



## MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on October 2, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. in the Senate and Board Chambers, Room A180, University Centre.

Dr. Turpin welcomed members of Senate to the first meeting of the year.

### 1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: (R. Anthony/M. Webb)

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

### 2. MINUTES

Motion: (M. Shannon/V. Harrison)

That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate held on May 1, 2009 be approved and that the approved minutes be circulated in the usual way.

**CARRIED**

### 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### a. Election of student representatives to Senate from the faculties of Engineering, Education and Human and Social Development

Dr. Turpin reported that a call for nominations had been issued to fill three outstanding vacancies for student representatives on Senate. Members had been acclaimed from the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Human and Social Development. Dr. Turpin announced that two candidates had been nominated from the Faculty of Engineering and that an election would be held on the floor of Senate. One of the candidates was in attendance and read a brief statement about why she wanted to join Senate. Ms. Andersen read a statement from the other candidate, who was unable to attend. Ballots were distributed to members of Senate. Dr. Turpin said the results of the election would be announced later in the meeting.

### 4. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

## **a. President's Report**

### **i. United Way Presentation**

Mr. Bruce Kilpatrick, Director of UVic Communications and chair, leadership giving for the campus United Way campaign gave a presentation on the university's 2009 campaign.

### **ii. Other matters**

The results of the election that had just been held to elect a student representative from the Faculty of Engineering to Senate were reported. Dr. Turpin congratulated Ms. Manpreet Sall on her election and invited her to join the meeting.

Dr. Turpin provided an update on the provincial budget. He said there had not been any surprises in the budget and noted that the coming years would be challenging.

With regard to convocation matters, Dr. Turpin reminded members of Senate that Murray Farmer had been installed as Chancellor on June 15, 2009 during Spring convocation. He also reported that a special convocation ceremony had recently been held to award an honorary degree to Steve Nash.

Dr. Turpin announced that on September 21, 2009 the university had received funding to renovate Centennial Stadium and provide other field upgrades. He also announced that the library had recently acquired a site licence to the online version of the Chronicle of Higher Education, which all university staff, students and faculty would have access to.

Dr. Turpin said the Legacy Gallery was currently featuring an exhibit of Ted Harrison's work. The exhibit would run until November 29, 2009.

With regard to awards and prizes at the university, Dr. Turpin announced that:

- the university was awarded \$33.5 million in funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation in June, including funding for:
  - Dean Karlen: superconducting electron accelerator at TRIUMF
  - Kim Juniper: a university-based vessel and ROV platform for multidisciplinary ocean research on Canada's west coast
  - Verena Tunnicliffe: subsea laboratories on VENUS -- enhancing the capabilities of Canada's cabled ocean networks
  - Colin Bradley: the multi-object adaptive optics test;
- in June, the UVic EcoCAR team's fuel efficient, low-emission car of the future placed second overall at the EcoCAR Challenge student competition in Toronto;

- Clay Holroyd and David Sinton were announced as new Canada Research Chairs, and Sadik Dost, Cornelis van Kooten and Jeremy Webber were renewed as Canada Research Chairs;
- Mark Flaherty and Steve Cross, Department of Geography, played lead roles in securing a \$6 million NSERC/DFO grant on aquaculture;
- Phil Dearden and Rosaline Canessa, Department of Geography, were the principals in a new \$2 million ICURA grant looking at the relationship between poverty and protected areas in Tanzania, Ghana and Canada;
- Brad Buckam, a UVic mechanical engineer, received funding from the federal government to lead research on assessing the energy-giving capacity of the ocean;
- Wolfgang Hofer, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was elected a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering;
- Judy Fudge, Faculty of Law, was awarded the Bora Laskin National Fellowship on Human Rights;
- Jeremy Webber, Faculty of Law, was awarded the 2009 Trudeau Fellow;
- Jack Hodgins, former professor from the Department of Writing, and Nancy Turner, School of Environmental Studies, were awarded the Order of Canada;
- Lorna Crozier, Department of Writing, John Esling, Department of Linguistics, and Ben Koop, Department of Biology were elected fellows of the Royal Society of Canada;
- Gordon Smith was awarded the 2009 Vanier Medal by the Institute of Public Administration; and
- John Langford received IPAC's Pierre De Celles Award for Excellence in Teaching Public Administration.

