

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA | OKANAGAN

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Okanagan Senate**MINUTES OF JANUARY 31, 2007****Attendance**

Present: Dr. J. Cioe (Vice-Chair), Mr. R. Adl, Mr. P. Arthur, Dr. J. Bassett-Smith, Dean B. Bauer, Dean R. Belton, Dean J. Bottorff, Dr. W. Broughton, Ms. M. Burton, Dr. J. Castricano, Dr. R. Currie, Ms. L. Driscoll, Dr. M. Duran-Cogan, Ms. K. Ficke, Ms. M. Ficke, Ms. S. Grass, Dean M. Isaacson, Ms. E. Johnston, Dr. D. Keyes, Dr. R. Klukas, Mr. M. Koovisk, Dean M. Krank, Dr. S. McCoubrey, Ms. N. Neumann, Dr. S. Reid, Dr. D. Salhani, Dr. C. Scarff, Dr. M. Ungureanu, Mr. A. Webster, Dr. M. Williams, Dr. P. Wrzesniewski, Dr. P. Wylie, Dr. G. Zilm.

By Invitation: Dr. A. Abd-El-Aziz (AVP, Academic and Research), Mr. C. Eaton (Enrolment Services), Ms. B. MacDonald (Okanagan Senate Secretariat), Mr. B. Silzer (Registrar).

Regrets: Mr. G. August, Dr. E. Butz, Dean R. Campbell, Mr. B. Ford, Mr. P. Garrick, Dr. J. Gustar, Dr. A. Labun, Dr. R. Lalonde, Chancellor Dr. A. McEachern, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr. D. Owram, Ms. D. Polson, Dr. D. Senese, Mr. B. Silzer (Registrar), President Stephen Toohey.

Recording Secretary: Ms. L. M. Collins

Call to Order

Vice-Chair Dr. Jan Cioe called the meeting to order.

Senate Membership

On behalf of the Secretary to Senate, Ms. Collins announced the following vacancy.

Declaration of Vacancy (information)

One student representative from the Faculty of Health and Social Development to replace resigning Senator Mr. Daniel Sloan

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved: Dr. Williams

Seconded: Dr. Keyes

That the minutes of the Okanagan Senate Meeting of December 20, 2006 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

Business Arising from the Minutes

National Day of Action

Dr. Lalonde reminded Senate that at its December meeting, Senate had approved a proposal to recognize a student Day of Action planned for February 7, 2007. He noted that many faculty members were unaware of the Senate resolution on this matter. Ms. Collins responded that the secretariat would circulate an announcement to all faculty and staff as soon as possible, and would endeavour to keep the campus community informed generally about the activities of the Senate.

Remarks from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

In the absence of Dr. Oworm, Dr. Abd-El-Aziz offered to take questions from the floor.

2007/2008 Budget

In response to a question from Dr. Keyes about the UBC Okanagan budget for the 2007/2008 fiscal year, Dr. Abd-El-Aziz stated that the budgeting process had been completed and that the draft budget had been forwarded to the Board of Governors for approval. Dr. Abd-El-Aziz indicated that Senate would receive more information about the budget once it had been approved. Dr. Williams requested that information about the budget also be circulated to the campus community at large, in the interest of improving communication. Dr. Abd-El-Aziz agreed that a wider distribution would be appropriate.

From the Board of Governors

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor reported for information that that the Board of Governors had accepted the recommendations of the Senate in approving the following items

Meeting of September 27, 2006

- a) New Awards;
- b) Curriculum proposals from the Faculty of Arts & Sciences and the Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies.

From the Board of Governors, continued

Meeting of October 31, 2006

- c) New Award;
- d) Curriculum proposals from the Faculty of Arts & Sciences and the Faculty of Health and Social Development.

Policies & Procedures Committee

Changes to Course Withdrawal Regulations

Committee Chair Dean Isaacson presented the following report.

