



# SENATE MINUTES (OPEN SESSION)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025, 10:30AM—11:20AM

ECU Boardroom / Online via Zoom webinar

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Trish Kelly (Chair)	Eknoor Matharoo
Jacqueline Turner	Celeste Martin
Laszlo Hollander	Justin Langlois
Vanessa Kam	Kathryn Verkerk (non-voting)
Cameron Cartiere	Alex Phillips
Adrianna Jaroszewicz	Helene Day Fraser
Haig Armen	Mimi Gellman
Mark Johnsen	Beth Howe
Ishita Arora	Stuti Gulati
Anoushka Nair	Saanvi Bhat
Shawn Choi	

Regrets: Natasha Himer (University Secretary), Michaela Kwiatkowski, Kyla Mallett, Diyan Achjadi, Carleen Thomas (Chancellor)

Resources: Gabriel Liosis (Senate Administrative Coordinator), Alex Muir (Technical Support)

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## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

### I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. Call to Order – T. Kelly, Chair, called the open session of the Senate to order at 10:21 a.m.

2. **Moved / Seconded that Senate approve the agenda as circulated.**

**CARRIED.**

3. **Moved / Seconded that Senate approve the April 9, 2025, Senate Meeting Minutes, as circulated.**

**CARRIED.**

## II. BUSINESS

### 1. Chair's Remarks and Report

#### **Resolution Approved in Closed Session:**

- T. Kelly noted that the Senate met in closed session earlier in the day and approved the following resolution:

*That the Senate Budget Committee will meet at least twice, no less than one week apart, in advance of the budget presentation to the board, the first meeting to receive financial information from the Vice-President of Finance and Administration, the second to consider any resolutions to be forwarded to the president and the board.*

#### **Congratulations to Graduating Student Senators**

- T. Kelly extended congratulations to the following Student Senators who are graduating this year:
  - Ishita Arora
  - Stuti Gulati
  - Anoushka Nair
  - Eknoor Matharoo
- T. Kelly also congratulated Saanvi Bhat, who will be returning next year to serve on the Board of Governors.

#### **Recognizing Outgoing Senators**

- T. Kelly noted that this was C. Cartiere's final Senate meeting and extended congratulations on her upcoming retirement.
- T. Kelly also acknowledged that this was the final Senate meeting of M. Gellman's term and expressed appreciation for her contributions.

#### **The Grad Show**

- T. Kelly shared that "The Show 2025" was ECU's largest graduation exhibition to date. It featured over 420 works across all five of ECU's degree programs.

#### **Convocation Ceremony**

- T. Kelly shared that this was the largest ever ECU grad class with two ceremonies being held last week. She congratulated Student Services and the Convocation Team on organizing the ceremonies.

#### **Convocation**

- T. Kelly congratulated the recipients of ECU's 2025 Honorary Degrees, including Alanis Obomsawin, Paul Larocque, and Chief Janice George.
- T. Kelly also congratulated the recipients of the 2025 Emily Award, Brian McBay and Michelle Fu.

### 2. INFORMATION: Curriculum Planning + Review Committee Report

C. Cartiere, Chair of the Curriculum Planning and Review (CPR) Committee, referred to the committee report in the meeting materials. There were no questions on the report.

3. APPROVAL: Curriculum Planning + Review Committee Recommendations

Faculty of Art Proposals: C. Cartiere commented that the proposed changes to the DRWG courses are intended to improve the clarity of course titles and descriptions, particularly addressing confusion regarding the sequence in which students should take DRWG 208 and DRWG 218.

Faculty of Culture + Community Proposals: J. Turner referred Senate to the report and noted that the changes aim to clarify that the course is open to all students.

**Moved / Seconded that Senate approve the following:**

1. **Faculty of Art - Course Change Proposals:**

- **DRWG 208 Drawing: Studio – Material & Techniques**  
(changes to name and description)
- **DRWG 218 Drawing Studio: Process/Transformation**  
(changes to name and description)

2. **Faculty of Culture + Community – Course Change Proposal:**

- **FDNT 115 Indigenous Presence/Locating Ourselves in Place**  
(changes to description and learning objectives)

**CARRIED.**

4. INFORMATION: Governance Committee Report

C. Martin referred to the committee report included in the meeting materials. There were no questions on the report.

5. APPROVAL: Nominations Committee Recommendations

K. Verkerk introduced the recommended appointments for non-Senate positions on Senate sub-committees. It was noted that Senators had provided feedback indicating that the September 2024 Senate meeting was overloaded with committee appointments. In response, the Nominations Committee opted to complete the 2025/26 nominations process for non-Senate positions in advance, in order to streamline the September 2025/26 meeting.

