OKANAGAN SENATE
MINUTES OF 27 JANUARY 2022

Attendance


Guests: S. McKeown, M. Davis

Clerk: C. Eaton

Call to Order

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

New Members:

The Registrar welcomed the following new members of Senate:

Dr Ying Zhu, Assistant Professor of Management, elected by the Joint Faculties until 31 August 2023 and thereafter until replace, to fill a vacancy.

Dr Marie Tarrant, Dean Pro Tem. of the Faculty of Health and Social Development, to replace Dean Gordon Binsted (resigned).

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

A number of minor typographical error were sent to the Clerk in advance of the meeting, as well as comments from Senators Ebl, Cioe, and Reeves. The spelling of Senator Shatzko’s name was also corrected.

Jan Cioe
Rhys Herzberg

\{ That the Minutes of the Meetings of 16 December 2021 as corrected.\}

Approved
Business Arising from the Minutes

The Chair called on S. Willis-Stewart to speak to a referral to the Learning and Research Committee regarding emeritus appointments. S. Willis-Stewart stated that the Committee has held one meeting at which the topic was discussed. Discussions are ongoing and additional information is expected to be provided at the February meeting of the Senate.

Senator Ebl commented that much of the discussion at the December Senate meeting was around current policies in place due to the COVID pandemic, including rapid testing. She noted that rapid testing does not seem to be readily accessible now as it had been previously and questioned whether the intention is to have rapid tests available only to members of the University community who are symptomatic. Senator Ebl asked for some clarification on how this may affect the decisions made by the Senate on compliance with the COVID-19 Campus Rules.

The Chair respond that there is currently a paucity of tests not only in BC but internationally as well and reported the University had recently secured a significant number of tests and will be able to provide tests both symptomatic and asymptomatic testing in accordance with the polices put forward by Senate. In the event that tests run out, the University will be unable to move forward with mandatory testing which is currently in place and in force. Availability of rapid tests is one parameter the University has no control over but currently 500,000 tests have been made available. The Chair stated that while tests are available now, there is no guarantee that tests will be available indefinitely.

Remarks from the Chair

The Chair asked the assembly to take a moment of silence in recognition of the findings earlier this week at the St. Joseph’s Mission Residential School. Senators should continue to be mindful of the history and the lasting effects of the residential school system in Canada and remember the lives that were lost there.

The Chair stated that UBC was consistently ranked as one of the top 35 universities globally in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings. The rankings also consider institutions’ contribution towards the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and UBC does very well in this regard. He stated that UBC is considered a truly global institution and this profile matters in terms of recruitment of faculty and students. Another aspect the rankings consider is how international the faculty and student body are, along with international linkages and partnerships the institution has. The Chair was pleased to report that UBC Okanagan and University of Exeter have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for linkages with respect to research and scholarship.

The Times rankings also consider the number of publications between faculty and students at the institution and other global universities and are in ways, a measure of the global impact of the institution. UBC has again been ranked the most international university in North America and in the Top 20 in the world.
The Chair congratulated a number of current and former UBC faculty members who have recently been named to the Order of Canada, including Harold Bassford, John Estacio, David Ross Fitzparick, Lily Chow, Margo Greenwood, Walter Hardy, Jane Heyman, David McKenzie, Angela Swan, Connie Eaves, Curtis Suttle, Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, and Peter Zandstra. Professor Pieter Cullis has also been awarded the VinFuture Foundation’s inaugural Global Sci-Tech Award for his contributions to the development of the Pfizer mRNA vaccine.

The Chair then spoke to the many contributions of outgoing Provost and Vice-President Academic, Dr Ananya Mukherjee-Reed, at UBC Okanagan and broadly across the institution. He noted the tremendous contributions towards creating a more inclusive community will long be remembered, as will her work on the Anti-Racism and Inclusive Excellence Task Force. The care and commitment with which she worked was an inspiration to faculty, students, and staff. The Chair offered his heartfelt congratulations to Dr Mukherjee-Reed on her appointment as the next Vice-Chancellor of Shiv Nadar University in India.

**Remarks from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor**

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Lesley Cormack echoed the President’s sentiments and offered her sincere congratulations to Dr Mukherjee-Reed on her new appointment.

Senator Cormack stated that she had great fun participating in the annual UBCO Society of Scholars Life Raft Debate, and congratulated Senator Garrard on winning the debate.

