



VANCOUVER SENATE

MINUTES OF 18 JANUARY 2023

Attendance

Present: President D. Buszard (Chair), R. Ng (Secretary), M. Amirsharafi, F. Andrew, M. Aronson, G. Averill, S. Bates, J. Bulkan, L. Burr, E. Cantiller, V. Chitnev, A. Collier, M. Coughtrie, C. Crowston, D. Dahl, J. Dierkes, A. Dulay, P. Englezos, G. Faulkner, A. Fisher, N. Ford, S. Forwell, J. Fox, J. Gilbert, S. Gopalakrishnan, A. Greig, R. Hajizadeh, J. Hare, P. Harrison, J. Hendry, A. Ivanov, C. Jaeger, X.T. Jiang, K. Kanji, D. Kelleher, K. Khosla, R. Kozak, C. Krebs, V. Li, K. Lo, M. MacDougall, M. MacPhee, S. Matsui, J. Olson, S. Parker, H. Patraschuk, S. Pelech, N. Pindell, S. Porter, L. Shpeller, A. Singh, S. Singh, R. Sissons, K. Smith, R. Spencer, Jac. Stewart, Jam. Stewart, S. Thorne, G. Tsiakos, G. Turcotte, H. von Bergmann, R. Yada, G. Yee

Regrets: E. Bhangu (Vice-Chair), R. Boushel, B. Fischer, C. Godwin, S. Grayston, J. Greenman, S. Kenston, M. Kuus, H. Leong, C. Marshall, C. Menzies, A. Mitchell, B. Nguyen, S. Nicolaou, S. Point, I. Price, A. Scott, M. Stewart, L. Stothers, M. Tan, R. Topping, D. Turdy, A. Uzama, K. Yu, H. Zeriffi, A. Zhao

Clerk: A. Breen

Guests: C. Gruber, L. Moss, G. Murphy, S. Shirzad, B. Westerberg, R. Wong

Call to Order

The Chair of Senate, Professor Deborah J. Buszard called the fifth regular meeting of the Senate for the 2022/2023 academic year to order at 6:10 pm.

The Registrar, Ms Rella Ng, welcomed Dr Clare Crowston, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, to her first Senate meeting.

Minutes of the Meeting of 15 December 2022

The Clerk noted that the spelling of Dr von Bergmann's name as listed in the attendance list was corrected.



Paul Harrison
Kamil Kanji

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*That the Minutes of 15 December 2022 be adopted
as corrected.*

Approved

Remarks from the Chair and Related Questions

Professor Buszard welcomed attendees to the first Senate meeting of 2023 and noted that she is looking forward to the new year and what it will bring.

She shared that she and the Provost, Dr Averill, have issued a message to the UBC Vancouver Indigenous community members. The message, which is posted on the President's website, recognizes that engagement with the Indigenous community had not been adequate nor sufficient to-date. In particular, Dr Buszard acknowledged that the administration should have met more promptly with the community following the incidents with Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond. Professor Buszard acknowledged that steps are being taken to remedy this.

Professor Buszard confirmed she and the Provost are deeply committed to fulfilling the actions of the Indigenous Strategic Plan, and to implementing the principles of the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the 94 Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The University will work to indigenize, wherever possible, academic programming, curricula, leadership and structures.

The President shared that in the coming weeks, she and Dr Averill will work to set engagement opportunities to hear from Indigenous students, faculty and staff, which is central to the University's accountability and a meaningful step towards meaningful action in the future. Professor Buszard stated that the UBC Vancouver campus is proud and privileged to be situated on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam people, and that UBC must ensure that Indigenous faculty, staff and students feel respected, valued, safe, and heard.

Professor Buszard noted there will be an announcement tomorrow of the appointment of three new University Killam Professors, the highest honour that UBC can confer on a faculty member. The winners were nominated by faculty, staff, students and alumni and are all exceptional teachers and researchers, leaders in their fields and have received international recognition for their talents and achievements.

