OKANAGAN SENATE
MINUTES OF 27 APRIL 2023


Clerk: A. Breen

Guests: B. Annear, L. King, A. Vedan, A. Vernon,

Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

The Vice-Chair, Dr Cormack, called the eighth regular meeting of the Senate for the 2022-2023 academic year to order at 3:37 pm. She offered acknowledgement that she is participating in the Senate meeting from the unceded, ancestral and traditional territory of the Syilx Okanagan peoples.

Senate Membership

New Student Members

The Registrar welcomed new and returning student senators, who will be serving until 31 March 2024, and thereafter until replaced.

Nominating Committee

The Registrar confirmed a call for nominations for two student members of Senate to serve on the Senate Nominating Committee until 31 March 2024 and thereafter until replaced. She noted that nominations are due by 4pm on 30 April 2023 and can be submitted to the Clerk. If more than two nominations are received, an election will be held in advance of the May meeting of Senate.
Minutes of the Meeting of 30 March 2023

Peter Arthur
Barb Marcolin

That the Minutes of 30 March 2023 be adopted, as circulated.

Approved

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Remarks from the Principal and Deputy Vice-Chancellor

As the Acting President was not able to be in attendance, Dr Cormack shared Prof. Buszard’s remarks and update with Senate.

Prof Buszard’s remarks noted that the 2023-2024 budget has been approved by the Board of Governors. The approved balanced budget reflects strong financial stewardship while supporting the university’s academic mission in teaching, learning and research as well as our commitment to positively impact social and economic conditions in British Columbia and beyond. The budget prioritizes investments that advance our academic mission; as well as equity, diversity, and inclusion; UBC's Indigenous Strategic Plan; crucial supports for our students; and our response to the climate emergency.

The Acting President’s remarks noted that UBC continues to chart an ambitious vision to be the most research-intensive university in Canada, a leading innovator in teaching and learning, a champion of the student experience, and among the top ten public universities in the world. The Board-approved financial plan will help to move the University along this path while ensuring that it continues to honour its commitment to create a diverse, inclusive, and equitable community.

Prof. Buszard’s remarks notated that next week will mark the launch of UBC Okanagan Debates, which will include a timely discussion on artificial intelligence. The event will be hosted by Principal and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Lesley Cormack. The Acting President’s remarks indicated her gratitude to the organizers for launching this important series.

Prof. Buszard shared that UBC has been highly successful over the past year in securing funding for additional seats for 8 programs in Medicine across the distributed network, 2 programs in Education, and Nursing. There are high hopes for success in the current provincial competition for tech seats. In closing, the Acting President’s remarks thanked senators for their hard work and wished everyone the best for the coming months.
Dr Cormack then shared her remarks with senators. She noted that she was excited to have the additional seats in Medicine, Education and Nursing programs, and that the tech seats will be decided shortly.

She commented on the recent network outage, and thanked IT staff at both campuses for working to address the outage. One final examination was cancelled as a result of the outage and has since be rescheduled. An investigation is ongoing to identify the cause and prevent a recurrence.

Dr. Cormack announced that there will be a reception following the May meeting of the Senate, which is the last meeting of the current triennium.

In May, she and a number of researchers from the School of Engineering will be travelling to Ottawa to attend the UBC Research on the Hill event, where researchers will present on resilient infrastructure. She is hopeful that it will lead to interest on the part of the Federal government in this important work.

Finally, Dr Cormack noted that lobbying effort to increase graduate student stipends continues and is a high priority for the University. There was no increase in graduate student funding in the Federal budget and that Tri-Council funding amounts have not been increased in 20 years. She noted that the Acting President will be attending the upcoming U15 meeting where this issue will be discussed.

Senator Cioe commented on the recent network outages and asked whether it was a result of hacking or ransomware.

Dr Cormack responded that an investigation is underway as to the cause of the outage.

Regarding the upcoming U15 meeting, Senator Hafeez asked whether government representatives will be attending, and if so, in what capacity. Dr Cormack clarified that the U15 Group of Canadian Universities is an association of fifteen leading research universities across Canada, and that this is not a public event.

Senator DiLabio asked how ‘resilient infrastructure was selected for presentation at the Research on the Hill event.

**Remarks from the Provost**

The Provost shared that the Board of Governors have approved the 2023-2024 budget. The approved balanced budget reflects strong financial stewardship while supporting the University’s academic mission in teaching, learning and research, as well the institution’s commitment to positively impact social and economic conditions in British Columbia and beyond.