In closing, Dr Cormack reiterated the importance of maintaining mental health and wellness and noted that there are a number of resources and supports available to faculty, staff, and students.

**Remarks from the Provost**

Provost and Vice-President Academic, Dr Ananya Mukherjee-Reed thanked the President and Dr Cormack for their kind words and congratulations. She stated that she had a wonderful experience at UBC Okanagan and has a very strong connection with the campus community. Dr Mukherjee-Reed noted that she was very thankful for the opportunity to work on anti-racism and inclusivity initiatives, which allowed the opportunity it allowed to work across both campuses. In particular, she greatly valued the opportunities she has had to work with students and student leaders, noting that these are deeply meaningful relationships that she will hold dear.

Dr Mukherjee-Reed concluded her remarks by noting that the 2021/22 Enrolment Report will be presented later in the meeting by Stephanie McKeown and Michelle Davis, who will be able to address any questions Senators may have.

She concluded her remarks by again thanking Senators for their congratulations and good wishes.
Admission & Awards Committee

The Chair of the Senate Admission & Awards Committee, presented by Senator Ebl.

NEW AND REVISED AWARDS

See Appendix A: Awards Report

\[
\text{Tamara Ebl} \quad \text{Barb Marcolin} \quad \}
\text{That the Senate accept the new and revised awards as listed, that they be forwarded to the Board of Governors for approval, and that letters of thanks be sent to the donors.}
\]

Approved

Agenda Committee

The Chair of the Senate Agenda Committee, Dr Jan Cioe, presented two reports.

2021 WINTER TERM 2 DROP DATE

\[
\text{Jan Cioe} \quad \text{Tamara Ebl} \quad \}
\text{“That the faculties be directed to allow students to drop Term 2 courses for the 2021 Winter Session without a formal W-Withdrawal standing if such a request is made prior to 23:59:59 on 6 February 2022, and that the Registrar be directed to remove the W-Withdrawal standing for any Term 2 courses dropped before that time.”}
\]

Dr Cioe stated this report and associated motion would normally be presented by the Academic Policy Committee but review was expedited due to time constraints. Senator Hilton stated that he fully supported the motion but noted that the timing of the announcement and technical difficulties caused some confusion for students; the announcement was sent to Okanagan students in advance of Senate approval.

Senator Shatzko supported Dr Hilton’s comments and noted that student leadership is in support of the proposal. Also, for equity, the proposed change to the withdrawal should be consistent for both campuses.

Approved
SENATE MEETING SCHEDULE 2022-2023

Jan Cioe
Tamara Ebl

That, in accordance with Rule 15 (b), the regular senate meeting schedule for 2022-2023 be established as follows:
• 29 September 2022
• 27 October 2022
• 24 November 2022
• 15 December 2022
• 26 January 2023
• 23 February 2023
• 30 March 2023
• 27 April 2023
• 18 May 2023

Dr Cioe presented the proposed Senate meeting schedule for 2022-2023. Senator Ebl noted that the February 2023 meeting is scheduled during Reading Break. The Agenda Committee has discussed this and is supportive of the proposed February 2023 meeting date. Dr Cioe commented that while there are no regularly scheduled classes for students during Midterm Break, it is not a time where faculty and staff normally take holidays. The Committee had no concerns with holding a Senate meeting during that week.

Curriculum Committee

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

JANUARY CURRICULUM PROPOSALS

See Appendix B: Curriculum Report

Yves Lucet
Jan Cioe

That the new minor, program name change, discontinuation of program, revised degree requirements, revised certificate, and new courses brought forward by the Faculties of Applied Science, Arts and Social Sciences, and Creative and Critical Studies be approved.

Dr Cioe expressed his commendation to the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies on the development of the revised certificate in Communications and Rhetoric, which is a critical skill that students should have. Senator Ebl noted that the agenda references curriculum proposals
from Science but no such reports are included in the report. Senator Lucet clarified that there was a typographical error on the agenda; the motion for approval is correct.

Joint Report of the Admission & Awards and Curriculum Committee

BACHELOR OF NLEʔKEPMX LANGUAGE FLUENCY

Tamara Ebl  Patricia Lasserre  That the new Bachelor of Nleʔkepmx Language Fluency (B.Nlek.) program, NLEK course code, NLEK courses, and revised Calendar entries be approved.

