

Call to Order – 4:41 pm, July 9th, 2014 | Forum Chambers

The Council acknowledged that the meeting was being conducted on the Unceded Coast Salish Territories of the Squamish, Musqueam, Stó:lo, and Tsleil-Waututh people.

1. Roll Call of Attendance

SFSS Directors (*non-voting*)

President.....	Chardaye Bueckert
Vice President External Relations	Darwin Binesh
Vice President Finance.....	Adam Potvin
Vice President Student Life	Kayode Fatoba
Vice President University Relations.....	Moe Kopahi
At-Large Representative	Rebecca Langmead
Faculty Representative (Arts & Social Sciences).....	Brady Wallace
Faculty Representative (Business)	Shadnam Khan
Faculty Representative (Sciences).....	Deepak Sharma

Student Union Representatives

*New Councilors that need ratification will be denoted ****

Archeology	
Arts and Social Sciences	Naveed Azad
Biology	
Business	Jessica Gutierrez*
Business	David Chapman*
Business	
Chemistry	Cindy Wu
Cognitive Science.....	Katerina Stepanova
Communications	Gino Cutri
Computing Science.....	Rehemanjiung Kadierring
Criminology	Miriam Sise-Odaa
Dance	Clara Chow
Earth Science	
Economics.....	Michael Straw
Education.....	David Lee
Engineering	Michael Fujiwara
English	Elizabeth Pau
Environmental Science	
French	
Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies.....	
Geography.....	
Health Science	
History	Melissa Lee
Humanities	
Interactive Arts and Technology	Amanda Poh
International Studies	
Linguistics	Gloria Mellesmoen (<i>late - academic</i>)
Management System Science	
Mathematics	

Mechatronics System Engineering	Sterling Wiseman
Molecular Biology & Biochemistry	
Operations Research	Michelle Baillet
Physics	
Political Science (<i>chair</i>)	Kathleen Yang
Psychology	Brittni Thompson
Sociology and Anthropology	
Statistics and Actuarial Science	Jackson Voong
Sustainable Community Development	
Theaters	
Visual Arts	
Constituency Group Representatives	
International Student Group (ISG)	Rahul Rajanala
Out on Campus Collectives (OOC)	
Students United for Disability Support (SUDS)	Anthony Janolino (<i>late</i>)
Residence Hall's Association (RHA)	Ali Najaf
Women Centre Collectives (WCC)	Anjali Biju
Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)	
Society Staff	
Minute Taker	Dion Chong
Guests	
Member	Charles Turo
Regrets	
Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology	Angelina Marinkovic
Vice President Student Services	Zied Masmoudi
At-Large Representative	Jeremy Pearce
Faculty Representative (Applied Sciences)	Ben Rogers
Faculty Representative (Communication, Art & Technology)	Shirin Escarcha
Faculty Representative (Education)	Katie Bell
Faculty Representative (Environment)	Tesicca Truong
Philosophy	Bianca Ng
World Literature	Samaah Jaffer
Labour Studies	Edith Mata
<i>[MT Note: Regrets of Labour Studies Councilor were retroactively approved]</i>	

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-07-09:01

Najaf/Amended Straw

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

History of Forum Presentation cancelled until meeting of 2014-07-30

Discussion update expanded to Constituency groups

CARRIED AS AMENDED

3. Guest Speakers/Presentations

a. ~~History of Council/Forum and Role as a Community Partner~~

4. Elections, Appointments, Resignation and Excuses

a. Ratification of Regrets

Excuses or regrets will be kept track of by the chair of council. Missing two meetings in a row without sending excuses (that are approved) will result in the removal from Council.

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-07-09:02

Lee

Be it resolved to ratify the regrets from:

Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology	Angelina Marinkovic
Vice President Student Services	Zied Masmoudi
At-Large Representative	Jeremy Pearce
Faculty Representative (Applied Sciences)	Ben Rogers
Faculty Representative (Communication, Art & Technology).....	Shirin Escarcha
Faculty Representative (Education)	Katie Bell
Faculty Representative (Environment).....	Tesicca Truong
Philosophy	Bianca Ng
World Literature.....	Samaah Jaffer

CARRIED

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-07-09:03

Voong

Be it resolved to ratify the regrets of the Economics Councilor for the Council meeting of 2014-06-25

The Council received the regrets of the Economics Councilor.