## **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **a. University of Victoria Financial Statements as at March 31, 2009**

Associate Vice-President Financial Planning, Kristi Simpson was in attendance to respond to questions regarding the financial statements. There were no questions.

## **6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES**

### **a. Senate Committee on Agenda and Procedures**

#### **i. Graduate Student Representation on Senate**

Dr. Turpin reminded members of Senate that this item had been deferred at the last meeting. He said there had been discussion last year regarding graduate student representation on university committees and bodies. Dr. Turpin reported that motions had been brought to Senate regarding graduate student representation on the Planning and Priorities Committee and on Senate. The motion regarding the Planning and Priorities Committee passed; however, the motion regarding Senate membership was tabled to ensure that there was an adequate number of students present for the discussion.

Dr. Turpin said that at present one student member of Senate was elected from each faculty and six student members were elected at-large. He said it was the view of the Senate Committee on Agenda and Procedures that, given the shift in the make-up of the student body resulting in an increasing number of graduate students, it was appropriate to increase the number of seats for graduate students.

Mr. Foster expressed his support for the motion. He thought undergraduate students were busy advocating for undergraduate issues and that it was important to have graduate students on Senate to advocate for issues affecting graduate students.

Ms. Harrison said the undergraduate elections were highly contested. She noted that many undergraduate students who run for Senate are not elected, while not that many graduate students seem to run for election. She thought the undergraduate students might prefer to see two seats reserved for graduate students instead of three.

Ms. Sims stated that if Senate was concerned about proportional representation for student representatives, then it should consider increasing the number of seats for larger faculties like the Faculty of Social Sciences. She added that taking away seats from undergraduate students, who run for election to Senate against a large number of other students, would be silencing voices who wanted to be heard. Ms. Sims noted that graduate students could be elected to the at-large seats.

Ms. Wiltsie reported that she had been elected to Senate from the Faculty of Graduate Studies. She expressed concern about relying on the at-large seats to elect graduate students because running for these seats would require graduate students to be aware of undergraduate issues and compete against undergraduate students on these issues.

Mr. Alwaysheh supported the motion. He thought it was important to have three seats for graduate students in order to ensure adequate representation.

Ms. Shannon spoke against the motion. She thought the argument that graduate students were required to tailor their campaigns to undergraduate students incorrectly assumed that

undergraduate students would only vote for other undergraduates. Ms. Shannon was in support of diverse student representation on Senate and thought it would be great if more graduate students ran for seats.

Mr. Coccola agreed with Ms. Shannon and added that students from all faculties had to be aware of broader student issues.

Dr. Webb was in favour of the motion. He thought the proposal made sense within the constraints of what was allowed by the *University Act*. Dr. Webb noted that the Senate membership as a whole attempted to achieve broad representation. He said increasing graduate student representation was an important piece of this. Dr. Webb added that, as a committee chair, he thought it was important to have graduate student input on committees.

Dr. Tiedje expressed support for the motion.

Ms. Harrison was pleased that graduate students were excited about participating in Senate but noted that she hadn't seen graduate students actually running for election. She said she would not like to see graduate students acclaimed to seats on Senate while undergraduate students were fighting for seats. Ms. Harrison said it was important to note that undergraduate growth, as well as graduate growth, was occurring at the university.

Mr. Foster suggested it was possible that graduate students were not running for Senate because they did not think they could get elected. Mr. Foster highlighted that the only way to increase the number of seats for graduate students on Senate was to decrease the number of at-large seats, normally held by undergraduate students. Mr. Foster said the work required for one graduate student on Senate to represent all graduate student issues was very onerous.

Mr. Allen asked if the motion could be amended to change the proposal to two graduate students. Dr. Turpin said this could happen if someone made a motion to amend. Mr. Allen made the motion.

Motion: (A. Allen/T. Sims)

That the motion to approve an amendment to the Rules to Govern Elections to the Board of Governors and the Senate be amended to state that elections will be conducted in a manner that ensures two students from the Faculty of Graduate Studies are elected.

**DEFEATED**

The motion was defeated. Dr. Turpin asked members of Senate to consider the original motion. He explained that the motion needed 2/3 approval to pass.

Motion: (D. Foster/M. Webb)

That the Senate approve that the Rules to Govern Elections to the Board of Governors and the Senate be amended to include the statement that:

Students will be elected to the Senate in accordance with the University Act in a manner that ensures that at least one student from each faculty and three from the Faculty of Graduate Studies are elected.

