

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN SENATE  
SATURDAY, 9:15 A.M., APRIL 19, 2008  
CONVOCATION HALL, COLLEGE BUILDING**

Present: S. Allen, E. Barber, M. Beazely, E. Bourassa, D. Boyko, D. Brûle, J. Buchanan, R. Buckridan, E. Cherneski, E. Cole, B. Cram, R. Delahey, B. Dubois, M. Dubois, L. Ebel, L. Ewing, S. Franklin, M. Freeland, D. Greer, G. Groves, Y. Gu, W. Gulka, G. Gullickson, D. Hannah, R. Harasymchuk, D. Hasell, B. Henderson, R. Hiebert, P. James, G. Keith, L. Krause, L. Lacoursiere, Y. Lu, P. MacKinnon, H. Magotiaux, G. McCreath, M. Moore, B. Nylander, K. Ogilvie, T. Oleniuk, M. Orr, T. Paulsen, J. Pereira, F. Puckett, P. Rempel, B. Reynolds, C. Reynolds, C. Rhodes, D. Robinson, S. Ross, G. Scoles, D. Senecal, J. Shanks, G. Stevens, D. Taylor, D. Thompson, B. Traynor, B. Trischuk, G. Turner, D. Wagner, L. Wagner, V. Pezer (Chair), L. Pennock (Secretary).

Regrets: W. Albritton, L. Balas, R. Bhargava, J. Bumbac, N. Burns, L. Butler, L. Clarke, B. Cotter, W. Deller, J. Dillon, R. Eirich, S. Fedoruk, R. Florizone, P. Gatin, J. Germida, G. Giesbrecht, D. Gorecki, B. Green, B. Hall, A. Herzberg, G. Isaac, C. Keess, J. Kozinski, M. Kuzyk, H. Lafond, B. Lowenberger, L. Martz, G. McCaffrey, K. McInnes, P. McKercher, T. Molloy, R. Norris, S. Pocha, C. Rodgers, G. Smith, G. Standing, G. Stewart, J. Stewart, S. Sun, D. Szmuto, T. Turner, D. Uglem, G. Uswak, H. Walker, A. Whetstone, V. Williamson, W. Young, W. Zaleschuk.

Also Present: J. Buzowetsky, C. Card, B. Fairbairn, P. Melis, M. Soroka, J. Steeves, J. White, N. Woods .

Introductory Remarks

Chancellor Pezer welcomed members of Senate back to campus and invited members to introduce themselves and to indicate the region or association they represent.

With respect to the agenda, the Chair indicated that Senate will adjourn for lunch after item 8.1, and move into discussion groups immediately after lunch.

1. Minutes of the Meeting of October 20, 2007

PAULSON/BUCHANAN: That the minutes of the meeting October 20, 2007 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Business from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

### 3. President's Report

President MacKinnon expressed appreciation to Senate members for taking time on a snowy April morning to attend this meeting of the Senate. In presenting his report, the President drew attention particularly to the key issue of student housing facing the University this year, and the measures that are being taken to address it. He also reported on his activities in the community including the President's tour of the province.

In closing, the President expressed appreciation to outgoing Provost and Vice President Academic Dr. Ernie Barber for his distinguished service in that capacity over the past year, and introduced Dr. Brett Fairbairn, incoming Provost and Vice President Academic, who will take office on July 1.

The President then invited questions from Senate members. There was a question about the status of the work of the Land Use Task Force; Vice President Steven Franklin indicated that the report of the Task Force has been released and that it makes several major recommendations. Another member asked about the plans for a new Performing Arts Centre and a new rink. The President responded that both of these projects are better described as 'hopes' than 'plans'; a feasibility study on a Fine and Performing Arts facility has been done and this report helped the University to identify costs and opportunities, but the project has not yet reached the planning stage and funding has yet to be identified.

