MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on November 4, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. in the David Strong Building, room C116.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: (C. Shankman/P. Kostek)
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

a. October 7, 2016

Motion: (R. Grant/R. St. Clair)
That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate held on October 7, 2016 be approved and that the approved minutes be circulated in the usual way.

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was none.

4. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

a. President’s Report

Prof. Cassels reported on matters at the university. He announced the appointment of an acting chair of the Board of Governors. Prof. Cassels commented on the upcoming Convocation ceremonies. He also reported on a number of awards that had been received by faculty members.

With respect to provincial matters, Prof. Cassels reported on recent sector meetings regarding funding for universities.

Prof. Cassels reported on a recent trip to Ottawa to discuss the proposal for a degree in Indigenous law.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.
6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

a. Senate Committee on Academic Standards

   i. 2015/2016 Annual Report

Dr. Dechev presented the report.

A suggestion was made to clarify the summary of the committee’s work related to the Academic Writing Requirement.

In response to a question raised regarding examination regulations, it was noted that the regulations would be reviewed on an ongoing basis and it was expected that a review would be undertaken at the end of this year. In response to a comment about resources for invigilation, Dr. Kuehne said she had spoken to the Deans in this regard.

   ii. University of Victoria Grading Patterns Report Portal

Dr. Dechev presented the report.

   iii. Report and Recommendations on Grading Patterns

Dr. Dechev introduced the proposal.

Members of Senate provided feedback on the proposal. A comment was made regarding the need for increased grading training for teaching assistants. Support was expressed for re-examining the grading scale. In response to questions raised, it was noted that examination of the scale by year level had been suggested. In response to a question regarding creation of a toolkit and other resources, it was noted that the committee would work with the Office of the Vice-President Academic and Provost, and others regarding implementation. Suggestions were made about how more information might be made available to instructors regarding grading trends before they submit grades. It was also noted that providing this information outside the grading cycle was important. It was agreed that providing more information to instructors, departments and faculties would be useful.

Following discussion of the proposal, it was noted that the Senate Committee on Academic Standards would continue to review grades annually through its review of the grading patterns report.

   Motion: (N. Dechev/B. Smith)
   That Senate approve the recommendations regarding grading patterns as outlined in the attached report entitled Report and Recommendations Regarding Grading Patterns.

   CARRIED
b. Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance

i. Update on the Proposal to Extend Fall Reading Break

Dr. Lepp introduced the report and requested feedback from members of Senate regarding whether the committee should engage in consultations regarding Sunday examinations.

A comment was made regarding implications of Sunday examinations on academic accommodation requests and it was suggested the committee should consider this issue further. In response to a question about the rationale for pursuing extension of fall reading break, Dr. Lepp mentioned the submission made by the student societies regarding mental health benefits. Ms. Andersen briefly commented on some consultations undertaken by the committee with respect to such benefits. In response to a question about changing the required number of class days, Dr. Lepp said the committee was conducting its review within the current academic parameters set by Senate. Additionally, she added that reducing the number of class days was not a feasible option. It was noted that there could be significant financial and operational considerations resulting from the proposal. In response to a question about moving the dates of reading break, Dr. Lepp explained that the committee had considered this option and that no feasible alternative was available. It was suggested that during the consultation phase, all potential options should be provided so that students, faculty and others can provide feedback on preferences and priorities.

Following discussion of the proposal, there was agreement that the committee should continue with its consultations.

ii. Appointments to the 2016/2017 Senate Standing Committees

Dr. Lepp presented the nominations.

Motion: (A. Lepp/R. Hicks)
That Senate approve the appointments to the 2016/2017 Senate standing committees for the terms indicated in the attached document.

CARRIED

iii. Appointments to the Appointment Committee for the Chancellor

Dr. Lepp presented the nominations.

Motion: (A. Lepp/R. Grant)
That Senate approve the appointments of Robin Hicks and Ann-Bernice Thomas to the Appointment Committee for the Chancellor as recommended by the Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance.

CARRIED
c. Senate Committee on Awards

i. 2015/2016 Annual Report

Dr. Walsh presented the report. In response to a question, Dr. Walsh explained that there were a variety of reasons why a particular scholarship might not be awarded in a given year. In response to a further question, Ms. Lori Nolt explained that the data compiled in the report was for undergraduate awards. It was noted that it would be useful to see some information about graduate awards.

ii. New and Revised Awards

Dr. Walsh introduced the proposal.

A question was raised about eligibility for the Chair in Transgender Studies master’s and doctoral research scholarships. Dr. Devor explained that there were multiple scholarships and he described the eligibility criteria for each.

