1. CALL TO ORDER
Call to Order – 2:33 PM

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT
We acknowledge that this meeting takes place on the traditional, unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples, including the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), Sel̓íl̓witulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k̓ʷik̓w̓il̓ təm (Kwikwetlem) and Katzie Nations, on which we are privileged to live, work and play. Unceded means that these territories have never been handed over, sold, or given up by these nations, and we are currently situated on occupied territories.

3. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

3.1 Board Composition
President ............................................................................................... Giovanni HoSang
VP External Relations (Chair) ............................................................ Jasdeep Gill
VP Finance .......................................................................................... Tawanda Chitapi
VP Student Services ................................................................................ Christina Loutsik
VP Student Life .................................................................................. Jessica Nguyen
VP University Relations ................................................................. Shina Kaur
At-Large Representative .................................................................... Maneet Aujla
At-Large Representative .................................................................... Rayhaan Khan
Faculty Representative (Applied Sciences) ..................................... Nick Chubb
Faculty Representative (Arts & Social Sciences) ............................... Jennifer Chou
Faculty Representative (Business) ...................................................... Andrew Wong
Faculty Representative (Communications, Art, & Technology) .... Fiona Li
Faculty Representative (Education) .................................................... Emerly Liu
Faculty Representative (Environment) ............................................... Julian Loutsik
Faculty Representative (Health Sciences) .......................................... Osob Mohamed
Faculty Representative (Science) ...................................................... Simran Uppal

3.2 Society Staff
Administrative Services Manager ......................................................... Shubhangi Jain
Campaign, Research, and Policy Coordinator ............................... Sarah Edmunds
General Manager ........................................................................... Alejandro Reyes
Executive Director ........................................................................... Sylvia Ceacero
Executive Assistant ........................................................................ Shaneika Blake
Finance Manager ............................................................................. Rowena de la Torre
SUB Project Assistant .................................................................. Zoya Nari

3.3 Guests
Student .............................................................................................. Russell Dunsford
Student .............................................................................................. Hamza Abdelrahman
Student .............................................................................................. Gabe Liosis
The Peak News Editor ................................................................. Gurpreet Kambo
Health & Counselling Special Projects Advisor ......................... Lisa Ogilvie
Health & Counselling Marketing and Communications ................. Sarah Saghah
Director of Health & Counselling ................................................ Martin Mroz

3.4 Regrets
President ........................................................................................... Giovanni HoSang
VP Student Services ................................................................................... Christina Loutsik
Faculty Representative (Environment) .................................................. Julian Loutsik
Faculty Representative (Business) ....................................................... Andrew Wong
At-Large Representative ................................................................ Maneet Aujla
At-Large Representative ................................................................ Rayhaan Khan

4. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS
4.1 MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:01
Nick/Simran
Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Maneet Aujla, Rayhaan Khan, Giovanni HoSang, Julian Loutsik, Christina Loutsik, and Andrew Wong.
CARRIED AS AMENDED
• Amendment: add “Andrew Wong and Christina Loutsik”

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
5.1 MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:02
Nick/Jessica
Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as amended.
CARRIED AS AMENDED
• Discussion: 9.3 Welcome Week, 9.4 Student Union Building, 9.5 Board Commitments and Procedures, 9.6 Survey update
• New Business: 8.4 UAA Debates, 8.5 Voter Registration

6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
6.1 Board Minutes – MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:03
Jennifer/Simran
Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:
• Board of Directors 2019-08-08
• Board of Directors 2019-08-12
CARRIED

6.2 Committee Minutes – MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:04
Jennifer/Simran
Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:
• UAA 2019-07-11
• UAA 2019-07-25
7. PRESENTATIONS

7.1 BC Non-Profit Housing Association
- It is noted that university students can now loan out funds for housing development

7.2 My SSP Presentation
- Refer to attachment
- My SSP came about through a relationship with Health and Counselling and the SFSS
- One of the new positions that was added last year was the Case Manager for International students (which has proven extremely valuable)
- New pilot will be launched in Fall 2019 that will aid students identify which resources would better fit their needs
- It is noted that if you do not book multiple sessions with the same counsellor, you will be assigned a different counselor each time when calling in
- The more specific request for a counsellor there is, the longer the wait for a connection
- The goal is to have my SSP be a low barrier option

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Committee Expenditures – MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:05
Osob/Emery
Whereas it is stated in the Society Bylaw 6.4b that “The Board may, by way of regulation, delegate its powers to expend or disburse funds to its standing committees, except that any such expenditure or disbursement shall be reported to the Board at its next meeting”;
Be it resolved to include all committee expenditures in Board meeting minutes to prevent violating the bylaws of the Society.
Be it further resolved that failing to comply with these terms may result in cheques not being disbursed by relevant staff or other disciplinary measures to be faced by the committee chair at the discretion of the Board.
POSTPONED
- This motion was brought up in response to the changes in procedures to approving expenditures for committee events
- A reporting expense package will be included in future Board minutes once it has been established and finalized

8.1.1. MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:05-01
Nick/Jessica
Be it resolved to postponed the above motion to the next meeting.
CARRIED
8.2 Bylaw Review – MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:06
Tawanda/Nick
Be it resolved to the Board approve the cost for the bylaw review project with approximately $6,000.00 disbursed in 2019 and the remainder budgeted for and disbursed in 2020.
CARRIED
- Changes to bylaws were not approved through referendum may be due to the lack of consultations, hence the society is not compliant with the Society’s Act
- The goal is to have the bylaw changes ready for the 2020 AGM for approval

8.3 Building Cohesive Leadership Team Workshop – MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:07
Tawanda/Osob
Be it resolved to the Board of Directors invest $3,131.00 (plus GST) for the Leadership Development Workshop as per Courage Space – Coaching and Consulting’s proposal.
CARRIED

8.4 Debates– MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:08
Osob/Jennifer
Be it resolved that the Simon Fraser Student Society endorse efforts by the University and Academic Affairs committee to host, in conjunction with the Graduate Student Society and Simon Fraser University, a debate between major party candidates for the 2019 federal election in the Burnaby North-Seymour riding, to be held in early October;
Be it further resolved that the Simon Fraser Student Society endorse efforts by the University and Academic Affairs Committee to promote voter registration and voting in the 2019 federal election, including but not limited to sharing Elections Canada material in physical or digital form with the membership, crafting and distributing our own works, and sending reminders when timely.
POSTPONED
- There will be a segment where the audience can ask questions to help understand the political climate that occurs on and off campus
- It was noted that the event is already being organized by SFU and other MPs without the approval of the Board due to a miscommunication
  - Commitments have been made to the external groups and would force the Board to approve the event retroactively
- It was suggested that events should be briefed with Board as a scenario of their intention, before contacting external groups
- It is noted that some Board members are unclear about the Board policies

8.4.1. MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:08-01
Jennifer/Nick
Be it resolved to postpone the motion to the next Board meeting.
CARRIED

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

9.1 Board Updates
- Board members to send their semester updates by the deadline, which will be forwarded to the Executive Director
9.2 Greek Life
- Refer to attachments
- This topic was brought up by a student part of a Greek group on campus
- It is noted that a couple Greek groups have been assigned SFSS club status without knowledge of their correlation with Greek life
- Greek groups are treated as external groups by SFU
- Greek life is in violation of our by-laws
- Management will handle this matter

9.3 Welcome Week
- ED met with the engagement office
- $500 of food, including snacks, will be contributed for the event from 6pm-8pm
- Kick-Off video will be displayed at the event; however, it was promised that the video would be submitted at the deadline on August 16th
- Prizes will be kick-off tickets, which will be given in groups of 4
- Multiple commitments were made to SFU for welcome week without approval of the Board, hence, SFSS staff and Board will need to work together to guarantee these obligations
- The Executive Director will be forwarding the obligations to Board members

9.4 Student Union Building
- The building has been delayed for an additional 6 weeks with a grand opening to occur in Spring 2020

9.5 Board Commitments and Procedures
- VP External Relations will be sending Board members a brief of concerns that have come up regarding commitments and procedures

9.6 FASS Future Survey Updates
- 2 surveys were conducted in the spring
- Board members are in agreement of changing the second question in the survey

10. IN-CAMERA
10.1 MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:09
Tawanda/Nick
Be it resolved to go in-camera for the remainder of the meeting.
CARRIED

10.2 SFSS Financial Statements 2018-2019
10.3 ED Contract Alterations
11. **EX-CAMERA**

11.1 **MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:10**

Tawanda/Nick

*Be it resolved to go ex-camera.*

**CARRIED**

11.2 **2018 Financial Statements - MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:11**

Shina/Tawanda

*Be it resolved to recommend to the SFSS membership to approve the Financial Statements from 2018/2019 at the Annual General Meeting on September 25th, 2019.*

**CARRIED**

12. **ATTACHMENTS**

- BN – GLO ARP2.pdf
- Budget request for By-Law review.pdf
- Budget request for leadership development day.pdf
- LETTER OF AGREEMENT -GRID.pdf
- Report to Senate- 1996.pdf
- SFU GL Proposal.pdf
- Briefing Note - Federal Election Debate

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

13.1 **MOTION BOD 2019-08-19:12**

Nick/Simran

*Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 5:34 PM.*

**CARRIED**
BRIEFING NOTE

GREEK LIFE ON CAMPUS

ISSUE
There are three identified issues pertaining to the topic of Greek Life:

1. A recent proposal (requested Nov 2018, SFU GL PROPOSAL.PDF) to have the SFSS recognize the Greek Life Club who would oversee other Greek Letter Organizations (GLOs)
   Do we want to approve and recognize this club?

