MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on November 2, 2007 at 3:30 p.m. in Room C116, David Strong Building.

The Chair of Senate, Dr. David Turpin was in the chair.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair noted that the motion for item 6.a.i. was circulated at the meeting.

Motion: (L. Gammon/R. Mitchell)
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

Motion: (M. Purkis/K. Stewart)
That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate, held on October 5, 2007, be approved and that the approved minutes be circulated in the usual way.

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Dr. Turpin announced that the comments and suggestions received from members of Senate at the October 5, 2007 meeting on the revised Policy #2100 – Policy on Calendar submissions (Item 6 c. i. on the agenda) were provided to the Senate Committee on Curriculum. He reported that the committee will incorporate the suggestions and will bring a final version of the revised policy to the next meeting of Senate on December 7, 2007.

4. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

a. University Rankings – Tony Eder, Director of Institutional Planning and Analysis

Mr. Tony Eder provided a PowerPoint presentation on UVic’s placement in university rankings including the recent Globe & Mail Report Card and the upcoming Maclean’s magazine university rankings. He noted that in the Research Info Source Survey, UVic broke $100 million in research revenue. He also reported that the Globe & Mail Report
Card had yielded a greater return of the surveys from UVic students in part due to UVic assisting with the distribution of the survey. Mr. Eder outlined the new indicators that Maclean’s used this year and explained that the indicators are all based on publicly available data to meet the concerns with methodology expressed by some universities. Mr. Eder responded to a number of other questions from members of Senate about the methodology used by Maclean’s and confirmed that UVic fully cooperated with Maclean’s collection of data.

b. General remarks

The President provided Senate with an update on federal funding and a report of his recent visit to Ottawa. He reported that the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) is focusing on the four following pillars of support for post-secondary education in its pre-budget consultation: 1) granting councils; 2) infrastructure: (capital and operating); 3) investment in people; and, 4) indirect costs of research. Dr. Turpin reported that on the provincial front, pre-budget preparation are under way for the implementation of the Campus 2020 recommendations.

In his update on university news, Dr. Turpin announced that a number of UVic faculty who were involved with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) were included as recipients of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize award that was shared between the IPCC and former US President Al Gore. Dr. Turpin reported that on November 1, eighty-five chairs, deans, faculty members and administrative leaders attended a very successful annual Administrative Leadership Retreat, which focused on graduate student expansion and graduate student recruitment and retention. Dr. Turpin indicated that Gary Mason featured UVic’s aboriginal education initiatives in a Globe and Mail editorial on October 27, 2007 and copies were available for members of Senate. He also noted that the university’s annual supplement to the Times Colonist, which focused on Community Based Research, was featured in the October 28, 2007 edition and copies were made available for members of Senate.

Dr. Turpin congratulated the theatre department for its production of Richard III, which won four Spotlight Awards for the 2006/07 season. Dr. Turpin announced that at a Royal Society of Canada event scheduled for November 17, 2007 faculty members John Borrows and Andrew Rippin would be celebrated as newly elected fellows and Dr. Eike Kluge would be awarded the 2007 Abby-Ann D. Lynch Medal in Bioethics.

Dr. Turpin announced that the new master plan for the Vancouver Island Park had been approved, and that the nomination deadline for the Victoria Leadership Awards was November 30, 2007.

5. CORRESPONDENCE - NIL
6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

a. Senate Committee on Agenda and Procedures
   i. Revisions to Senate membership and the Rules to Govern
      The Elections to the Board of Governors and Senate to reflect
      a change in the category of sessional lecturer.
      
      Motion: (L. Gammon/K. Stewart)
      That the Senate approve the renaming of the Long Service
      Sessional Representative to the title of Continuing Sessional;
      and,
      
      That rule (7) of the Rules to Govern the Elections to the
      Board of Governors and the Senate be revised to state: “For
      the purposes of election to Senate, a Continuing Sessional is
      a person classified in university records as having continuing
      sessional status or LS-2 status”.
      
      CARRIED

b. Senate Committee on Awards
   i. New and revised undergraduate awards
      
      Motion: (R. Burke/A. Monahan)
      That Senate approves, and recommend to the Board of
      Governors for its approval, the following new and revised
      awards submitted by the Senate Committee on Awards:
      
      - *Henning Faust Entrance Scholarship (new)*
      - *Killery Bursary*(new)
      - *Oak Bay and Saanich Centennial Scholarship*(new)
      - *Odessa Prize in Canadiana (new)*
      * Administered by the University of Victoria Foundation
      
      CARRIED

c. Senate Committee on Nominations and Committee Governance
   i. Student Senator Representatives on Standing Committees
      
      Motion (K. Stewart/G. Robinson)
      That Senate appoint the student representatives to the Senate
      standing committees, as set out in the attached report, for a
      one year term from October 5, 2007 to June 30, 2008.
      
      CARRIED
d. Senate Committee on Planning

i. Master of Fine Arts in Writing

Dr. Mitchell inquired about a reference on page 23 of the report regarding the compensation for teaching assistants and asked how students were supposed to live on $8,700? Dean Devor responded that the students were not expected to live on this amount alone, and would get funding from other sources.

Motion: (S. Blackstone/J. Davis)
That the Senate Committee on Planning recommend that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, subject to funding, the establishment of a program leading to a degree of a Master of Fine Arts in Writing to be offered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies as described in the attached document entitled “A Proposal for a Master of Fine Arts in Writing” dated October 4, 2007 and that this approval be withdrawn should the program not be offered within five years of the Board of Governors granting approval. Once Senate and Board of Governors have approved the proposal, the proposal must be posted on the Ministry of Advanced Education website for peer review for a period of 30 days.

CARRIED

ii. 5-Year Review of the Centre for Youth and Society

Dr. Burke asked if there would be a search for a new director of the centre, and Dr. Brunt confirmed that a search was conducted and Dr. Ann Marshall had been appointed as the new director effective July 1, 2008. In the meantime, Dr. Bonnie Leadbeater would continue to act as the director. Ms. Sheffield commented that the report referred to a partnership between the community and youth, and suggested that the centre should also consider including the family in the partnership.

Motion: (H. Brunt/S. Blackstone)
That the Senate Committee on Planning recommend that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve the renewal of Approved Centre Status for the Centre for Youth and Society (CFYS) for the period 1 April 2007 – 31 March, 2012, as described in the attached documents. This recommendation is not contingent upon the suggestions in the attached materials relating to resources, which are advice to the Vice-Presidents.

CARRIED
7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES

a. Faculty of Graduate Studies: Graduate Admissions and Awards Committee

i. New graduate award

Motion: (A.Devor/A. Monahan)
That Senate approves, and recommend to the Board of Governors for its approval, the following new and revised awards submitted by the Senate Committee on Awards:

* Neena Chappell Scholarship*
   * Administered by the University of Victoria Foundation

CARRIED

b. Update from the Faculty of Business

The Dean of Business, Dr. Ali Dastmalchian provided a PowerPoint presentation and update on initiatives of the Faculty of Business. Dr. Dastmalchian reported on the faculty’s unique mandate and philosophy, specializations, size and operations, vision, priorities for 2002-07 and future challenges. Dr. Dastmalchian answered questions from members of Senate about the faculty’s initiatives.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Turpin indicated that there was an announcement regarding a vacancy on Senate. The Assistant University Secretary reported the secretary of Senate received notice that Prof. Heather Raven, a faculty representative from the Faculty of Law wished to resign from Senate. It was indicated that a call for nominations to fill this vacancy for the remainder of Prof. Raven’s term, until June 30, 2008, would be issued shortly.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the open meeting of Senate adjourned at 4:20 p.m.