

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 2:31 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<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), S<sup>k</sup>w<sup>x</sup>wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selíłwíłh (Tsleil-Waututh), k<sup>w</sup>ik<sup>w</sup>əłəm (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 Board Composition

President ( <i>Chair</i> ) .....	Osob Mohamed
VP External Relations .....	Samad Raza
VP Finance .....	Corbett Gildersleve
VP Student Services .....	Matthew Provost
VP Student Life .....	Jennifer Chou
VP University Relations .....	Gabe Liosis
At-Large Representative .....	Balqees Jama
At-Large Representative .....	Phum Luckkid
Faculty Representative (Applied Sciences) .....	Harry Preet Singh
Faculty Representative (Arts & Social Sciences) .....	Sude Guvendik
Faculty Representative (Business) .....	Mehtaab Gill
Faculty Representative (Communications, Art, & Technology) .....	Haider Masood
Faculty Representative (Education) .....	Emerly Liu
Faculty Representative (Environment) .....	Anuki Karunajeewa
Faculty Representative (Health Sciences) .....	Nafoni Modi
Faculty Representative (Science) .....	WeiChun Kua

### 3.2 Society Staff

Campaign, Research, and Policy Coordinator .....	Sarah Edmunds
Executive Director .....	Sylvia Ceacero
Executive Assistant .....	Shaneika Blake
Administrative Assistant .....	Kristin Kokkov
Build SFU General Manager .....	Marc Fontaine
Building Manager .....	John Walsh
Administrative Services Manager .....	Shubhangi Jain
Finance Manager .....	Rowena de la Torre

### 3.3 Guests

The Peak Humour Editor .....	Zach Siddiqui
Council/Board Liaison .....	Zaina Khan

Student.....Helen Sofia Pahou  
Student.....Catlin Heide  
Student.....Zaid Lari

## 4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

### 4.1 MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:01

Nafoni/Matthew

*Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as amended.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED unanimously**

#### 4.1.1 MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:01-01

Osob/Samad

*Be it resolved to add the discussion item 7.4 Open Letter Regarding Asynchronous Course Delivery to the agenda.*

**CARRIED**

#### 4.1.2 MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:01-02

Osob/Corbett

*Be it resolved to change the agenda by adding additional motion 6.20 University and Academic Affairs Committee Members Appointment to the agenda.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

## 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

### 5.1 Board Minutes – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:02

Sude/Gabe

*Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:*

- BOARD 2020-04-29

**CARRIED unanimously**

### 5.2 Council Minutes – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:03

Gabe/WeiChun

*Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:*

- COUNCIL 2020-04-08

**CARRIED unanimously**

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

### 6.1 Appointment of a Vice Chair of the Board – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:04

??/??

*Be it resolved to appoint Gabe as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for the 2020/21 Board term.*

*Be it further resolved that the Vice Chair of the Board has the power to convene and chair a Board meeting in the absence or at the discretion of the Chair of the Board, unless otherwise voted on by the Board at a particular meeting.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

**Call for nomination of the vice chair:**

- Samad Raza nominated himself.
  - He has previous experience with chairing Board as President of Residence Hall Association.
- Sude Guvendik nominated Gabe Liosis.
  - He has had a lot of experience with chairing meetings not only at SFU, but also at the SFSS.
    - He was the Council Chair from January to April 2020.

**Voting (majority win):**

- 4 in favor for Samad Raza
- 7 in favor for Gabe Liosis
  - Gabe Liosis wins majority vote.

