

Minutes of the SFUFA Executive Meeting  
Held June 9, 2022  
Via zoom video-conference and in AQ2035  
9.30 – 12 noon

**In attendance:**

Kumari Beck (Education) Chair  
David Broun (Physics)  
Dave Hannah (Business)  
Dan Laitsch (Education)  
Suzanne Norman (Publishing)  
Steeve Mongrain (Economics)  
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:**

The meeting was called to order at 9.38 am.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Approved with two additions: CUFA donation request to Allan Black scholarship fund & SFUFA website accessibility guidelines.

**Moved:** Dan Laitsch/ Suzanne Norman

**Carried.**

**2. Approval of Minutes of May 26, 2022**

Approved as circulated.

**Moved:** Dave Hannah/Janice Regan

**Carried.**

**3. Business arising - none to report.**

**4. Presidents Report – Kumari Beck**

- Kumari gave an update on her meeting with the new VPPEI, Yabome Gilpin Jackson.
- The pension trustees are working on a pension communique to members. It was noted that once the BCCP produces statements, members have 120 days to act on it, therefore, getting information out soon to members is crucial. Kumari noted she would forward the draft communique to the VPA for review.

**b) Allan Black scholarship donation**

- SFUFA legal counsel Allan Black will be retiring after 50 years of service and CUFA BC is exploring the viability of creating a scholarship in his name. There are a couple of scholarship options depending on the level of financial contributions CUFA receives. To date, \$12,000 has already been pledged, and pledges have been made by APSA SFU, Royal Roads University and UNBC. It was noted that UBC is considering between \$5000-\$10,000. After some discussion, the executive voted on the following motion:

**Motion:**

That the SFUFA executive support a donation to the Allan Black scholarship fund, the amount to be determined at the next meeting.

**Moved:** Dan Laitsch/Janice Regan

**Carried with one abstention.**

**c) University expense report procedures for faculty**

Members have voiced their frustrations to SFUFA about this process and Financial Services appears to be pushing back even more since the tri-council guidelines were changed 2 years ago. SFUFA will be collecting examples for further action.

**d) Discussion on San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA).**

DORA calls for new and improved research assessment tools and parameters for evaluating scholarly output. It aims to address the negative consequences of journal publication, as a primary indicator of quality for research output. It is a global initiative and they are calling on organizations who are interested in promoting best practice in the assessment of scholarly research, to sign on. It was noted that Canadas five major national research funders have signed on. Dave Hannah reminded everyone to review the information he circulated to the executive by email.

After some discussion the SFUFA executive voted on the following motion:

**Motion:**

That SFUFA sign on to the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA).

**Moved:** Dave Hannah/Dan Laitsch

**Carried.**

**e)World wide web consortium (W3C)**

After some discussion the SFUFA executive recommended costing out the task of bringing the SFUFA website in line with W3 accessibility standards. Mel will speak to the website designer to see if this is feasible and will liaise with Suzanne Norman.

**5. Member Services - Jennifer Scott**

The MSO gave an update on her advocacy cases. There was a discussion about the process in departments, for granting tenure to new hires.

**6. Treasurer year to date report - Steeve Mongrain**

- SFUFA has gone through about 66% of this year's budget.
- Legal fees are at almost \$200,000 compared to the budget of \$72,500.
- Conference expenses, donations, special projects, member events are also over budget due to the return of most activities, post Covid.
- \$15,000 per year is allocated to the bargaining reserve for a 3-year cycle and this covers course releases plus other expenses related to collective bargaining.
- If the motion to increase dues passes, there will be less of a deficit in next year's budget.

**7. Dental and extended health benefits query**

SFUFA has received queries about the potential of providing a higher level of certain benefits by implementing an additional member-paid premium. Many faculty members get extra coverages through their spousal benefits program so SFUFA is unsure if there would be interest in pursuing this. However, a question around this is being included in the 2022 bargaining survey and the team will analyze the results and decide if it's something that can be brought to the negotiating table.

**8. a) Committee reports**

- Bargaining committee: There was a discussion about stipends paid to Department Chairs, Associate Chairs and Deans.
- Central Safety Committee: The committee was recently asked to review policies GP 17 and GP 47. There were complaints about the HVAC systems being turned off in classrooms during exams. A subcommittee is being struck to liaise with building operations, for those buildings that are labelled as "dangerous". Janice noted she will be away from June 20<sup>th</sup> to July 13<sup>th</sup> and would like a replacement committee rep to cover her for that period.
- Contract worker Justice Committee: Janice reported that she attended a meeting and noted that the group is enthusiastic and are trying to raise funds for various events.
- Equity: There was no meeting in May and one is scheduled in June. Elections for the committee should be coming up in June and Jennifer Scott noted she would look into the details to determine whose terms will be expiring.

**9. Consult items- June 16th**

- i. SFUFA would like to have a presentation on the University's FAM budget model and how it works.
- ii. SFUFA would be interested in having an update on the Cubane consulting process.
- iii. We understand SFU is reviewing its executive governance model and considering adopting a provost model; we would like to hear more about provost models, their variations, and how they differ from SFU's current structure.
- iv. The SFUFA Executive has voted to add its name to the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA). We have heard that SFU has been considering this as well, and would like to encourage the University to sign on and to work with us on a joint statement to faculty.

**10. Other Business** - A reminder that SFUFA is hosting a lunch for its volunteers on Thursday June 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment.** There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 12.20 pm.