Dr Sadiq shared that the budget prioritizes investments that advance the University’s academic mission, as well as equity, diversity and inclusion. The UBC Indigenous Strategic Plan is also highlighted as a key priority, along with student support initiatives and the University’s response to climate change. The budget also prioritizes the student experience and equity, diversity and inclusiveness initiatives.
Highlights of upcoming campus events include the launch of the UBC Okanagan Debates, to be hosted by Principal and Deputy and Vice-Chancellor Cormack. These debates will serve on a diverse range of issues and Dr Sadiq applauded these efforts to facilitate debate on issues that are important to the University community and beyond.

The Provost highlighted recent Provincial approval to add seats to eight programs in Medicine, two programs in Education and for the Nursing program.

Dr Sadiq concluded his remarks by thanking senators for their contributions and wished everyone the best for the coming months.

**Report from the Presidential Search Committee**

On behalf of the Presidential Search Committee Chair, Chancellor S. Point, Senator Legault presented an update on the committee’s recent activities to date. She noted that since the last update to Senate, the Committee met on 5 April 2023 and welcomed a guest presenter to help the Committee better understand the role of a university president. The Committee also reviewed input received via the second Presidential Search survey, directed towards equity and diversity deserving groups. Senator Legault thanked all Senators who participated in the survey.

Lastly, Senator Legault noted that the position profile for President and Vice-Chancellor has been distributed via a variety of channels, and is posted on the website of Boyden Executive Search, the firm engaged to assist the Committee in its work. The position profile is also posted on the Board of Governors website.

Senator Legault concluded her remarks by stating that the suggestions for candidates for the next University President should be sent to Brett Cameron at ubcpresident@boyden.com.

**Academic Policy Committee**

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

**FACULTY OF CREATIVE AND CRITICAL STUDIES – FACULTY COUNCIL TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Jan Cioe  
Gino DiLabio

That the Okanagan Senate approve changes to Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies Terms of Reference.

The Chair noted that the proposed changes were primarily editorial in nature and had been discussed in detail at the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies Council.
FACULTY OF CREATIVE AND CRITICAL STUDIES BACHELOR OF ARTS – ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

Jan Cioe  
Patricia Lasserre  

That the Okanagan Senate approves changes to Academic Regulations for the Bachelor of Fine Arts in the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies.

Approved

BACHELOR OF KINESIOLOGY – ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

Jan Cioe  
Marie Tarrant  

That the Okanagan Senate approves changes to Academic Regulations for the Bachelor of Human Kinetics in the Faculty of Health and Social Development.

Approved

Joint Admissions and Awards and Curriculum Committee

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

Yves Lucet  
Peter Arthur  

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors for approval the Undergraduate Certificate in Education Studies and the Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies Indigenous Knowledges Theme.

Approved

Curriculum Committee

See Appendix A: Curriculum Report

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

CURRICULUM PROPOSALS

See Appendix A: Curriculum Report

Yves Lucet  
Peter Simpson  

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors for approval the revised programs.
new subject code, new, revised, discontinued and
renumbered courses, and new equivalencies
brought forward by the Faculties of Education,
Arts and Social Sciences, and Science.

Nominating Committee

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

ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON A UBC INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY

That Gino DiLabio, Silvia Tomášková and
Jonathan Low be recommended for appointment
to an Academic Advisory Committee on a UBC
Institute of Advanced Study

ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WALL RESEARCH AWARDS AND WALL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

That Maya Libben, Karen Hodges and Saami
Hafeez be recommended for appointment to an
Academic Advisory Committee on Wall Research
Awards and Wall Research Fellowships.

CHANGES IN TERMS OF REFERENCE – LEARNING AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

That the Terms of Reference of the Senate Learning
and Research Committee be amended to include:
“To consider matters related to regalia and
academic dress, and to make recommendations
thereon to Senate.”

Learning and Research Committee
The Chair of the Senate Learning and Research Committee, Senator Sally Stewart, presented.

Sally Stewart  
Yves Lucet

“That Senate approve the adornment of mortarboard caps by graduands to reflect their Indigenous identity through the use of decorative traditions for graduation ceremonies in 2023.”

Annual Report from the Chief Librarian

Dr Cormack introduced Robert Janke, the Interim Chief Librarian at UBC’s Okanagan Campus Library to present the Library Annual Report.

Mr Janke thanked his predecessor Heather Berringer and the rest of the Library team for their contributions towards his presentation.

The Library has three primary physical service points: the campus Library’s single service desk, the Okanagan Special Collections service desk located in The Commons, and the Innovation Library, located in downtown Kelowna at Okanagan Regional Library’s Kelowna branch. Over the past year the Library has offered a suite of online and in-person reference services and assistance. Queries were answered at the Library’s physical location, over email, and via ‘Ask Away’, the Library’s virtual chat platform. In-depth research consultations to students and faculty were delivered by liaison librarians, both in-person and remotely. This year, the Library introduced a platform for patrons to book consultations with liaison librarians themselves.

