

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Vancouver Senate Agenda Committee
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To: Vancouver Senate

From: Agenda Committee

RE: Council of Senates Approval of Affiliation Agreements

The Agenda Committee has been made aware of a recent media report that states in part the following:

Officials at the University of Manitoba remain tight-lipped over plans to launch a private college on campus later this year ... The International College of Manitoba (ICM) will open its doors to foreign students in the fall of 2008, operating as a private, for-profit school run by Navitas Ltd. ...” “International students ... will ... use U of M classroom’s although ICM will remain a separate legal entity from the university. ... The agreement was ... brokered without notice to the university senate, ...
[Extracted from CAUT bulletin, Vol. 55, No. 2, February 2008.]

The Committee wishes to draw to the Senate’s attention the following paragraphs within Section 37 (1) of the *University Act*:

Powers of senate

37 (1) The academic governance of the university is vested in the senate and it has the following powers:

...

(p) to deal with all matters reported by the faculties, affecting their respective departments or divisions;

...

(u) to set the terms of affiliation with other universities, colleges or other institutions of learning, and to modify or terminate the affiliation;

Powers of the council of senates of the University of British Columbia

38.2 (4) Sections 37 (1) (e), (o) and (u)...do not apply to the Vancouver senate or the Okanagan senate and the council may act under those sections as though it was a senate.

Although the Agenda Committee finds it very unlikely that a similar situation would ever occur at UBC, the Committee is concerned that the administration of any Canadian university would view such an agreement as not being in the jurisdiction of its academic decision-making body.



As such, in support of the prerogatives for academic governance vested in Senates across Canada, and in recognition of the powers of the Senates and Council of UBC, the Agenda Committee begs that Senate resolve as follows:

Motion: *That, in consideration of Sections 37 (1) and 38.2 (4) of the University Act, the Vancouver Senate affirms the view that the engagement of private corporations or other entities delivering academic programs using the facilities, name, coat of arms, or logo of the University, - or carried out through a legal agreement with the University- is an affiliation with an institution of learning, and that therefore the terms of any such affiliation requires the approval of the Council of Senates.*

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Isaacson
Chair, Vancouver Senate Agenda Committee