

**Minutes of the SFUFA Executive Meeting** approved Oct/18  
**Held Thursday, September 13, 2018**  
**Halpern 114**  
**9:30 - 12:00 noon**

**In attendance:**

Kumari Beck (Education)  
Sherryl Bisgrove (Biology)  
Russell Day (Psychology)  
Michael Sjoerdsma (Chair, Engineering Science)  
Alexandra Wieland (Archives)  
Brian Green (Executive Director)  
Melanie Lam (Recorder)  
Jennifer Scott (Member Services)

**Regrets:**

Ronda Arab (English)  
Genevieve Fuji Johnson (Political Science)  
Dan Laitsch (Education)  
Steeve Mongrain (Economics)  
Krishna Pendakur (Economics)  
Janice Regan (Computing Science)

**Note: Only 5 executive members were present and quorum was not achieved at this meeting.**

**1) Agenda** – there were no additions.

**2) Approval of June 21<sup>st</sup> minutes** – tabled to next meeting.

**3) Business Arising**

- CAUT Aboriginal Academic Staff Conference October 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>: Arrangements are being made for Sherryl Bisgrove from the SFUFA executive and June Scudeler from First Nations Studies to attend.
- Construction tour in the summer: Executive members who had taken part in the tour noted that due to the high number of infrastructure construction projects scheduled in coming years, it is important that SFUFA continue to put pressure on the various parties involved to maintain good communication so that staff and faculty are kept well informed.
- CAUT defence fund: A new line item was created in the budget and SFUFA has joined effective September 1, 2018. The monthly fee is currently \$5621.00 and the initiation fee of \$30,660.00 will be taken out of the general reserve fund.

**4) Presidents report** – Mike Sjoerdsma

- SFUFA is gearing up for collective bargaining and a bargaining survey will be ready to be circulated to members in about one month.

- The pension FAQ was circulated to members today including a welcome email message from the SFUFA President.
- Pension info sessions are scheduled in September and October at Surrey and Burnaby and a pub night in Vancouver. Members are able to connect via videoconferencing to the Burnaby sessions. Melanie will look into audiotaping the sessions for those who can't attend in the afternoons at Burnaby.
- The TAWG (Teaching Assessment Working Group) committee which Dan and Russ are a part of, are working on the revision of SFU policies and will be conducting a faculty survey soon. Given that the bargaining team are also working on a survey, there is some concern about the timing of the TAWG survey and Russ noted he would update the executive following the TAWG meeting next Tuesday.

#### **5) Executive Director report**

- CAUT Defence Fund: It is recommended that there be 1 trustee for every 500 members and SFUFA hopes to appoint up to three trustees to the CAUT Defence Fund. Brian noted that the trustees are generally invited to various teleconferences and to attend the annual AGM in Ottawa.
- Inappropriate use of email: SFUFA has received complaints from members regarding the number of email messages received from investors. The messages are normally framed in such a way that creates the appearance they are sanctioned and SFUFA will be raising this at the next consult meeting with senior administration.
- SFUFA is considering re naming the sfufa-a-z mail list to the SFU faculty list due to the number of complaints received from SFUFA members. SFU doesn't appear to have a faculty wide email list and SFUFA often gets requests from various departments, including the Administration, to disseminate their information and sometimes the information is not appropriate for all SFUFA members. Melanie will follow up with IT Services about the name change. In the meantime, it is recommended that this item be raised at the next consult meeting, to see if another University managed list can be created.
- The Harry Crowe Foundation conference is scheduled to take place in February 2019 in Toronto and the topic is "Free Speech on Campus". Executive members who are interested in attending are asked to please talk to Brian.
- Over the summer months, there was a considerable amount of work done regarding the Limited Term Lecturer/Sessional/TSSU issue but there has been no resolution and SFUFA would like to resolve it before the next round of bargaining.
- The CUFA Executive Director is resigning and CUFA will be doing a search for a new E.D shortly. Brian and Mike have a conference call scheduled with CUFA today.

## **6. Member Services report**

- Jennifer thanked everyone for their support this past summer and noted that her son Alexander is doing well.
- Jen has been working with Brian on bargaining prep and on the LTL/TSSU issue. She is also working with Sherryl Bisgrove and the Equity Committee to fill at-large positions and to manage elections for expiring positions. She also gave a report on the current advocacy cases and outlined a recent incident where some faculty members may have been exposed to asbestos. The executive recommended bringing this item forward for further discussion at the next consult meeting.

