Wednesday, March 4, 1970

A special meeting of the Senate of The University of British Columbia was held on Wednesday, March 4, 1970 at 8:00 p.m. in the Board and Senate Room, Administration Building.

Present: President W. H. Gage (Chairman), Dr. A. E. Aho, Deputy President W. M. Armstrong, Dr. C. S. Belshaw, Mr. C. B. Bourne, Dr. C. A. Brockley, Dr. D. G. Brown, Dr. T. H. Brown, Mr. F. J. Cairnie, Mr. C. M. Campbell Jr., Dr. S. D. Cavers, Dr. J. D. Chapman, Dr. R. M. Clark, Dean G. F. Curtis, Dr. C. W. J. Eliot, Dean J. A. F. Gardner, Dr. D. F. Hardwick, Mr. R. W. Jacobs, Dr. R. F. Kelly, Dr. J. M. Kennedy, Dr. D. T. Kenny, Dr. W. D. Kitts, Mrs. J. MacD. Lecky, Dean S. W. Leung, Miss E. K. McCann, Dr. A. J. McClean, Dean Helen McCrae, Dr. M. F. McGregor, Mr. K. R. Martin, Dr. B. N. Moyls, Dr. J. M. Norris, Mr. E. O'Brien, Dean V. J. Okulitch, Mr. R. F. Osborne, Dr. R. A. Restrepo, Dr. I. Ross, Dr. R. F. Scagel, Dean N. V. Scarfe, Dr. A. D. Scott, Dean M. Shaw, Dr. J. H. G. Smith, Dr. J. K. Stager, Mr. B. Stuart-Stubbs, Dr. H. V. Warren, Dr. W. A. Webber, Dean P. H. White, Dr. W. E. Willmott, Mr. E. Wood, Dr. W. D. Young.

Observers: Mr. J. A. Banham, Miss D. Hopper, Mr. T. A. Myers, Mr. P. Thompson.

Messages of regret for their inability to attend were received from Mrs. A. Brearley, Mr. D. M. Brousson, Dr. M. F. Clarke, Mr. A. Dobrey, Dean W. D. Finn, The Hon. E. D. Fulton, Dr. W. C. Gibson, Dr. R. F. Gray, Mr. I. F. Greenwood, Dr. N. A. Hall, Dr. S. Israels, Mrs. W. T. Lane, Dean B. E. Riedel, Mr. D. R. Williams.

The special meeting was held for the purpose of continuing the discussion of recommendations in the Long-Range Objectives Committee Report.

Dean Scarfe )
Dr. McGregor ) *That the meeting be adjourned no later than 10:00 p.m.*

Carried.

The first item on the Agenda was recommendation 8. Dr. Norris said that as this was in three sections he proposed to move each section

independently.

Recommendation 8(a)

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| Dr. Norris )<br>Dr. Aho ) | *"That each programme should include in its first year a course, or partial course, providing an introduction to the discipline."* |

Dr. Norris stated that some Faculties were already following such practices but the committee hoped to bring to the attention of Senate a proposition which because it seemed so obvious was overlooked. It was felt that the university should provide students with some degree of guidance in the early part of a discipline.

In amendment:

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| Mr. Stubbs )<br>Mr. O'Brien ) | *That the words "and to the bibliographic controls of its literature" be added.* |

The Librarian stated that satisfactory lectures had been given on the matter in one or two hours.

The Chairman explained that Faculties are asked to consider the possibility of implementing the recommendation but are not required to do so if the recommendation seems inappropriate.

The amendment was carried.

The motion as amended was carried.

Recommendation 8(b)

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| Dr. Norris )<br>Dr. Belshaw ) | *"That all programmes should include explicit provision for the improvement of writing and verbal skills, through tutorial papers, discussion groups and oral examinations".* |

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It was explained that this section of the recommendation represented a goal towards which the university should be aiming.

The motion was put and carried.

Recommendation 8(c)

Dr. Norris )
Dr. Belshaw ) *"That the last two years of each programme should encourage a measure of independent study by the student, and include tutorial work, as well as formal lectures".*

Dr. Norris explained that this was simply a proposition to give larger scope for independent study as the student matures.

