



University
of Victoria

MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on December 7, 2007 at 3:30 p.m. in the University Centre, Room A180.

The Vice-Chair of Senate, Dr. Peter Keller, was in the chair.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: (K.Stewart/R.Anthony)
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

Motion: (R.Mitchell/J.Baggs)
That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate, held on November 2, 2007, 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

Prof. Cassels provided the President's report on behalf of Dr. Turpin who sent his regrets. Dr. Turpin was in India, where he would be part of a provincial delegation.

Prof. Cassels provided Senate with an update on the federal and provincial scenes. On the federal front, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) had submitted its pre-budget submission to the Ministry of Finance, highlighting the need for greater support for graduate education, increased investment in research and improvement of the funding of indirect

costs of research. On the provincial front, the University Presidents' Council of BC (TUPC) had made a joint budget submission emphasizing continued investment in the graduate growth plan, research, and implementation of the Campus 2020 report. With respect to university news, Prof. Cassels reported that 600 guests had attended the Legacy Awards evening on November 20. This year's honorees were Murray Farmer, Lifetime Achievement; Jim Hunter, Distinguished Alumnus; Michaela Tokarski, Distinguished Young Alumna and Prof. Michael Webb (Political Science) and Prof. Glen Gallins (Law) Alumni Awards for Excellence in Teaching. There were 3 new Sports Hall of Fame inductees, Gary Dukelow (rugby), Robyn Meagher (cross country and track) and Deb Whitten (field hockey). Prof. Cassels announced that Dr. Martin Segger, Director of Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery, had received the Golden Anniversary Service Award from the BC Museum Association; Aimy Bazylak was the winner of the 2007 Bullitt Environmental Fellowship award for her fuel cell research; and Dr. Anita Molzahn had been awarded the annual Ethel Johns award from the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing in recognition of her distinguished service to nursing education in Canada. Other news included the opening of the Legacy Art Gallery on November 7. Prof. Cassels reminded everyone of the President's Holiday Reception on the afternoon of December 12.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Campus Planning Committee.
 - i. Semi-annual report

Ms. Gorrill, Vice-President Finance and Operations and Mr. Neil Connelly, Director of Campus Planning and Sustainability, attended Senate to respond to any questions on the Campus Planning Committee's semi-annual report. Ms. Gorrill reported that the Mearns Centre for Learning and the Social Science building were close to completion and that progress on the Science and Support Services buildings was going well. It was anticipated that construction on the First Peoples House would start in April 2008. Planning was proceeding for a new Enterprise Data Centre.

Dr. Kennedy referred to the Traffic and Parking Management study (item 1 in the report) and mentioned that Lot E, which services the Phillip T. Young Recital Hall, did not have a ticket dispensary for tnoonies. It meant members of the public had to hunt for a place to

purchase tickets to park. She suggested that an additional ticket dispensary machine was needed for “community goodwill”. Ms. Gorrill confirmed that they were trying to make it easy to pay for parking and they would look into this issue. Ms. Sheffield asked why it was necessary to pay for parking after 6:00 p.m. Ms. Gorrill stated that there were a number of reasons, including managing demand and promoting sustainability. They want to reduce parking and driving and to encourage alternative modes of transport. The funds from parking fees are used to support the cost of bus passes for students and staff. Ms. Gorrill confirmed that Camosun College also charged for evening parking. Dr. Mitchell suggested, as Chair of the Parking Committee, that the Committee should think about pedestrian control by the Student Union Building (SUB). At certain times of the day, there is a stream of students and it is difficult for traffic to get through. A pedestrian control light was suggested. Mr. Connelly stated that they were looking for a transportation consultant to conduct a parking and transportation demand management study and that this would come to the Committee in the Spring. Ms. Coulter inquired whether they had looked into BC Transit increasing bus service. In the evenings, students may need to bring cars or take cabs due to infrequent service and the remoteness of some locations. Mr. Connelly confirmed that he meets with BC Transit regularly. Ms. Coulter also suggested that there be a pedestrian safety education campaign. Ms. Gorrill stated that the university had approached the municipalities of Saanich and Oak Bay to request reduction of the speed limit to 30 mph. Ms. Sheffield said that she had looked into an alternative form of travel (Victoria Car Share Coop) and that it was not economical. Ms. Gorrill pointed out that the employee bus pass costs \$33.00 per month.

