EMILY CARR UNIVERSITY of ART + DESIGN

SENATE MINUTES

Wednesday, November 6, 9:30 – 11:20 am
ECU Boardroom / *Online via Zoom webinar

ATTENDANCE

Trish Kelly (Chair + Vice-Chancellor)	Haig Armen
Diyan Achjadi (Vice-Chair)	Mark Johnsen
Jacqueline Turner	Beth Howe
Celeste Martin	Ishita Arora
Kyla Mallett	Stuti Gulati
Justin Langlois	Anoushka Nair
Vanessa Kam	Saanvi Bhat
Kathryn Verkerk*	Shawn Choi
Cameron Cartiere	Laszlo Hollander
Adriana Jaroszewicz	Micaela Kwiatkowski
Helene Day Fraser	Eknoor Madharoo (non-voting)
Mimi Gellman*	

Regrets: Carleen Thomas, Alex Phillips

Guests/Support: Heather Fitzgerald, Natasha Himer (University Secretary), Bessie Chow (Recording Secretary), Sonia Orlu (Senate Support), Jacob Hrajnik (Technical Support),

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I.   ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1.   Call to Order – Trish Kelly, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

2.   Agenda Approval

   Moved / Seconded that the Agenda of the November 6, 2024 Senate meeting be approved as circulated.

   Carried.

3.   Past Minutes

   Moved / Seconded that Senate approve the Minutes of the Senate Meeting of September 25, 2024 as circulated.

   Carried.

II. BUSINESS

1. Chair's Remarks + Report

   T. Kelly welcomed new student Senator, Saanvi Bhat, and Board-appointed member, Eknoor Matharoo, who introduced themselves and expressed their enthusiasm to serve. Sonia Orlu and Bessie Chow were also acknowledged for their support of the Senate.

   T. Kelly reported on a recent meeting in Ottawa with the National Network of Canadian Art and Design Universities (UAD4). The focus was on the changing landscape for international students in Canada and the impact of federal regulations. T. Kelly underlined efforts to advocate for an exemption for ECU because of its contributions to Canadian culture.

   T. Kelly further noted the following:
   - Efforts are underway by the Admissions and Recruitment team to mitigate the effects of federal regulations.
   - A recent workshop on Robert's Rules of Order (RRO) led by parliamentarian Eli Mina was well-attended by Senate and Board members.
   - National Portfolio Day is coming up on November 16.

2. Interim Vice President, Academic + Provost's Report

   Diyan Achjadi thanked deans and faculty for their support in preparing for National Portfolio Day. Members were encouraged to remind their colleagues and students that the campus is going to be very busy that day with visiting representatives from 19 institutions from across Canada, the US and Europe.

   Marcia Guno, Vice Provost, Students and Sue Dorey, Executive Director, Student Engagement, Retention + Success, are attending a meeting with the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) to discuss the impact of federal regulations on Canada's brand as an education destination. M. Guno and S. Dorey will also be attending a meeting with the Association of Independent Colleges of Art & Design (AICAD). Updates will be provided at the next Senate meeting.

   D. Achjadi further reported that the Working Group on Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) is developing workshops on ethical engagement with AI, as requested by faculty and other members.

   Questions were raised regarding federal regulations, including whether the changes to post-graduate work permits aligned with labour needs. T. Kelly noted that federal representatives actively took notes during the UAD4 meeting and indicated other ways that advocacy could have an impact. In response to a question about whether graduate students would be exempt from post-grad work permit restrictions, T. Kelly indicated that more information would be needed to confirm.

3. Governance Committee Report Senate Bylaws Amendment

   Natasha Himer, University Secretary, presented the proposed Senate bylaw amendments, which adjust meeting frequency from monthly to every 5–6 weeks. The Senate Governance Committee approved the amendments and recommended regular bylaw reviews to ensure alignment with ECU's needs. The Senate was advised to expect more bylaw and related amendments in future meetings.

   Moved / Seconded that Senate, on the recommendation of the Senate Governance Committee, approve the amendments to the Senate's Bylaws as presented.

   Carried.

