



University
of Victoria

MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on December 5, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. in the Senate and Board chambers, Room A180, University Centre.

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

Dr. Keller welcomed senators to the meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: (A. Rippin/M. Kennedy)
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

Motion: (R. Mitchell/R. Anthony)
That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate held on November 7, 2008 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. University rankings

Mr. Tony Eder, director of institutional planning and analysis, provided a PowerPoint presentation on UVic's placement in the university rankings recently published in publications such as Research InfoSource, the Globe and Mail, and Macleans.

Dr. Keller congratulated the university community for its hard work, which had contributed to excellent results in the rankings.

b. Other matters

In Dr. Turpin's absence, Vice-President Academic and Provost Jamie Cassels presented the president's report. Prof. Cassels noted that Dr. Turpin was in India on university business.

Prof. Cassels invited senators to attend the president's reception on December 16, 2008 in the Bob Wright Centre for Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

Prof. Cassels reported that:

- the university's senior administrative offices were in the process of moving to the new Administrative Services Building.
- the President's Panel on the Economy held on November 18, 2008 had been well attended.
- The University President's Council had been re-constituted as the Research University's Council. It included UVic, UBC, SFU and UNBC.

Prof. Cassels congratulated convocation senator, Mr. Larry Cross, on his election as mayor of Sidney.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Campus Planning Committee – Semi-annual report

Dr. Mitchell said he had received a report on a study completed on campus traffic and parking. He asked what input the campus parking committee had provided during development of the report. Mr. Connelly replied that the committee had been involved in the consultations. He said he would have to confirm the extent of the committee's input.

Dr. Mitchell commented that, in his experience, the campus parking committee was underutilized. He said the committee was created to advise on parking matters and thought the university should better utilize the committee for that purpose.

Motion: (S. Blackstone/R. Anthony)

That the Senate receive, with thanks, the 2008/09 semi-annual report of the Campus Planning Committee.

CARRIED

6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

a. Senate Committee on Admission, Re-registration and Transfer

i. Second language requirement in the Faculty of Social Sciences

Dr. Mitchell said that, although he understood the rationale for eliminating the second language requirement, he thought it was unfortunate that the university seemed to continually be eliminating requirements in order to compete with other institutions. Dr. Webb replied that, in this case, the question raised was whether this particular requirement served a clear purpose in the faculty.

Mr. Wade recalled his high school experience and noted a language 11 requirement did not ensure proficiency. He thought the requirement might seem arbitrary to high school students and could affect their choice of university. Ms. Wallace Hulecki added that a language 11 is no longer required for graduation from high school in British Columbia.

Mr. Karas said many students in social sciences programs, like political science, might be seeking jobs in the public service. He thought second language proficiency could be useful in these jobs and wondered if language requirements could be built in to social sciences programs, as appropriate.

Ms. Comrie noted that it was important to recognize that Canada is a bilingual country. She thought this should be reflected in educational programs.

Dr. Kennedy agreed with Dr. Mitchell and said the elimination of admission requirements did seem like a “race for the bottom”. She added that any reduction in requirements at the university level would affect the course choices of students at the high school level. Mr. Cross said the reduction in language requirements seemed to be a trend across the education system.

Mr. Neville asked what the original rationale for the second language requirement was and whether it was apparent how many students were choosing not to attend UVic because of the requirement. Ms. Wallace Hulecki provided some statistics indicating that close to 50 students who applied to UVic in Fall 2007 did not meet the second language requirement. She said some students had received a waiver for this requirement but others had chosen not to attend the university. Ms. Wallace Hulecki added that the university did not have statistics on how many students chose not to apply to UVic because of the requirement.

Ms. Gammon asked whether the Faculty of Social Sciences had considered continuing to use the waiver system instead of eliminating the second language requirement. Dr. Webb said it had been considered but that the waiver system did not address the problem of students who choose not to apply because of the requirement. In addition, he questioned

the worth of maintaining a requirement that did not serve a clear pedagogical purpose in the faculty.