Prof. Cassels provided a general overview of some of the longer term items on the Campus Planning Committee’s agenda:

- (1) Renovations to vacated space;
- (2) Maintenance and deferred maintenance - some of the buildings on campus are more than 30 years old and in need of maintenance; and
- (3) Athletics and Recreation – UVic students are amongst the highest participants in athletics and recreational activities at universities across the country but UVic’s facilities are no longer on par.

To fit in with the Strategic Plan, the Committee needs to turn its attention to the quality and availability of these facilities. This represents a potential capital project.

In response to a question, Prof. Cassels confirmed that the School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education had been involved in planning for improved facilities and would continue to be involved.

Motion: (Rippin/Cross)

That the Senate receive, with thanks, the 2006/07 Semi-Annual Report of the Campus Planning Committee.

CARRIED

6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

- a. Senate Committee on Awards
 - i. 2006/07 Annual Report

Dr. Burke reported that, for every category, the total value of awards had increased. He acknowledged the injection of \$300,000, thanks to the Vice-President Academic and Provost's Office, which had made this possible. Awards, scholarships and bursaries were critical tools in enrolment management and in retaining students.

Ms. Sheffield, student senator on the Committee on Awards, asked whether the creation of new endowed chairs included support for students. Prof. Cassels said that was sometimes the case. Dr. Serra inquired whether there would be changes to enable students who take one year off between high school and university to qualify for entrance awards. Dr. Burke responded that this was still under discussion. Ms. Coulter asked if statistics could be provided on the number of dollars given to awards compared with other institutions, taking into consideration the cost of living in Victoria.

Motion: (R.Burke/M.Purkis)

That the Senate receive, with thanks, the 2006/07 Annual Report of the Senate Committee on Awards.

CARRIED

ii. New and revised undergraduate awards

Motion: (R.Burke/K.Stewart)

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.

- *Dr. Burton O. Kurth Scholarship for Excellence in English Honours* (new)*
- *Sisters of St. Ann Bursary in Education* (new)*
- *Donald & Evelyn Maclean Fund*
- *IEEE Pacific Rim Vijay Bhargava Scholarships* (revised)*
- *The IEEE Victoria Section Gold Medal in Software Engineering (new)*
- *Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists Achievement Awards (revised)*
- *Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists Gold Medal (revised)*
- *Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia (revised)*
- *BC Transmission Corporation Scholarship (new)*
- *Peter Darling Co-op Work Term Report Prize (new)*
- *Toni Garrett Co-op Work Term Report Prize (new)*
- *TP Systems Ltd. Graham Powell Memorial Scholarship in Child & Youth Care (new)*
- *TP Systems Ltd. Graham Powell Memorial Scholarship in Health Information Science (new)*
- *Alan Hedley Sociology Honours Essay Award* (revised)*

* Administered by the University of Victoria Foundation

CARRIED

b. Senate Committee on Academic Standards

ii. Proposal to Introduce New Grade Notations: N/X and F/X

Motion: (Haskett/Rippin)

That the Senate approve the new grade notations N/X and F/X for use with co-op work terms, as set pitsetin the attached calendar revision, and that these new grades be excluded from the calculation of all grade point averages (GPAs), effective May 1, 2008; and, that the explanation for N and F in the Undergraduate and Graduate grading tables be amended, as set out in the attached calendar revision.

CARRIED

ii. Recommended Change to the Undergraduate Admissions Requirements

Motion: (Haskett/Blackstone)

That the Senate approve the attached revision to the undergraduate admission requirements in the Undergraduate Calendar, in recognition of recent changes to high school graduation requirements by the British Columbia Ministry of Education, so that high school students are no longer required to submit provincial examinations for the courses in which the grades are optional. This would apply for undergraduate admission to any faculty at the University of Victoria and would be effective for those students admitted September 2008. When a student opts to write a provincial exam, the higher of the school mark or the blended grade will be included in their admission calculation.

Dr. Mitchell stated that, whilst he understood why the motion was being put, it was regrettable and was prompted by the government's action. He recalled that, a couple of decades

ago, high school marks had varied greatly from school to school. Provincial exams were introduced to level the playing field and had succeeded in that. Several senators echoed Dr. Mitchell's view that the proposed change was regrettable, including student senators who said that provincial exams had helped them prepare for university. Others said that provincial exams were not appropriate for all learning styles and should not be required by the university in subjects in which they are optional. Dr. Mitchell suggested that, since students are required to write examinations at university, they might as well get used to it sooner rather than later.