Senator Ebl noted that the admissions requirements for this program were similar to our existing language fluency degrees. Senator Cormack added that the development of this program is an important part of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission commitments in higher education and that the new program is a part of the path towards reconciliation.

Learning & Research Committee

The Chair of the Senate Learning & Research Committee, Dr Sally Willis-Stewart, presented.

CANADA RESEARCH COUNCIL CHAIRS DISTRIBUTION

The Chair of the Senate Curriculum Committee, Dr Willis-Stewart, presented the report.

Sally Willis-Stewart  Jan Cioe  That the Okanagan Senate request that the President eliminate the present inequity in the distribution of Canada Research Chairs across the UBC campuses by ensuring that an additional six Tier 2 chairs and two Tier 1 chairs (or an equivalent distribution of both Tier 1 and Tier 2 chairs) are allocated to the Okanagan campus by July 2023; and further, the Okanagan Senate requests that the President report back to Senate on the Administration’s consideration of, and any actions taken in response to, this request by September 2022; and

That the Okanagan Senate request that the President ensure that an equitable UBCO-UBCV CRC Chair re-allocation, reflecting research
Committee Vice-Chair, Senator DiLabio commented that UBC Okanagan receives fewer Canada Research Chairs (CRCs) as a percentage of research income than all UBC Vancouver Faculties with the exception of the Faculty of Medicine. Every UBC Vancouver Faculty has at least one Tier 1 CRC while there are no Tier 1 CRCs at the Okanagan Campus, and no other institution in Canada has fewer CRCs as a percentage of research income than UBC Okanagan. The proposed motion requests the President’s assistance to resolve the inequitable distribution of CRCs so that the Okanagan campus can more effectively pursue its research and NSERC HQP (Highly Qualified Personnel) training mandates. The Committee requests the President’s assistance as the responsibility for the distribution of CRCs within the UBC system rests with the UBC Vancouver Provost’s Office.

Senator Barker provided an update on efforts that have been made over the past year on this issue. On the Okanagan campus CRCs are administered through the Office of the Vice-Principal Research, and the Office has been working with the Provost’s Office in Vancouver over the last few months to understand the history of the current distribution model, how the inequities identified by Dean DiLabio have come to exist, and possible resolutions to move towards a more equitable model.

Dr Barker noted that since 2015, research income, which is a metric by which CRCs have been distributed, has increased by almost four-fold on the Okanagan campus and the CRC distributions have not kept pace. There are a few reasons for this; CRCs are awarded for either 5 year- or 7-year periods, depending on the nature of the Chair. There is a rebalancing that occurs every 3 years when there is a redistribution that occurs across Canada. The next scheduled triennial distribution is in 2023 and between now and then, there will be Chairs that will be vacated as scholars cycle out. The Provost’s Office has committed to making best efforts to affect a more equitable distribution at the time of the tri-annual CRC redistribution. As UBC Okanagan research income continues to rise, the disparity will become more pronounced. Dr Barker stated that there is now a much deeper understanding of what the CRC allocation should be UBC Okanagan and that his office had been working with Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Academic Affair, Professor Moura Quayle.

President Ono asked Senator Cormack to assume the chair so that he could remark on the motion.

Senator Cormack assumed the Chair

Senator Ono thanked the Committee and Senator DiLabio for raising this issue for discussion. The Vancouver Provost’s Office has acknowledged that there are inequities, and as Senator Barker mentioned, there are ongoing conversations between his office and the Provost. Dr Ono
stated that there have been some recent transitions at the Vancouver Provost’s Office as Dr P. Ratner has stepped down and the current Provost will be stepping down in a few months. Dr Ono confirmed his commitment to the spirit of the motion and stated that he will continue to monitor the issue and support Dr Barker in addressing the situation.

Senator Gerrard thanked the President and the Committee. He noted that the Faculty of Medicine was undersupplied with CRCs but asked if they have a larger number of endowed chairs or chairs that are funded externally. Senator Barker said that it is typical that research income that comes into most universities that have a robust medical school makes up a very large proportion of the total research income, and most institutions will cap the number of chairs provided to the Faculty as there are other sources of funding.

Senator Cioe noted that Professor Quayle was head of the transition team when UBC Okanagan campus was established and asked that Dr Barker communicate his gratitude to Dr Quayle for all her contributions to the creation of the Okanagan campus. Dr Barker thanked Dr Cioe and stated that he will pass on Dr Cioe’s sentiments to Dr Quayle.

