Attendance


Clerk: C. Eaton

Guest: R. Sadiq

Call to Order

The Chair of Senate, Dr Santa J. Ono called the ninth regular meeting of the Okanagan Senate to order at 3:36 pm.

Senate Membership

NEW MEMBERS:

The Registrar, Dr Kathleen Ross, welcomed Raj Somal, Student Member, Faculty of Management, to fill a vacancy until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dr Ross announced that in response to the call for nominations issued at the previous meeting, two members of Senate who are students have been nominated to serve on the Senate Nominating Committee until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced. Therefore, Jia Fu Lee and Hisham Khan were acclaimed as elected.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

    Jan Cioe } That the Minutes of the Meetings of 29 April 2021
Barb Marcolin as presented.
Business Arising

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ADMISSION STANDARD FOR THE MA IN ENGLISH AND MFA

Dean Traister said that the decision to remain with the TOEFL and ILTS was largely due to its general usage for most graduate programs; however, the regulations do allow for equivalence and his Faculty would look into Duo Lingo and other tests to consider.

Senator Cioe asked if an oral exam could be used for students from lower income areas.

Dean Traister said it was a program and COGS decision and we needed to be mindful of faculty workloads. We needed to become more subtle and flexible in how we consider students for admission at this time.

The Registrar said that Duo Lingo was providing fee waivers for students with financial need.

Remarks from the Chair

President Ono raised the following matters in his remarks:

- Dr Ono paid tribute to two recently deceased faculty members: Dr David F. Hardwick of Medicine, and Dr. Sinikka Elliott of Arts.
- UBC continued to work closely on our plans for the Winter Session with public health officials at the Provincial and regional levels.
- Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry is optimistic that we will continue to see positive improvements, particularly given the progression of the provincial vaccination program, ongoing public health measures, and increased understanding of the virus that causes COVID-19. Dr Ono noted that he too was optimistic that we will be able to safely welcome our students, faculty and staff back to campus this Fall.
- Many members of the UBC community will have questions, and may be uneasy about a potential return to campus. Dr Ono assured Senate that the health, safety and wellbeing of our people remain our first priority.
- We anticipated the following measures will remain in place for this upcoming fall:
  - Completing a daily COVID-19 self-assessment and not attending work or school when ill;
  - Following handwashing and hygiene protocols;
  - Continuing daily cleaning protocols in indoor settings and on high touch surfaces; and
- Requiring non-medical masks in indoor common areas, depending on the rate of COVID-19 transmission.

- Dr Ono noted that the above measures may change depending on public health situations.

- Over the coming weeks and months, UBC would be providing more details - about the return to classes, about student engagement and campus experience, about remote working, about research and other aspects of the return to campus.

- Dr Ono expressed his confidence that together we will successfully, and safely, transition back to campus for the fall academic term. He expressed his gratitude to everyone for your dedication to UBC, to our commitment to pursue excellence in research, learning and engagement, and to advance a sustainable and just society.

- The President noted that in June UBC would be hosting a virtual anti-racism summit.

- This year’s virtual celebration of graduation was approaching on June 2nd. The President noted that a formal meeting of the Convocation to confer the relevant degrees was scheduled for directly following this Senate meeting.

Senator Ragoonaden asked what our timeline was for second vaccinations and if masks could be dropped at that time.

Dr Ono said that they were studying this but Provincial Health Officer didn’t have a definitive answer yet on if masks would be needed once more people were vaccinated.

Dr Lasserre asked for confirmation that masks were not needed in classrooms.

Dr Ono confirmed that this was the case at this time; classrooms weren’t considered a high-transmission area by the Provincial Health Officer.

Remarks from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Lesley Cormack, noted that since the Senate’s last meeting there had been both teaching and research celebrations on the Okanagan campus, and the campus had celebrated Asian heritage month with a variety of events including a partnership with the Kelowna Art Gallery.

Secondly, Dr Cormack noted the opening of Skeena House, our six-story 220 bed passive house residence.

Remarks from the Provost

The Provost and Vice-President Academic for the Okanagan campus, Dr Ananya Mukherjee-Reed, said that with reference to Asian Heritage Month, UBC was doing an event a week. This
week there would be a virtual tour of Kelowna’s lost Chinatown. Dr Mukherjee-Reed noted that it has been a challenge to know how to recognize Asian Heritage month when the situation for Asian students, both from East Asia and India is complicated due to COVID-19.