2. There are currently two active clubs under the SFSS which are affiliated to Greek Life, Phi Delta Epsilon (PDE) and Alpha Kappa Psi (AKP)
   What is our course of action for the two existing clubs that are affiliated to Greek Life?

3. How will the SFSS recognize GLOs moving forward?

BACKGROUND

• APR 4 1966
  Agreement “Report to Senate from Faculty Council” indicates that “…fraternities and sororities are not desirable on this University campus” and “The Faculty Council therefore rules that fraternities and sororities are not to be recognized at the Simon Fraser University.”

• JAN - MAR 2019
  Aon Canada (SFSS insurance provider) recommended that the SFSS should not support/recognize GLOs based on their “high risk” reputation which would impact liability limits of the SFSS. Aon also indicated that “…regardless of their intent, (they) do pose a greater risk of liability.”

• FEB 28 2019
  Erin Biddlecombe (Director of Operations, Planning, Projects for the Office of the Vice Provost, Students & International) has stated that SFU still upholds this April 1966 document and does not recognize Greek Life on campus, “SFU made a decision a long time ago (in 1966) that we would not officially recognize/support fraternities or sororities at SFU.” “The University’s position has not changed, so there has not been the need to update documentation.”

• MAR 22 2019
  Meeting between SFSS, Erin Biddlecombe, and Greek Life Club representatives. Erin acknowledges that SFU, MECS will treat GLOs as an External Group, allowing these groups to
book space on SFU (at a discounted rate). SFSS indicates that we are still considering recognizing GLOs, though “are not at this time currently prepared to make this recognition.”

**MAR 14 2019**

External group hosted a games event at SFSS Forum of Chambers, however, was identified as a sorority, Alpha Pi Phi, on the evening of March 13. Flagged to Executive Director, recommendation to not cancel event. Event held with no reported issues from SFU Campus Public Safety.

- Aon Canada indicated:
  - 2012 – 2014, Travelers Insurance **did not** cover GLOs
  - 2014 – Present, Amlin Insurance recognizes SFSS clubs, however, upon further review of club activity from a risk management perspective, could potentially not be covered by insurance. Currently Aon is looking for a new insurance provider (TBD)

- There are two recognized clubs under the SFSS who appear to have GLO affiliation, *Phi Delta Epsilon* (PDE) and *Alpha Kappa Psi* (AKP). They have been in existence since January 2012* and May 2013* respectively.

- PDE and AKP have indicated that they have their own insurance policies/coverage along with anti-hazing policies.

- Greek Life Club has requested to participate in future Clubs Days

  - Temporarily allowed Greek Representation and Interest Development Club to be recognized by the SFSS to help advocate Greek Life on Campus.

**CURRENT STATUS**

- SFU, MECS has allowed GLO groups to rent space from MECS at a discounted rate, however, they will not be recognized officially by SFU as per the 1966 document
  - Details of the SFU, MECS rental agreement not shared to the SFSS
  - SFU continues to not have any “official policy” regarding GLOs other than the 1966 document

- Previous meeting with PDE and AKP with the SFSS GM and Clubs Coordinators have recommended the following:
  - Drop GLO affiliation and rename/rebrand club (which will allow continued SFSS services support), or
o Remain affiliated with GLO, however, will no longer be recognized by the SFSS (resulting in no SFSS service support)

- Currently, the SFSS official statement is still “**(the SFSS) are not at this time currently prepared to make this recognition.**”, however, have acknowledged in a meeting between Erin and Greek Life Club representatives that we are open to reconsidering our positioning, though may take a few months prior to any decisions

- Meeting with PDE insurance provider scheduled for Apr 4 2019

- Acting President, Samer Rihani, and other existing Board members to transition out of Board effective May 1 2019
  o Samer offers to set up meeting and discuss GLOs with new Board members to continue discussion with Greek Life Club representatives

- SFSS GM, Alejandro Reyes, indicated to Greek Life Club representatives there are two stages the SFSS are considering:
  o 1) How can GLOs obtain SFSS space?
  o 2) How, and Will, the SFSS recognize GLOs moving forward, including participating in Clubs Days?

- External Space Booking Terms of Reference currently being updated to reflect anticipated use of space by GLOs

**KEY CONSIDERATIONS**

- SFU, MECS has allowed GLO groups to rent space from MECS at a discounted rate, however, they will not be recognized officially by SFU as per the 1966 document (details of the SFU, MECS rental agreement not shared to the SFSS)

- There have been events held on campus from GLO groups in the past without incident

- There have been reports that rushes and other GLO practices have been observed on campus (eg. on Residence)

- Aon Canada indicates that if a GLO group is recognized as an external group and provides their own COI, the SFSS will not be liable for any incidents

- Aon Canada continues to recommend not to be affiliated with any GLO groups due to ‘perception of high risk’
• Both Club Presidents for PDE and AKP have indicated that they utilize SFSS services, primarily grant requests and space booking

RECOMMENDATION

Do we want to approve and recognize this (Greek Life Club) club?
No. Based on the recommendation from Aon Canada, the SFSS should not be affiliated with any Greek Life Organizations due to their potential risk, regardless of intent.

What is our course of action for the two (PDE, AKP) existing clubs that are affiliated to Greek Life?
Indicate that the SFSS can no longer accept their affiliation to their respective GLOs, therefore no longer recognizing their groups as SFSS clubs. Based on this, the two exiting groups will no longer be able to receive SFSS services, however, are free to use SFSS space as an external group.

How will the SFSS recognize GLOs moving forward?
Replicate the arrangement that SFU, MECS has implemented regarding GLOs; recognize all GLOs as external groups who will need to provide their own COI when booking SFSS space. This can be considered the “happy medium” between the SFSS and GLOs since they will be able to have space for their events, meetings, etc. while the SFSS remains protected from liability issues due to not officially recognizing GLOs as a club. This recommendation also highlights our alignment towards our SFU partners.

NEXT STEPS

1. GLO topic to be presented to Board to discuss possible solutions and outcomes

Attachments:

LETTER OF AGREEMENT – GRID (PDF)
SFU GL PROPOSAL (PDF)
Request to Senate – 1966 (PDF)
BACKGROUND

The University and Academic Affairs Committee had on July 11 discussed and approved to support a Federal Elections Debate on campus to be held for the Burnaby North Seymour candidates. This came from discussions had via email with the SFSS VP External, VP University Relations, and President for the SFSS to have a debate on campus due to candidates showing interest after being solicited for a debate on social media.

The University and Academic Affairs Committee is therefore holding a Federal Election Debate with the candidates from the Burnaby North-Seymour constituency. The GSS and the SFSS are working together to increase on-campus engagement for the Federal Elections on October 21.

As can be shown in the minutes from the July 11, and July 25th 2019 meeting where the President and VP University Relations suggested hosting a debate during the upcoming federal elections. The intent is to increase student engagement and to increase voter turnout on campus.