Professor Buszard shared that she had recently attended an event hosted by the Peter A. Allard School of Law called 'In Conversation with Beverley McLachlin,' noting that it was wonderful opportunity to hear the discussion between Justice McLachlin and Allard Law's Professor Margot Young and to learn more about Justice McLachlin's remarkable and inspiring journey.



Report from the Presidential Search Committee

As the elected Senate representative to the Presidential Search Committee, Dr Kozak was invited to provide an update to Senate on the presidential search process. Dr Kozak confirmed that a second meeting of the search committee was held on 12 January 2023. He noted that a broadcast email was sent to the University community on 17 January 2023 which included a link to a survey seeking input on a variety of topics including the opportunities and challenges facing UBC over the next five years. The survey is also intended to solicit feedback on the qualities, characteristics and experience that the University community envisions are critical for the next President to bring to UBC, and asks for suggestions for individuals who would be a good fit for the role. Dr Kozak encouraged senators to provide feedback and noted that there will be open forums for community input in the near future.

Candidate for a Degree

Deborah Buszard
Joanne Fox

} *That the candidate for the degree as recommended by the faculty be granted the degree for which they were recommended, effective 18 January 2023, and that a committee comprised of the Registrar, the dean of the relevant faculty, and the Chair of the Senate be empowered to make any necessary adjustment. (2/3 majority required)*

Approved

Academic Policy Committee

The Chair of the Senate Academic Policy Committee, Dr Kin Lo, presented.

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS – UNCLASSIFIED

Dr Lo outlined that the proposal is to clarify continuation requirements for students taking courses via the unclassified student category. Unclassified students will be required to maintain a sessional average of 50% per Winter Session to be eligible to continue. This requirement is consistent with current failed year/continuation policies within degree programs within most faculties.



Senator Singh requested clarification on whether an unclassified student, taking only one course during the Winter Session who then fails the course, due to mental health or other reasons, would be permitted to enroll in a course in a subsequent term. He also noted that students who take courses outside of their previous disciplines or in a subject matter they are unfamiliar with who then fail the course should not be penalized and prevented from continuing as unclassified students.

Dr Lo asked that Senate recognize Dr Laura Moss, Associate Dean from the Faculty of Arts. With Senate's permission, Dr Moss responded that the inclusion of the word 'normally' within the proposed language allows for flexibility to allow students to continue in such cases. She added that built into the policy is an ability for the student to appeal to the Non-Degree Studies team and for the student to work with that team to review what the issues may have contributed to their performance and consider remedies to resolve these issues. She confirmed that the language allows for latitude for review on a case-by-case basis.

Senator Pratap-Singh stated he was opposed to the proposed policy, citing potential barriers such as economic considerations and mental health issues that may dissuade unclassified students from pursuing appeal options to continue taking classes.

Senator Cantiller asked for clarification whether a student who fails a course but is permitted to continue is then able to retake the course in the hopes of completing it.

Senator Lo clarified that unclassified students taking courses, which may include a collection of undergraduate- or graduate-level courses for general interest, are not part of a program that leads to a degree.

Dr Moss reiterated that an unclassified student who fails a course may work with the Non-Degree Studies team in support of retaking the course. She advised that the proposed policy is intended to align unclassified students with current failed year/continuation policies consistent with degree programs.

The Registrar added that the proposed policy relates to a sessional evaluation, which runs from September – April. An unclassified student who falls below 50% in Term 1 would be permitted to enrol in courses for Term 2. If a student fails a course in both terms, then their sessional evaluation would likely fall below the 50% requirement. They would then have the option to work with Enrolment Services staff to consider the best way forward.



Kin Lo
Susan Forwell

} *That Senate approve changes to continuation requirements for Unclassified Students, effective for the 2023 Winter Session, and thereafter.*

Approved

Joint Report from the Academic Policy and Curriculum Committees

The Chair of the Senate Academic Policy Committee, Dr Kin Lo, presented.

