

Call to Order – 12:04 pm, November 5, 2014 | Executive Conference Room

1. Roll Call of Attendance

Committee Composition

President (*chair*)..... Chardaye Bueckert
Vice President Student ServicesZied Masmoudi
Vice President External Relations Darwin Binesh
Vice President University Relations Moe Kopahi

Society Staff

Build SFU General Manager..... Marc Fontaine
Campaigns, Policy, and Research Coordinator Pierre Cassidy
Executive Director..... Colleen Knox
Minute TakerDion Chong

Guests

At-Large Representative Rebecca Langmead

Absence

Vice President Finance..... Adam Potvin
Vice President Student Services Kayode Fatoba

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-05:01

Kopahi

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

Additional in camera session added without staff, another without management nor staff, and announcement on the snapchat scavenger hunt.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-05:02

Kopahi

Be it resolved to approve the minutes of 2014-10-29

4. Updates

a. Executive Priorities

Board strategic planning session was to occur on the same day, but there was a desire for the plan to frame the continued priorities of the Executive Committee, particularly in their role in framing the work of the staff.

In order to prevent an event of a portfolio being assigned few priorities, it was requested that the staff also provide priorities framed within the context of Board mandated priorities. This would allow the staff to contribute an additional set of ideas for the formation of board-level strategies. Additionally, each executive had the responsibility over a set of bylaw-mandated portfolio work.

An item would be put forth to the Executive Committee in the near future to reconsider the management structure of the organization. This would likely be an item for the Executive Committee to lead, given its role in managing the organization day-to-day affairs.

Confusion had been expressed by staff and management around goals assigned to departments which have not been followed up on by any board member. Additionally, staff had raised concerns that the process for the prioritization of existing and new projects, and flexibility to triage, had not yet been clarified. There was additional concern that the one-year cycles would impact the efficacy of any such priorities.

That being said, staff have expressed interest in the process of establishing organization-wide priorities. It was likely that such a priority document would require a greater cultural shift within the organization and such feedback would be brought to the strategic planning session. The strategic plan was seen as a document that would strengthen the ability of the organization to focus the organization in its entirety. It was deemed inefficient to request that the executive committee continually redevelop a framework for organizational prioritization each year, and the development of the framework for strategic planning would provide future boards with the ability to begin their work with minimal effort. The goals would have to be flexible, but clear enough such that all board and staff members would understand the end result that all members were working towards.

Upon implementation of the strategic vision, motions would only be added to the agenda if they were framed around the board goals.

An issue was raised that individuals often run for positions without understanding the full breadth of responsibilities related to the portfolio. If the orientation process began upon declaration of candidacy, this may allow board members in the future to preemptively frame their priorities in a manner that facilitates their completion by the organization, with a clear understanding of the structure of the Society.

The Campaigns, Research, and Policy Coordinator expressed interest in working with the IEC in the future to require an orientation session with candidates to clarify breadth of responsibilities for the Board, legal implications, and the provision of the strategic planning documentation. This would allow for platform points to be established around the strategic structure of the Society. Concern was raised around the workload of the CRP Office given fluctuating number of candidates. However, it may be more efficient to provide the training in the beginning of the term as opposed to having to correct issues throughout the remainder of the term.

b. Executive Procedural Manual

The committee was reminded that R-7 required all executives to have developed a procedural manual, and wished to ensure that the organization develop a culture of directors meeting all policy requirements. All completed procedural manuals should be circulated with board and affected staff when complete.

A stipend approval protocol was being developed to ensure consistency in the application of stipend approval in relation to the completion of duties, including the development of the manual.

c. Governance Reform

Two sessions were conducted on the governance reform report. The President would be placing governance reform as a priority to be completed by the next administration. In order for the matter to take effect by the 2015-2016 year, the reform would have to be approved in advance of the general elections. The committee was reminded that reforms to the executive officer portfolio, committee structure, and many other organizational areas would have to be reconsidered prior to the entrenchment of such governance reforms. Concern was raised that

pushing the matter in time for the 2015 General Elections may result in issues arising which limits the efficacy of the desired reforms.

A number of options were available to the Board, including pushing a referendum question with a start date of one year later, allowing for time to change policies. The Committee structure reform was seen as vital for the governance reform to occur but could be changed in a rapid fashion if the Executive deems it plausible to operate the reforms within the year.

Concerns around the content of the proposal:

- Opposition in Council – would require an overhaul of the elections bylaws
 - Opposition would serve the function that any student could do and therefore may be redundant.
- FARM members spend significant billable hours with administrative work, but the minimal increase in stipends may not allow the member to take on that role. An increase to the stipend was requested to reduce an element of privilege and allow members to have greater focus in their role as a representative.

d. Board of Directors Social Media Usage

Board members have been using their work email accounts to promote their own personal social media accounts, thus resulting in significant spam to their professional networks.

The matter would be brought up at the next EXEC meeting as a reminder.

5. Discussions

e. Snapchat Scavenger Hunt

Executive Committee was in consensus that The Peak's Snapchat Scavenger Hunt may use the SFSS General Office area as long as disruption to the space was minimized and the General Office Coordinators and staff were comfortable with the matter.

Alternative spaces were also discussed.

6. Executive Officer and Staff Updates

Executive Director

Continued work on matter assigned to the Executive Director at an Executive Committee in camera session.