**6.1.1 Appointment of a Vice Chair of the Board – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:04-01**

Balqees/Haider

*Be it resolved to appoint Gabe Liosis as the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for the 2020/21 Board term.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

**6.2 Appointment of a Board Liaison to the Council – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:05**

**Samad/Matthew**

*Whereas, the SFSS By-Law 4.4(a) designates the VP Student Life as the main liaison between the Board of Directors and Council;*

*Be it resolved to appoint Jennifer Chou as “Board Liaison to the Council” for the 2020/21 Board term.*

*Be it further resolved that the Board Liaison to the Council be tasked with compiling a brief summary of what occurs at all Board meetings since the last Council meeting, and that this report be delivered verbally to the Council.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

- It was added that it is a good idea to have a report to the Council, since this has not been done before, however it was asked, why the VP Student Life has to be appointed.
  - By the bylaws, they are the liaison and have to act as a liaison between the Board and Council and all other student groups.
- It was clarified that even if it is in the bylaws, this has not happened in the previous years.
  - This motion is symbolic and indicates the Board’s commitment that the liaising would be done at a higher frequency.
- It was asked that since last year there was a backup for student liaison, if there is going to be another backup this year as well.
  - It was clarified that the other liaisons were Council liaisons to the Board, but this motion appoints the Board liaison to the Council.
  - It was brought out that the president can be the backup for the Board liaison to the Council.
- It was suggested that the motion should be changed, because there is no need to appoint the liaison, because this is already stated in the bylaws.
  - Only the part of the motion about the tasking to compile the report is new.
  - It was clarified that this is the role of the VP Student Life, and this motion can potentially create confusion.
  - Last year the liaising did not happen and that was incorrect.

- This year things are not changed, rather just done according to the bylaws.

### **6.3 Amendment of Committee Terms of Reference – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:06**

#### **Corbett/Gabe**

*Whereas, the current Terms of Reference (TOR) for committees requires that they meet in person; Whereas, due to social distancing restrictions, as set out by provincial health officers, committees are unable to meet in person;*

*Be it resolved to amend each committee's Terms of Reference to read: "The committee shall meet in-person or electronically as required and at the call of the Chair."*

**CARRIED unanimously**

### **6.4 Nominating Committee Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:07**

#### **Corbett/WeiChun**

*Be it resolved to appoint Matthew Provost as Chair of the Nominating Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Corbett Gildersleve and Mehtaab Gill as members of the Nominating Committee.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

- The Board has already discussed what committees there are going to be.
- The committee applications for students at large will be sent out.

### **6.5 Governance Committee Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:08**

#### **Balqees/Corbett**

*Be it resolved to appoint Gabe Liosis as Chair of the Governance Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Corbett Gildersleve, Balqees Jama, and Matthew Provost as members of the Governance Committee.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED unanimously**

#### **6.5.1 Governance Committee Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:08-01**

##### **Nafoni/Gabe**

*Be it resolved to remove Nafoni Modi's name from the motion.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

### **6.6 Finance and Audit Committee Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:09**

#### **Corbett/Haider**

*Be it resolved to amend the Terms of Reference, under "Voting Members," to read "up to 2 at-large members", for the Finance and Audit Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Corbett Gildersleve as Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Harry Preet Singh, Mehtaab Gill, Phum Luckkid, and Jennifer Chou as members of the Finance and Audit Committee.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

- The reason for adding at large members to the committee is that it is helpful for the committee members, who might want to run again as Board members, to have a better idea of the Society's finances and recruitment options.
- It was pointed out that there may be confidential information shared at the committee meetings, that should not be available to students that are not Board members.
  - It was proposed to go in camera for those instances.
  - So far there has not been anything that has been confidential.

**6.7 FPMALC Renaming and Appointment (External and Community Affairs) – Mirroring the University and Academic Affairs Naming Convention – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:10**

**Matthew/Samad**

*Be it resolved to appoint Samad Raza as the Chair of the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Advocacy and Lobbying Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Anuki Karunajeewa, WeiChun Kua, Harry Preet Singh, Balqees Jama, and Sude Guvendik as members of the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Advocacy and Lobbying Committee.*

*Be it further resolved that the Board renames the “the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Advocacy and Lobbying Committee” to the “External and Community Affairs Committee” and to have this reflected in the appropriate sections of the Board Policies.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED unanimously**

- It was pointed that it is not possible to appoint people to a committee that technically does not exist yet – it is necessary to amend this motion so that changing of the name of the committee is after appointing the members.
  - People have to be appointed to the original committee and then the name of the committee can be changed.