CURRENT STATUS

As the chair of the University and Academic Committee, I am bringing this proposal to the board to have it supported in principle so that effort can be put from the board and people volunteer and have students know that this event is happening on campus. The main objective to have students know about the Federal Elections and for them to have an informed vote. This is in parallel with the work being done by the Simon Fraser Student Society and the Graduate Student Society to bring the Federal Elections booth via SFU, where we are working with Elections Canada to host a Polling Station between Oct 5 to 9. As a result a great date for the Elections Debate would be on Oct 3 and the Graduate Student Society have already approved their debates. This will include costs associated being shared between SFU, GSS, and the SFSS, and co-sponsors will be engaged such as the Tuition Freeze Now campaign, SFPIRG, SFU350 and other on-campus organizations focused on issues surrounding the Federal Elections and who will be impacted such as UniverCity. All these stakeholders have been notified of the plans to have a debate as approved by the committee.

Topics will be centered around the following:
* the federal government's role in education & tuition
* the environment & climate change
* housing & affordability

Confirmed:

- Three out of the 4 candidates have confirmed availability for the debates
The Graduate Student Society in preparation for this passed the following motion on August 13th:
Be It Resolved That the Graduate Student Society endorse efforts by the Executive Committee to host, in conjunction with the Simon Fraser Student Society, a debate between major party candidates for the 2019 federal election in the Burnaby North-Seymour riding, to be held in early October; Be It Further Resolved That the Graduate Student Society endorse efforts by the Executive Committee to create, in conjunction with the Simon Fraser Student Society, a candidate questionnaire to be sent out to all major party candidates contesting a Metro Vancouver riding in the 2019 federal election; Moderator will be either Nancy Olliweller or Sobhana Madhavan.

### BUDGET ESTIMATES

**Expenses***

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<th>Category</th>
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<td>Printing (Posters, Directions on campus etc)</td>
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<td>GSS/SFSS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honorarium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catering (Mixed Platter and Drinks)</td>
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<td>SFSS</td>
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<td>SFU/GSS/SFSS</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASL Interpreter</td>
<td>Quotes to be sought</td>
<td>Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AV/Livestream</td>
<td>Quote Pending</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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*Pending financial contribution from SFU and GSS. SFU have committed to cutting some of the costs in support of the event*
MEDIA RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

We will contact various media entities to cover in the debates in the lead up, the debate and for a reflection of the debates. There are two possible choices in a moderator, one of which has confirmed availability for the debates and the other which is yet to confirm. The SFSS President will be meeting with the SFU President about a Joint Statement between the SFSS, SFU, GSS about the Partnership and a possible joint statement on the importance of the Federal Elections and increasing student engagement.

- Media entities to reach out to will be
  - The Peak
  - CJSF (Interviews before and live radio coverage)
  - SFU IT - Livestream
  - Global News
  - CBC
  - Daily Hive for pre-event coverage
  - Burnaby Now

- Co-sponsors will be creating flyers and sharing within their community groups and present questions to be asked in Question and Answer Section of

- Ticketing through ShowPass for tracking how many people will be attending

- Flyers to be created by the communications department
  - Summary: SFSS/GSS Federal Elections Debate at SFU
  - Put up the Date location and time
  - Values statement: We value Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. To include a creation of a safe space.
  - Accessibility Info: Information about the accessibility of C9001. Has been requested to Facilities
  - Potential Description:
    How do you feel about public funding for Post-Secondary Education? How do you feel about climate change? Should a Gondola be built from Production Way to SFU? Should we push for a Green New Deal in Canada?
    The SFSS and the GSS will be hosting a Federal Elections Debate at Simon Fraser University. [We also have to include in the description the confirmed candidates when all is confirmed. We will work with Communications Department to draft the description]

RECOMMENDATION

Be it resolved that the board supports in principle a federal elections debate in the fall.
Be it further resolved that the board supports the University and Academic Affairs committee
formulating a federal election debates plan of execution, based on the details attached in the briefing note
Briefing note: Budget request for bylaw review

Presented by: Sylvia Ceacero – SFSS Executive Director

To: SFSS Board of Directors

Meeting date: August 22 2019

Background / rationale:

Following the passing of the BC Societies Act, the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) developed new bylaws to reflect the modern nature of the new Act. In March 2017, a referendum question was put to the membership (see Note *¹). The new bylaws were rejected.

Feedback from the process indicated that the students felt that the current bylaws were serving the organization well and that the changes were too extensive. With failed bylaws enactment, the SFSS had to continue working under the “old” bylaws.

As legislation supersedes any items in society bylaws that conflict, such items in the bylaws that predate the new Act are then null. This creates a risk for the organization if action is taken according to the bylaws when legislation could prohibit such action.

To help our members understand and approve updated bylaws, three main components are proposed for the bylaw review: education, consultation to determine needs, and consultation on revised draft bylaws to fine tune and build support.

The majority of members do not have governance backgrounds and may not fully appreciate the impact of new societies’ legislation on the bylaws of the SFSS. As part of the proposed process, a component has been built in to provide high level background for the members. This will assist them in making a decision about the content of new bylaws.

The process will also include a consultative phase to help determine what the members would like the bylaws to reflect and to identify any pressure points from the existing bylaws.

Based on members’ input, draft bylaws will be prepared and members will be engaged in a second consultation to fine tune the draft and to build support for the bylaws to be adopted in 2020.

SFSS is a multi-million dollar not-for-profit organization, as such, updated bylaws that are compliant with the new Act are required.

Request:

The cost of this review will be $13,860,00 ($8,340,00 for governance expertise and approximately $5,520,00 for travel expenses)
Motion:

That the Board approve the cost for the bylaw review project with approximately $6,000.00 disbursed in 2019 and the remainder budgeted for and disbursed in 2020.

Note:

*1 - By-Laws

Whereas some of the proposed changes are required by the new Societies Act and amendments to the University Act;
Whereas other proposed changes will improve the Society’s ability to achieve its vision of improving the undergraduate student experience;
Whereas the change to the new Bylaws will require a transition period;

Be it resolved to adopt the new SFSS Bylaws, as attached as Attachment 1 to this referendum question, to take effect on May 1, 2018.

| Fail | Yes: 869 | No: 711 |
Briefing note: Budget request for Leadership Development Day

Presented by: Sylvia Ceacero – SFSS Executive Director

To: SFSS Board of Directors

Meeting date: August 22 2019

Background / rationale:

A leadership development possibility exists for the Board of SFSS. Several Board members have approached me with a request to have a session in which the Board can achieve agreement on the role of the Board; engagement is healthy and respectful debate and exchange of ideas and information; development of individual and collective conflict resolution tools and approaches; engagement in true collaboration that enhances the credibility of the Board and the SFSS’s strategic direction; and agreement around the rules of engagement and what is shared externally.

Passion that translates into leadership and impact are at the core of student societies. Impact is achieved when groups forge into teams practice self-awareness, manage their behaviours and emotions and collaborate with trust.

Following discussions with the SFSS’ President, I approached 3 companies that are highly regarded for this type of work. Only 2 were available to bid: Courage Space – Coaching and Consulting and Turning Point Resolutions.

The Leadership Development Plan will be as follows:

- One-on-one 15 minutes confidential interviews between each Board member and the consultant;

- 1 full-day workshop

Although both companies offer similar services, Courage Space, is the most competitive in price and breadth of understanding of the issue.

Because of the nature of the workshop, a full day is required. The consultant would be available to do the workshop on Saturday September 7th unless another full-day can be found on weekdays.

Motion:

That the Board of Directors invest $3,131,00 (plus GST) for the Leadership Development Workshop as per Courage Space – Coaching and Consulting’s proposal.
Greek Representation and Interest Development Club (GRID)
Letter of Agreement with SFSS

Whereas the SFSS cannot register exclusive Fraternities and/or Sororities (“Greek Societies”) as clubs because the policies and practices of Greek Societies are inconsistent with SFSS Bylaw 21 and SFSS Policies AP 12:2a and AP 12:2b

Whereas Simon Fraser University (SFU) has banned Greek Societies at SFU.

Whereas the SFSS nevertheless believes that students who want to participate in Greek Societies should have an opportunity and the resources to have discussions with SFU concerning the ban.

Whereas the purpose of GRID is to have discussions with SFU concerning the authorization of Greek Societies at SFU.

THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOW:

A. GRID’S ACTIVITIES

1. The SFSS agrees that GRID may be temporarily registered as a club for the purpose of representing students interested in the authorization of Greek Societies at SFU, under the following conditions:

   (a) Membership in GRID must not be exclusive and must be open to all members of the SFSS.

   (b) GRID must represent SFSS members who are interested in any Greek Societies and not promote the interests of any particular Greek Society.

   (c) GRID’s executive must be elected in a democratic manner, in accordance with GRID’s bylaws.

