



## Okanagan Senate

### Minutes of 18 September 2012

**DRAFT**

#### Attendance

Present:	Dr J. Cioe (Vice-Chair); Mr J. Ridge (Secretary); Dr L. Allan; Dr P. Arthur; Mr K. Aziz; Ms S. Baez; Mr J. Baxter; Dr G. Binsted; Dr L. Bosetti; Dr E. A. Broome; Mr S. Bullock; Dr D. Buszard; Dr K. Carlaw; Mr I. Cull; Dr F. de Scally; Dr R. R. Dods; Dr M. Grant; Ms F. Helfand; Dr K. Hewage; Dr S. Hilton; Dr J. Johnson; Dr C. Labun; Ms J. Lawson; Dr C. Mathieson; Dr A. Milani; Dr B. Nilson; Ms L. Patterson; Dr A. Phillion; Dr W. Pue; Mr M. Redekopp; Dr D. Roberts; Dr C. Robinson; Dr C. Scarff; Mr R. Sharma; Dr D. Tannant; Dr W. Tetley; Mr C. Tse; Dr P. van Donkelaar; Dr G. Wetterstrand; Dr S. Yannacopoulos
Regrets:	Mr R. Adl; Mr J. Al Ramahi; Dr P. Balcaen; Ms M. Burton; Ms M. Campos; Mr C. Gorman; Dr E. Hall; Mr C. Li, Ms S. Morgan-Silvester; Mr K. Nolan; Mr T. Smith
Guests:	Ms K. Darling, Dr S. Crichton, Ms. N. Hager, Ms. J. Scott, Ms S. Syrnyk, Mr F. Vogt
By Videoconference:	Prof. S. Toope (President)
Recording Secretary:	Mr C. Eaton

#### Call to Order

The Vice-Chair called the first regular meeting of the Senate for the 2012/2013 Academic Year to order.

#### Senate Membership

The Registrar informed Senate that the seats formerly held by Drs Gurupdesh Pandher as a Representative of the Faculty of Management and Daniel Murray as a representative of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences were vacant as per the *Rules & Procedures of Senate*. By-elections will be underway shortly.

#### Vice-Chair of Senate

In response to the call for nominations issued, the Registrar announced that one candidate, Dr Deborah Buszard, has been nominated for Vice-Chair of Senate. He declared her acclaimed as elected for a 1-year term commencing 19 September 2012.

#### Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Spiro Yannacopoulos Peter Arthur	}	That the Minutes of the Meeting of 17 May 2012 be adopted as presented.
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Approved.

### **President's Remarks**

The President welcomed those present to the new academic year. He noted for Senate that in light of the upcoming Provincial election, the University and entire sector are developing a communications campaign on the importance of post-secondary education for British Columbia. Professor Toope expressed his hope that the interest of British Columbians and the future of a great post-secondary education system are kept in mind during the campaign.

### **Deputy Vice-Chancellor's Remarks**

On the occasion of her first Senate meeting, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor noted for Senate how impressed she had been with the campus during her first 2.5 months in her position. Professor Buszard informed Senate that much like the President she has been engaged in raising the level of consciousness in the local community on the importance of the University and the value it brings to the Okanagan Region and British Columbia.

### **From the Board of Governors**

The Vice-Chair confirmed that the Confirmation that the following items approved by the Okanagan Senate were subsequently approved by the Board of Governors as required under the *University Act*:

Senate Meeting of April 25, 2012

Curriculum proposals from the Faculties of Arts & Sciences, Creative & Critical Studies, and the College of Graduate Studies

Senate Meeting of May 17, 2012

Curriculum proposals from the Faculties of Applied Science, Arts & Sciences and Creative & Critical Studies.

New and Revised Awards

### **Admissions & Awards Committee**

The Committee Chair, Dr Spiro Yannacopoulos presented.