4. Academic Planning and Priorities (APP) Committee Report

Jacqueline Turner, Chair, referred to the committee report in the meeting materials, highlighting that the Academic Schedule will be reviewed at the next APP meeting and subsequently brought to the Senate for approval. No questions or comments were offered on the report.

5. International Development Committee (IDC) Report

Kathryn Verkerk, Chair, referred to the committee report in the meeting materials and noted that, per the Senate's request, a review of the Committee's terms of reference will be conducted in January 2025.

6. Curriculum Planning + Review (CPR) Committee Report

D. Achjadi referred to the committee report in the meeting materials and announced C. Cartiere's election as Committee Chair for 2025.

7. Curriculum Planning + Review Committee Recommendations

Kyla Mallet presented the proposed changes in Ceramics courses, noting the intention to address gaps and overlaps in the curriculum. In response to a question, it was confirmed that equivalent and cross-disciplinary courses were considered during the preparation of these changes.

Moved / Seconded that Senate, on the recommendation of the Curriculum Planning + Review Committee, approve new course and course change proposals in Ceramics as follows:
- **CRAM 3XX (requesting 302) Ceramics: Wheel Throwing II (new course)**
- **CRAM 202 Ceramics: Wheel Throwing I (changes to name, description, add learning objectives)**
- **CRAM 221 Ceramics: Mold-Making (changes to description, prerequisites, add learning objectives)**
- **CRAM 223 Ceramics: Surface Design (changes to name, description, add learning objectives)**
- **CRAM 303 Ceramics Practices: Topic (Add learning objectives)**
- **CRAM 304 Ceramics: Special Topics (changes to description, add learning objectives)**
- **CRAM 305 Ceramics: Material Science (changes to name, description, prerequisites, add learning objectives)**
- **CRAM 308 Exploring Scale: Vessels and Sculptures (changes to name, description, add learning objectives)**
- **CRAM 314 Architectures Ceramics (changes to credits, description, prerequisites, not repeatable, add learning objectives)**
- **CRAM 318 Ceramics: Atmospheric Effects (changes to learning objectives, not repeatable)**

Carried.

Celeste Martin presented the proposed changes in Interaction Design. It was clarified that for all the changes (in Ceramics and Interaction Design), students who took courses with the old course number would receive credit under the new number.

MOVED/SECONDED that Senate, on the recommendation of the Curriculum Planning + Review Committee, approve new course and course change proposals in Interaction Design, as follows:
- **INTD 3XX requesting 315 Designing for Screens II (new course)**
- **INTD 217 (change to 216) UX Sketch, Prototype, Test I**
- **INTD 219 (change to 215) Designing for Screens I**

Carried.

The Senate thanked the Committee for the work and effort put into preparing these changes.

8. Quality Assurance Process Audit (QAPA)

    T. Kelly emphasized the importance of the QAPA for ECU and acknowledged the efforts of faculty and staff – including many Senators – to help position ECU at the same level as much bigger institutions.

    On behalf of the QAPA Working Group, D. Achjadi and Heather Fitzgerald, Interim Director, Teaching + Learning, presented the audit recommendations, which prompted the following questions and comments:
    - How will the Program Review differ from a Faculty Review? Will there be consideration of the burden on faculty?
        - It was noted the Working Group intends to pilot the process starting with Foundation Program. Consideration of who and how to involve faculty was highlighted as a key priority.
    - Senate has a role to play.
        - It was noted that the process includes engagement at every level – Faculty, deans + faculty, and Senate + sub-committees. Senators were encouraged to consider their mandate in overseeing academic quality at the institution.
    - The visual diagram illustrating the interplay between the various review processes is helpful.
        - It was requested that the presentation be shared with Senators to assist communications with other colleagues.
    - Is there a mechanism to ensure the interdisciplinary nature of ECU programs is taken into account?
        - It was noted that the program policy and procedures review include careful consideration of the composition of committees to represent the complexity of ECU's programs.
    - Is it possible to provide reviewers with a checklist?
        - It was noted that templates will be prepared for the internal review committee as well as for the subsequent report.
    - Is there a mechanism to help gather information from students and alumni, especially at a broader program level?
        - T. Kelly indicated that the University has been contemplating different approaches to measuring and enhancing support for the "holistic student experience", which would include reviewing the ECU's current capacity beyond program reviews such as student services and alumni engagement.
        - Shawn Choi, Alumni Member, acknowledged that many students do not realize the value of their ECU education until after they move into industry and agreed that both ECU and the Alumni Association would benefit from hearing more from alumni members.
    - The mapping of Institutional Outcomes aligns well with the Library's efforts to enhance information and visual literacy. Opportunities to work more collaboratively with Faculty on scalable initiatives were emphasized.
    - What are possible approaches to the recommendation to decolonize the review process?
        - Emphasis was placed on the ongoing nature of the work and the focus on creating a baseline at which conversations can be meaningful for both internal and external reviewers.

