

Minutes
SFUFA Executive Meeting
Held February 7, 2013
Diamond Alumni Club
10:00 am – 12 noon

In attendance:

Glenn Chapman, President
(Engineering Science) via skype
Carla Graebner, Past President (Library)
Russell Day (Psychology)
Yolanda Koscielski, Treasurer (Library)
M. Taboada (Linguistics)
Natalia Gajdamaschko (Education)
Neil Abramson (Business)
Julian Christians (Biology)
Karen Kavanagh (Physics)
Melanie Lam, Executive Assistant (recorder)
Brian Green, Acting Executive Director

Regrets:

Maureen Fizzell (Business)
Carl Schwarz (Stats and Actuarial Science)

1. Approval of Agenda.

Moved with one addition 5a Treasurer report.

Moved/Seconded: J. Christians/N. Abramson

Carried.

2. Approval of Minutes of January 17, 2013 Executive Meeting.

Motion:

Approved with one minor amendment to item 3b".

Moved/Seconded: K. Kavanagh/J. Christians

Carried.

3. Business Arising.

(a) Re: recent advocacy case, a review Committee has been struck to review the former members appeal for additional funding and there is a panel hearing scheduled on February 26th. The committee will present a report including recommendations to the Board sometime in March.

(b) Feb 4th Senate meeting update: R. Day and J. Christians provided an update on the meeting and the following points were noted:

- J. Driver presented his report, which included a summary of university community comments on the LOAWG report and comments from the Senate Committees and Deans' Council. Many who attended were against LOA although most had not reviewed J. Drivers report in advance.
- Faculty are concerned about the audit controls for the LOA process and there was much discussion about this item.

- Some recommendations by senators included: It would be beneficial for the SFU community to be shown a good example of LOA from the ground up if there is to be “buy in” from faculty & students. Another recommendation was to hold a faculty wide vote on LOA and that students should be more involved in the process because there is a huge cost to students if LOA is implemented poorly, and a huge benefit if it is implemented correctly.
- The SFUFA board recommended that an e-mail message be sent to members in the future whenever LOA gets on the senate agenda, to encourage many to attend and give input re: LOA at meetings. It was also recommended that a meeting be arranged with senators within the next couple of months to review the LOA issue.

4. Presidents Report – G. Chapman

- In his recent meeting with A. Petter, G. Chapman noted that there was considerable discussion about the Research Universities’ Council report, which has received significant media coverage and is a good thing for faculty. The Board recommended asking the Administration at the next consult meeting how SFUFA can work together with them to increase the priority of this item in discussions with the Province noting it would also be valuable to ask A. Petter more about SFU’s efforts to raise important issues such as this, with the government.
- The Administration appears to be currently focused on the pension plan issue involving the other employee groups and will be appealing the recent LRB ruling.

5. Executive Directors report – B. Green

- The University would like to engage SFUFA in conversations about creating a new category for Librarians. This group of members are typically on contract and are covered by SFUFA’s framework agreement, similar to a grant funded tenure position.
- An arbitration date for our final offer selection has been set for March 12 .
- Brian has rounded up more candidates than the number of available Board positions noting there will most likely be elections. The call for nominations will be going out to members some time in February.
- Information is still being gathered re: recommendation to move banks from Vancity to BNS on campus and will be presented to the Board shortly.
- SFUFA is still searching for volunteers to sit on the various advisory committees. A few names have been received but no names have been received to work on the new rank of Professional Practice. The Board was asked to submit names of interested volunteers to Melanie.
- M. Ling has volunteered to compile a report to the Board on the recent Harry Crowe conference on academic freedom that he recently attended and Brian will follow up with him about doing a presentation on the topic at the spring general meeting.
- In keeping with succession planning, C. Schwarz has asked if SFUFA would consider paying for D. Broun, member of the economics benefits committee to attend the CAUT chief negotiators forum in March, noting David would be taking over from Carl as chief negotiator for SFUFA in 3 – 4 years time. It was noted that Carl’s expenses will be paid for by CAUT. After some discussion the Board felt this would be valuable and passed the following resolution:

Motion:

That SFUFA fund all costs associated with sending D. Broun to attend the CAUT chief negotiators forum in Ottawa March 22 – 24, 2013.

Moved/Seconded: R. Day/N. Abramson

Passed unanimously

5a) Treasurers report – Y. Koscielski

Motion: To appoint Yolanda Koscielski as SFUFA Treasurer to replace Natalia Gajdamaschko until the end of the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Moved/Seconded: J. Christians/ K. Kavanagh

Passed unanimously

A year to date financial report was circulated with the meeting package and it was noted that SFUFA's audit for the 2011-2012 fiscal year is underway. The speaker series is a new line item created for the 2012-2013 fiscal year and the entire \$1000 reflected in the budget for donations has been expensed to the CAUT fund.

6. Donation Policy and Bursaries

Further to the e-mail discussion on whether or not to contribute to the Geoff Madoc-Jones memorial bursary, the Executive further discussed the pro's and con's of establishing a policy around donating to scholarships or bursaries to memorialize members who have passed away. After much discussion the Executive recommended that it would be appropriate to do something non-monetary to memorialize past members and voted on the following resolution:

Motion:

That SFUFA create a condolence card with the appropriate wording and logo to be used for all members who have passed away.

Moved/Seconded R. Day/ N. Abramson

Passed unanimously

7. Items for Consultation

- Follow up with J. Driver re: next steps for LOA.
- SFUFA would like to hear more about the University's efforts to raise post secondary issues with the Province.
- Renovations and upgrades to Images and MECS theatres – problems with lighting still remains.
- SFUFA would like to see a faculty/administrative online interface developed to deal with grade changes and other matters.

8. PDR discussions

There was a discussion about the various complaints received from members about the processing of PDR claims and Brian noted he has had a conversation with D. Thorpe-Dorward about this issue. It was noted that in many instances the problems are due to SFUFA members not submitting the required documents to Academic Relations for processing. After some discussion the Executive recommended raising the following PDR issues with Doug:

- a) Ask if claims could be submitted twice a year instead of once per year and with no minimum.
- b) Investigate how Shaw Cable claims are processed.
- c) Look into accepting receipts alone without the additional submission of Visa statements.

9. Other Business

- R. Day noted that the Center for Students with Disabilities is undergoing a renaming process, which will focus on access and opportunity rather than on disability and are also putting all their forms on-line and will be communicating these changes to faculty members over the next few months. He will monitor any impact on faculty workload and will report back to the Board.

- 13. Adjournment:** There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 11:54 pm.
Moved/Seconded: K. Kavanagh/Y. Koscielski.