Meeting of Senate  
March 5, 2021

MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on March 5, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: (M. Garcia-Barrera/M. Laidlaw)
That the agenda be approved as circulated.  
CARRIED

2. MINUTES

a. February 5, 2021

Motion: (J. Aragon/J. Bruton)
That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate held on February 5, 2021 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

Kevin Hall welcomed Robina Thomas as the new Associate Vice-President Indigenous for the University of Victoria.

He updated Senate on the Listening Tour’s progress, covering topics such as Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, and the need for clarity regarding the university's response to the pandemic. Two more meetings are scheduled with the faculties as well as upcoming town halls with graduate and undergraduate students. The president also participated in his first Reddit AMA session. These listening tours will be a highlight in preparing a 100-day report for the campus community.

In terms of a COVID-19 update, the vaccine roll-out has begun. The university will support the return to campus this September. The provincial public health office is working with the post-secondary sector on new guidelines. The parameters will be used to update scenario planning for fall. Dr. Hall recognized it had been nearly one year since the pandemic began to affect our campus. The pivot to online learning and teaching, disruption to international travel and research, and remote working environments have been challenging. Dr. Hall congratulated the university for their fantastic response but reminded the Senate that there is still a 6-8 month road ahead as things continue to evolve.
Dr. Hall provided an update to the September 2019 Bamfield accident in that 42 of the 43 recommendations from the external review will be completed by the summer. The last outstanding recommendation will be the return trip to Bamfield for the students once COVID restrictions allow the trip to occur. He noted that while the report made recommendations specific to the Bamfield field trips, the university implemented the recommendations broadly across all the university’s field schools.

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) centre is underway with an international CIFAL training centre to be established at UVic. Dr. Hall noted 20 international centres globally, with York University being the only other Canadian centre. In a relationship between UVic and the United Nations, the centre will focus on sustainable development goals.

Regarding government and partner institutions, Dr. Hall reported a busy month meeting provincial ministers, the Premier, and some of the national granting agency presidents. He also noted that the WestShore development conversations regarding micro-credentials for upscaling and re-education continued with more information to follow.

Dr. Hall extended his congratulations to Aaron Devor, who has been reappointed as Chair in Transgender Studies. John Borrows, CRC in Indigenous Law and co-founder of the JID/JD program, received the Canadian Bar Association President’s Award. Dr. Hall also recognized Women in Science Day on February 11 and the university’s various media posts on UVic’s women in STEM and their phenomenal research.

Finally, Dr. Hall noted that on February 24th, UVic held a conversation on Indigenous approaches to climate solutions, sustainability, and well-being with a panel of Indigenous knowledge holders. He reported that the discussion was well attended with 634 participants and is available for viewing online.

A Senate member asked if there was data to support the safe return to campus without a second vaccine. Dr. Hall replied that he would take the direction from the provincial public health office's expertise in this matter.

b. Presentation on the New Strategic Research and Creative Works Plan

Lisa Kalynchuk presented the new strategic research and creative works plan. She outlined the process plan and consultation approach undertaken in its development. Dr. Kalynchuk shared the draft aspirations and asked Senators for feedback on the proposed 2030 timeline and if there were any other suggestions for the strategy.

One member noted the use of the term “support” and mentioned the need for action. Dr. Kalynchuk agreed.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

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

a. Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance

i. Revisions to the Terms of Reference for the Senate Committee on Planning

Ada Saab noted the minor revisions to the Senate Committee on Planning terms of reference. There were no questions.

Motion: (J. Martin/M. Garcia-Barrera)
That Senate approve the revisions to the Terms of Reference for the Senate Committee on Planning.

CARRIED

ii. Report on Review of Presidential Appointment Procedures and Process

Carrie Andersen outlined the recommendations and noted the call for a member to serve on the joint committee to review the presidential appointment procedure and process.

In response to questions, Ms. Andersen clarified wording and representation on the appointment committee.

b. Senate Committee on Awards

i. Recommendation to Extend Travel Award Strategy

Charlotte Schallié introduced the proposal to extend the travel award strategy. There were no questions.

Motion: (B. Smith/R. Hancock)
That Senate approve a proposal to extend the travel award strategy initiated on May 14, 2020 for the 2021/22 academic year.

CARRIED

ii. New and Revised Awards

Dr. Schallié introduced the new and revised awards. There were no questions.