During the reporting period, librarians taught 237 instructional sessions at UBC Okanagan Library. With the continued demand for online, in person, and hybrid learning sessions, instruction continued to be offered in all of formats. Topics ranged from subject-specific information search and retrieval strategies to sessions on copyright, scholarly communication and publishing, research data management, performing systematic and literature reviews, critical evaluation of information, and effective integration of published research into academic writing, including appropriate use of citation styles.

Mr Janke shared that the Student Learning Hub (SLH) continued to offer hybrid support for students; the Undergraduate Writing and Language Learning portfolio had 1,230 appointments in 2022 (up from 934 the year prior). Overall, 55% of appointments were in-person and 45% virtually. For 2022, one-on-one graduate writing consultation, offered through the Center for Scholarly Communication (CSC) remained consistent with the previous year, 546 consultation hours compared to 536 in 2021.

The Student Learning Hub (SLH) team collaborated closely with the Associate Vice-President, Students portfolio to substantially revise offerings that support students in the transition to university learning, including building new content for UBC 101. These changes were motivated
by recognition of the learning gaps that students may have as they return to primarily in-person learning opportunities. In addition to the new content, the Library developed new and refreshed content for the Back to Basics (B2B) and Exam Jam programs.

Over the past, staff have continued to increase focus on education regarding equity and inclusion, accessibility, anti-oppression, decolonization, and diverse and inclusive writing practices. The Library has collaborated with colleagues to advance these initiatives, including the UBCO Okanagan Indigenous Initiatives Librarian, the Sexual Violence Prevention Office, and the Equity and Inclusion Office. The Library has also and engaged an outside speaker to discuss anti-ableist learning strategies.

Following the positive response in Summer 2021, writing and language support was offered again in the 2022 Summer Session, with the SLH providing 181 hours of support in total. Online appointments were preferred with 85% of appointments online and 15% in-person.

Starting in June 2022, a newly hired Academic Integrity Facilitator allowed the Academic Integrity Matters (AIM) program to meet the increasing demand for academic integrity support for students. Referrals to AIM increased by 119% in 2022, compared to the previous year. In 2022, AIM received 196 referrals, with 172 of these students successfully completing the program.

Mr Janke next highlighted the Library’s open education services, designed to support the UBC community in finding, adapting, and creating high-quality open educational resources (OERs), as well as planning and implementing innovative open education projects and open practices. He noted that both UBC Vancouver and Okanagan libraries play an active role in promoting open education initiatives and practices across campuses. In 2022, the UBC Library system engaged in 99+ consultations on open education projects, developing highly-used resources, communication tools, and toolkits for OER development, such as the Open Textbook Publishing Guide. Further, there were roughly 35 events and instructional workshops organized, with 710 participants, to build awareness and advocate for open practices and resources on campus. Sessions included topics on creating OER using digital tools (e.g. Pressbooks, Scalar etc.), open licensing, sharing and discoverability of OER, and open pedagogy, as well as events for Open Access Week, Open Scholarship in Practice, and Open Education Week.

Through partnership with Advanced Research Computing (ARC), the Office of Research Services (ORS), and the UBC Okanagan Library, the Centre for Scholarly Communication (or CSC) functions as an information hub for research support services at UBC Okanagan, with the goal to connect researchers with support and tools at every stage of the research life cycle.

To raise awareness of CSC resources and services and improve communication with all campus units, the CSC Coordinator and the Project Manager for Research Computing embarked on a tour of UBCO Faculty meetings in late summer and early fall of 2022. Additionally, through a collaboration with the UBC Library and UBC ARC, the findings from the Digital Research Infrastructure Needs Assessment were published in late June 2022 with high level recommendations that are currently under review at the executive level. In another collaborative effort between the CSC and ARC teams, funding was secured in 2022 for the development of a
new data training program to support campus-wide interest in data, analysis, and coding training. I will say a few more words about this later in the presentation.

The Okanagan Library displays leadership in the establishment of partnerships with campus and community in order to advance the University’s strategic initiatives. In 2022, community partnership initiatives included the British Columbia Regional Digitized History (BCRDH) project, growth of the Community Scholars Program pilot, and Pride in Place event. On-campus and inter-campus projects included the Conversation with (Waubegeeshig) Rice event, the Honouring Indigenous Writer’ programming, the Indigenous Reads book club, the Legacy of Hope exhibit, the Postcards Home event, and the coordination of a campus food drive.

