

**SENATE MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MINUTES**

February 14, 2007
3:30 – 5:30 PM
Room 7-172 Bentley Centre - Prince George Campus

Present:

E. Annis, H. Brunt, D. Casperson, D. Cozzetto (Chair), H. Domshy, R. Ellis, A. Espíritu, H. Giroday, M. Gorzelak, D. Hemingway, J. Holler, J. Hyndman, E. Jensen, E. Kinghorn (teleconference), H. Li, J. Li, D. Macknak, M. Mandy, W. McGill, A. Nussbaumer, C. Opio, E. Owen-Williams, E. Pratt, J. Randall, E. Rapaport, S. Rennebohm, J. Safaei Boroojeny, H. Samadi, A. Smith, R. Tait (Vice-Chair), S. Wagner

Regrets:

K. Beeler, D. Kimmie, K. Medhurst, D. Nyce, M. Reed, B. Simard, M. Thomson

Non-voting members present:

C. Myers (Recording), S. Keith, K. Kielly, M. Knudson, P. Madak, P. Michel, L. Pattie, S. Rennick, C. Russell, C. Smith

The meeting commenced at 3:30 p.m.

1.0 S-200702.01

Approval of the Agenda

Casperson / Rapaport

That the Agenda for the February 14, 2007 Public Session of Senate be approved as proposed.

Friendly Amendment:

Randall / Macknak

That Senate motions S-200702.06 (Approval of Agreement Between UNBC and Pattison College) and S-200702.07 (Approval of Agreement Between UNBC and Hamilton Community College) be removed from the agenda, based on information which had recently come to light and which required follow-up.

CARRIED.

Friendly Amendment:

Hyndman / Casperson

That the motion regarding the deletion of the Co-op Program which was passed at the February 7, 2007 meeting of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, and which was distributed in the Senate packages, be added to the agenda as motion S-200702.05A.

CARRIED.

Motion as amended:

Casperson / Rapaport

That the Agenda for the February 14, 2007 Public Session of Senate be approved as amended.

CARRIED.

2.0 S-200702.02

Approval of Senate Public Session Minutes

Tait / Annis

That the Minutes of the January 17, 2007 Public Session of Senate be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

3.0 Business Arising from Previous Meetings of Senate

3.1 Update on 2500 Additional Graduate Spaces

Cozzetto

Dr. Cozzetto provided Senators with further information regarding the graduate spaces he reported on at the previous meeting, stating that the initiative had been mentioned in the throne speech and that funding was expected to be announced in the budget on February 20. Dr. Cozzetto added that the details of the process to obtain the funding had not yet been determined, but that it would be a competitive process between the four research-intensive universities in British Columbia.

Dr. Brunt was asked whether caveats to the "Report Cards" circulated would be provided, per item 6.0 of the January Senate minutes. Dr. Brunt responded that he would be discussing this during his presentation.

4.0 President's Report

Cozzetto

The President provided a presentation to update Senators on budget issues, direction for which had been approved by the Board of Governors at their January 30 meeting. He indicated that this information was posted on the UNBC website, and complimented those who had worked on the plan. Dr. Cozzetto highlighted the problem of the budget imbalance, and indicated that consultants had been engaged to address these issues, the full report of which was expected to be available and placed on the website and in the library within two weeks of the Senate meeting. He concluded that the consultants had stressed that the budget imbalance was the result of expenditure management, not revenue.

Colleen Smith, Chief Financial Officer, indicated that the budget plan presented did not contain finalized numbers, but instead was a model of how the University expected to manage the budget from this point forward. She highlighted several items, including the following:

- although additional income may be generated in future, currently, the University's revenue is mostly from the grant received from the provincial government
- Expenditures were incorporated for servicing the debt on the Teaching and Learning Centre and the Northern Sport Centre, and funding for capital equipment replacement costs
- A strategic investment pool was incorporated, a flexibility which is not currently available in the budget
- The goal for cuts in expenditures was set at \$1.9 million in 2007/2008, \$2.4 million in 2008/2009, and \$1.8 million in 2009/2010
- The budget has been spread out over three years, and some plans will take three years to unfold
- The budget process will become more strategic as a result of being spread over three years as opposed to an annual budget
- At the end of three years, it is anticipated that the budget will be sustainable and give the University much more flexibility to deal with the issues

5.0 Report of the Provost

Brunt

Dr. H. Brunt did a presentation entitled "3-Year Management Plan: Academic Programs and Services," which outlined the changes to the organizational structure of the University as approved by the UNBC Board of Governors in January. Dr. Brunt indicated that the budget was currently unsustainable, and that the University would not be able to continue cutting in the manner of previous years. He added, however, that the changes and objectives had to be understood in the context of the university's strategic plans. The challenges, goals, and recommendations for each unit were outlined, and the revised structures were introduced, with some of the points summarized as follows:

- The current organizational structures resulted in the senior Executive spending the majority of their time managing others
- The Vice-President Academic and Provost's portfolio has been changed to that of Provost, the University's Chief Operating Officer

- The separation of the offices of Research and Graduate Studies was illogical, and they have been merged, under the direction of a Vice-Provost Research and Graduate Programs, to provide for cohesive services in these areas
- Linking the Deans of Colleges with the Vice-Provost Research and Graduate Programs will ensure a formal mechanism for planning between undergraduate and graduate programs, and research
- The implementation of the next phase of Academic Visioning Initiative will be done as soon as possible, as it was put on hold to accommodate dealing with the budget and restructuring concerns
- The Co-op Program as it currently exists is an expenditure that assists few students, and initiatives other than Co-op could serve a greater number of students with career planning
- A reduction of 20 to 25 faculty members would be essential to the realization of a sustainable budget, with the reductions being made as strategically as possible according to the University's mission, and some through attrition and the offering of incentive packages
- Incentive packages would be generous and voluntary
- There was discussion that some collaboration or merging of academic Programs, was possible, with suggestions in this regard being discussed extensively within the Colleges
- Resources would be moved from the Co-operative Education Program to initiatives that were more inclusive
- A focus on graduate education was imperative, as this would lead to additional funding for the University
- The creation of the position of Dean of Teaching, Learning and Technology would provide support for the establishment and management of cutting edge technologies such as Northlink, which could conceivably bring revenue to the University
- UNBC currently has the second worst retention rate of all Canadian universities, which must be addressed

Dr. Brunt emphasized that the organizational changes were not only in relation to the budget imbalance, but to strategic planning. With regard to the changes to the Co-operative Education Program, Dr. Brunt indicated that this had been an extremely difficult decision, but that the enrolment numbers of Co-op students was perpetually low, and a greater number of students could be served through other career-advancement initiatives. He added that a transition plan for current Co-op students had been drafted by the outgoing Director, whereby the work terms required would be reduced from 4 to 3, and the University would do its utmost to ensure that current Co-op students would be able to complete up to three work terms by April 2008. He concluded that he had since come to recognize that the abolishment of the Co-op Program was contentious, and thus did not intend to place that motion on the table.

6.0 Question Period

Several questions were posed in relation to the reports from the President and Provost.

The question was raised as to why there was a public announcement regarding the Co-op Program before it came to Senate. Dr. Brunt responded that the Board of Governors had approved the abolishment of several Director positions, one of them being the Director of the Co-operative Education Program, and that the funding for the Program was to be discontinued. It was agreed that the Co-op Program was a matter of Senate authority as it relates to the calendar, but in the absence of funding, Dr. Brunt concluded it was difficult to envision how the Program could continue.

K. Kielly was congratulated on having been appointed Registrar, and the President was asked when the appointment had taken effect. Dr. Cozzetto responded that all appointments being made as the result of restructuring were interim appointments, and would be taken to the Board for approval at their meeting scheduled for March 30, 2007.

S0200702.02A:

Motion to recognize Mr. John DeGrace

Casperson / Brunt

That Senate formally recognize and show its appreciation to the outgoing Secretary of Senate and Registrar, Mr. John DeGrace, for his hard work and deep commitment to these offices.

CARRIED.

Dr. Cozzetto noted that Senate was in unanimous agreement with the motion, and that he would convey Senate's thanks to Mr. DeGrace.

Several questions were asked related to FTEs and which Programs were most likely to be affected. Dr. Brunt responded that the popularity of programs varied over time, and that students "vote with their feet," but insisted that every faculty member at UNBC was exceptional. He added that he was most hopeful that reductions would be made through strategic realignment of programs and incentive packages, as he did not wish to face the alternative of redundancy and exigency.

Senator Domsby indicated that, with the changes to the Co-op Program, there may be more room for the involvement of the Alumni Association in establishing opportunities for mentoring, for instance, and that the Association would welcome the opportunity to assist in this regard. Dr. Brunt responded that he anticipated there would be an increased role for the Alumni Association.

It was questioned how the notion of a multi-campus university fits within the new structure, and Dr. Brunt responded that the new structure didn't differentiate between the campuses. Senator Macknak added that the new structure recognizes old problems, including the lack of advising services for students in the regions and increasing enrolment in the face of decreasing services, and that he liked the new structure because it would result in one university providing quality services across multiple campuses.

The question of what it would take to keep the Co-op Program running, enrolment-wise, was raised. Dr. Brunt responded that this wasn't looked at, as the participation rate was prohibitively low. Dr. Brunt added that he could not conclude that the Co-op Program wouldn't re-emerge in the future once the budget was sustainable, but that in realistic terms, the \$400,000 needed to run the Program was equivalent to approximately four faculty member positions or eight staff positions. The President reiterated that the goal was to provide services and opportunities to a greater number of students than were currently being serviced by the Co-op Program, and that how that might unfold was still in the planning process. Concern was expressed that UNBC would be the only University in British Columbia without a Co-op Program. In response, it was stated that many universities had been moving toward alternative career services for students.

