



## Senate Meeting

Thursday, June 06, 2024; 3:00 pm PDT

Via Microsoft Teams

## Meeting Minutes

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### Attendees:

*Bashir Makhoul* (UCW President and Senate Chair)

*Mazi Shirvani* (Vice President Academic)

*Stephanie Chu* (AVP Teaching, Learning and Scholarship)

*Henrique Gea* (Registrar)

*George Drazenovic, Gelareh Farhadian, Larry Earnhart, Michele Vincenti, and Jill Cummings* (Program Chairs)

*Mohsen Saeedi, Nam Le, Alexander Sakharov, Mehdi Akhgari, Rushdi Alsaleh, Manbo He, Noosha Mehdian, Hamed Taherdoost, Nisa Chand, and Salvador Trevino* (Faculty Representatives)

*Maryam Rostamy* (Staff Representatives)

*Brenda Mathenia* (University Librarian)

*Saleiha Sharif* (Senate Coordinator)

### Regrets:

*Penny Farley, Abedeh Gholidoust,* (Faculty Representative)

*Adrian Mitescu* (Director Institutional Accountability & Senate Secretary)

*Anna Lee Boulton* (Staff Representative)

### Guests:

*Christine Chan* (Director, Student Affairs & Services)

*Amy Hua* (Director, Academic Planning and Budgeting)

*Cassie Savoie* (Director, Academic Operations and Support Services)

*Harpreet Ahluwalia* (Director, Curriculum & Quality Assurance)

*Bradley Fehr* (Associate Director, Communications)

*Susanna Chow* (Director, Institutional Risk & Compliance)

*Kaye Hare* (REB Chair)

*Annette O'Hara* (Ombudsperson)

*Stewart Fast* (Director, Office of Research & Scholarship)

*Jamie Molz* (Communication Manager)

*Adnan Sarwar* (Faculty Member)





**Absent:**

*Jack Smith* (Faculty Representative)

*Udhaykaran Singh, Nneka Ofodum, Arya Patel* (Student Representatives)

*Mamtha Nagaraja* (Alumni Representative)



**1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgment**

Bashir Makhoul

*We acknowledge that the territories on which UCW and its campuses are situated are the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Selílwitlh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations. We thank them for having cared for this land since time immemorial, honour their graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here, and iterate our dedication to valuing the ongoing contributions of Indigenous peoples and communities.*

**The meeting was called to order at 3:07 pm PST.**

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

Manbo He

**Motion:** To approve the agenda, as presented.  
**Moved:** *Hamed Taherdoost* **Seconded:** *Nam Le*  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Manbo He

**a. Minutes from the previous Senate meeting on May 02, 2024**

**Motion:** To approve Minutes from the Senate meeting on May 02, 2024, as presented.  
**Moved:** *Hamed Taherdoost* **Seconded:** *Brenda Mathenia*  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

**4. President's Communication**

Bashir Makhoul

Bashir Makhoul provided updates on several key areas and shared that the university title had received a positive review, while the MBA review identified three areas for improvement, with the final decision pending from the Minister. Bashir also announced the appointment of Lisa Collins as Vice President, Student Experience. He then provided an update on the West Pender project, explaining that while the permit application had been submitted, the full permit was still pending, potentially causing delays in the January move. He concluded his report by commending the successful convocation, which saw a high number of graduates, and extended his appreciation to the faculty and staff for their support. The successful convocation underscores the university's commitment to academic excellence and student achievement.

**5. Consent Agenda**

Bashir Makhoul

**Motion:** To approve the consent agenda as a package, as presented.  
**Moved:** *Alexander Sakharov* **Seconded:** *Mazi Shirvani*  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

**6. Question period**

[None]

**7. Proposals from Standing Committees**

**a. Academic Planning and Priorities**

**i. New Partnership Agreements**

Amy Hua

**a) Hanson Language College: ESL**

- b) Planeta Immiland Education: ESL
- c) Soochow University: Articulation (2 programs)
- d) Canada International Royal Arts College: Articulation (1 program)

Amy Hua discussed the partnership proposals under ESL pathway and the undergraduate articulation transfer agreement. She first introduced Hanson Language School in Ontario, Toronto, highlighting that students completing their EAP with a minimum grade of 80% could satisfy UCW's English proficiency requirements. Hanson Language School, accredited by Languages Canada, is expected to attract 10 to 20 students annually under this agreement.

Next, Amy discussed Planeta Immiland Education in Montreal, which provides English and French training accredited by Languages Canada. Students completing the requisite 40 hours of CLB level 11 and 12 training with a minimum grade of 70% can fulfill UCW's English proficiency requirements. This partnership aims to attract 5 to 10 students per year.

Further, she presented the partnership with Soochow University in China. This prestigious institution, with over 14,000 students, offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees and is highly regarded in China. The agreement includes a block transfer for the e-commerce and business data analysis programs to UCW's BCom program, allowing students to bypass Tier 1 and Tier 2 courses. This exclusive partnership is expected to bring 5 to 10 students annually, enhancing UCW's visibility and diversity in the Chinese market.

The final proposal discussed was with the International Royal Arts College in Vancouver. This institution, accredited by EQA and PCTIA, offers programs in business management and media design. Students from this college will have 16 courses recognized by UCW's BCom program and need to meet a 60% academic requirement and English proficiency standards. This partnership is expected to bring 20 to 50 students per year, and all the proposals have been approved by the APP Committee.

**Motion:** *To approve the Transfer Articulation Agreement with all four institutions as a package, as presented.*

**Moved:** *Gelareh Farhadian* **Seconded:** *Mazi Shirvani*

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## b. Governance and Policies

### Policy-related items

#### i. 5021 – Management of External Research Funding

Stewart Fast

Stewart Fast presented an update on the Policy 5021 - Management of External Research Funding, noting that the policy, established in 2016, required revisions due to the university's growth and evolving roles. The update aims to promote faculty collaboration with research partners while ensuring compliance with both university and research sponsor regulations. The need for revisions also arises from the university's application for Tri Council funding and changes in regulatory contexts.

The proposed changes included clearly defining roles and responsibilities for various stakeholders. The update also suggested establishing a fixed indirect cost rate, which is a standard practice

across universities, to cover costs incurred from research activities. A rate of 25% was proposed, with funds distributed to relevant departments. Additionally, the updated policy requires UCW legal counsel to review funding agreements over \$10,000 and introduces a project form to streamline the review process. This form ensures that all necessary information is available for proper evaluation and compliance. The criteria for contract review and approval remained unchanged, maintaining standards for unclassified research, faculty teaching loads, and student access to research results. Stewart Fast concluded by seeking Senate approval for the updated policy, proposing implementation through email announcements, infographics, and updates to the research and scholarship portal.

**Motion:** *To approve the updates in the policy 5021 – Management of External Research Funding, as presented.*

**Moved:** *Brenda Mathenia* **Seconded:** *Mazi Shirvani*

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## 8. Other Business

## 9. Adjournment

Bashir Makhoul

**Motion:** *To adjourn the meeting.*

**Moved:** *Alexander Sakharov* **Seconded:** *Manbo He*

*The meeting adjourned at 3:43 pm.*