**6.7.1 FPMALC Renaming and Appointment (External and Community Affairs) – Mirroring the University and Academic Affairs Naming Convention – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:10-01**

**Osob/Corbett**

*Be it resolved to change sequence of the motion to read as follows:*

*Be it resolved to appoint Samad Raza as the Chair of the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Advocacy and Lobbying Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Anuki Karunajeewa, WeiChun Kua, Harry Preet Singh, Balqees Jama, and Sude Guvendik as members of the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Advocacy and Lobbying Committee.*

*Be it further resolved that the Board renames the “the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Advocacy and Lobbying Committee” to the “External and Community Affairs Committee” and to have this reflected in the appropriate sections of the Board Policies.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

**6.8 University and Academic Affairs Committee Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:11 Haider/Gabe**

*Be it resolved to amend the Terms of Reference, under “Voting Members,” to read “at least 2 and up to 5 Board members in addition to the Chair”, for the University and Academic Affairs Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Gabe Liosis as Chair of the University and Academic Affairs Committee.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED unanimously**

- It was pointed out that this motion is mending the TOR, and it is not possible to appoint any persons to this extra seat until after the motion passes.
  - It was suggested to have a friendly amendment to the agenda (which requires 2/3 majority) or postpone appointing the member to the next meeting.
    - It is not possible to have 5 additional members after the chair, but just 4 members.
    - The member can still attend but cannot be a voting member.

- It was recommended to make this motion into two separate motions, which it requires amending the agenda.

**6.8.1 University and Academic Affairs Committee Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:11-01**

**Osob/Corbett**

*Be it resolved to strike the clause “Be it further resolved to appoint Samad Raza, WeiChun Kua, Nafoni Modi, Emerly Liu, and Anuki Karunajeewa as members of the University and Academic Affairs Committee” from the motion.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

**6.9 Events Committee Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:12**

**Matthew/Nafoni**

*Be it resolved to appoint Jennifer Chou as Chair of the Events Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Phum Luckkid, Emerly Liu, and Haider Masood as members of the Events Committee.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

**6.10 Surrey Campus Committee Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:13**

**Nafoni/Corbett**

*Be it resolved to appoint Mehtaab Gill as Chair of the Surrey Campus Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Harry Preet Singh, Jennifer Chou, and Nafoni Modi as members of the Surrey Campus Committee.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

**6.11 Vancouver Campus Committee Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:14**

**Gabe/Corbett**

*Be it resolved to appoint Haider Masood as Chair of the Vancouver Campus Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Matthew Provost and Balqees Jama as members of the Vancouver Campus Committee.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED unanimously**

- It was pointed out that there is a need for at least one more member for this committee in order for this committee to be active.
  - It was suggested that someone to volunteer to be on this committee.

**6.11.1 Vancouver Campus Committee Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:14-01**

**Osob/Phum**

*Be it resolved to add Balqees Jama to the list of people to be appointed as members of the Vancouver Campus Committee.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

*\*Break at 3:30 PM, meeting resumes at 3:35 PM\**

**6.12 Accessibility Fund Committee Appointments, Terms of Reference Changes and Renaming – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:15**

**Gabe/Corbett**

*Be it resolved to amend the Terms of Reference for the Accessibility Fund Committee, under "Voting Members," to read "VP Student Services (Chair) or another Director as designated by the Board; or on recommendation of the committee, another member of the committee".*

*Be it further resolved to amend the Terms of Reference to include a "Selection" category to read "The selection of student-at-large members for this committee shall be prioritized to students with lived experiences".*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Matthew Provost, Anuki Karunajeewa, Emerly Liu, and Phum Luckkid as members of the Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to change the name of the committee from "Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee" to "Accessibility Advisory Committee".*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Jennifer Chou as Chair of the Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED unanimously**