Senator Traister thanked President Ono for his comments and his commitment to the spirit of the motion and stated that the CRC allotment disparities was specifically pin-pointed in the Report of the Task Force on Cross Campus Collaboration issued in 2021. Senator Traister thanked the Committee for bringing this issue forward as a motion, regardless of the disposition of the motion at this point in the discussion. He reminded the chairs of other Senate committees that the report has other aspects that would be potential areas for discussion at other committees, and invited them to consider aspects of the report that can be highlighted in terms of advancing the case for the Okanagan campus as a robust partner within the UBC system. President Ono supported Senator Traister’s comments, and encouraged senators to reach out to him if there are other opportunities that he can support in his system-wide role.

Senator Zhu noted that UBC Vancouver was able to do many more research activities and presentations via Zoom as the campus has more resources to support online program delivery and asked if these can be extended to the Okanagan faculty in related disciplines as well. The President commented that Prof. John Klironomos has suggested something very similar and provided as set of recommendations, one of which is exactly what Senator Zhu is suggesting. Dr Klironomos has recommended that the Provost’s Office speak with UBC Vancouver Deans and advocate that remote seminars and workshops be made available to UBC Okanagan faculty members as much as possible, and that Vancouver faculty be able to access online seminars and presentations by UBC Okanagan faculty.
Dr Ono assumed the Chair.

Nominating Committee

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

Jannik Eikenaar
Rhys Herzberg

That Senate appoint Syliva Tomášková, Tanya Forneris, Sandy Hilton, and Margaret Reeves to the President’s Advisory Committee for the Appointment of the Vice-President Academic & Provost;

That Senate appoint Robert Campbell to the President’s Advisory Committee for the Appointment of a Registrar; and

That Senate appoint Gino DiLabio to the President’s Advisory Committee for the Extension of Appointment of the Vice-President Finance and Resources.

In response to a question from Senator Evans on the nature of appointments to Presidential advisory committees, Mr Eaton responded that certain appointment policies specify particular roles within the University, including deans and in the case of the of the first appointment being made for the Vice-President Academic and Provost must be a dean. Other policies specify faculty members and yet others specify faculty members without administrative appointments so in the case of the extension of the appointment of the Vice-President Finance and Resources, the Senate is to appoint a senator who has an appointment at the University as a faculty member. In this case, Senator DiLabio happens to be a dean and a faculty member and is being appointed to the advisory committee in the latter capacity. Senator Barker requested that the Minutes reflect that the appointments to the advisory committee for the appointment of the UBC Okanagan Vice-President Academic and Provost.

Report from the Provost

ENROLMENT REPORT 2021/22

Senator Cormack introduced Stephanie McKeown (Chief Institutional Research Officer, Planning and Institutional Research) and Michelle Davis (Associate Director, Admissions and Awards) to present the 2021-2022 Enrolment Report.

In response to a question from Senator Garrard on provincial funding in the case of over-enrolment, Ms Davis stated that the University does not receive funding for over-enrolment...
beyond what those additional students are providing by way of tuition; these spaces are unfunded to some degree. She stated that the focus in the last few years has been to reach target enrolment targets over the last few years and now that those targets have been met, it may be time to consider a different approach to enrolment.

Senator Sadiq commented that the campus has grown significantly in research, and questioned how much of the contribution is coming from research graduate students. Ms McKeown indicated that she will examine the data and respond shortly.

Senator Lalonde commented on the over enrolment puts a strain on campus facilities and resources and questioned additional funding could be requested from the Ministry.

Sentator Cormack assumed the Chair.

Senator Ono responded that there is a funding formula review happening and it is an opportune time to advocate for increased funding. Senator Sadiq noted that when the Okanagan campus was established in 2005, it was funded on a flat rate for all students, with no differentiation between undergraduate and graduate students. There is an opportunity now to advocate to have the same funding formula as UBC Vancouver. Graduate student numbers are increasing, which will have a significant impact on the campus and the current flat-rate funding formula is not sustainable.

Senator Cioe stated that the original funding model was that UBC Okanagan would receive more funding for an undergraduate student as compared to UBC Vancouver and cautioned that a thorough analysis should be done before advocating for an alternate funding model.

