

**SENATE MEETING
OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

September 23, 2020
3:30 – 5:30 PM
Zoom Only

Present: B. Annear (Secretary of Senate), A. Aravind, J. Bankole, R. Budde, J. Chen (non-voting), M. Dale, B. Deo, D. Desai, T. Fuson (non-voting), D. Gilchrist, B. Greenall, I. Hartley, L. Haslett, C. Hofsink, C. Ho Youngusband, D. Huber, P. Jackson, H. Kazemian, G. Keeler, T. Klassen-Ross, E. Korkmaz, K. Lewis, A. Mitchell, C. Onabola, A. Palmer, A. Parent (Recording Secretary), L. Parent (Vice-Chair), G. Payne (Chair), S. Rader (non-voting), B. Owen, L. Roodenburg, L. Roldan-Flores (non-voting), A. Schinkel, A. Smith (non-voting), C. Smith (non-voting), A. Sommerfeld (non-voting), K. Stathers, T. Tannert, T. Tribe (non-voting), L. Troc, C. Whalen, R. Wheate, J. Wimmers-Klick, S. Zogas

Regrets: J. Allen, A. Constantin, M. Greenwood, B. McGill, D. Nyce, M. Peterson, M. Wels-Lopez, P. Winwood (non-voting)

The meeting commenced at 3:30 p.m.

The Chair acknowledged the passing of Elder Louise Framst (nee Etzerza), who was a proud member of the Tahltan nation. The flags at UNBC will be lowered to half mast.

The Chair welcomed new student senators: Brandon Greenall, *Student Representative for the Faculty of Business and Economics*, Mattias Wels-Lopez, *Student Representative for the Faculty of Human and Health Sciences*, Andrew Mitchell, *Student Representative for the Faculty of the Environment*, Drew Gilchrist, *Student Representative for the Faculty of Science and Engineering*, Alex Schinkel, *Undergraduate Student Representative*, Sloane Zogas, *Undergraduate Student Representative*, Christiana Onabola, *Graduate Student Representative*, Lydia Troc, *Graduate Student Representative* and returning student senator and the vice-chair of Senate, Laura Parent, *Student Representative for the Faculty of Indigenous Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities*.

The Chair welcomed Roger Wheate as the Faculty Senator for CSAM.

1.0 Acknowledgement of Territory

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

**2.0 S-202009.01
Approval of the Agenda**

Budde

That the agenda for the September 23, 2020 Open Session of Senate be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3.0 Presentation – Scheduling

Kimberly Read

Associate Registrar, Records & Systems

The presentation for Scheduling has been added to the Senate SharePoint site.

4.0 Approval of the Minutes

S-202009.02

Approval of the Minutes

Kazemian

That the Minutes for the August 26, 2020 Public Session of Senate be approved as presented.

The President presented some edits reported by Senator Deo.

~~Senator Dale~~ indicated that he was not aware of the letter but would look into it. (It was the President, not Senator Dale) who answered this question)

~~The President~~ 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. (It was Senator Dhruv Desai, who indicated that a letter was received as he was the member of the steering committee last year).

CARRIED as Amended

5.0 Business Arising

- 5.1 Update on letter received from current student and Alumni, pertaining to the graduation process **Dale**

The Provost reported that he has read the letters and reviewed the Terms of Reference for the Senate Standing Advisory Committee on the Integrity and Awarding of Degrees. He is concerned with the procedures as outlined and will require legal advice if we move forward with this committee. He indicated that our current regulations and procedures are sufficient to address this concern. He and Registrar will address the concerns and reply to the letter.

- 5.2 Update on Graduate Program Regulations **Lewis**

The President reported that Senator Lewis, Vice-President, Research will have full designated authority to lead and support graduate programs until April 1, 2021.

The Vice-President, Research reported that two motions are currently in the Senate approval process for changes to the calendar language.

The Vice-President, Research is working closely with the Office of Graduate Programs and has initiated a graduate advisory group to review the procedures of graduate programs and assist in the transition to the five-faculty model.

6.0 President's Report **Payne**

The President welcomed everyone to the 2020-2021 Academic Year

The President reported that the search for the Vice-President, Finance and Administration was successful. Mr. Rahim Somani was the successful candidate and will begin in this role effective Nov. 2, 2020.

The President reported that both the President's Task Force on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion the Students' Roundtable on Confronting Racism at UNBC have begun and he will update Senate on these discussions in the coming months.

The President reported that the Governance Review has been completed and a report received. Once he has reviewed the report with the Board Chair, he will report to Senate on the recommendations.

The President provided an update on COVID-19 and the work being done to keep the campus community safe as more individuals return on-site. He asked all to remain vigilant. The announcement has been made that the Winter 2021 Term will be similar to the Fall 2020 Term as COVID-19 cases continue to rise.

