

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA
SENATE MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MINUTES**



November 10, 2004

3:30 – 5:30 PM

Room 7-172 Bentley Centre - Prince George Campus

Present: S. Beeler, C. Brown, H. Brunt (Vice-Chair), J. DeGrace, A. Espiritu, C. Hawkins, D. Hemingway, C. Jago (Chair), M. Mandy, R. Matheson, B. McGill, S. McIntyre, B. Milakovic, P. Montgomery, B. Morrison, K. Naziripour, A. Nussbaumer, K. Otter, K. Penner, D. Procter, J. Randall, D. Small, B. Tait, T. Whitcombe, S. Wilson, N. Zutz, C. Myers (Recording Secretary)

Regrets: B. Anderson, R. Berthiaume, T. Binnema, M. Blouw, S. Cochran, D. Ditto, A. Fredeen, A. Hussein, E. Jensen, J. Kennedy-Pannett, E. Kinghorn, D. Macknak, B. Malcolm, B. Muir, D. Nyce, F. Rahemtulla, S. Scholefield, B. Simard, J. Sims, H. Smith, D. Snadden, J. Swainger

The meeting commenced at 3:40 p.m.

1.0 S-200411.01

Approval of the Agenda

Morrison / Mandy

That the Agenda for the November 10, 2004 Public Session of Senate be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

2.0 S-200411.02

Approval of the Minutes of the October 13, 2004 Public Session

Morrison / Matheson

That the Minutes of the Public Session of Senate of October 13, 2004 be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

3.0 Business Arising from Previous Meetings of Senate — None

4.0 President's Report

4.1 Progress Report on the Strategic Academic Plan

The President reported that the Strategic Academic Plan has been reviewed three times by President's Council. Some of the items have been referred to committees, and there are few recommendations that aren't currently being addressed, namely some of the benchmarks. He added that the Plan had been approved by Senate, so it was important that Senate receive the Progress Report, and welcomed comments.

Senator Montgomery asked whether the item relating to tuition fees being waived for PhD students (B. (g)) was correct, and the President indicated that it was, and that a motion to formalize the arrangement would be forthcoming from the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries.

5.0 Report of the Vice-President (Academic) and Provost

Dr. H. Brunt reported that some matters on which he is currently working would be brought to Senate in the future:

- 1) Review of the Core Academic Mission — this follows up on the Action Plan. Dr. Brunt indicated that several questions are being addressed in this review, such as the direction in which the University wishes to move, and areas that can be improved upon and grown. Dr. Brunt added that he has been impressed with the input he's received in his meetings with the Programs, and that there is a desire to become more strategic with decision-making.
- 2) President's Council has agreed to support a direction, in principle, for student recruitment. This follows on the review of the core academic mission.
- 3) Dr. Brunt indicated that he has been asked to chair a committee to review program offerings, which is a sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning. Some of the programs are inactive, and a decision needs to be made about what to do with them. There are scheduling issues to be addressed, and he indicated that the committee hopes to have recommendations to bring forward.
- 4) Creation of a Committee on Teaching and Workload — Dr. Brunt indicated that his involvement with this committee has been educative and stimulating. One of the core issues they are looking at is the lack of transparency regarding workload between programs, and how to understand and address this issue.

6.0 Question Period

7.0 Committee Reports:

7.1 Senate Committee on Academic Policy & Planning — None

7.2 Senate Committee on Research & Graduate Studies

Motions S-200411.03 and S-200411.04 were dealt with as an Omnibus Motion.

S-200411.03

Calendar Description Change — Admission Requirements for the MSc Degree in Mathematical, Computer and Physical Sciences

Tait / McGill

That the UNBC Graduate Calendar description for the Admission Requirements for the MSc Degree in Mathematical, Computer and Physical Sciences (MCPS) be amended as proposed, and to change the word adviser to supervisor.

Effective Date: September 15, 2004

CARRIED.

S-200411.04

Calendar Description Change — Admission Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree (in NRES), Master of Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Degree, and Master of Science Degree (in NRES)

Tait / McGill

That the UNBC Graduate Calendar description for the Admission Requirements for the:

Master of Arts Degree (in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies) (p. 82),

Master of Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Degree (p. 84), and

Master of Science Degree (in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies) (p. 87)
be amended as proposed.

Effective Date: September 15, 2004
CARRIED.

A summary of Curriculum Changes to the Master of Social Work was included for information.

S-200411.05

Calendar Description Change – Degree Requirements for Year One of the Two Year MSW Tait / Randall

That the changes to the degree requirements for year one of the Two Year MSW be approved as proposed.

Effective Date: Fall 2005

CARRIED.

To Senate for Information

SCRGS061004.05

Course Number and Title Change — SOCW 636-6

That SOCW 636-6 Advanced Practice Methods be renumbered and retitled (with a change in credit hours from 6 to 3) as SOCW 637-3 Advanced Practice (formerly SOCW 636-6); and that the Calendar course description be amended as indicated.

