

**Minutes of the SFUFA Executive Meeting
Held September 9, 2021
Via zoom video-conference and in Library 7200
9.30 – 12 noon**

In attendance:

Kumari Beck (Education) Chair
David Broun (Physics)
Dave Hannah (Business)
Dan Laitsch (Education)
Suzanne Norman (Publishing)
Janice Regan (Computing Science)
Ljiljana Trajkovic (Engineering Science)
Rochelle Tucker (Health Sciences)
Baharak Yousefi (Library)
Melanie Lam (Minutes)
Jennifer Scott (Member Services)
Brian Green (Executive Director)

Regrets:

Steeve Mongrain (Economics)

The meeting was called to order at 9.35 am and Kumari welcomed new executive committee members Ljiljana Trajkovic, Baharak Yousefi and David Broun.

1. Approval of Agenda

Approved with the following additions: Appointment of Treasurer, under other business add member socials, executive retreat at Kumari's, and exec meeting schedule changes.

Moved: Dave Hannah/Janice Regan

Carried.

2. Approval of Minutes of June 17, 2021

Approved as circulated.

Moved: Rochelle Tucker/Dan Laitsch

Carried.

3. Business arising

- i. SFUFA would like to revisit the discussion regarding embedded faculty reps and advocate for a return to that model in CEE. During the recent pandemic, more faculty members have come forward to express their concerns. Mike, Kumari and Suzanne noted they would work together to come up with a strategy on how best to approach the SFU

Administration about this.

4. Presidents Report – Kumari Beck

- Kumari gave an update on her meetings with Joy J and Catherine D.
- Thanks to CUFA BC, who advocated for more health and safety rules and stronger mask and vaccine mandates for BC universities, and called upon the Minister of Advanced Education to affirm the autonomy of universities to make independent decisions around campus health and safety rules.
- Jane Pulkingham, former Dean of FASS has been appointed to a role of Special Advisor to the VPA.

5. Executive Director report – Brian Green

- Recruitment for the position of VPPEI: deliberations ended in July but no announcement has been made as yet.
- Brian gave an update on the recent arbitration case and decision which SFUFA has been working on since 2015. There was much discussion on this and SFUFA thanked Member Services Officer Jennifer Scott for all the support given to the SFUFA member.

6. Member Services report - Jennifer Scott

- Jennifer gave an update on her advocacy cases and noted there are lots of members seeking medical accommodations and SFUFA is working on 5-6 bullying/harassment cases. Many members are stressed out and anxious about returning to teach for the fall semester.

7. Appointment of Treasurer

Motion: That Steeve Mongrain be reappointed as SFUFA Treasurer for one more year effective September 1, 2021. The three signing authorities for SFUFA this year will be Steeve Mongrain (Treasurer), Kumari Beck (President) and Brian Green (Executive Director).

Moved: Rochelle Tucker/Ljiljana Trajkovic

Carried.

8) Committee reports

- The health and safety committees have new Terms of Reference (TOR). It appears that some duties of the committees have been taken away. The new Communicable Disease Plan was implemented by the Administration in July but was not reviewed by the health and safety committee.
- Covid Case Management group: There appears to be no representation of front-line

academic staff on this committee; the executive recommended raising this at the next consult meeting.

- Parking: The last committee meeting was held in July. Staff and faculty are currently registering for their parking passes and a new Flex Pass parking option is available this Fall. Hourly and daily parking can now be purchased digitally and the new system uses licence plate recognition software, which eliminates the use of parking passes or permits.

9. Items for Consultation – September 16th

- i. SFUFA has concerns about the voluntary data as the basis for some of the vaccinate rate statements. How can we help collect more reliable data regarding vaccination rates.
- ii. SFUFA would like an update regarding a vaccine mandate from the PHO.
- iii. SFUFA members are concerned about the mask mandate, particularly regarding how to address members of the community outside of their own classrooms who may not be following the mandate.
- iv. We have heard from members who are voluntarily declaring their vaccine status through the Thrive App that there is a lengthy legal disclaimer regarding the information being provided. Are there privacy concerns or data sharing concerns SFUFA ought to be aware of and where can our members address these questions.
- v. SFUFA is still hearing from members from across the University who are being asked to deliver lectures for students present on campus as well as remote students. You have reassured us many times that this would not be asked of faculty members, so we are wondering why at the local level members are still getting these requests. We have also been asked where members can check to see what kind of technology is available in the classrooms they are assigned.
- vi. We understand there is a COVID case management group. However, there are no reps on that committee who interact with students. We think it would be important to have the perspective of ‘front-line’ academic staff on this committee. We are curious as to how this committee was constituted, what its mandate is, and how we can provide feedback as we return to campus.

10. Other Business

- SFUFA is planning social events for members at all 3 campuses this Fall. The executive noted that although there are some concerns about gathering during the pandemic, it is important to be visible and accessible to faculty members. The recommendation is to book venues that have a good ventilated large space or with a patio. SFUFA will be reaching out members both in person and virtually over the next few months.
- The executive will be holding an all-day planning meeting at Kumari Becks on September 21st, with old and new executive committee members. More information will be circulated shortly

Adjournment. There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 12.01 pm.