

## **SENATE MEETING OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

August 26, 2020  
3:30 – 5:30 PM  
Zoom Only

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Present: J. Allen, B. Annear (Secretary of Senate), A. Aravind, J. Bankole, R. Budde, J. Chen (non-voting), A. Constantin, M. Dale, B. Deo, D. Desai, Z. Fleck, E. Fredeen, T. Fuson (non-voting), I. Hartley, L. Haslett, C. Hofsink, H. Holler-Busch, C. Ho Youngusband, D. Huber, P. Jackson, H. Kazemian, T. Klassen-Ross, E. Korkmaz, K. Lewis, A. Palmer, A. Parent (Recording Secretary), L. Parent, G. Payne (Chair), M. Peterson, S. Rader (non-voting), B. Owen, L. Roodenburg, L. Roldan-Flores (non-voting), S. Sakshi, A. Smith (non-voting), C. Smith (non-voting), A. Sommerfeld (non-voting), K. Stathers, T. Tannert, T. Tribe (non-voting), N. Turner, C. Whalen, J. Wimmers-Klick,

Regrets: M. Greenwood, K. Hirsh-Pearson (Vice-Chair), G. Keeler, B. McGill, C. Meroniuk, D. Nyce, P. Winwood (non-voting)

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The meeting commenced at 3:32 p.m.

The Chair acknowledged the passing of our Chancellor, Joseph Gosnell Sr. followed by a moment of Reflection.

- ☐ The Chair expressed appreciation and acknowledged the service of outgoing student senators:
  - Zachery Fleck
  - Ethan Fredeen
  - Kristen Hirsh-Pearson
  - Sakshi Satish
  - Nico Turner
  - Ceyanna Meroniuk
  - Helga Holler-Busch
  - Steven Horianopoulos

### **1.0 Acknowledgement of Territory**

The Chair acknowledged the Senate meeting was on the traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh.

### **2.0 S-202008.01 Approval of the Agenda †**

Kazemian

That the agenda for the August 26, 2020 Open Session of Senate be approved as presented.

CARRIED

### **3.0 Presentation – Update on UNBC's Response to Coronavirus (COVID-19) Payne**

The Chair provided an update on UNBC's Response to Coronavirus, preparations for the start of classes in September and an update on campus services.

#### **4.0 Approval of the Minutes**

##### **S-202008.02**

##### **Approval of the Minutes**

Budde

That the Minutes for the June 24, 2020 Public Session of Senate be approved as presented.

CARRIED

#### **5.0 Business Arising**

No Business arising.

#### **6.0 President's Report**

**Payne**

The President acknowledged the passing of Sally Sam. Sally fought to protect traditional land holdings of the Carrier Sekani through her conservation advocacy of the Maiyoo Keyoh, for which one of our residences on campus is named. The flags will be lowered in her honour.

The President provided an update on the Governance Review that should be complete for the fall. Recommendations will be brought to Senate.

The President reported that he had met with the Senate Art Acquisition Subcommittee and will form a working group to review and assess art governance at the university.

The UNBC Board of Governors will be meeting in mid-September. The President will discuss with the Board the next steps in a search for a Chancellor and planning a Board/Senate virtual joint session.

The President welcomed Mark Dale as Interim Provost.

#### **7.0 Report of the Provost**

**Dale**

##### **7.1 Academic Re-Structuring**

The Provost provided an update on the transition from 2 Colleges to 5 Faculties. Four of the five deans have been selected and are awaiting final approval from the Board. The fifth search was a failed search.

The Provost provided an update on the transition from the College Deans to the Faculty Deans. As the faculty deans arrive on campus, their roles will be as dean-elects. They will help prepare the faculties for the transition and will begin their roles as Deans on April 1, 2021.

The Provost provided an update on the 'Readiness Group' and preparations for the fall semester.

Senator Holler-Busch asked how Course Evaluations be handled this Fall? Will they be optional for faculty, as they were in the January 2020 semester?

The Provost indicated course evaluations will still be used but will have further discussions on this in the Fall.

#### **7.0 Report of the Registrar**

**Annear**

The Registrar will review of the Senate motion process, including forms and timing of when motions should be received to clarify the steps and ensure that timelines for course changes and additions to the calendar are respected.

The Registrar reported that a working group will be initiated to assess academic misconduct and how infractions can be assessed and documented.

The Registrar reported on graduate applications.

## 9.0 Question Period

### 9.1 Written questions submitted in advance

No questions submitted in advance.

### 9.2 Questions from the floor

Senator Deo asked about the letter of concern that was received by Senate members from student and alumni related to violations by other graduate students. Are there any graduate calendar violations that have happened or been brought to the attention of the Registrar or the Office of Graduate Programs?

The President indicated that he was not aware of the letter but would look into it.

Senator Dhruv Desai indicated that a letter was received by the Steering Committee in June 2019 and referred to the Senate Standing Advisory Committee on Integrity and Awarding of Degrees.

Senator Jackson asked if the meeting schedule can be adjusted to allow more time for Senators to have the Senate package.

The President indicated that the schedule will be reviewed.

Senator Deo followed up on a request from a previous meeting, asking if the VPF could provide details on how much money the University has paid to lawyers, retained by the University to conduct investigations.

The President indicated that he would follow up.

## 10.0 Approval of Motions on the Consent Agenda

Payne

No motions on the Consent Agenda

## 11.0 Committee Reports

### 11.1 Senate Committee on Academic Appeals

Klassen-Ross

Senator Klassen-Ross reported that no new appeals have been received by the committee. Academic appeals will be transitioning from this committee to the Senate Committee on Student Appeals. This fall the committee will be looking at the appeal timelines and processes to help facilitate the appeal process for both students and faculty.

