

Minutes of the SFUFA Executive Meeting
Held Thursday May 14, 2015
Halpern 114
9.30 – 12:00 noon

In attendance:

D. Broun (Physics)
J. Christians, Chair (Biology)
H. Hendrigan (Library (Education))
C. Lesjak (English)
K. Pendakur (Economics)
R. Tucker (Health Sciences)

Brian Green (Executive Director)
M. Lam (Recorder)
J. Scott (Membership Services)

Regrets:

N. Abramson (Business)
G. Chapman (Engineering Science)
Russell Day (Psychology)
Dan Laitsch (Education)
C. Schwarz, Chair (Stats & Actuarial Science)

1) Approval of Agenda

Approved as circulated.

Moved: R. Tucker/C. Lesjak

Carried.

2) Approval of Minutes of April 16, 2015

Approved as circulated.

Moved: J. Christians/R. Tucker

Carried.

3) Business Arising

- There was none to report.

4) Presidents Report – J. Christians

- Julian attended the 78th CAUT Council meeting at the end of April with B. Green and J. Scott and noted it was a very productive meeting, which included a presentation by Dr. Vincent Mosco on cloud computing and its importance in business and government.

5) Executive Director Report – B. Green

- Elections are now underway for two academic pension plan trustees for a 2 year term. There are 3 nominees and voting closes on Monday at noon.
- The office is in the process of experimenting with a new SFU phone system where IT

services would install a phone tree with three branches, which would help eliminate the need for 2 land lines and the fax line. Staff is testing it out for about a month and if all goes well, would be switching over to the new system by the end of the summer.

6) MSO Report – J. Scott

- The SFUFA Equity Committee met last week to hammer out terms of reference for the committee, which is work in progress.
- Jen has some new advocacy cases and there are many ongoing cases.

7) Bargaining update – B. Green

- **SFUFA:** the process is moving along slowly but productively and will continue until the end of June and will then break for July and August.
- The Bargaining Advisory Committee will be meeting with Carl Schwarz this Friday and next Friday to review the proposed salary scales.

8) Pension process – next steps

- The question on the table is whether SFUFA is ready to conduct an online vote on the question “Do you favour SFUFA negotiating a move to the defined benefit BC College Pension Plan”. After much discussion, the Executive recommended getting the following questions answered before proceeding to the online vote:
 - I. What is the process for winding up the College Pension Plan?
 - II. How does the College Plan compare to other non-publicly funded, joint trusted plans in Canada?
 - III. Fundability of the plan - what is the soundness of their investment strategies, net of fees and internal rate of return, independent of influx/outflux of members and the historical rates of return over 25 years.
 - IV. Find out from SFU about retention rates – for example, what percentage of faculty leave within 10 years and at what ages, for example, between 35-40 & 45-50 years of age (what career stage).
- Julian noted that the FAQ page on the website would be updated to reflect questions and comments received in the members’ survey.

9) Member Communications

- I. Posting requests on website – SFUFA has from time to time received requests to support various social issues that may not be directly linked to work. H. Hendrigan raised this at the recent Spring GM, in response to a request she had received on the “Public Inquiry” campaign re: deaths related to the 2012 Babine and Lakeland Sawmills incident. After

some discussion, the Executive agreed it would be most appropriate to circulate these types of requests to the membership via SFUFA's twitter feed rather than by email.

- II. GM records – Brian noted that at the recent Spring GM, members were unable to approve the Fall GM minutes due to a discrepancy recorded in the minutes related to the Kinder Morgan Pipeline motion. After some discussion, the Executive recommended that moving forward, SFUFA would voice record general meetings and that any amendments to motions brought forward at the meeting, be displayed on a screen before it is voted on.

10) Workload

- R. Tucker reviewed the 2008 workload survey and noted that it had a good response rate (315 members) and relevant information and would like the current Executive committee to review the report and revisit the issue.
- Brian Green noted he would circulate the report to the Executive for review.

11) Items for Consultation May 21, 2015

- I. PDR - the PDR process continues to be a source of concern and tremendous administrative burden; there had been discussions about reviewing the process and identifying ways to improve it. SFUFA would be interested in hearing whether any further consideration has been given to this, and/or what process might be considered for looking into the issue.
- II. Roadwork – SFUFA would like to make a few comments about the roadwork that has been underway and the impact of this work.
- III. Salary equity report – SFUFA would like to discuss what process might be used to consider the report of the salary review, which we anticipate will be released shortly.
- IV. Accreditation – SFUFA would like an update on this process.
- V. 50th anniversary celebrations – SFUFA would be interested in hearing about plans for this event and whether there might be a possibility of jointly hosting a celebration to mark the occasion.

12) Other Business

- H. Hendrigan noted that the joint professional development event she is co-organizing with UBC was in jeopardy of being cancelled but has now been moved to a new date – June 1st. It was noted that B. Green would be speaking at the event and J. Scott would advertise it on SFUFA's twitter feed.

Adjournment. There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 12:13 pm.