OKANAGAN SENATE
MINUTES OF 25 APRIL 2024

Attendance


Clerk: C. Eaton

Call to Order

The Vice-Chair of Senate, Dr Lesley Cormack, called the fifth meeting of the Senate to order at 3:32 pm.

Jan Cioe
Bryce Traister

That the Senate resolve to consider agenda item 13 in camera.

Senate Membership

The Registrar, Dr Rella Ng, announced the following changes in the membership of Senate:

NEW MEMBERS (ALL ELECTED UNTIL 31 MARCH 2025 AND THEREAFTER UNTIL REPLACED):

Saami Hafeez, At-large
Richard Lessan, At-large
Toluwanimi Okunola, At-large
Ayanfeoluwa “Paul” Oladokun, At-large
Dilpreet Samra, At-large
Hai Tong (Jacky) Wang, At-large
Dieudonne Nweke, Graduate Student
Amanda Shatzko, Graduate Student
Himmat Dhadli, Applied Science
Olivia Lai, Arts & Social Sciences
Owen Howk, Creative & Critical Studies
Ashmeet Mand, Health & Social Development
Pavan Mann, Management
Lisa Yanagi, Science

NB: Blair Visscher remains the senator for students of the Faculty of Education until 30 September 2025 and thereafter until replaced.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Registrar issued a call for nominations for two student members of Senate for the Senate Nominating Committee to serve until 31 March 2025 and thereafter until replaced.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Rob Johnson
Christine Schreyer

That the Minutes of 28 March 2024

Corrections: Attendance

The remarks of Senator Frost on p. 8 were extended to reference both smaller classes as well as small programs where response rates fell below the minimum.

Remarks from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Cormack, opened her remarks noting the recent federal budget announcement, particularly highlighting its immediate impact on graduate students with improvements to scholarships and fellowships over the next five years. She specifically noted the increase in postdoctoral fellowship funding to $70 000 p.a. as a long-needed change.

Dr Cormack congratulated the 2024 Researchers of the Year: Dr Wendy Wong, Dr Adam Ford, and Dr Lesley Lutes.
Finally, Dr Cormack reported that she was hosting a spring update (formerly the campus town all) on 7 May where she would give a brief update on institutional priorities and answer questions.

Dr Cornack and Senator Cioe had a discussion on the insufficient funding for masters students

A senator asked for an update on the University’s enrolment for next year.

The Registrar, Dr Rella Ng, advised that overall application numbers were down. The deadline for acceptance was 1 May for international students and 1 June for domestic so we do not yet know how that will affect our incoming class. She said that an update would be provided when available and that we should be prepared for a reduction in accepted offers compared to previous years.

Remarks from the Provost

The Provost, Dr Rehan Sadiq, noted the teaching excellence award ceremony on 14 May and asked those without invitations to contact the ceremony's office if they wished to attend. He congratulated the winner of the Killam Teaching Prize: Christine Schreyer; as well as the three winners of the Provost’s Award for Teaching Excellence and Innovation: Bill Cohen, Julien Picault, and Gina Whitaker.

Dr Sadiq advised Senate of increased government funding received by the Faculty of Health and Social Development for developing and piloting an indigenous health certificate and a pilot program for internationally educated nurses. He also advised on the development of further micro credentials.

Academic Policy Committee

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

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS FOR THE FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE

That Senate approve the revisions to the academic regulations for the Faculty of Applied Science - School of Engineering, effective for the 2024 Winter Session and thereafter, as attached.

COURSE STANDINGS
That, effective for the 2024 Winter Session and thereafter, the following new and revised course standings are in effect:

New Standings:
Externally Graded (EXG) is a nominal standing that is used administratively to maintain registration in a UBC program of study while the student is taking and receiving a grade for a course at another institution.
Fail (F AUD) denotes fail standing in a course that was being audited.
Failed Supplemental (F(S)) denotes a continued failure in a course despite a supplemental examination being completed (see Supplemental Examination Policy).
Grade Not Submitted (GNS) denotes a course for which the deadline for grade submission has passed and a grade was not submitted by the instructor.
Transfer Credit (TR) is a standing granted to a student that denotes credit received from a course completed and transferred from another institution.
No Grade Required (NGR) is a nominal standing applied to courses only used for administrative purposes such as managing registration or assessing fees. Courses with this standing will not be displayed on the transcript. The standing will be automatically applied at the end of each academic period.
Withdrawal (W AUD) denotes official withdrawal from a course that was being audited (see Withdrawal)

Revised Standings:
(AUD) is a standing granted to a student who has been officially approved as having audit status. The student is expected to complete all course requirements except the final exam, and may be given Fail (F AUD) standing if their performance is not satisfactory.