Senator Hutchinson noted the University’s reputation as an international institution may encourage students to apply but it is difficult to do that if the campus cannot attract faculty and researchers due to a lack of suitable teaching and research spaces. She questioned if there was an opportunity to advocate for additional funding for space and other resources.

Senator Ebl noted there has been a discussion of the impact of over enrolment from a research perspective. It should be noted that over enrolment results in larger class sizes and without sufficient resources to accommodate increased student numbers, there is a negative impact on both the student experience and the instructor’s ability to deliver quality instruction.

In response to a comment by Senator Herzberg on over enrolment and annual tuition increases, President Ono stated that across the landscape of higher education, the impact of over enrolment on facilities, workload, and the quality of the student experience has been acknowledged. UBC was fortunate to have a significant increase in the number of applications during the pandemic and the yield remained the same. This was impossible to predict from an enrolment management perspective and the approach was to try to insulate the institution from a potential drop in applicants and yield. President Ono reiterated that it is impossible to predict applicant behavior during a global pandemic. Other institutions have seen precipitous drops in applications and yield, resulting in significant budgetary constraints for some institutions that resulted in faculty
and staff lay-offs. UBC has enrolment growth but not parallel growth in facilities and faculty resources, and has managed to avoid serious financial and personnel difficulties.

Dr Ono assumed the chair.

Report from the Registrar

ACADEMIC YEAR

The 2022-2023 Academic Year dates were presented for information. It was noted that each term consisted of 62 teaching days, though Term 1 may have 61 teaching days depending on the provincial recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation as a statutory holiday.

Report from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences – Dr Silvia Tomášková

As, in the opinion of this Council the current campus course scheduling rules (2022-23) do not sufficiently protect research opportunities for research-stream faculty members during the Winter Session; and, as according to Part 8, Section 40 (c) of the University Act of BC a Faculty’s powers and duties include a responsibility “subject to this Act and to the approval of the senate, to make rules for the government, direction and management of the faculty and its affairs and business”; and, as according to Part 7, Section 37 of the same Act the “academic governance of the university is vested in the senate” including, under (p) the responsibility “to deal with all matters reported by the faculties, affecting their respective departments or divisions”, this council adopts the guideline that normally during the Winter Session research-stream faculty members will have no more than three teaching days in any calendar week, and refers this guideline to Senate for approval.*

*Note: This motion has been developed by the four Heads of the FASS Departments for consideration by Faculty Council.

The President stated that this matter is being brought forward from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences under Section 40 and 41 of the University Act which specify that Faculties, subject to approval by the Senate, can make rules and for the government, direction, and management of the Faculty and its affairs and business. The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences has approved
such a rule and now refers it to Senate for approval. President Ono invited Dean Tomášková to speak to the proposed motion.

Senator Tomášková outlined the background to the proposed motion and confirmed that it has been passed by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. She stated that faculty from her Faculty who are eligible for tenure often have a teaching load of four courses which is two (2) courses per term, whereas counterpart faculty at the Vancouver campus have only three courses per year, two (2) and one (1) respectively per term. Over the course of the five or six years it takes for most faculty to move to a tenured position, this difference in course load between the two campuses puts Okanagan faculty members at a significant disadvantage with respect to the time available to devote to research endeavors. Dean Tomášková commented that it is rare that faculty at research universities would not have some control over their schedules and that faculty are given a schedule rather than be able to request one that supports their research activities.

Dean Tomášková stated that one of the mandates she has been given as dean is to increase the research productivity of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and that the proposed motion is part of a multi-pronged approach to foster increased research capacity and productivity. She stated that many members of her Faculty do not have enough time to spend on research endeavors, and noted that the general discussion on this issue does highlight whether research-track faculty are privileged as compared to education leadership faculty. Senator Tomášková noted that the majority of the faculty members in Arts and Social Sciences are on the research track. The proposed motion would allow some equity between the two campuses.

Senator Traister said that he agrees that scheduling challenges are detrimental to the research mission of the Okanagan campus and that the proposed motion tries to address that directly and practically. That said, Senator Traister was not supportive of the motion and will be voting against it as presented, the reason being an equity issue to treat educational leadership faculty and the research stream differently. As the dean of a Faculty with a higher number of educational leadership colleagues, in both the pre-tenured and tenured categories of appointment, Senator Traister felt it was important for him to represent that stream in this discussion and could not support the motion unless educational leadership faculty were included in the motion.