It was asked how the President's Office would be restructured, and Dr. Cozzetto replied that the positions of Vice-President Administration and Finance, and University Secretary, had been eliminated. Dr. Brunt added that funding for the Office of University Advancement would be transitioned out of the operating budget.

7.0 Committee Reports:

7.1 Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning

Brunt

S-200702.03

Agreement of Cooperation Between Groupe Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Troyes (France) and the University of Northern British Columbia

Brunt / Casperson

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, the agreement of cooperation between Groupe Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Troyes (France) and the University of Northern British Columbia be approved as proposed.

Effective date: Immediately upon approval by Senate

CARRIED.

S-200702.04

Affiliation Agreement Between Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design and the University of Northern British Columbia

Brunt / Rennebohm

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, the affiliation agreement between Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design and the University of Northern British Columbia be approved as proposed.

Effective date: Immediately upon approval by Senate

CARRIED.

Senator Rapaport mentioned that he had seen an advertisement in the Prince George Citizen for a sessional faculty position for this Program, and asked why this was required when it had been indicated when this Program was approved that no further resources would be required. Dean Randall responded that Emily Carr would be absorbing the costs related to this position.

S-200702.05

Course Deletion — ENVS 203-3

Brunt/ McGill

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, the course ENVS 203-3 Environmental Policy be deleted, and that all reference to ENVS 203-3 be deleted from the Calendar.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

Senator Mandy asked why there had not been a calendar description motion submitted with this motion. L. Friskie, Academic Advisor, responded that the course had been deleted and would be removed from all Program requirements.

S-200702.05A

Revision to Undergraduate Calendar — Deletion of Co-operative Education Program

Brunt / Hyndman

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, the Co-operative Education Program be deleted as proposed.

Effective date: Immediately upon approval by Senate

Several Senators indicated that they were opposed to the deletion of the Co-op Program. Senator Giroday indicated that she had a petition signed by approximately 426 members of the UNBC community, and asked for the Chair's advice regarding how to submit this information. Dr. Cozzetto indicated that the document would be accepted and entered into the record. Senator Giroday indicated that the petition was signed based on the following rationale, to oppose the elimination of the UNBC Co-op program:

“The UNBC Co-op program is an attraction point for students selecting universities based on the work placement opportunities that institution will provide. The permanent elimination of the Co-op program, a nationally recognized work placement program, has the potential to negatively impact future UNBC enrollment as well as infringe of the rights of students currently enrolled in the program.”

Responding to the concerns about eliminating the Co-op Program, several Senators suggested that there were diverse forms of experiential learning, Co-op being just one, and that the funding which was currently being used to support a small number of students could be put to better use in support of all UNBC students. In view of the discussion, the Chair indicated that it was apparent that Senators felt there were outstanding issues with regard to the Co-op Program, and that further discussion was warranted.

Motion to refer:

Macknak / Brunt

That motion S-200702.05A be referred back to the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning for further work and discussion.

Senator Casperson indicated that, if the motion on the floor was defeated, Senators had drafted a motion to refer the Co-op issue to another committee. Senator Hemingway asked whether an explanation could be provided regarding the other committee and motion prior to voting on the motion to refer. Senator Casperson thus read the alternate motion.

Concern was raised about referring this motion to a committee consisting of hand-picked members, as the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning had dealt with the motion initially. In response, Senators spoke both in favour of, and in opposition to, referring the motion back to SCAPP.

Motion to hold ballot vote:

Hyndman / Casperson

That a ballot vote be held on the motion to refer motion S-200702.05A back to the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning.

CARRIED.

A ballot vote was held, and the motion to refer motion S-200702.05A back to the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning was DEFEATED.

Motion to continue meeting:

Casperson / Mandy

That the Senate meeting be continued beyond 5:30 p.m.

CARRIED.

Senator Hyndman read a statement from Senator Medhurst, who was unable to attend the Senate meeting, in support of the Co-op Program. Concern was expressed regarding the process followed related to the Co-op Program, that an announcement related to an academic issue came from the Human Resources department.

