

Call to Order – 12:30 pm, October 9, 2014 | MBC 2294

1. Roll Call of Attendance

Committee Composition

Vice President External Relations (<i>chair</i>)	Darwin Binesh
President (<i>ex officio</i>).....	Chardaye Bueckert
Vice President Student Life	Kayode Fatoba
Board of Directors Representative	Brady Wallace
Councilor	Michael Fujiwara
Councilor	Kathleen Yang
Councilor	Maren Thompson
Board of Governors Representative	
Out On Campus Representative.....	
Women’s Centre Representative	Anjali Biju
Senate Representative	
Student At-Large	Muhsin Suleiman
Student At-Large	Arjan Mundy

Society Staff

Campaigns, Research, and Policy Coordinator	Pierre Cassidy
Minute Taker	Dion Chong

Regrets

Member.....	Curtis Pooghkay
-------------	-----------------

Absent

Vice President University Relations.....	Moe Kopahi
Councilor	Rahul Rajanala
Board of Directors Representative	Tesicca Truong

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION ADV 2014-10-09:01

Suleiman

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as amended.

December 6th discussion item postponed to next ADV, Tuition Townhall and AGM discussions were added. Discussions reordered.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

MOTION ADV 2014-10-09:02

Wallace

Be it resolved to approve the minutes of 2014-09-18, 2014-09-25, and 2014-10-02

CARRIED

4. New Business

a. Provincial Budget Submission

An early draft of the budget submission was presented to the Advocacy Committee. The contents were as follows:

- An introduction to the SFSS, thanking committee for support of Surrey Expansion and deferred maintenance funding in the past.
- Full deferred maintenance and graduate scholarship proposals were attached
- Funding for BC Open Textbook programme was based on existing promotional material along with BC Open Campuses-sourced data
 - Sustained long-term funding requested for the programme and funding for staff support to customize material
- Transit Issues
 - Need for expansion of bus services along major routes along with the gondola
 - Included rationale for benefits to SFU and to the region
 - Asking for increased resources for 143 and 145 and 135, funding for Burnaby Mountain Gondola construction, and Surrey Light Rail.
- Deferred maintenance – Facilities Management provides details on urgent deferred maintenance issues, with over \$700 million in capital issues were identified. Additionally, the province was recommended to budgeting for maintenance costs when constructing provincial buildings.
 - Committee was requested to provide anecdotes on the impact of deferred maintenance on the student experience.
- Core institutional funding
 - Funding for SFU has flatlined despite increasing costs and admissions. \$2.5 million in funding cuts to SFU this year
 - Making case for funding universities through benefits directly to provincial goals. University education will be necessary for the jobs that will be created in the province
 - Raising issues around impact of tuition increases and limited resources on campus
 - Awaiting data on administrative overheads at the university – SFU has lean overheads. Will preempt recommendations on cost-cutting at the administrative level.
 - Reinvesting into the graduate provincial scholarship, related to its impact on undergraduate students, in order for UG students to complete their masters within the province
 - Additionally, TAs impacted UG educational experience
- SFSS Board had requested that the Build SFU Levy be changed into an institutional mandatory fee.
 - In a meeting with SFU VP External and government relations, it was suggested to demonstrate the constraints from the provincial government on funding for the Build SFU Project.
 - The committee was requested to provide a mandate to allow the President to include such details.

When document was complete, it would be circulated to the committee for their records.

The committee was requested to allow for funding for printing, as well as a request to include appendices and build SFU fee issues in the submission. The committee had consensus to approve all additions to the budget submissions.

Kopahi entered at 12:46pm

MOTION ADV 2014-10-09:03

Wallace/Amended Bueckert

Be it resolved to approve up to \$75 to fund the 15 coloured copies of the provincial budget consultation submission from 820/23 Advocacy

CARRIED AS AMENDED

5. Committee Member Updates

Vice President Student Life

- Sex Week – Health Sciences Representative and Vice President Student Life have begun preliminary work.
 - Discussion themes for the three days, including gender equality and norms, healthcare etc.
 - A list of stakeholders have been collated for inclusion in the event.
 - Finalizing proposal to bring to the committee
- International Student Tuition Working Group
 - Some requests at the budget consultation was met with dismissal, while others were recommended to be spoken to at a public square
 - The President of ISG with draft a letter, cosigned with international student clubs, will be sent to invite the university

Fair Trade and Ethical Purchasing

- Suleiman was meeting with a staff member at Ethical Bean to consider the financial impact of such policies
- Speaking to manager of Renaissance Café to consider impact
- Investigating feasibility of ethical apparel

SFU Young Innovators Crawl – Next Sunday

- Showcases young innovators under the age of 30 – technological, cultural etc. Forms part of the SFU Public Square Programme.
 - Includes an after event – opportunity for networking
- Taking place at the Vancouver Campus.
- Wallace completed an application and thus an Advocacy Committee table was available between 12 to 5 at Harbour Centre
- Focus was on the Open Textbook Campaign

President

- Provincial Budget Submission - 11:50am at Sheraton Guilford Hotel. Members were invited to participate

The Graduate Student Society has invited the SFSS for a meeting with the Advanced Education Critic.

