THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

March 23, 2010

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To: Senate
From: James Ridge, Registrar

Re: 2010 Election of Student Representatives to the Board of Governors & Vancouver Senate

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In accordance with Section 16 of the *University Act*, I am directed to report to you the results of the election of two (2) student representatives to the Board of Governors and five (5) student representatives at-large to the Vancouver Senate. As senators are aware, normally this report consists of a simple listing of the results of each election; however, given the extraordinary situation this year, and the action I have decided to take as a result, I believe a lengthier report than usual is required.

Since 1974, student elections to UBC governing bodies at UBC Vancouver have been conducted in part by the students themselves. This was most recently confirmed in 2007 by virtue of the Council of Senates approving regulations that allowed the Registrar to permit student organizations to conduct most aspects of student elections to University positions.

In January 2010, the Elections Committee of the Alma Mater Society conducted an online poll for student representatives using the Society's electronic voting system. Information presented to the University in mid-February indicated that the results of that election were compromised, and further investigations indicated that at least 731 out of 6925 cast votes were in fact fraudulent and were cast via exploiting a flaw in the AMS election application's programming. My office worked closely with the AMS as a thorough investigation was undertaken by a forensic technology consuting firm.

As allowed by Section 5 (3) of our Election Regulations, I have decided to discard the 731 fraudulent votes, retabulate the results accordingly, and as such allow the elections to stand. Although I cannot say with absolute certainty that this one breach was the totality of problems, there is no evidence of other compromises of the system by the same method, and there is no evidence of any other successful compromise.

I therefore declare **Azim Wazeer** and **Sean Heisler** elected as student representatives to the Board of Governors for terms of one (1) year from 1 April 2010 and thereafter until replaced, and **Johannes Rebane, Joel Mertens, Spencer Rasmussen, Alyssa Koehn,** and **AJ Hajir Hajian** elected as student representatives at-large to the Vancouver Senate for terms of one (1) year from 1 April 2010 and thereafter until replaced.

I would like to thank all candidates for participating in these elections and assure the University community that we are actively pursuing those responsible for this fraud. My office will be reaffirming requirements for the highest levels of security and scrutiny for any elections conducted on the University's behalf in the future.