

**Minutes of the SFUFA Executive Meeting
Held Thursday June 13, 2013 at WAC Bennett Library**

In attendance:

Carla Graebner, (Library)
Carl Schwarz (Statistics and Actuarial Science
Glenn Chapman, President (Engineering Science)
Karen Kavanagh (Physics)
Maite Taboada (Linguistics)
Natalia Gajdamaschko (Education)
Neil Abramson (Business)
Yolanda Koscielski, Treasurer (Library)
Julian Christians (Biology)
Brian Green, Acting Executive Director
Melanie Lam, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Regrets:

Maureen Fizzell (Business)
Russell Day (Psychology)

1. Approval of Agenda.

Approved as circulated.

Moved: N. Abramson/ N. Gajdamaschko

Carried.

2. Approval of Minutes April 18, 2013 Executive Meeting.

Approved as circulated.

Moved: N. Abramson/G. Chapman

Carried.

3. Business Arising.

a) Email from Jim Turk, Executive Director, CAUT.

- J. Turk circulated an email urging Associations to write to the Heritage Minister and to opposition critics, opposing the privatization deal to digitize Canadian archival records with Canadiana.org.
- C. Graebner presented the following background information on the issue:
 - The original announcement about the deal was scheduled to be circulated in mid June but premature information “leaks” contained misinformation about the agreement, which caused outrage and most likely prompted CAUT’s response.
 - Canadiana.org is a non-for profit corporation and is a membership alliance composed of public libraries and not a shadowy “high tech” consortium. There are no profits to be made from this project and all profits will go towards digitization, Meta data creation and infrastructure.
 - The arrangement is not as bad as everyone has made it out to be and could not have been undertaken by LAC alone, considering their 9.5 million dollar budget cut.
 - There is enhanced- quality access to the content and at the end of the 10- year agreement, 100% of the content would be available to all Canadians and the world at no charge.
- The Executive recommended tabling this item for further discussion once Carla has reviewed the additional information she has received.

b) Program Educational Goals (LOA)

- The VPA Office circulated an email on June 12 informing the SFU community that Senate has approved a motion to approve the practices and processes for Program Educational Goals (the new LOA) to be implemented. The Email noted that departments undergoing an external review would have to list their educational goals beginning in spring of 2014.
- There was much discussion about this issue and the Executive noted their concerns, including the workload issue. M. Taboada will draft a memo outlining SUFA's concerns to be sent to the Administration and exec members were encouraged to send their comments to Maite by next week.

4. President's Report.

G. Chapman reported on the following:

- Equity: It has been difficult trying to get much historical data related to Equity at SFU.
- In his recent meetings with J. Driver and A. Petter, Glenn noted that there were discussions about the recent arbitration decision, the new rank of Teaching Professors and Professors of Professional Practice.
- Although UBC has scheduled no classes on September 18th it is likely that SFU will remain open for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) gathering in Vancouver but SFU is planning to host various events in support of TRC. The Executive recommended raising this item at the next Consult meeting in June.
- A private members Bill C-525 that is making its way to the House of Commons is proposing significant amendments to Canadian labour legislation that would alter the certification and decertification rules for union members.
- There was some discussion on the VP Research views on research funding in Canada, as discussed at the last Consult meeting with senior admin.

5. Executive Director's Report.

B. Green reported on the following:

- Summer meetings: There is no meeting with senior administration in July and August but the Executive needs to decide when they want to meet in the summer. Brian will circulate a doodle poll to determine date of meeting, which will include an orientation for new exec members joining the board in September. We also need to establish a date and topic for the summer general meeting. The Executive recommended hosting it at SFU Vancouver, which drew a good crowd last year and choosing a fun topic for this year's event. A doodle poll will be circulated to determine best date for the event.

6. Treasurers Report

- A year to date financial report was circulated to the Executive for review and was included with the meeting package.
- Investments: Two GIC's totalling \$192,961.18 were re invested in two locked in GIC's. The Executive recommended rolling over the Province of BC Coupons coming due in July, into a 3-year locked in term (HSBC GIC) at 1.85% interest.
- Membership events: This item is over budget and it was recommended that this budget line be increased when the next fiscal year budget is set. The Executive agreed that SFUFA should

continue hosting membership socials because it is an effective way of improving membership engagement.

