



University
of Victoria

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**APPROVED FOR RELEASE
BY THE SENATE OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on Friday, January 13, 2006 at 3:30 p.m. in the University Centre, Room A180. The Chair of Senate, Dr. David Turpin, was in the Chair.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: (A. Rippin/K. Stewart)
The agenda was approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

a. November 4, 2005

Dr. Reg Mitchell requested that the record of the discussion under item 6.c.(i) be expanded to make reference to his "passionate criticism."

MOTION: (M. Edgell/S. Lewis Hammond)
That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate held on November 4, 2005 be approved, and that the approved minutes be circulated in the usual way.

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil.

4. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

a. President's Report

- Dr. Turpin thanked the newly elected Convocation Senators for standing for election and congratulated them on being elected. He reported that Dr. Valerie Kuehne had been appointed Vice-President External Relations and expressed that UVic is glad to have her leadership.
- Dr. Turpin noted that the process of appointing a Search Committee for an Associate Vice-President Academic Planning is underway and the Provost is initiating the search. He also reported that Mr. Jack Falk has announced his intention to step down as Vice-President Finance and Operations and the Search Committee has been assembled according to the Search Procedures for the Vice-President Finance and Operations (UVic Policy #1075).
- The President encouraged Senate to submit nominations for the Blue and Gold Awards by March 9 and for the Women of Distinction Awards by February 28. Vice-President Kuehne will be sending out nomination forms.
- The President's Distinguished Service Award winners for 2005 were announced at the Holiday Reception in December. Individual awards went to Yousuf Ebrahim (Biology), Rosemary Pulez (Chemistry) and Terry Russell (Earth and Ocean Sciences). The Team Award went to the Student Transition Centre team, led by Susan Corner.
- Dr. Turpin reported that the September/October edition of Science Watch (published by Thomson ISI) reported on the performance of Canadian universities in 21 fields over the past five years, using the yardstick of citations per paper. For its size, UVic had the top three citations in three of the disciplines in the total number of citations between 2000-2004. UVic had eight top ten finishes, whereas much larger universities had only three top three finishes and some were unable to claim any top three. Such results speak highly to the quality of work on this campus.
- Dr. Turpin called attention to the draft Strategic Plan for Internationalization and invited feedback from Senate. The draft Plan is also available on the website of the Office of International Affairs. A final version of the plan will be presented to Senate in May.
- On November 24, the Governments of BC and Alberta announced that they intend to support the establishment of a National Chair on Aboriginal Economic Development to be located at the University of Victoria. It will be the first Chair of its kind in Canada. The work of Dean Andrew Petter contributed greatly to this achievement.
- Bill Neilson was recently awarded the Memorial Medal for Justice by the Ministry of Justice of the Government of Vietnam "for his contribution to the development of justice in Vietnam" in recognition of Bill's contributions to Vietnamese legal reform over thirteen years.
- The campus received a visit from the new Ministry of Advanced Education Deputy Minister Moura Quayle on November 16th. The President acknowledged Giles Hogle and the Faculty of Fine Arts for their contribution to the events enjoyed by the Deputy Minister during her visit. She had remarked that UVic was the highlight of her trip. Minister Murray Coell also visited campus on December 8th.
- Dr. Turpin was pleased to indicate that he had received a letter informing UVic of its budget for the current year; it also sets the stage for the next year. UVic received the funding it had hoped to receive.

b) Update on Consultation on the Renewal of the Strategic Plan

Dr. Turpin reported on the consultation that the Planning and Priorities Committee would be conducting, and invited comments and suggestions on the renewal of the Strategic Plan. In particular, he asked Senate to comment on the questions identified in the discussion paper which they consider to be most significant, as well as any other important questions that had not yet been identified. Dr. Turpin noted that members of the Planning and Priorities Committee were present to hear and make note of comments.

Dr. Ken Stewart stated that, in his view, a compelling issue that should be addressed at this stage of the university's development is the state of undergraduate education. He remarked on what he finds to be a deterioration in educational standards at the undergraduate level, and asked that the strategic planning process consider the introduction of a proficiencies focus to the undergraduate curriculum similar to initiatives that have been taken at Simon Fraser University.

Dr. Reg Mitchell stated that the changing ratios of FTEs in administration, research and teaching should be reviewed.

Dr. Turpin noted for information that during years of budget restrictions, as faculty positions were protected support staff positions had declined. The faculty complement has grown by 150 faculty in the last five years. He noted that faculty are taking on more administration and that more support staff might be necessary to free them from administrative work.

Dr. Mitchell suggested that another question for consideration is whether UVic went in the right direction with the centralization of co-op programs. In his view, Chemistry students were better off when it was department-based rather than centralized.

