



**University
of Victoria**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on February 1, 2008 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

Dr. Mitchell requested that an item on the new university website under development be added to the agenda. Dr. Turpin suggested it be added under “Other Business”.

Motion: (S. Blackstone/A. Rippin)
That the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

Motion: (L. Cross/P. Keller)
That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate, held on January 11, 2008, 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

Dr. Turpin indicated that, in light of the recent announcement of government funding of a Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, a report would be provided and the general research update from Dr. Brunt would be given at the next meeting.

a. Presentation on the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions

Dr. Turpin provided an introduction on the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) and acknowledged that its creation was due to the scholarly excellence in this field at UVic. He thanked Dr. Taylor, Dr. Brunt, Dr. Pedersen, Prof. Cassels, Dr. Kuehne, Ms. Gorrill and Ms. Paquette for all their work in bringing the proposal to fruition.

Dr. Howard Brunt provided a powerpoint presentation on PICS and an overview of the next steps for the proposal. The centre would be approved under the Guidelines for the Establishment and Approval of Centres and Groups, and its structure would be similar to the Centre for Additions Research of BC. Dr. Brunt indicated that a proposal would be presented to the Senate Committee on Planning on February 13, Senate on March 7, with approval by the Board of Governors to follow at a special meeting. He

acknowledged that there was still a lot of work to do and the Executive Committee made up of Dr. Turpin, Dr. Pedersen, Dr. Ommer (who had agreed to be the Acting Interim Director), Dr. Brunt and representatives from other institutions would be meeting next week to get things running. A Scientific Management Steering Committee was working on a draft of the centre's terms of reference and an Advisory Board including representatives from private sector, the government and NGOs would also be created.

It was noted that the funding of \$94.5 million would be subject to legislative approval at the next sitting of the legislature. It is anticipated that the endowment would generate approximately \$4 million annually, and that initial funding would be provided for the first year of operations. Regarding the location of the centre, Dr. Turpin said that the university was looking at decanted space on campus for space for PICS. A temporary location would be found, possibly in the TEF building. Dr. Turner asked about communications and Dr. Turpin stated that they were currently looking for a communications professional to assist in an overall communications plan for the centre.

b. President's Report:

Dr. Turpin made the following announcements:

- February 1: there would be a launch of a two-phase marketing campaign for students with advertising on television, websites and other on-line media;
- February 2 – 9: the university will host its first annual Alumni week with special events for alumni who work on campus;
- Wednesday, February 6: the Vice President Academic's Diversity Advisor will hold a workshop on "*Together in Diversity: Critical conversations about diversity – inaugural UVic research forum for faculty and students*";
- April 9: a blessing ceremony for the First People's House site will take place.

Dr. Turpin reported that at the Victoria Leadership Awards, there were a number of UVic winners including Dr. Sibylle Artz and Dr. Bonnie Leadbeater. The Vancity Youth Award winner was senator Roselynn Verwoord.

Dr. Turpin reminded Senate of two upcoming President's Distinguished Lectures:

- Monday, March 3 – Shirin Ebadi, 2003 Nobel Peace Prize winner
- Tuesday, March 11 – a panel discussion with Maher Arar, Monica Mazigh and Stephen Toope, which is being moderated by Dr. Petter.

5. CORRESPONDENCE – NIL

6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

a. Senate Committee on Awards

i. New and revised undergraduate awards

Motion: (R. Burke/G. Robinson)

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:

*Elizabeth (Betty) Valentine Prangnell Scholarship
(new)**

*Joan Backus Scholarship in Music (new)**

*Doris & Harry Stastny Bursaries (new)**

**Administered by the University of Victoria Foundation*

CARRIED

b. Senate Committee on Curriculum

i) 2007/08 Annual Report

Motion: (M. Purkis/A. Monahan)

That the Senate receive, with thanks, the 2007/08 Annual Report of the Senate Committee on Curriculum

CARRIED

ii) 2008/09 Major Curriculum Changes

Motion: (R. Mitchell/S. Blackstone)

That Senate approve the Major Curriculum Changes recommended by the Faculties and the Senate Committee on Curriculum for inclusion in the 2008/09 calendar.