- Salaries and Benefits: This is under budget because of the vacant Executive Director position.
- CUFA BC dues: This item is slightly over budget because the mill rate for CUFA dues increased last year.

7. Chief Negotiators report – C. Schwarz

- Negotiations on the 3 outstanding items from the last round of negotiations are concluded. Since it proceeded to arbitration, ratification by members is not necessary and the Executive passed the following motion:

Motion:

That the SFUFA Executive approves the final results from the latest round of salary negotiations.

Moved: N. Abramson/K. Kavanagh

Carried.

- Librarian/Archivist market differentials will be awarded effective September 1, 2013.
- There was a modification to the new policy for Professor Professional Practice. It was noted that there is a limitation of no more than 5% of the SFUFA membership to be appointed in this category with funding coming from a number of sources. The Administration will provide regular reports to SFUFA and the numbers will be monitored.
- The Teaching Professors policy has not addressed the timing of its implementation.
- UBC has completed arbitration and are awaiting a ruling from the arbitrator. UVIC is also heading to arbitration in hopes of raising faculty salaries; UNBC faculty members are also seeking a new collective agreement and are in the process of selecting arbitration dates.

8. Equity Audit – M. Dubiel

- Academic Women are meeting on Monday to discuss further J. Drivers response to SFUFA's memo. There are concerns about the composition of the committee being formed to look at faculty salary data in September and it appears to be different than what was previously agreed to.
- The mandate of the Committee is not clear. Is it a fact-finding committee or a negotiating committee?
- Academic Women are looking at three issues: The mandate and fact finding process for the committee, how to correct the inequities, if found, and to create a sub committee to handle and improve future impacts. It was noted that there appears to be reluctance on the part of the Administration to address the long-term goals due to the costs involved.
- SFUFA recommended the following to Academic Women: Sticking to the time lines and not getting bogged down with minor issues; seeking clarification about the composition and terms of reference and mandate of committee: considering who will Chair the committee because the Chair can influence the recommendations being made; diversity of faculty perspectives is important therefore it is important to identify the best people to gather data and make the best

recommendations; it is preferable to form a committee that is not too large for logistical reasons.

- M. Dubiel, B. Green and G. Chapman will draft a response to the V.P Academic outlining the issues and concerns discussed today and recommending names for the committee.

9. Teaching and Evaluation Project

- The Executive recommended raising this item at the Consult meeting with senior administration next week.

10. Items for Consultation for June 20.

(i) BC government update:

SFUFA would like to hear about the provincial government's agenda with respect to higher education and any information on planned budget cuts specifically.

(ii) AV services:

SFU is phasing out support for MAC devices and SFUFA would like to hear about this and any other changes to AV or IT Services.

(iii) BC online textbooks initiative:

SFUFA would like to know what SFU's thoughts and plans are with regard to the province's announcement of its free online textbook initiative.

(iv) FIPPA and computing resources:

As cloud based computing becomes increasingly widespread, the University and faculty members need to ensure that we are in compliance with legislation regarding privacy and personal information. It is easy, however, to overstep realistic boundaries in an attempt to avoid risk, and there is some concern that SFU's risk management in this area may create unnecessary limitations or unreasonable expectations upon faculty members. SFUFA would like to hear from the administration about this matter.

(v) Truth and Reconciliation Commission:

The SFSS has called for a closing of all campuses on September 18 in honour of the TRC gathering in Vancouver. We would like to hear from the University on its response to this call and any plans in general to support the university community's engagement with TRC.

(vi) Teaching and Learning Evaluation Project:

The SFUFA Executive recently met with members from TLEP regarding its work and would like to share with the administration, SFUFA's reflections on that process.

11. Other Business

- There was no other business.

10. Adjournment.

Adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Moved: N. Abramson/J. Christians

Carried.