Dr. Mitchell noted that, after hearing Mr. Eder's presentation on university rankings, there seemed to be a dilemma between wanting to achieve the highest rankings and needing to maximize enrolment. He said he would not vote against the motion; however, he felt it was unfortunate that a requirement that served an overall educational purpose was being eliminated.

Motion: (V. Harrison/M. Webb)

That the requirement of a second language be removed from the admissions requirements of the Faculty of Social Sciences.

CARRIED

b. Senate Committee on Awards

i. New and revised undergraduate awards

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

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors for its approval, the new and revised awards as recommended by the Senate Committee on Awards:

- *Vikes Women's Basketball Spirit Award* (new)*
- *Mary M. & Erich Schwandt Scholarship* (new)*
- *Ken Hurn Bursary in Elementary Education* (new)*
- *Don & Drina Corker Bursary* (new)*
- *Rhys Alexander Davis Scholarship in Environmental Studies* (new)*
- *Simba Technologies Inc. Scholarship (formerly Orbital Technologies Inc. Scholarship) * (revised)*
- *Joseph B. Jackson Bursary* (revised)*

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CARRIED

ii. The Ronald Lou-Poy Entrance Scholarship

Dr. Eastman reported that the motion for approval of The Ronald Lou-Poy Entrance Scholarship, which had been circulated by email, had been carried unanimously.

c. Senate Committee on Planning

i. PhD in International Management and Organization

Dr. Anthony congratulated the Faculty of Business on the proposal, which included a teacher training component. He encouraged faculty to maintain a focus on the development of teaching skills as the program developed.

Dr. Mitchell asked whether Dr. Devor thought the funding proposal was realistic. Dr. Devor said he did.

Motion: (A. Devor/S. Blackstone)

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, subject to funding, the establishment of a program leading to a degree of **Doctor of Philosophy in International Management and Organization** to be offered by the Faculty of Business and the Faculty of Graduate Studies, as described in the document entitled “Graduate Program Proposal PhD in International Management and Organization”, dated November 17, 2008 and that this approval be withdrawn if the program should not be offered within five years of the Board of Governors granting approval. A start date will be determined after consultation with Graduate Admissions and Records. Once Senate and the Board of Governors have approved the proposal, the proposal must be posted on the Ministry of Advanced Education website for peer review for a period of 30 days.

CARRIED

ii. Minor in Technology and Society

Ms. Gammon asked about the inclusion of visual arts courses in the program, in addition to fine arts courses. Dr. Kroker said the importance of having arts courses in the program was recognized. He added that courses offered must be available to students across disciplines. Dr. Kroker said when department chairs were canvassed for course submissions, no visual arts courses were submitted.

Mr. Abraham asked why no first year engineering courses were being offered as part of the program. Dr. Kroker said that courses had to be available to students across disciplines.

Ms. Gammon congratulated Dr. Kroker and those involved in development of the minor on creating an exciting interdisciplinary program.

Motion: (L. Gammon/A. Rippin)

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, subject to funding, the establishment of a program leading to a degree of **Minor in Technology and Society** to be offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences as described in the document entitled “Proposal for a Minor in Technology and Society”, dated October 17, 2008 and that this approval be withdrawn if the program should not be offered within five years of granting of approval. A start date will be determined after consultation with the Registrar.

CARRIED

7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES

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

i. New and revised graduate awards

Dr. Burke asked about the basis upon which the Muriel Beverly Vaio Law Scholarship would be awarded. He noted that it was not clear in the terms of reference if it was intended to be awarded on the basis of academic excellence. Dr. Lewis Hammond said a similar question had come up with regards to stating this provision for undergraduate awards and that standard wording had been created to include in the terms of reference of all undergraduate awards.

Dr. Devor responded that he would be willing to clarify this point and make an amendment to the terms of reference, so long as it was not inconsistent with the donor’s intent.