Senator Deo asked if there is any expansion program (new buildings) for UNBC?

Senator Smith indicated that submissions and requests are made in accordance to our Capital Plan to the Ministry but there are currently no new expansions and/or funding that have been approved.

Senator Huber noted that there was no tenure or tenure-track faculty member on the search committee for the new VP Finance, even though that is supposed to be part of the search committee structure. Was a request made to Senate and/or via e-mail for a faculty member. This position is very important and should have faculty input.

The President indicated that several attempts were made to fill the faculty position on the search committee but no eligible faculty member was identified and the decision was made to proceed with the search.

7.0 Report of the Provost

Dale

The Provost reported that the Winter Term will continue in the same model as the Fall Term. The Readiness Group and Kaffeeklatsch Discussion groups will continue to address questions and topics of concern as they arise.

The Provost reported on the increase of International students not physically located in Canada and the risks of International Communication. The following communication has gone out to all students and faculty.

The pandemic has caused a shift from classroom teaching to online learning, changing our approaches to teaching and learning at UNBC, and bringing changes to health and safety considerations. In these new circumstances all students need to be aware that some courses may cover topics that are censored or considered illegal by some non-Canadian governments. These include such topics as human rights, representative government, defamation, obscenity, sexuality, and geopolitical controversies. We ask all students, both international and domestic, to be aware of this situation and to be mindful as you interact with your instructor and with other students. If you are an international student, studying outside Canada, you are subject to the laws of your local jurisdiction, and your local authorities may limit your access to course material or take punitive action against you. If you have concerns regarding your courses and your personal situation, please contact your academic advisor to discuss alternatives.

For further information and support, please visit: <https://www.unbc.ca/international>

7.1 Academic Re-Structuring

The Provost reported that four of the five Deans for the Faculties have been announced. With the recruitment process still in progress for the Dean, Faculty of Environment, Dr. Peter Jackson will be filling the role as Interim Dean, starting January 1, 2021.

The transition from the two-colleges to the five-faculties will happen on April 1, 2021. As the deans-elect begin in their new roles, they will be working to facilitate in the transition.

8.0 Report of the Registrar

Annear

The Registrar reported that this year the exam and winter break schedule will put the processing of late grades on a tight time line. Grades not received will show up as 'Grade Not Received' until the grade is submitted.

Regarding the Governance of Senate, the Registrar reminded Senate that each of the faculties will need to have a faculty constitution and mechanisms for elections within the faculties.

The Registrar reported on the activities of his office and the implementation on new processes.

Senator Deo asked if the Office of the Registrar has enough staff to meet current needs.

The Registrar indicated that they are trying to make sure that they have sufficient people in tasks and are bringing in casuals as needed. Some of the technology and processes that are being implemented will help with the manual entries.

It was asked if there was any update on graduate registration online. The Registrar indicated that this is still a priority and will be implemented as time permits.

Senator Parent asked that if a student does not receive a grade, how will this affect subsequent courses and student's ability to register for courses, or other applications such as graduate school and/or scholarships?

The Registrar indicated the "Grade Not Received" notation will disappear once a grade is received and is not a permanent record.

9.0 Question Period

9.1 Written questions submitted in advance

9.1.1 How much money has the University paid to lawyers, retained by the University to conduct investigations? (*Senator Deo*)

Vice-President Smith indicated we do not currently have information related to legal cost specifically related to investigations. A summary can be provided to Senators (sent to Senator Deo and Senator Whalen) of expenses for legal costs related to:

- Grievances
- Arbitration
- Mediation
- Climate reviews
- Other labour relations related legal matters, including investigations

9.1.2 What credentials do non-program registered students who are taking for credit courses receive from UNBC? (*Senator Hofsink*)

Senator Dale reported that they do not receive a credential but do receive the course credit as appropriate on an official UNBC transcript.

9.1.3 With the date of the transition to the Five faculty model established, what is the deadline for all faculty members to be hosted in one of these five faculties? (*Senator Hofsink*)

Senator Dale indicated that there is no official deadline. There are currently only two Faculty members who have not identified their faculty.

9.2 Questions from the floor

9.2.1 Senator Budde indicated that 25% of all departments carry forward was taken away. This was done without notice or consultation and he asked if someone could speak to the lack of consultation.

The President apologized for the lack of consultation. There was consultation with the Deans and Directors regarding the large carry-forward. Given our current fiscal situation it was decided that 25% of every departments carry-forward would be held back. If a department or program

was looking for those funds and had projects in mind they should bring those forward on a case by case basis.

A better framework is needed to address our fiscal constraints. It is a priority that academic departments will work with the new Deans to develop a budget framework that is sustainable.

9.2.2 Senator Deo asked what is the level of deficit now?

The Vice-President, Finance gave an overview of our current projections, indicating that much depends on our current enrollment and how much some areas, such as Ancillary Services have been impacted by COVID-19.