Change to Course Withdrawal Regulations

It is proposed that the current regulations, initially developed through the Vancouver Senate, be modified for UBC Okanagan by the inclusion of the underlined sentence:

Change of Registration: Introduction

Except in special circumstances, a one-term course may be added to a student's program only within the first two weeks of the course, and a two-term course within the first three weeks. If a course is dropped during these periods, no record of the registration in the course will appear on the student's academic record.

Students may withdraw from courses in which they are registered at any time up to the end of the sixth weeks of class for courses that are offered in a single term, and of the twelfth week for courses that span two terms. Withdrawals will be noted on the academic record by a standing of 'W'. Such standings will not be included in computing averages. The withdrawal deadline dates for the current academic year are indicated in the accompanying tables in this section.

Students may also withdraw from courses up to the eighth week for courses that are offered in a single term and the sixteenth week for courses that span two terms, by obtaining the written approval of the instructor and the dean of the faculty in which they are registered. Beyond these dates, students may withdraw from courses outside the limits described above only with the permission of the dean of the faculty in which they are registered. In such cases, the instructor should be informed. Such withdrawals will be recorded as 'W' on the student's academic record.

Fee refunds for withdrawals will be calculated on a pro rata basis. (For more information, see Item 1.6, Refund of Fees.)

Moved: *Dr. Isaacson*
Seconded: *Mr. Koovisk*

That the Senate approve the change to the Calendar statement on Change of Registration.

Discussion

Dr. Broughton noted that under the proposed regulations, two approvals would be required for an earlier withdrawal, while only one approval would be necessary for a later withdrawal. Dr. Cioe stated that in the case of a request for a withdrawal up to the eighth week (for a one-term course, for example), the instructor would know whether sufficient evaluation of the student's progress in the course had been completed. He noted that the Dean could authorize a withdrawal at any point in time.

Amendment by Consent

In response to comments from Dr. Reid the meeting agreed to amend the following sentence as follows (addition in bold):

“In such cases, the instructor ~~should~~ **must** be informed.”

Dean Bauer spoke against the motion for approval, stating that the proposed policy seemed complex and noting that the rationale cited by Dr. Cioe would not be published in the Calendar.

Referral by Consent

After further discussion, the proposal was referred by consent to the Policies and Procedures Committee for further clarification and/or revision.

Curriculum Committee

In the absence of the Committee Chair, Dean Krank presented curriculum proposals from the Faculty of Arts & Sciences

Moved: *Dean Krank*

That the Senate approve the new and changed undergraduate courses and programs brought forward by the Faculty of Arts & Sciences.

Discussion

Dr. Reid noted that the Calendar was confusing with respect to Bachelor of Arts program that involved both the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies. Speaking to the proposals for a double major in arts and a double major in sciences, he asked whether definitions for and “arts courses” or “science courses” had been articulated.

There was discussion about a general desire to ensure that each major in a double major program was drawn from a separate discipline. Mr. Eaton stated that, although a “discipline” was often delineated by a subject code, some judgment was required on the part of advisors. Senators expressed a general desire for clarification for students about which combinations of majors would be permissible and which would not.

There was discussion about how best to distinguish between a “discipline” and a “program.” Dr. Salhani noted that some disciplines spanned both Arts and Sciences. Dean Bauer agreed that a conversation about these issues should take place within the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

CARRIED, FOUR OPPOSED.

Admissions and Awards Committee

Awards Policies and Definitions

Committee Chair Dr. McCoubrey circulated for information the following report, with the request that the full text be included in the Senate record for future reference.

POLICY STATEMENT FOR AWARDS

"It is the policy of The University of British Columbia to attract, at both the graduate and undergraduate levels, the best academically qualified students, whatever their origin. With that objective in mind, it is the primary policy of the university to encourage donations, whether to individual faculties or to the university's general scholarship and bursary funds, that can be used to reward excellence or to support needy students without restrictions based on non-academic considerations."