Senator Rhealt raised a concern with missing grades.
The Clerk to the Senate, Mr Christopher Eaton, advised that missing grades were a long-standing problem but that this particular change was prompted by a need in Workday Student to not have a blank standing.

Senator Cioe asked the administration to work in conjunction with the Faculty Association and others to address the issue of late grades from instructors.

Senator Hafeez spoke on the impact of missing grades for students.

Senator Lucet said that a lot of people are doing their jobs correctly; he noted that sometimes grades were missing for good reasons.

Senator Rheault noted that this was one reason why standing deferred existed.

Senator Cioe noted that T standing still existed for theses-like courses.

Senator Hilton asked if the Academic Policy Committee could do something about late or missing grades from instructors.

The Clerk advised that at the request of the Registrar and Provost, a policy was in development to formalize grade submission deadlines, which were currently just guidelines from the Registrar.

Curriculum Committee

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

Appendix A: Curriculum Report

Yves Lucet
Silvia Tomaskova

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors for approval the new program options, new courses, revised courses, and revised Calendar entries as brought forward by the Faculties of Applied Science, Arts and Social Sciences, Creative and Critical Studies, Education, and Science.
Senator Cioe asked Science to consider adding the same indigenous courses as the BA does for consistency, especially for those specializations in the BA and BSc.

Report from the Vice-Principal Research

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERIOR SALISHAN STUDIES CENTRE (ISSC)

Senator Phil Barker, the Vice-Principal Research & Innovation, advised Senate that pursuant to Policy O-5, a new centre had been established focusing on teaching and research in contemporary Interior Salishan studies, with a particular focus on language learning and language revitalization. The Centre will be a hub supporting the students, community partners, and faculty working on the Interior Salishan Languages initiative, and the associated language degrees and language-led research.

This proposal has been recommended by the Head of Community, Culture, and Global Studies and approved by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), with the understanding that it be housed there.

Report from the Deputy University Registrar

Mr Robert Janke, the Deputy University Librarian, presented on the library’s accomplishments for 2023-2024. He acknowledged the collaborative effort involved in compiling the library's report and thanked the library team. In addition to his distributed report, Mr Janke highlighted the following for Senate:

Mr Janke discussed the library's physical service points and the suite of online and in-person reference services offered over the past year. He highlighted the instructional sessions provided by librarians, covering various topics from subject-specific information to academic writing skills. Notable events included orientation sessions for students enrolled in language fluency programs and growth in writing and language appointments. The Deputy Librarian addressed challenges with the location of the Student Learning Hub and efforts to promote it through outreach activities. The establishment of a writing community for Black writers was mentioned, along with initiatives to support academic integrity and research data services.

The Deputy Librarian then discussed the library's involvement in open education initiatives, workshops, and consultations aimed at supporting faculty and students. Collaborations with campus partners and community outreach projects were highlighted, including exhibitions and events focused on indigenous history and literature. With regards to records management initiatives and acquisitions in special collections, he emphasized the library's commitment to preserving and promoting indigenous voices. Mr Janke also discussed ongoing efforts to advance the university's strategic initiatives related to indigenous reconciliation and equity.

Mr Janke concluded his presentation with discussions on promoting academic integrity, expanding researcher engagement, and supporting undergraduate thesis writers. Mr Janke...
expressed gratitude to collaborators and emphasized the importance of library consultation in institutional initiatives.

In response to a question from Senator Cioe, Mr Janke confirmed that cIRClle was still in use and stored undergraduate and graduate research papers.

Senator Cioe noted that AI were being used to facilitate research writing on a commercial basis. He asked if UBC could provide licenses to provide a more equitable environment for grant applicants.