   (d) Executive members should represent the range of Fraternities and Sororities represented in GRID.

   (e) GRID must not plan events on behalf of or act for the sole benefit of individual Fraternities or Sororities or their members.

   (f) GRID may only use its temporary club status and resources to pursue the following goals:

      (i) providing a forum for open discussion concerning the potential authorization of Greek Societies at SFU; and

      (ii) approaching SFU to seek authorization for Greek Societies at SFU.
(g) GRID may only organize fundraisers and hold social events, or use any funds or other resources obtained through those fundraisers and events, for the purposes set out in 1 (f).

(h) GRID may only use Clubs Days tables and AQ Clubs tables to inform the SFSS membership about GRID, therefore prohibiting the direct or indirect promotion of any individual Fraternity or Sorority.

(i) GRID agrees to abide by all SFU and SFSS policies.

(j) GRID agrees to obtain the appropriate insurance for any activities it may host and to provide the SFSS with any documentation it requires to confirm the appropriateness of the insurance.

B. TERMINATION OF THE AGREEMENT

2. Any violation of the above points will result in the immediate termination of this LOA and of GRID’s temporary club status.

3. This Agreement is subject to GRID providing the SFSS with a copy of its current bylaws and policies, satisfactory to the SFSS, prior to its registration as a temporary club.

4. The SFSS reserves the right to terminate this Agreement if GRID’s bylaws and policies are inconsistent with those of the SFSS or otherwise unsatisfactory to the SFSS.

C. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

5. If there is any dispute between GRID and the SFSS concerning GRID’s compliance with this Agreement, GRID and the SFSS agree to refer the issue to a third party, agreeable to both, whose decision shall be binding on both parties.

D. INDEMNIFICATION/WAIVER

6. GRID agrees to indemnify, defend and hold the SFSS and SFSS’s officers, directors, agents and employees harmless from any losses, claims, damages or judgments, including legal fees, directly or indirectly resulting from GRID activities, including but not limited to those arising out of any injury or death to any person or persons, financial loss or damage to any property of any kind whatsoever.

7. GRID agrees to waive and release any claim it may at present or in the future have against the SFSS and its officers, directors, agents and employees, and agrees not to seek damages, or any other compensation from the SFSS and its officers, directors, regardless of any negligence on the part of the SFSS and its officers, directors, agents and employees.
E. DURATION OF AGREEMENT

8. GRID’s temporary club status will expire September 1, 2015. If GRID has not reached an agreement with SFU concerning the authorization Greek Societies at SFU, by that date GRID will no longer be entitled to operate as a SFSS Club.

F. INTERPRETATION

9. This Agreement shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of British Columbia.

_______________________________________________
GRID Executive Member Signature

_______________________________________________
GRID Executive Member Name

_______________________________________________
Date

_______________________________________________
GRID Executive Member Signature

_______________________________________________
GRID Executive Member Name

_______________________________________________
Date
April 4, 1966.

REPORT TO SENATE FROM FACULTY COUNCIL

The Council has had under consideration since the March meeting of Senate, the matter of the recognition or non-recognition of fraternities and sororities.

In the view of the Council, fraternities and sororities are not desirable on this University campus. This is also the view of the majority of the Simon Fraser Students who turned out to vote on a referendum concerning this issue on March 22, 1966.

The Faculty Council therefore rules that fraternities and sororities are not to be recognized at Simon Fraser University and seeks Senate's approval of this ruling in accordance with Section 61-1-b of the Universities Act.

While taking this stand, however, the Faculty Council would also like to make known its view that all members of the academic community should strive to develop means to achieve in other ways some of the positive values offered by fraternities and sororities, such as student housing and co-operative ventures.
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MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of Simon Fraser University Greek Life (SFUGL) is to promote character and leadership development, academic achievement, diverse philanthropic involvement, community engagement and professional networking opportunities amongst Simon Fraser University students.

CASE FOR GREEK LIFE

We, Simon Fraser University Greek Life (SFUGL), are seeking to obtain club status at Simon Fraser University (SFU) with the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS). This proposal will outline the benefits of engaging SFUGL in addressing gender inclusivity in our sororities and fraternities, include our anti-hazing document, and provide some background information on the impact that Greek Letter Organizations (GLOs) have already had on campus.

To date, nearly 400 undergraduate students at SFU have been a part of the six GLOs on campus. There are four sororities: Alpha Pi Phi, Delta Alpha Theta, Kappa Beta Gamma and Tau Sigma Phi, and two fraternities: Delta Kappa Epsilon, and Phi Kappa Pi. The first GLO at SFU was Phi Kappa Pi, which was established in February of 2012. The Greek Representation and Interest Development Cub (GRID) was founded in 2014, which previously held a Letter of Agreement with the SFSS, in which representatives of each organization were brought together to focus on our common goals and mission of together becoming a club on campus. Since then, GRID has evolved into the new Simon Fraser University Greek Life Club (SFUGL) in the spring of 2018.

Phi Kappa Pi (and the other five GLOS) were originally formed to provide a way for undergraduate students to make friends, and become engaged members of the SFU community. Although many students do make friends in classes or in residence, the founding members found that their relationships were not lasting for longer than a semester or two, and that they did not wish to go through university alone. While SFU offers high class academics and well-known professors, students are looking for more than academics in their school experience. The sentiments echoed by students seeking to join SFUGL are that they are looking for friendships and connections, both personal and professional that will outlast their four or five years at university. The members of SFUGL are continuously encouraged every semester when recruitment period comes around and they are met by hundreds of young students who strongly desire these connections.

Being a part of a GLO at SFU offers many benefits. All GLO’s inside of SFUGL have the same goal in mind: to improve each member’s experience at university, and to shape each member’s future for the better. SFUGL provides a chance to grow leadership skills, excel academically, participate in philanthropic endeavours and community engagement, and gives students the chance to expand their network in a professional manner amongst not only SFU students, but with each organization’s alumni network.
Lastly, being in a GLO offers friendships not only in your own organization, but also within the Greek Community as a whole. Our recruitment process is all about each student getting to find where they fit best within the organizations. This means that we all work alongside each other during recruitment – and all year – to work towards our common goals. This is why the GLOs on campus have banded to form Simon Fraser University Greek Life. We aim to be recognized by the SFSS as a student club.

In the past the student body has also expressed support for the presence of Greek Life on campus. In the spring of 2015 at an SFFS Special General Meeting, Greek Letter Organizations were discussed. In a non-binding opinion poll regarding Greek Life on campus, 77% of voters were in favour of Greek Life on campus. Having Greek Life on campus not only improves engagement for those in GLO’s, but improves the campus experience for all Simon Fraser University Students.

As a student club we are not looking for extensive resources. We would like to be able to book SFU rooms and spaces to host events. This would be used for studying with other members, for hosting recruitment events, and partnering with another student clubs for a philanthropic events and fundraisers. Similarly, we would like to book tables. Other than this, we are funded independently through dues that each member pays to the organization. We are not looking for any large financial contribution; rather we are looking to work more closely and in an official context with the Simon Fraser Student society, as a strong and open relationship between our two groups will be beneficial for all parties.

Attached in this proposal you will find various documents that we believe are relevant to our case. We would also welcome an opportunity to meet and discuss this with a representative of the Simon Fraser Student Society in person.

Non Binary Inclusivity Statement:

*Non-Binary in this document is defined as an individual identifying as either having a gender, which is in-between, or beyond the two categories male and female, or having no gender.*

Policy

This document presents SFU Greek Life’s (SFUGL) policy on trans-individuals and gender non-binary individuals.

This policy reflects SFUGL’s commitment to anti-discrimination practices in relation to all trans women and men, and non-binary individuals, and ensures their rights to express themselves and be respected and protected individuals.
The purpose of this policy is to establish an environment that is safe, welcoming, and free from stigma and discrimination for all potential new members, when attending recruitment events and in the process of becoming a member of a fraternity or sorority.

All trans persons and gender non-binary individuals are free to attend recruitment for a Sorority, and will be considered equally. All trans persons and gender non-binary individuals are free to attend recruitment for a Fraternity, and will be considered equally. The aforementioned Sorority or Fraternity will include trans persons and non-binary individuals as members in all areas of the organization as long as they are willing to accept and share in the collective experiences of the brotherhood or sisterhood.

Both titles of brother and sister and concepts of brotherhood and sisterhood shall only be used as titles within the organization and will not reflect the self-expression, and self-identification of any individual.

