



University
of Victoria

MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on Friday, January 12, 2007 at 3:30 p.m. in the University Centre, Room A180. The Chair of the Senate, Dr. David Turpin, was in the chair.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: (L. Cross/P. Kostek)
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED.

2. MINUTES

a. December 1, 2006

The Chair indicated that the attendance sheet attached to the agenda had been incomplete but that a complete version had been filed and was available should any Senator wish a copy.

Motion: (R. Mitchell/A. Rippin)
That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate, held on December 1, 2006, be approved and that the approved minutes be circulated in the usual way.

CARRIED.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Turpin announced that the university's Chancellor, Dr. Ron Lou-Poy, had been named recipient of the 2007 Leadership Victoria's Lifetime Achievement Award. The award, which recognizes outstanding long-term community leadership, is granted by Victoria's Leadership Awards – a partnership between Leadership Victoria, The Rotary Clubs of Greater Victoria and the University of Victoria – and would be presented at a ceremony on January 24th. Dr. Turpin said that he would extend the university's congratulations to Dr. Lou-Poy on this enormous honour.

Dr. Turpin said that he was also pleased to announce that Dr. Micaela Serra has been re-elected to Senate as a faculty-member-at-large and that Dr. Brock Smith had been acclaimed as representative of the Faculty of Business

Dr. Turpin reported on developments at the federal level, including a recent cabinet shuffle, and on the province's Campus 2020 exercise. He noted that the University of Victoria's submission could be found on the President's office's page of the UVic website.

He reported on developments at the university including:

- The appointment of Ms. Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi as the first director of the new Office of Indigenous Affairs.
- The appointment of Ms. Marilyn Florence, effective the middle of February as awards facilitator – a role in which she will facilitate the nominations and applications of members of UVic for external awards.
- Important milestones in the NOVA project including the go-live of the new Human Resources Information System.
- The compilation of a “Community Engagement Snapshot” to illustrate with examples the breadth and nature of UVic's interactions with the community. A draft would be made available soon via the External Relations and Accountability web pages.
- The release of the University of Victoria editorial style guide.
- MBA students Amanda Wright and Marian de Mange completed a study of the economic impact of the Vancouver Island Technology Park and showed a \$280M annual impact.

Dr. Turpin mentioned that he had recently been named Chair of the Canada Research Knowledge Network – a consortium of research libraries involved in a national site-license for digital scholarly information.

He reported on honours recently accorded to:

- Dr. Gordon Smith of the Centre for Global Studies, who had been named a Trudeau Mentor by the Trudeau Foundation.
- Dr. Tom Pedersen, Dean of Science, named Fellow of the American Geophysical Union.
- Dr. Andrea McKenzie of the Department of History, who had won both the Surrency Prize and the Sutherland Prize of the American Society for Legal History.
- Dr. Wolfgang Hoefler of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, who had been awarded an honorary degree from the Technical University of Munich and had been elevated to the rank of Life Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

5. CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS FROM NON-SENATE COMMITTEES

a. Planning and Priorities Committee

i. Strategic Plan Renewal

Dr. Turpin recalled that Senators had provided comments on the penultimate draft of the strategic plan at the December 1 Senate meeting. A number of revisions had been made to the document in light of that and other feedback received by the Planning and Priorities Committee. Dr. Turpin addressed two of the points raised by Senators and others. He recalled the discussion at the December 1 meeting regarding monitoring of and accountability for the implementation of the strategic plan and noted that the last page of the new draft provided for annual reports to the Senate and the Board of Governors by the President in consultation with the Planning and Priorities Committee. He said that a few authors of written submissions to the Planning and Priorities Committee had expressed concern about a perceived diminution of commitment to

research and graduate education. The introductory part of the plan had been revised to make it clear that the emphasis on the importance of student recruitment and the quality of undergraduate education was intended, not to imply any erosion of research and graduate education, but rather to ensure that the quality of undergraduate education is consistent with the latter. The individuals who had raised this issue had been thanked for bringing it to the Committee's attention. There had also been some changes in the units identified as responsible for the implementation of particular recommendations. Other changes had been relatively minor or indeed editorial.

It was moved (A. Rippin/L. Cross):

That Senate ratify the renewed University of Victoria Strategic Plan, 2007.

Ms. Devine expressed concern that a particular submission that had been submitted by the December 1 deadline had not been provided to Planning and Priorities Committee members prior to their meeting later that month. Dr. Eastman said that, due to an administrative error, three submissions that had been received on December 1 had not been provided to the Planning and Priorities Committee before its meeting. She indicated that, as soon as the error had been identified, the three submissions - and one received after the deadline - had been forwarded electronically to committee members.

George Robinson stated that, whereas Senate dockets are to be distributed on Fridays according to the Senate Procedures, student Senators had received theirs on Monday, January 8 rather than on Friday, January 5, making it difficult for them to meet in advance of this meeting.

In response to a question from Ms. Schwartz, Dr. Turpin indicated that approximately thirty submissions had been received by the Planning and Priorities Committee. Mr. Park, a member of the Planning and Priorities Committee, said that they had come in around exam time, when students and faculty are very busy.

It was moved (R. Park/G. Robinson)

That ratification of the Strategic Plan be deferred to allow the Planning and Priorities Committee to give further consideration to submissions.