          ◦   Consideration for how to bring in Indigenous perspectives was highlighted as a top priority.
- What support will be provided for assessments?
  - It was noted that different ways to collect student feedback are being explored, including wall surveys, focus groups, student work and digital surveys.

Moving forward, D. Achjadi indicated that next steps will include mapping out who needs to be involved in which processes and how, Indigenization, governance structures, and terms of reference for each review committee.

D. Achjadi and H. Fitzgerald were thanked for the presentation and Senators, deans, faculty and staff were acknowledged for their contributions.

9. Reflections on RRO Session and Additional Workshops

T. Kelly referenced the recent RRO session led by parliamentarian, Eli Mina, highlighting key takeaways such as the distinction between good governance and good process, as well as the importance of informed decision-making. N. Himer noted that a survey was sent out to participating Senators, inviting further feedback and expressions of interest in additional workshops.

Comments were offered as follows:
- It was good to hear from an expert and learn how one can engage through RRO; it may be useful to work through a customized engagement for ECU. An internal practice group (e.g. a working group through the Senate Governance Committee) may be set up to help develop this process.
- A procedural cheat sheet would be helpful.
- The emphasis is on building trust as a Senate.
- An additional or extended session would be appreciated by members who could not attend the recent session.
- ECU has other forums where RRO is not used; an ECU-style cheat sheet may help to promote consistency.
- The focus on time being spent on what matters rather than on procedural formalities was appreciated.
- Ongoing engagement for the benefit of old and new members of Senate is important.
- Perhaps E. Mina may be invited to sit through a meeting to observe areas for improvement.
- The purpose of the structures is to ensure everyone's voice is heard and that is not just the responsibility of the chair but all members of the assembly.

The following summarizes comments offered:
- Hearing from an expert on RRO was valuable, particularly in understanding how to engage effectively. Developing a customized engagement process for ECU, potentially through an internal practice group (e.g., a Senate Governance Committee working group), was suggested.
- A procedural cheat sheet was identified as a helpful tool.
- Emphasis was placed on building trust within the Senate.
- Members expressed interest in an additional or extended session for those unable to attend the recent workshop.
- An ECU-specific procedural guide could promote consistency across forums where RRO is not used.
- Appreciation was expressed for prioritizing meaningful discussions over procedural formalities.
- Continuous engagement and training were noted as important for both new and returning Senate members.
- It was suggested that E. Mina be invited to observe a Senate meeting to identify areas for improvement.
- Procedural structure ensures every member's voice is heard, a responsibility shared by all members, not just the Chair.

T. Kelly acknowledged the bi-cameral governance structure at ECU and the importance of dedicating sufficient time to ensure the Senate and Board fulfill their respective responsibilities effectively.

III.   **OPEN FORUM**

A question was raised about the impact of the Centre for Digital Media (CDM) expansion project on academic programming. It was clarified that the purpose of the CDM expansion is to accommodate the University's ongoing and projected growth. It was noted that the number of registered students before ECU relocated from Granville Island was 1,800 and it is now at 2,350. It was requested that more information be brought to the Senate prior to the February 2025 Budget approval through the Senate Budget Committee.

IV.   **NEXT MEETING –** December 11, 2024

V.   **MOTION: ADJOURN** – The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.