### 4. Report on Undergraduate Student Activities

Josie Steeves, Vice-President Academic Affairs and incoming President of the USSU, presented her report to Senate on behalf of students. She presented some of the highlights of the past few months, indicating the impact on students of the CUPE 1975 strike in November; the development of Place Riel renovations which are in the design phase; the participation of students in the Integrated Planning process; the provincial day of action with a focus on student housing and tuition; the efforts the USSU made to ensure students were well informed about issues that would affect them in the provincial election; and student elections. The new USSU Executive is as follows:

President – Josie Steeves  
Vice President Operations & Finance – Jeremy Ring  
Vice President Academic Affairs – Brea Lowenberger  
Vice President External Affairs – Nicole Kenney  
Vice President Student Issues – Shannon Dyck

### 5. Report on Graduate Student Activities

This report was presented by Janice Victor, GSA Vice-President External and President Elect. Ms. Victor reported on the graduate student referendum for a universal bus pass, which failed by a very small margin; plans for renovating the former chapel of Emmanuel & St. Chad for a Graduate Student Commons on

campus; reassessment and renegotiation of the medical and dental plan for graduate students; and attendance at and issues raised at the Canadian Federation of Students national conference in Ottawa and the National Graduate Caucus in Toronto in February, including intellectual property and copyright issues.

## 6. Items for Approval

### 6.1 Honorary Degrees Committee Report

The Honorary Degrees Committee Report was presented by President Peter MacKinnon, Chair of the Honorary Degrees Committee.

Senate approved a confidential motion to award honorary degrees to three individuals.

### 6.2 Nominations Committee Report

The Nomination Report was presented by Committee member Merry Beazely on behalf of Art Whetstone, Chair of the Committee.

#### 6.2.1 Appointments to Committees for 2008/2009

BEAZELY/MOORE: That Senate approve the appointments to Senate Committees for 2008/2009 as outlined on page 31 of the agenda.

CARRIED

#### 6.2.2 Appointments to Search and Review Committees for 2008

This item was received for information.

### 6.3 Senate Executive Committee Report

#### 6.3.1 Review of terms of Reference of Senate Committees

DUBOIS/PUCKETT: That an *ad hoc* subcommittee be struck to review the Terms of Reference for all Senate standing committees, including clarification of the length of term for standing committee membership, and amendments to ensure that the composition of the Membership Committee is consistent with the *University of Saskatchewan Act*; and

That the membership of this *ad hoc* committee be composed of: Grit McCreath, Heather Magotiaux, and Vera Pezer with Lea Pennock as Secretary. The Chancellor will Chair this *ad hoc* committee.

CARRIED

### 6.3.2 Review of Senate Membership

ALLEN/JAMES: That the Membership Committee initiate a review of the membership of Senate as outlined in Section 24(4) of the *University of Saskatchewan Act*.

CARRIED

### 6.4 University Council Recommendation re Disestablishment of the Virtual College of Biotechnology

The Chair invited the Acting Provost Ernie Barber to present this item. Dr. Barber gave a brief history of the establishment of the Virtual College of Biotechnology, and the lessons that were learned in implementation.

McCREATH/COLE: That Senate approve the disestablishment of the Virtual College of Biotechnology, effective June 30, 2008, or as near that date as is feasible.

CARRIED

## 7. Presentation

### 7.1 Campaign Report

The Chair invited Heather Magotiaux, Vice-President University Advancement to present a report on the *Thinking the World of Our Future* campaign. Highlights from the report are included as an appendix to the minutes.

Senate members commended Vice President Magotiaux and her team for the spectacular success of this campaign in meeting and exceeding its goals.

As the meeting was proceeding ahead of schedule, Senate agreed to consider Items 9.1 to 9.5 at this point. Once these items had been considered, the meeting returned to Item 8.

## 8. The Second Integrated Plan

### 8.1 Presentation

The Chair invited Acting Provost Ernie Barber to present this item. Professor Barber began by expressing his gratitude to the President for the confidence he placed in him by asking him to serve as Acting Provost and Vice President Academic for the past year. He indicated that he has found this to be a fulfilling assignment and that the development of the University's second integrated plan has been a highlight of this year.