CARRIED

b. Appointments

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-07-09:04

Straw

Be it resolved to ratify the appointment of the following Councilors:

Business	Jessica Gutierrez
Business	David Chapman

Mellesmoen and Janolino entered at 4:45pm

CARRIED

5. Updates

a. Council Schedule Working Group

The working group was in the process of identifying two possible timeslots: they wished to retain Wednesday as the default meeting time and providing an option for a secondary timeslot where necessary. Such times could then be advertised

Action item: As only 9 responses had been received thus far, Council was requested to fill out the survey by the next Council meeting.

Concerns were raised around letting the general membership know about discussion topics in Council. The Council was reminded that minutes were posted publically, and that under policy, Councilors were supposed to have their contact information posted in a prominent space.

Fatoba entered at 4:52pm

Prior to 2003, Council was Forum and Forum encompassed the Board of Directors. After Forum and Board were separated, the meeting time of Forum was maintained while meeting frequency was reduced.

A number of councilors expressed concern around attempts to change the meeting times, considering that the councilor position was a yearlong commitment and there was an expectation that classes be planned around the timeslot. Consistency of meeting times could enhance transparency to the membership. Further, it was expressed that an alternate time could have been accommodated had the timeslot been selected prior to course selection. Finally, given the limited membership on student union and constituency group executives, it may be difficult to find an alternate Councilor should the time change.

Council was reminded that the current timeslot had been in place for a significant period of time, and it may take significant time to replace the position should the time be replaced.

Council was recommended to ignore the schedules of the Board of Directors in setting the meeting times, as the Board did not have to be present.

When a member inquired as to the reason for the 4:30 meeting time, it was explained that it accommodated classes during the day and was early enough to allow SFSS staff to resource the meeting as per the collective agreement.

One member indicated that they were interested in meeting as often as biweekly where necessary with shorter meetings.

A straw poll was conducted around the potential of changing the meeting time and the Councilors were split as to whether to find a new time.

The potential also existed for a rotating membership on Council, which would allow for student unions and constituency groups to maintain a voice when one Councilor from a group is unavailable. Any dialogue or ideas could be directed to the Working Group.

The Chair indicated that they did not wish to constrain the speaking rights of the Council, but as the Council was the advisory body to the Board, and a number of Councilors had requested that the Board have limited speaking rights on Council unless specifically requested to provide context.

6. Unfinished Business

a. Northern Gateway Pipeline

The Council identified a number of benefits and concerns regarding the two project, as well as reasoning to avoid taking a stance.

Pros of the Project:

- Necessary for the continued financial health for the provinces involved and the country
- Oil will be exported
- Any cleanup necessary would occur quickly with limited lasting damage,

Concerns Regarding the Project:

- Environment
- long term effects
- Against the goals of SFU and the
- Kinder Morgan pipeline may affect regional transit
- University had not conducted sufficient discussions on the implications

Issues with Taking a Stance

- One of the projects may not impact SFU students
- Taking a stance may impact the ability for students to seek employment in the future
- May affect reputation of the university
- Students may not have expertise on the issue and may be beyond the control of students.
- The Council had not yet established speaking points on the issue.

One Councilor was concerned as to whether student unions polled their constituents on the issue. A task force could be tasked to consider the pros and cons of the pipeline and taking a stance on the issue to Council.

The Council was reminded that the motion at hand was simply a recommendation to the BOD as opposed to making an official position, and that Board could choose to accept or reject the recommendation or conduct further study.

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-07-09:05

Straw

Be it resolved that Council recommends that the SFSS take an official position against the Northern Gateway (Enbridge) Pipeline.