In March 2022, the UBC Okanagan Library contributed to the hosting of an online reading and conversation event with Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm and Dallas Hunt, as part of the Honouring Indigenous Writers series. Akiwenzie-Damm is a profoundly influential figure in Indigenous literature, founding Kegedonce Press, which has been supporting and publishing Indigenous authors, illustrators, editors, and designers since 1993. Akiwenzie-Damm’s latest collection, (Re)Generation, edited with an introduction by Cree poet and scholar, Dallas Hunt, contains poetry that explores a range of issues: from violence against Indigenous women and lands to Indigenous erotica and the joyous intimate encounters between bodies.

New Records Retention and Disposition Schedules (RDS) were approved and implemented in summer 2022. This concluded approximately 18 months of effort, in collaboration with co-Records Management (both campuses), University Archives, University Counsel, and the input of users from a variety of units across both campuses. These now stand as the operational records authority for all University records and prescribe the office of primary responsibility, retention periods and triggers, and disposition actions for the majority of record types created and maintained at the University.

This year, a Records Management (RM) survey was also produced and distributed to employees across both campuses, including many campus-specific questions; the 2022 survey marked only the second time such a study was performed in the Okanagan (the first being in 2016). Its purpose was to promote records management services, guidelines, and training, gauge user satisfaction with RM services, and measure user acceptance to new initiatives developed or being developed by the RM Office. The results of the study are being used to guide program focus and development.

One result of the survey in the Okanagan was the creation of the new Records Management: Building Blocks for Success workshop series focused on the essentials of RM practices. Survey feedback stated that users were curious about where to find more RM informational resources and in receiving personalized training and support. There are roughly 40 employees currently enrolled in this free, in-person, 3-part professional workshop series that is geared specifically towards helping office administrators and all those interested in building order, trustworthiness, and compliance into their recordkeeping practices.

Mr Janke highlighted post-pandemic engagement between Okanagan Special Collections (OSC) and teaching, learning, and research, which has accelerated in recent months. A focal point of engagement included the opening of an exhibition of the Baird-Bowering collection, UBCO’s
first notable special literary collection, and culminated in an event in the Special Collections reading room featuring a reading from Canada’s first Parliamentary Poet Laureate, George Bowering.

Digital processing of OSC materials continued in relation to the ongoing expansion of the BC Regional Digitized History project. Materials continued to be acquired by the Okanagan Special Collections team over the past two years. Highlights include the BC Grapegrowers’ Association (BCGA) fonds, the BC Wine Grape Council (BCWGC) fonds and the John Schreiner fonds. The latter includes 10M textual records, 1000 photographs, 2000 wine labels, and 445 audio cassettes, from 1939-2021. The fonds consists of research files, interview recordings and transcriptions, correspondence, photographs, and writing drafts, accompanied by an extensive library composed of up to 300 books about wine on a global scale. The John Schreiner fonds is considered to be among the best chronological records of the BC wine industry.

Mr Janke next presented on the Library’s commitments to the UBC Indigenous Strategic Plan (ISP), Inclusive Action Plan (IAP), and the President’s Task Force on Anti-Racism and Inclusive Excellence (ARIE) seriously. He noted that both UBC Vancouver and Okanagan libraries play an active role in progressing these commitments.

In 2022 the UBC Library system collectively made significant strides via cross-campus collaboration designed to advance the goals of the ISP and IAP, work that will continue in 2023.

Mr Janke shared that under the guidance of the Academic Integrity Advisory Group, the Library will be gathering more formal feedback from students taking the Academic Integrity Matters courses in class and then adjusting the content of the Academic Integrity Matters modules appropriately. UBCO’s Academic Integrity Facilitator will also be reaching out to Faculty members to integrate modules into specific courses. The Library will also work towards identifying a process to address faculty specific needs and determine the resources needed to develop and support that work in an on-going way.

As mentioned previously, Mr Janke shared that as of June 2022, the Library has been able to use a newly hired Academic Integrity Facilitator to meet the increasing demand for academic integrity support for students. While this valuable position is only funded to the end of FY23/24, there will be consideration on how to sustain it in the longer-term.

Lastly, Mr Janke’s presentation highlighted the Library’s priorities with respect to researcher engagement. In 2023, the Library was able to hire two graduate students through Excellence funding for the Research Data Consultant position at the CSC. This allowed the expansion of workshops to examine approaches to working with research data including systems for data visualization, modelling, statistical analysis, and many other topics related to preparing and analyzing research data from a broad spectrum of disciplines.