**Report from the Registrar**

**2024 OKANAGAN STUDENT SENATE AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTIONS**

The Registrar advised Senate pursuant to Section 15 of the *University Act* that the following students were acclaimed as elected as representatives of the Faculties on the Okanagan Senate for terms beginning 1 April 2024 and ending 31 March 2025 and thereafter until successors are elected:

- Himmat Dhadli, Faculty of Applied Science
- Olivia Lai, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Owen Howk, Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies
- Pavan Mann, Faculty of Management
- Lisa Yanagi, Faculty of Science

Additionally, pursuant to Section 16 of the *University Act*, the following student was elected as representative of a Faculty on the Okanagan Senate for a term beginning 1 April 2024 and ending 31 March 2025 and thereafter until a successor was elected:

- Ashmeet Mand, Faculty of Health and Social Development

Pursuant to Section 15 of the *University Act*, the following student was acclaimed as elected as graduate student representative on the Okanagan Senate for a term beginning 1 April 2024 and ending 31 March 2025 and thereafter until a successor is elected:

- Amanda Shatzko (Continuing)

Pursuant to Section 15 of the *University Act*, the following students were acclaimed as elected as representatives at-large on the Okanagan Senate for terms beginning 1 April 2024 and ending 31 March 2025 and thereafter until successors are elected:

- Saami Hafeez (Continuing)
- Richard Lessan
- Toluwanimi Okunola
- Ayanfeoluwa “Paul” Oladokun
- Dilpreet Samra
- Hai Tong (Jacky) Wang
Pursuant to Section 16 of the University Act, the following student was elected as representative of students on the Board of Governors for a term beginning 1 April 2024 and ending 31 March 2025 and thereafter until a successor is elected:
• Abby Newman*

*Following declaration of their election to the Board of Governors, the successful candidate resigned from the position. As required by the University Act, a by-election to fill the vacancy was held, and polls were conducted 15-22 April 2024. Results were not available at the time this report was generated.

IN CAMERA – Academic Policy Committee

Other Business

Mark Rheault
Jan Cioe

That the Senate authorize the motion approved in camera under Agenda Item 13 be made public entered into the minutes of Senate.

Motion Approved for Agenda Item 13

Whereas the International Court of Justice ruled on 26 January 2024 that the case made by the state of South Africa that Israeli military actions in Gaza plausibly constitute genocide, these actions including the failure to distinguish between combatants and non-combatants, the displacement of the majority of the population, the targeting of all hospitals, the targeting and destruction of all universities, and the obstruction of humanitarian aid, among other crimes under international law;

And whereas multiple international organizations, including the World Bank on 19 March 2024, have identified that famine is imminent for more than one million Palestinians in Gaza as a result of the Israeli state’s bombardment, invasion, and blockade of the territory;

Be it resolved that the Okanagan Senate:

Condemns the perpetration of genocide, and the violation of international laws pertaining to human rights; in this case the occupation, siege, and invasion of Gaza by the state of Israel;

Condemns the violent attack on Israeli nationals and Jewish persons undertaken by Hamas on 7 October 2023;

Supports all those who peacefully oppose this war, including those in Israel who have gone to the streets at great personal risk to protest the invasion; and
Asks members of the UBC community to support and strengthen ties with UBC members impacted by the crisis, and to stand with all those seeking peace and the immediate amelioration of the current crisis in Gaza.

Adjournment

Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.
Appendix A: Curriculum Report

FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE

New Course: ENGR 400

FACULTY OF ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

New Courses: HIST 483, PSYO 402, PSYO 434, PSYO 452, PSYO 455, SOCI 495

FACULTY OF CREATIVE & CRITICAL STUDIES

New Courses: CULT 406, DIHU 406

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

New Courses: EDUC 502, EDUC 522, EDUC 540

Revised Courses: EDUC 526, EDUC 529

Revised Calendar Entries: Master of Education Program Requirements; Education Course Offerings

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Revised Course: SUST 491

New Courses: SUST 492, SUST 493, SUST 494, SUST 495, SUST 496

New Program Options: Bachelor of Sustainability Minor Programs; Bachelor of Sustainability Co-operative Education Option

Revised Calendar Entries: Bachelor of Sustainability Program Overview; Degree Requirements for students entering the program in 2020/2021 or later (Computer Science; Biology; Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology; Microbiology; Zoology; Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Chemistry; Environmental Chemistry; Earth and Environmental Sciences; Freshwater Science; Mathematics; Physics; Physics and Mathematics; Statistics; Psychology); Data Science Minor Program