

Call to Order – 12:30 pm, April 2, 2015 | Build SFU Think Tank

1. Roll Call of Attendance

Committee Composition

Vice President External Relations (<i>chair</i>)	Darwin Binesh
President (<i>ex officio</i>)	Chardaye Bueckert
Board of Directors Representative	Brady Wallace
Board of Directors Representative	Rebecca Langmead
Councilor	Michael Fujiwara
Councilor	Kathleen Yang
Councilor	Andy Untawala
Councilor	Melissa Lee
Out On Campus Representative	
Women's Centre Representative	Anjali Biju
Senate Representative	
Student At-Large	
Student At-Large	Arjan Mundy (<i>late</i>)

Society Staff

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

Guest

TSSU Organiser	Orion Kidder
FacetheChange	Hafsa

Regrets

Vice President Student Life	Kayode Fatoba (<i>personal</i>)
Vice President University Relations	Moe Kopahi (<i>academic</i>)
Board of Governors Representative	Deven Azevedo (<i>meeting</i>)

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION ADV 2015-04-02:01

Bueckert

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

TSSU guest speaker added, BC Open Textbook Summit changed to announcement

CARRIED

3. Guest Speakers

a. TSSU—Guard.me Campaign

The TSSU Organiser provided the following presentation:

SFU created a health insurance plan to cover international students between arriving in Canada and eligibility for MSP. TSSU was in favour of such coverage, but SFU negotiated plan that was twice as expensive as most comparable plans in BC, with automatic reenrollment which doesn't make sense if the goal is only interim coverage, and had an excessively difficult optout process. TSSU has managed to get nearly all members off the plan, but this had been a difficult endeavor and to date a significant number of undergraduate students continued to be enrolled. Further,

the opt out required a \$17 processing fee and the plan generated a 5% kickback for the university with no control on how this money is spent.

Over the past number of months, the TSSU has met with the AVP Students and VP Academic to discuss the matter. The AVP Students expressed twice that the SFSS and GSS would be meaningfully consulted during the negotiation period of the next plan, leaving the TSSU out of the consultation process. However, the VP Academic has expressed that renegotiations were currently underway, and neither student societies have been contacted.

The GSS was supporting the efforts of the TSSU to enhance transparency, and the SFSS has been somewhat involved in the past on the matter. The SFSS was encouraged to write a letter and contact the AVP Students on the issue, considering that the majority of students currently impacted were undergraduates.

The commitment to consultation was conducted at a GSS Council meeting at Surrey campus a number of months ago, with The Peak present during the discussion. This had also been expressed through an email from the VP Academic, which would be shared with the SFSS.

It was expressed that the Vice President External Relations wished to speak with the VP Academic informally, and to ensure that the letter of support was in line with the SFSS' existing insurance services.

4. Ratification of Regrets

MOTION ADV 2015-04-02:02

Biju

Be it resolved to ratify regrets from:

Vice President Student LifeKayode Fatoba (*personal*)

Vice President University Relations..... Moe Kopahi (*academic*)

Board of Governors Representative Deven Azevedo (*meeting*)

CARRIED

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

MOTION ADV 2015-04-02:03

Wallace

~~*Be it resolved to approve the minutes of 2015-03-26*~~

Untawala was present at the meeting.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

[MT Note: Motion reconsidered below]

6. New Business

a. FacetheChange Campaign

A group of students was assisting in organizing a campaign to have climate change warning labels on gasoline pumps, with a goal of creating a sense of urgency and encouraging citizens to engage with their politicians on the issue of climate change.

West Vancouver City Council will pass a motion at Union of BC Municipalities to encourage all municipalities to mandate such labels at all gasoline pumps within their municipality. Organizer felt that this was a safer route as opposed to an individual municipality taking on the initiative by themselves, as this would diffuse the legal backlash. Upon approval, the municipalities could make the display of the labels part of the renegotiation of land licenses. The municipalities would also have the power of fining establishments that do not adhere to such a requirement.

The Student campaign was hoping to have the cities of Burnaby, Surrey, and Vancouver endorse the proposal, supported by academic bodies and civil society groups.

MOTION ADV 2015-04-02:04

Wallace/Amended Bueckert

Be it resolved to recommend to BOD to endorse the FacetheChange Campaign.

Council had been requested by the group to pass along some information to their student unions. A number of councilors debated the merits and the efficacy of the proposal. Councilors at the meeting were consulted and were in favour of endorsing the project, as the proposal was not to end fossil fuel usage, but to encourage cognizant usage. This was also in line with the UPass programme and other advocacy work related to transit usage conducted by the SFSS.

CARRIED

7. Discussion

a. TSSU—Guard.me Campaign Continued

MOTION ADV 2015-04-02:05

Bueckert

Be it resolved to move the meeting in camera with staff and members

CARRIED

MOTION ADV 2015-04-02:06

Bueckert

Be it resolved to move the meeting ex camera

CARRIED

Joint Steering Committee (SFSS, GSS, SFU Vice President Finance, Registrar, AVP Students) was meeting April 13 and may be a venue to discuss the issue, although it may be overly formal.