CAMPUS PRIMER

The Provost noted that presently, our plan was for most courses to be in in person with some online. We were also looking at how we can provide appropriate accommodations for faculty, staff and students, and how we can recognize and support the needs of different disciplines.

Dr Mukherjee-Reed asked Philip Barker to present as a member of the Provincial working group that produced the Back-to-Campus primer.

Dr Barker said that the President had addressed a lot of the issues in his opening remarks. He noted that a steering group was convened by the Ministry to work with public health officials to set up go-forward guidelines for all post-secondary institutions in BC. We were now working on the second iteration of those guidelines – to be issued by the end of June – for implementation in August. The framework is based on a few assumptions, most importantly, that infections and hospitalizations will be low at the time of implementation. The expectation of public health is that with widespread immunization, COVID-19 will be treated like other common respiratory infections.

Senator Ebl said that she felt uncomfortable that we were going back to full density without masks. She said that this didn’t feel like health and safety was a priority.

Dr Ono said a similar question was asked of Dr Henry; their understanding is that with vaccinations, it will be a very different situation with a vast majority of people vaccinated.

Dr Barker added that masks were still an uncertainty. He acknowledged that this is coming out while case numbers were still too high for its implementation

Senator Ebl asked if classroom interactions were a risk for increased infections.

Dr Ono said data didn’t show much transmission in classes, the issue was social situations

In response to a question from Senator Lucet, Dr Ono said that they were working with Immigration Canada on facilitating students coming to study in person, in particular from India,

Senator Eikenaar said that disability advocates have said that they weren’t being heard in this process.
Dr Ono said that we didn’t want this to be the case and ask them to please contact his office.

Dr Barker said they hadn’t heard these concerns. There will be a consultation period and they hoped to hear from everyone in that process.

COURSE SCHEDULES

Senator Cioe asked why the course schedule due to be released on 6 May was delayed.

The Provost said that this was sent to the faculties and 7 June was the publication date. It was a surprise to her if the faculties hadn’t shared this yet with their faculty members.

Candidates for Degrees

Kristen Morgan
Patricia Laesserre

That Senate approve changes to undergraduate admission criteria proposed by Enrolment Services, effective for the 2021 Winter Session and thereafter.

Approved

Academic Building & Resources Committee

The Chair of the Senate Academic Building and Resources Committee, Dr Peter Arthur, presented.

ANNUAL REPORT

Dr Arhtur’s report noted that during the 2020-21 academic year, the Committee met on seven occasions. The topics addressed by the Committee during the 2020-21 academic year include the following:

Budget Update
Capital Projects Update
Current year - Quarter 2 UBCO financial update
Budget 2021/22 timeline and anticipated plan
UBC Capital Prioritization Process Class Scheduling Plans for Next Fall
2021 Current Downtown Academic Plans/Space List
Full Budget Presentation
Remote Learning Virtual Tools
Climate Action Plan
Committee Comments

- The Committee appreciated the transparent engagement on the budget process and how comprehensive and detailed the documentation received. As the Committee’s terms of reference state, the committee was able to help prepare the budget by providing feedback to senior administration through fulsome discussion.
- The Budget was presented to senate in March. Highlights include priority investments in the following areas: a. People and Places b. Research Excellence c. Transformative Learning d. Local and Global Engagement e. Sustainment/Risk/Compliance Actions
Note: Refer to March Senate Materials pages 272 – 274 for investment details.
- One focus of the committee was on both undergraduate and graduate students and how the budget impacts them.

Future Committee Topics

- What COVID forced innovation is worth continuing, or stopping. Additionally, the impact on our Okanagan resources.
- Academic Integrity – Tools and the impact on Okanagan resources
- IRP (Integrated Renewal Program) in terms of Okanagan resources
- Resource implications of non-traditional research entities i.e. innovation precinct and partnerships

Academic Policy Committee

The Chair of the Senate Academic Policy Committee, Dr Jan Cioe, presented.

CLLEGE OF OF GRADUATE STUDIES FUNDING POLICY

Jan Cioe
Barb Marcolin

That Senate approve the College of Graduate Studies Minimum Funding Policy for PhD Students as attached

Senator Evens raised a concern with the policy speaking of departments while graduate programs were organized by program.