Motion: (B. Smith/M. Garcia-Barrera)
That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, the new and revised awards set out in the attached document:

- Faculty of Education Emergency Bursary (Revised)
- William and Gladys Partridge Award in Child Care* (Revised)
- National Entrance Scholarship* (Revised)
- Dr. Marion Porath Memorial Graduate Scholarship in Voice (New)
- Jeffrey Rubinoff Scholar in Art as a Source of Knowledge Scholarship* (Revised)
• Cora Arenas and Carol Artemiw Award for Second Year Women in Engineering (New)
• A. Hugh Salmond Memorial Scholarship in Elementary Science Education (Revised)
• Mrs. Matilda M. Schill Scholarship* (Revised)
• Hugh and Lilian Salmond Scholarship in Secondary Education* (Revised)
• A. Hugh Salmond Memorial Scholarship in Secondary Science Education* (Revised)
• John Boom Graduate Scholarship* (Revised)
• Jeremy and Carolyn Webber Award in Law (New)
• Joseph Arvay Social Justice Award (New)

* Administered by the University of Victoria Foundation

CARRIED

c. Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching

i. Recommendations for Revisions to the Course Experience Survey

Michael McGuire presented the recommendations for revision to the Course Experience Survey (CES). He outlined the purview of the Senate on this issue and the focus of the committee’s work.

A member thanked the committee for their work and asked for one additional step to ensure that the committee’s proposed instrument has undergone consultation across the campus. Dr. McGuire noted that the committee carefully considered the issues with CES and that any concerns regarding the evaluation of teaching were a separate issue outside of Senate’s purview. Laurene Sheilds, Executive Director, Learning and Teaching Support and Innovation (LTSI), added that the sub-committee undertook the feedback from a range of areas and issues, including the importance of the students’ voice.

Another member stated the University of Toronto had aligned their instrument with their learning outcomes many years previously and asked if this instrument’s adoption was using current research. Dr. Sheilds responded that the LTSI conducted a full literature review of quality teaching and learning excellence in 2018.

One Senate member worried that it was not possible to measure teaching effectiveness through student surveys and asked if the University of Toronto’s instrument will significantly reduce or eliminate student bias. Dr. Sheilds replied that the CES instrument is not focused on how it is used but on the tool itself. She noted that the question bank proposed was a significant improvement in relation to bias. It focused directly on the student learning experience and did not centre on attribute-type questions as in the current UVic CES.

A member stated that they felt the recommendations did not have robust enough consultation with faculty. As a result, a motion was put to table the motions from the committee. This member also asked that the vote be conducted via secret ballot.
Motion: (L. Marks/V. Wyatt)
That Senate approve to conduct a secret ballot to table the motions related to the revisions to the Course Experience Survey effective September 2021.

CARRIED

Various members stated that there would be no harm in further consultation with faculty members.

One member noted that if these motions were tabled, the current CES would be in use.

A Senate member asked that the two motions be separated so that the proposed revisions to the CES’s timing were considered independently from the revision to the questions.

Motion: (Y. Kandil/D. Cloutier)
That Senate approve the revision of the timing of the Course Experience Survey effective September 2021.

CARRIED

Motion: (J. Aragon/J. Clarke)
That Senate approve the revisions to the Course Experience Survey questions effective September 2021.

TABLED

d. Senate Committee on Planning

i. Proposal to disestablish approved Centre Status of the Centre for Biomedical Research

Robin Hicks introduced the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (M. Laidlaw/J. Bruton)
That Senate approve the proposal to disestablish approved Centre Status of the Centre for Biomedical Research, as described in the document “Centre for Biomedical Research Disestablishment”.

CARRIED

ii. Proposal to add a new stream in MMusic Performance – Conducting in the existing School of Music

Dr. Hicks introduced the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (J. Bruton/J. Colby)
That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that is also approve, the proposal to add a new stream in MMusic Performance – Conducting in the existing School of Music.

CARRIED
iii. Proposal to discontinue the Master of Arts in Hispanic Studies in the Faculty of Humanities

Dr. Hicks introduced the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (J. Colby/A. D’Arcy)
That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, the proposal to discontinue the Master of Arts in Hispanic Studies in the Faculty of Humanities.

CARRIED

iv. Proposal to discontinue the Master of Arts in Hispanic Studies and Italian Studies in the Faculty of Humanities

Dr. Hicks introduced the proposal, noting an amendment to the wording of the motion. There were no questions.

Motion: (A. Lepp/A. D’Arcy)
That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, the proposal to discontinue the Master of Arts in Hispanic and Italian Studies in the Faculty of Humanities.

CARRIED

v. Proposal to discontinue the Humanities/Continuing Studies diploma program in the Faculty of Humanities

Dr. Hicks introduced the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (C. Rose-Redwood/M. Laidlaw)
That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, the proposal to discontinue the Humanities/Continuing Studies diploma program in the Faculty of Humanities, as described in the document “Discontinuance of the Humanities/Continuing Studies Diploma Program”.

CARRIED

vi. Proposed changes to the Diploma in Indigenous Community Development and Governance Program

Dr. Hicks introduced the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (R. Hancock/S. Breau)
That Senate approve the proposed changes to the Diploma in Indigenous Community Development and Governance Program, as described in the document “Diploma in Indigenous Community Development and Governance Cycle 2 for Sept. 2021”.