The President reported that various communications will be made throughout the budget process to inform Senate and the Community of our 2021 budget.

10.0 **S-202009.03**
Approval of Motions on the Consent Agenda

Schinkel

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

CARRIED

11.0 **Committee Reports**

11.1 **Committee on Academic Appeals**

Klassen-Ross

No active appeals.

11.2 **Senate Committee on Academic Affairs**

Dale

For Approval Items:

S-202009.04
Change(s) to Course Prerequisite – ENGR 130

Schinkel

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Affairs, the changes to the course prerequisite for ENGR 130-4 Mechanics of Materials I, on page 218 (in the [print](#) or PDF calendar accessible on the UNBC web page) of the 2019/2020 undergraduate calendar, be approved as proposed.

Effective Date: January 2021

CARRIED

ENGR 130-4 Mechanics of Materials I

This course introduces key principles applicable to practical problems in the mechanics of materials. The course concentrates on stress analysis of single structural elements. Topics include, but are not limited to, the following concepts of stress and strain: mechanical properties of materials (elasticity, Poisson's ratio); axial loading and deformation; thermal stresses; torsional stress and deformation; shear forces; and bending moments.

Prerequisites: PHYS 110-4 with a minimum grade of D-, or PHYS 100-4 with a minimum grade of B

S-202009.05
Change(s) to Course Description – ENGR 152

Schinkel

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Affairs, the change to the course

description for ENGR 152-1 Engineering Tools II, on page 218 (in the print or PDF calendar accessible on the UNBC web page) of the 2019/2020 undergraduate calendar, be approved as proposed.

Effective Date: January 2021

CARRIED

ENGR 152-1 Engineering Tools II

This course provides an introduction to engineering problem-solving using common software tools, and including spreadsheets, focusing on CAD and GIS software. Case studies provide relevance and serve to bind together synthesize many of the topics covered in the course.

Prerequisites: Admission to an Engineering program, ENGR 117-3 and ENGR 151-1

S-202009.06

Change(s) to Course Title and Description – MATH 435

Schinkel

That the changes to the course title and course description, for the course of Math 435-3 Numerical Analysis II, be approved as proposed for the 2020/2021 undergraduate calendar.

Effective Date: January 2021

CARRIED

MATH 435-3 Numerical Analysis II Numerical Methods for Partial Differential Equations

~~A continuation of MATH 335-3, with the focus mainly on the numerical solution of ordinary and partial differential equations. Topics include initial value problems for systems of ordinary differential equations, boundary value problems for ordinary differential equations, and an introduction to the numerical solution of canonical second-order partial differential equations via finite difference methods.~~

This course introduces the theory and application of numerical methods for partial differential equations for science and engineering. Programming and mathematical analysis of numerical methods are emphasized. Topics include methods for solving linear and nonlinear systems (direct and iterative methods), initial value problems, and boundary value problems (finite difference, spectral, finite volume, and finite element methods).

~~Prerequisites:~~ MATH 230-3, MATH 335-3

~~Precluded:~~ MATH 331-3

S-202009.07

Change(s) to Course Title and Description – MATH 635

Schinkel

That the changes to the course title and course description, for the course of Math 635-3 Numerical Analysis II, be approved as proposed for the 2020/2021 undergraduate calendar.

Effective Date: January 2021

CARRIED

MATH 635-3 ~~Numerical Methods in Differential Equations~~ Numerical Methods for Partial Differential Equations

~~A course in numerical analysis which focuses mainly on the numerical solution of ordinary and partial differential equations. Topics include: initial value problems for systems of ordinary~~

differential equations, boundary value problems for ordinary differential equations, and an introduction to the numerical solution of canonical second-order partial differential equations via finite difference methods.

This advanced course introduces the theory and application of numerical methods for partial differential equations for science and engineering. Programming and mathematical analysis of numerical methods are emphasized. Topics include methods for solving linear and nonlinear systems (direct and iterative methods), initial value problems, and boundary value problems (finite difference, spectral, finite volume, and finite element methods).

Prerequisites: MATH 335-3 or permission of the instructor

Precluded: MATH 331-3, MATH 435-3

S-202009.08

Change(s) to Program Requirements

Hartley

That the changes to the program requirements for the BSc Conservation Science and Practice – Landscape Conservation and Management major, on page 81 and 82 of the 2020/21 undergraduate calendar, be approved as proposed.