SFUGL organizations, being defined as Greek letter organizations within the Simon Fraser University Inter-Greek Council will provide equal respect and unprejudiced treatment for all individuals before, during, and after recruitment, and as active or alumni members.

SFUGL is welcoming and inclusive of transgender and non-binary individuals. Any conduct which fosters a hostile environment for transgender and non-binary individuals will not be tolerated in any capacity.

No individual is required to provide documentation regarding their gender or non-gender. We welcome all persons as they self-identify.

Names and Pronouns

Every individual has the right to be addressed by the name and pronouns that correspond to the individual’s gender identity. Regardless of whether a transgender or gender nonconforming individual has legally changed their name or gender, SFUGL will allow individuals to use a chosen name and gender pronouns that reflect their identity. Transgender or gender nonconforming individuals will be asked how they want to be addressed.

ANTI-HAZING AGREEMENT

The document outlined below will be renewed each September by the incoming chapter Presidents.

Hazing of any kind is absolutely prohibited. No chapter, colony, student, pledge, associate/new member or member or alumna/us shall conduct nor condone hazing activities. A person is guilty of hazing if they act in a way which intends to or does produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule to one or more others.

As used in this section, "hazing" means doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental, physical, or psychological harm to any person. No person shall participate in the hazing of
another. A person is guilty of hazing if, in connection with initiation of applicants to or members of a student or greek organization, he/she knowingly or recklessly organizes, promotes, facilitates, or engages in any conduct, other than competitive athletic events, which places or may place another person in danger.

Hazing activities are defined as: Any action taken or situation created whether on or off fraternity/sorority/university premises, to produce or cause mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; kidnappings, whether by pledges, associate/new members or active members; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other such activities that are not consistent with academic achievement, organization policy, or the regulations and policies of the educational institution, or provincial law.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand this agreement and that by signing it freely and voluntarily I can be held accountable by Simon Fraser University Inter-Greek Council, my sorority/fraternity, the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS), Simon Fraser University (SFU), or law enforcement for not adhering to this policy. Failure to abide by the above terms may lead to forced disaffiliation, a disciplinary hearing with the members of Simon Fraser University Inter-Greek Council, a probationary period within my organization, disciplinary action in accordance with the SFSS policy manual, or other serious consequences as deemed appropriate.

Organization Numbers/Philanthropic Information:

Kappa Beta Gamma:
Historic Members (Chapter): 144
Active members: 77
Established at Simon Fraser University in 2013
SFUGL Representative: Jordyn Manly - jmanly@sfu.ca

Philanthropic Endeavours:
- Raised over $500 for special Olympics participating in the annual Polar Bear Plunge
- Filled and donated over 30 “necessity stockings” to be handed out in the downtown eastside at Christmas
- Works very closely with High Five SFU on their awareness campaigns to combat the stigma surrounding mental health
- Had over 20 girls volunteer with SFU puppy therapy
- Participated in the SFU dance marathon raising almost $300
Raised $206 for High Five SFU

Delta Alpha Theta:
Historic Members (Chapter): 81
Active Members: 46
Established at Simon Fraser University in 2014

Philanthropic Endeavours:
● Delta Alpha Theta is dedicated to working with SFU Optimist Club, and dedicates their philanthropy work to “bringing out the best in kids”
● Annually participates in SFU Terry Fox Run
● Story time with Kids at Ronald McDonald House
● Collecting and sorting donated food with Quest Outreach Society
● Covenant House (Thank-A-Thon and Gift-in-Kind Programs)
● Belkin House (providing and serving food to the community of East Hastings)
● Book/Food/Clothing/Toy Drives for various charities (Big Brother/Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society)
● Blood Drive through The Canadian Blood Services
● Annual Optimist Walk for Youth (Raised a total of $885 for the Optimist Club)
● SFU Relay for Life/Are You Tougher than Cancer? (Raised a total of $4615 for Canadian Cancer Society)

Alpha Pi Phi:
Historic Members (Chapter): 41
Active members: 18
Established at Simon Fraser University in 2015
SFUGL Representatives: Amika Parr - aparr@sfu.ca & Margarita Rodriguez Simon - mra71@sfu.ca

Philanthropic Endeavours:
● Coquitlam Farmers Market
● Girl Guides of Canada
● SPCA
● Pataz Dog Rescue Shelter (Peru)
● Canada Correctional Services
● Hospitals
● Operation Red Nose
● St. Barnabas United Church Thrift Shop
● Salvation Army
- Alzheimer Society of Canada
- Canadian Cancer Society
- BC Children’s Hospital
- UGM
- Resonate Church
- VOKRA
- Vancouver Mental Health
- Surrey Women’s Shelter

**Tau Sigma Phi:**
Active members: 5
Established at Simon Fraser University in 2018

Planned Philanthropic Endeavours:
- Donation of proceeds from philanthropy events towards breast cancer research
- Organization of annual Pretty in Pink Pub night fundraiser, raising funds for breast cancer research
- Participation in Relay For Life
- Making cards for patients at BC Children’s Hospital

**Delta Kappa Epsilon:**
Historic Members (Chapter): 55
Active Members: 26
Established at Simon Fraser University in 2014
SFUGL Representative: Steven Robertson - scr7@sfu.ca

Philanthropic Endeavours:
- Canadian Cancer Society’s Relay for Life, second in fundraising in this past 2018 RFL.
- Golden Dumpling Cook Off
- Richmond Addiction Services Bike-A-Thon
- Blood Donations through Canadian Blood Services
- Hike for Hospice
- Terry Fox Run
- Help the Homeless (Food Donations to the less fortunate)

**Phi Kappa Pi:**
Historic Members (Chapter): 117
Active Members: 30
Established at Simon Fraser University in 2012
Philanthropic endeavours:

- Have raised over $43,000 dollars for the Movember Foundation since 2012
- Monthly volunteering at Belkin House (Salvation Army)
- Blood Donations with Canadian Blood Services on an estimated bi-yearly basis
- Participated in a food drive in partnership with other Simon Fraser University Greek Life members
- Raised money for the Terry Fox Foundation and participated in the Terry Fox Run at SFU Burnaby campus
Appendix A - Alumni Testimonials:

The following includes written testimonials from members of Greek Letter Organizations that have since graduated from Simon Fraser University, and wish to describe how their involvement in these organizations has positively benefited them:

While making the transition from high school to university can prove to be daunting, getting involved in Greek life made this process an incredible experience for me. From the first day of school, to the day I crossed the stage, I felt supported, inspired and empowered by the Kappa Beta Gamma community. Through Kappa, I not only fostered friendships with like-minded women, I also learned to connect and collaborate with people who share completely different perspectives than I. Despite our differences, the sorority challenged us to work together – a tremendously valuable skill I continue to use time and time again as I navigate the world beyond university. Through Kappa, I met mentors: established industry professionals who have offered personal and professional guidance, critical to my career development. I fostered friendships around the globe: last year I had the opportunity to spend a month living with a sister in her home town, the Philippines. Kappa Beta Gamma introduced me to my best friends: women I have leaned on for the last five years, women I know I will be able to continue to count on through thick and thin for the rest of my life. The sorority connected me with roommates, tutors and travel partners – the list goes on.

I am tremendously grateful for all of the women I met through the sorority, many of whom have had a huge impact on my life, and continue to play a important role to this day. Beyond friendships, Kappa has offered me opportunities to gain leadership skills. My position as Public Relations Executive helped me land my first co-op at an established advertising agency – an experience that played an integral part in shaping my career. While collaborating with a group of 50+ women, I have developed key teamwork skills, critical to the success of my career. Through the Greek community, I found a reason to stay on campus. Through Kappa Beta Gamma, Simon Fraser University quickly became my second
home. The sorority played an integral role in my university experience and I encourage everyone to take advantage of the incredible opportunities made available through Greek Letter Organizations.

Kelly Furey
Founding Member of Kappa Beta Gamma, Alpha Gamma Chapter
As a founding member and past President of Kappa Beta Gamma, I’m aware there is an oversimplified image of sororities. Before joining, I also assumed that most of Greek life dug no deeper than the cliches found in movies: sing-song recruitment videos, contagious gossip, and exclusive cliques. But what the cameras don’t show is the countless hours members devote to the community, daily study groups, and networking with alumni. Greek life offers its members a genuine way of connecting with other students, a particularly daunting task at a commuter campus such as Simon Fraser University where large class sizes and overly specific club genres create their own obstacles for developing lasting friendships. It was from this personal perspective and experience that I decided to join and establish Simon Fraser’s first budding sorority on campus.