CARRIED

Motion: (P. Keller/M. Purkis)

That Senate authorize the Chair of the Senate Committee on Curriculum to make small changes and additions that would otherwise unnecessarily delay the submission of items for the calendar.

CARRIED

Dr. Turpin thanked Dr. Fulton and all members of the Senate Committee on Curriculum for their hard work in approving the annual curriculum submission.

7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES

a. Update from the Faculty of Human and Social Development

Dr. Mary-Ellen Purkis provided Senate with a powerpoint presentation on the Faculty of Human and Social Development. She informed Senate of a number of major initiatives in the faculty.

After the presentation, members of Senate were invited to ask questions. In response to questions about the faculty's drop in enrolments, Dr. Purkis responded that enrolments have been particularly affected in the School of Nursing although there is a demand for more nurses. She noted that enrolment in Nursing has been affected by degree programs being offered by the colleges. She also noted that there is a shortage of clinical placements. The school is working with the Ministry to restructure programs in an attempt to attract more applicants. Ms. Page applauded the faculty's work in the area of international development. Dr. Purkis informed Senate of the "Africa Network Partnership" which they were developing in conjunction with Office of International Affairs.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Ten-Year Sessional Calendar

Dr. Turpin indicated that Senate created the Ten-Year Calendar taking into account the principles previously decided. Dr. Eastman indicated that the reference to 58 days for the second term of 2007/08 should be corrected to 60 days. She summarized the memo provided to Senate which outlined changes to the Ten-Year Calendar. Dr. Eastman noted that concerns were raised regarding the early start date for classes in January 2008. She informed Senate that this scenario would not occur again until 2012 and 2013 and consideration would be given as to whether to modify the January start dates in those years well in advance of those dates.

Dr. Burke stated that although he appreciated that certain principles applied in the creation of the Ten-Year calendar, if more time was needed in a semester, the university should consider eliminating the two clear days between end of classes and start of exams. A number of student senators expressed concern that removing those two clear days would increase the stress level of students. Dr. Burke agreed that two days would be preferable, but that many other institutions did not provide these days. Dr. Turpin indicated that another reason for the two days might be administrative to prepare for exams. Mr. Robinson voiced support for a longer break in the fall term.

Motion: (S. Blackstone/R. Anthony)
That Senate approve the 2007-2017 Ten-Year
Sessional Calendar.

CARRIED

b. 2008/09 Academic Year Important Dates

Motion: (M. Purkis/S. Blackstone)
That Senate approve the 2008/09 Academic Year
Important Dates.

CARRIED

c. 2007/08 Emeritus

Dr. Eastman informed Senate that Dr. Yvonne Martin-Newcombe was also to be added to the list, and that the list would be subject to adding new names when others were identified. Dr. Devor asked that Donald Leland's name be checked, as he believed this to be Leland Donald. It was noted that the calendar date in the motion should be amended to 2008/09.

Motion: (T. Riecken/A. Rippen)
That Senate approve the 2007/08 Emeritus list for
submission to the 2008/09 university calendar.

CARRIED

d. University website

Dr. Mitchell stated that he found the draft new website extremely frustrating and that he could not find a number of things on the it including the library and his own faculty. He urged other members of Senate to take a look at the draft website and submit feedback.

Dr. Turpin noted that the focus of the new website is to recruit new students to the university and encouraged members of Senate to visit the site and provide feedback.

Mr. Robinson inquired whether there had been any changes to academic policy since the last Senate meeting, following the motion Senate had approved to allow for omnibus approval for short-term Nova related changes to academic standards. Prof. Cassels confirmed that there had been no changes to academic policy since the last meeting.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the open meeting of Senate was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.