A question was raised regarding privacy considerations for recipients of the Chair in Transgender Studies master’s and doctoral research scholarships who may feel vulnerable having their names published. It was agreed that these considerations should be made in administration of the awards. It was suggested that these same considerations be considered more generally for award recipients.

In response to a question about the criteria for the Wendy M Gedney Bursary in Elementary Education, it was explained that the criteria for this bursary, as for many student awards, require some interpretation by those administering the award.

Motion: (J. Walsh/C. Shankman)
That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, the new and revised awards as amended, as set out in the attached document:

- Wendy M Gedney Bursary in Elementary Education (new)*
- Tevlin Gleadle Curtis Scholarship in Employment Law (new)
- Chair in Transgender Studies Doctoral Research Scholarship for Trans and Non-binary Students (new)
- Chair in Transgender Studies Master’s Degree Research Scholarship for Trans and Non-binary Students (new)
- Jeffrey Rubinoff Scholar in Art as a Source of Knowledge Travel Award (new)*
- Jeffrey Rubinoff Scholar in Art as a Source of Knowledge Bursaries (new)*
- Jeffrey Rubinoff Scholar in Art as a Source of Knowledge Fellowship (new)*
- James A Mossey (SM) Award (new)*
- Edra Ferguson Graduate Scholarship (revised)*
- Elaine Gallagher Award (new)*
d. Senate Committee on Planning

i. Request for Centre for Youth and Society extension to June 30, 2017

Dr. Wright introduced the proposal.

Motion: (J. Walsh/D. Begoray)
That Senate extend the renewal of Approved Centre Status for the Centre for Youth and Society until June 30, 2017.

CARRIED

ii. Request to disestablish the Centre for Cooperative and Community Based Economy

Dr. Wright introduced the proposal.

A comment was made regarding the process undertaken for disestablishment of the centre, which provided for retroactive approval by Senate. It was suggested that a recommendation should have been made to Senate in advance of the closure. Dr. Castle provided information regarding the circumstances leading to disestablishment of the centre and noted that information about the centre had been presented to Senate.

Motion: (R. St. Clair/L. Charlton)
That Senate approve the disestablishment of the Centre for Cooperative and Community Based Economy (CCCBe) effective immediately.

CARRIED

iii. Request for Renewal of the Centre for Addictions Research BC

Dr. Wright introduced the proposal.

Motion: (J. Aragon/M. Prendergast)
That Senate approve the renewal of Approved Centre Status for the Centre for Addictions Research BC (CARBC) for the five-year period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2021. This recommendation is not contingent upon the suggestions in the external report relating to resources, which are advice to the Vice-President Research.

CARRIED
7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES

There were none.

8. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AND PROVOST

a. Update on Library consultations and budgetary pressures

Dr. Kuehne introduced Mr. Bengtson, University Librarian and Ms. Lisa Petrachenko, Associate University Librarian.

Mr. Bengtson delivered a presentation on challenges and budgetary pressures facing university libraries. In particular, he commented on the pressures related to journal subscriptions. Mr. Bengtson reported on the budgetary pressures facing UVic in this regard. He reported on consultations undertaken across campus regarding this issue and encouraged members to provide feedback.

Members of Senate engaged in a discussion of the challenges facing the university, their faculties, and themselves as researchers. Both short and long term aspects of the challenges were discussed. The position of Canadian university libraries relative to their American counterparts was discussed.

b. Enrolment update

Mr. Tony Eder, Executive Director Academic Resource Planning provided an enrolment update. He reported on overall enrolment at the university, and provided details regarding undergraduate and graduate enrolment and domestic and international numbers.

In response to a question, Mr. Eder provided some information regarding the decline in graduate enrolment.

c. Policy AC1210 - Accommodation for Students on Days of Religious Observance

Dr. Kuehne introduced the proposal.

Motion: (V. Kuehne/R. St. Clair)
That Senate approve the minor wording change to the “Accommodation of Religious Observance” section of the undergraduate and graduate Calendars, effective May 2017.

AND

That Senate approve the relocation of the “Accommodation of Religious Observance” section of the undergraduate and graduate Calendars from “General University Policies” to a new heading titled “Accommodation of Religious Observance” immediately preceding “Academic Concessions”, effective May 2017.

AND
That Senate rescind the university policy AC1210 “Accommodation for Students on Days of Religious Observance”.

CARRIED

9. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Implementation of the UVic Strategic Research Plan

Dr. Castle provided a report on implementation of the Strategic Research Plan. He commented on the planning and reporting cycle and discussed how implementation was being monitored and assessed. Dr. Castle indicated how members could obtain further information.

