



**SENATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Friday 17 February 2023 10:00-11:30 a.m. via Zoom

Attendance: Guy Faulkner (Chair), Melina Amirsharafi, Robert Boushel, Nancy Ford, Romina Hajizadeh, Rob Kozak, Greg Martyn, Gail Murphy, Susan Porter, Anubhav Singh

Regrets: James Stewart (Vice-Chair), Benjamin Fischer, Jorden Hendry, Merje Kuus, James Olson,

Guests: Michael Coughtrie, JP Heale

Senate Staff: Michael Jud

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Senate Research and Scholarship Committee (the “Committee”) was called to order at 10:03 a.m. on 17 February 2023 by G. Faulkner, Chair.

ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted by general consent.

ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF LAST MEETING’S MINUTES

The meeting minutes of 20 January 2023 were adopted by general consent.

Senate staff provided a brief update on the Draft Policy V-5 consultation process. The draft policy was sent out for consultation earlier in the week with a response deadline of March 14. Few responses have been received to date, however the initial response has been positive. The Committee can expect to receive a full report on consultation feedback received at its March meeting.

ITEM 3: DISESTABLISHMENT OF THE DRUG RESEARCH INSTITUTE

A proposal to disestablish the Drug Research Institute (DRI) was addressed to the Committee by Michael Coughtrie, Dean of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and JP Heale, Managing Director, University-Industry Liaison Office.

The Drug Research Institute was originally established with Senate approval in 2007. It was intended to support the activities of the Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD), a joint venture between UBC and other organizations with a mandate to promote commercialization of academic discoveries.

The CDRD has since been reorganized, and there are no longer any research projects there involving UBC. The entity is now known as Ad Mare Bioinnovations. UBC is working to reformulate its relationship with Ad Mare and the DRI no longer serves any purpose. There are a number of legal matters concerning the relationship between UBC and Ad Mare Bioinnovations, but the desire is to simplify matters by taking the DRI out of the picture.

Motion: *That the Committee approve and recommend to Senate for approval the disestablishment of the Drug Research Institute.*

Moved: G. Faulkner
Seconded: S. Porter
Carried.

ITEM 4: ACADEMIC FUTURES PRESENTATION

The presentation was delivered by Moura Quayle, Vice-Provost & AVP Academic Affairs, and Lucy Li, Associate Director, Strategic Implementation.

It was noted that the Academic Futures planning process is partly motivated by a desire to ensure that physical planning does not get too far ahead of academic planning. The Campus Vision 2050 process is now well under way, and it is necessary to consider academic implications for teaching and research.

Comments offered by Committee members included the following:

- It would be helpful to have a greater understanding of the particular principles that the group has been thinking about. The presentation spoke to interdisciplinarity, but disciplinary strength must also be emphasized.
- All of the scenarios envisioned by the document are embedded in dominant neoliberal economic structures. It was asked whether the planning committee had considered complete dismantling of those structures.
- Major demographic changes are anticipated in British Columbia over the next few decades, leading to declining numbers of young learners and rising numbers of life-long learners and other groups. As a result, we may need to do some fundamental re-thinking of existing structures at UBC.
- The idea of continuing to expand enrolment in PhD programs is concerning. Even under the status quo there are not enough academic or other opportunities for all students graduating from PhD programs in Canada. Many students are forced to leave the country for better employment prospects elsewhere. We cannot keep expanding these programs.
- The presentation discussed a proposal to do an inventory of research infrastructure. It was asked what would be the implications of this process, is it intended to promote collaborative sharing of resources? Using research equipment and infrastructure more efficiently has been a long-standing goal which is not always realized.

ITEM 5: COMMITTEE RESPONSE TO 2020/23 SENATE TRIENNIAL REVIEW

Senate staff stated that the Vancouver Senate is beginning to undertake its 2020-2023 triennial review. As part of this process all Senators and Senate committees will be asked to provide feedback to the Nominating Committee. Committee members are encouraged to consider the Committee's membership

and terms of reference and put their minds toward areas where changes may be warranted. The Committee will have one more opportunity to discuss as a group before feedback must be submitted.

OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted by G. Murphy that UBC has filed a strategy on research data management with the Tri-Council agencies. She would be happy to bring a more fulsome discussion of the issue to the Committee in the future but did not want there to be any surprises when the strategy goes live. She emphasized that this is a strategy, not a policy, plan or similar document, and it lays out goals with respect to research data management. It would be worthwhile to engage in a more substantial discussion at the Committee's March meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.