

**Minutes of the SFUFA Executive Meeting
Held Thursday October 13, 2016
Halpern 114
9.30 – 12:00 noon**

In attendance:

N. Abramson (Business)
K. Beck (Education)
S. Bisgrove (Biology)
G. Fuji Johnson (Political Science)
R. Day (Psychology)
D. Laitsch (Chair, Education)
S. Mongrain (Economics)
M. Sjoerdsma (Engineering Science)
R. Tucker (Health Sciences)
M. Lam (Recorder)
J. Scott (Member Services)

Regrets:

R. Arab (English)
B. Green (Executive Director)
J. Rowe (Archives)

1) Approval of Agenda

Approved as circulated.

Moved: N. Abramson/G. Fuji Johnson

Carried.

2) Approval of Minutes - September 15, 2016

Approved with one amendment to 5b.

Moved: N. Abramson/S. Bisgrove

Carried.

3) Business Arising

- Genevieve was unable to attend the sexual violence conference at UBC but noted that members of the Advisory Committee had attended. It was further noted that two Associate Deans are working on providing training to grad chairs re: responding to a disclosure of sexual assault.

4) Presidents report – D. Laitsch

- Brian, Dan and Jennifer attended the CUFA Council meeting held on September 30th. Dan reported that CUFA would be granting membership to TRU (Thompson Rivers University) and that BCITFSA has applied to join CAUT.

- SFUFA office hours have been established at Surrey and Vancouver and are being well received by members. SFUFA held 3 successful social events over the past 2 weeks at all 3 campuses.
- At these events, members raised a variety of issues/concerns such as emergency preparedness at Burnaby, time frame for the implementation of the new collective agreement, the lack of administrative support for faculty, concerns about 3 campus unity and the manner in which the Administration treats the satellite campuses and collegiality, to name a few.
- Dan met with Elise Chenier from Academic Women to discuss the equity report findings and the work being done around the sexual violence policy. Academic Women has recommended that SFUFA take a proactive stance and reach out to the membership in a broader context about the development of the sexual violence and misconduct policy. As a starting point for discussion, Genevieve noted she would draft a summary document and circulate to the executive before the October 20th meeting. Dan, Jennifer and Genevieve volunteered to organize a forum on the topic within the next month. Suggested speakers are Tracy Porteous, Jon Driver and Kim Hart.

5) Executive Director report – Brian was absent and there was no report.

6) Member Services report – J. Scott

- Jennifer gave an update on the recent harassment case and noted that an agreement was reached and that SFUFA is making sure the terms of the agreement are being followed.
- The office has received many calls from members about the timing for the roll out for the new agreement. To date, the Administration has not responded to SFUFA about an implementation date.
- The Fall GM is slated for Monday November 21st and the Equity Committee is pulling together a panel presentation that will include Jacqueline Holler (Co-Chair CAUT Equity Committee), Mary Catherine Kropinsky and Bertille Antoine (Salary Equity Recommendation Committee). Sunera Thobani from UBC is out of the country and is unable to attend and an alternate speaker is being sought.

7) Gender Equity Report

- Members of the SFUFA executive met with the Salary Equity Recommendation Committee on October 6th to discuss the report and recommendations and to thank them for a job well done. After some discussion the Executive voted on the following two motions:

Motion:

That the SFUFA executive committee expects SFU in consultation with SFUFA, to implement all aspects of the Salary Equity Recommendation Report (September 1, 2016) within one calendar year (i.e. by September 2017) in accordance with the appropriate legislation.

Moved: R. Day/R. Tucker

Carried unanimously.

Motion:

That the SFUFA executive committee thank members of the SFUFA Equity Committee and the Salary Equity Recommendation Committee for their hard work on this initiative.

Moved: N. Abramson/R. Tucker

Carried unanimously.

8) Open Access textbooks

- The discussion of this item with the grad student officer was postponed to a later date.