Be it further resolved that Council recommends that the SFSS take an official position against the Kinder Morgan Pipeline Expansion.

One Councilor believed that having a voice was important given the impact of the pipeline on the SFU population.

POSTPONED INDEFINITELY

Straw

Objection noted from the following Councilors: Mellesmoen, Lee D., Pau, Chow, Lee M., Janolino, Biju, Wiseman

Council had an 8 minute recess, returning at 5:45pm

7. New Business

a. Council Responsibility

The council was reminded that the executives of the student unions were elected to represent their respective memberships and their views.

Apathy was identified as a concern within the student population and necessity for representation was thus a concern from those areas. However, a Councilor did not believe that it was prudent to write off the membership without providing adequate information and opportunity to become involved.

Specific responsibilities of Councilors were not well publicized, a number of councilors deemed that this reduced engagement with the Council. There were concerns that not all Councilors understood the specific duties of their position prior to being ratified as councilors. However, the constitution of the groups provided rough outline of responsibilities, and the individuals were provided additional training. One Councilor did not believe that it was necessary to understand the full scope from the very beginning, as the tools and training was available.

Councilors also need to tell their DSUs what they're doing, as that was their responsibility. The Student Union Organiser can also assist in cases where Councilors are unable to provide updates.

The following were the Council generated outputs from the discussion.

Purpose of Council

- Opportunity for students to have a voice and input on issues pertaining to the membership.
- The advisory body to the Board of Directors.
- Connection between the SFSS Board of Directors and the membership at large.
- Venue for collaboration between various student groups for unified inputs and outputs on issues affecting the SFU population

Barriers to Effective Council

- Councilors can choose to be as involved as they want.
- Councilors not understanding the role of Council within the SFSS
- Lack of clarity on Council's role and powers.
- Board 'oversight' of their advisory body
- Councilors may not be bringing back pertinent issues to their student union and constituency body for discussions and recommendations
- Questions of whether Councilors represent themselves, their constituency executive, their constituency group.
 - Concerns of whether issues discussed should only be those pertaining to the students of the particular constituency groups.
- Lack of information continuity on Council matters from year to year
- Mindset of not making a decision when the group felt that the issue was beyond their control

Potential Solutions Identified by Council

- Have contact posted on website
- Connect with departmental advisors and find new ways to connect with constituency group and student unions
 - Lobby departments to play a role in engaging students.
- Agendas posted online
 - However Councilors may not check the website
- Have Communications Coordinator post all contact information online
- Strike a working group to consider problems with connecting with the membership.
- Ensure that all Councilors are providing exit reports and recommendations at year end

- Enhance membership knowledge of student unions and constituency roles (who they are, what they do, how to get involved)
- Inclusion and assistance with developing smaller DSUs.
- Anonymous online feedback forms, which may be a useful tool for groups to gauge membership issues and receive feedback.

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-07-09:06

Chow

Be it resolved to post Councilor contact information on the SFSS website.

CARRIED

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-07-09:07

Wiseman

Be it resolved to have the Council Agenda posted on the SFSS website.

CARRIED

Action Item: Councilor Yang was to speak to the Communications Coordinator
There was a desire to continue the discussion into the future.

Action Item: Discussion would return at the next Council meeting.

b. Council Budget

Bylaw 8.9 required that Council be provided with an administrative budget, and Council was mandated to maintain a funding advisory committee. The Council could request a budget increase at the Finance and Administrative Services Committee, which would vet the request and forward the request to Board of Directors for approval. Some councilors would have to put together a proposal.

In 2004, Council was allocated budget for refreshments, advocacy campaigns, participation in causes, social events for the membership. A committee would also regulate the usage of the budget.

Chapman left at 6:25pm

Cutri left at 6:27pm

The Council chose to continue the discussion after the History of Forum presentation.

8. Discussions

a. Student Union and Constituency Group updates

b. Financial Literacy Seminar July 17, 2014

9. Attachments

BOG Investment Response.pdf

10. Adjournment 6:28pm