

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



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To: Vancouver Senate

From: Tributes Committee

Re: Convocation Membership for Faculty Emeriti and Librarians Emeriti (approval)

The University has recently received a request from the UBC Association of Professional Emeriti asking that emeriti be added to the roll of the convocation. Emeriti are not currently members of the convocation and therefore may not currently participate in elections for a Chancellor, representatives to the Board of Governors and the Convocation Senators of the Okanagan and Vancouver Senates.

Section 5(1) of the *University Act* defines the composition of convocation as the following (bold added for emphasis):

- (a) the chancellor, who is the chair;
- (b) the president;
- (c) the members of the senate;
- (d) all faculty members;
- (e) all persons who are graduates of the university;
- (f) all persons whose names are added to the roll of the convocation by the senate;**
- (g) all persons not previously referred to in this section who are named on the roll of the convocation of that university immediately before July 4, 1974.

Historically, several groups have been added to the Convocation by the Vancouver Senate. In 2002, Senate approved the inclusion of professional librarians. Whereas professional librarians are members of the Faculty Association and receive the same privileges and recognitions granted to the teaching and research faculty in that context, the then definition of “faculty members” in the *University Act* (“a person employed on a full time basis by a university who has served for 4 months or longer as an instructor, lecturer, assistant professor, associate professor, professor, or in an equivalent position designated by the Senate”) barred the inclusion of professional librarians in the convocation. Senate exercised its power under section 9(2) of the *University Act* to add to the roll of the convocation all persons holding an appointment at the University as Librarian.

In 2006, the Council of Senates approved the conferral of corresponding UBC degrees on people holding certain degrees from Okanagan University College, and this conferral also admitted these people to the UBC convocation.¹ Admitting past graduates of OUC to the UBC convocation was seen to have the benefit of facilitating alumni engagement.

Under section 9(2) of the *University Act*, Senate may add names to the roll of the convocation as defined under section 5. As such, the Tributes Committee recommends that Senate approve as follows:

“That, pursuant to section 9(2) of the University Act, Senate add to the Roll of Convocation all persons with current appointments as Professors Emeriti, Associate Professors Emeriti, Assistant Professors Emeriti, Senior Instructors Emeriti, Instructors II Emeriti, Instructors I Emeriti, General Librarians Emeriti and Administrative Librarians Emeriti at the Vancouver campus of the University.”

In the future, individuals approved for emeritus or emerita status with the above mentioned ranks will also be added to the roll of the convocation.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sally Thorne
Chair
Vancouver Senate Tributes Committee

¹ The Council of Senates approved the conferral of corresponding University of British Columbia degrees on Okanagan University College alumni holding one or more of the following degrees conferred by Okanagan University College between January 1, 1998 and June 30, 2005: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Bachelor of Social Work.