MASTER OF GLOBAL SURGICAL CARE

Kin Lo
Susan Forwell

} *That the revised Master of Global Surgical Care, Graduate Certificate in Global Surgical Care and revised courses brought forward by the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (Medicine) be approved.*

Approved

Admissions Committee

The Chair of the Senate Admissions Committee, Professor Carol Jaeger, presented.

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE – ENROLMENT TARGETS AND PROGRAM EXPANSION

Senator Santokh Singh commented that while he was in favour of increasing the enrolment targets for the Doctor of Medicine (MD) undergraduate program, he questioned whether it requires hiring new faculty and staff to support the expanded delivery of the program.

Dean Kelleher responded that negotiations with the Ministries of Health and Advanced Education have confirmed a significant increase in support for preceptors, who are critical to the delivery of the program. He noted that there are four additional MD seats in each of the Northern Medical, Island Medical and Southern Medical programs for 2023W and 2024W, six and ten additional seats in the Vancouver Fraser Medical Program for 2023W and 2024S respectively and confirmed that the Faculty can provide the necessary capability for this increase without any capital expansion.



Dean Keller requested that Dr Roger Wong be recognized to offer further comment. Dr Wong confirmed for Dr Singh that there will be additional hiring to support program expansion.

Senator von Bergmann commented that the proposed expansion in seats for the MD program is welcome, particularly in light of the current shortage of family physicians. She asked whether there had been any discussions in the Faculty to identify experienced clinical mentorship and support for the additional practitioners who may require clinical or hospital-based support and training.

Dr Wong stated that there is full awareness of the current constraints on the provincial health care system. He noted there has been consultation with the Provincial government and all health care partners, including all BC health authorities, partner academic institutions and there is support to fully deploy the distributed medical education program. He noted that the number of faculty members and amount of support provided to deliver medical education will be significantly increased to support preceptors, clinicians, practicing doctors and other health practitioners who are involved in the teaching program. It was also noted that concurrently with the proposed expansion of 40 seats for MD undergraduate program, the provincial government is also working with the Faculty of Medicine to significantly increase the number of post-graduate medical education residency positions, by up to 88 positions. A minimum of 30 of these residency positions will be dedicated to family medicine across the province of BC.

Carol Jaeger
Steven Pelech

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That Senate approve an increase in enrolment targets for the Doctor of Medicine (MD) undergraduate program, from 288 to 306, for entry to the 2023 Winter Session, and an additional increase from 306 to 328, for entry to the 2024 Winter Session, and beyond.

Approved

Nominating Committee

The Chair of the Senate Nominating Committee, Dr Paul Harrison, presented.



APPOINTMENT OF A FACULTY MEMBER TO THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, STUDENTS

Paul Harrison
Kamil Kanji

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That Senate appoint Dr James Charbonneau to the President's Advisory Committee for the Extension of the Vice-President, Students.

Approved

Annual Report from the Vice-President | Research and Innovation

Vice-President, Research and Innovation (VPRI), Dr Gail Murphy, presented the 2021/22 annual report of the VPRI portfolio, noting its role in supporting scholars and researchers to [meaningfully engage](#) in areas of study with as few barriers as possible. This support includes a range of services such as grant facilitation through SPARC (a non-profit advocacy organization that supports open systems for research education), grant submission through the UBC Office of Research Services (ORS), sponsored research agreements through the UBC-Industry Liaison Office (UILO), ethics, awards, and animal care. Dr Murphy noted that her presentation will describe the portfolio's primary areas of focus towards enhancing the University's research environment.

She began her remarks with an acknowledgement that much of the work of the VPRI portfolio occurs on the two main campuses on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam people and Syilx Okanagan Nation. Dr Murphy noted that UBC research activities overall are not limited to these locations and that other activities take place on Indigenous lands across the province and beyond, and noted the importance of this to be recognized.

