

**SENATE MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MINUTES**

March 14, 2007

3:30 – 5:30 PM

Room 7-172 Bentley Centre - Prince George Campus

Present:

E. Annis, K. Beeler, H. Brunt, D. Casperson, D. Cozzetto (Chair), R. Ellis, A. Espíritu, M. Gorzelak, D. Hemingway, J. Holler, J. Hyndman, E. Jensen (teleconference), D. Kimmie, E. Kinghorn (teleconference), T. Knudsen, J. Li, D. Macknak, M. Mandy, W. McGill, K. Medhurst, D. Nyce (teleconference), E. Owen-Williams, E. Pratt, J. Randall, E. Rapaport, S. Rennebohm, J. Safaei Boroobjeny, B. Simard (teleconference), A. Smith, R. Tait (Vice-Chair), D. Tasa, M. Thomson, S. Wagner

Regrets:

H. Domshy, H. Giroday, H. Li, A. Nussbaumer, C. Opio, M. Reed, H. Samadi

Non-voting members present:

C. Myers (Recording), S. Keith, K. Kielly, P. Madak, P. Michel, L. Pattie, C. Smith, H. Smith

The meeting commenced at 3:30 p.m.

The following note was included on the agenda:

PLEASE NOTE: The enclosed motions (listed as “Motion 1” and “Motion 2”),
copies of which are included directly after this agenda in the
meeting package, are Special Order motions which will be
dealt with promptly at 4:00 p.m. Hyndman

Dr. Cozzetto introduced two new undergraduate student Senators, Thomas Knudsen and Devan Tasa.

1.0 S-200703.01

Approval of the Agenda

Hyndman / Mandy

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

CARRIED.

Senator Wagner pointed out two errors on the agenda, as follows:

- Motion S-200703.04 (New Course Approval — HHSC 440-3) — the title of the motion should have read “HHSC 440-(3-6)” rather than “HHSC 440-3,” and the reference to HHSC 430 in the motion should have been HHSC 440;
 - Motion SCAPP200702.19 (Prerequisite and Calendar Course Description Change — PSYC 409-3) — the body of the motion made reference to HHSC 350-3, which should have been HHSC 351-3.
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2.0 **S-200703.02**
Approval of Senate Public Session Minutes

Mandy / Annis

That the Minutes of the February 14, 2007 Public Session of Senate be approved as presented.
CARRIED.

Senator Mandy pointed out that the minutes indicated that Senator Rapaport was absent from the meeting, which he was not. C. Myers agreed to make the correction on the February 14, 2007 minutes.

3.0 **Business Arising from Previous Meetings of Senate**

No business arising was identified.

4.0 **President's Report**

Cozzetto

President Cozzetto noted that the final report from the consultants, Harris and Mansell, was on the UNBC budget website, and that an e-mail had been sent out to notify the university community that the report had been posted. He suggested that Senators review the report if they hadn't yet done so, as it raised several important points and challenges.

The President reported that the province had notified the university that UNBC would be losing its undergraduate growth seats of 112 FTE by 2009/2010, in the amount of approximately \$800,000 in funding, as the result of not having met FTE target growth. However, he added that the University would have the opportunity to convert that shortfall to graduate student growth in order to retain funding levels, and that it would be critical for Senate to be involved in how the University approached FTE growth, as there would be budget ramifications if growth targets were unmet.

Dr. Cozzetto mentioned that he had received a reminder from the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada that the federal budget would be announced on Monday, March 19, and that he was hopeful for good news regarding research, by way of maintained or increased funding to cover indirect costs of research.

Finally, Dr. Cozzetto mentioned that the motion on the current Senate meeting agenda, requesting that the Board of Governors direct the administration to cease making announcements regarding program admission closures, would be added to the Board agenda if it was carried by Senate.

5.0 **Report of the Provost**

Brunt

Dr. Brunt indicated that he had met with three northern Colleges regarding the "NorthLink" project, and that he anticipated the project would move forward, with which he was pleased.

The Provost provided Senators with a presentation on the Academic Visioning Initiative (AVI) / Embracing Change, Promoting Excellence (ECPE). The presentation outlined the goals of the AVI and a proposed method for moving forward with implementation, including membership of two working groups and a Senate steering group. He added that he would like to have a meeting of Senate committee chairs called for the purpose of drafting Terms of Reference for the working groups and steering group, which would then be brought back to Senate in April for consideration.

Senator Rapaport suggested that, given the importance of graduate education and the funding announced by the province, it would make sense to include the (Acting) Vice-Provost, Research and Graduate Programs, to the membership, with which Dr. Brunt agreed.

