

**SENATE MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MINUTES**

June 22, 2011
3:30 – 5:30 PM
Room 6-205/211 Conference Centre

Present:

E. Annis, G. Ashoughian, S. Beeler, R. Brouwer, C. Carriere, D. Casperson, L. Chen, M. Dale, B. Deo, J. Edwards, M. Green, C. Greening, T. Hanschen (Secretary of Senate), I. Hartley, K. Hutchings (Vice Chair), G. Iwama (Chair), E. Jensen, G. Johnson, A. Kitchenham, D. Leighton-Stephens, D. Macknak, S. McKenzie, B. Murray, C. Myers (Recording), A. Nitu, C. O'Callaghan, . Pacaide, R. Robinson, D. Ryan, P. Sanborn, E. Wale

Regrets:

C. Chasteauneuf, A. Dayanandan, G. Fondahl, S. Green, K. Guest, M. Hadland, L. Handfield, W. Haque, R. Lazenby, J. Li, S. Wagner, J. Young

Absent:

M. Archie, D. Nyce, J. Van Barneveld

The meeting commenced at 3:30 p.m. Dr. Iwama introduced the new Registrar and Secretary of Senate, Mr. Troy Hanschen.

1.0 S-201106.01

Approval of the Agenda

Kitchenham / Beeler

That the agenda for the June 22, 2011 Public Session of Senate be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

2.0 S-201106.02

Approval of Senate Minutes

Hartley / Deo

That the minutes of the May 25, 2011 Public Session of Senate be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

3.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes of Senate

No business arising was identified.

4.0 President's Report

Iwama

Dr. Iwama reported that an announcement regarding the Wood Innovation and Design Centre should be forthcoming next month. He added that he had been told that UNBC would not be involved in leading the Centre, but that the Honourable Pat Bell, MLA, had been working to clarify the situation. UNBC had continually asked to be involved in the planning. Dr. Iwama questioned what UNBC's involvement would be if the University was not involved with leading the Centre, and said he had been told that there could be residences in the 10-story wood building. Dr. Iwama concluded his report regarding the Wood Innovation and Design Centre by indicating that apparently a submission to Treasury Board currently was being prepared.

With regard to the joint meeting of the Board and Senate held on May 28, Dr. Iwama reported that very good discussions had taken place, and that a report was being drafted that would be shared. The Senate-Board Liaison Committee had agreed that some version of the report should be shared with the entire University community.

Dr. Iwama also reported that there had been a Tenth Anniversary celebration for the University of the Arctic. He added that UNBC faculty member Dr. Jim McDonald was chairing the Council this year, and that Dr. Gary Wilson was also involved. Brandon University and a university in Hokkaido have also joined the University of the Arctic.

5.0 Report of the Provost

Dale

Dr. Dale thanked the UNBC faculty members who had put together the most recent preliminary proposal for the Wood Innovation and Design Centre (Umesh Parshotam, Erik Jensen, Jueyi Sui, and Dan Ryan) and added that they had put this information together on very short notice.

With regard to enrolments, Dr. Dale indicated that although the numbers are preliminary they are looking good. Application, admission, and enrolment numbers are up in relation to the same period last year.

6.0 Question Period

A Senator expressed concern about the possibility of the Wood Engineering and Design Centre being downtown and thus splitting the campus apart with regard to engineering programs. Both Dr. Dale and Dr. Iwama echoed those sentiments and Dr. Iwama assured Senators that the University would not take on anything that would jeopardize the University's financial situation. He added that he would ensure the government was aware of the fact that labs are required for second-year engineering programs.

With regard to the review of the President which is currently ongoing, a Senator asked what role the Senate and academic community played in that regard. Dr. Iwama responded that the review occurs in accordance with University policy, and explained the process. Dr. Dale suggested that someone from Senate could raise this matter with the Chair of the Board of Governors to request input. The Senator responded that he would like to see that happen, and it was agreed that Ms. Myers would contact the Board Chair by e-mail about this request and copy the e-mail to the Vice Chair of Senate.

Action:	Ms. Myers to convey to the Chair of the Board of Governors that Senate has requested the Board consider the role of Senate in the procedures for review of the President.
----------------	---

7.0 S-201106.03 Approval of Motions on the Consent Agenda

That the motions on the consent agenda, except for those removed for placement on the regular agenda, be approved as presented.