It was felt by some members of Senate that because of the numbers involved in some Faculties it was impossible to do this.

In amendment:

Dr. Norris )
Dr. Belshaw ) *That the words "That where possible the last two years..." be inserted at the beginning of the motion.*

After further discussion the motion as amended was carried.

Recommendation 9

Dr. Clark )
Dr. Belshaw ) *"That an assessment of classes given in residence be made by Senate as soon as possible, and that a decision be made as early as possible whether to continue the experiment, to terminate it, or to enlarge it into a system of residential collegiate instruction.*

Dr. Clark stated that this was a recommendation that had the unanimous support of the Long-Range Objectives Committee but they had been unable to do sufficient research to provide a strong backing for it. A

Recommendation 9 (cont'd)

number of students in residences had been asked for their opinions and generally these were favourable. One argument against it had been that students regard residence as their home and object to classes being held there if outsiders would be brought in. In the report of the Faculty of Arts on this subject it was stated that the Department of English had given classes in residences and reaction to the experiment was unfavourable.

After further discussion it was agreed that there was insufficient evidence for Senate to vote on this recommendation.

Dr. Webber )
Mr. Osborne )

*"That recommendation 9 be referred to the Faculty of Arts for such further action as that Faculty feels it is justified."*

The motion to refer was carried.

Recommendation 10

Dr. Norris )
Mr. Wood )

*"That a board of university instruction be created, consisting of acknowledged good teachers, who would arrange for instruction in university teaching in each department, school or faculty in co-operation with a committee of the acknowledged good teachers in each discipline. Attention should be paid in the instruction to educational psychology and to classroom and laboratory instruction techniques. In principle, such instruction ought to be compulsory for all Ph.D. students who intend to engage in university teaching. It should be optional for all teaching members of departments. They will have an incentive to take some instruction, since teaching is to be carefully assessed as a ground for promotion.*

It was generally agreed by Senate that the board of instruction was not the best method of improving teaching and that the following motion

be substituted for recommendation 10:

Dr. Chapman )
Dr. Norris ) *"That Departments, Schools and Faculties be strongly urged:*

*(a) to develop ways of improving the effectiveness of both teaching and learning in the programmes they offer.*

*(b) to afford formal opportunities for graduate students to develop teaching and learning skills in keeping with their professional education and training."*

Following further discussion the motion was put and carried.

Mr. Cairnie )
Mr. O'Brien ) *"That the Faculties report to Senate in the Spring of 1971 with respect to the actions initiated to improve the quality of teaching."*

Carried.

Dr. Moyls )
Dean Scarfe ) *"That Senate approve the principle that teaching undertaken by graduate students be assigned to them and supervised with their own professional education and training in mind, and not the staffing requirements of departments in the University."*

In amendment:

Dean White )
Dr. Kelly ) *That the words "but that in the implementation of this principle care be taken that the quality of undergraduate education shall not be impaired.", be added.*

A query was raised as to whether in the process of giving graduate students instruction for teaching they would receive payment.

Dr. Norris said that the Long-Range Objectives Committee had in mind something less complicated than a teaching assistantship.

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Dr. Belshaw )
Mr. Osborne ) *"That the motion be tabled and referred to a committee consisting of Dr. Norris , Dr. Belshaw, Dr. Moyls and Dean White for clarification."*

Carried.

Recommendation 11

Dr. Norris said this recommendation concerned the assessment of teaching. It was the opinion of the committee that it was possible to improve on methods of assessment. It was stated that the model mentioned in this recommendation was no longer used in the English Department. In the light of objections Dr. Norris suggested that the resolution take the following form:

Dr. Norris )
Dr. Clark ) *"That each Department, School or Faculty develop techniques for the assessment of teaching, through methods appropriate to the discipline; and that such assessments be considered as relevant data to be used for purposes of rewarding good teaching."*

The Chairman said he would bring the matter to the attention of the Committee of Deans.

The motion was put and carried.

Dr. Eliot asked Senate to join him in offering the President congratulations and very best wishes for his forthcoming birthday, and expressed the hope that the warm friendship, integrity and wise judgement he had shown the University for many years would be with us for many years to come. Senate responded with a prolonged ovation to which the President briefly replied.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Secretary

Confirmed,
Chairman