**ENGINEERING BRIDGE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND OKANAGAN COLLEGE**

*See Appendix A: Engineering Bridge Agreement*

Spiro Yannacopoulos        }  
Dwayne Tannant                }     *That Senate endorse and recommend the affiliation between the University and Okanagan College (as set out in the document entitled “Engineering Bridge Admission Agreement Between The University of British Columbia and Okanagan College” attached) to the Council of Senates for approval; and*

*That, contingent upon the Council of Senates and Board of Governors approving the affiliation referenced above, Senate approve the changes to the admission requirements to the Bachelor of Applied Science program in the School of Engineering brought forward by the Faculty of Applied Science as set out in the attached proposal.*

Dr Johnson noted that in Appendix 1 ENGR 347 was mistakenly listed as ENGL 347 and ENG and another senator noted that ENGR 330 was listed as ENG 300.

*By general consent, ENGL 347 was amended to read ENGR 347 and ENG 330 was amended to read ENGR 330.*

The Vice-Chair asked why the admission averages required were different for students from Camosun College vs those from Okanagan College.

Dr Yannacopoulos replied that our relationship with Camosun College was long lasting and we have a good sense of how those students will perform; the Okanagan College bridge program is new and thus we have to monitor their transfer students more closely at the start.

Approved  
as amended.

**DISCONTINUATION OF THE PH.D. TUITION AWARD AND THE INTERNATIONAL PARTIAL TUITION SCHOLARSHIP**

Gordon Binsted }  
Miriam Grant } *That Senate discontinue the PhD. Tuition Award and the International Partial Tuition Scholarship as set out in the attached proposal, and forward notice of these discontinuances to the Board of Governors for approval.*

Dr Yannacopoulos explained the history of the PhD award and International Partial Tuition Scholarship. He noted that now that our graduate numbers have surpassed expectations we have to carefully allocate our existing graduate funding to spend the available funds in the most effective manner. With the award discontinued, the fund allocated will be distributed amongst units to decide how to use it best; some units will continue the PhD awards in a similar fashion.

Approved.

### **New Award**

*See Appendix B: Award Summary*

*Spiro Yannacopoulos }  
Dwayne Tannant } That Senate accept the new award as listed and forward it to the Board of Governors for approval.*

Dr Tannant noted his confusion with the wording of the award, suggesting that the award could be read in such a way that it needed to be awarded on a team basis.

Dr Yannacopoulos replied that the intent was to grant the award to individual students.

Several senators and the registrar also noted the ambiguity in the proposed wording.

*By general consent this motion was referred back to the Admission & Awards Committee for consideration of the terms of the proposed award.*

### **Curriculum Committee**

*See Appendix C: Curriculum Summary*

The Committee Chair, Dr Dwayne Tannant, presented.

*Dwayne Tannant }  
Cynthia Mathieson } That Senate approve the new and revised courses, the revised program, and the new academic policy brought forward from the Faculties of Arts and Sciences, Education, Health and Social Development, and Management as set out in the attached proposals.*

Dr Tannant explained the nature of each of the proposed changes. He noted that for the Master of Management proposal, his Committee has requested that the Senate Academic Policy Committee consider the matter of formal program governance for professional graduate programs.

Approved.

### **Learning & Research Committee**

The Committee Chair, Dr Peter Arthur, presented.

<i>Peter Arthur</i>	}	<i>That the attached list of individuals for emeritus status be approved and that, pursuant to section 9(2) of the University Act that they added to the Roll of Convocation.</i>
<i>Carol Scarff</i>		

Senator Arthur explained the process and eligibility criteria for emeritus status set out in the current policy.

In response to a question, the Associate Registrar confirmed that the “years of service” criterion was based on years in an appropriate rank and for the Okanagan campus included years in service to the former Okanagan University College

Approved.

### **Reports from the Provost**

The Provost welcomed Senate back to the new academic year.

#### **DECANAL AND ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENTIAL SEARCHES**

Dr Pue noted that last year two dean searches were completed: Management and Health & Social Development. The new Dean of Management, Rodger Sugden, will arrive on campus in October. The new Dean of Health & Social Development is the previous Dean *Pro Tempore*, Dr Gordon Binsted. He further advised that he was co-chair of the search committee for the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science and that an international search was underway as was a search for a new Associate Vice-President, Finance & Administration.

