



OKANAGAN SENATE

MINUTES OF 27 October 2022

Attendance

Present: L. Cormack, R. Ross (Secretary), R. Sadiq, S. Barker, J. Olson, P. Simpson, J M. Tarrant, S. Tomášková, R. Sugden, G. DiLabio, P. Arthur, R. Campbell, J. Cioe, T. Ebl, J. Eikenaar, S. Hutchinson, P. Lasserre, Y. Lucet, J. Picault, B. Marcolin, S. Hilton, S. Stewart, T. Forneris, S. McNeil, J. Jakobi, Y. Zhu, J. Holzman, R. Frost, S. Cherkowski, R. Johnson, S. O’Leary, K. Hodges, M. Reeves, M. Arthur, P. Aulakh, A. Shatzko, J. Low, M. Matin Panah, P. Uribe, G. Jarry-Bolduc, J. Milliken, S. Hafeez, K. Christianson, A. Nair

Regrets: S. Point, H. Berringer, S. Bates, G. Gerrard, J. Hare, M. Evans, I. Parkins, L. Markley, M. Libben, A. Alnaar, H. Chopra, S. Chopra, B. He,

Clerk: C. Eaton

Call to Order

The Vice Chair of Senate, Dr Lesley Cormack, called the second regular meeting of the Senate for the 2022-2023 academic year to order at 3:36 pm.

Senate Membership

NEW MEMBERS

The Registrar, Dr Kate Ross welcomed Blair Visscher, student from the Faculty of Education, to Senate for a term ending 30 September 2023 and thereafter until replaced.

Minutes of September

Jan Cioe
Peter Arthur

That the Minutes of September 29 2022 be adopted as corrected.

Corrections:

Senators Legault was present.

Senator Reeves’ comments were corrected from “Senator Reeves asked if there were any plans for developing family housing” to

“Senator Reeves asked if there were any plans for



developing housing for graduate students with families”.

Approved as
Amended

Business Arising from the Minutes

CANADA RESEARCH COUNCIL (CRC) CHAIRS AT THE OKANAGAN CAMPUS

Senator Barker advised the Senate that CRC Chairs were nominally allocated on the basis of research income that flowed to UBC faculties. As research has grown on the Okanagan campus, the distribution has not kept pace. The Vice-President Research and Innovation, Dr Gail Murphy, has agreed to a working group co-chaired by her and himself and comprised of deans from both campuses to work through the distribution model for CRC chairs.

Barker Comments.

Senator Cioe asked when a new model may be implemented.

Dr Barker said that he expected the group to start to meet in a few weeks and for recommendations to come this Winter Session. It was unlikely that a new model would be agreed to before the end of this fiscal year but some recommendations may come forward.

Senator DiLabio asked how this will work with Vancouver Provost's office administering CRC chairs for the system.

Senator Barker said that the working group would examine if this was the best home for their administration.

Senator DiLabio and a number of other senators raised a concern regarding timeliness.

Senator Barker agreed to report back to Senate by the end of this term.

Remarks from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor noted that the Acting President of UBC was now Dr Deborah Buszard, the former Deputy Vice-Chancellor for the Okanagan campus. She also noted that this would be the last meeting for Dr Kate Ross as Associate Vice-President Enrolment Services and University Registrar. Ms Rella Ng would be assuming the role of Registrar on 15 November 2022.



Dr Cormack noted the decline in international student enrolment this year due to visa issues, students taking fewer courses, fewer transfer students, and students not continuing their studies. She said this was making the campus re-examine what it did to support students, especially as we emerged from COVID-19. She also noted challenges with setting enrolment targets

Senator Cioe said that a number of international students had decried that online courses weren't still available.

Dr Cormack noted the complicated geopolitical issues recently, especially with China and residency rules around immigration, and with lockdowns.

Dr Cormack noted that a new mayor and council were elected for the City of Kelowna and that the Okanagan campus looked forward to working with them.

Remarks from the Provost

The Vice-President Academic and Provost, Dr Rehan Sadiq, advised that the Okanagan campus was commended by the Degree Quality Assurance Board following their Quality Assurance Process Audit last year. The campus would not be required to do a follow-up progress report.

Dr Sadiq advised that the search for the next dean of Health and Social Development was nearing its conclusion and the search for the next dean of Management was about to begin.

The Provost noted that the Okanagan campus would be hosting a conference on scholarship of teaching and learning in the next week with more than 400 delegates from 16 countries planning to attend.

In closing, Dr Sadiq noted that he and Dr Cormack would be travelling to the United Arab Emirates in the next week for recruitment and partner development.

Admissions and Awards Committee

The Chair of the Senate Admissions and Awards Committee, Ms Tamara Ebl, presented.

NEW AWARDS

See Appendix A: Awards Report

Tamara Ebl
Marianne Legault

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors for approval the terms of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies Masters Entrance Award and



*the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Graduate
Entrance Award.*

Senator Lasserre asked if the awards could be granted cumulatively.

Senator Tomášková said it depends on performance in the program if it is granted for the second year.

Senator Lasserre clarified that her question was if someone could earn both awards

Senator Tomášková said it wasn't intended but could be possible.

Approved

NEW AND REVISED AWARDS

See Appendix A: Awards Report

Tamara Ebl
W. S. McNeil

*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

SAT/ACT EXAMINATIONS FOR ADMISSIONS

Tamara Ebl
Sandy Hilton

*That Senate approve changes to admission
requirements for applicants following the
American secondary school curriculum, effective
for the 2023 Winter Sessions and thereafter.*

Senator McNeil said the document made a compelling argument for not using SAT/ACT examinations, but not for making them optional vs not asking for them at all.