There were no motions on the consent agenda, so this motion was unnecessary.

8.0 Committee Reports

8.1 Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning

Dale

"For Approval" Items:

Dr. Iwama noted that, with regard to memoranda of understanding, it appears they are approved at several different levels of the University. The *University Act* states that the Board of Governors has the power to approve agreements, and it seems that would include memoranda of understanding. Dr. Iwama indicated he would welcome thoughts on how to be consistent in practice regarding approval of these types of agreements. A Senator suggested that agreements negotiated at the senior administrative level should be approved by the Board of Governors, but questioned whether articulation agreements and the like needed to be approved. Dr. Iwama responded that the types of agreements generally forwarded to the Board were those with financial implications attached, but that perhaps other agreements could either be forwarded to the Board for information or be dealt with by the President under delegated authority to ensure compliance with the *University Act*. Dr. Iwama indicated he had raised this matter so that Senators were aware of it, and that he would gather some information on the subject and move forward with some degree of consistency.

S-201106.04

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between UNBC and Okanagan College (Kelowna, BC)

Deo / Ryan

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, the memorandum of understanding between UNBC and Okanagan College (Kelowna, BC) be approved as proposed.

Effective date: June 1, 2011

CARRIED.

S-201106.05

Approval of a New 2+2 Program for the BA Environmental Studies (Okanagan Completion Program)

Deo / Hartley

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, the new 2+2 Program for the BA Environmental Studies (Okanagan Completion Program) be approved as proposed.

Effective Date: September 2011

CARRIED.

Details of the approved calendar text are as follows (for revisions, deleted text indicated by ~~strikethrough~~, new text indicated by underline, and [commentary, where included, in Courier New font within square brackets]):

Major in Environmental Studies

The Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies emphasizes a social science and humanities perspective on environmental issues. The program provides a strong philosophical, social and scientific basis for understanding the full diversity of environmental issues and positions students to be effective agents for mitigation of, and/or adaptation to, environmental change.

Degree requirements: 72 credit hours

Area of focus: 24 to 29 credit hours

Elective credit hours in any subject as necessary to ensure completion of a minimum of 120 credit hours, including any additional credits necessary to meet the Academic Breadth requirement of the University (see Academic Regulation 15).

Program Requirements

[deleted intervening information as no changes are proposed]

Elective and Academic Breadth Requirement

Elective credit hours in any subject as necessary to ensure completion of a minimum of 120 credit hours, including any additional credits necessary to meet the Academic Breadth requirement of the University (See Academic Regulation 15).

Addition of the following, directly after the above:

Major in Environmental Studies (Okanagan Diploma in Environmental Studies Degree Completion)

This 60 credit-hour program of study is available only to students from Okanagan College with a diploma in Environmental Studies (Environmental Management Option or Interdisciplinary Environmental Arts Option).

Degree requirements: Diploma in Environmental Studies from Okanagan College, minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5, plus 33 credit hours

Area of focus: 24 to 29 credit hours

Elective credit hours in any subject as necessary to ensure completion of a minimum of 60 credit hours at UNBC.

Curriculum:

Lower-Division Requirement

*BIOL 110-3 Introductory Ecology or POLS 100-3 Contemporary Political Issues

ENPL 104-3 Introduction to Planning

ENVS 101-3 Introduction to Environmental Citizenship

Upper-Division Requirement

300 Level

GEOG 300-3 Geographic Information Systems

ENVS 325-3 Global Environmental Change: Science and Policy

ENVS 326-3 Natural Resources, Environmental Issues and Public Engagement

INTS 307-3 Global Resources

or GEOG 401-3 Resource Geography

or HIST 360-3 An Introduction to Environmental History

NREM 303-3 First Nations' Approaches to Resource Management

or FNST 304-3 First Nations Environmental Philosophy and Knowledge

or ENPL 208-3 First Nations Community and Environmental Planning

400 Level

ENPL 401-3 Environmental Law

ENPL 440-3 Internship

GEOG 424-3 Social Geography of Northern Communities

*Students who completed the Interdisciplinary Arts diploma option should take BIOL 110, and students who completed the Environmental Management diploma option should take POLS 100

Total: 33 credits

Areas of Focus

Students must choose an area of focus, as described above, in one of the following five areas: Global Environmental Studies; Communities and Environmental Citizenship; Natural Resource Management; Science,

Technology and Society; and First Nations. Courses used to fulfill major requirements above may not be used to fulfill an area of focus requirement.

