THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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VANCOUVER SENATE AGENDA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 1, 2026 from 12:02-1:22 pm via Zoom

Attendees	
Senators	D. Fontana, J. Gilbert, J. Lorien (Chair), N. Pindell
Ex Officio	B.-A. Bacon, B. Britton, L. Burr, J. Fox (Vice-Chair), K. Lo, L. Moss, W. Norman, R. Ng
Guest	G. Averill
Regrets	S. Gopalakrishnan
Senate Staff	C. Eaton (Clerk to Senate), B. Menard (Cmte Secretary)
Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement	The meeting of the Senate Agenda Committee (the "Committee") was called to order at 12:02 pm by the Chair, Jasper Lorien. They also provided an acknowledgement of the land.
Agenda	The Chair requested that an additional agenda item be added prior to Other Business regarding initiating the process to solicit Topics of Broad Academic Interest. **Motion:** *That the Committee adopt the revised May 1, 2026 agenda.* Moved: J. Lorien Seconded: B. Britton **Adopted**
Meeting Minutes	**Motion:** *That the Committee approves the April 2, 2026 meeting minutes.* Moved: D. Fontana Seconded: L. Burr **Approved**
In Camera – Referred Motion from the Vancouver Senate	By general consent, the Committee entered an *in camera* session to consider the referred motion from the April 15, 2026 Vancouver Senate meeting. The Committee rose from *in camera* session at 12:29 pm.
Discussion of Proposed Amendments to	The Clerk to Senate, Christopher Eaton, indicated that the Nominating Committee had proposed minor amendments to the *Rules and Procedures of the Vancouver Senate* arising from the 2023-2026 Triennial Review.

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Rules and Procedures of the Vancouver Senate

The Clerk noted a required amendment following an observation by Senator Norman that the Research and Scholarship Committee had been omitted from the list of standing committees. He proposed adding the Research and Scholarship Committee in the appropriate alphabetical position, in addition to the recommendation to rename the Academic Building Needs Committee to the Budget and Academic Buildings Committee. He further proposed that the full list be reordered alphabetically for consistency.

The Clerk reported that the Awards Committee had made recommendations through the Triennial Review, most of which related to internal terms of reference and composition. He indicated that one recommendation required an amendment to the *Rules* to allow a sub-committee to approve "category 2" proposals involving editorial or minor changes to existing awards. He explained that this delegation required Senate approval, as delegated authority could not be further delegated without consent.

Senator Wendy Norman sought clarification regarding the five committees listed as Council of Senates Vancouver Representative Committees.

> The Clerk responded that these committees were established following amendments to the *University Act* in 2004, which created the Council of Senates alongside the Okanagan campus. He explained that the Council's membership structure included chairs of Senate committees and that five committees had been created to restore balance in representation. He noted that these committees were intended solely to elect a chair.

Senator Ben Britton noted a typographical error in the Awards Committee section, indicating that a parenthesis should replace a curly bracket.

> The Clerk acknowledged the correction.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND AMENDMENTS TO THE *RULES AND PROCEDURES OF THE VANCOUVER SENATE*

Motion: *That the Committee recommend to the Vancouver Senate approval of the revised amendments to the* Rules and Procedures of the Vancouver Senate, *as discussed.*

Moved: B. Britton
Seconded: J. Gilbert
Approved

In Camera – Agenda of the May

By general consent, the Committee entered an *in camera* session to consider the agenda of the May 13, 2026 Vancouver Senate meeting.

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13, 2026 Vancouver Senate

The Committee rose from *in camera* session at 1:18 pm.

Topics of Broad Academic Interest

The Chair noted that they had consulted with the Clerk and the Committee Secretary, Bradley Menard, regarding a proposal to circulate a call for Topics of Broad Academic Interest. They indicated that accompanying language would clarify that items currently under consideration should not be resubmitted.

> The Clerk responded that a draft memo had not yet been completed. They supported issuing a call for topics for the next triennium and noted that prior calls had generated a high-volume of submissions.

The Chair noted that, in line with recommendations from the Nominating Committee, work on Topics of Broad Academic Interest could be reinitiated, and that a list of topics could be provided to the next triennium's Agenda Committee to determine subsequent handling. They requested that a corresponding memorandum be prepared and distributed.

> In response, the Clerk agreed to prepare the memo for distribution around mid-May.

Next Meeting

May 8, 2026 from 10-11:30 am, joint with Provost's Working Group on Global Partnerships

Adjournment

Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:22 pm