

**Minutes of the SFUFA Executive Meeting**  
**Held Thursday October 9, 2014**  
**Halpern 114**  
**9.30 – 12 noon**

**In attendance:**

Neil Abramson (Business)  
D. Broun (Physics)  
Glenn Chapman (Engineering Science)  
Julian Christians (Biology) Chair  
Russell Day (Psychology)  
Holly Hendrigan (Library)  
Dan Laitsch (Education)  
Carolyn Lesjak (English)  
Krishna Pendakur (Economics)  
Carl Schwarz (Statistics)  
Rochelle Tucker (Health Sciences)

J. Scott (Member Services)  
M. Lam (recorder)

**Regrets:**

B. Green, Executive Director

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Approved as circulated.

Moved: H. Hendrigan/N. Abramson

Carried.

**2. Approval of Minutes of June 18, 2014**

Approved as circulated.

Moved: J. Christians/K. Pendakur

Carried.

**3. Business Arising**

- There was none to report.

**4. Presidents Report - J. Christians**

- Julian attended the community budget consultation meeting yesterday and noted the following:
  - International student fees will increase by around 10%.
  - This is the last year of projected budget cuts. Shortfalls are projected for 2016 – 2017 but no further details were given as to how the Administration plans to deal with the

issue.

- Burnaby campus continues to suffer from the lack of on going deferred maintenance funding.

- In meetings with A. Petter and J. Driver, discussion items included the BC's Skills for Jobs Blueprint and the U15 Research Universities group.
- The Canadian Center for Policy Alternatives is hosting a session on the BC's Skills for Jobs Blueprint on the morning of Friday November 7<sup>th</sup> and it was recommended that SFUFA send a rep to the meeting.
- Julian has been invited to give a presentation at the upcoming Western Regional Conference in Calgary on Internationalization and third party contracts. J. Driver has promised to forward FIC statistics to Julian.
- CUFA BC is in the process of hiring a new Executive Director and interviews were held last week. SFUFA needs to think about what services they would like CUFA to provide member associations.

#### **5. Executive Director report**

- Brian was absent and there was no report.

#### **6. Membership Services report – J. Scott**

- Jennifer gave an update on the current advocacy cases she is handling.
- The first pub night for members has been scheduled for Tuesday October 21<sup>st</sup> in East Vancouver. More details will be announced shortly.

#### **7. Bargaining Update - Carl**

- To date roughly 300 members have responded to SFUFA's bargaining priorities survey and Carl circulated the preliminary results at the meeting. It was noted that the top 3 issues for members are 1) salaries 2) pensions and 3) low salary ceilings. According to member comments, it is unclear as to which kind of pension plan members prefer, but it is clear that most recognize that the current plan is inadequate. It was noted that SFU's Academic Women have voiced their concern that the survey did not include any equity questions such as faculty sick time, childcare etc..
- The first draft of the collective agreement is done. The bargaining committee will be reviewing all the clauses before forwarding the document to the Administration. It was noted that the Administration is not ready to meet until November.
- Carl will be receiving an update about the status of bargaining at other universities

tomorrow and will forward the information to the Executive next week.

- The bargaining committee has not made a decision yet about the addition of one more committee member.

## **8. Items for Consultation – May 16<sup>th</sup>**

- i. Pandemics - The Vancouver campus website states “The university is currently developing a plan for pandemics, as well as other infectious diseases.” SFUFA would like to know how the development of the plan is progressing and what the current status is and the timeline for completion.
- ii. Flu shots; Given that instructors are exposed to potentially large numbers of students, has SFU considered paying for flu shots for those who are not eligible for free shots.
- iii. Academic integrity; SFUFA would like to know what resources are being allocated to taking proactive steps to protect academic integrity. In particular, there are concerns regarding exam security for CODE online courses and we have heard that there are posters around campus in languages other than English, advertising essay writing services, etc. SFUFA would like to know if the University had considered on “going undercover” to investigate some of these.
- iv. Parking; SFUFA would like an update on parking concerns, esp. in C lot. Is consideration being given to not allowing visitor parking in this lot, and/ or designating this lot for faculty and staff only? Parking is particularly problematic for faculty teaching at multiple campuses in a given day.
- v. Conference registration fees are no longer reimbursed in the event of cancellation due to illness etc. These costs should not be downloaded on individual faculty members; SFU should be absorbing the costs.
- vi. Accreditation: SFUFA saw the recent senate report, but moving forward would like to know the next steps are and the costs required to complete the process.
- vii. Deferred Maintenance: The Accreditation Report presented at the recent Senate meeting includes a section on Deferred Maintenance reports on the proportion of SFU Burnaby buildings that are in poor condition. We would like to know which buildings are in poor condition.

## 9. Donation Policy

- Since questions about political and financial support for BCTF arose as a result of the recent teachers strike, the recommendation on the table is for SFUFA to develop a donation policy or a set of guidelines for the Executive. There was much discussion about this item and the Executive noted that SFUFA's policy on donations should reflect current practices and should also include guidelines for dealing with ad-hoc requests, CAUT academic defense fund contributions, donations to strike funds, requests for letters of support from other unions and political statements.
- J. Scott volunteered to research and bring back to the table other faculty associations donations policies for the Executive to review. D. Laitsch & H. Hendrigan volunteered to assist with this task.

## 10. Other Business

- a) Equity committee update – K. Pendakur gave an update and noted the following:
- The objective of the committee is to collect and analyze data so that credible statements could be made about gender pay gaps and data gathering was completed in June.
  - The final report should be ready by late spring and would look similar to the UBC pay equity data working group report. It will strictly be focused on salary/gender; no other issues are included.
  - The group is looking at gender pay equity for research faculty only and does not include Librarians. The Executive discussed this item further and voted on the following motion:

### **Motion:**

That the Equity Committee consider including Librarians and Lecturers in the current pay equity study at SFU.

Moved: R. Day/J. Christians

Carried.

**Adjournment.** There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 12.04 pm.