Senator Legault acknowledged that research faculty need more time and capacity to advance in the tenure process, noting that the motion underlines a historical two-tier system that at UBC Vancouver treats research and teaching leadership faculty differently. Her worry is that the potential impacts on teaching leadership faculty and campus scheduling more broadly have not been sufficiently considered.

Senator Parkins stated that as a member of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, she is fully in support of the motion, and recognized faculty leadership for addressing the impacts of current scheduling practices on junior faculty. She stated that faculty at the Vancouver and Okanagan campuses seem to working under different conditions, and was hopeful that the motion could be modified to include both research and educational leadership streams. Senator Parkins noted that space and capacity considerations are key considerations in the overall discussion related to the motion.
Senator Cormack stated that the scheduling system being developed is relatively new and will benefit from data collection and that it may be premature to start adding additional rules and parameters to a system that is not yet fully realized. Dr. Cormack acknowledged that in part the concerns raised arise from how best to optimize available space, and urged senators to reconsider additional parameters and allow sufficient flexibility to develop a scheduling system that can work for most faculty members.

Senator Lalonde spoke against the motion. While he agreed with the intent of the motion, it does not address the difference in teaching course load between the two campuses. Also, some of the scheduling anomalies that all faculty have to deal with are a result of space limitations. If this motion is passed, there will be priority to ensure that research faculty have not more than 3 teaching days per week, at the expense of other priorities, including student access to courses. Senator Lalonde stated that the long-term solution for addressing the concerns raised by the motion is to increase spaces and facilities and build flexibility into the scheduling system.

By general consent, the time to adjourn is extended by 30 minutes.

Senator Cioe stated that it would be ideal to have more control over scheduling within departments, and had suggested the Deputy Registrar consider whether there is capacity within a department for faculty or heads to shift people around so that people in a department can be reassigned within allotted time slots. Senator Cioe moved a motion to strike ‘research stream’ from the motion to make it more inclusive so there is no disparity between research and educational leadership faculty. Senator Herzberg seconded the amended motion.

Mr. Eaton noted that the amended motion is to amend a proposal from a Faculty; normally the Dean would be asked if the Faculty wishes to withdraw the proposal should the amendment pass. An amendment to the original motion is akin to amending a rule of the Faculty. Dean Tomášková confirmed she was in favour of the proposed amendment.

By general consent, the motion as amended as follows:

As, in the opinion of this Council the current campus course scheduling rules (2022-23) do not sufficiently protect research opportunities for research-stream faculty members during the Winter Session; and, as according to Part 8, Section 40 (c) of the University Act of BC a Faculty’s powers and duties include a responsibility “subject to this Act and to the approval of the senate, to make rules for the government, direction and management of the faculty and its affairs and business”; and, as according to Part 7, Section 37 of the same Act the “academic governance of the university is vested in the senate” including, under (p) the responsibility “to deal with all matters reported by the faculties, affecting their respective departments or divisions”, this council adopts the guideline that normally during the Winter Session research-stream faculty members will have no more than three teaching days in any calendar week, and refers this guideline to Senate for approval.

Senator Eikenaar questioned whether the term ‘faculty members’ in the motion includes limited term lecturers or sessional lecturers. Mr Eaton clarified that sessional lecturers are not faculty
members under the *University Act*, and if the intent is to include sessional, adjunct or visiting faculty, then the motion should make reference to ‘teaching staff’ rather than ‘faculty members.’ Dean Tomášková confirmed that the motion is intended to include research stream, educational leadership stream, and 12-month lecturers.

Senator Garrard stated that the amended motion may have unintended consequences and potentially have an enormous impact on sessional faculty who are not included under the motion. It will not address the challenges faced by junior faculty and will only make matters more difficult for department heads, schedulers, and sessionals. Senator Barker said that he is very supportive of the sentiment of the motion, but not the approach it proposes.

Senator Frost stated that as a department head, she has no input in scheduling, and when scheduling changes do need to be made, schedulers will refer to the Dean’s Council course scheduling guidelines, which may need to be reexamined.

Senator Evans said that he was concerned to learn that there has been no analysis of who had a 4-a-week teaching schedule in place, and noted there are inequities across Faculties.