Motion to refer Co-op motion to another committee of Senate:

Casperson / Mandy

That this motion be referred to a committee of Senate:

- to consist of
 - Robert Ellis, who shall be Chair (Faculty Senator),
 - Eleanor Annis (Faculty Senator),
 - Jacqueline Holler (Faculty Senator),
 - Kerensa Medhurst (Student Senator),
 - Howard Brunt (Provost) or his representative, and
 - Paul Madak (Dean of Enrolment Management) or his representative;
- that the committee be directed to consider this motion and alternatives with regard to:
 - UNBC's attractiveness to current and future students,
 - The employability of the University's graduates,
 - The University's reputation with employers and the community,
 - The fit with the Academic Visioning Initiative, and
 - The relative costs of such programs;
- that the committee consult with affected groups; and
- that the committee report back to Senate not later than March 14, 2007.

CARRIED.

7.2 Senate Committee on Regional Policy and Inter-Institutional Relations

Randall

Senate motions S-200702.06 and S-200702.07 were removed from the agenda.

S-200702.08

Approval of Agreement Between UNBC and Bodwell College

Randall / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Regional Policy and Inter-Institutional Relations, the Agreement between UNBC and Bodwell College be approved.

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval by Senate

CARRIED.

S-200702.09

Approval of Agreement Between UNBC and Canada International College (CIC), a Division of School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

Randall / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Regional Policy and Inter-Institutional Relations, the Agreement between UNBC and Canada International College (CIC), a Division of School District No. 43 (Coquitlam), be approved.

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval by Senate
CARRIED.

S-200702.10

Approval of Agreement Between UNBC and The National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)

Randall / Rapaport

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Regional Policy and Inter-Institutional Relations, the Agreement between UNBC and The National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) be approved.

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval by Senate
CARRIED.

S-200702.11

Approval of Agreement Between UNBC and King George International College

Randall / Tait

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Regional Policy and Inter-Institutional Relations, the Agreement between UNBC and King George International College be approved.

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval by Senate
CARRIED.

S-200702.12

Annual Report from the Senate Committee on Regional Policy and Inter-Institutional Relations

Randall / Mandy

That the Annual Report (dated February 2007) from the Senate Committee on Regional Policy and Inter-Institutional Relations be received.

Effective Date: February 14, 2007
CARRIED.

It was requested that, in future, care be taken to remove students' names from reports to Senate.

7.3 Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries

Jensen

In the absence of a committee Chair, Senator Jensen, member of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, presented the report from this committee.

Motion:

Jensen / Mandy

That Senate motions S-200702.13 to S-200702.23 be dealt with as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED.

S-200702.13

Revised Terms and Conditions — Western Chartered Financial Athletic Scholarships

Jensen / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the revised terms and conditions for the Western Chartered Financial Athletic Scholarships be approved.

Effective date: September 2007
CARRIED.

S-200702.14

Revised Terms and Conditions — McCarthy Tetrault Annual Scholarship

Jensen / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the revised terms and conditions for the McCarthy Tetrault Annual Scholarship be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200702.15

Revised Terms and Conditions — Arne and Lesley Carlson Endowed Scholarship Fund

Jensen / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the revised terms and conditions for the Arne and Lesley Carlson Endowed Scholarship Fund be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200702.16

Revised Terms and Conditions — Canadian Institute of Forestry Bursary

Jensen / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the revised terms and conditions for the Canadian Institute of Forestry Bursary be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200702.17

Revised Terms and Conditions — McLean Foundation Scholarship

Jensen / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the revised terms and conditions for the McLean Foundation Scholarship be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200702.18

Revised Terms and Conditions — Michael Strel Memorial Bursary

Jensen / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the revised terms and conditions for the Michael Strel Memorial Bursary be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200702.19

Revised Terms and Conditions — Simons Foundation Bursaries for Single Mothers

Jensen / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the revised terms and conditions for the Simons Foundation Bursaries for Single Mothers be approved, in order to become The Simons Foundation Bursary for Lone Parents.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200702.20

Revised Terms and Conditions — UNBC Men’s Basketball Alumni Bursary

Jensen / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the revised terms and conditions for the UNBC Men’s Basketball Alumni Bursary be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200702.21

Revised Calendar Description — Dr. Alvin and Mrs. Janie Mooney Scholarship

Jensen / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the revised calendar description for the Dr. Alvin and Mrs. Janie Mooney Scholarship be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200702.22

Revised Calendar Description — Wilson, King, and Company Annual Scholarships

Jensen / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the revised calendar description for the Wilson, King, and Company Annual Scholarships be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200702.23

Revised Calendar Description / Intent — Louis and Irene Monasch and Family Bursary

Jensen / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the revised calendar description / intent for the Louis and Irene Monasch and Family Bursary be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

8.0 Other Business

8.1 Report of the Administrative Registrar (no material)

Kielly

K. Kielly had nothing to report.

9.0 Information (no material)

There were no items for information.

10.0 S-200702.24

Move to In-Camera Session

Rapaport / Mandy

That the meeting move In Camera.

CARRIED.

11.0 S-200702.28

Adjournment

Mandy / Tait

That the Senate meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED.

The meeting ended at 5:50 p.m.