Dr Murphy stated that over the reporting period, UBC researchers and scholars have made significant discoveries and advances in many disciplines, including contributions to the COVID-19 response. Key metrics to highlight the role the VPRI portfolio include support for over 10,000 research projects and approximately \$774M in research funding in 2021/22. It was noted that these metrics are system-wide, as her portfolio supports both the Okanagan and Vancouver campuses. She noted that the remainder of the presentation will focus on the Vancouver campus, specifically related to the University's research priorities as outlined in UBC's Next Century Strategic Plan, the portfolio's work in support of Indigenous partners, and priorities for the year ahead.

Dr Murphy stated that the University's Strategic Plan was the result of substantial community



consultation, which identified that a core strategy for enabling research excellence is collaboration across research disciplines. She noted that her portfolio has fostered several such collaborations.

The Research Excellence Clusters program provides an opportunity for UBC researchers to propose interdisciplinary networks to address key societal and cultural challenges. Dr Murphy noted that there is an annual call made for clusters which are then selected by peer-review panels; in the 2021/22 reporting period, 35 such research excellence clusters were awarded on the Vancouver campus.

Several examples of clusters that reached important milestones were highlighted, including the Language Sciences Institute, designated a Global Research Excellence (GREx) Institute by the Vancouver Senate. In addition, the UBC BioProducts Institute was awarded \$3.5M in May 2021 by PacifiCan to support the UBC BioProducts Institute for research into alternatives to plastic-based, single-use products using waste and residues from BC forests. In November 2021, the Stewart Blusson Quantum Matter Institute renewed a critical partnership with the Max Planck Institute and the University of Tokyo for the Centre for Quantum Materials, marking the first-ever extension of an international Max Planck Institute beyond ten years.

Dr Murphy noted that the Public Humanities Hub at the Vancouver campus fosters and supports collaborative research, highlighting and developing public-facing research in the Humanities. Despite challenges from the COVID-19 environment, the Hub launched the new Environmental Humanities Research Network to explore interdisciplinary, humanities-focused research initiatives to address the climate emergency. The Hub also established seed grants to provide low-barrier funding for creative and collaborative public humanities research projects.

Another collaborative program that has been running for several years was highlighted; the Collaborative Research Mobility Awards facilitate collaboration between UBC's Vancouver and Okanagan campuses. In 2021/22, 20 projects were supported across 8 faculties on a variety of topics including e-cigarette cessation, forest fire smoke chemistry, land-based Indigenous art, and the physiology of free-diving

Dr Murphy highlighted the Research and Innovation portfolio's commitment to supporting researchers to expand, strengthen and coordinate interdisciplinary climate research at UBC, and to develop and enhance partnerships to address the climate emergency. Towards these aims, the portfolio convened a virtual Climate Change Research Symposium in October 2021, which brought together climate researchers from multiple faculties on both campuses. The symposium featured panel discussions and keynote speakers covering topics ranging from technological solutions to issues related to societal change and highlighted potential research collaborations across the UBC research ecosystem. More than 600 attendees participated, including researchers from other institutions. Dr Murphy shared that recordings of the sessions are available for viewing via the VPRI website.



Dr Murphy highlighted another major activity of the VPRI portfolio aligns with UBC's Strategic Plan to strengthen shared research infrastructure and resources. Dr Murphy noted that through shared infrastructure, there are more opportunities for researchers to access the most current equipment available, to use equipment in a more sustainable way and to support the specialized personnel needed to access the equipment. Some shared infrastructure is run directly by the VPRI portfolio including UBC's Advanced Research Computing which provides high-performance computing and storage capabilities, UBC's Animal Care Services and the Facility for Infectious Disease and Epidemic Research (FINDER) which is UBC's Biosafety Level-3 (BSL-3) Facility. Dr Murphy invited senators' input to identify areas of need at UBC for shared infrastructure and resources.

Dr Murphy presented on the VPRI portfolio's work towards fostering student research, and highlighted a number of two-year projects funded through the Program for Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE) in 2018/19 which deferred the conclusion of their activities to 2021/22.