6.0 **Question Period**

Senator Beeler asked whether, in the short term, Programs should assume that the current administrative and Program structures, including Chairs as well as budgets, would remain in place. Dr. Brunt responded that, although the implementation plan was over three years, changes could begin at any time.

Senator Casperson asked whether the Senate Handbook would be revised in light of the creation of the position of Vice-Provost, Research and Graduate Programs. Dr. Brunt replied that the Senate Handbook was currently being revised, and that the Vice-President Research would be replaced by the Vice-Provost, Research and Graduate Programs.

Senator Rapaport noted that some Programs had proposed mergers, and asked how the suggestions were being dealt with. Dr. Brunt responded that budget reduction ideas were being proposed and that he encouraged people to continue doing so.

Senator Casperson mentioned that he had asked at the previous Senate meeting for information regarding the appointment date and method of appointment for the Registrar, and whether the appointment was "acting" or "interim." Dr. Cozzetto indicated that he believed the Chair of the Board of Governors had responded to Senator Casperson's query, which Senator Casperson replied he hadn't seen. Dr. Cozzetto indicated he would ensure that the response of the Chair was provided to Senator Casperson.

4:00 p.m. Special Order Motions

Two special order motions were dealt with precisely at 4:00 p.m.

S-200703.02A (denoted as "Motion 1" in the Senate meeting package)

Hyndman / Rapaport

That the UNBC Senate respectfully request the Board to direct the Administration to cease making announcements and to remove existing announcements of program admission closures (however temporary) until such time as the Board has determined the number of students that may be accommodated in these programs; has made rules consistent with these determinations; has requested the approval of Senate to implement these rules; and Senate has approved these rules.

Senator Hyndman introduced this motion, indicating that the motion was in reference to the *University Act*, which delineates the authority of the Board of Governors and Senate. She stated that the *Act* provides that closures to admissions to any degree are under the authority of the Board, but only with Senate approval, and that Senate hadn't approved the closures which were currently occurring. Senator Hyndman added that the motion requested that the Board and Senate adhere to procedures outlined in the *University Act*. Furthermore, she questioned what the financial and academic benefits of closing admissions to academic degrees had been, and that it was important to refer to the Academic Visioning Initiative prior to closing admissions to any degrees. Senator Hyndman pointed out that the College Councils had passed motions requesting that the administration "slow down" with regard to the changes being implemented, as had the Faculty Association. She concluded that it was imperative that a concrete plan in relation to the Academic Visioning Initiative be put in place, which would also include discussions with the Colleges, prior to closing admissions to any degrees.

Senator Casperson indicated that what was being sought by this motion was the consideration of admission suspensions in the context of a concrete academic plan. He added that the motion was indirect, which would provide time to sort out the details, but that the looseness of the wording should not be interpreted as permission to continue with the closures. Finally, Senator Casperson stated that legal counsel had been sought, and that the opinion provided was that Senate had a role in this issue.

Several Senators indicated their support for this motion, while others indicated they were opposed to the motion and questioned the motives of the Senators who brought the motion to Senate. Points made in support of the motion included the following: although it was important that the University move forward, it was at least as important that moving forward be done in a strategic manner, and that by taking a bit longer to consider how to proceed would not be detrimental, but rather would bring people together and allow the University to move ahead in a measured way; it was important to adhere to the *University Act*, the financial implications of the changes were unclear, as changes to the Women's Studies Program would not realize a significant financial saving; agreement that change was necessary, but there was cloudiness around the decisions which had been taken; there is a link between the faculty buyouts and admissions, and that, until it was known who would take buyouts, an informed decision could not be made with regard to freezing applications.

Points in opposition to the motion included that, by waiting, the budgetary implications would be compounded, with negative results, and that reducing the operating budget was no longer tenable, so the administration was required to take measures of this nature.

Dr. Brunt indicated that, although he was not in favour of this motion, he welcomed it, as there was a need for clarity on the roles of the Board of Governors, Senate, and management, which intersect. However, Dr. Brunt added, to underestimate the pressure the University was under would be detrimental, and that the University didn't have the luxury of waiting. Dr. Brunt stated that the University had not closed any Programs, and added that he believed the decision to temporarily suspend admissions was a management right, and that the portion of the *University Act* referred to in the motion did not pertain to this issue. He concluded that creating dissention was unhelpful, so he looked forward to having this issue resolved at the Board meeting, as the Board was in the best position to hear all arguments and come to a judgment.

Dr. Cozzetto affirmed that what was driving this plan was the fiscal situation, and that people would need to work together to come up with solutions. He reiterated that, if the plans to move ahead were further delayed, there would be serious financial implications for the University, and that management would have done the University a disservice by allowing matters to continue as they had been.