Kappa Beta Gamma means something different to every member, but at its essence, is about the meshing of authentic, passionate, and intelligent individuals with so much to offer their community. Finding a sisterhood that embodies kindness through participation in events such as “Spread the Word to End the Word: R-word”, promoting mental health on campus, and raising money for Special Olympics, is something that to this day I hold close to my heart. Through my time at Kappa Beta Gamma, I flourished as a person, a student, and a leader in my community; I graduated with a CGPA 1.2 points higher than when I started, I held four executive positions, and volunteered countless community hours. The members of Kappa Beta Gamma, both active and alumni, have worked incredibly hard to become upstanding neighbours, scholars, and philanthropists in their communities. Behind the veil of matching t-shirts and smiles are authentic women that were seeking a sense of belonging. Sorority filled this gap on campus and offered a sense of inclusion to these women, not exclusivity. Sisterhood taught me what it means to be a part of something bigger than myself, and challenged me to grow as a leader and an individual. My sisters showed me the importance of not only volunteering, but the significance of wanting to help others. Being in a sorority taught me to use my voice, and to not only hear others, but listen. We’re listening, we understand that this is not a path suited for everyone, but the wonderful thing about joining Greek life is
that it’s a choice. And for the opportunity to make a choice that positively shaped my university experience and who I am today, I am grateful.

Amanda Carter
Founding Member of Kappa Beta Gamma, Alpha Gamma Chapter
From September 2010 until December 2014 I was a student at SFU. I lived in on-campus housing, studied in the library, attended events in Convocation Mall, drank coffee from Renaissance, and studied both Anthropology and Criminology. All of those things were great, but they weren’t what defined my time at University and made my 4.5 years there the most amazing experience. The best decision I made at SFU, the one that changed my whole perspective and attitude towards student life, was joining the SFU chapter of Kappa Beta Gamma.

I’ll say it again because there is no doubt in my mind, joining a Greek Letter Organization at SFU was the single best decision I made as an SFU student. I joined Kappa Beta Gamma in my 3rd year. I had spent my first 3 years at SFU trying everything I could to find my place, my ‘fit’, and a community where I belonged. I tried clubs and department student unions, I tried living on campus, I tried volunteering, but it wasn’t until I became a member of a Greek Letter Organization that things fell into place. This was a community where you weren’t separated by faculty, a single hobby that you had, culture or language. It wasn’t strictly academic focused, charity focused or socially focused, it was everything altogether and at once. There is no other group at SFU that can offer students a chance to create connections with their peers who study different things, live in different places, have different hobbies, follow different religions; that can support them with opportunities to network internationally, grow their professional skills, and be there for mental and emotional support, all with the common goal of creating community on campus.

Joining a Greek Letter Organization offered me all of those things during my time at SFU. Kappa Beta Gamma taught me how to speak publicly, how to plan events and how to network. It helped me connect with my peers from different programs and countries and through those experiences I learned more about what the world had to offer. It enabled me to take on roles where I coordinated large groups, drafted documents and organized programs (skills that would directly transfer to my career after graduating). I learned to be confident, to work hard, and to fight like hell for something you are passionate
about. More than anything else, joining a Greek Letter Organization offered me the opportunity to join a community of students that supported each other, there were so many differences, and we came together to celebrate them, and to celebrate SFU.

Having graduated from SFU a few years ago, I’ve found that this connection and community doesn’t stop at graduation. It was through my involvement with Kappa Beta Gamma that I discovered what I wanted to do as a career; work in postsecondary student services, specifically student engagement. I was also lucky enough to cross the stage at convocation and walk straight into a job, in part thanks to the network I had built through Greek Letter Organizations. As alumni, we’re still connected to the chapter, but now take on more of a mentor role for younger students, helping to support them during their post-secondary years, to provide all the advice we can give.

There are SFU students out there right now who are trying to find their place. They don’t necessarily want to join a club where they connect over a single hobby or cause, and they don’t want to be confined to a department student union. They’re searching for a community on campus where they can connect with other students on a multitude of levels, where they can start to grow their professional skills, have fun, and feel supported when they make mistakes and celebrated when they succeed. These students are like me, and joining a Greek Letter Organization is the opportunity they are looking for. It is their ‘fit’, it is the community where they will finally feel they belong. I think they, too, deserve the chance to make the ‘best decision they’ve ever made’.

Kendell Kitt

Founding Member of Kappa Beta Gamma, Alpha Gamma Chapter
Dear Simon Fraser Student Society,

Delta Alpha Theta was founded in 2014 by myself and Caryssa Afan, a friend that I had made in highschool, and who continues to be one of my very best friends to this day. It was founded out of the immense want to make friends, and improve my university experience. I spent the majority of my first year alone, attending classes and meeting new people, but never really making any strong connections. In January of 2013, Caryssa and I decided that we wanted to found a sorority, because it encompassed, social, philanthropic, and academic activities, things we were both looking for at clubs at SFU. Instead of joining three clubs, we decided to put all of our energy into one, that being Delta Alpha Theta.

It is not a question of if being a part of Delta Alpha Theta improved my university experience, it is by how much. I would say that, without a doubt, being a part of a sorority made my university experience better, and that I would not have been as engaged in school, or achieved the success I have post Grad without the support of the amazing women I met through this organization. It is now, more than ever, that we need to be encouraging women to stand together in support of one another.

Being a part of a sorority has taught me many soft skills that have helped me in my post Grad career. It taught me how to be more empathetic, improved my problem-solving skills, and made me a great public speaker. These skills were all developed as a result of empowering each other within the sorority and Greek Community to always be the best version of ourselves, and to not be afraid to be different. I am proud to say that with as many sororities and fraternities as SFU has, there really is a place for everyone.

Thank you for your time, and feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Janelle Moy

Founding President, Delta Alpha Theta, Beta

Simon Fraser University Class of 2017
Dear Simon Fraser Student Society,

Through my experience as a sister of Delta Alpha Theta, I can proudly say that Delta Alpha Theta provides a variety of opportunities for women in many ways. For instance, Delta Alpha Theta provided me with many leadership opportunities to engage myself within my community. There are many positions to be held and each one holds responsibility that we take seriously. Being a full-time student with a part-time job, and a part of the sorority required me to improve my time management skills if I wanted to show dedication to my commitments. I had the privilege of being the Director of Philanthropy for a year and I was propelled to reach out to organizations in our community and give back in any way we could. Without having this position, I probably would have never coordinated any group events that required us to take a weekend off to volunteer at a soup kitchen or raise money for the youth in our community. Additionally, the role provided me with an opportunity to take initiatives by organizing multiple philanthropic activities throughout the semester. Holding a position amongst other position holders taught me to not only show leadership but to respectfully share it with others. As a result of joining, I have met some amazing like minded women whom I’ve made genuine friendships with. It was really enlightening getting to know people outside of my faculty and major. Being part of the sorority gave me a sense of belonging at our commuter school. I’m really glad I took the plunge of joining as it has enriched my university experience at SFU.

Regards,

Brianna Wong

Alumni Member of Delta Alpha Theta, Beta

Simon Fraser University, Class of 2017
Being a part of Alpha Pi Phi has changed my life in so many ways unimaginable to me before joining this organization. I found that coming from a different country made it very difficult to make friends because I had to spend years learning the language and culture of Canada. By the time I felt properly adjusted, it was too late to make long-term friends because everyone had already done that in elementary school and high school, and so there I was attempting to make a life in college. Being a part of a sorority was my one opportunity to create and maintain a community for myself where I felt safe, welcomed, and cared for.

To this day, even after my graduation, I have tons of women that I have opened up my soul to, who are always there for me when something goes wrong in my life. They are the people who keep me going when I want to give up, and they’re the people I can turn to for guidance and support. The past 3-4 years of my life with the sorority have been the first time in my life where I don’t feel alone in this world. I can’t possibly imagine being stripped away from something like this and had I never become a part of something like this, and I don’t know where I would have ended up. I am unbelievably thankful that not only do I have this incredible support group, but that I’ve also learned numerous skills by holding positions in the organization, and these skills are what have landed me the perfect job after my graduation. I can say, without a doubt in my mind, that joining a sorority has be the best and most rewarding decision I have ever made and will have ever made in my entire life.