*By general consent, the reference to departments in the first paragraph was changed to programs.*

Approved as Amended

EMERITUS COLLEGE
Senator Cioe asked why we were removing the requirement for first-class standing on admission as this seemed a reduction in our academic requirements for scholarships.

With permission of Senate, Associate Dean Shipley replied. He noted that this was an award not a scholarship, and was intended to equalize the tuition paid by domestic and international students. He noted that when we admitted students below a first-class standing, it often was due to ambiguities in international undergraduate programs.

Admission & Awards Committee

The Vice-Chair of the Senate Admission & Awards Committee, Senator Rhyz Herzberg presented

NEW AND REVISED AWARDS

Rhys Herzberg Patricia Lasserre

That Senate accept the new and revised awards as listed with the exception of the Andrew Arida Memorial Award, that they be forwarded to the Board of Governors for approval, and that letters of thanks be sent to the donors.

NON-BINARY AWARDS

In response to a question from Senator Eikenaar, senators Herzberg and Ebl confirmed that the Admissions and Awards Committee was reviewing the matter of gendered terminology and criteria in awards and was working on a framework for improvements.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INITIATIVE AWARDS
That Senate approve the UBC Beyond Tomorrow Scholars Program.

REVISED ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS –DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR SCHOLARSHIP

That Senate approve the revised eligibility requirements for the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Scholarship.

Amendment to Agenda

By general consent, the agenda was amended to allow for immediate consideration of a motion regarding the applicability of Summer Session courses towards awards.

Other Business

That Senate direct the Admissions & Awards Committee to review the exclusion of summer session credits and academic standings towards academic awards and report back to Senate by May 2022 with any recommendations.

Admission & Awards Committee (Continued)

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES–PHD. AND MA PSYCHOLOGY
That Senate approve the Faculty Arts and Social Sciences Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Psychology and Master of Arts, Psychology admission requirements.

Senator Cioe explained that a rationale for this change was that reliance on the Graduate Records Examination (GRE) had discriminatory results.

UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW –EXPANSION OF MOBILITY AGREEMENT

That Senate approve expanding the Mobility Agreement between The University of British Columbia and the University of Warsaw.

Appeals of Standing and Discipline Committee

The chair of the Appeals of Standing and Discipline Committee, Dr Robert Campbell, presented.

Annual Report

Dr Campbell noted that in the previous 12 months, his committee had heard one appeal on academic standing and none on discipline; the one appeal was allowed as set out in the printed report.

Curriculum Committee

The Chair of the Senate Curriculum Committee, Dr Yves Lucet, presented.

APRIL CURRICULUM REPORT

See Appendix B: Curriculum Report

That the new courses, revised courses, and revised programs brought forward by the Faculties of Applied Science, Arts and Social Sciences, Creative and Critical Studies, and Science be approved.

By general consent, ENGL220 was struck from the digital literacy requirement.
VARIABLE CREDIT COURSES

Yves Lucet
Tanya Forneris

That the new courses, revised courses, and revised programs brought forward by the Faculties of Applied Science, Arts and Social Sciences, Creative and Critical Studies, and Science be approved.

Joint Report of the Admission & Awards and Curriculum Committees

The Chair of the Senate Admissions Committee, Dr Yves Lucet, presented.

NEW PROGRAM: MASTER OF DESIGN

Yves Lucet
Barb Marcolin

That the new Master of Design (M.Des) program, DICE course code, DICE courses, and revised Calendar entries be approved.

Dean Traister confirmed for Senate Cioe that the program wouldn’t be offered in 2021W.

REVISED PROGRAMS: EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES AND FRESHWATER SCIENCE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Yves Lucet
Rhys Herzberg

That the revised Earth and Environmental Sciences and Freshwater Science Bachelor of Science programs be approved.

Learning & Research Committee

Approved as Amended

Approved

Approved

20-9-10
The Chair of the Senate Learning & Research Committee, Dr Karen Ragoonaden,

**REVISIONS TO POLICY O-250: EMERITUS STATUS**

Karen Ragoonaden  
Jan Cioe

\[That Senate approve the revisions to Policy O-250: Emeritus Status, as presented.\]

It was confirmed for Senator Cioe that in extraordinary circumstances the Committee could choose to not recommend a person for emeritus status who otherwise met the criteria.