#### **ENROLMENT**

The Provost noted that last year, the Okanagan campus we made great progress in meeting and understanding our enrolment targets while providing a quality education. He advised Senate that he had received concerns from some faculty members that we did overenroll in some departments and committed that this year, the campus we would be more attentive of the local effects of enrolment decisions.

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**CENTRE FOR OPTIMIZATION, CONVEX ANALYSIS AND NONSMOOTH ANALYSIS (COCANA)**

The Provost informed Senate in accordance with Policy O-5, the b. Centre for Optimization, Convex Analysis and Nonsmooth Analysis (COCANA) has been established in the Barber School. This Centre brings together 10 faculty members from Math, Computer Science, and Engineering to manage three labs. The centre is one of the most active optimization groups in North America, attracts distinguished visitors, and regularly hosts important meetings in the field.

Dr Cioe asked that if there was consideration of the continuance of Applied Science as a bridge faculty as part of the decanal search.

The Provost replied that there were extensive discussions last year on this topic; the consensus was not to change the current situation at this time.

In response to a question from a student, the Provost replied that the budget and academic affairs of the Faculty of Applied Science were separated by campus. The functional relationship between the campus sides of the unit relates to non-academic matters; academically the degrees – although very similar in curriculum – are offered separately and the degree would not need to be changed should the Applied Science relationship change.

A senator asked how enrolment management might change this year, noting that we recruited students on basis of being a small to mid-sized University.

Dr Pue replied that we are refining our approach this year to ensure that we have no or fewer late-date surprises. As an example, for many first year courses lab space is severely constrained and adding students may mean more evening or early morning labs. In terms of the size of classes, the Provost assured Senate that we are aware of the concerns caused by larger class sizes.

Dr Hilton asked if a faculty-funding model would be developed to influence faculty decision, especially around upper-level enrolment.

The Provost replied that the Okanagan campus does not have a model where funds automatically flow to faculties based on enrolment numbers. Upper-year enrolment is still a part of our enrolment management plans. We can – if our analysis is of sufficient rigor – predict student progression through degrees, but we have only recently started to accumulate sufficient data to model student behaviour in upper years.

In response to a question on building fundraising limitations, Dr Pue replied that UBC would have to justify any new academic construction with the Ministry space allocation guidelines. We would also have to consider zoning, regulatory standards, etc.

In response to a follow up from Dr Dods, Dr Pue added that there would always be associated costs for peripheral effects of new buildings and that these would need to be considered as part of new developments.

## SPACE AUDIT/CONSULTATION

With permission of Senate, Dr Pue introduced Teresa Syrnyk and Jodi Scott from Campus & Community Planning. He noted that last February an interim report was presented to the campus to give a higher-level understanding and notice any errors that would need to be corrected as more details were established. Dr Pue noted that the final report was now available on his website.

Ms Syrnyk listed key study achievements.

Ms Scott spoke to the space allocations relative to Ministry standards and an analysis of our current space utilization. She explained for Senate that the initial numbers that resulted were of some surprise to UBC and focus groups were established to try to understand the data. Following those discussions, a review occurred of teaching spaces on campus some errors in laboratories and classrooms classifications were corrected. With these corrections, the Okanagan campus is within acceptable parameters.

In response to a question from Senator Dods, Ms Scott explained that the numbers presented were only based on space, not utilization rates, so time was not a factor. She further noted that mixed-space rooms were pro-rated and they were aware some meeting rooms were used for instruction, especially for grad students.

Senator Scarff asked about space allocation in relation to student numbers.

Ms Scott was confirmed for her that students were FTE numbers and that part-time students were pro-rated accordingly

Ms Syrnyk noted that we were presently at 95% utilization for academic space; we have been as high as 99% in past years. For non-academic space we are under allocated as inventory relative to standard. Across all 15 space categories measured, the campus is at around 81%.