**CARRIED**

**b. Senate Committee on Awards**

**i. New and Revised Undergraduate Awards**

Dr. Anthony asked how the university would determine eligibility for the Southern Vancouver Island International Entrance Scholarships. He noted that the award specified geographic restrictions. Ms. Nolt said this information was captured on admissions records.

Dr. Walker asked about awards designated for specific departments, including the Alfred and Adriana Potvin Scholarship in Ocean Science. He wondered to what extent the committee undertook a consideration of which departments might be appropriate for inclusion in addition to those noted by a donor. He thought his department was doing work very suited to the award being considered; however, it was not included in the terms of reference. Dr. Lepp said the committee did review the terms of reference of awards to make sure they were feasible to administer, although donors could suggest that awards be restricted to particular departments. Ms. Lori Nolt added that the terms of reference for the specific award being discussed were set out in the terms of a will. She said the ability to amend the terms of reference was somewhat limited. Dr. Cullen reported that the revisions to this award made by the committee did not address the question being asked by Dr. Walker but that he thought the broader issue warranted further discussion. Ms. Nolt agreed to look at the terms of reference for the award to see if there was a possibility for further revision to include more departments.

Dr. Webb noted that the University of Victoria Undergraduate Research Scholarships had been introduced on a short timeline. Because of questions raised during the development of the scholarships, he suggested it might have been appropriate to approve the award for one year with a requirement that it be reviewed at that time. Dr. Mateer responded that, although it was not reflected in the terms of reference for the award, there was a plan to monitor the award for a one year period and conduct a review at that time. Dr. Teresa Dawson added that the goal was to get the money to students as quickly as possible. She said there was a plan to strike an advisory committee to review the award.

Motion: (A. Lepp/J. Cullen)

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, the new and revised student awards set out in the attached document as recommended by the Senate Committee on Awards:

- Ray and Sheila Protti Music Scholarships (new)
- Alfred and Adriana Potvin Scholarship in Ocean Science\*(revised)
- R.K. Stewart Scholarship in Hispanic and Italian Studies (new)
- Vikes Recreation Student Leadership Award (new)
- David Ritchie International Study Abroad Business Grants\*(new)
- Vikes Men's Rowing Award\*(new)
- Vikes Swimming Award\*(new)
- Dr. Mowafa Househ Entrance Scholarship (new)
- Davison Undergraduate Scholarship in Germanic and Slavic Studies (new)
- Kenneth L. Avio Honours Medal (new)
- Steven A. Huesing Memorial Entrance Scholarship\*(new)
- Southern Vancouver Island International Entrance Scholarships (new)
- University of Victoria Undergraduate Research Scholarships (new)

*\* Administered by the University of Victoria Foundation*

**CARRIED**

**c. Senate Committee on Continuing Studies**

**i. Annual Report**

Motion: (M. MacDonald/V. Harrison)

That Senate receive the 2008-2009 annual report of the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies for information.

**CARRIED**

**d. Senate Committee on Libraries**

**i. Annual Report**

Motion: (M. Swanson/G. Flitton)

That Senate receive the 2008-2009 annual report of the Senate Committee on Libraries for information.

**CARRIED**

**e. Senate Committee on Nominations and Committee Governance**

**i. Annual Report**

Motion: (G. Van Gyn/A. Lepp)

That the Senate receive the 2008-2009 annual report of the Senate Committee on Nominations and Committee Governance for information.

**CARRIED**

**ii. Appointments to Senate Committees**

Motion: (G. Van Gyn/A. Lepp)

That Senate approve the appointments to the 2009/10 Senate committees for the terms indicated in the attached document, as recommended by the Senate Committee on Nominations and Committee Governance.

**CARRIED**

**iii. Appointment to the Joint Senate Board Retreat Committee**

Motion: (G. Van Gyn/A. Lepp)

That Senate approve the appointment of Lynda Gammon to the Joint Senate Board Committee for a one-year term from July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010, as recommended by the Senate Committee on Nominations and Committee Governance.