Action Item: Vice President External Relations would follow up with the AVP Students.

The SFSS expressed significant concern around the university negotiating with the insurance company despite commitments to consult the student societies.

The matter and progress would be reviewed at the subsequent ADV meeting.

8. Committee Member Updates

Vice President External Relations

- Working on action items, budgeting.
 - Space expansion referendum question has allowed for increased potential capacity. Feedback and ideas were needed from the Committee in order to support any budgeting efforts, and were being accepted until April 8th at noon.
 - Budget proposal was to reflect committee recommendations.
 - FASC presentation on April 9th. Incoming executives were invited to speak
 - Council has recommended that increased budgeting be provided to Advocacy Committee.

- The Vice President External Relations will be planning to request approximately \$44,000 preliminarily.
- Exit report
 - In writing ADV section, looking at structuring the committee in a more effective manner. The idea would be brought up with the incoming Vice President External Relations and the CRP Coordinator prior to being brought to the committee.

Media Democracy Days

- Seemed successful. Turnout was reasonable and higher than previous years. Mixed crowd including off-campus participants and students from other departments and faculties
- Topics included groups that have traditionally been marginalized.
 - A number of harsh critics attended which defeated the purpose of having a safe space for marginalized groups to discuss oppression. In the next year, it was recommended that the Committee should consider supporting safe spaces.

Digital Learning Resource Working Group Meeting

- Meeting was postponed due to time conflicts. Another meeting planned for the third week of April.

Meeting with the Advanced Education Spokesperson Corrigan

- Spent significant time discussing a number of SFSS and SFU issues
- Corrigan would be raising the increasing usage of the SFSS food bank as evidence of the increasing cost of education in the province.
- Had been unaware of the Open Textbook programme and summit—expressed interest in attending the summit
- Louis Riel—had a frank conversation on the displacement of students and funding issues at the university.
- Deferred Maintenance issues
- Build SFU and financing for the project—Government Reporting Entity issue
- Absence of legislative protection for students on residences—looking to bring private members bill to introduce protection.
 - This has been communicated to other university student societies
 - Legislature sits until May, but is time sensitive.
- Ministry of Finance has put forward a change which would allow the revocation of drivers licenses if student loans are reneged. The government likely would not be amenable to discussion on the matter.
 - Hardship application can be made. Information would be circulated with the membership.

Canvas Now

- Short presentation by President to the Faculty on Open Textbooks.
- Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning has expressed interest in receiving a similar presentation

Open Textbooks

- BC Open Campus presented to liaison librarians who work with faculty. Looking forward to SFSS presentation in the future.

Transit Rally

- Many students participated. The volunteers were reminded of the controversial nature of the issue given some student responses.
- Surrey rally next Tuesday from 12pm to 1pm in the Surrey mezzanine.

CRP Coordinator

- Has been doing their best to maintain portfolios on initiatives. Any member who has taken concrete actions were requested to send those actions and any supporting documentation to the CRP Coordinator.
- Organization has supported professional development courses for the CRP Coordinator, including Tableau which was a graphic software for data. For final project, the Coordinator had been reviewing CANSIM data for BC with interesting results.
 - GDP 30 to 40% increase over the last 30 to 40 years. 130% increase in tuition and cost of education. Stagnation of median and average income, creating a dramatic picture of one social group bearing much of the burden for increased cost without benefiting through increased wage. Outliers are receiving the majority of benefits from the GDP increase.

Louis Riel House

- The Peak article spoke of the residents attended the Board of Governors meeting. SFU President Petter addressed concerns, and promised to do something without commitment to doing anything

Council

- Councilors Biju and Fujiwara requested additional funding for Advocacy Committee in the budgeting process

9. Announcements

a. BC Open Textbook Summit

Open Textbook Summit would be occurring May 28 and 29, as opposed to 30 and 31. Costs were significantly lower than expected for students and student organizations (\$52.50 per student). The organizers have been informed that delegates may change, and a few weeks notice was requested for any such changes. They were also informed that the Vice President External Relations would be inviting other student unions, which has not yet occurred.

b. Professionalism

Instances have occurred where SFU administrators have been attacked personally during advocacy campaigns. The committee was reminded to limit advocacy to the issues and to avoid damaging relations with university stakeholders.

MOTION ADV 2015-04-02:07

Bueckert

Be it resolved to reconsider MOTION ADV 2015-04-02:03

MOTION RECONSIDERED

MOTION ADV 2015-04-02:08

Wallace

Be it resolved to approve the minutes of 2015-03-26

Untawala was present at the meeting.

MT note would be added to change date of event to May 28-29

CARRIED AS AMENDED

10. Attachments

11. Adjournment 1:26pm

DC | CUPE 3338