Panteya Niazi

Founding President of Alpha Pi Phi

Simon Fraser University Class of 2017
Joining a Greek letter organization was one of the most rewarding experiences I’ve had the privilege to have. How does one gain a university experience without paying thousands of dollars a month to live in residence? Or what if I’m not into hiking, chess, and Quidditch, which is what the clubs around campus are mainly composed of? The reason I decided to go through my undergraduate degree while helping to grow and run a sorority is because I needed a community on campus, something to draw me to school besides class. My community helped me change the way I saw school, and the experience I had was overwhelmingly positive. At the time I joined my sorority I was considering dropping out of university. I had no friends here, so I didn’t want to come to campus to attend classes. Consequently, I quite often didn’t. Once I joined APP, that completely changed; my grades rose, I became a better student, and I was more active in contributing to my community. The Greek letter organizations at SFU are not like the common stereotype suggests: we are much more accepting and welcoming than movies and television would suggest, we are very passionate about NOT hazing, and we care about our members’ needs and mental health. I contribute my success and my fond memories of SFU to the Greek letter organizations, and my sisters are the reason I will be receiving my bachelor’s degree this coming June.

Rachael MacLeod
Alumni member, Alpha Pi Phi
Simon Fraser University Class of 2017
To whom it may concern,

During my time as an active member of Delta Kappa Epsilon at Simon Fraser University my brothers and I took part in numerous philanthropic events to benefit the SFU community, Burnaby community, and Greater Vancouver as a whole. Philanthropy is one of the keystone pillars of membership in the international organization of DKE as active and alumni brothers are expected to be outstanding residents of their communities.

The majority of our charitable events have been in association with the Canadian Mental Health Association’s Vancouver-Fraser Branch, as well as the Canadian Cancer Society. With CMHA brothers of DKE have participated in the annual Miles for Mental Health event in New Westminster since October 2014. A total of over $2,500 has been raised for CMHA. Additionally, participation in SFU’s Relay for Life events in 2014 and 2015 raised over $2000 for the Canadian Cancer Society. Furthermore our active and alumni brothers are participants in Stick it to Cancer, a yearly road hockey tournament organized by UBC’s chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon. To date this tournament has raised over $100,000 for Cancer research, and is an organic event organized purely by the fraternity.

Other organizations that have been supported over the course of my active tenureship have been the Chinese Elders Community Kitchen in association with the Golden Dumpling Charity Cook-off, Operation Red Nose during the holiday season, as well as annual visits to the Salvation Army Belkin House with the sisters of Delta Alpha Theta. One of the charitable highlights for Greek life as a whole at SFU was the organization of the 2015 Season of Giving Food Drive and Pub Night hosted at the Highland Pub. I was proud to deliver 902 pounds of non-perishable food to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank on behalf of SFU Greek Life.

The philanthropic efforts on behalf of the fraternity since its founding prove that Delta Kappa Epsilon is an organization that truly values the community that it is a part of. The current group of active
brothers are continuing to build foundations for a long lasting relationship with the SFU community, Burnaby, and Greater Vancouver.

Sincere regards,

Alex Campbell

Founding President, Delta Kappa Epsilon

Simon Fraser University Class of 2016
I’ll never forget my first couple weeks as an undergraduate student at Simon Fraser University, during the Fall semester of 2011. I was heading into the next chapter of my academic career without having many friends attending the same institution, and was nervous about being able to meet the right people. I was curious what kind of people I would surround myself with for the coming years, and what kind of experiences I would be able to share in. At the age of 17, I knew that I only had a few short years at Simon Fraser, and that I would need to make every minute count if I wanted to maximize on my time at university.

It was during these initial weeks of the semester that I noticed a flier for a new Fraternity that was trying to establish itself at the school, and this immediately caught my eye. After tracking down their table at Clubs Days and introducing myself to the gentlemen seated behind it, I quickly became involved as a founding member of the Omega Epsilon Chapter of Phi Kappa Pi Fraternity. The years that followed are looked back on with fond memories as I enjoy the continuing friendship of the young men I met through this organization. As I continue to hone the skills that were developed within Phi Kappa Pi, I could not be more grateful for having had the opportunity to take part in the development of this organization.

One thing that is not taught within Images Theatre, or any of the lecture halls at Simon Fraser, is the development and real-world application of soft skills. Having been working in the professional world for some time now, I have realized the value of the time that was spent in an environment which fostered the growth of social skills. I could not be more thankful for having had ample opportunity to develop these skills in real-world settings. After meeting peers that attended various universities in North America, it seems that many recent graduates lack confidence when dealing with people in a professional context. As a member of Phi Kappa Pi, I had the pleasure of regularly interacting with both internal and external stakeholders in various capacities. Whether this was in the form of speaking to various internal committees, forging relationships with members of student government, or speaking with administrators
at Simon Fraser, there was never a shortage of people to meet and interact with. Having had a diverse array of scenarios and people to work with was an invaluable experience that was not fully appreciated until recently, when I was able to look back on the comfort that I felt when dealing with professional scenarios that would have been otherwise uncomfortable without having prior experience in such situations.

Another amazing aspect of Greek Life is that, contrary to popular belief, it does not discriminate. Many student groups segregate their members based upon some insignificant line. There are student groups based on faculty or ethnicity, groups that are interested in certain board games, or groups that have specific career aspirations. However, Greek Letter Organizations bring together individuals and create groups that transcend these boundaries and limitations. My closest friends come from numerous different faculties and have more interests than I can keep track of, and encourage one another to get involved in activities that the other would never dream of.

Most importantly, Phi Kappa Pi made a foreign school feel like a home. Despite being raised in North Vancouver, I did not have a single close friend going into Simon Fraser University. Shortly after joining this group of young men in forming a new organization, I had more friends than I knew what to do with. As the weeks turned into months, and months turned into years, the amount of people I got to call my friends started to increase at an exponential rate. As new Greek Letter Organizations began to emerge, we found ourselves working alongside various student groups to capitalize on our combined strengths to work towards common goals. This led to becoming friends with people that I never would have come in contact with if I had carried out the path of a typical and uninvolved student. Many of these people that I had the pleasure to meet are still among my closest friends, and will continue to be so as my life continues.
As I watch a new generation of young men take over the leadership of Phi Kappa Pi, I could not be more proud of the continued lessons that are instilled in the each new wave of undergraduate students. Our organization exists atop over 100 years of history, and has focused on the personal, academic, and professional development of its members throughout this time. The collaboration that occurs between members, and between similar organizations, provides an immensely valuable experience that enriches all areas of a student’s life. Greek Letter Organizations exist to help individuals reach their fullest potential, an interest that could not be aligned with the universities at which they operate.

Ryan Ackerman

Phi Kappa Pi, Omega Epsilon

Simon Fraser University Class of 2016
One of the things I was most worried about when I decided to enrol at SFU was the infamous “commuter culture” reputation that the school carried. It’s no secret that SFU pales in comparison to schools like UBC, McGill or U of T when it comes to school spirit and social culture. In my first few years at SFU, I tried to be an agent of change myself, co-founding social clubs like Skye Society and diving head first into leadership roles within SFU Business clubs. While this provided an outlet for me to get better acquainted with the peers in my faculty, it didn’t provide what I had been searching for. I wanted to experience what my father experienced during his undergrad years, what I read about in books growing up and saw in movies as a teenager – an academic career complemented by a social culture that would mold me into the adult that I wanted to become. I wanted to meet people from different faculties, hailing from different cultures and having diverse perspectives. I wasn’t going to get that by being involved with SFU Business Clubs.

While that was what originally interested me in joining Greek Life at SFU, it’s not the only thing that I gained from my experience there. I learned how to organize and manage large scale events as the fraternity’s social manager. I learned how to run a successful fundraiser, raising over $10,000 as a chapter for the Movember charity one year. I learned seemingly trivial things like how to cook and clean without a dishwasher by helping out at the chapter house. I learned how to deal with rejection and stand tall in the face of adversity.

In the end, the fraternity I am proud to call myself an alumnus of today provided me with much more than what I was looking for. It gave me a family away from family through the brothers of my fraternity and the other various members of Greek Letter Organizations at SFU. It gave me a home away from home in the chapter house where I could escape to study, release stress during exams and spend the night whenever I needed to. And it gave me an avenue to meet other Fraternity members that came from countries all around the world that shared a common bond by joining the same national fraternity – an organization that has a rich 100-year-old history. These connections have had direct impact on my ability
to professionally network and have led me to roles at some of the most prestigious technology companies in North America, including where I work today.