**CARRIED**

**iv. Appointments to the Planning and Priorities Committee**

Motion: (G. Van Gyn/A. Lepp)

That Senate approve the appointments of Andrea McKenzie and Annalee Lepp to the Planning and Priorities Committee for a three-year term from July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2012, as recommended by the Senate Committee on Nominations and Committee Governance.

**CARRIED**

**f. Senate Committee on Planning**

**i. Annual Report on Status of Academic Program Reviews**

Motion: (R. Anthony/V. Harrison)

That the Senate receive the 2008-2009 annual report on the status of academic program reviews for information.

**CARRIED**

**ii. BC Institute for Co-operative Studies**

Motion: (H. Brunt/M. Shannon)

That the Senate approved the change of name of the BC Institute for Co-operative Studies to the Centre for Co-operative and Community-



Based Economy as recommended by the Senate Committee on Planning.

**CARRIED**

## **7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES**

There were none.

## **8. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **a. Update on university H1N1 preparations**

Mr. Richard Piskor, Director, Occupational Health and Safety provided members of Senate with an update on university H1N1 preparations.

Dr. Thornicroft asked if there was concern that students might take advantage of the flexibility being offered by the university during this time. Dr. Turpin said there were no simple answers to this issue and that the university wanted to provide instructors and departments with the ability to respond quickly and appropriately.

### **b. Omnibus motion in response to influenza risks**

Dr. Mateer reported that the administration was working closely with departments to make accommodations and preparations to respond to influenza risks. She hoped things could be dealt with at this level; however, she explained that the Provost thought it would be prudent to be prepared in case the university had to respond to a larger situation.

Dr. Mateer said the university had consulted with Deans' Council and the Senate Committee on Academic Standards to get advice regarding this proposal.

Dr. Beam appreciated the care being taken to prepare for a serious situation and agreed that it made sense to provide the Provost with some authority. She was, however, uncomfortable with the vagueness of the motion because it seemed to infringe upon and suspend the faculties' authority over academic standards. She wondered if the proposal should give the Provost authority "at the request of the affected faculties". She thought it was important to maintain the faculties' involvement.

Dr. Turpin said he thought this motion was necessary because Senate meetings or faculty meetings could be called if there was a serious situation but it might be impossible to get quorum because of illness. He said the university needed to be able to make decisions quickly and effectively in the case of a serious situation.

Prof. Greschner spoke in favour of the motion. She said the motion had been discussed at Deans' Council and that she supported implementing a mechanism to address situations where it was not possible to uphold existing principles for decision making.

Dr. Turner spoke in favour of the motion, noting that the university had a responsibility to the wider community.

Dr. Anthony wondered if the university should consider whether this motion could have applicability in a larger context. He wondered if there were other situations where this sort of motion could be applicable.

In response to a question from Dr. Monahan, Dr. Turpin explained that any actions taken by the Provost would be reported at the next meeting of Senate. Dr. Webb wondered if it might be appropriate to amend the motion to state that the Provost's actions should be brought to Senate for approval at its next meeting. Prof. Greschner expressed concern with delegating provisional authority to the Provost. She thought the circumstance warranted giving him full power to take actions. Dr. Baggs agreed and thought that providing students with certainty about decisions being made was important.

Motion: (D. Greschner/S. Turner)

That Senate approve an omnibus motion to allow the Provost to implement short-term adjustments to academic policy, regulations, and/or process that may be required or deemed necessary by the Provost in response to a substantial impact of influenza-related illness on academic operations during the period October 15, 2009 through to April 30, 2010. Any adjustments made resulting from this motion would be reported to Senate at the next scheduled meeting of Senate and a summary report of all actions or adjustments made, if any, would be provided at the scheduled May 7, 2010 Senate meeting.

**CARRIED**

**c. Election of Vice-Chair of Senate**

Dr. Webb nominated Ms. Swanson as Vice-Chair of Senate for 2009/10. Dr. Lepp seconded the nomination. Dr. Turpin asked for additional nominations. There were none. Ms. Swanson was acclaimed as Vice-Chair of Senate.

**d. Elections to the Senate Committee on Nominations and Committee Governance**

Dr. Van Gyn nominated Dr. Cullen. Dr. Lepp seconded the nomination. Dr. Turpin asked for additional nominations. There were none. Dr. Cullen was acclaimed.

**e. Other matters**

Dr. Mateer noted that members of Senate had been provided with two recently published documents regarding research-inspired learning and sustainability.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.