### 11.2 Senate Committee on Academic Affairs

Dale

### **For Approval Items:**

The "Schools" within the University Policy – **S-200303.07** was provided in the meeting package

#### **S-202008.03**

**Change from Programs to School - Engineering Programs**

Hossein

That a School of Engineering be established consisting of the Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Joint Environmental Engineering, and MENG – WID degree programs.

**Effective Date:** September 1, 2020

CARRIED

#### **S-202008.04**

**Common First-Year Engineering Curriculum Agreement**

Klassen-Ross

That the Common First-Year Engineering Curriculum Agreement (CFYEC) agreement be approved as proposed.

**Effective Date:** September 2020

CARRIED

**S-202008.05**

**Transfer Agreement – Vancouver Island University – UNBC Engineering**

Klassen-Ross

That the Vancouver Island University - University of Northern British Columbia Engineering Transfer Agreement based on the Common First-Year Engineering Curriculum Agreement (CFYEC) agreement be approved as proposed.

**Effective Date:** September 2020

CARRIED

**11.3 Steering Committee of Senate**

**Payne**

**S-202008.06**

**Change(s) to the Senate Handbook – Dissolving SCAA and SCSDA**

Hartley

That, on the recommendation of the Steering Committee of Senate, the Senate Committee Academic Appeals and the Senate Committee on Student Discipline Appeals be dissolved and subsequently be removed from the Senate Handbook.

**Effective Date:** Upon the approval of Senate

CARRIED

The Chair reported that the Steering Committee is working on revisions to the Senate Handbook for the transition to the five-faculty structure in April 2021. Revisions will be brought to Senate in November 2020 for review and then for approval in January 2021.

**11.4 Senate Committee on Nominations**

**For Approval Items:**

**S-202008.07**

**Recommendation of Senate Committee Members to Senate**

Jackson

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Nominations, and barring further nominations from the floor of Senate, the following candidates, who have met all eligibility requirements to serve on Senate committees as indicated, be appointed as proposed.

**Effective date:** Upon Approval of Senate

CARRIED

**SENATE COMMITTEE CURRICULUM AND CALENDAR**

Faculty Member (03/31/2023)

Faculty Member (03/31/2023)

Lisa Dickson

Steve Helle

**SCAAF ART ACQUISITION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Faculty Member (03/31/2023)

*(knowledgeable in archaeology, visual arts, archives or heritage conservation)*

Faculty Member (03/31/2023)

*(with broad interest in the arts)*

Sarah de Leeuw

Kim Stathers

**S-202008.08**

**Recommendation of Senate Committee Members to Senate**

Kazemian

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Nominations, and barring further nominations from the floor of Senate, the following candidates, who have met all eligibility requirements to serve on Senate committees as indicated, be appointed as proposed.

**Effective date:** September 1, 2020

CARRIED

**SENATE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS**

Student Senator (08/31/2021)

Christiana Onabola

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ADMISSIONS AND DEGREES**

Undergraduate Student (08/31/2021)

Andrew Mitchell

**SENATE COMMITTEE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Graduate Student (08/31/2021)

Undergraduate Student (08/31/2021)

Undergraduate Student

Lydia Troc

Alexander Schinkel

Drew Gilchrist

**SCAAF SUBCOMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC SCHEDULING**

Undergraduate Student (08/31/2021)

Andrew Mitchell

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HONORARY DEGREES AND OTHER FORMS OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Student Senator (08/31/2021)

Lydia Troc

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES**

Undergraduate Student (08/31/2021)

Student Senator (08/31/2021)

Mattias Wels-Lopez

Sloane Zogas

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY BUDGET**

Student Senator (08/31/2021)

Brandon Greenall

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON STUDENT APPEALS**

Faculty Senator (03/31/2021)

Faculty Senator (03/31/2023)

Faculty Member (03/31/2021)

Faculty Member (03/31/2022)

Graduate Student Senator (08/31/2021)

Undergraduate Student Senator (08/31/2021)

Student at Large (08/31/2021)

Tammy Klassen-Ross

Julius Bankole

Catharine Schiller

Ngoc Huynh

Christiana Onabola

Laura Parent

Helga Holler-Busch

A list of current senate committee vacancies was included in the meeting package.

**11.5 Senate Committee on Curriculum and Calendar**

**Annear**

No report.

**11.6 Senate Committee on Admissions and Degrees**

**Annear**

No report.

**11.7 Senate Committee on First Nations and Aboriginal Peoples**

**Dale**

No report.

**11.8 Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Special Forms of Recognition**

**Payne**

The President reported that Call for Nominations for Honorary degrees will be going out in early September and the committee will review nominations for the 2021 Convocation.

The President reported that Senator Lewis will be reviewing of the Professor Emeritus policy for consideration by the committee.

**11.9 Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries**

**Annear**

No report.

### **11.9 Senate Committee on University Budget**

The President reported the budget process for the 2021/2022 budget has begun. Meetings with SCUB will resume in the fall.

### **12.0 Information**

### **13.0 Other Business**

#### **13.1 Nomination and Election of a Vice-Chair of Senate**

**Payne**

Senator Horianopoulos nominated Senator Laura Parent for the position of vice-chair. No other nominations were received and Senator Parent was acclaimed.

### **14.0 S-202008.09 (10 minutes)**

#### **Move to the Closed Session**

Klassen-Ross

That the meeting move to Close Session.

CARRIED

### **15.0 S-202008.**

#### **Adjournment**

Horianopoulos

That the Senate meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.