



Date: December 14, 2020

To: Senate

From: Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance

Re: **2019/2020 Annual Report**

The Terms of Reference for the Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance define its scope and relationship with Senate and other Senate committees. Each winter term, the committee presents an annual report on its business and proceedings over the previous academic year.

The Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance met nine times in 2019/20: September 20, 2019, October 18, 2019, November 22, 2019, December 20, 2019, January 24, 2020, February 21, 2020, March 20, 2020, and April 17, 2020. To address issues regarding the Emergency Protocol for Senate Operations, the committee met one time during the 2019/20 year on June 17, 2020.

The nominations sub-committee met four times in 2019/20: September 20, 2019, October 18, 2019, November 22, 2019 and April 17, 2020.

At the September meeting, the committee passed a motion that all meetings for 2019/2020, including meetings of the nominations sub-committee, be deemed closed and confidential.

During the year, the committee reviewed the draft Senate agenda and materials, made recommendations to Senate, initiated projects in areas of the committee's concern, and received proposals for input from other Senate committees and campus constituencies. Within these areas, the committee considered several issues over the year, including:

- review of responses to the annual Senate committee evaluations
- the revision to the 10-year sessional calendar
- communication regarding Senate support for the Wet'suwet'en
- the contingency plan for Senate during COVID-19
- required changes for the spring student elections to Senate during COVID-19
- revisions to the terms of references for the Senate Committee on Curriculum and the Senate Committee on Admissions, Re-registration and Transfer.
- the waiving of medical documentation in support of Requests for Academic Concession – summer session 2020 and fall term 2020
- inbound/outbound student mobility programs for the fall 2020 term

Review of Draft Senate Agenda

At each of its meetings, the Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance assisted the Chair in preparing the Senate agenda and reviewed each of the items proposed for submission to Senate.

Senate Committee Evaluations

Every year, members of Senate committees are asked to evaluate their experience serving on their respective Senate committees. Results from the evaluation survey are used to identify opportunities to improve members' experience and the committees' overall effectiveness.

At the September 2019 meeting, the committee reviewed the 2018/2019 evaluation results for each Senate committee.

Request to Revise the Annual Sessional Calendar

At its November meeting, committee members reviewed a proposal to revise the 10-Year Sessional Calendar. Committee members approved the revised principals for creating the winter and summer Sessions of the 10-Year Sessional Calendar for the next iteration of the 10-Year Sessional Calendar.

Request for Senate Support of the Wet'suwet'en

At its February 2020 meeting, committee members engaged in a discussion regarding a request for Senate to support the Wet'suwet'en. The committee reviewed the question of jurisdiction from a legal perspective under the governing document of the University Act and decided the motion was not under Senate authority.

COVID-19 Planning

At the March 2020 meeting, the committee considered the need to revise the timing for the third call of spring elections for student Senators. At the March, April, and June 2020 meetings, the Emergency Protocol for Senate Operations were discussed and contingency plans were developed according to the protocol.

Revisions to the Terms of Reference for the Senate Committee on Admission, Re-registration and Transfer and the Senate Committee on Academic Standards

At its April 2020 meeting, Senate reviewed proposed revisions to the Senate Committee on Admission, Re-registration and Transfer and Senate Committee on Academic Standards to improve efficiency of approval for admission changes. Senate approved this recommendation.

Waiving of medical documentation in support of Requests for Academic Concession – Summer Session 2020 and Fall Term 2020

At the June 2020 emergency meeting, committee members were provided with a proposal to waive medical documentation for Requests for Academic Concessions for the 2020 summer session and fall term. Committee members approved the proposal.

Inbound/outbound student mobility programs for the fall 2020 term

At the June 2020 meeting, committee members reviewed the background and steps taken regarding student mobility for the summer and upcoming fall term

2019/20 and 2020/2021 Appointments to Senate Committees

At its September, October, November 2019, and April 2020 meetings, the nominations sub-committee discussed and approved nominations for vacancies on the Senate committees for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021. Senate approved these nominations at the October 2019, November 2019, December 2019, and May 2020 Senate meetings respectively.

At its November 2019 meeting, the nominations sub-committee discussed and approved nominations for appointments to the Joint Senate Board Retreat. Senate approved these nominations at the December 2018 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

2020/2021 Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance

Kevin Hall, Chair, President and Vice-Chancellor*
Saul Klein, Vice-Chair, Dean, Peter B. Gustavson School of Business*
Carrie Andersen, University Secretary
Chandra Beaveridge, Convocation Senator
Aaron Devor, Faculty of Social Sciences
Mauricio Garcia-Barrera, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Mark Gillen, Faculty of Law
Helen Kurki, Faculty of Social Sciences*
Valerie Kuehne, Vice-President Academic and Provost
Joseph Martin, Student Senator*
Dean Seeman, Libraries*
Ada Saab, Secretary, Associate University Secretary*

2019/2020 Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance

Jamie Cassels, Chair, President and Vice-Chancellor*
Saul Klein, Vice-Chair, Peter B. Gustavson School of Business*
Carrie Andersen, University Secretary
Chandra Beaveridge, Convocation Senator
Aaron Devor, Faculty of Social Sciences
Robin Hicks, Faculty of Science
Valerie Kuehne, Vice-President Academic and Provost
Helen Kurki, Faculty of Social Sciences
Annalee Lepp, Faculty of Humanities*
Dean Seeman, Libraries*
Alivia Wang, Student Senator*
Ada Saab, Secretary, Associate University Secretary*

*members of the Nominations Sub-committee