

1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 1:38 PM

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that the SFSS is located on the traditional, unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples, including the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), S^kw^xwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selílwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k^wik^wəłəm (Kwkwetlem) and qícəy (Katzie) Nations. 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 Committee Composition

VP University Relations (<i>Chair</i>)	Shina Kaur
President (<i>ex-officio</i>)	Giovanni HoSang
At-Large Representative	Rayhaan Khan (<i>via phone</i>)
Board of Directors Representative	Osob Mohamed
Board of Directors Representative	Emerly Liu
Board of Directors Representative	Jennifer Chou
Student At Large	Simran Randhawa
Student At Large	Stephanie Chiakwelu
Student At Large	Phum Luckkid
Student At-Large	K M Sabah Khan
Student At Large	Sude Guvendik
Student At Large	Mohammed Daanyaal Sheikh

3.2 Society Staff

Campaign, Research, and Policy Coordinator	Sarah Edmunds
Executive Assistant	Shaneika Blake
Administrative Assistant	Kristin Kokkov

3.3 Regrets

Student At Large	Mohammed Daanyaal Sheikh
Student At Large	Stephanie Chiakwelu
Student At Large	Simran Randhawa

4. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS

4.1 MOTION UAA 2019-10-28:01

Emerly /Giovanni

Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Simran Randhawa, Stephanie Chiakwelu, and Mohammed Daanyaal Sheikh.

CARRIED

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5.1 MOTION UAA 2019-10-28:02

Emery/Sabah

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as amended.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

Amendment: add regrets from Simran Randhawa, Stephanie Chiakwelu, and Mohammed Daanyaal Sheikh.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 MOTION UAA 2019-10-28:03

Sabah/Phum

Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:

- UAA 2019-09-30

CARRIED

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 MOTION UAA 2019-10-28:03

Sabah/Emerly

Be it resolved that the UAA endorse and support in principle the hiring of a Student Advocate for the SFSS.

CARRIED

Discussion:

- A Student Advocate would be similar to Ombudsperson, but in addition to giving advice about the SFU policies, the Student Advocate would also give mental support, help and advocate students.

Sude Guvendik entered at 1:43 PM

- A Student Advocate would address different concerns that can arise – non-academic misconduct, academic conduct, housing etc.
- The position will be funded by SFSS.
- It is brought to the committee for feedback and on November 1 it will be on the Board Meeting;
 - If they Board approves the idea, hiring process can start.
- It is noted that this idea has been discussed with ombudsperson and she is supporting this idea.
- It is asked, how the Student Advocate would be advertised;
 - There would be a marketing campaign.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Federal Election Debate debrief

- In general it is said to be a good event.
- One person brought a lot of people, who were really loud and boo-d the other attendance

- Suggestion that there could be a plan to make sure that similar things wouldn't happen again.
- It is suggested to have more communication with the politicians beforehand so that they would know how they are escorted – this time there was some confusion about that.
- It is brought out that there could be more awareness about these events in the future, so that more people would attend.
- It is noted that although the event went well, there were worries that the audience might act inappropriately.
- It is suggested to have audience Q&A next time.
- One aspect was brought out – since there was no photographer, there are no official photos of the event.

8.2 Gondola Group Update

- The aim is to create awareness about Gondola;
 - There will be a pop-up campaign in line with Translink consultations to have the Gondola;
- In spring there will be conversations with the SFU and talking to people in media;
 - Different levels of engagement (social media, talking to students etc.).

8.3 Elections Canada Numbers

- It is noted that we didn't beat the record we had in 2015 – this year 7000 people voted.
- The reasons why it didn't go as expected:
 - SFU did not provide the organizers with students email lists;
 - There was a confusion about who is allowed to vote on campus: lots of people thought that this was only for people who live in this region. People didn't know that this was for everyone.
- It is suggested that next time it should be made more explicit that every Canadian citizen can vote on campus, no matter where they live.

9. ATTACHMENTS

- 9.1** Briefing Note - Student Advocate – 2019.pdf

10. ADJOURNMENT

10.1 MOTION UAA 2019-10-28:04

Sabah/Jennifer

Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 2:09 PM.

CARRIED



Briefing note: Student Advocate

Presented by: Sylvia Ceacero, E.D.

To: SFSS Board of Directors

Meeting date: TBD

BACKGROUND

Earlier in the semester, Shina Kaur, VP – University Relations and Osob Mohamed, Health Sciences Representative, approached me to discuss the possibility of a Student Advocate for SFSS.

They had done some preliminary work and shared that with me. I also reached out to some of the B.C. universities.

At AMS – UBC, a student service called AMS Advocacy.

“The Advocacy Office was established in 1999 to provide information and support to students facing the bureaucratic challenges and disciplinary committees of UBC. We strive to do our absolute best to provide students with information about UBC’s policies and procedures when they are in a formal conflict with the university. But, we are not lawyers, and do not provide legal advice! Rather, we are here to offer confidential and effective support to any undergraduate and graduate student at UBC in regards to the disputes outlined below.

- **Non Academic Misconduct** – Non Academic Misconduct may include vandalism of University property, harassing others individuals, and stealing on Campus Grounds. We can also assist and advocate for the rights of students accused under policy 131 – Sexual Assault and Other Sexual Misconduct.
- **Academic Misconduct** – Academic Misconduct may include engaging or attempting to engage in cheating, plagiarism, falsifying information, etc.
- **Academic standing** – Academic Standing refers to issues such as failing a grade or promotion to next level of studies.
- **Housing appeals** – Housing incidents that relate to the UBC Resident Contract, subletting, etc.
- **Parking disputes** – Appealing a Traffic Notice (Parking ticket disputes).
- **Library fine appeals** – Appealing library fines and other charges.”

You can find more info on their website

<https://www.ams.ubc.ca/student-services/advocacy-ombuds/#!/tab/advocacy-office/>

According to an e-mail from the AMS Managing Director, the service has a paid Coordinator, who works 20 hours a week.

The E.D. of CapilanoU, shared that they have a Director – Advocacy who serves as both a resource to the equity-seeking groups on campus (the queer students college, Indigenous students collective, students of colour collective, international students collective, mature & parent students collective, accessibility justice collective, and women students collective), but they also as a resource to students engaged in academic or non-academic appeals with the university, or who generally need assistance navigating confusing university policies. CapU finds that, more often than not, appeals intersect very much with the identities represented by our equity-seeking groups. This is a new arrangement and they will evaluate overtime the outcomes.

I also met with Laura Reid – SFU Ombudsperson who explained what her office does. More information here: <http://www.sfu.ca/ombudsperson.html>

She is able to guide the students to advocate for themselves, but not to advocate with them or on their behalf. She felt that many students abandon their advocacy efforts with the University when they are left to their own devices. The Ombudsperson supports the idea of a Student Advocate because of the limitations of her office.

Recommendation

The Board of Directors endorse a pilot project for a Student Advocate Manager and that the Board request for the SFSS' E.D. to develop a business plan for that pilot project to be presented to the Board in the Spring semester, coinciding with budget preparation.