9) Collegiality and member engagement

- Dan would like the executive to explore ways in which SFUFA could support collegiality and strengthen community ties for faculty members at all three campus locations.
- The following is a list of ideas that were brainstormed in the meeting:
 - Provide a pleasant physical space for faculty to meet and talk about their work.
 - Open DAC every two weeks for faculty lunches.
 - SFUFA should promote events and encourage a faculty complement to attend events already taking place at SFU such as the United Way faculty smackdown and the grad student 3-minute thesis.
 - Other similar events such as an event to present photos from research trips or 5 minutes to talk about your current research project, similar to that done in Psych department are other ideas.
 - An event to kick off hockey season; Blue Jays game.
 - Work-life-balance and mental health events - is a collegial governance issue so would be relevant.
 - Walking club.
 - Host a bunch of events this year then do follow up membership survey next year.
 - Ask SFU to co-fund monthly lunches at DAC or waive rental fee.
 - Need to make faculty feel like there is a reason to come up to Burnaby.
 - Hosting a diverse range of events is important not everyone likes pub events.
 - A family picnic in the summer similar to SFU event is highly recommended.
 - Once regular events are planned put a calendar of events on the SFUFA website.
 - Teaching success stories – brown bag lunch.

- Rochelle Tucker, Kumari Beck, Dan Laitsch, Russell Day and Neil Abramson volunteered to form a sub committee to come up with recommendations of what SFUFA can do right now regarding member engagement, and then weekly, and monthly. Jennifer Scott noted she would be available as a resource person to the committee. Executive members are encouraged to come up with ideas to host their own events in consultation with the committee. The sub committee will present their recommendations to the executive at a future meeting.

10) Consultation items for October 20th

- I. Safety and Security/Emergency Planning: Members have raised concerns about the potential risks associated with a fire, spill or explosion related to the nearby pipeline tanks which could result in access being blocked to and from SFU. SFUFA would like to know if the Administration has addressed this issue and if there are concerns about this.
b) A faculty member noticed that a couple of lights were burned out in C lot and it had not been fixed for at least 3 weeks. This is concerning given that this area gets particularly dark at nighttime. On a related note, Faculty and Staff who have tried to access the safe walk program have experienced lengthy delays in accessing the service. There are also reports of a break-in at Business. Can the Administration talk about current staffing levels and their adequacy for securing the campus and providing important safety services to faculty and staff?
- II. IRMACS - SFUFA has heard a good deal of uncertainty about the future of the IRMACS, and would like to know about future plans for the facility generally. Specifically for our needs, we would like to hear whether the center would remain available to the university community.
- III. Engineering - The Engineering Accreditation Board has performed a focus review on Engineering Science and there are concerns it would impact accreditation. SFUFA would like to hear how the Administration plans to address this issue.
- IV. Sexual Violence Policy - SFUFA would like to know about the timeline and next steps.
- V. Changes at Research Ethics Board - There has been a proposal to change protocols on the ethics application approvals process and SFUFA would like to know more about this.
- VI. Teaching & Exams: Scheduling conflicts during exams are still a major concern for faculty. 25% of final exams are not held for this reason. Those who teach at multiple campuses have additional stresses to deal with during exam time like commuting between campuses and the lack of parking available at Burnaby campus. Document solutions took up to 3 days to mark exams. SFUFA would like to know what the

Administration could do to improve support for faculty teaching at multiple locations and to provide adequate spaces for exams. In addition, SFUFA would like to know the percentage of courses that don't have final exams scheduled.

11) Other Business

- R. Day attended a budget consultation and reported the following: Enrolment is strong; the BC government has funded all collective agreements; There are fee increases for next Fall - 2% fee increase for domestic students; all new incoming undergrad students will have a 8% fee increase except in Engineering; fees for existing international grad students will be grandfathered; 1 million has been budgeted for software upgrades.
- SFUFA Agreement: It was noted that a searchable signed version of the final contract would be put up on the website by Faculty Relations within the next month.

12) Adjournment

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 11:37 am.