Senator DiLabio commented that the University has done a poor job of properly defining the role of educational leadership faculty, which has historically been treated as a sort of catch-all stream. His concern around the motion relates to how research is measured; there are faculty members in both research and educational leadership streams who do not engage in research despite the requirements associated with their positions. The motion will create challenges that will ultimately fall upon department heads to determine who is an active researcher and who is not. This issue needs to be resolved before dealing with scheduling matters.

The Registrar, Dr Ross, stated that there were many issues in relation to scheduling, but adding a constraint without looking holistically at the issues could result in a very difficult situation in regards to student access to courses and the production of a conflict-free schedule. She further noted that there was not an effective date and the motion could not be implemented in time for next year’s scheduling. It would be better to find a collective way to solve issues as a campus, rather than limiting it to one Faculty.

Senator Tomášková said that she spent five years scheduling at a campus with 20,000 students and understands the challenges of scheduling constraints but there are ways to address them using multiple approaches.

Senator Lucet stated that it would be very risky to adopt a rule without simulating what could happen and is concerned about the potential impact on students and on delivery of programs.

Senator Zhu commented that she is generally supportive of the intent of the motion, but that it is difficult to have a flexible schedule because compared to the Vancouver campus, there are fewer
faculty teaching more students at the Okanagan campus. The key point of the motion is to better support junior faculty. In the tenure and promotion process, it is not clear whether the higher teaching load at the Okanagan campus is considered.

Senator DiLabio responded that when tenure and promotion files are put forward there is a strong contextual element associated with those files. He noted that faculty-to-student ratios are higher and challenges around scheduling are factors that are incorporated into the tenure and promotion files. The Senior Appointments Committee is very sensitive to how particular conditions that faculty members deal with are considered in tenure and promotion.

Senator Garrard noted his support for Senator Lucet’s suggestion of having some form of simulation and seconded Senator Hodges suggestion that a committee be struck to examine scheduling issues in a broader sense and using an evidence-based approach. He would support the motion without hesitation if it was limited to pre-tenure faculty members in either the research or educational leadership streams. This would better address the specific issue of alleviating pressure on junior faculty members. He noted that he would not support the motion as it stands.

Senator Garrard moved a motion to amend, seconded by Senator Zhu, as follows:

Gerald Garrard
Ying Zhu

As, in the opinion of this Council the current campus course scheduling rules (2022-23) do not sufficiently protect research opportunities for research-stream faculty members during the Winter Session; and, as according to Part 8, Section 40 (c) of the University Act of BC a Faculty’s powers and duties include a responsibility “subject to this Act and to the approval of the senate, to make rules for the government, direction and management of the faculty and its affairs and business”; and, as according to Part 7, Section 37 of the same Act the “academic governance of the university is vested in the senate” including, under (p) the responsibility “to deal with all matters reported by the faculties, affecting their respective departments or divisions”, this council adopts the guideline that normally during the Winter Session pre-tenure faculty members will have no more than three teaching days in any calendar week, and refers this guideline to Senate for approval.

Dr Ross stated that in the absence of running simulations it is impossible to predict what impact the amended motion would have. Senator Cherkowski supported Senator Hodges suggestion to strike a committee to broadly consider all issues.
Dr Garrard moved a motion to call the question, seconded by Senator Reeves. Mr Eaton noted that the motion to call the question is not debatable and requires two thirds majority in favour. The motion to call the question was approved.

The motion on the amendment was then called.

The discussion then returned to the consideration of the motion. Senator Eikenaar proposed the following:

Jannik Eikenaar
Margaret Reeves

That Senate establish and ad hoc committee on course scheduling and that the ad hoc committee’s terms of reference, composition and membership be determined by the Nominating Committee and recommended to Senate for approval.

Senator Traister moved to call the question to immediately vote on the referral motion, seconded by Senator Garrard. The motion passed. Discussion then returned to the motion to refer the matter to the Nominating Committee.

Motion to Refer
Approved

Senator Cioe abstained

Mr Eaton confirmed that the terms or reference and membership will be presented at the next meeting of Senate, as ‘Business Arising.’

Other Business

The agenda was amended by consent to include the following from the Nominating Committee:

COMMITTEE ADJUSTMENTS

Jannik Eikenaar
Jan Cioe

That Amanda Shatzko be appointed to the Senate Agenda Committee until 31 March 2022 and thereafter until replaced, to fill a vacancy.

Approved

Senator Shatzko abstained

Adjournment:
Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.