

# **SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES**

## **MINUTES**

**March 3, 2022 ~ 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm  
Strand Hall Room 3101**

Attendees: W. Parkhouse (Chair), E. Elle (Vice-Chair), S. Noel (Acting Secretary), S. Bains, L. Campbell, M. Crouch, N. Hawkins, A. Kandikova, P. Kingsbury, M. MacDonald, K. Masri, T. Nault, K. Oldknow (E. Park), A. Parmar, P. Pasquier, J. Sutherland, K. Tairyan

Regrets: K. Nordgren, E. Park

Guests: Pascal Haegeli, Associate Professor, REM  
Fernando Aragon, Associate Professor, Economics  
Julia Denholm, Dean, Lifelong Learning  
Bertrand Lee, Program Director, English Language and Culture

### **1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The Agenda was approved as presented.

### **2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of February 3, 2022**

The Minutes were approved as presented.

The Chair reminded committee members to ensure that course titles are accurate when submitting significant program changes that require Ministry approval. If course changes are required, they should be submitted to SCUS in advance or concurrently with program changes to avoid any processing delays.

*Units (formerly known as credits) should reflect student workload, including both time in classes (or synchronous online activities), and other aspects of academic effort. Each unit would generally*

Discussion followed, focused on the rationale of the program changes, and how students would benefit.

Some committee members noted that the proposal may discourage students in the economics programs from taking additional ECON courses beyond the requirements of their program. The Chair reminded the committee that the reason why CGPA calculations were changed was to help students successfully graduate, not penalize them.

F. Aragon explained students are encouraged to take other courses outside of their program, but if an economics student is already struggling, they would be advised accordingly.

J. Sutherland noted that she had researched program GPA calculations when the revised definition was in development, and found that the changes to the program GPA calculation affected less than 5% of students, and disadvantaged students close to the 2.0 CGPA, or close 3.0 for students in Honours programs. She suggested the department should search for other ways to address enrollment issues in ECON courses earlier in their

## 4. NEW BUSINESS

### COURSE CHANGES (SCUS 22-18)

The following course changes, effective Fall 2022, were approved under delegated authority.

#### **a. Faculty of Applied Sciences**

##### 1. School of Engineering Science

- (i) Prerequisite change for ENSC 413

There was concern regarding the minimum “B” letter grade in all of MATH 251, ENSC 280, ENSC 351, and ENSC 380. The committee members felt this is an unreasonable requirement due to course availability/access for students.

The Chair asked that the concern be referred to the School of Engineering Science, and that he would review this item for approval under delegated authority following the response.

##### 2. School of Sustainable Energy Engineering

- (i) Title change for SEE 352

#### **b. Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**

##### 1. School of Criminology

- (i) Description and equivalent statement change for CRIM 340
- (ii) Description, equivalent statement and prerequisite change for CRIM 441

##### 2. Department of Economics

- (i) Prerequisite changes for ECON 201, 222, 260, 280, 290, 291, 310, 329, 333, 334, 342, 345, 354, 355W, 362, 370, 372 and 390

##### 3. Department of Indigenous Studies

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6. Department of Political Science

## NEW COURSE PROPOSALS

### **a. Faculty of Applied Sciences (SCUS 22-19)**

#### 1. School of Engineering Science

##### **Motion 4**

It was moved by K. Oldknow and seconded by P. Kingsbury

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the New Course Proposal: ENSC 151-4, Introduction to Software Development for Engineers effective Fall 2022.”

CARRIED

### **b. Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (SCUS 22-20)**

##### **Motion 5**

It was moved by L. Campbell and seconded by A. Parmar

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the following New Course Proposals, effective Fall 2022.”

CARRIED

#### 1. Department of Economics

##### (i) New Course Proposals:

- ECON 113-3, Introduction to Microeconomics with Q and B-Soc designations
- ECON 115-3,

## **PROGRAM CHANGES**

### **a. Faculty of Applied Sciences (SCUS 22-21)**

#### **1. School of Computing Science**

##### **Motion 6**

It was moved by K. Oldknow and seconded by A. Parmar

“that

## 2. Department of Economics

(i) Lower division requirement changes to the:

- Business and Economics Joint Major
- Economics Extended Minor
- Economics Major
- Political Science and Economics Joint Major

(ii) Admission and lower division requirement changes to the Economics Minor

## 3. Department of Indigenous Studies

(i) Requirement changes to the Indigenous Studies Research Certificate (*Spring 2023*)

## 4. School for International Studies

(i) Upper division requirement changes to the:

- International Studies Certificate (*Spring 2023*)
- International Studies Minor (*Spring 2023*)
- World Literature and International Studies Joint Major (*Spring 2023*)

(ii) Upper and lower division requirement changes to the:

- International Studies Major
- International Studies Honours

## 5. Department of Philosophy

(i) Upper division requirement changes to the:

- Philosophy Major
- Philosophy Honours
- Business, Philosophy and the Law Joint Major
- Philosophy and Health Sciences Joint Major
- Philosophy and Humanities Joint Major
- Philosophy Minor
- Philosophy Double Minor
- Philosophy Extended Minor

## **c. Beedie School of Business (SCUS 22-23)**

### **Motion 8**

It was moved by K. Masri and seconded by A. Parmar

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the following program changes, effective Fall 2022.”

CARRIED

(i) Upper and lower division requirement changes to the:

- Business Honours
- Business Major
- Mechatronic Systems Engineering and Business Double Degree Major



(ii) Lower division requirement changes to the:

- Business and Communication Joint Major
  
- Business, Philosophy and the Law Joint Major
- Information Systems in Business Administration and Computing Science Joint Major
- Interactive Arts and Technology and Business Joint Major BA or BBA
- Interactive Arts and Technology and Business Joint Major BSc



- The program opens up opportunity to recruit students in areas of the world that SFU has not traditionally recruited, and explore different paths for students – whether through FIC or direct admission; however, there is a financial cost to evaluate these 700+ applicants and to support them through conditional admission that must be considered.
- What does a conditional pathway look like?
  - An example would be in the graduate programs, where students are admitted into a set of courses, and then be evaluated after a term in order continue in their program.

The Chair clarified next steps, following