Vice President External Relations

- Laptop recently stolen – project materials have been lost.
- Municipal Election campaign
- writing a formal letter to all candidates introducing them to the Student Society inviting them and to meet with the Student Society representatives. This would allow the SFSS to develop relationships with those seeking office.
 - The Political Science Student Union has already invited all candidates to the Burnaby campus. Collaboration would continue on that front
 - The focus would be on the three municipalities of SFU.
 - SFU Institutional Research and Planning has information on where students were based and therefore potential expansion of the campaign to other municipalities.
- Working on organizational chart of BC government and Ministry of Advanced Education

- Focusing on leaving behind research and documents which would reduce the amount of startup time for the position.
- Looking forward to the CRP Office obtaining media monitoring services.

President

Municipal Elections

- A web resource has been developed for students with information on the municipal elections. This was promoted on CJSF.
- November 7 – SFU Surrey outreach session would occur from 9am to 12pm. The SCC may provide support.
- November 12 – Burnaby campus outreach in Saywell Atrium with some candidates. Municipal election posters have been designed and were being placed around campus.
- The Political Science Student Union and SFU 350 were commended for enhancing voter mobilization

Joint Operation Group meeting

- Mold in Louis Riel and the issue of affordable housing on campus
- No new students were being admitted to Louis Riel, and the university was committed to market rate housing.
 - Incumbent policy required the university to charge based on market rates – The reason that Louis Riel rent was lower was a direct result of the state of the residence, as opposed to any subsidization of rent by the university. Changes to the quality of the residence would thus impact the cost of rent.
 - Residence was defined as Ancillary (and not necessary for the pursuit of an education at SFU) , and therefore operated at a cost recovery basis with rent at market price.
 - The President would be hosting a meeting at 3:30pm on Friday November 7 to unify advocacy efforts by various organizations from across the university community.
 - Desire was expressed to enhance the ability of the RHA to advocate on issues in Residence.
 - Privacy – students in residence have requested that complainant identities remain confidential
- All inclusive courseware proposal fee –registrar has already been approached around the implementation of any such fee, despite university insistence that no official actions had been taken. President would follow up with the Bookstore.
- Tuition Fee Increases – The Registrar was extremely receptive to ideas for the improvement of the fee increase notification protocols.
- Link Building – the goal was for the building to be developed around the time of the Student Union Building. This may have impact on stadium developments. Build SFU continued to be involved in such discussions.
- Preferred Name Campaign – goal of accommodating people with different legal names than those that they identify with. Potentially also includes students with preferred ‘English names’ compared to legal name, which could enhance the campaign to cover international students as well. Campaign organizers would be speaking to the Advocacy

Committee next week. The primary issue was around the logistical implications, but the university was largely in support

- The SFSS was requested to consider the internal application of such a policy.

Intervener status was approved for the Kinder Morgan – National Energy Board hearings. The documentation has been very dense.

Accessibility Coordinator Position

- Student Union Organiser and Executive Director were developing the job description on the recommendation of Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee, which would be brought to AFAC, Executive Committee, and the union soon.
- Discussions would have to take place on where the individuals would be housed departmentwise
- Concern was expressed around the staffing priorities of the organization and that other positions were of greater need.
 - The position would likely be funded through the Accessibility Fund as opposed to the General Fund. If the fund ceased to exist, the position would likely cease to exist as well.
 - As such, the position would likely have no impact on staffing priorities within the organization.

Vice President University Relations

- Student Space Oversight Committee did not have quorum due to last minute regrets sent.
 - In discussion, members considered renovations to SFSS space on the Surrey campus.
 - It was requested that the Board cease from spreading the misconception of there being excess unusable funds within the Space Expansion Fund
- A proposal has been developed to allow students at Vancouver and Surrey campuses to access the recreation clubs on Burnaby campus

Build SFU General Manager

- Has been meeting with Health Promotion team to make the Student Union Building a space that promotes wellness, taking advantage of research on the relation between space and wellness.
- The General Manager may be invited to attend a conference in Kelowna in June. A similar conference, part of CACUSS (The Canadian Association of College and University Student Services)
 - SFU was an active participant in the organization, and was hosting the conference in May. Build SFU may consider membership in CACUSS in order to take advantage of research and trends in student services.

Campaigns, Research, and Policy Coordinator

- Strategic plan development would not be successful without Board buy-in. The Strategic Goals and Objectives would allow the board to make clear decisions on priorities and focus the organization to achieving those priorities. Failure to achieve Board buy-in may

cause strained relations between board and staff. CRP Coordinator has offered to provide information and address any concerns the Board may have on the process.

- Governance reforms has received some feedback from Board Member and FSUs.
- Media monitoring – CRP Coordinator has written to the Canadian Press for a formal quote based on a number of search parameters as defined by recent ADV matters. At present, the funding would be sourced from the Advocacy Committee budget.

Greek Life Townhall

- Main goal was to provide the Greek life representatives with an idea of the community views on them and provide opportunities for dialogue.
- All liaison groups have been contacted.
- This may allow the Advocacy Committee to write a letter for the university to speak to the Greek life representatives.
- JOG has not expressed any strong opinions on the matter.

SFU Student Engagement Fund

- The fund could be used to offset AV costs for student union and club events, given the recent drastic increases to such costs. This would have an effect of improving the granting funds greatly
- General Office Coordinators would provide the activity report to the fund coordinator, who would remit the funds to the organization at the end of semesters.
- Event Organiser requirement of good academic and financial standing with the university would remain.
- Appreciation would be expressed to the Annette Santos for their assistance in this matter.

7. In Camera Session

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-05:04

Kopahi

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

CARRIED

The Build SFU General Manager provided an update on the Student Union Building lease.

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-05:05

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Be it resolved to move the meeting in camera with management

MOTION EXEC 2014-11-05:06

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Be it resolved to move the meeting in camera

8. Adjournment