Mr Janke also highlighted the Research Excellence Workshop Leader Initiative (REWLI). Delivered in partnership with the College of Graduate Studies with the Centre for Scholarly Communications, this initiative aims to leverage the diverse skillsets that graduate students
acquire during their degrees and couple it with an experiential opportunity to engage in workshop development and formalized teaching and learning opportunities.

It is envisioned that graduate student interest will be in the development and delivery of workshops in an array of computational skills, including data and statistical literacies, writing skills, and communication strategies.

Mr Janke thanked the Senate for the opportunity to share the Library’s initiatives and activities over the past year, and noted that he is available via email or Zoom should senators have questions or concerns.

Senator McNeil commented that in the past, there has been discussion of the financial stress on the Library’s budget due to the increasing cost of acquiring materials from the major journal publishing houses, and asked Mr Janke whether the trend continues or if there has been any discussion of this on the academic side.

Mr Janke responded that libraries across the province, and across Canada, have been working collaboratively to address these issues, and recently there has been a deceleration in the price increases. He added that academics should be encouraged to publish open access where they can, and that the Library has made a request for increased budget to keep up with inflation.

Senator Cioe expressed his thanks for the work of the Library and the supports available in the context of accessing databases that can be used for research projects at the undergraduate level and highlighted the importance of developing open source resources. He added his thanks to the librarians and library staff who spend countless hours doing literature reviews and noted their expertise in finding resources that make it possible to write a literature review that is comprehensive and complete.

Senator Ebl echoed Senator Cioe’s comments and thanked Library staff for their work. She commented she is very supportive of open source, particularly in the classroom. She noted that as a Joint Faculties representative who advocates for those who have precarious employment or short-term contracts, she wished to draw attention to the fact that many of these individuals wish to contribute to the development of open source materials but also needed opportunities for secure employment. Many members who do not have job security may not feel comfortable to support or to contribute to open source materials even though they may have materials that would be very useful.

Senator DiLabio commented on the Library’s support of academic integrity, noting that it is very important work on behalf of the Faculties across campus and that he hopes this will continue into the future. He then asked if the Invigilation Centre, which was piloted this year, was supported through the Library. Senator DiLabio commented that he was disappointed that funding for the Centre did not continue beyond the pilot year. He noted that the service it provides is very valuable across the campus and supported the health and well-being of students and faculty members.

Mr Janke responded that the Library only provided the space for the Centre. Senator Berringer, the former Chief Librarian, added that the current funding cycle did not permit the continuation
of the pilot. There was also minimal data available due to the timing of the program, though it is being evaluated to determine whether some of the services can be supported. She added the invigilation itself was done by the Disability Resource Centre while the Provost’s Office help coordinate and deliver the program. Senator Berringer added that she is hopeful that in the coming year, increased budget will be available to support more initiatives than was possible in the past.

**Report from the Registrar**

**2023 OKANAGAN SENATE STUDENT AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTIONS**

The Registrar outlined the results of the 2023 Okanagan Student Senate and Board election results, and reported that all student positions on Senate are now filled.

**2023-2026 TRIENNIAL ELECTION RESULTS**

The Registrar outlined the results of the third set of election results for the 2023-2026 triennium. An election will be held for two (2) representatives of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and one (1) representative from the Faculty of Health and Social Development. Polls are scheduled for May 8-May 19.

**Other Business**

Senator Ebl mentioned that the search for the next UBC Chancellor is underway and is running concurrently with the Presidential search. In response to a question from Dr Cormack, Senator Ebl confirmed that it was not likely that the University’s next Chancellor will be in place before the confirmation of the incoming University President.

With respect to a question from Senator Hafeez, the Registrar confirmed that in 2023, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation will be observed on Monday, 2 October 2023, as per the standard provincial and UBC approach to observing statutory holiday falling on Saturday or Sunday on the following Monday.

**Adjournment**

Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.
Appendix A: Curriculum Report

a. From the Faculty of Education
   i. Revised Certificate Requirements: Post-Baccalaureate Certificate and Diploma

b. From the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
   i. New Course: GWST 295
   ii. New Course: HIST 384
   iii. New Courses: 593, 596

c. From the Faculty of Science
   i. New Subject Code: FWSC – Freshwater Science
   ii. New Equivalency: BIOL/FWSC 375
   iii. New Course: MATH 222
   iv. Discontinued Course: MATH 429
   v. New Equivalencies: MATH 427/527, MATH 428/528, MATH 464/564, MATH 465/565
   vi. New Courses: STAT 203, 205
   vii. Revised Program Requirements: Major in Psychology (BSc)
   viii. Renumbered Course: STAT 324