For example, an experiential human rights research project led by Dr Jenny Peterson built upon a partnership with the Scholars at Risk (SAR) Network at New York University to explore undergraduate-led research projects about global human rights. By the conclusion of the project, more than 100 students had participated in experiential learning projects with SAR and contributed to the development of instructional resources in areas such as academic freedom, engaging the media and community care. Another initiative supported 32 students with backgrounds in African Studies who were employed and trained through the 'Decolonizing the African Collections and Displays at the Museum of Anthropology' project.

Dr Murphy next highlighted VPRI initiatives in support of UBC's Strategic Plan commitment to knowledge exchange. The portfolio supports the UBC Knowledge Exchange (Kx) Unit, the aim of which is to build capacity among researchers, students and staff across disciplines to develop and share impactful knowledge through connections and exchange with communities, government, non-profit organizations and the general public. Dr Murphy noted there have been extensive consultations with the Kx Advisory Committee and the user community regarding its future. Throughout the consultation process, the VPRI portfolio has remained committed to Kx initiatives such as the launch of an online resource guide and a partnership with the Community Engagement Office on the Community-University Engagement Support Fund to invest in partnerships with 27 organizations across the province, including 11 Indigenous community partners. Faculty members from 9 faculties across the Okanagan and Vancouver campuses were involved in these partnerships.

With pending federal requirements around research data management for institutions and researchers across different tri-agency granting programs, the VPRI team has been involved in



the continued development of the University's research data management strategy, and is in the process of developing tools, templates and resources to support researchers with data management planning. The portfolio has also been working towards improving resources and tools for researchers to engage with ethical issues in the conduct of research, via the Scholarly Integrity Initiative. Dr Murphy noted that there is now a Canvas course on Responsible Conduct of Research.

In collaboration with the UBC Library, the portfolio offered a UBC Open Access Fund & Scholarly Publication Fund for Humanities and Social Sciences Research, intended to promote open sharing of research and scholarship. Nineteen publications were funded via the Open Access Fund, and 26 awards through the Scholarly Publications Fund.

Dr Murphy noted that given the changing geopolitical climate, the federal government has introduced new risk assessment guidelines for NSERC Alliance grants. The VPRI unit has been working to support researchers to ensure they are compliant and meet all requirements. UBC has also partnered with the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary and the University of Victoria to develop a workshop series on research security, which includes panelists from Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS).

Dr Murphy shared that one of the key priorities of the VPRI portfolio is to increase supports for researchers engaged with Indigenous partners. The portfolio's commitment to Indigenous engagement on the Vancouver campus is most clearly evidenced through the activities of the Indigenous Research Support Initiative (IRSI).

In 2021/22 key partnerships, activities and events included the launch of the UBC Indigenous Finance Guidelines, created with guidance and input of Indigenous elders and knowledge holders to address concerns regarding the process of compensating Indigenous partners. The guidelines envision an alternative, flexible payment process piloted by IRSI and conclude with a recommended financial process for wider adoption at UBC. The guidelines meet Action #14 of the UBC Indigenous Strategic Plan and significantly improve equitable and timely compensation to Indigenous partners.

The VPRI unit also facilitated the signing of an MOU between UBC and the T̓silhqot'in National Government (TNG), building on an earlier MOU already in place at UBC Okanagan. A key feature of the agreement is to ensure that research is undertaken with cultural safety, an approach that recognizes and addresses systemic power imbalances and fosters a culture free of racism and discrimination, thus creating a safe arena for Indigenous partners.

The MOU also establishes a foundation for future research collaborations that incorporate T̓silhqot'in knowledge, community needs and sustainable environmental practices and



opportunities within T̓silhqot'in Nēn (lands). Dr Murphy noted that UBC has been working with the T̓silhqot'in Nation (TN), TNG and communities for a number of years on various projects, and is currently engaged in approximately 17 collaborations, most of which were initially supported through IRSI.