Ms. Joyce, of the Office of the Registrar and Enrolment Services, informed the Senate that where the student wrote a provincial exam on an optional basis, her office would use the calculation (school mark alone or blended grade) that was most beneficial to the student. She confirmed that the blending formula was $60(\text{school mark})/40(\text{provincial exam})$, which is the way the government reports it to the university.

A question was asked about whether units like the Faculty of Engineering would have additional requirements. Dr. Miller said that the Faculty requires a given percentage in specific subjects. If the motion were approved, it would reflect either the school grade or the blended grade, as per university policy. Ms. Verwoord suggested that approval of the motion would further the objective expressed in the Strategic Plan (removal of all barriers to admission other than academic and creative potential).

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

- c. Senate Committee on Curriculum
 - i. Revisions to the Policy 2100 Policy on Calendar Submissions

Motion: (Mitchell/Fulton)

That the Senate approve the revised Policy 2100 Policy on Calendar Submissions

recommended by the Senate Committee on Curriculum.

Dr. Fulton noted one small change to be made to the memo before Senate. Paragraph iii should read, "...2.12, where the two kinds of "Other" changes are *now* clearly distinguished...."

CARRIED

d. Senate Committee on Planning

Dr. Mateer gave a brief explanation of the proposed revisions to Policies 2400 and 1080.

i. Revisions to Policy 2400 – Guidelines and Procedure for the Establishment of Diploma and Certificate Programs.

Dr. Mateer explained that the policy consists of two parts:

- (1) Part I - at the undergraduate level it updates the policies that have been in place for many years; and
- (2) Part II - at the graduate level it establishes graduate certificates and diplomas. There is a keen interest on the part of many academic units to reach a broader range of students: mature, part-time and working professionals.

She indicated the revisions are intended to assist undergraduates to gain educational qualifications in areas of specialization. The policy emphasizes academic quality and establishes oversight of program development and delivery within regular academic structures.

Dr. Eastman informed Senate that policies 2400 and 1080 were the first policies to be approved in the format prescribed by the new policy parameters approved by Senate in October and the Board of Governors in November. Approval of the framework was an important step in enabling the university to update its policies. Under the new policy framework, policy is separated from procedure and each new policy identifies a designated executive officer who is responsible for the implementation of the policy and a procedural

authority who is responsible for approving procedures and

amendments to them. For Policy 2400, the procedural authority is the office of the Vice-President Academic and Provost.

Dr. Mitchell referred to s. 3.2.6., “..... with approval.....”, and stated that not every unit allowed students to double-count credits towards credentials and that it was important that there be clarity about what could (and could not) be counted toward a degree.

Motion: (J.Davis/D.Sheffield)

That the Senate approve the revision of Policy 2400 – Guidelines and Procedures for the Establishment of Diploma and Certificate Programs, and also approve the renaming of the Policy to the new name of Policy 2400 – Policy for the Establishment of Certificate and Diploma Courses.

CARRIED

- ii. Revision of Policy 1080 – Policy for the Establishment of Endowed and Term Chairs and Professorships

Motion: (Dower/Blackstone)

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that is also approve the revision of Policy 1080 – Policy for the Establishment of Endowed and Term Chairs and Professorships.

Dr. Mateer reported that in the course of the recent establishment of a new Chair, it had become apparent that Policy 1080 needed to be reviewed and updated.

Prof. Cassels informed Senate that a series of editorial changes had been made to the policy to make it more consistent with the language now used. One substantive change was at paragraph 9 of the policy. In the old version, no university resources were to be used in creating a new Chair. Current interest rates are now such that the gift alone cannot realistically be expected to fund the position fully. The word “normally” had been added to allow discretion.

Ms. Sheffield asked whether scrutiny and due diligence are

given to proposed gifts to ensure there is no conflict of interest or other concern. Prof. Cassels confirmed that due diligence is performed.

CARRIED

7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES

- a. Faculty of Graduate Studies: Graduate Admissions and Awards Committee
 - i. New graduate awards

Motion: (Purkis/Dower)

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors for its approval, the following new and revised awards recommended by the Faculty of Graduate Studies:

- *Denis & Pat Protti Entrance Scholarship*
- *Sisters of St. Ann Scholarship in Nursing*

CARRIED

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the open meeting of Senate adjourned at 4:25 p.m.