Effective Date: Fall 2005

SCRGS061004.06

Course Preclusion Change — Removal of Preclusion Requirement for Social Work Courses

That the Preclusion requirement be removed from the Calendar for the following courses: SOCW 630-3 Communication Skills; SOCW 631-3 Critical Social Work Practice; SOCW 632-9 MSW Practicum I; SOCW 633-3 Critical Social Policy; SOCW 634-3 Social Work Research/Policy/Practice; SOCW 635-3 Social Work Philosophy and Ethics; SOCW 636-6 Advanced Practice Methods.

Effective Date: Fall 2005

7.3 Senate Committee on Scholarships & Bursaries

S-200411.06

Change to the Definition of a Resident of Northern British Columbia Hemingway / Procter

That, for the purposes of awarding scholarships and bursaries at UNBC, the proposed definition of a resident of northern British Columbia be approved as proposed.

Effective Date: January 1, 2005

Senator Montgomery expressed concern regarding the inclusion of the phrase “excluding time spent as a full-time student at another post-secondary institution” in the proposed definition, as it would disadvantage full-time students as compared to individuals who had had spent time at another post-secondary institution as part-time students.

S. McIntyre asked that the item be referred back to the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries for further discussion.

Motion to refer:

Whitcombe / Mandy

CARRIED.

S-200411.07

Undergraduate Calendar Change — Awards and Financial Aid Information

That, beginning with the 2005 / 2006 Undergraduate Calendar, hard copy versions of the Undergraduate Calendar contain only scholarship, bursary and award information pertaining to new students with clear direction in the Calendar pointing to the UNBC website for information pertaining to awards for continuing students; and that the section on Awards and Financial Aid be placed in its former position closer to the back of the calendar.

Effective Date: October 2004

S. McIntyre indicated that the Development Office had expressed concern with regard to this proposal, and that the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries wished to revisit it, so the item was set aside.

7.4 Senate Committee on Organization and Rules

Motions S-200411.08 and S-200411.09 were dealt with as an Omnibus Motion.

S-200411.08

Proposed Changes to the Senate Handbook (Parts 1, 2, and 3)

Whitcombe / Hawkins

That amendments to the Senate Handbook, Parts 1, 2, and 3 (excluding Senate Committees) be approved as proposed.

Effective Date: January 2005

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Chair requested that both motions regarding the Senate Handbook (S-200411.08 and S-200411.09) be put together. The Registrar indicated that the comments at the last Senate meeting had been taken into account, and that the revised Senate Handbook had been posted on the “facstaff” e-mail list inviting comment from the University community. The Registrar informed Senators of the changes which had been made to the Handbook as a result of comments received, and explained why other recommended changes had not been made. There were no further comments or recommendations with respect to Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the Senate Handbook.

S-200411.09

Proposed Changes to the Senate Handbook (Part 4)

Whitcombe / Hawkins

That amendments to the Senate Handbook, Part 4 (Terms of Reference for Senate Standing Committees) be approved as proposed.

Effective Date: January 2005

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Senator Mandy asked whether anything had been done to address the concern raised at the previous Senate meeting with regard to the abolition of the Senate Committee on the Library. The President responded that the University Librarian had requested an advisory committee, which may reside with President’s Council. Senator Nussbaumer indicated that she was in favour of the recommendation to establish an advisory committee, and to eliminate the Senate Committee on the Library. She stated that Senate deals with broad policy, and that the Senate Committee on the Library is not dealing with broad policy. The President added that, in the changes recommended to the Senate Committees, the University Librarian has been included as a voting member of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning. Senator Mandy asked whether students unsatisfied with Library matters should now direct comments to the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, to which the reply from the President was in the affirmative. Dean Randall suggested that there is a perceived gap regarding the addressing of issues related to the Library, and recommended that a committee to deal

with these issues be established as soon as possible.

Senator Penner asked whether any steps had been taken to provide increased opportunities for Lay Senators, as requested at a previous Senate meeting. The Registrar replied that a Lay Senator has now been defined in the Senate Handbook as someone who is not a student and who does not hold an academic appointment at UNBC. Lay Senators have been added to the membership of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning and the Senate Committee on Research and Graduate Studies. The President added that an attempt had been made to provide balance between opportunities for Lay Senators and an onerous workload for those individuals.

Friendly Amendment:

Whitcombe / Hawkins

That the amendments to the Senate Handbook, Part 4 (Terms of Reference for Senate Standing Committees), including revisions as articulated at the Senate meeting of November 10, 2004, be approved as proposed.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The President thanked the Registrar for his work on revising the Senate Handbook, and Senators for their careful consideration of the changes and their input regarding the revisions.

8.0 Other Business

8.1 Report of the Registrar — None

9.0 Information

10.0 S-200411.10

Adjournment

Tait

That the Senate meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED.

The meeting ended at 4:25 p.m.