

Minutes of the SFUFA Executive Meeting

Held May 8, 2014

DAC

9.30 – 12 noon

In attendance:

Glenn Chapman (Engineering Science)
Holly Hendrigan (Library)
Julian Christians (Biology) acting Chair
David Broun (Physics)
Maureen Fizzell (Business)
Russell Day (Psychology)
Krishna Pendakur (Economics)
Maite Taboada (Linguistics)
Brian Green, Executive Director
Melanie Lam (EA/recorder)

Regrets:

Natalia Gajdamaschko (Education)
C. Schwarz (Stats)
J. Scott, Membership Services
N. Abramson (Business)

1. Approval of Agenda

Approved as circulated.

Moved: D. Broun/R. Day

Carried.

2. Approval of Minutes of April 17th.

Approved with one amendment to Business Arising (7 out of 8 faculties).

Moved: M. Fizzell/H. Hendrigan

Carried.

3. Business Arising

- Although improvements have been made re: Document Solutions scoring on week ends, they were not doing so during the second week-end of exams and this is a problem for faculty members if the 96 hour deadline for handing in marks is to be met. The Executive recommended raising this item at the Consult with senior administration.

4. Presidents Report - there was no report since N. Abramson was absent.

5. Executive Director report

- Neil attended the CAUT Council meeting last week. J Turk, Executive Director, CAUT is retiring and David Robinson has been appointed as his successor. CAUT has voted to take the first steps towards censure of UBC regarding its recently enacted Policy 81, which requires members to individually opt out of the policy in order to protect their teaching

materials. Under Policy 81 UBC has granted itself the right to use, share and edit teaching materials of its faculty. As a result, the UBCFA has issued a blanket opt-out on behalf of all its members, which means the University cannot use teaching materials for its own purposes.

- Unionization: A meeting took place on May 5th to review the voting method to ensure it is safe, secure and anonymous. No one in the office will have access to the vote or to the results. An SFU IT staff member who usually sets up Senate and BOG voting is in charge of creating the voter mail lists. Voting will commence on Monday May 12 and close at midnight on Wednesday May 14th. A previous meeting with the LRB was held to finalize the member-voting list and negotiation is still ongoing regarding Clinical & Professional Practice members. Department Chairs are included, Deans and Associate Deans are excluded, and so are the Associate University Librarians and the Archivist. Brian noted that a notice of poll was circulated to eligible voters this morning by Kevin D'Souza, an officer with the Ministry of Labour. Some Executive members noted that they had not recognized the email and had deleted it. Therefore, it was recommended that the SFUFA office send a follow up email to members to remind them about this.

6. Items for Consultation – May 16th

- i. Scoring of exams – R. Day will speak to this item.
SFUFA appreciates the improvements that have been made to scoring facilities during exam periods but there still remain some critical times that scoring is not available and would like to pass this info along so that scoring services can continue to be improved.
- ii. Change of grade forms – M. Taboada will speak to this item.
There are a few ways that this can be improved and SFUFA would like to bring these ideas to the table.
- iii. Class and exam scheduling across campuses – D. Broun will speak to this item.
SIMS does not prevent students from registering in classes on different campuses that cannot both be managed by the student. We'd like to make some suggestions for improvement.
- iv. SFU authors – H. Hendrigan will speak to this item.
SFUFA would like to talk about ways that SFU and the bookstore in particular, can better profile SFU authors.

v. Ratification process for Deans – K. Pendakur will speak to this item.

7. Bargaining Committee

- Since there is a broader range of issues to be addressed in this round of bargaining, the Executive discussed the advantage of adding the President and Vice President to the existing bargaining team of 4 SFUFA reps. It was noted that CAUT sometimes recommends that the President be updated on bargaining but not be directly involved in the actual process. The Executive suggested this issue be reviewed at the upcoming bargaining conference and be brought back to the table for further discussion.

8. Kinder Morgan Pipeline

Some members have appealed to SFUFA to take a position on this issue. There was much discussion about this and the Executive noted that while SFUFA is concerned about the impact the project may have on the health and safety of members and since SFUFA represents the interests of the entire membership, it would not be prudent to take a political stand on the issue.

9. Other Business

- D. Broun noted that guidelines are being developed in his department for promotion to Teaching Professor. Psychology is voting on the final version today. It was noted that there doesn't appear to be an attempt to unify the guidelines across faculties.
- There was a discussion about the legal implications of bringing in adjunct faculty from T.W.U. and one recommendation was to seek advice from Brenda Taylor, SFU Human Rights Officer.

10. Adjournment. There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 11.59 am.