**Student Experience of Instruction.**

**TIME TO ADJOURN**

Kristen Morgan  
W. S. McNeil

\[That the time to adjourn be extended by 30 minutes.\]

**Student Experience of Instruction (Continued)**

Following the May 2020 Senate endorsement of the recommendations of the Student Evaluations of Teaching Working Group, a Steering Committee, and an Implementation Committee were struck to work towards operationalizing the recommendations. This report provided an update on progress made with respect to the May 2020 recommendations.

The proposed implementation timeline was as follows:

- May 2021 - pilot testing of the revised survey questions with students
- June/July 2021 - quantitative analysis of the questions and finalizing the questions
- August 2021 - reporting to the Vancouver Teaching and Learning and the Okanagan Learning and Research Committees
- September 2021 - implementation of the new questions.

With permission of Senate, Dr Stephanie McEwan jointed Senator Tanya Forneris to present the report.
Nominating Committee

The Chair of the Senate Nominating Committee, Dr Jannik Eikenaar, presented.

COMMITTEE ADJUSTMENTS

Jannik Eikenaar / Tamara Ebl

That Ms. Melanie Lunde be appointed to the Academic Policy Committee until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Ms Maya Pilin;

That Mr. Josh Anderson be appointed to the Academic Policy Committee until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Mr Domitius Jarrouj;

That Ms. Jane Udochi be appointed to the Admissions and Awards Committee until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Mr Gursagar Singh;

That Mr. Josh Anderson be appointed to the Council Budget Committee until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Ms Robin Metcalfe;

That Mr. Brendan Heerema be appointed to the Curriculum Committee until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Mr Venedict Tamandong;

That Ms. Laavanya Prakash be appointed to the Curriculum Committee until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Ms Kristen Morgan;

That Mr. Jonathan Low be appointed to the Learning and Research Committee until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Ms Sage Cannon;

That Mr. Dylan Rogers be appointed to the Learning and Research Committee until 31 March
2022 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Mr Riley Petillion;

That Ms. Amanda Shatzko be appointed to the Learning and Research Committee until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Ms Maya Pilin;

That Ms. Amanda Shatzko be appointed to Council of Senates Okanagan Senate Representative Committee Four until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Mr Domitius Jarrouj;

That Mr. Dylan Rogers be elected the Council of Senates, to replace Mr Riley Petillion;

That Ms. Kristen Morgan's appointment to the Academic Policy be extended until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced;

That Mx. Rhys Herzberg's appointment to the Admissions and Awards Committee be extended until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced; and

That Mr. Brendan Heerema's appointment to the Council Budget Committee be extended until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced.

VICE-CHAIR

Jannik Eikenaar
Marianne Legault

That Kristen Morgan be elected Vice Chair of Senate until 31 August 2021 and thereafter until replaced.

Policy AP5 – Deans Appointment Policy Questions
Dr Eikenaar’s report noted for well over a year, the Okanagan Senate Nominating Committee, in conjunction with the Vancouver Senate Nominating Committee and the Employee Relations Committee of the Board of Governors, has been considering proposals from the senior administration for amendments to Policy AP5, which sets out the procedures for the selection and recommendation of deans on both campuses. There was a disagreement between the two relevant Senate Committees on this policy: the issue at hand has to do with confidentiality for finalist candidates for deans.

At the request of the Chair, Dr Eikenaar set out the details of the dispute as outlined in the distributed report: The proposed policy codifies a practice of the candidates making a presentation in a confidential forum to which all member (Faculty members, students and staff) of the relevant Faculty are invited, but as a new addition, allowed for an “alternative process” where that quasi-public forum is replaced by other means of engaging with stakeholders, including but not limited to targeted discussions with stakeholder groups, with the assurance that any alternative process “must include the opportunity for all faculty members of the applicable Faculty to provide feedback regarding the final candidates for the position of Dean of such Faculty.”

Dr Eikenaar advised that the Okanagan Nominating Committee supports the idea of allowing for an alternative process in consideration of there being circumstances where the employment of candidates currently employed elsewhere could be compromised if their candidacy at another institution becomes widely known, as well as the hesitancy of candidates to put their name forward for consideration if they must have their interest known to an entire Faculty. The Nominating Committee believed that that this hesitancy may be expressed by any candidates given the employment consequences noted, but perhaps particularly by members of equity-seeking groups.

The Chair asked if there could be two policies, one for each campus.

Mr Eaton advised that we could have one policy with a trifurcation for each campus and for dual-campus faculties.

