concession for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic or Paralympic Games was put and carried.

Moved: Dr. Abd-El-Aziz  
Seconded: Dr. Cioe

Mr. Lepp asked whether members of the UBC Okanagan community planning to attend events at the Vancouver 2010 Winter Games could also be accommodated under the UBC Academic Concession Policy. He moved the following amendment to the motion.

That academic concession be granted to those students, staff and faculty attending the Vancouver 2010 Olympic or Paralympic Games.

Moved: Mr. Lepp  
Seconded: Ms. Driscoll

The motion failed.

Dr. Cioe announced that a notice of motion would be forthcoming to a future meeting of the Senate to discontinue the Term 1 November mid-term break.

Admissions and Awards Committee

NEW AWARDS

The Committee had circulated a new award for approval by the Senate.  
See also, ‘Appendix B: New Awards.’

Moved: Dr. McCoubrey  
Seconded: Mr. Koovisk

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.
Discussion

In response to a question from Ms. Walker, Dr. McCoubrey noted that the Aidan Kiernan Scholarship would be available only to undergraduate students. She clarified that awards available to graduate students would be noted in the award description. In response to a question from Dr. Lalonde, Dr. McCoubrey noted that the UBC Okanagan Development Office had determined how sustainability would be operationally defined for the Aidan Kiernan Scholarship.

Ms. L’Orsa asked why a prize has not been made available for the double major in French and Spanish; Dean Belton agreed to review this item.

The motion was put and carried.

ADMISSIONS PROPOSALS

The Committee recommended the following admissions proposals for approval by the Senate.

**PSI Calculus Assessment 12: Applicants Following the BC/Yukon Secondary School Curricula**

Moved: Dr. McCoubrey
Seconded: Dr. Cioe

That Senate approve the revised calendar entry on PSI Calculus Assessment 12 as an admission requirement for applicants following the BC/Yukon secondary school curricula, effective for entry to the 2009 Winter Session and thereafter.

Carried.

**Substitution of Grade 11 Grades for Out-of-Provence Secondary School Applicants – Faculty of Arts and Sciences**

Moved: Dr. McCoubrey
Seconded: Dr. de Scally

That Senate approve the proposed changes to admission requirements for out-of-province applicants to the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences programs, effective for only the 2008/2009 admission cycle (for entry to the 2009 Winter Session).

That Senate delegate to the Senate Admissions and Awards Committee authority to permit any direct entry undergraduate program to admit students under the conditions specified in the report entitled “Substitution of Grade 11 Grades for Timely Admission Evaluations” for only the 2008/2009 admission cycle (for entry to the 2009 Winter Session).
That Enrolment Services contact all faculties with direct entry undergraduate programs to allow their participation in the pilot program as specified in the Senate approved proposal on the Substitution of Grade 11 Grades for Timely Admission Evaluation for only the 2008/2009 admission cycle (for entry to the 2009 Winter Session).

Carried.

English Language Admission Standard

Moved: Dr. McCoubrey
Seconded: Ms. Patterson

That Senate approve the proposed changes to the English Language Admission Standard at UBC Okanagan, effective for the 2010 admission year.

Discussion
Dean Krank noted that this policy would apply only to undergraduate studies.

The motion was put and carried.

Go Global – University of Warsaw

Dr. McCoubrey presented for information the University of Warsaw Affiliation Agreement as approved on January 26, 2009 by the UBC Council of Senates.

Report from the University Librarian

Ms. Burton, Library Head at UBC Okanagan, presented the Annual Report of the University Librarian to the Senate (available at http://ww.library.ubc.ca/home/UBC_RS_07-08_fa.pdf).

Ms. Burton shared the following key elements of the Annual Report of the University Librarian.

