

Call to Order – 12:31 pm, April 4th, 2013

1. Call to Order

The Meeting will be called to order by SFSS president Lorenz Yeung.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND REVIEW OF MEETING RULES

The meeting will consider the agenda prepared by the Board of Directors. Changes or additions to the agenda may be proposed at this time.

The Chairperson will provide a brief overview of Robert's Rules of Order, a system of meeting rules and procedures that the Student Society uses for the general meeting.

MOTION SGM 04-03-13:02

Cedric/Carlos

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

3. BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

MOTION SGM 04-03-13:03

Cedric/Darwin

Be it resolved that the By-law amendments be accepted as presented effective May 1st 2014 onwards.

Review of proposed change to by-laws:

Lorenz: some of the changes include faculty student unions, and SFSS board structure.

Cedric: once we achieve quorum are we voting on all amendments at once?

Lorenz: we approve all by-laws in one package, with one vote.

Cedric: if a student who has not graduated is currently registered in a program but not registered in a course, do they count as an active member?

Lorenz: as stated in by-law two, as long as you are in a program you are considered an active undergraduate. [...] By-law three is unchanged. In by-law four we have proposed changes to the executive composition.

Question: Under the section "Vice President Student Life," you've deleted "and it's employees"
Lorenz: this used to be URO position. Currently we have an IRO in charge of all staff relations.

We decided to remove it because it was not a suitable position for an undergraduate, it is a full time managerial position. It is also difficult for staff to have a different boss every year. We have a full time executive director who oversees this now. We leave the day to day issues to executive director, for things like grievances we go to the President and Union.

Cedric: where is the by-law that concerns the executive director position?

Lorenz: it is a management change, so it's not in the bylaws.

Question: lobbying and advocacy might be ignored with this change.

Lorenz: we are splitting the MSO position into two.

Question: what is happening to the committees?

Lorenz: the executive director does not get to make decisions regarding the committees.

Question: will the recommendations made by the lawyer be made available?

Lorenz: I have an old copy of it, as this has gone through an extensive process. The lawyer just proposed changes to wording.

Question: I am concerned that we are voting on this in one go. While these may look like subtle changes to everyone, a lot of them have consequences. Perhaps we can vote on them by bylaw? Also, the new by-law 20, please look at this. “All documents of the society shall be kept in the offices of the society,” it has been changed to “documents.” This does open up to problematic interpretation of policy.

Lorenz: the reason is because there are certain documents that only the employer is able to access. For example, the contract between Exec Director and the Board. This was made after a recommendation from the lawyer. If we do want to sever the motion, we can go through each bylaw. To adopt bylaws we need a 75% majority.

Cedric: I would like to move motion to amend the agenda, amending item 3 on the agenda we would no longer have to vote on all the amendments at the same time, but one by-law at a time, so that there would be 22 votes instead of one vote.

Question: I would like to call the question.

CARRIED

Cedric: motion to amend the agenda so we can vote on each amendment separately.

MOTION SGM 04-03-2013:04

Cedric/Joseph

Be it resolved that the bylaw amendments be severed and adopted individually

FAILED

Lorenz: any further questions on exec composition?

Question: regarding change of “all documents” to “documents”, I would amend that to go back to say which documents will be kept on records.

Lorenz: we need to wait until we get to 20. By law 5 has not changed, bylaw six which is powers and duties of directors, we have changed some wording. Look at 5 under by law six which has had the most change.

Isaac: why were faculty student unions added?

Lorenz: there was uneven membership from the faculty of arts, business, science. I will get into details of how this change will work.

Cedric: if a DSU does not agree that the Board’s decision to amend, suspend, or repeal regulation, how can they appeal?

Lorenz: the way policy changes, you could propose changes through committee, and would be brought to Board (minimum of two week period to make changes to policy), it is an extensive process. By-law 7 deals with student council. I would like to note that this is a transition by-law, this will have to be re considered at a later date, but right now because we are still in a transition we have representatives from both departs.

Question: why is there no obligation for SFSS Board to notify Forum reps about student council changes?

Lorenz: that is a policy change, not a by-law. How it works is the constitution is at the top, and the bylaws are difficult to change, but they provide the structure of the SFSS, council, board, and legal. Than we have policy, which is easier to change.

Isaac: question about item 4, it just says majority seats failed.

Lorenz: see 2A1 constituency group. The biggest change is addition of FSU.

Isaac: page 16 item 17, I was just wondering why it was added to bylaw 7 when it was added to 8.

Lorenz: they are redundant, but they don’t contradict each other. We can always remove one if we want.

Question: regarding name change from Forum to council, it seems redundant to me. There is history attached to name of Forum.

Lorenz: I asked forum if they wanted to change and they did. On to by-law 8. With this change we will let FSU's decide what DSU's do.

Question: can we save time to just talk about ones that need discussion?

Cedric: I oppose that.

Question: what constituted a constituency group? Why there are going to be three undergrad from education and business?

Lorenz: Constituency Groups are the Women's Centre, Out on Campus, Residence Hall, and Students United for Disabilities Support. Any group that does not fall under DSU's. Forum makes the decision if they can be added. The 3 seats for those faculties was a historical thing, I believe it was tied to population, as well as the fact that they only have 1 FSU.

Isaac: who was working on amending the constitution?

Lorenz: mostly me.

Isaac: were students not consulted?

Lorenz: we had a working group in the summer, but it was left to me. I presented all of this to Board, Forum, and our legal team.

Isaac: how was it publicized?

Lorenz: through forum.

Cedric: I don't often defend Board, but if the board has brought documents to forum and you didn't hear about it, you should talk to your forum rep.

Lorenz: can we keep discussion to the by-laws? Move to by-law 9 on FSU's. We want to introduce another level of governance. The key thing is that this doesn't force us to create a FSU but allows us to if needed. FSU's can consider what they would like to see in DSU's. They are not legal entities, and all actions fall to the Board of Directors. BOD will not micromanage FSU's, but the BOD will be liable for actions of FSU's.

Cedric: how did forum respond to proposal to membership fees?

Lorenz: that is a different bylaw. By-law ten is on DSU's.

Cedric: any faculty that wants to form a FSU has to go through referendum? What if BASS wants to upgrade?

Carlos: I would like to call the question.

Lorenz: because there has been opposition we have to vote on calling the question. Also, the only thing outstanding is edits to the table of contents.

SGM votes on calling the question.

CALLED

SGM votes on Motion for by-law Amendment.

CARRIED

4. MEETING ADJOURNMENT 1:02