

SENATE MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023, 10:00 AM

ECU Boardroom / Online via Zoom webinar

Gillian Siddall (Chair)	Justin Langlois
Trish Kelly (Vice Chair)	Pierre Leichner
Eugenia Bertulis	Celeste Martin
Kevin Bird	Ben Reeves
Cameron Cartiere	Rachelle Sawatsky
Cybèle Creery	Louise St. Pierre
Jenie Gao	Ishika Tripathi
Sophie Gaur	Danielle Zandvliet
Mimi Gellman	Vanessa Kam
Kashish Hukku Jani	

Regrets: Diyan Achjadi, Chris Jones, Isabella Dagnino, Kyla Mallett, Carleen Thomas

Guests/Support: Jacqueline Turner, Natasha Himer (University Secretary), Alex Muir (Technical Support), Rosie (EA to Registrar) and Bessie Chow (Governance Support)

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Call to Order – The Chair, G. Siddall, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

It was noted that some participants may not have received the Zoom link for the day's meeting, which may be related to email migration during the Microsoft Outlook transition. N. Himer and A. Muir indicated that they would re-send the panelist invitations.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved / Seconded that the February 22, 2023 Senate agenda be approved as circulated.

Carried.

3. Approval of Past Minutes

Moved / Seconded that Senate approve the Minutes of the Senate Meeting of January 25, 2023 as circulated.

Carried.

II. BUSINESS

1. Academic Planning + Priorities Committee Report

J. Turner, Chair of the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee, reported that the Committee had a robust discussion on the 2023-2025 academic calendars, including considerations on make-up days. Questions were invited from the Senate on the proposed schedules and motion.

MOVED / SECONDED that the academic calendars for the years 2023-24 and 2024-25 be approved as circulated.

It was suggested that consideration be made about opportunities to optimize the summer schedule in line with the University's strategic enrollment initiatives. For example, noting that the proposed summer term runs from Tuesday to Saturday, Mondays may be utilized for intensive courses, field trips or partnered workshops (e.g., CCDI). J. Turner and K. Bird agreed to take back the suggestion for review and make further adjustments to the summer schedule at a later date, as feasible. Voting on the motion thus proceeded with the below action on record.

CARRIED

ACTION: J. Turner and K. Bird will take back suggestions to review opportunities to optimize the summer terms of the 2023-2025 academic schedule and amend, as feasible.

2. CDM Graduating Class of 2023

K. Bird, Registrar and Senate Secretary, distributed a confidential list of candidates to be approved for the conferral of their respective jointly credentialled (UBC, SFU, BCIT and ECU) Master of Digital Media Degrees.

MOVED / SECONDED that the listed candidates be presented to the Senate of Emily Carr University for the conferral of their respective jointly credentialled (UBC, SFU, BCIT & ECU) Master of Digital Media Degrees following successful completion of all required coursework.

CARRIED

No discussion occurred on this item.

3. Senate Committee Member Elections

K. Bird noted that with the departure of Suzanne Rackover, former University Librarian, there are vacancies on the Governance Committee and Appeals Committee respectively. He then opened the floor to nominations from the Senate, noting that the Governance Committee member is to be from among Administrator Senate members.

Governance Committee – C. Martin self-nominated with no objections. There were no further nominations.

C. Martin was elected by acclamation as Administrator member of the Governance Committee.

Appeals Committee – D. Zandvliet self-nominated with no objections. There were no further nominations.

D. Zandvliet was elected by acclamation as a member of the Appeals Committee.

4. Research Advisory Committee Report

J. Langlois, Research Advisory Committee Co-Chair, thanked Senate members for their feedback on the Strategic Research Plan (SRP), the latest version of which was included in the agenda package. He then highlighted the edits and additions that have been incorporated into the SRP based on the feedback.

A Senator commented on the challenges for faculty having the capacity to conduct research in light of overall workload. Concern was also expressed about access to facilities. It was suggested that smaller grants, as well as collaborations with other institutions, be explored for opportunities to support faculty. J. Langlois and T. Kelly acknowledged the comments. The Senate was reminded that the SRP is intended to set a direction for research at the University and informs planning and resource allocation.

MOVED / SECONDED that the Senate approve the 2023-28 Strategic Research Plan as presented.

CARRIED
with 1 abstention (Sophie Guar)

A question was raised about the alignment between the University's strategic, and other, plans and the budget; noting that how priorities are ranked and their connection to available resources would be helpful for the Senate's information. Comments were shared about the impact of the pandemic on the current student cohort's academic experience and progress. Comments were also shared on the urgency of demonstrating the University's action on anti-racism. J. Langlois acknowledged the comments and noted that opportunities to address the specific issues resulting from the pandemic might be considered across units at the University. With respect to anti-racism, it was acknowledged that the Research Advisory Committee has demonstrated considerable effort to thoughtfully incorporate the focus on equity wherever relevant. J. Langlois further stated that

the SRP's approval at Senate is not a mark of completion but the beginning of the University being positioned to commit to a multi-year (5) plan that will help to evolve research supports and operations. He noted that while the Research Advisory Committee has endeavored to be as comprehensive as possible, it is expected that the plan will continue to be revisited as contexts and priorities shift.

5. Governance Committee Report

Natasha Himer, University Secretary, reported the Committee is bridging the transition in the chair role and is continuing work on ongoing projects. She welcomed C. Martin and D. Zandvliet on their respective elections to the Governance and Appeals Committees.

6. Alumni Association Report

Pierre Leichner, member representative of the Alumni Association, reported that the Association has a scheduled meeting in the following week and any relevant updates will be brought forward to the next Senate meeting.

7. Senate Chair's Report

The Chair provided the following updates:

- The February 21 Money Matters Budget Discussion was well-attended.
- Work on the Strategic Plan is ongoing and is moving forward to the next major stage focused on review and analysis of the feedback.
- A reminder that Convocation has been scheduled for May 10, 2023, and Senators are very much encouraged to attend.
- A recent meeting with the new Deputy Minister and Assistant Deputy Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills was very positive.

In response to a question, G. Siddall confirmed that efforts are underway to schedule a meeting with the Hon. Selina Robinson, the current Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills.

8. Vice-President, Academic + Provost's Report

T. Kelly, Vice-President, Academic and Provost, welcomed Vanessa Kam, recently appointed Interim University Librarian to Senate. She provided the following updates: The University is in the process of hiring for regular faculty positions in the following areas: 2D + Experimental Animation, 3D Computer Animation, Foundation, Critical + Cultural Studies, Photography, Illustration and Drawing. Search committees are being formed, and it is hoped that the University can bring in nine (9) additional Assistant and Associate Professors in these areas, with five (5) starting in Fall 2023, and the rest in Spring 2024. This hiring push will backfill recent retirements and changes experienced over the past few years. Additionally, it will help to stabilize some of the curricular areas earmarked for growth under the Deficit Mitigation Plan through Strategic Enrolment Management. There will also be a posting for a non-teaching faculty member in Teaching + Learning, to support instructors in their pedagogical development. T. Kelly further advised that i) the role of the Senate in governing quality assurance processes was raised for consideration through the recent Quality Assurance

Process Audit and, ii) a presentation will be brought forward to the Senate to collect comments for incorporation in the University's response to the external report by mid-May.

The Chair invited questions. There were no questions or comments on this report.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised.

IV. OPEN FORUM

There was no Open Forum in order to allow the Senate meeting to end early and to convene a Senate Budget Committee meeting.

V. NEXT MEETING

The next regular Senate meeting was noted for March 29, 2023.

VI. MOTION: ADJOURN — The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.