With respect to priorities and initiatives for 2022/23, Dr Murphy noted that the VPRI portfolio will continue to focus on how to better support the University's research community. She noted that a more comprehensive list of areas of focus and goals is outlined in the written report circulated to the Senate.

Dean Coughtrie expressed his appreciation for the Vice-President and her office for their outstanding work in supporting and fostering the UBC research environment, which has served to attract researchers in working at UBC.

Professor Buszard shared Dean Coughtrie's appreciation for the Vice-President and her office's work and offered her thanks for the extraordinary transformation and growth of research at UBC Okanagan.

Senator Pelech also offered his thanks to the office and asked if there were any EDI hiring targets included in the Canada Research Chairs Program.

Dr Murphy responded that the presentation referenced UBC's participation of the Canada Excellence Research Chairs (CERC) Program, which is different from the Canada Research Chairs Program. It was noted the CERC Program does not have the hiring targets that are part of the Canada Research Chairs Program. It was further noted those hiring targets are an important part of meeting the equity, diversity and inclusion goals of both the federal government and the University in support of the Inclusion Action Plan.

Senator Jiang expressed gratitude for the presentation and for the VRPI convening a virtual Climate Change Research Symposium. Senator Jiang asked if an additional climate change research or similar topic symposium will be forthcoming.

Dr Murphy advised that the portfolio is working with a steering committee of faculty that aided in the development of the Climate Change Research Symposium to determine next steps, including whether to convene a future symposium.

Senator Kanji thanked Dr Murphy for the presentation and the work of her office. He asked what analysis is performed by the VRPI portfolio in support of university rankings, particularly as the University's ranking has declined recently from a top 35 institution to a top 40 institution. He asked what initiatives are being undertaken to elevate the University in the ranking.



Dr Murphy noted that while the VPRI portfolio performs a comprehensive analysis of the university rankings, it is important to recognize that many of the rankings are a business endeavour and the ways in which rankings are formulated are not always straightforward nor transparent. She added that UBC's approach is to promote excellence in research and for the community to collectively pursue good programs to produce good results; sometimes those programs are recognized directly by a rise in the rankings.

Senator Singh expressed appreciation for the depth of the presentation and asked if there are more undergraduate research opportunities that may become available for students and how to support mental health guidance for students.

Dr Murphy responded that as a research-intensive university, more undergraduate research opportunities are needed and noted that the VPRI office is in ongoing discussions with the Vice-President, Students and the Provost's Office on how best to move this forward. Dr Murphy added that supporting student mental health is a key priority for the University community and that this topic may be more appropriately addressed by the Vice-President, Students.

Dr Averill commented that significant resources are devoted to supporting students' mental health, including the expansion of counselling resources on campus, along with online and on-call facilities available for students. The AMS also provides insurance coverage, which can support students to access resources outside of the University, if they wish.

Dr Averill expressed his admiration and appreciation of the Vice-President, the work of the portfolio, and the depth of its collaboration with the University community.

Professor Buszard reiterated the Provost's appreciation of her portfolio's work and expressed her gratitude on behalf of the University for Dr Murphy's leadership and team.

Report from the Registrar

The Registrar, Ms Rella Ng, presented the term dates for the 2023-2024 academic year.

The Registrar also noted that, as with previous years, the first day following the Labour Day statutory holiday is not counted as a teaching day. It was noted the University has not yet received direction from the Province whether the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation will be observed as a statutory holiday. If it is observed as a statutory holiday, the academic year still meets the minimum number of teaching day requirement. The possibility of an ongoing statutory holiday was considered when Senate Policy V-125 was revised in 2022. It was noted that the



observance of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation has been approved by Senate in 2021 and 2022.

Dean Hare asked when Provincial confirmation is anticipated for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

The Registrar advised that UBC Human Resources anticipates a confirmation in the summer.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024 TERM DATES

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| Deborah Buszard | } | <i>That Senate approve the Academic Year 2023-2024 Term dates.</i> |
| Paul Harrison | | |

Approved

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.