- It was pointed out that the motion needs to be changed because of the renaming part to the motion.
- It was clarified that the name of the committee is changed because this committee is not only about the funding, but also about guidance.
- There was a question about meaning of the first clause in the motion.
  - It was clarified that the committee has flexibility to select a different chair who is not a Board member.
  - By selecting students at large and prioritizing living experience gives the committee the flexibility to choose a chair who has lived experience, not just restricting to Board members who may not that experience.
- Question – if there are students who do not want to self disclose their disability, how can it be made sure that the SFSS is not discriminating against them?
  - There can be situations where students who do not have disabilities, may be discriminated.
- It was said that this is not a discrimination to have students with disabilities on the committee.
  - It was clarified that the applications can be looked on case by case bases.
- It was pointed out it can be a concern if the chair is not a Board member in terms of calling the committee in the beginning of the year.
  - The Board changes year by year and even if people continue on, they still have to reapply.
    - There is a need to have a Board member to call the first meeting.
- It was suggested to have a co-chair that is not a Board member.
  - However, it was pointed out that by policy the chair does not have to be a Board member.
  - It was decided that there is no need to change the motion at the moment to add a co-chair.

**6.12.1 Accessibility Fund Committee Appointments, Terms of Reference Changes and Renaming – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:15-01**

**Osob/Corbett**

*Be it resolved to move the clause "Be it further resolved to change the name of the committee from "Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee" to "Accessibility Advisory Committee" to the bottom of the motion.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

**6.13 First Year Engagement Committee Establishment and Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:16**

**Balqees/WeiChun**

*Be it resolved that the Board establish and adopt the attached terms of reference for the “First Year Engagement Committee” as part of the SFSS Board Policies.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Sude Guvendik as Chair of the First Year Engagement Committee.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Gabe Liosis, Balqees Jama, and Haider Masood as members of the First Year Engagement Committee.*

**COMMITTED**

- It was pointed out that it is important to take into consideration the engagement of the first-year students.
  - This committee informs the first-year students about the possibilities that are available to the students.
  - Previously there has been lack of first year engagement of the SFSS.
    - Due to the pandemic it is necessary to pay extra attention to students who are not going to experience the first year as usually.
- It was brought out that this motion needs to be amended – it is not possible to appoint students to a committee that does not exist.
  - In addition, there are more non-Board members in the committee than Board members and this is not allowed by the policies.
    - It was suggested to commit this motion to the Governance Committee so that the motion could be properly reviewed.

**6.13.1 First Year Engagement Committee Establishment and Appointments – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:16-01**

**Gabe/Corbett**

*Be it resolved to commit the motion to Governance Committee.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

- It was decided that it is necessary to go over the governance and board policies before moving the motion.

**6.14 Committee TOR Amendments for Council Voting Members – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:17**

**Gabe/Matthew**

*Whereas, the SFSS Council is an advisory body to the Board of Directors and plays an integral role in holding the Board accountable for its decisions.*

*Whereas, the Council must be aware of all the Board’s affairs, including decisions made at Board Committees.*

*Whereas, in the 2015 Policy Manual, Council held a voting seat on every Board committee.*

*Whereas, this practice allows Council to have a larger scope of Board affairs and allows for greater accountability.*

*Be it resolved to amend the Terms of References, under “Voting Members,” to read “up to 1 councillor on the recommendation of Council”, for the following Committees:*

*Nominating Committee*

*Governance Committee*

*Finance and Audit Committee*

*External and Community Affairs*

*University and Academic Affairs*

*Events Committee*

*Surrey Campus Committee*



*Vancouver Campus Committee*  
*Accessibility Fund Committee*

**CARRIED unanimously**

- It was pointed the Council is the advisory body to the Board in the bylaws.
  - The Council has access to the information that is useful to the Board.
    - In order to fulfil the duty properly, the Council has to have access to the information to make recommendation to the Board.
- Having open seats for councillors allows the Council to have access to information and allows transparency.
- It was recommended to commit the motion to the Governance Committee, because this would change the quorum regarding the Board and non-Board members, as well as paying the councillors.
  - However, it was pointed out that the societies act does not talk about committee members.
    - In addition, this would not break quorum if there are less board members than at large members.
- There was a question, why the councillors cannot apply as at large members.
  - It was pointed out that letting councillors to apply as students at large does not guarantee them a seat.
  - It was cautioned that if in the future no councillors apply, there can be an issue with the quorum.
- However, it was pointed out that the motion reads as “up to 1 councillor” and ‘up to 1’ includes zero, therefore there will not be problems should no councillors apply.
  - Quorum is half plus 1.