- Expressed her gratitude to various members of the UBC Okanagan community for the continued development and success of the UBC Okanagan Library.
- Expressed additional gratitude for the patience of students to share resources and limited space during peak hours.
- Acknowledged the Centre for Teaching and Learning’s support for independent learning on campus.
- Expressed thanks to various Senators for their efforts during the search for a new UBC Librarian.
- The theme for Okanagan Library has been one of growth with respect to resources, space, collections, etc.
- The UBC Okanagan Library had served over 400,000 students in the past year.
Report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Due to time constraints, Senators agreed that this item would be postponed until the April 8, 2009 meeting of the Senate. Thereafter, Dr. Johnson moved the following motion.

Moved: Dr. Johnson
Seconded: Dr. Lalonde

That Senate extend their regular meeting on March 11, 2009 to 5:45 p.m. in order to accommodate a budget presentation from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

The motion to extend the meeting, failed.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm

The following regular meeting was scheduled to be held on Wednesday, April 08, 2009 at 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm in Library 317.
Appendix A: Curriculum Summary

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

1. The following new courses:
   a. ANTH 473 (3) Endangered Languages
   b. CHEM 525 (3) Advanced Inorganic Synthesis
   c. POLI 318 (3) Politics of Mexico and Central America
   d. POLI 319 (3) Issues in South American Politics

Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies

2. The following new courses:
   a. ARTH 101 (3) Art and Visual Cultures of the World I
   b. ARTH 102 (3) Art and Visual Cultures of the World II
   c. ARTH 202 (3) The Critical Viewer
   d. ARTH 301 (3) Critical Viewing – Advanced Studies
   e. ARTH 302 (3) Global Contemporary Art History
   f. ARTH 380 (3) African Art and Visual Culture
   g. ARTH 390 (3) Indigenous Art and Visual Culture
   h. ARTH 450 (3) Performance in Africa
   i. CULT 270/ENGL 232 (3) Reading Popular Culture
   j. First-Year English Prerequisites
   k. Minor in Interdisciplinary Performance
   l. Minor in Visual Arts
   m. MUSC 115 (3) Popular Music
   n. MUSC 324 (3) Sound Art and Experimental Music
   o. SPAN 150 (3) Cultural Images of Latin America
Appendix B: New Awards

Aidan Kiernan Direct Energy Scholarship in Sustainability and Environmental Sciences: Scholarships totaling $1,000 have been endowed by Direct Energy Business Services Ltd. in recognition of Aidan Kiernan’s leadership in sustainable campus planning and development, for students studying in the areas of sustainability and/or environmental sciences in the Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences or the School of Engineering at The University of British Columbia Okanagan. The awards alternate between the Schools, with the Barber School nominating students in odd-numbered Winter Sessions and the School of Engineering nominating students in even-numbered Winter Sessions. (First awards available for the 2009/10 Winter Session)

Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies Art History Prize: A $500 prize is offered by the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies to an outstanding student graduating with an Art History Major. The award is made on the recommendation of the Faculty. (First award available for the 2008/09 Winter Session)

Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies Creative Writing Prize: A $500 prize is offered by the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies to an outstanding student graduating with a Creative Writing Major. The award is made on the recommendation of the Faculty. (First award available for the 2008/09 Winter Session)

Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies Cultural Studies Prize: A $500 prize is offered by the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies to an outstanding student graduating with a Cultural Studies Major. The award is made on the recommendation of the Faculty. (First award available for the 2008/09 Winter Session)

Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies English Prize: A $500 prize is offered by the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies to an outstanding student graduating with an English Major or English Honours Degree. The award is made on the recommendation of the Faculty. (First award available for the 2008/09 Winter Session)

Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies French Prize: A $500 prize is offered by the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies to an outstanding student graduating with a French Major. The award is made on the recommendation of the Faculty. (First award available for the 2008/09 Winter Session)

Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies Spanish Prize: A $500 prize is offered by the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies to an outstanding student graduating with a Spanish Major. The award is made on the recommendation of the Faculty. (First award available for the 2008/09 Winter Session)

Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies Visual Arts Prize: A $500 prize is offered by the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies to an outstanding student graduating from the Visual Arts Program. The award is made on the recommendation of the Faculty. (First award available for the 2008/09 Winter Session)