CATEGORIES OF AWARDS

UBCO awards are classified under one of the following categories:

Fellowships are prestigious awards, which enable students to concentrate full-time on their studies and research. These awards are usually given to students enrolled in programs at the Master's or Doctoral level, and are granted on the basis of academic excellence and/ or research productivity. It is suggested that a minimum of \$16,000 be made available for annual distribution, although some fellowships are established initially at the \$10,000 level.

Scholarships are monetary awards which recognize academic achievement and assist recipients with the cost of continuing their education. These merit-based awards are granted to students in programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. By Senate regulation, scholarship recipients must be in the top 10% of

their class or have obtained an average of 75% or higher. In order for a scholarship to be most meaningful, we suggest that it provide for a significant portion of tuition, student fees and textbook costs, which range from \$5,600 to \$9,000 a year for undergraduate programs and research-based graduate programs. Tuition for post-baccalaureate professional programs such as Education, Law, Medicine, Dentistry and Business Administration ranges from \$10,000 to \$36,000 per year.

Bursaries are monetary gifts provided to students to assist them with expenses incurred while pursuing an academic program. Financial need is the primary consideration in the selection for bursary recipients. UBC suggests that a minimum of \$1,000 a year be available for distribution.

Prizes are awarded for academic excellence or achievement in a particular subject area. Prizes usually take the form of a monetary award valued at \$2,000 or less, sometimes accompanied by a medal, plaque or certificate. Some prizes are granted to students only upon graduation.

Service Awards are monetary awards provided to both graduate and undergraduate students in good academic standing who have demonstrated excellence in a range of non-academic fields, such as community service, student leadership, volunteerism, and athletic or artistic performance. These awards are valued at \$1,000 or greater.

AWARD FUNDING

ALL AWARDS ARE EITHER ANNUALLY FUNDED AWARDS OR ENDOWED AWARDS.
MINIMUM GUIDELINES ARE LISTED BELOW:

Annually Funded:

- Prizes and Service Awards: minimum of \$500 per year (with a minimum initial 3 year commitment)
- Scholarships and Bursaries: minimum of \$1,000 per year (with a minimum initial 3 year commitment)
- Fellowships: minimum of \$10,000 per year (with a minimum initial 3 year commitment).

Endowed*:

- Prizes and Service Awards: minimum \$6,000 endowment
- Scholarships and Bursaries: minimum \$20,000 endowment
- Fellowships: minimum \$200,000 endowment
- Endowed awards are based on an endowment expenditure rate of 5% per annum.

Since the early 1990s, the information as to whether an award is funded annually or is endowed is encoded within the description of the award. An annual award is usually identified by the phrase "*is offered by*" (the exceptions are awards funded by general purpose operating funds or fee for service funds operated directly by the University). An endowed award description will contain the phrase "*has been endowed by*".

Nominating Committee

Election of Vice-Chair of Senate

Committee Chair Dr. Lalonde circulated for information the following call for nominations.

Call for Nominations

Under Section 37(1) (a) of the University Act, Senate must elect a Vice-Chair at least annually. Senators will recall electing Dr. Jan Cioe to this position for a term of one year at the February 2006 Senate meeting.

This is a call for nominations for one Senator to serve as Vice-Chair of Senate for the term from March 7, 2007 to March 6, 2008 and thereafter until a successor is elected.

An election will be held as the next meeting of the Senate which is scheduled for March 7, 2007.

Report from the Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services & Registrar

Academic Year 2007/2008

In the absence of the Registrar, Ms. Collins presented for information the 2007/2008 Academic Year for UBC Okanagan. She noted that the Policies & Procedures Committee had decided to undertake a review of current policy and practice about the academic year and that the Committee might in future propose some changes to the Senate.