Motion: (A. Devor/R. Anthony)

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:

- *Women’s Studies Graduate Scholarship* (new)*
- *Denis & Pat Protti Scholarship* (revised)*
- *Sisters of St. Ann Scholarship in Nursing* (revised)*
- *Muriel Beverley Vaio Law Scholarships* (revised)*

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CARRIED

8. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Sustainability Policy

Dr. Eastman reminded senators that the topic of the 2008 Joint Senate Board Retreat had been sustainability. She said the retreat had kicked off a year of consultations regarding the development of a sustainability policy. Dr. Eastman reported that a broad sustainability policy had been developed. The policy provided a framework for an action plan for campus operations and allowed for the development of plans in other areas.

Dr. Eastman welcomed Mr. Neil Connelly, director of campus planning and sustainability, and said he was seeking feedback on the draft policy and action plan. Mr. Connelly reviewed some of the consultations that had taken place and others that were planned. He told senators that the consultation period would run until December 22, 2008.

b. Election of faculty members-at-large to Senate

Dr. Eastman informed senators that a call for nominations for two faculty members-at-large to Senate had been issued. She said the call would close on December 15, 2008.

c. Election of senator to the *Ad hoc* Committee on the Appointment of the Chancellor

Dr. Eastman reminded senators that in November she had reported on the creation of an *ad hoc* committee on the appointment of the chancellor. She said that the committee was now being struck and nominations were required for a member of Senate to serve.

Dr. Mitchell nominated Dr. Anthony. Dr. Lepp nominated Ms. Gammon.

A ballot was distributed to senators. Dr. Eastman said the results of the ballot would be announced subsequently.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Keller announced that this was the last meeting for a number of senators. He thanked the retiring convocation senators, Ms. Borris and Dr. MacPherson, for their service. He also thanked retiring faculty member-at-large, Dr. Chapco, for her service.

Prof. Cassels reminded senators that this was the Chancellor's last meeting of Senate. He noted that during Dr. Lou-Poy's six years as Chancellor, he had served as a member of the Board of Governors, the Senate, and as chair of the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Other Forms of Recognition. Prof. Cassels said that under the *University*

Act, the Chancellor was to confer all degrees. He commented that Dr. Lou-Poy had certainly done that. During Dr. Lou-Poy's term as Chancellor, he presided over 72 convocations and "tapped" 15,966 students. Prof. Cassels thanked Dr. Lou-Poy for his outstanding service to the Senate and the university as a whole. He reported that, in addition to the scholarship named in Dr. Lou-Poy's honour, one building in the residences had been named The May and Ronald Lou-Poy House.

Dr. Lou-Poy expressed his appreciation to Senate for its support. He said it had been his honour and privilege to serve as Chancellor and that he would always treasure the experience.

Dr. Keller announced that this would be Dr. Mitchell's last meeting after 31 years on Senate. Dr. Keller said that Dr. Mitchell was first appointed to Senate in 1977. During his term, Dr. Mitchell served on almost every Senate committee and chaired most of them. Dr. Keller acknowledged and thanked Dr. Mitchell for his enormous contributions to Senate. He added that Dr. Mitchell always provided good insights and colourful comments.

In honour of his long term on Senate, Dr. Keller presented Dr. Mitchell with his Senate chair decorated with a plaque.

Dr. Mitchell said it had been an honour to serve Senate for such a long time. He noted that when he first started on Senate, it was a much different body. Senate was much smaller and much more work was done on the floor of Senate. Dr. Mitchell remembered that meetings used to take place on Wednesday evenings and would often carry on past midnight.

Dr. Mitchell encouraged senators never to be afraid to make a comment at Senate. He said that senators should always be questioning things and carefully considering proposals. Dr. Mitchell said it had been his privilege to play a role in Senate. He said he had enjoyed himself and hoped someone else would take on his task.

There being no further business, the open meeting of Senate was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.