Isuru Withanage

Phi Kappa Pi, Omega Epsilon Chapter

Simon Fraser University Class of 2015
Simon Fraser University’s Greek life has been a home to many, including myself. While US movies and media depict a scene of constant debauchery, misbehaviour, and elitism – the fraternities and sororities at SFU are completely different. The multi-million dollar mansion idea that many have are the furthest thing from how our Greek Life is. Phi Kappa Pi was a light for me in a dark time, and eventually a home and a family.

Coming into my second year at SFU I was in a rough patch of my life. After tearing my ACL playing lacrosse and attempting to get back to playing for the upcoming season, I was in a different dynamic with the team because of my medical absence. Along with that a new break-up with a long time girlfriend through a wrench in my life just as school started. With no immediate close bonds with teammates, and a lack of social scene that SFU has, I reached out to a club I walked by at Clubs Days – Phi Kappa Pi. Throughout the next weeks I met a wide variety of new people from all sorts of backgrounds and knew this was a group of people I could be with. Becoming a member allowed me to make personal, social, and professional connections to numerous active and alumni members of not only Phi Kappa Pi, but to the other Greek Letter Organizations at SFU and connecting schools. I was lucky enough to find a girl I love and friends who would – and still will – be there for me no matter what the circumstance.

While living in a rented house the members would meet at, the bonds I redeveloped with my roommates reminded all of us why we joined. A house where no one went to the same high school and didn’t know who each other were until a visit to the same table and rush events that we had all loved in our first year. Phi Kappa Pi created a student home, not a student house, and will continue to do so. The benefit of having these organizations at the school I loved to attend is so large in creating a social atmosphere that is tight knit between the student body that the down turn in approval over the last year is mind blowing to me.
Looking back on my 5 years at SFU there are a number of amazing memories, but none greater than the times I had with my fellow Greeks in a social atmosphere as a friend, a professional atmosphere as President, or in a networking realm with alumni and others in similar fields. Promoting Greek Life should be at the forefront of this university’s agenda to better the students that attend classes there during, and after, their enrollment.

Clayton Fenney
Phi Kappa Pi, Omega Epsilon Chapter
Simon Fraser University Class of 2017
When I look back at my time at Simon Fraser University, it’s difficult to imagine it without Greek Life; more specifically, Phi Kappa Pi. Coming to SFU from the small town of Quesnel, BC in 2009 to pursue cross country running/track & field and a Bachelor of Science, I was intimidated by my new surroundings. I was moving to a different city with a whole heck of a lot more people, unfamiliar faces, and a difficult course load. I’d be lying if I said that I didn’t struggle to find my way as a freshman. After landing on academic probation after my first semester, I found myself wondering if I had the motivation to continue with my studies at SFU.

After limping through my first two semesters of school and ultimately switching my studies from Sciences to Communications, I was in serious need of something to spark my passion, which had been lacking since my senior year in high school. When the idea of starting a fraternity at SFU was tossed around between some of roommates, it was initially a joke. “SFU doesn’t have fraternities!” That joke quickly turned into, “How would we do it and why?”

Looking back, six years later, it’s easy to answer those two initial questions. How? Find a group of people that are looking to get more out of their university experience; make new friends, create lifelong memories, impact the student population in a positive way, and get involved with charity. Next, find and contact a fraternity that aligns with the group’s ideals. Then, work your tail off to bring this dream to fruition and be accepted into the brotherhood. Why? For me, living eight hours away from my hometown was difficult at times. Phi Kappa Pi was, and still is, like my second family. Having a tight-knit group of people for support, whether it be academic, personal, or work related, has been very important to me as I’ve made Vancouver my new home over the past seven years. Whether it’s been a specific question about a class, dragging my butt out of my dorm room to track practice, or catching up over beers on a Wednesday evening and discussing post-student problems, my fraternity brothers have been an extremely valuable resource for me.
Helping build a chapter of Phi Kappa Pi from the ground up allowed me to be part of something larger than myself. I have no issues admitting that I was once a very selfish person. However, being a part of a fraternity instilled in me that when you check your attitude at the door and work together to achieve team success, that’s when you gain a true sense of satisfaction and, ultimately, grow. I’ve learned to apply this to other facets of life; my career and my relationship to name a few.

This feeling of accomplishment is not the sole reason for my fraternal endeavors though. Phi Kappa Pi has also spurred in me the will to do well for others. Through Phi Kappa Pi’s involvement in Movember, I’ve learned the importance of charitable contribution. Although something may not affect you directly, showing support for others is an important part of being an engaged and compassionate member of your community. I used to look at charity as a burden, but now I actually look forward to supporting the causes that our fraternity is involved with.

Being a part of a fraternity at SFU has undoubtedly provided me with opportunities that I would not have had if I had not decided to pursue Greek Life. I’ve made lifelong connections with a diverse group of men; those of different ethnicities, nationalities, upbringings and passions. I’ve connected with people from across the country who I would have never met had I not been involved with Phi Kappa Pi. I’ve gained valuable leadership experience through coaching my younger fraternity brothers on the history and values of the fraternity. The list goes on. I’m grateful for having the opportunity to be part of something this special, and look forward to continuing to participate as an alumni of the fraternity that has given so much to me.

Thank you,

Chris Dinsdale

Phi Kappa Pi, Omega Epsilon Chapter

Simon Fraser University Class of 2014
Appendix B - Organization Testimonials:

The following includes samples of testimonials provided by organizations SFUGL has volunteered with or raised money for:

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My experience with your members is a prime demonstration of pure professionalism and pure compassion to help humanity. You are a joyous and happy bunch of like-minded women whose cohesiveness and enthusiasm is infectious. The workplace and community become brighter because of your presence.

Ming Chau
Business Manager
The Salvation Army
Vancouver Community and Family Services
Attention: Kappa Beta Gamma International Sorority

On behalf of the New Westminster Hyack Ambassador Leadership Program we would like to thank Kappa Beta Gamma International Sorority for your generous support at our annual Trivia Night fundraiser, "Groovy 60's Trivia Night". In particular we would like to thank Amy Batengas, Mia Dhillon, Sam Di Francesco, Rachel Di Francesco, Sophie Fury, Mary Knowles, Julianna Manzo, Oliva Padron, Kyla Sabatino and Jessica Sanford. These young women were helpful and dedicated to making this fundraiser a fantastic success. Monies raised will be used to support our Hyack Ambassador Leadership program, one of the longest running youth programs in New Westminster, for ongoing leadership training, post-secondary scholarships for all participants and the opportunity to represent New Westminster and the Hyack Festival Association at various civic and community events locally, around BC and throughout the Pacific Northwest. Again, thank you, for recognizing the value of building our future leaders!

Best Regards,

Rin Candolfi
New Westminster
Hyack Ambassador
Leadership Program
To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this as confirmation that Delta Alpha Theta Beta Chapter has actively volunteered as a group at Quest Food Exchange. The group volunteered at Quest on February 3rd, 2018. They have helped us in our food repackaging area where we need community assistance and involvement. The group is actively fundraising for Quest as well. The group is committed to our cause of Reducing Hunger with Dignity, Building Community and Fostering Sustainability. Therefore, we highly recommend Delta Alpha Theta Beta Chapter.

Sincerely,

Sandra Mora

Human Resources and Volunteer Programs Manager

Quest Food Exchange
To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Katie Bell, Events and Engagement Coordinator with Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver (BBGV). I am writing to acknowledge that Delta Alpha Theta Beta Chapter, Simon Fraser University on their support towards Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver in volunteering at the third party fundraising event “An Evening At Ringside”.

Delta Alpha Theta Beta Chapter, Simon Fraser University first reached out to volunteer with the organization in Fall 2017. They were enthusiastic and responsive in volunteering and giving back to the community. They were both professional and respectful in communications leading up the event. It was wonderful to have updates on the volunteer initiative and how we could work well together. During their volunteering experience with BBGV it was clear that they worked well together as a group and they were able to problem solve any issues that came up. The enthusiasm that the girls showed to the event and volunteer roles was greatly appreciated and a key aspect to its success.

Delta Alpha Theta Beta Chapter, Simon Fraser University clearly have a positive impact towards their efforts in the community and any other future endeavours. Their organization was a respectful, open group who have a lot to offer any other partners. We would welcome them back to volunteer at any time.

Sincerely,

Katie Bell

Events and Engagement Coordinator