Key dates for 2007/2008 Winter Session were:

Term 1

Tuesday, September 4, 2007	Classes begin for most Faculties
Friday, November 30, 2007	Last day of Term 1 classes for most Faculties
Wednesday, December 5, 2007	First day of exams Term 1
Wednesday, December 19, 2007	Last day of exams Term 1

Term 2

Monday, January 7, 2008	Classes begin for most Faculties
Friday, April 11, 2008	Last day of Term2 classes for most Faculties
Tuesday, April 15, 2008	First day of exams Term 2
Tuesday, April 29, 2008	Last day of exams Term 2

Other Business

With the consent of the meeting, the Chair added the following item to the meeting agenda.

Guidelines for Corporate Relations and Strategic Partnerships

Dean Isaacson presented for Senate information and discussion a request from the Board of Governors for consultation on strategic alliances between the University and the private sector. The administration of the University had been directed to submit to the Board of Governors by March 2007:

[G]uidelines that will enable the University to proactively seek out, create, and sustain mutually beneficial strategic alliances in a manner competitive with other top universities worldwide.

The guidelines should reflect that the University's participation in these alliances shall be carefully considered in all respects, and should, in particular:

- 1) Ensure alignment of potential partners with University values and the Trek 2010 goals and mission;
- 2) Continue to protect the University's reputation;
- 3) Create a public statement of the University's interest and ability to seek out and enter into mutually beneficial alliances, thereby attracting potential partners into discussion;
- 4) Take into account input from consultation with constituencies within the University;
- 5) Take into account input obtained from members of the private sector; and
- 6) Provide clear guidance for interested parties, including the Board of Governors, Administration and potential partners to evaluate strategic alliance opportunities.

Senate Discussion

Dr. Isaacson provided a brief overview of the request for consultation. He gave as an example an arrangement where a company might provide computers or equipment to the University in exchange for the naming in honour of the company of a building, endowment, or scholarship. He recalled a past arrangement with the former Canadian Airlines, where benefits to the University had included discount airline tickets and scholarships for students. Some faculty members, however, had expressed concern at the time about the restriction of choice to a single airline. Dean Isaacson encouraged Senators to consider issues around these kinds of alliances and to provide comments to the Board so as to have input into the policy development process.

Dr. Lalonde urged caution with respect to contracts so as to avoid situations where faculty members might be penalized for refusing to work with a selected corporate partner. He noted that this could create hostility between colleagues.

Dean Bottorff stated that her main concern would be the kinds of companies with which the University might choose to align itself, citing the example of tobacco companies as undesirable partners. She suggested that, in the interest of transparency, the University should avoid entering into contracts that require that aspects of the alliance remain confidential.

Dean Isaacson suggested that the University carefully consider the duration of contracts, noting that the reputation of companies and their relative market positions normally fluctuated over time. Dean Bottorff noted that mergers and acquisitions might affect UBC's willingness to remain aligned with companies that have significantly changed.

Ms. Grass spoke in favour of transparency regarding strategic alliances and noted that it would be important to protect members of the University community from being penalized for whistle-blowing activity.

Dr. Currie suggested a transparent social corporate audit of a company as one of the first steps toward working with a corporate sponsor. He noted that companies such as Walmart were highly controversial.

Dean Bauer stated that, with these kinds of agreements in place, faculty members might feel “locked into” using a corporate sponsor and that the process for approving exceptions could be convoluted and time-consuming.

Dean Bauer urged the University to adhere to the principles of *Trek 2010* when considering strategic alliances, noting that financial factors should not be of primary importance.

With the consent of the meeting, Dean Isaacson summarized the themes of the preceding discussion as:

- Transparency;
- Social responsibility;
- Consultation; and
- Freedom of choice.

Dr. Paul Davies

Dean Bauer was pleased to announce that the research of UBC Okanagan faculty member Paul G. Davies on race and criminal sentencing had been named as the 33rd most important science story of 2006 by *Discover Magazine*.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35pm. The following regular meeting was scheduled for March 7, 2007.