Senator Reeves asked what opportunities would be for faculty to meet with a prospective dean under the alternative process.

Dr Eikenaar said that it would be at the discretion of the advisory committee for that search; there was flexibility built into the process to allow an advisory committee to act in good faith.

Senator Cioe spoke in favour of the alternative process. He noted that earlier he was opposed to it, but his mind had been changed on the matter when he learned of candidates having their careers compromised by applying to work elsewhere.
Senator Lalonde said that he agreed with the position of Vancouver and said that the alternative process was too vague and excluded students and staff from participation. He further said that targeted discussions may lead to an inaccurate representation of the feedback from faculty members.

Senator Hodges said that she agreed with Senator Lalonde; a bedrock of our university is collegiality and shared governance. She noted that these were people who applied to work for us and we were talking about a shortlist, not expressions of general interest. The alternative process would undermine the University’s values.

Senator Lasserre said she supported an alternative process but not the vague way in which it was proposed here.

At the request of Dean Traister, a straw poll was taken to see what the Senate’s views were on this matter.

- In favour of the proposal as drafted: 9
- In favour of the Vancouver Nominating Committee’s Position: 9
- Do not care either way: 8

*By general consent, the time to adjourn was extended to 6:15 pm*

**Report from the Provost**

**QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCESS AUDIT**

The Provost introduced Tanya Forneris to present on UBC Okanagan’s work on the Ministry Quality Assurance Process Audit.

In addition to the written report, Senator Forneris noted that an extensive consultation process had been undertaken. She noted that UBC had one policy and one set of guidelines on external reviews. Currently, we were working with the Vancouver Senate to update the policy on external reviews.

UBC Okanagan will be audited through the Ministry’s QAPA process during the year 2021 (UBC Vancouver underwent this audit in 2018).

**Other Business**

Dean Traister noted that this would be the last meeting for Senator Ragoonaden, who had recently been appointed Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba. He thanked her for her time and service to the University.

**Adjournment**
Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.
Appendix A: Awards Report

NEW AWARDS:

Proposed Title: Rio Tinto Scholarship
A $5,000 scholarship has been made available annually through a gift from Rio Tinto to a domestic undergraduate female student in the School of Engineering in the Faculty of Applied Science at The University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. Rio Tinto is a global metal and mining group operating in 35 countries across six continents. They are committed to increasing the representation of women in mining and creating an engaging and inclusive environment. The scholarship will be adjudicated by Enrolment Services. (First award available for the 2021/22 Winter session)

PREVIOUSLY APPROVED AWARD WITH CHANGES IN TERMS OR FUNDING SOURCE:

Existing description (2010):
Award Title: Lashley and Mary Haggman Memorial Research Award
Amended Description: Lashley and Mary Haggman Memorial Research Award
Awards totaling $6,500 have been made available through an endowment established by the Estate of Lashley and Mary Haggman for graduate students at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus, conducting research on memory or memory-related issues. The awards will be adjudicated by the College of Graduate Studies in consultation with the Office of Research Services.

Award Title: Florence M. Myers Memorial Scholarship Award in Chemistry
Amended Description: Florence M. Myers Memorial Scholarship in Chemistry
A $1,200 scholarship has been made available through an endowment established by the Estate of Florence Myers, along with matching funds from The University of British Columbia, to a domestic graduate student in the chemistry program in the Irving K. Barber Faculty of Science at The University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. Born in 1921 in England, Florence worked as a research chemist during WW II, emigrated to Canada in 1948 and continued to work. Florence is appreciated as a pioneering Canadian female chemist. After marrying Orvil Myers and a move to Oakville Ontario, Florence became a portrait photographer. Late in life, Florence and Orvil settled in the Kootenays. Preference will be given to a female student. The scholarship is adjudicated by Enrolment Services. (First award available for the 2021/22 Winter Session)
Rationale: The will wording indicates scholarship not a bursary.
Appendix B: Curriculum Report

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Bachelor of Arts > Minor in Management
Bachelor of Arts > Program Requirements
Bachelor of Arts > Degree Requirements for students entering the program in 2021/2022 or later
GWST 240 – New course

FACULTY OF CREATIVE AND CRITICAL STUDIES
Bachelor of Arts > add Management (Minor) to Contents
DIHU 407 – New course
ENGL 407 – New course

FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Bachelor of Science > Minor in Management
Bachelor of Science > Program Requirements
STAT 224 – New course