



SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND BURSARIES

MINUTES

October 19, 2020 ~ 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Via Remote Connection ~ ZOOM Video Conferencing

Attendees: B. Krauth (Chair), M. Bhakthan (secretary), G. Agnes, J. Derksen, H. Hendrigan, K. Nordgren,
C. Percival, S. Santoso, A. Zahir

Absent: P. Tupper, C. Gildersleve, A. Wong

Regrets: D. Coburn

1. Approval of the Agenda

There was an additional item added under Other Business.

The Agenda was approved as amended

2. Approval of the Minutes of September 21, 2020

The minutes were approved as presented.

3. Chair's Report

No Chair's Report

4. New Business

a. Graduate Fellowship – Temporary Revision to the Terms of Reference (SPCSAB 20-07)

Motion 1

It was moved by G. Agnes and seconded by C. Percival

“that SPCSAB approve the waiver of the normal time in program restriction as defined in the eligibility criteria within the Terms of Reference for a Graduate Fellowship, applicable for the three consecutive terms, Spring, Summer, and Fall terms of 2021, due to COVID-19.”

CARRIED

There was brief discussion regarding the wording of the motion in the event we may be in a similar situation next year. All agreed to approve the motion without modifications and adapt it in the future if need be.

5. Other Business

a. Financial Aid processes for non- full-time students

The Chair spoke to this agenda item referring to an email from student, C. Gildersleve sent to the President's office inquiring about the process and noting his experience with financial aid in relation to how students' cases are handled if they are not able to take a full course load.

In the email, C. Gildersleve indicated that a large fraction, approximately 50 percent of students were not eligible for financial aid since they cannot take 9 credits in the Summer Term. The Chair asked the committee for feedback on how best to respond to this query given SPCSAB's mandate.

Discussion ensued with focus on the statement that there is nothing available to students other than institutional funds. M. Bhakthan explained that the statement is partially correct; institutionally, yes there is nothing else available to assist part-time students without demonstrated need but to offset this, there are government opportunities and FAA ensures students are aware of these opportunities. The question was posed as to whether there are clear definitions in the calendar for what an award, bursary or scholarship entails. M. Bhakthan indicated that the regulations for various SFU funding opportunities is on the Financial Aid and Awards website.

C. Percival explained that when SDsm(i)-2 2(i)-20lar2kthan en n r2k(-)Tj19.62 Tw 0.33 0 Td(ti)-10 (me)6 s)1 (tu)2 (d T