Dr. Barber led Senate members through the planning process and reviewed the activities and accomplishments of the first planning period. He then described the process that led to the development of the second plan and of the three priority areas

described in it. He commented on each of the 16 initiatives outlined in the plan and invited Senate members to reflect on their role in ensuring that the University meets the ambitious goals it has set for itself over the next four years.

## 8.2 Discussion Groups

Following a break for lunch, Senate members broke into small groups to discuss the following questions:

- 1) What role can and should Senate play in disseminating and supporting the plan throughout the province? How do you personally plan to carry out that role?
- 2) From the Senate perspective, what is the most important commitment or set of commitments that should be the highest priority in the next four years?

Summaries of results of the small group discussions are appended to the minutes; additional comments are welcome and should be addressed to Pauline Melis in the Integrated Planning Office.

## 9. Items for Information (*All of these items were considered ahead of Item 8*).

### 9.1 Progress Report on Code of Conduct

Dr. David Hannah, Associate Vice President for Student and Enrolment Services presented this report. He indicated that following the October Senate meeting, extensive consultations have been undertaken on the draft principles and preamble to the Code, and work has begun on outlining the process for handling complaints and appeals. He reported on the feedback that has been received and the issues that have arisen, as well as the next steps. There will be additional consultations over the spring and summer, further development of the procedures and a legal review of the draft before a final draft is presented to Senate, ideally for the fall meeting. A communications plan will be developed to ensure that all members of the community are aware of the plan.

There were questions from Senate members about jurisdiction as it relates to students of Regional Colleges and Affiliated Colleges, the relationship of this document to the existing Non-Academic Discipline regulations, the impact of increasing internationalization of campuses, whether a complaint could come from outside the university community, what measures will be taken to ensure procedural fairness, the need for a definition of 'student' in the regulations, whether there could be academic consequences for non-academic offenses, and whether there could be harmonized rules across multiple institutions.

### 9.2 Registration Report

This report was presented by Associate Vice President for Student and Enrolment Services Dr. David Hannah.

There were questions about the University's enrolment goals, the relationship between changes in enrolment and employment opportunities, reasons for the decline in enrolment in Open Studies and in the Edwards School of Business, reasons some students leave the university without completing their studies, the English Language requirement for admission and programming for teaching English as a second language, and the availability of data on retention and graduation rates.

### 9.3 Report on Council Activities for 2007/2008

The Chair called on Professor Claire Card, Chair of University Council, to present this report. Dr. Card introduced herself and outlined some of the highlights of the past year for University Council. Following her report, she invited questions or comments, and responded to a question about the success of the pilot for the SEEQ instrument for student evaluation of courses.

### 9.4 Update on Round Table on Outreach and Engagement

The Chair invited Heather Magotiaux, Vice President University Advancement, to present this update. She expressed her thanks to Senate members Laurel Krause, Gary Gullickson, Ed Bourassa and Emily Cherneski, who have been appointed to the Round Table at today's meeting. In addition, Professors Francois Messier, Fran Walley, Bob Bors, and Joe Stookey will join the committee as General Academic Assembly representatives, along with U of S staff members Melana Soroka, Val Arnaud-Pelletier, Bob Cram, and Ann Remy and community members Alan Mignault, and Jeremy Morgan. The committee will be joined by two additional community members and student representatives from the USSU and GSA executive; once those appointments are in place, the first meeting will be called for late May or early June.

### 9.5 Update on Senate Elections

The Secretary gave a brief update on the status of Senate elections. Elections for members at large will take place beginning May 26 and will close at the end of June; candidates and voting procedures will be announced in the *Green & White* magazine which will be released in late May.

## 10. Other Business

No other business was raised by Senate members.