Senate members commented on the materials and presentation provided. A suggestion was made to revise a statement on graduate funding allocation with respect to completion timelines. Dr. Castle agreed to make revisions to the statement. In response to a question, Dr. Castle provided information about connections to the Library. A suggestion to expand membership of the research chairs leadership forum was made. In response to a question regarding revision of the Intellectual Property Policy, Dr. Castle provided information about the consultation process.

b. University Orator

Dr. Eastman introduced the proposal.

Motion: (M. Prendergast/B. Smith)
That Senate appoint Dr. Lynne Van Luven as University Orator for a term from January 1, 2017 until December 31, 2019.

AND

Motion: That the Senate appoint Dr. John Archibald as Orator for a term from January 1, 2017 until December 31, 2019.

CARRIED

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.
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EX OFFICIO MEMBERS - University Act: Section 35 (2) (a-f)
Chancellor: Shelagh Rogers (31/12/17)
President and Vice-Chancellor: Jamie Cassels, Chair
V.P. Academic & Provost: Valerie Kuehne
V.P. Research: David Castle
Dean, Peter B. Gustavson School of Business: Saul Klein
Dean of Education: Ralf St. Clair
Dean of Engineering: Thomas Tiedje
Dean of Continuing Studies: Maureen MacDonald
Dean of Fine Arts: Susan Lewis
Dean of Graduate Studies: David Capson
Dean of Humanities: Christopher Goto-Jones
Dean of HSD: Patricia Mark
Dean of Law: Jeremy Webber
Dean of Science: Robert Lipson
Dean of Social Sciences: Catherine Krull
University Librarian: Jonathan Bengtson

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE FACULTIES
- Section 35 (2) (g)
BUSI: Rebecca Grant (30/6/19)
    Brock Smith (30/6/18)
EDUC: Monica Prendergast (30/6/19)
    John Walsh (30/6/17)
ENGR : Peter Driessen (30/6/19)
    Nikolai Dechev (30/6/17)
FINE: Carolyn Butler Palmer (30/6/19)
    Patricia Kostek (30/6/18)
GRAD: Sara Beam (30/6/19)
    Charlotte Schallie (30/6/17)
HSD: Lynda Gagné (30/6/19)
    Andre Kushniruk (30/6/18)
HUMS: Jason Colby (30/6/18)
    Annalee Lepp (30/6/19)
LAWF: Gillian Calder (30/6/17)
    Mark Gillen (30/6/19)
SCIE: Florin Diacon (30/6/17)
    Diana Varela (30/6/17)
SOSC: Janni Aragon (30/6/18)
    Doug Baer (30/6/17)

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE FACULTY MEMBERS
(continued)
- Sections 35 (2) (g)
Deborah Begoray – EDUC (30/6/18)
Aaron Devor – SOSC (30/6/17)
Kathryn Gillis – SCIE (30/6/17)
Garry Gray – USC (30/6/19)
Helga Hallgrimsdottir – SOSC (30/6/18)
Tim Haskett – HUMS (30/6/17)
Robin Hicks – SCIE (30/6/18)
LillAnne Jackson – ENGR (30/6/17)

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE FACULTY
- Section 35 (2) (h)
Leslee Francis Pelton – EDUC (30/6/17)
Joseph Salem – FINE (30/6/17)
Rebecca Warburton - HSD (30/6/19)
Victoria Wyatt - FINE (30/6/19)

MEMBERS ELECTED FROM THE STUDENT SOCIETIES
- Section 35 (2) (h)
Dheeraj Alamchandani (ENGR) (30/6/17)
Alicia Armstrong (BUS) “
Paige Bennett (SOSC) “
Michelle Brown (SOSC) “
Zoë-Blue Coates (HUMA) “
Andrew Lemieux (GRAD) “
Ben Lukenchuk (SOSC) “
Samual Maroney (LAW) “
Bernadette Peterson (SCIE) “
Brontë Renwick-Shields (SOSC) “
Cory Shankman (GRAD) “
Ann-Bernice Thomas (FINE) “
Susan Timayo (SOSC) “
Marie Vance (GRAD) “
TBA (HSD) “
TBA (GRAD) “

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CONVOCATION
- Section 35 (2) (i)
Rizwan Bashir (30/06/18)
Chandra Beaveridge (30/06/18)
Lauren Charlton (30/06/18)
Peter Liddell (30/06/18)

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS - Section 35 (2) (k)
Head, Division of Medical Sciences: Bruce Wright
Member elected by the Professional Librarians: John Durno (30/06/18)
Continuing Sessional: Alicia Ulysses (30/06/17)

SECRETARY OF SENATE - Section 64 (2)
University Secretary: Julia Eastman

BY INVITATION - Seated with specified speaking rights
Assoc. V.P. Student Affairs: Jim Dunsdon
Assoc. V.P. Academic Planning: Nancy Wright
Registrar: Nicole Greengoe
Associate University Secretary: Carrie Andersen