S-200703.02B

Motion to Hold Vote by Secret Ballot

Hyndman / Casperson

That the vote on motion S-200703.02A be held by secret ballot.

CARRIED.

A secret ballot vote was held, and motion S-200703.02A was CARRIED.

S-200703.02C (denoted as "Motion 2" in the Senate meeting package)

That the President be directed to communicate this decision to the Board immediately.

WITHDRAWN.

Senator Hyndman requested that, since the President had already indicated that Motion 1 would be forwarded to the Board if carried by Senate, this motion be withdrawn. Dr. Cozzetto assured Senators that motion S-200703.02A would be placed on the Board agenda.

7.0 Committee Reports:

7.1 Reports from Standing Committees:

7.1.1 Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning

Brunt

S-200703.03

Transfer Credit for Coursework Relating to the Ninety (90) Credits in Arts, Science, or in Other Teachable Fields Relevant to the BC School System

Brunt / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, transfer credit for coursework relating to the ninety (90) credits in Arts, Science, or in other teachable fields relevant to the BC School system that have been completed prior to UNBC registration by applicants to the Bachelor of Education Program shall not be subject to the ten-year provision in the university calendar regulation

regarding *Time Limit for Transfer Credit* but shall be determined by the program based upon the British Columbia College of Teachers' acceptable course work and degree policy.

Effective date: March 15, 2007

CARRIED.

An Executive Summary of the proposed changes to the Health Sciences Program was included for information.

S-200703.04

New Course Approval — HHSC 440-(3-6)

Brunt / Medhurst

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, the new course HHSC 440-3 Special Topics in Health Sciences be approved as proposed.

Effective date: Immediately upon approval by Senate

CARRIED.

An Executive Summary of the proposed changes to the Political Science Program was included for information.

S-200703.05

Change to Program Requirements — Political Science Major (Lower Division Requirements)

Brunt / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, the Lower Division Requirements for the POLS major be revised to make MATH 242 an option to ECON 205.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200703.06

Change to Mathematics Requirement — Major in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Brunt / Ellis

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, the Mathematics requirement for the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major be revised.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

The following motions were provided to Senate for information only, as they had been approved by the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning.

SCAPP200702.13

Course Prerequisite Change — POLS 320-3

That the prerequisites for POLS 320-3 be revised to include MATH 242-3 as an alternate to ECON 205-3.

Effective date: September 2007

SCAPP200702.19

Prerequisite and Calendar Course Description Change — PSYC 409-3

That the calendar course description be revised, and the prerequisites for PSYC 409-3 Advanced Health Psychology be modified for BHSC students to include HHSC 350-3 instead of PSYC 215-3.

Effective date: September 2007

7.1.2 Senate Committee on Research and Graduate Studies

Tait

An Executive Summary regarding the proposed changes to the Health Sciences Program was included for information.

S-200703.07

New Course Approval — HHSC 630-3

Tait / Knudsen

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Research and Graduate Studies, a new course HHSC 630-3 Advanced Toxicology and Environmental Health be approved as proposed.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200703.08

New Course Approval — HHSC 640-(3-6)

Tait / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Research and Graduate Studies, a new course HHSC 640-(3-6) Special Topics in Health Sciences be approved as proposed.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200703.09

Changes to Program Requirements — Addition of Electives for History MA Program

Tait / Holler

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Research and Graduate Studies, the Elective Courses for the History (MA Program) requirements be amended to add two new courses, HIST 707-3 Themes in Cultural History and HIST 708-3 Themes in Social History.

Effective date: May 2007

CARRIED.

7.1.3 Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries

Kielly (Acting)

S-200703.10

New Terms and Conditions — Jordy Hoover Varsity Bursary

Tait / Hemingway

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the new terms and conditions for the Jordy Hoover Varsity Bursary be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200703.11

New Terms and Conditions — UNBC Students for Life Bursary

Tait / Hemingway

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the terms and conditions for the UNBC Students for Life Bursary be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200703.12

New Terms and Conditions — R. Priefer Organic Chemistry Prize

Tait / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the terms and conditions for the new R. Priefer Organic Chemistry Prize be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200703.13

New Terms and Conditions — Chan Foucher LeFebvre LLP, Chartered Accountants Scholarship

Tait / Medhurst

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the terms and conditions for the new Chan Foucher LeFebvre LLP, Chartered Accountants Scholarship be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

CARRIED.

S-200703.14

New Terms — Golden Key UNBC Leadership Incentive Scholarship

Tait / Annis

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the terms for the Golden Key UNBC Leadership Incentive Scholarship be approved.