CARRIED
vii. Proposal to discontinue the business option in all undergraduate programs in the Department of Economics

Dr. Hicks introduced the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (R. St. Clair/G. Voss)
That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, to discontinue the business option in all undergraduate programs in the Department of Economics, as described in the document “Discontinuance of Business Option”.

CARRIED

7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES

There was none.

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

There was none.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

a. 2020 Policy Annual Report

Ms. Andersen introduced the annual report which outlined the university policy activity and accomplishments. She highlighted the policies undertaken to remove gendered language. There were no questions.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m.
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MEMBERSHIP OF THE SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Effective January 1, 2021

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS - University Act: Section 35 (2) (a-f)
Chancellor: Shelagh Rogers
President and Vice-Chancellor: Kevin Hall, Chair
Vice-President Academic & Provost: Valerie Kuehne
Vice-President Research and Innovation: Lisa Kalynchuk
Dean, Peter B. Gustavson School of Business: Saul Klein, Vice-Chair
Dean of Education: Ralf St. Clair
Acting Dean of Engineering: Peter Wild
Dean of Continuing Studies: Jo-Anne Clarke
Acting Dean of Fine Arts: Allana Lindgren
Acting Dean of Graduate Studies: Steve Evans
Dean of HSD: Helga Hallgrimsdottir
Dean of Law: Susan Breau
Dean of Science: Peter Loock
Acting Dean of Social Sciences: Graham Voss
University Librarian: Jonathan Bengtson

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE FACULTIES
- Section 35 (2) (g)

BUSI: Brian Leacock (30/6/22)
    Brock Smith (30/6/21)
EDUC: Sandra Hundza (30/6/23)
    Graham McDonough (30/6/22)
ENGR: Phalguni Mukhopadhyaya (30/6/22)
    Henning Struchtrup (30/6/23)
FINE: Carolyn Butler Palmer (30/6/22)
    Yasmine Kandil (30/6/21)
GRAD: Mauricio Garcia-Barrera (30/6/23)
    Martha McGinnis (30/6/22)
HSD: Richard Marcy (30/6/21)
    Susan Strega (30/6/22)
HUMS: Jason Colby (30/6/21)
    Alexandra D’Arcy (30/6/22)
LAW: Mark Gillen (30/6/22)
    Andrew Newcombe (30/6/23)
SCIE: Neil Burford (30/6/23)
    Mark Laidlaw (30/6/23)
SOSC: Helen Kurki (30/6/23)
    Denise Cloutier (30/6/21)

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE FACULTY MEMBERS
- Sections 35 (2) (g)

Janni Aragon (SOSC) (30/6/21)
Rustom Bhiladvala (ENGR) (30/6/23)
Erin Campbell (FINE) (30/6/23)
Laura Cowen (SCIE) (30/6/22)
Aaron Devor (SOSC) (30/6/23)
Reuven Gordon (ENGR) (30/6/21)
Fraser Hof (SCIE) (30/6/23)
Sara Humphreys (HUM) (30/6/21)

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE FACULTY

Lynne Marks (HUM) (30/6/21)
CindyAnn Rose-Redwood (SOSC) (30/6/22)
Suzanne Snizek (FINE) (30/6/23)
Victoria Wyatt (FINE) (30/6/23)

MEMBERS ELECTED FROM THE STUDENT SOCIETIES – Section 35 (2) (h)

Brittany Berge (LAW) (30/6/21)
Jeffrey Bruton (GRAD) "
Sophia Crabbe (FINE) "
Logan Cucksey (SCIE) "
Robyn Giffen (GRAD) "
Benjamin Gijzen (SOSC) "
Jonathan Granirer (SOSC) "
Emily Hiser (SOSC) "
Navinder Hundal (SCIE) "
Tomas Kalyniuk (BUS) "
Joseph Martin (GRAD) "
Michelle Purchase (HSD) "
Evan Roubekas (ENGR) "
Wren Shaman (HUMS) "
Juliet Watts (SOSC) "
TBD (EDU) "

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CONVOCATION – Section 35 (2) (i)

David Alexander (30/06/21)
Chandra Beaveridge (30/06/21)
Robert Hancock (30/06/21)
Carolyn Russell (30/06/21)

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS - Section 35 (2) (k)

Head, Division of Medical Sciences: Bruce Wright
Member elected by the Professional Librarians: Dean Seeman (30/06/21)
Continuing Sessional: Matthew Koch (30/06/23)

SECRETARY OF SENATE - Section 64 (2)

University Secretary: Carrie Andersen

BY INVITATION - Seated with specified speaking rights

Acting Vice-Provost: Susan Lewis
Assoc. VP Student Affairs: Jim Dunsdon
A/Assoc. VP Academic Planning: Robin Hicks
Registrar: Nicole Greengoe
Associate University Secretary: Ada Saab

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