S-201106.06

Approval of Partnership Agreement Between New Mexico State University (U.S.A.), Diné Tribal College (U.S.A.), Universidad Tecnológica del Valle del Mazquital (México), Universidad Tecnológica de la Selva (México), University College of the North (Canada), and University of Northern British Columbia (Canada)

Kitchenham / Annis

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, the partnership agreement between New Mexico State University (U.S.A.), Diné Tribal College (U.S.A.), Universidad Tecnológica del Valle del Mazquital (México), Universidad Tecnológica de la Selva (México), University College of the North (Canada), and University of Northern British Columbia (Canada) for the purposes of exchange and student support be approved as proposed.

Effective Date: September 2011

CARRIED.

S-201106.07

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between the Baja California Field Studies Program of Glendale Community College, USA and the University of Northern British Columbia

Hutchings / Kitchenham

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, the memorandum of understanding between the Baja California Field Studies Program of Glendale Community College, USA and the University of Northern British Columbia be approved as proposed.

Effective Date: September 2011

CARRIED.

8.2 Senate Committee on Admissions and Degrees

Vacant

“For Approval” Items:

S-201106.08

Changes to Admission Category — Admission from a BC Community College, University College, or Yukon College

That the changes to the admission category for admission from a BC Community College, University College, or Yukon College on page 31 of the 2011/2012 undergraduate calendar, be approved as proposed.

Effective date: September 2011

Details of the approved calendar text are as follows (for revisions, deleted text indicated by ~~strike through~~, new text indicated by underline, and [commentary, where included, in Courier New font within square brackets]):

Admission from a BC Community College, University College, and Yukon College

University Transfer Programs Including Associate in Arts or Science Degrees

To meet admission requirements, the cumulative grade point average (CGPA) on all transferable courses attempted must be at least 2.00 or C (65%). While all courses attempted are included in the calculation of a student's admission GPA, no transfer credit will be awarded for any course with a grade of less than 0.67 or D- (50-52.9%).

Transfer credit is awarded according to agreements articulated in the BC Transfer Guide (available online at <http://www.bccat.bc.ca>).

Please note: UNBC guarantees priority admission and full transfer credit (minimum of 60 credit hours) to students transferring with an Associate in Arts or Science degree.

Diploma Programs

To meet admission requirements, applicants must present a minimum cumulative CGPA of 2.00 or C (65%).

Transfer credit for articulated courses is awarded at the point of admission. Upon declaration of a major in a related degree program, or direct admission into Nursing or Social Work degrees, students who hold specific Business Administration, Natural Resource Management or Environmental Studies or Nursing or Social Work Diplomas may be eligible for additional block credit.

Please note: To receive transfer credit in certain program areas, a higher minimum grade is required.

2+2 Programs

Okanagan College Diploma in Environmental Studies (Environmental Management and Interdisciplinary Environmental Arts Options)

Students who have successfully completed the Diploma in Environmental Studies (Environmental Management or Interdisciplinary Environmental Arts Option) from Okanagan College, with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or greater, are eligible for admission into the BA Environmental Studies (Okanagan Completion) Program.

9.0 Other Business

9.1 Report of the Registrar

Hanschen

The Registrar had nothing to report.

9.2 Presentation — “Renewable Energy Systems, and Opportunity for UNBC”

Iwama

Dr. Iwama delivered a presentation and then invited Senators to comment on a discussion paper entitled “Renewable Energy Systems, and Opportunity for UNBC” (attached to these minutes as “Appendix I”), which he had circulated in advance of the meeting. He indicated that the paper referred to a high-level expression of a project, but one that can involve the whole University community, including the Chancellor. He noted that he would be placing the discussion paper on the UNBC planning website. Dr. Iwama expressed that it was important to grow the knowledge necessary to create energy sources, and that First Nations peoples and enterprise would be involved from the beginning. He added that forests should be viewed not only as timber, but as a source of energy, and that Dr. McDonald had stated that “UNBC has a potential to be a world leader in renewable energy sources.” It was noted by Dr. Iwama that the Vice Presidents had seen this document, and that he would like Senators’ feedback on the discussion paper before it is placed on the website for discussion.