Professor Cassels, a member of the Planning and Priorities Committee, summarized the process whereby the strategic plan had been renewed, which had begun in the spring of 2005 and included the release of a discussion paper in the fall of 2005, more than 60 consultations on and off campus in the winter and spring of 2006 and extensive written and electronic input, and the release of a renewed plan, drafted in light of that input, for comment in the fall of 2006. He asked that Senators keep this in mind in considering the request for further consideration.

Mr. Cross said that the Alumni Association had been fully involved and was satisfied with the process.

Professor Gammon said, as a member of the Planning and Priorities Committee, that members of that committee conducted business both at meetings and by e-mail. Mr. Peters said he nevertheless thought it was very problematic that several submissions had not gone to committee members prior to their meeting.

Dr. Artz said that there had been extensive consultation, the renewed plan was sound and well-written, and there was no point in deferring its approval.

The motion to defer approval of the renewed plan was **DEFEATED**.

The Senators were reminded of the prior motion.

Motion: (A. Rippin/L. Cross)
That Senate ratify the renewed University of Victoria
Strategic Plan, 2007

CARRIED.

Dr. Turpin noted that the renewal of the strategic plan had been an extensive process stretching over a year and a half. He thanked Senators and everyone who had contributed to the process.

6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

a. Senate Committee on Awards

i. New and Revised Undergraduate and Graduate Awards

Ms. Cardona Madero suggested that it was odd that the Friends of Vikes Cross Country/Track Award would go to students who compete on the varsity golf team. Dr. Burke agreed that it was an unusual stipulation. More seriously, he acknowledged the typographical error and said that it would be corrected.

Motion: (R. Burke/J. Dower)
That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of
Governors for its approval, the new and revised awards
recommended by the Senate Committee on Awards as set
out in the attached document.

CARRIED.

b. Senate Committee on Nominations and Committee Governance

i. Appointment to the Campus Planning Committee

Motion: (A. Lepp/N. Devine)
That Senate approve the appointment of Dr. Nancy Turner to
replace Dr. Eric Higgs on the Campus Planning Committee
for a period of six months, effective January 1, 2007.

CARRIED.

7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES

There were none.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Vice-President Research Search Committee

i. Election of a Senator to the Search Committee for the Vice-President Research.

Dr. Turpin reported that an advertisement had been placed and that the composition of the search committee was almost complete. He called for nominations. Ms. Devine, seconded by Mr. Robinson, nominated Ms. Cardona Madero. Dr. Mitchell, seconded by Ms. Swanson, nominated Professor Cassels. Ballots were distributed. Senators were instructed to write on them the name of the individual for whom they voted. The ballots were collected and counted. It was subsequently announced by Professor Gammon, one of the scrutineers, that Ms. Cardona Madero had received 15 votes and Professor Cassels 32. Dr. Turpin declared Professor Cassels elected and thanked Ms. Cardona Madero for standing.

b. National Student Day of Action

Dr. Mitchell asked if he could assume that a “penalty-free day” was to be interpreted as set out in the memo from Professor Cassels to Deans, Chairs and Directors, included in the docket. Professor Cassels said that his memo had been sent out after consultation with students in this and previous years and that the interpretation had not been challenged. Dr. Turpin asked Mr. Robinson and Mr. Peters if that was also their understanding. They confirmed that it was.

Motion: (J. Peters/G. Robinson)

Whereas the Senate acknowledges the usefulness of a strong student effort to increase financial support for post-secondary education; and whereas the UVSS and GSS have planned activities for February 7, 2007 to raise public awareness about the role of post-secondary education and to pressure governments to reinvest in affordable, high-quality education. Be it resolved that Senate declares February 7, 2007 to be a penalty-free day for which no student shall receive an academic penalty for not attending classes.

CARRIED.

Attention turned to the second motion. Dr. Mitchell expressed opposition to it, on the grounds that some activities might be lawful but not reflect the will of Senate. Mr. Peters and others explained that students were seeking Senate’s support in lobbying government to make education more affordable and accessible. After a busy discussion, Professor Petter proposed that the words “lawful activities to increase awareness of” be deleted from the motion. Mr. Robinson, having moved the motion, accepted this as a friendly amendment.

Motion: (G. Robinson/J. Peters)

Be it further resolved that the Senate endorses the need for Canada and British Columbia to reinvest in affordable, high quality education at the post-secondary level.

CARRIED.

c. Results of Recent Elections to Senate

Dr. Turpin noted that, as reported earlier, Dr. Brock Smith had been acclaimed as a representative of the Faculty of Business and Dr. Micaela Serra elected by faculty members at large.

d. Joint Senate-Board Retreat

Dr. Turpin reminded Senators that this year's Joint Senate-Board Retreat would be on Saturday, March 3 at Dunsmuir Lodge. He urged Senators to put this in their calendars and indicated that an invitation outlining the day's topic and seeking confirmation of attendance would be issued shortly. Carpooling would be arranged to facilitate participation.

e. Elections of Students to Senate

Dr. Turpin said that a call for nominations of students to Senate and the Board of Governors would be issued very shortly with a deadline of February 7. He recalled that a small field last spring had resulted in numerous by-elections on the floor of Senate in the fall and encouraged strong student participation in this spring's elections.

f. Honorary Degrees

Dr. Turpin indicated that the next deadline for nominations for honorary degrees would be March 1. He urged Senators to think of individuals who might be worthy of recognition and to submit nominations.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:15 p.m.