**Moved / Seconded that Senate approve the new and renewed nominees for appointment to Senate committees as recommended by the Nominations Committee.**

**CARRIED.**

6. INFORMATION: New Timing and Process for Selecting Senate Members for Appointment to Senate Committees

K. Verkerk outlined a new approach being piloted for 2025/26 in response to feedback from Senate last fall. It was noted again that Senators had provided feedback indicating that the September Senate meeting was overloaded with committee appointments. Therefore, once vacant faculty Senate positions are filled in mid-June, vacant committee seats will then be circulated for interest, followed by an online ballot. The intent is to complete the committee appointment process

earlier to avoid taking up significant time at the September Senate meeting. New Senators will be offered detailed information and orientation about each committee prior to the ballot.

There was a range of views shared. The following is a summary of the discussion:

- A concern was raised that the summer term is non-teaching for most faculty and that students may be less engaged during this time. It was also noted that making committee appointments at the first fall meeting allows Senators to consult within their constituencies about committee preferences.
- Several Senators supported the new approach, noting that it would allow Senate committees to begin conducting business more efficiently in September. Having an informational document outlining each committee's mandate was seen as helpful in informing Senators' choices.

It was confirmed that a robust orientation process will be in place to ensure new senators are well informed before participating in the electronic ballot.

#### 7. APPROVAL: Approving MDM Graduating Students

A confidential list of graduands eligible for graduation was circulated in hard copy to Senators present in the room, and shared virtually with those attending via Zoom, for review and approval.

**Moved / Seconded that Senate approve the following candidates presented to the Senate of Emily Carr University for the conferral of their respective jointly credentialed (UBC, SFU, BCIT & ECU) Master of Digital Media Degrees following successful completion of all required coursework.**

**CARRIED.**

#### 8. INFORMATION: Enrollment Processes and Procedures

A senator re-introduced the topic, introduced at the previous Senate meeting, referring to the following provision under subsection 27(2)(r) of the University Act:

##### **Powers of board**

*(2) Without limiting subsection (1) or the general powers conferred on the board by this Act, the board has the following powers:*

*(r) with the approval of the senate, to determine the number of students that may in the opinion of the board, having regard to the resources available, be accommodated in the university or in any faculty of it, and to make rules considered advisable for limiting the admission or accommodation of students to the number so determined[.]*

K. Verkerk shared that this provision is on the Administration's radar, and there is a review of historical practices underway to align the university's practices with the University Act. Active work is being done to strengthen enrolment management strategies and to involve the Senate in that work. For example, a Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) consultant was recently engaged to host a staff workshop. Following this, a SEM Readiness Report will be shared and reviewed

by the Registrar's Office. The assessment's primary goal is to identify opportunities for improving enrolment management processes, organizational structures, and policies to better serve learners and address potential barriers to learner success.

The following next steps were shared:

- Spring/Summer 2025 – the recommendations of the SEM Readiness Report will be shared with the SEM Council.
- Fall 2025 – a SEM Core Concepts session will be scheduled with Senate to increase Senate's literacy on SEM.
- Fall 2025/Spring 2026 – develop enrolment planning process with SEM Council to bring to Senate.

In addition to this work, the following policies will be discussed and worked on at the Academic Planning & Priorities Committee in relation to SEM:

- New: Academic Schedule Policy
- New: Undergraduate admission Policy development
- Revise: Policy 4.16 - Assessment & Academic Standing

There was good discussion following the presentation.

A senator introduced a motion from the floor:

**In accordance with section 27. (2)(r) of the University Act, the University will seek the approval of the Senate and the Board to determine enrolment numbers.**

The Chair ruled the motion out of order, citing the lack of prior notice and the fact that it had not been reviewed by the Senate Executive Committee.

**9. APPROVAL: Senate and Senate Committee Schedule 2025/26**

K. Verkerk introduced the Senate and Senate Committee schedule for the 2025/26 academic year. No questions were raised.

**Moved / Seconded that Senate approve the Senate and Senate Committee Schedule for 2025/26.**

**CARRIED**

**10. Closing Remarks**

T. Kelly thanked Senators for their work over the past year as we take steps to strengthen the Senate's role in the university's governance.

**III. OPEN FORUM**

No topics were raised.

**1. NEXT MEETING: September 24, 2025**

**2. MOTION: ADJOURN** — The meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.