

**Minutes of the SFUFA Executive Meeting**  
**Held Thursday, February 8, 2018**  
**Halpern 114**  
**9:30 - 12:00 noon**

**In attendance:**

Kumari Beck (Education)  
Sherryl Bisgrove (Biology)  
Russell Day (Psychology)  
Genevieve Fuji Johnson (Political Science)  
Dan Laitsch (Education)  
Steeve Mongrain (Economics)  
Michael Sjoerdsma (Chair, Engineering  
Science)  
Rochelle Tucker (Health Sciences)  
Alexandra Wieland (Archives)  
Brian Green (Executive Director)  
Melanie Lam (Recorder)

**Regrets:**

Ronda Arab (English)  
Krishna Pendakur (Economics)  
Jennifer Scott (mat leave)

**1)** Discussion of issues related to faculty representation and reporting at Senate - Jamie Scott, Molecular Biology and Chemistry.

There is concern about fair practices, openness and accountability to the faculty when decisions are made. Too often, faculty senators do not attend senate meetings. The Administration appears to be more organized. SFUFA needs to explore ways to improve the system so that it is more inclusive and to empower faculty senators to get together, organize, inquire and connect. Some recommendations for SFUFA to consider are:

- Encourage senators to attend Chairs and Directors meetings.
- Host a meeting for senators and BOG representatives, push senators to be more organized.
- Organize a retreat for senators.
- Create an online forum for discussion, encourage senators to track issues and figure out how to address them.
- Organize a pre-meeting before the senate meeting to communicate about issues.
- Create a list serve and have senators opt in; create a blog.
- Create a senate subcommittee who would prioritize items.
- Establish a quarterly meeting between senators and SFUFA.
- Encourage the Administration to recognize the work of senators in the salary review process.

## **2) Approval of Agenda**

Approved as circulated.

Moved: Dan Laitsch/Kumari Beck

Carried.

## **3) Approval of Minutes – January 18th**

Approved as circulated.

Moved: Rochelle Tucker/Alexandra Wieland

Carried.

## **4) Business Arising – none to report.**

## **5) Presidents report – Mike Sjoerdsma**

- Academics Without Borders (AWB) project – SFU joined in 2016 and the committee is currently developing terms of reference. SFU faculty members and members from the TLC are on the committee and Mike noted he would keep the executive committee posted.
- CUFA meeting on bargaining – Mike, David and Brian attended and discussions were around the psychological bias of bargaining & history of PSEC. The next CUFA meeting takes place in April.
- Mike gave an update on his meeting with Peter Keller and noted there were discussions re: the Professor of Professional Practice rank and equity, diversity and inclusion.

## **6) Executive Director report**

- Brian gave an update on a safety issue that arose at the Vancouver campus. SFUFA will bring this forward to the senate library committee and will make recommendations re: staff training for those in Surrey and Vancouver.
- SFUFA bargaining team: The advisory committee is being assembled and an email will be sent to advisory committee members shortly.
- Calculation of credits towards study leave: An MOA is being drafted and should be finalized this week.
- Brian met with tenure and promotion advisor Jeff McGuirk to get an update on TPC activities. Two research chairs seeking renewal have been turned down by the TPC and there is currently no process for an appeal, other than seeking legal action. It was noted that the VPA and VPR offices have been contacted and are working on setting up an appeal process.
- A memo was sent to the VPA regarding Deans Advisors and a formal response has not been received as yet.

## **7) Treasurer report**

- A fiscal year to date report was circulated with the meeting package for all to view. It was

noted that the Association is 34% of the way through the fiscal year and we are on track.

- Dues income is slightly higher than projected.
- SFUFA will be joining the CAUT defense fund in April and the initiation fee of \$30.00 per member x 1097 members will be expensed to the general reserve.
- Member events are lower than projected. Pub nights at all three campus locations are being planned for March.
- Salaries and benefits are slightly lower due to Jen Scotts mat leave.

## **8) Committee reports**

- i. Equity: Work is underway and the Special Advisor to the Provost on Equity and Diversity is working on an organizational structure for the work to be done. The advisory committee will be made up of a rep from SFUFA and Academic Women. The coordinating committee made up of CJ Rowe, reps from the indigenous center, office of aboriginal peoples, and the center for students with disabilities is coming together nicely. A structure is being established for the front-line people led by Heather Williams. Work needs to be done to collect more data, to design surveys and to collect information on demographics etc. A wish list and best practices guide is also being established and the group is hoping to look for experts to design the survey.
- ii. Parking: A meeting was held on January 30<sup>th</sup>. The number of permits in 2013 was 1500 and currently there are less than that number and 4500 available parking spaces. Enforcement has been ramped up in the North lot with more than 70 tickets being issued per day. There is also overflow parking beyond G lot, there is also a plan to build more spaces in the future. There are 400 extra spaces being created beyond Field 5 (gravel lot) in the future. The day use parking fees are going to be increased from \$13.50 to \$20 per day and fines will increase from \$30 to \$50. It was noted that with the Faculty of Education moving from Discovery to the Education Building this spring, the North Lot spots will be in high demand. SFUFA is still pushing for reserved spots for faculty and staff in the North Lot.
- iii. Senate: There is more information coming to Senate and Senators appear to be engaged. An external review of First Nations Studies is being conducted. There was an update on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and the Teaching Assessment Working group.
- iv. BOG: SFU had a surplus last year and \$15 million is being reserved for future capital projects. The provincial government is making more funding available for student mental health initiatives. There is also extra funding for the Surrey campus and 120 extra grad spaces.

## **9) Teaching Release for bargaining committee members**

The current collective agreement expires in 2019 and SFUFA is looking for a diverse group of individuals and a good representation of members to assist in preparations for the next round of bargaining. With workload being a significant challenge for faculty members, SFUFA is recommending

a teaching release for bargaining members, to be expensed to the next fiscal year. The recommendation is to create a new line item in the budget for this expense and allocate a portion of any surpluses at the end of each year.

**MOTION:**

That SFUFA includes in the 2018-2019 budget a teaching release for up to 5 bargaining committee members, and if bargaining extends for more than 2 semesters or for a full calendar year, that SFUFA considers a second teaching release for those five members.

Moved: Russ Day/Dan Laitsch

Carried unanimously.

**10) Items for Consultation – January 18, 2017**

- i. SFUFA would like a priority list for current construction projects including status updates on faculty commons and the former student pub space.
- ii. Ancillary services in Surrey: When will mental health services and sexual violence resources be available at the Surrey campus? A variety of security and safety concerns for staff and students have been reported and SFUFA would like to know if security staff are trained to effectively handle and respond to these situations.

**11) Other business**

❖ **Motion:**

That SFUFA provides a teaching release to Ronda Arab for equity committee work done for the Association, one retroactive to 2017 and one for 2018.

Moved: Russell Day/Genevieve Fuji Johnson

Carried unanimously.

**12) Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 12.02 pm.