## 11. Adjournment and Dates of Future Senate Meetings

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm. (FREELAND/BUCHANAN)

Future Meetings will be held on:

- Saturday, October 18, 2008
- Saturday, April 18, 2009
- Saturday, October 17, 2009

**APPENDIX 1****Discussion of Second Integrated Plan****Questions for University Senate  
April 19, 2008****Question One**

**What role can and should Senate play in disseminating and supporting the plan throughout the province? How do you personally plan to carry out that role?**

- Take 'info' to own organizations that each Senator represents – U of S prepares resource kit on Integrated Planning
- President's District tour
- Regional Advisory Council's (RAC) twice annually
- Website and print material circulated
- Video conferencing
- Students work with faculty to make students aware of opportunities available
- Making students feel welcome when they arrive on campus
- media i.e. newspapers
- *OnCampus News, Green & White*
- Going through 'The Plan' to see what other associations or groups should be appointed to Senate (including school divisions and health regions)
- Constant ambassadors
- Be eyes and ears of the community.
- Be proactive
- Host presentations to Regional Advisory Councils
- Use graphic to facilitate discussions of plan.
- Organizational liaison, e.g. newsletters
- Host discussions/presentations to organizations i.e. SARM
- Professional association newsletters
- Weekly newspapers, local media
- SaskCommunications Network
- Partner with Alumni Association
- Promote partnerships with other stakeholders, corporations, etc
- Host meetings with local MLAs
- Senate members should be taking info re the Integrated Plan out to their communities/organizations
- Senate's role is especially important in the 3<sup>rd</sup> priority area
- Senators should encourage University to continue outreach activities (President's Tour, RACs). They should also attend/participate and contribute to the discussions that ensue.
- Reach out to leaderships ex. FSIN, Health, etc
- Visual and report important
- Powerpoint tool

- Take back to perspective organizations (RACs)
- Also newsletters, video, YouTube, streaming video, PAWS, UofS website, High Schools, Chamber of Commerce, City/Town Councils, Employers
- Fine-tuning the plan
- Promoting the U of S to the community ex. why the U of S is crucial to the city and province
- Reporting back to their membership ex. CMAs of Sask or reports at Association meetings
- Get a list of alumni for the district to promote the plan
- Have guest lectures with a plug about this plan ex. SUMA, SARM and other groups
- Use the round-table committee on outreach and engagement
- Access to high schools in goal setting with students and guidance counselors
- Senate members could be ambassadors for the U of S with schools (school councils, parent/teacher meetings), use diagram
- Participate in school affairs
- Make a time plan for senate members
- Senate members report back to senate meeting on what was done – way to evaluate feedback effectiveness of senate
- Link with service clubs, community groups
- Identify what partnerships exist

### **Question Two**

**From the Senate perspective, what is the most important commitment or set of commitments that should be the highest priority in the next four years?**

- Marketing quality
- our “Firsts” P.M. CLS
- Promoting reputation
- Rate Your Professor
- Student experiences – classroom size, residences, reputation
- Quality – branding
- Post-degree education available across Saskatchewan
- Collaborative program development, inter-institutional
- Innovative programs
- Linkages with regional colleges and SIAST
- Credit transfer
- Linking teaching and research in the student experience
- Aboriginal engagement especially students
- Student experience
- Retention
- Residences
- Internships and co-op placements across Sask
- Experiential learning
- Campus environment
- Mentored grad student teaching
- Retention - provide more flexibility re: timetabling and delivery methods



- External Partnerships – need to add schools and school boards, closer coordination of curricula
- Pre-eminence – important to identify these and become more focused
- Attracting the best and brightest
- Working across boundaries to remove stereotypes and rivalry among departments/colleges
- Larger emphasis on graduate studies
- The students are the reason for the University – research should supplement the student experience
- Make the campus more student friendly
- Adult learning and various teaching methods in the first two years of undergrad degree to engage students and increase retention
- Teach the teachers how to teach (Teaching Quality)
- Student Affordability – different bursary systems
- Student residences
- Poor directions services (interdisciplinary programs – cooperation)
- Engaged University
- Student Experience – senators can help raise the profile of the U in communities, very important to start recruitment/orientation visit earlier in the timeline, depending where senators come from, their particular focus would be different, improving student experiences would enhance long-term quality (both in research and teaching) of the University – retention, top level grad students who would then contribute to research
- Student experience (their voice)
- Identify areas of strength at U of S
- Engage with aboriginal community on what is needed – be a partnership
- Inter-unit collaboration