

Office of the University Secretary

PO Box 1700 STN CSC Victoria British Columbia V8W 2Y2 Canada Tel 250-721-8100 Fax 250-721-6223 E-mail jeastman@uvic.ca web.uvic.ca/univsec

APPROVED FOR RELEASE BY THE SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on Friday, January 13, 2006 at 3:30 p.m. in the University Centre, Room A180. The Chair of Senate, Dr. David Turpin, was in the Chair.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: (A. Rippin/K. Stewart) The agenda was approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

a. November 4, 2005

Dr. Reg Mitchell requested that the record of the discussion under item 6.c.(i) be expanded to make reference to his "passionate criticism."

MOTION: (M. Edgell/S. Lewis Hammond)

That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate held on November 4, 2005 be approved, and that the approved minutes be circulated in the usual way.

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil.

4. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

a. President's Report

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- Dr. Turpin thanked the newly elected Convocation Senators for standing for election and congratulated them on being elected. He reported that Dr. Valerie Kuehne had been appointed Vice-President External Relations and expressed that UVic is glad to have her leadership.
- Dr. Turpin noted that the process of appoint

Dr. Ken Stewart stated that, in his view, a compelling issue that should be addressed at this stage of the university's development is the state of undergraduate education. He remarked on what he finds to be a deterioration in educational standards at the undergraduate level, and asked that the strategic planning process consider the introduction of a proficiencies focus to the undergraduate curriculum similar to initiatives that have been taken at Simon Fraser University.

Dr. Reg Mitchell stated that the changing ratios of FTEs in administration, research and teaching should be reviewed.

Dr. Turpin noted for information that during years of budget restrictions, as faculty positions were protected support staff positions had declined. The faculty complement has grown by 150 faculty in the last five years. He noted that faculty are taking on more administration and that more support staff might be necessary to free them from administrative work.

Dr. Mitchell suggested that another question for consideration is whether UVic went in the right direction with the centralization of co-op programs. In his view, Chemistry students were better off when it was department-based rather than centralized.

Dr. Aaron Devor noted the important issue of how to balance and strengthen graduate programming while maintaining the quality of undergraduate education, while sustaining both with sufficient support. Dr. Mitchell raised the question of whether having a faculty of graduate studies was less effective than having each faculty look after its own graduate students. Deans might view the issues differently if they had graduate studies within their faculties.

Ms. Maya Gislason proposed the issue of interdisciplinarity as significant from the perspective of students, because that approach is becoming critical in order to remain competitive in a global environment. UVic is at risk of losing graduate students who have those interests.

Mr. Eliot Song named the importance of support services for undergraduate students, noting that academic studies may not give students any career ideas and therefore support services that allow students to access career direction by the time they graduate are essential.

Dr. Andrew Rippin commented that the review should examine the place of the library and reiterate its importance.

Dr. Turpin thanked the Senate for their comments and noted that each faculty would have opportunities to contribute to the review in the coming weeks through the faculty consultations. The website is also available as a means of submitting comments. Dr. Turpin also remarked that the upcoming Joint Senate/Board Retreat on March 4 would focus on this topic and encouraged all members of Senate to take part.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Campus Planning and Sustainability Committee

i. Semi Annual Report on Campus Development

MOTION: (R. Miller/J. Cassels)

That the Senate receive with thanks, the Semi Annual Report on Campus Development.

6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

a. Committee on Academic Standards

MOTION (J.Cassels/J. Wood)

That Senate approve the revised policy on Providing Academic Accommodation and Access for Students With a Disability.

CARRIED

d. Committee on Awards

i. New and revised undergraduate awards

MOTION (R. Anthony/M.E. Purkis)

That the Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors for its approval, the following new and revised awards submitted by the Senate Committee on Awards:

George and Dorothy Smith Soccer Award * Brian Hughes Soccer Award

*Indicates awards administered by the University of Victoria Foundation

CARRIED

e. Committee on Committees

i. 2005-2006 Annual Report

MOTION (I.Dawson/R. Burke)

That the Senate receive with thanks, the 2005-2006 annual report of the Senate Committee on Committees.

CARRIED

7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES

a. Faculty of Graduate Studies

i. New and Revised Graduate Awards

MOTION: (A. Devor/J. Dower)

That the Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors for its approval, the new and revised awards recommended by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

David Joanne Bate Scholarship Nora and Mark deGoutiere memorial Scholarship

CARRIED

b. Learning & Teaching Centre

i. 2004-2005 Annual Report of the Learning and Teaching Centre

Prof. Cassels drew the Senate's attention to the quality of the report, noting that Dr. Geri Van Gyn had been director of the Teaching and Learning Centre for six years and her term will

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soon be up. Prof. Cassels expressed congratulations and thanks for her leadership of the Teaching and Learning Centre.

MOTION: (J. Cassels/P.Murphy)

That the Senate receives with thanks, the 2004-2005 Annual Report of the Learning and Teaching Centre.

CARRIED

8. OTHER BUSINESS

a. 2005 Convocation Election Report

It was observed that the results of the election had been noted in the President's Report.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.