Dr. Aaron Devor noted the important issue of how to balance and strengthen graduate programming while maintaining the quality of undergraduate education, while sustaining both with sufficient support. Dr. Mitchell raised the question of whether having a faculty of graduate studies was less effective than having each faculty look after its own graduate students. Deans might view the issues differently if they had graduate studies within their faculties.

Ms. Maya Gislason proposed the issue of interdisciplinarity as significant from the perspective of students, because that approach is becoming critical in order to remain competitive in a global environment. UVic is at risk of losing graduate students who have those interests.

Mr. Eliot Song named the importance of support services for undergraduate students, noting that academic studies may not give students any career ideas and therefore support services that allow students to access career direction by the time they graduate are essential.

Dr. Andrew Rippin commented that the review should examine the place of the library and reiterate its importance.

Dr. Turpin thanked the Senate for their comments and noted that each faculty would have opportunities to contribute to the review in the coming weeks through the faculty consultations. The website is also available as a means of submitting comments. Dr. Turpin also remarked that the upcoming Joint Senate/Board Retreat on March 4 would focus on this topic and encouraged all members of Senate to take part.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Campus Planning and Sustainability Committee

i. Semi Annual Report on Campus Development

MOTION: (R. Miller/J. Cassels)

That the Senate receive with thanks, the Semi Annual Report on Campus Development.

6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

a. Committee on Academic Standards

i. July 2005 Grading Report

Mr. Tony Eder of Institutional Analysis answered questions about the report. Reg Mitchell commented on the high failure rate in some course in Mathematics, and suggested that it may be related to the abilities of incoming students. Mr. Eder was thanked for his work.

MOTION: (R. Anthony/P. Drissen)

That Senate receive with thanks, the 2005 grading report of the Senate Committee on Academic Standards

CARRIED

ii. Admissions Policy for Home Schooled Students

MOTION: (R. Anthony/A .Rippin)

CARRIED

That Senate approve the Admissions Policy for Home Schooled Students for a three-year test implementation by the Office of the Associate Administrative Registrar.

iii. 2005 Annual Report

MOTION: (R. Anthony/J.Dower)

CARRIED

That Senate receive with thanks, the 2005 annual report of the Senate Committee on Academic Standards.

b. Committee on Admission, Re-registration and Transfer

i. 2004-2005 Annual Report

MOTION (M. Edgell/R. Anthony)

That Senate receive with thanks, the 2004-2005 annual report of the Senate Committee on Admission, Re-registration and Transfer.

CARRIED

c. Ad Hoc Committee to Review the Policy on Providing Academic Accommodation and Access for Students with a Disability

i. Revised Policy on Providing Accommodation for Students with a Disability

Dr. Jim Anglin spoke briefly about the process of consultation, study and discussion undertaken by the Ad Hoc Committee for the past year and a half in order to produce this new policy.

MOTION (J.Cassels/J. Wood)
That Senate approve the revised policy on Providing Academic
Accommodation and Access for Students With a Disability.

CARRIED

d. Committee on Awards

i. New and revised undergraduate awards

MOTION (R. Anthony/M.E. Purkis)
That the Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of
Governors for its approval, the following new and revised awards
submitted by the Senate Committee on Awards:

George and Dorothy Smith Soccer Award *
Brian Hughes Soccer Award

*Indicates awards administered by the University of Victoria Foundation

CARRIED

e. Committee on Committees

i. 2005-2006 Annual Report

MOTION (I.Dawson/R. Burke)
That the Senate receive with thanks, the 2005-2006 annual report of the
Senate Committee on Committees.

CARRIED

7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES

a. Faculty of Graduate Studies

i. New and Revised Graduate Awards

MOTION: (A. Devor/J. Dower)
That the Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors for its approval, the
new and revised awards recommended by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

David Joanne Bate Scholarship
Nora and Mark deGoutiere memorial Scholarship

CARRIED

b. Learning & Teaching Centre

i. 2004-2005 Annual Report of the Learning and Teaching Centre

Prof. Cassels drew the Senate's attention to the quality of the report, noting that Dr. Geri Van
Gyn had been director of the Teaching and Learning Centre for six years and her term will

soon be up. Prof. Cassels expressed congratulations and thanks for her leadership of the Teaching and Learning Centre.

MOTION: (J. Cassels/P.Murphy)

That the Senate receives with thanks, the 2004-2005 Annual Report of the Learning and Teaching Centre.

CARRIED

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. 2005 Convocation Election Report

It was observed that the results of the election had been noted in the President's Report.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.