- Freedom Square Plaque has been mounted and was up at Freedom Square

Vice President University Relations

Apology was expressed for the academic conflict which prevented the Vice President University Relations from attending meetings. They indicated that they would support any project requiring university relations assistance.

Vice President External Relations

- Supporting various projects of different members
- Met with Mundy on bringing Marc Emery on campus – strategies to make the event nonpartisan

Councillor Yang

- PSSU has started to contact candidates from various municipalities. Yang will collate a list. Members were invited to assist with contacting various candidates

Student At-Large Mundy

- Discussed Marc Emery piece – discussed who would be available to debate.
 - SFU students were asked about who they would like to see debate
 - Very different answers were provided, including famous Youtubers and politicians.

6. Working Group Updates

Open Textbooks

- Collated physical signatures – did not hit the goal of 3000 (actual signatures of 2138).
- Committee asked how they would like to proceed with the campaign
 - No outreach has taken place at Surrey aside from Surrey Clubs Days.
 - Surrey petition did not provide a significant amount of information.
 - Surrey Coordinator could be speak to the petition to students in the area.
 - Councilors could distribute the campaign amongst their DSUs
 - Email to all councilors would be distributed today. Link of the petition would be sent out.
 - Opportunity of collaborations between Events and Promotions Committee and Advocacy Committee – distribution of petitions during sign in
 - Individuals with free time were requested to drop by the board office and spend some time providing information to the membership.
 - Potential of connecting with SFU spaces, such as the Indigenous Student Centre.
 - Opportunity to outreach to underengaged students, who may be interested in initiatives that reduce their financial burden.
 - Confusion has been expressed by the membership around the difference between the open textbook system and other textbook initiatives such as those

proposed by Pearson Education in the past. The committee may distribute the open letter prepared earlier in the year to alleviate such concerns.

- Clubs structure could be sued to engage students into the governance side of the organization
 - **Action Item:** Wallace would followup on the matter with the General Office Coordinators
- FIC Students living on residence have been approached on the matter

International Student Fee Increases

- President was present at the budget consultation
- The SFSS may wish to run a townhall on the matter and invite university participation.
- At end of month, the SFSS would be receiving a one on one budget consultation. The following requests would be made of the university
 - Grandfathering in of existing students into their previous fee level
 - UBC, which has also announced 10% tuition increases for international students, has also announced that such a scheme would be in place.
 - Degree Completion Fund – Only 30% of international student financial need was being met by the bursary system. While some funding was going into bursaries, the fund would allow international students to complete their degrees where they otherwise could not as a result of tuition increases
 - Notification Protocol around fee increases. Students received no notifications of the tuition increases. It was requested that the university provide proactive notification moving forward.

Sex Week

Committee members were invited to attend the working group meetings.

7. Discussion

a. October 22nd – International Student Tuition Townhall

The goal was to expand from the international community advocating for their own issues; speaking to international community and campus media outlets to promote the issue. The format of the townhall would include presentation of stories.

The Vice President Student Life was requested to develop a SMART template and motions as necessary to be provided to the committee.

Questions were raised around the overlap of the Tuition Townhall and the Annual General Meeting on the day. It was recommended to change the date and use the AGM, including the Advocacy Committee report, to promote the Townhall and the committee itself.

Action Item: Councillor Rajanala and Vice President Student Life would draft the SMART template and letter for presentation to next ADV.

b. Issues Policies

Action Item: It was requested that committee members review the current issues policy for a potential motion at next ADV to strike a number of issues policies that were no longer relevant

c. Hot Pink Paper Campaign

Hot Pink Paper Campaign was initiated by Women Transforming Cities, which hosted discussions on issues facing women. The pamphlet provides questions and issues to discuss

with elected officials and electoral candidates. It requests that voters ask their prospective elected representatives these questions. While some printing has occurred and have been distributed, a limited number were received by the Women's Centre as samples. The guides also provided a breakdown of structure and powers of the municipal governments which would integrate well with other electoral campaigns being run by the SFSS.

A request was made to assist with printing costs. Women's Centre had their own internal budget but there was a request to print additional.

MOTION ADV 2014-10-09:04

Bueckert

Be it resolved to approve up to \$500 in printing for the Hot Pink Paper Campaign for distribution at all 3 campuses.

They would be made available in SFSS spaces.

The SFSS was to promote the interests of students, but there was concern that it may breed negative relations with candidates. The documents were coming from non-partisan organizations and also identified issues which were of interest to students at large.

The committee may choose to create its own pamphlets written around the issues of students, however it may be redundant to create a pamphlet which was already available. Further, the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies was already credited for their participation within the pamphlet.

The Communications Coordinator may also be requested to create branding on campaigns.

CARRIED

Abstention noted from Kopahi

d. SFSS AGM

8. Adjournment 1:32pm