**6.15 Begin Process for Seeking Students-At Large for Board Committees – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:18**

**Jennifer/Samad**

*Be it resolved to mandate the nominating committee to start the process of seeking, identifying, and recruiting students in consultation with the various committee chairs, to apply for Board Committees as Students At-Large.*

*Be it further resolved that each Committee Chair begin developing criteria for committee applications.*

*Be it further resolved to mandate the VP Student Life to work with the Council to seek, identify, and recruit Councillors to participate in Board committees.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

- This is the motion to mandate to start with the appointing as soon as possible.

**6.16 Appointing a Staff Liaison Officer – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:19**

**Corbett/Balqees**

*Whereas, Article 3.3 (p. 4) of the Collective Agreement requires that the Board appoints a member of the Board to be the Staff Liaison Officer;*

*Whereas, Bylaw 4.1(e) requires the President to “ensure compliance with and enforcement of all relevant Collective Agreements, employment contracts and staff relations policies.”*

*Be it resolved to appoint Osob Mohamed, President, and Shubhangi Jain, Administrative Services Manager, as a Staff Liaison Officer for the 2020/21 Board term.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED unanimously**

- There is a clause in the collective agreement that the staff liaison is appointed by the Board and it can be up to two people.

- This is a standard practice for the president to be one of the staff liaisons officers.
- ED pointed out that it was not clear that the Board can appoint the excluded staff liaison officer as well.
  - There was a conversation with the president a few days before and it was recommended to seek for legal advice on this matter.
    - There are risks associated with the Board being SLO and this is the reason the practise had been changed for the past couple of years – to safeguard the potential liability to the Board.
  - It was recommended to postpone voting on this motion and seek legal advice.
- It was clarified that legal advice had already been sought – with the approval of the Executive Committee the Board members talked to a lawyer.
  - It was pointed out that it is the right of the Board members to be appointed as staff liaison, but it is also a good idea to ensure that the bylaws are followed.
  - In addition, it is part of the job description and outline in the collective agreement.
- It was further clarified that the Board is not the SLO, rather the president is.
- It was pointed out the SLO has access to the information to the staff that the other Board members do not have, and this is the reason why only one Board members is appointed as a SLO.

#### **6.16.1 Appointing a Staff Liaison Officer – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:19-01**

##### **Osob/Gabe**

*Be it resolved to add Shubhangi Jain, Administrative Services Manager, as a Staff Liaison Officer for the 2020/21 Board term.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

#### **6.17 Organizational Restructuring and Review – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:20**

##### **Corbett/Samad**

*Whereas, the Board of Directors, in the summer of 2015, conducted a governance restructuring that resulted in the acceptance of the Policy Governance Model, also known as the Carver Model, where the Board focused entirely on Governance work and delegated Operations responsibilities to a senior manager.*

*Whereas, this model resulted in a continued decline in useful knowledge and skill sets of Board members, thereby impacting their ability to effectively oversee the management of the Society and fulfillment of their fiduciary duties.*

*Whereas, the overall principles and processes of the Policy Governance Model are not being followed.*

*Be it resolved that the SFSS no longer follow the principles of the Policy Governance Model.*

*Be it further resolved that the Board commit to repealing and replacing the current SFSS Board Policies, and that the Board task the Governance Committee with reviewing and recommending updates to the 2015 Policy Manual for the Board to consider.*

*Be it further resolved to task the Executive Committee to research and review options for an administrative restructuring.*

*Be it further resolved that the Governance Committee and Executive Committees report back to the Board within 30 days on the progress of its research and review.*

**CARRIED unanimously**

- It was pointed out that the Carver Model does not work, and the model is not followed.
- It was suggested that the Board has to make a new model
  - The Governance Committee has to look at the policies and report back to the Board.