A Senator stated that he thought the proposal makes good sense, and noted that there are faculty members at UNBC working on similar initiatives in their research who could be involved. Another Senator appreciated the idea and vision. Dr. Iwama added that BC Hydro has a mandate to provide energy at the lowest possible price, and that it is a paradox for an energy-rich province to be wondering about energy sources. He added that the UNBC energy manager would be installing sensors to monitor the University’s energy usage. Finally, Dr. Iwama welcomed ideas and comments about the paper and stated that some consultations would be held in the future months regarding the University Plan and some new initiatives.

10.0 Information

10.1 2011 Report of the Harassment and Discrimination Advisor

Dr. Iwama indicated that Dr. Hardy was unable to attend the Senate meeting, but that her report was before Senators for their information. There were no questions or comments in relation to the report.

11.0 S-201106.09

Move to In Camera Session

Ryan / Sanborn

That the meeting move In Camera.

CARRIED.

12.0 **S-201106.13**
Adjournment
Jensen / Beeler
That the Senate meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED.

The meeting ended at 4:30 p.m.

Renewable Energy Systems for British Columbia

Discussion Paper

George Iwama

21 June 2011

What's the challenge?

In spite of the continued availability of fossil fuels and new methods of extraction, it is inevitable that the supply of this finite source of energy will diminish over time with resulting continuous price increases; moreover, concerns remain about the environmental impacts of continued dependency on these sources. Large and small communities, usually using one of several sources of renewable energies, are implementing clean technologies¹. It may seem a paradox that Canada's most energy-rich province should be the place to lead innovations in renewable energy. It is not. In fact, Canada needs us. Our rich, diverse, renewable energy sources provide a unique situation to conduct the critical research and development on energy systems management, and for students to learn through their involvement.

Other challenges

- Northern, rural, Aboriginal, and resource-based communities need opportunities for economic diversification to retain their populations.
- Aboriginal communities want to be involved; energy autonomy is one component of self-determination.

The Opportunity

Intelligent systems are needed that optimally combine and utilize the renewable energy resources specific to given locations that will provide sustainable, firm and renewable energy. These systems must be developed now, not when our fossil fuel-based energy sources reach critically low levels. Fossil fuels can shift from being a primary to a secondary source of energy. Graduates of our training will be leaders in the inevitable emergence of renewable energy systems design and management as the basis for fueling our future. This shift toward a place-based combination of renewable energy sources will also contribute to job creation and thus to the enhanced prosperity of communities and the Province.

Community-Based Research with Private Sector involvement

Northern British Columbia provides a range of communities that would benefit from sustainable, firm and renewable energy systems. Northern BC is home to many innovative companies in the renewable energy sector. We believe that local companies and communities should be involved from the beginning. Several First Nations communities might be ideal for hosting lead projects.

Research-based Experiential Learning

Developing and implementing place-based renewable energy systems requires multidisciplinary, community-based research. We will advance this with a Masters-

¹ Solar, wind, tidal, hydro (incl. run of river, hydrokinetic), geothermal, biomass

level Engineering program in renewable energy systems. Undergraduate curricula will be developed based on learning outcomes relevant to our students and our communities. Leadership will be provided first by an outstanding researcher who will assist in spearheading this program. We will recruit expertise in the private sector through adjunct professorships. We see this initiative involving a wide range of disciplines in an interactive and collaborative manner.

Why UNBC?

UNBC was created by Northerners “for the North”. We have supported northern communities through the delivery of education and through our research. We are investing in this initiative through allocation of one of our Canada Research Chairs to renewable energy systems, and are actively exploring ways to add additional expertise in this area. We have expertise for maintaining and managing our forests, a key component in sustaining the supply of bio-energy resource. We excel in community-based research and have strong ties with First Nations communities. We have implemented a bioenergy project that is unique in Canada and recognized internationally. Our campus infrastructure was designed for multiple energy systems serving a district energy system, an excellent platform for practice-based learning and research.

Moving Forward

This initiative to develop place-based renewable energy systems knowledge is vital to the local communities that work with us, and to British Columbia and Canada. Because our current quality of life depends on inexpensive fuels, future prosperity will depend on our ability to implement sustained, firm and renewable energy systems. Please join us in this important journey, it is important to all of us.