Senator Ebl replied that their use did matter for some students and there is some indication that in those circumstances they may perform better.

A student senator said that it being on the website meant that students would think it should be submitted.

Senator Cioe noted an issue with access and costs, especially for international students. He also said that if we only consider the results only when they are advantageous, this may make students who do not think they will do well on the exam be more hesitant to apply.



Senate recognized Sam Saini, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, who noted recruitment challenges around top quality international students. He said some students appreciated being able to demonstrate their proficiency by these exams.

Senator Cioe said that the SAT was a marker for other things.

Senator McNeil said that it was not clear if a student who did submit a test score could be advantaged; he further opined that standardized testing was racist.

Senator Legault said that this would result in disparities in assessment. .

Senator Hodges noted that this was being forced on us by the pandemic and it being term limited. She noted that the proposal today would make this an ongoing matter.

AMENDMENT

Karen Hodges
Jan Cioe

*That the proposal be amended to make it effective
for the 2023 and 2024 admissions cycles only, and
that the text to be added be struck.*

Senator Ebl suggested having the time limits but leaving in the text.

Senator Cioe asked if this amendment would cost us good students?

Mr Saini said some students wanted us to consider these tests and may not consider us if we do not.

Senator Cioe said he thought this was contradictory.

The Clerk clarified for Senator Stewart that the Vancouver Senate had already approved the original proposal as presented.

Senator Hutchinson asked how the optional use could be only advantageous; how would people know?

Mr Saini said that we asked them if they want them used as part of the admissions process.

Senator Zhu asked what other universities were doing.

Mr Saini said McGill and Toronto were also test optional.

Senator Lasserre spoke against the motion to amend.



Dr Ross suggested that being test optional increased student diversity.

Senator Picault asked what was the process where a SAT vs a non-SAT applicant could be adjudicated.

Mr Saini said a core assessment is done.

The Provost raised a concern with the two campuses going different directions and this confusing applicants.

A student senator asked if this would mean two different applications?

Mr Saini said it would be more complicated but still one application.

Amendment not
Approved

AMENDMENT

Tamara Ebl
Sandy Hilton

*That the proposal be amended to make it effective
for the 2023 admissions cycle only.*

Senator Hilton suggested that there wasn't sufficient time to properly consider the matter for 2023 and asked the Senate Admission and Awards Committee to work with the Vancouver Senate Admissions Committee on a further review of standardized tests.

Amendment not
Approved

Main Motion
Approved

NB: Senator Cioe abstained

Curriculum Committee

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

TEACHING ENGLISH AND ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES CERTIFICATE



Yves Lucet
Peter Arthur

*That the revised certificate brought forward by the
Faculty of Education be approved.*

Approved

Learning & Research Committee

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

FINAL REPORT ON STUDENT EXPERIENCE OF INSTRUCTIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

Senate welcomed associate Provost Brad Wuetherick to present along with Dr Abdel-Azim Zumrawi, a statistician with the Centre for Teaching Learning and Technology at the Vancouver campus.

Mr Wuetherick's report noted that in May of 2020 a Student Evaluations of Teaching Working Group presented a report to the Vancouver and Okanagan Senates with sixteen recommendations, which both Senates endorsed (including a name change to Student Experience of Instruction). A Steering Committee and an Implementation Committee were set up to oversee and carry out the implementation of these recommendations.

In May of 2021 a progress report on these recommendations was presented to both Senates, and the new Student Experience of Instruction University Module Questions were implemented on both campuses starting in Winter 2021, Term 1.

Presented at this meeting was a final report of the work done to implement the set of recommendations from 2020. Most recommendations are completed, while a few continue in an ongoing fashion. The report also provides information about data analyses conducted on survey results from last year, as well as investigations of automated platforms for analysing text comments.

Senator Zhu asked if we had data on the effect of instructor ethnicity.

Mr Wuetherick said that the employment equity data we had was not complete enough for this analysis. We intended to have these demographic data and there is a commitment to doing that analysis as the data improves.

Dr Zumrawi said that we are missing about half of the instructor data.

Senator O'Leary asked about the participation rate and the decrease that happened when we went online.



Senator Forneris said that a subgroup was looking at SEI and implementation.

By general consent, the time to adjourn was extended by 20 minutes.

Senator McNeil said that we haven't defined and thus cannot measure teaching effectiveness.

Senator Lucet raised a concern with uniform data issues.

Senator Ebl spoke as a lecturer and asked for consideration being given to context and acknowledged the particular concerns of those with precarious appointments being assessed.

Dr Wuetherick asked for the minutes to reflect how appreciative he was of the team that worked on this report.

Senator Stewart noted that there was a joint committee meeting coming up next month to consider outstanding issues.

Ad Hoc Committee on Course Scheduling

The Chair of the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Course Scheduling, Mr Rob Johnson, presented.

On 29 September 2022 the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Course Scheduling delivered an interim report to Senate pursuant to its terms of reference. The Committee is now pleased to present an updated interim report.

As indicated in its previous report, the Committee has been working with Enrolment Services staff to obtain data on anticipated impacts of the motion on course scheduling which was originally presented to Senate in January 2022. The Committee has since received a detailed report setting out the requested data. The Committee is grateful to the Deputy Registrar and his team for providing exemplary support despite the busy season and limited staffing resources. The Committee has met to review the report and outline a preliminary set of conclusions and recommendations. It has also begun the work of drafting a final report to Senate which will fully discharge the Committee's mandate under its terms of reference. The Committee intends to present its final report at the next meeting of Senate, 24 November 2022.

Senator Cioe asked if the report would be in time to make a difference for the 2023W Session.

Senator Johnson said that we have passed the window for next year.

Adjournment

Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm