



University  
of Victoria

## MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on April 3, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. in the Senate and Board Chambers, Room A180, University Centre.

### 1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: (S. Blackstone/A. Ripplin)  
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

### 2. MINUTES

Motion: (T. Haskett/T. Ho)  
That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate held on March 6, 2009 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

Dr. Turpin provided an update on the federal and provincial budgets. He reported that the federal government had announced infrastructure funding and that the provincial government had agreed to provide some matching funding. Although it was not yet clear how the funding would be allocated, Dr. Turpin said the university had submitted a number of proposals. He expected the university would receive news about these proposals within the next couple of weeks.

Dr. Turpin advised members of Senate that the UVic budget framework had been approved by the Board of Governors earlier in the week. He referred to a press release that was distributed at the beginning of the meeting. Dr. Turpin said that, although the university had been allocated more funds by the provincial government than it had expected, the university would continue to budget cautiously and conservatively. Prof. Cassels reported that the university would be using the additional funding to invest in student learning supports and graduate growth. He added that funds would also be used to relieve economic pressures, as well as to support student financial aid.

With regard to events at the university, Dr. Turpin reported that:

- on March 16, 2009, the establishment of the Oceans Network Canada Centre for Enterprise and Excellence, a new Centre of Excellence for Commercialization and Research, was announced;
- Dr. Ray Siemens, Faculty of Humanities, was leading a project called “Implementing New Knowledge Environments” that was announced on March 16, 2009;
- Dr. Ben Koop, Centre for Biomedical Research, was the recipient of the Genome BC Award for Scientific Excellence;
- Dr. Michael Best, former chair of UVic’s Department of English, was awarded the 2009 Award for Outstanding Achievement for Computing in the Arts and Humanities;
- Dr. Jessica Ball, School of Child and Youth Care, was the recipient of the 2009 Distinguished Academic of the Year Award at the CUFA BC Distinguished Academic Awards;
- Mr. Chris Petter was awarded the Canadian Association of University Teachers Dedicated Service Award; and
- Jill Doucette, a fourth-year UVic biology student, won top honours at the national Nicol Entrepreneurship competition.

Dr. Turpin reported on recent accomplishments by the UVic Vikes. He also announced the hiring of Ms. Kerra StJohn as Director of University Ceremonies and Events, and the appointment of Ms. Lauren Charlton as Acting Registrar following Ms. Wallace-Hulecki’s departure from the university.

## **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Office of the Ombudsperson
  - i. 2008 Annual Report

Ms. Conway announced that 2008 was the 30th anniversary of the Ombuds office at UVic. In addition to its annual report, the office had also issued a special report. Ms. Conway reviewed the annual report with members of Senate, highlighting the key areas of focus. In particular, she noted that a number of concerns with course outlines had been identified.

Motion: (R. Anthony/ M. Purkis)

That the Senate receive, with thanks, the 2008 Annual Report of the Office of the Ombudsperson.

**CARRIED**

## **6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES**

**a. Senate Committee on Awards**

**i. New and revised undergraduate awards**

Motion: (S. Lewis Hammond/M. Kennedy)

That 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:

- *British Columbia Masonic Foundation Bursary in Elementary Education\** (new)
- *Michael Meloche Scholarship* (new)
- *Dr. Shawn Cafferky Scholarship in Military History\** (new)
- *Paige Cameron Memorial Bursary* (new)
- *Capi Blanchet Scholarship* (new)
- *Jack and Margaret Todd Women's Gold Award\** (new)

\*Administered by the University of Victoria Foundation

**CARRIED**

**b. Senate Committee on Nominations and Committee Governance**

**i. Revised Terms of Reference and Procedural Guidelines  
– Senate Committee on Appeals**

Dr. Turpin introduced Prof. Pirie, Chair of the Senate Committee on Appeals. Prof. Pirie reported that the Senate Committee on Appeals was proposing revisions to its terms of reference and procedural guidelines in order to improve fairness and efficiency. He said the committee had undertaken extensive consultations and received very positive feedback. He also noted that the revisions had been endorsed by the Senate Committee on Nominations and Committee Governance, which was making the recommendation to Senate. Prof. Pirie reviewed the proposed revisions, which included:

- clarification of the committee's jurisdiction;
- emphasizing the opportunity to engage in mediation;
- a reduction in the deadline for filing an appeal from six months to two months;
- simplified submissions from parties to an appeal;
- a shift to hearings based solely on written materials as a presumption;
- a reduction in the size of a hearing panel from five members to three members as a presumption;
- changes to the composition of the committee;
- opportunities for the hearing panel to call on experts; and
- further clarification regarding implementation of a hearing panel's decision.

Prof. Pirie said the proposed changes, if approved, would take effect on July 1, 2009.

Dr. Anthony appreciated the emphasis on mediation. He thought parties should be required to outline in their submissions any previous mediation that had been undertaken, so as to fully inform the hearing panel of the steps taken to resolve the appeal.

With regard to implementation of a hearing panel's decision, Dr. Devor asked if appellants were ever required to report back on steps taken. Prof. Pirie said this could happen and said the procedural guidelines could be amended to clarify this point.

Dr. Preece spoke in support of the changes. She noted that she had been chair of the Senate Committee on Appeals in the past and thought the revisions were positive improvements.

Dr. Haskett asked if parties could engage legal counsel at any stage of an appeal. Prof. Pirie said that they could.

Dr. Haskett asked if there was an official record keeper for hearings. Prof. Pirie responded that a representative from the University Secretary's office was present at all hearings. He added that the written decision of the hearing panel served as the official record of the hearing and the hearing panel's decision.

Dr. Turpin said the points of clarification suggested would be incorporated into the terms of reference and procedural guidelines in an administrative fashion.

Motion: (A. Lepp/T. Haskett)

That the Senate approve the revised Terms of Reference and Procedural Guidelines for the Senate Committee on Appeals as set out in the attached documents dated March 17, 2009 effective July 1, 2009.

**CARRIED**

**c. Senate Committee on Planning**

**i. Laboratory for Automation, Communication, and Information Systems Research**

Motion: (C. Comrie/S. Blackstone)

That the Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, the renewal of Approved Centre Status for the Laboratory for Automation, Communication, and Information Systems Research (LACIR) for the period 1 April, 2009 – 31 March, 2010, as described in the attached documents. This recommendation is not contingent upon the suggestions in the attached materials relating to resources, which are advice to the Vice-Presidents.

**CARRIED**

**ii. Centre for Advanced Materials and Related Technology**

Motion: (P. Wild/V. Harrison)

That the Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, a conditional renewal for a two year period of Approved Centre Status for the Centre for Advanced Materials and Related Technology (CAMTEC) for the period 1 April, 2009 – 31 March, 2011 as described in the attached documents. This recommendation is not contingent upon the suggestions in the attached materials relating to resources, which are advice to the Vice-Presidents.

**CARRIED**

**d. Senate Committee on University Budget**

**i. 2008/2009 Annual Report**

Motion: (R. Howell/R. Anthony)

That the Senate receive, with thanks, the 2008/09 Annual Report of the Senate Committee on University Budget.

**CARRIED**

**7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES**

**a. Faculty of Graduate Studies: Graduate Admissions and Awards Committee**

**i. New and revised graduate awards**

Motion: (A. Devor/A. Rippin)

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

- *Neena Chappel Scholarship\* (revised)*
- *Dr. David Chuenyan Lai Scholarship\* (revised)*
- *Sam and June Macey Graduate Scholarship in English or History\* (revised)*
- *Sam and June Macey Graduate Scholarship in Business\* (revised)*

\* Administered by the University of Victoria Foundation

**CARRIED**

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

**a. Results of the elections of students to Senate and Board of Governors**

Dr. Eastman noted that the results of the elections were included in the docket. She congratulated those who were elected.

There being no further business, the open meeting of Senate was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.