

Draft:

**Minutes of the SFUFA Executive Meeting
Held December 3, 2020
Via zoom video conference
9.30 – 12 noon**

In attendance:

Kumari Beck (Education)
Sherryl Bisgrove (Biological Sciences)
Dave Hannah (Business)
Dan Laitsch (Education)
Suzanne Norman (Publishing)
Janice Regan (Computing Science)
Michael Sjoerdsma (Engineering Science) Chair
Alexandra Wieland (Archives)

Brian Green (Executive Director)
Melanie Lam (Minutes)
Jennifer Scott (Member Services)

Regrets:

Dai Heide (Philosophy)
Steeve Mongrain (Economics)

The meeting was called to order at 9.30 am and Joy Johnson attended the meeting to make an announcement to the SFUFA executive about the creation of a new VP People, Equity and Inclusion position at SFU.

1. Approval of Agenda

Approved as circulated.

Moved: Alexandra Wieland/Kumari Beck

Carried.

2. i) Approval of Minutes of November 19th minutes

Approved as circulated.

Moved: Kumari Beck/Janice Regan

Carried.

ii) Approval of November 24th special meeting minutes

Approved as circulated.

Moved: Alexandra Wieland/Sherryl Bisgrove

Carried.

3. Business arising

- i. Temporary changes to the biennial review process – due to the disruptions produced by Covid 19, SFUFA and the University are working to modify this process in order to prevent unfairness and to reduce workload. SFUFA has not agreed to all the principles outlined in the Letter of understanding and Mike noted he would keep the executive updated.

4. Presidents Report – Mike Sjoerdsma

- Re: Joy Johnsons announcement today, the SFUFA executive recommended forming a working group to put together some ideas and feedback for the administration.
- Mike noted he had a brief meeting with Joy Johnson and the new VPA, Catherine Dauvergne, and noted it was cordial and productive.
- The SFUFA AGM was held on November 25th and 240 members attended via zoom. Thanks to Jennifer Scott and Kumari Beck who managed the chat window and waiting room. The meeting went smoothly and most questions related to the changes to the pension plan.
- Mike attended a CAUT meeting last week and noted that the CAUT Council has passed a motion to censure the University of Toronto, due to a hiring scandal in the Faculty of Law.

5. Member Services report – Jennifer Scott

- Jen has been busy working on several member grievances with Brian, and is also working with the CUHSC and with the other employee groups to draft new policies for the committee.

6. Executive Director report

- Brian is focussed on bargaining and reported that info sessions for members started yesterday and went well.
- The AGM which was held November 25th went well and members asked 190 questions in total. SFUFA is reviewing the questions and will try to respond to those which were not answered at the AGM..
- The University is working on a bullying and harassment policy and SFUFA is keeping an eye on that.

7. Committee reports

- The Equity Committee with newly elected members met last week and set priorities for next year. There was also a meeting of the EDI advisory council, and Sherryl noted that a subcommittee of the EDI advisory Council will be forming and Sherryl has been appointed to that committee.
- BOG and Senate: Janice missed both meetings but gave an update on the Central Health and Safety Committee.

9. Items for Consultation – December 10th

- i. Welcome Catherine Dauvergne. SFUFA would like to welcome Catherine, and hear a few words from our new Provost as to how she is settling in and her initial thoughts.
- ii. SFUFA is interested in hearing about SFU's latest budgeting plans.
- iii. Microsoft 365 and privacy concerns: A number of serious privacy concerns have arisen with respect to MS 365. SFUFA is interested to know whether a privacy assessment has been conducted and, if so, whether it might be shared with the Association. SFUFA is also interested in discussing the roll-out of the multifactor login, which raises a number of challenges.
- iv. Altered semester dates: The recently-announced change in semester start and end dates has a number of impacts on faculty workload, and poses real challenges for those who teach in both summer and fall. We would like to discuss these and see how they might be addressed.

10. Other Business

There was no other business to report.

Adjournment. There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 11:34 am.