In response to a question from Dr Tannant, Mr Syrnyk replied that the allocation percentages were based on a "British Columbia University Space Standard" set by Government.

In follow up, Dr Tannant asked if similar numbers existed for Vancouver.

Ms Syrnyk replied that yes, classrooms and admin offices were over allocated in Vancouver based on the standards. Dr Pue added that the comparison between campuses would not be of much value given that Vancouver has a stock of 100 year old buildings that were built to different standards affecting its numbers.

Dr Hilton expressed a concern with the high utilization rates for academic buildings. He asked if information on other institutions in BC was available for comparison.

Ms Syrnyk replied that other universities generally hold their information in confidence

Ms Scott noted that they met with Faculty and Students, and an ongoing advisory committee seemed valuable to understanding the campus's needs. She then spoke to the report's key recommendations for classroom and study space:

- Opening classrooms for study space after scheduled classes;
- making classrooms flexible to facilitate innovative teachings styles, including "break out" space;
- undertaking to renovate teaching labs upon yearly review to avoid an all-out inadequate teaching lab inventory;
- looking at the scheduling pattern to see if it remains advantageous;
- making informal learning space projects a priority.

Senator Scarff asked if the current scheduling pattern was indeed advantageous.

Ms Scott replied that they had not made that determination as a part of their review.

Dr Hewage asked about the security issues around buildings being accessible in early mornings or late evenings.

Ms Scott replied that a similar system existed in Vancouver and this did not present a problem.

Senator Dods asked about the personal safety issues around students being allowed in buildings later,

Ms Scott noted that the newer spaces were well used for informal learning but that the older spaces were not as popular; she suggested that older space could be renovated to be more attractive to informal learners.

A senator noted that the class changeover period was detrimental to studying in many of the informal learning spaces identified.

Ms Scott then described several renovation projects from the Vancouver campus.

Ms Syrnyk explained the issues relating to graduate student space needs on campus; this included the idea of 24/7 access to space and ensuring that project or similar rooms are usable for graduate students.

Finally, Ms Syrnyk spoke to the idea of intensification of space on campus. On principle of this would be the co-location of academic uses, sharing meeting rooms, and finding administrative efficiencies. She presented the following procedural recommendations for the campus:

- In the categories of teaching/learning space – form a working group to advise on teaching space issues and potential projects (Advisory Committee on Learning Spaces)
- for all categories of space – general guidelines:

1. Compare the allocation to entitlement under the standards
  2. Assess if space is intensified to its optimal condition
  3. Determine if funds are available
- Follow a "space and renovation process" for UBC Okanagan

Senator Tse noted that the space allocation for the University Centre discussed the issue of club lockers; he opined that around 80 clubs were still in need of storage space on campus.

Ms Syrnyk replied that storage was a difficult subject from both a space utilization and aesthetic standpoint.

Dr Cioe asked about the efficiency of having a 600-seat lecture hall; noting that we only had six courses that had this need.

Ms Scott replied that, larger lectures halls would require a reconsideration of pedagogy, curriculum, and would need a lot of discussion with academic units.

Dr Pue added that the idea of a large lecture space on campus was a separate issue; we are neither committed nor planning to build a 600 square foot lecture theatre at this time.

Dr Cioe noted for Senate that the standards for BC were deficient when compared to those in Ontario.

### **Other Business**

Senator Sharma brought up the issue of earlier scheduling of examinations.

Deputy Registrar Vogt replied that this was presented to the deans a few weeks ago; we were looking at the possibility of identifying which day an exam will be placed on at the time of registration, the details would still be determined around the usual time. He noted that this would require some compromises as common exams add complications because we do not know what kinds of conflicts will exist that early. Mr Vogt expressed his hope to bring such a proposal forward by the end of this term.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:09 pm.

**Appendix A: Engineering Bridge Agreement**

**Appendix B: New Award**

**Appendix C: Curriculum Summary**