Effective date: April 2007

CARRIED.

S-200703.15

New Terms — President’s Leadership Award

Tait / Medhurst

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the terms for the President’s Leadership Award be approved.

Effective date: April 2007

CARRIED.

S-200703.16

2006 / 2007 Annual Report from Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries

Tait / Hemingway

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries, the 2006 / 2007 Annual Report be received.

Effective date: March 14, 2007

CARRIED.

The following motion was provided to Senate for information only, as it had been approved by the Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries.

SCSB20070214.10

Revised Calendar Description — BC Council of Garden Clubs Bursary

That the revised calendar description for the BC Council of Garden Clubs Bursary be approved.

Effective date: September 2007

7.1.4 Senate Committee on Nominations

Smith

S-200703.17

Membership Changes to Senate Committees (no material)

Smith / Mandy

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Nominations, the following candidate, who has met all eligibility requirements to serve on the Senate Committee on the University Budget, be approved as proposed.

CARRIED.

Further nominations were invited from the floor, and none being received, the candidate was appointed as proposed.

SENATE COMMITTEE AND POSITION TO BE FILLED

CANDIDATE

Senate Committee on the University Budget

Graduate Student representative (to June 30, 2007)

Rheanna Robinson

The following was provided to Senate for information only, as the nominees had been elected by their respective student societies.

Elected to Senate by Northern Undergraduate Student Society:

Undergraduate Student Senator (to June 30, 2007)

Devan Tasa

Undergraduate Student Senator (to June 30, 2007)

Thomas Knudsen

7.2 Reports from Ad Hoc Committees:

7.2.1 Senate Committee Reviewing Co-operative Education Program

Ellis

S-200703.19

Proposal for an Integrated Program for Student Career Development

Ellis / Rapaport

That, on the recommendation of the Senate Co-op Committee, a proposal for an integrated program for students that supports student career development; co-operative education, service learning, and other forms of experiential learning; and employment services be brought to Senate by March 2008.

Effective date: March 14, 2007

Senator Ellis provided the report from this committee, and thanked the members of the committee for their contribution. He indicated that the committee had consulted with a variety of groups, which was outlined in the report, and that they had reached a number of conclusions, including unanimous agreement that the Co-operative Education Program should be continued at UNBC. He conceded that the participation rate was low, but added that efforts should be made to increase participation rates, and that other universities were supportive of a wide range of activities in relation to career development, and added that the 2.5 FTE positions in the office should be sufficient. Finally, Senator Ellis suggested that the committee's recommendations were consistent with the University's academic mission, and recommended that a proposal be brought back to Senate with regard to how to proceed.

Senator Ellis pointed out that, prior to putting motion S-200703.19 on the table, it would be necessary to deal with the motion to delete the Co-op Program that had been moved at the previous Senate meeting. Dr. Brunt agreed to withdraw the motion, but reminded Senators that he had not wanted this motion put on the table at the last Senate meeting, and did so only in his role as Chair of the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Planning.

Motion to withdraw Senate motion S-200702.05A (Revision to Undergraduate Calendar — Deletion of Co-operative Education Program)

Brunt / Hyndman

That Senate motion S-200702.05A, moved at the February 14 meeting of Senate, be withdrawn.
CARRIED.

Dr. Brunt thanked the committee for their report, but questioned how the Co-operative Education Program could be expected to do more by moving from 5.5 FTE positions to 2.5 FTE positions. He also indicated that, in order to provide funding to this initiative, funds would have to be reduced in other areas, and wondered how this would be accomplished.

The question was asked regarding what would happen to the Co-op Program if this motion was passed, and Dr. Brunt replied that the key would be whether there was funding available to continue the Co-op Program, which would have to be taken from other programs.

Discussion having ceased, motion S-200703.19 was voted on, and was CARRIED.

Senator Ellis indicated that there were details that would need to be worked out, and suggested the School of Business may have some funding available to put toward this initiative. Dr. Brunt thanked Dr. Ellis for this offer, but added that another \$150,000 to \$200,000 would be required, and that the situation would remain as it currently was until further funding was secured, but if the funding could be put in place, the decision to abolish the Co-operative Education Program would be reconsidered.

8.0 Other Business

8.1 Report of the Registrar

Kielly

The Registrar had nothing to report.

9.0 Information

The following documents were provided to Senators for their information.

9.1 Letter from a UNBC student and Dr. Brunt's response to that letter

9.2 Letter to Mr. John DeGrace

10.0 **S-200703.18**
Adjournment
Annis / Mandy
That the Senate meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.