

**Minutes of the SFUFA Executive Meeting
Held Thursday January 8, 2015
Halpern 114
9.30 – 12:00 noon**

In attendance:

N. Abramson (Business)
D. Broun (Physics)
G. Chapman (Engineering Science)
J. Christians (Biology) Chair
R. Day (Psychology)
H. Hendrigan (Library)
R. Tucker (Health Sciences)
C. Schwarz (Stats & Actuarial Science)

B. Green (Executive Director)
J. Scott (Member Services)
M. Lam (Recorder)

Regrets:

C. Lesjak (English)
K. Pendakur (Economics)
D. Laitsch (Education)

1. Approval of Agenda

Julian noted that M. Conlon from CUFA BC will be attending the meeting at 11 am. Discussion of Items #3 & #4 were moved to the end of the agenda.

Moved: J. Christians/G. Chapman

Carried.

2. Approval of Minutes of November 20th

Approved with one amendment.

Moved: J. Christians/H. Hendrigan

Carried.

3. Business Arising

- FIC Update: Brian noted he would set up a meeting between T. Rahilly, Associate VP students, and G. Chapman and D. Broun from SFUFA to further discuss FIC. In preparation for the meeting Glenn noted he would collect the relevant data from Institutional Research and Planning and forward it to Brian and David.

4. Dues structure

- The current dues rate for SFUFA members is .00685 of the average salary per rank. The Executive recommended that this item be brought forward for discussion at a future

meeting to review fairness of the current dues structure.

5. Translink

- There is a provincial government proposal to increase the PST by .5 % to fund transit and large infrastructure projects and after some discussion the Executive noted that it would not be taking a stand on the issue.

6. Bargaining Update

- Carl reviewed some of the challenges the committee is faced with in trying to establish a salary structure that is fair and equitable for all. It was noted that at SFU, there are inequalities within departments and inequalities across departments and the process to find the right solution should be handled carefully with much thought and deliberation.
- Status at other universities: UBC is most likely going to arbitration, UNBC were not successful with mediation and are considering strike action, UVIC had some setbacks but are moving forward with negotiations.
- A bargaining meeting between SFUFA and the Administration is set for Monday, January 12th.

7. Presidents Report

- A number of events have been scheduled at all 3 campus locations over the next two months including coffee klatches, lunches to discuss pension and bargaining updates and a pub event in Surrey. An announcement will be circulated to members shortly.
- Julian got a report from Institutional Research and Planning which gives a breakdown of the number of courses taught by different departments and is further broken down by grad vs undergrad courses and research vs teaching faculty. If anyone is interested in obtaining a copy please contact Julian.

8. Executive Directors Report

- The report from the pension actuary was circulated to Executive members and the feedback has been forwarded to Adam Rennison.
- SFUFA was approached by Mary Ellen Kelm, Associate Dean Grad studies, about co-sponsoring an event for post-docs and grad students on the "Imposter Syndrome". The Executive recommended that they review the event plan before agreeing to move forward with this.

9. Membership Services Officer report

- While at the Modern Language Association sub-conference held in Vancouver yesterday, Jen connected with some community folks from the downtown Eastside about possibly getting SFU to donate unused computers to a good cause.
- A meeting has been scheduled with Melinda Skura, Director of Safety and Risk Services to review communication between the various safety committees.
- Jen has a number of cases, which are ongoing.

10. Items for Consultation – January 15, 2015

- i. SFUFA would like to invite Terry Waterhouse to speak to 1) new WorkSafe BC legislation on bullying and harassment and emergency lock down protocols and what resources and training may be available.
- ii. Exam period issues – This issue has been raised previously with the Administration but SFUFA would like to review the issue re: exam locations, using gym space for athletics during exams, and issues related to grading and the 96 hour turnaround period.
- iii. Surrey campus – SFUFA is interested in hearing about the plans for ongoing management of the Surrey campus, particularly with regards to FASS and would like to understand whether there is a strategic vision for Surrey, and FASS in Surrey in particular.
- iv. Grant funded employees – In the past, SFU has taken the position that many employees hired on research grants are employees of the faculty rather than the university, a status which is legally unclear but has not been tested at SFU. In communications regarding the WorkSafe BC regulations SFU has stated that those in these positions are to be considered employees under the law. SFUFA would like to hear how the university intends to manage the question of employee-status on an ongoing basis.

11. Other Business - M. Conlon, Executive Director CUFA

Michael Conlon introduced himself to the Executive and noted that he started at CUFA on December 1, 2014 and that his main goal is to re energize and revitalize the organization. Strategic planning will commence in February. His goals are (1) To be more in contact with the bargaining and post bargaining process for member organizations (2) Establish what service role CUFA will play. CAUT is reconsidering how best to deliver its services which may impact how CUFA evolves, but no decisions have yet been made. (3) Government relations: The current new minister for Advanced Education knows the sector well and is opening up the dialogue a bit. CUFA needs to have a voice in Victoria

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and to keep issues on the radar for member organizations.

Adjournment. There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 12:01 pm