Effective Date: September 2021

CARRIED

Major in Landscape Conservation and Management

Program Requirements

Lower-Division Requirement

100 Level

BIOL 103-3 Introductory Biology I

BIOL 104-3 Introductory Biology II

BIOL 123-1 Introductory Biology I Laboratory

BIOL 124-1 Introductory Biology II Laboratory

CHEM 100-3 General Chemistry I

ECON 100-3 Microeconomics

~~ENVS 101-3 Introduction to Environmental Citizenship~~

FNST 100-3 The Aboriginal Peoples of Canada

MATH 152-3 Calculus for Non-majors

NREM 100-3 Field Skills

NREM 101-3 Introduction to Natural Resource Management and Conservation

NRES 100-3 Communications in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

200 Level

BIOL 201-3 Ecology

ENSC 201-3 Weather and Climate

ENVS 306-3 Human Ecology

or ENVS 225-3 Global Environmental Change: Science and Policy

FNST 249-3 Aboriginal Resource Planning

GEOG 204-3 Introduction to GIS

NREM 204-3 Introduction to Wildlife and Fisheries
NREM 209-3 The Practice of Conservation
~~POLS 257-3 Public Law in Canada~~
STAT 240-3 Basic Statistics

300 Level

BIOL 325-3 Ecological Analyses
ENPL 304-3 Mediation, Negotiation & Public Participation
or ENV5 326-3 Natural Resources, Environmental Issues and Public Engagement
ENSC 302-3 Low Carbon Energy Development
or ECON 305-3 Environmental Economics and Environmental Policy
GEOG 300-3 Intermediate GIS
NREM 303-3 Aboriginal Perspectives on Land and Resource Management

Two of the following:

BIOL 301-3 Systematic Botany
BIOL 307-3 Ichthyology and Herpetology
BIOL 308-3 Ornithology and Mammalogy
BIOL 318-3 Fungi and Lichens
BIOL 322-3 Entomology
BIOL 350-3 Ethnobotany
FSTY 201-3 Forest Plant Systems

400 Level

BIOL 409-3 Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems
or ENSC 425-3 Climate Change and Global Warming
BIOL 411-3 Conservation Biology
ENPL 401-3 Environmental Law
ENV5 414-3 Environmental and Professional Ethics
FSTY 405-3 Forest Ecosystem Modelling
or ENSC 406-3 Environmental Modelling
NREM 400-4 Natural Resources Planning
NREM 409-3 Conservation Planning
ORTM 400-3 Conservation Area Design and Management

Elective Requirement

Elective credit hours as necessary to ensure completion of a minimum of 120 credit hours.

S-202009.09

Change(s) to Calendar – Reactivate FNST 425

Klassen-Ross

That FNST 425-3 Oral History be reactivated as a course at the University of Northern British Columbia and in doing so be included in the calendar using the calendar entry found on pages 230 and 231 of the 2019-2020 calendar.

Effective Date: January 2021

CARRIED

FNST 425-3 Oral History This course examines the foundations of oral traditions and oral history methods within academic research. It provides students with an understanding of the importance of oral research methods and an opportunity to expand and enhance this understanding through presentations by First Nations resource people, reading, assignments, online and material resources as well as class discussion. This course incorporates Indigenous perspectives to examine Indigenous worlds through the lens of storytelling methods and collective narrative memory.

Prerequisites: FNST 100-3

11.3 Steering Committee of Senate

Payne

The President reported that the Steering Committee discussed bringing forward to Senate a discussion on 'where higher education will be after COVID-19 and how it will look at UNBC'.

Steering Committee has been reviewing the Senate Handbook and suggestions are expected to come to Senate for review in November 2020 and for approval in January 2021.

11.4 Senate Committee on Nominations

For Approval Items:

Regular

S-202009.10

Recommendation of Senate Committee Members to Senate

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 23, 2020

Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries

Andrea Palmer – Lay Senator

03/31/2023

A list of vacancies on Senate Committees 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

The Provost reported that he has asked Vice Provost, Indigenous Initiatives to Chair this committee.

11.8 Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Special Forms of Recognition

Payne

The President reported that the Call for Nominations for Honorary degrees has gone out. The committee will review the nominees for Senate's approval in October.

11.9 Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries

Annear

For Information Items:

SCSB20200826.04

Revised Steadman Family Matching Grant Bursary

That the revised Terms and Conditions for the Steadman Family Matching Grant Bursary with a name change to Steadman Family Bursary be approved with a revision for costs to include “tuition, fees and books”.

Effective Date: 2020-2021 Academic Year

SCSB20200826.05

Revised PeroxyChem Canada Ltd. Endowed Scholarship

That the revised Terms and Conditions for the PeroxyChem Canada Ltd. Endowed Scholarship with a name change to United Initiators Canada Ltd. Scholarship be approved.

Effective Date: 2020-2021 Academic Year

11.9 Senate Committee on University Budget

Meetings for this committee will resume in October.

12.0 Information

None.

13.0 Other Business

None.

14.0 S-202009.11

Move to the Closed Session

Ho Younghusband

That the meeting move to Close Session.

CARRIED

15.0 S-202009.17

Adjournment

Zogas

That the Senate meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.