## **7. Treasurer's year to date report – M. Sjoerdsma**

- Mike noted that most items are on track. The report represents figures to the end of July 2018 and the fiscal year ends on September 30th.
- Conferences are over budget and SFUFA will consider the additional conferences that occur biennially (Harry Crowe and CAUT Aboriginal conference) when setting the budget for next year.
- It was noted that CAUT fees increased in July 2018.
- Member events are below budget but due to pensions and bargaining, we expect member engagement events to increase next year.
- The CAUT defence fund is under budget because SFUFA joined September 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 instead of last spring as initially planned. The executive had previously voted to expense the initiation fee of \$30,600.00 to the general reserve fund.

## **8) Donation requests**

- I. Annual Rosemary Brown Memorial Conference - SFUFA received a request in August from the Department of Gender and Women's Studies requesting a \$500 donation for sponsoring morning coffee and mid- morning refreshments. The conference is a collaborative effort between SFU's Department of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies and the Rosemary Brown Award Committee to discuss issues of social justice and issues of importance to our broader community. In 2016 discussions were around sexual assault on campus and ways to move forward with education, prevention and reporting. This year the theme is Women and Politics: Risk and Opportunity. Given that this year's discussions will deal with issues of diversity and equity, the SFUFA executive voted to move forward with a donation of \$500.
- II. Fair Employment Week: Which is a CAUT initiative focused on supporting fair treatment of contract faculty and takes place October 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26th. The SFUFA executive voted by email to donate \$250.00 towards FEW.

## 9) Items for Consultation – June 21st

- I. Investment seminars – SFUFA is once again receiving complaints from faculty about investment seminars which are advertised to their emails. From previous discussion, we understand these companies have no relationship with SFU, but the framing of their advertising and the mass emails to faculty create the appearance they are sanctioned. We would like to hear if there is anything that can be done to address this continuing problem.
- II. Photocopying and privacy – SFUFA would like to hear about protections in place with regard to the new photocopy system. In particular, we would like to hear how the copying records stored on the central server are protected, and what exactly is stored. For example, if a letter is scanned, where and for how long is the digital information held, and how do we protect sensitive information? Also, we have heard concerns that the ability to access photocopying with a 4-digit code makes it easy to access under another account.
- III. Faculty wide email list - SFUFA maintains email lists to communicate with faculty, but the University, we understand, does not have a dedicated faculty list. As a result, numerous units - including units under central administration - contact us to request that we disseminate their information. We would like to talk about development of a University-managed email list as it is not appropriate for us to be managing such messages and deciding what may or may not be distributed.
- IV. Asbestos - there was recently an incident in which several members were exposed to asbestos as a result of construction in and around faculty offices. We are quite concerned about the serious risk these members have been exposed to, and would like to hear what steps are being taken to ensure no such exposure happens again, and about plans for remediation.
- V. Reporting structures - Over the last while, a number of units have been reorganized to fall under authority of new or different offices. VPR has new leadership over several institutes and centres, the new AVPLT will govern others, and there may be other changes in reporting as well. We are interested in hearing about reporting structure changes, and seeing an org chart if one is available.
- VI. As mentioned in the spring, SFUFA would like to invite a few presenters to meetings this fall to share their activities and priorities. We have no particular order, but hope to hear this fall from: ARC committee; New Human Rights Officer; AVPLT.

## 8) Other business

- Parking subcommittee: Kumari noted that some of the changes made by SFU Parking effective September 1<sup>st</sup> appears to be working, such as the fee increase in the North Lot to

\$5.00 per hour, increased enforcement and the increase in ticket prices to \$50, but there also appears to be an issue in Convocation Mall where it is difficult for permit holders to find parking and Kumari noted she would follow up with the committee about this. Kumari is also looking for a replacement for Rochelle Tucker so executive members who are interested in sitting on the parking subcommittee – please get in touch with Kumari.

- Jennifer Scott and Alexandra Wieland met with Librarians last month to talk about collective agreement issues.
- Russell gave an update on the last BOG meeting and noted there was nothing substantive to report on.
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**9) Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 11:35am.