- In 2015 the Board did the restructuring without any research and there were no options given.
  - Now the Board wants to do the restructuring more responsibly.
- The Board members are in favour of the motion, and this motion signifies the beginning of the review of the governance structure and administration structure.
  - Lots of things have been delegated to operation and senior management which has resulted in the decline of the skills gained by the Board members.
  - The Carver Model is not used properly.
  - There is a need to find a better balance between a policy governance Board and working Board.
    - It was pointed out that the Board members, who are also students, should not be doing payroll and scheduling people – this is not the best use of the Board members' time
    - However, if the Carver Model were to be used properly, non of the Board members would be contacting the staff.
- It was pointed out that it is the duty of the Board to review any process and new structure that is implemented.
  - Over the course of the year there will be done a review if this is working for the SFSS.
- Board members agreed that the current structure does not work with the SFSS.
  - There is a need for more transparency.
  - It was pointed out that there is a lack of continuity for points of contact for operations.
  - The lack of involvement of the Board needs to be restructured and revisited.
- Board members agree that it is necessary to start the process of research to find more suitable model so that there could be a more cohesive unite.
  - It was brought out that it is necessary to establish a system that empowers the Board to empower the students.
- The current model is not working properly.
  - The Board is focusing on governance and stakeholder's engagement, and making changes to policies, but over the years the Board do not know perform their duties.
    - This model does not work with the high turnover of the Board.
  - Under policy governance, the Board does not report to anyone and lacks transparency.
    - A lot of decisions are made through delegated power to the operational side of the society.
      - The students are not privy to these decisions and they do not know who is accountable.
    - The Board thinks that they can make their own decisions.
    - Without proper framework for accountability, the Board does not have the obligation to work with bodies like the Council.
- It was asked, what does the part of the motion mean “Be it resolved that the SFSS no longer follow the principles of the Policy Governance Model” – what does that mean for following the policies, because they are not repealed, but they do inform aspect of the Governance Policy model?
  - The policy governance is a framework, that motion is a symbolic way to say that the Board want to move forward with a difference governance model.
  - The motion gives mandate to move forward.
  - Until the policy is not repealed, the policy is followed.

### **6.18 Appointment of Legal Liaison Officer – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:21**

**Corbett/Harry**

*Whereas the oversight of all Society affairs, including legal affairs, remains under the discretion of the Board of Directors,*

*Be it resolved that all legal advice and legal resources requiring budget allocated through the Society be sought through the Legal Liaison Officer with the approval of the Executive Committee, prior to a lawyer being contacted*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Osob Mohamed, President, as Legal Liaison Officer.*

*Be it further resolved that the said all Society lawyers be chosen at the Legal Liaison Officer's direction, and if Board members or Staff requires legal advice, the Legal Liaison Officer is notified prior to legal consultation being sought, that the Legal Liaison Officer gives direction for the selection of the lawyer for the specific advice in order for the services to be billed to the Society.*

**CARRIED**

**10 in favour, 2 against, 2 abstentions**

- It was said that the Board of Directors are entitled to seek legal advice for Society related matter.
- The motion can help to centralise the process – if any staff or Board members would like to contact a lawyer, the liaison has to be made aware of it.
- ED asked clarification – if she needs to have legal advice for a matter that is delegated to her, whether she has to go to the president to ask for permission to contact the lawyer that is agreeable to the president.
  - Previously it was understood that this was about the Board members not going to seek legal advice without a particular channel.
  - Now the motion applies both to the Board members and the staff members.
- The process is that the lawyers are chosen based on the liaison's direction.
  - The Board members and staff who need legal advice, have to notify the Legal Liaison Officer prior to the advice being sought.
    - The Legal Liaison needs to know who the lawyers are who contacted to.
- It was pointed out that the words 'approval' and 'notification' are both used, and it is not clear if there is a need to notify the Legal Liaison or to get approval from the Legal Liaison.
  - The approval is necessary if there is a liability question to the Society.
- It was pointed out that it is in the Collective Agreement's job description that some staff members can seek legal advice to complete projects on behalf of the Board, and the change to this has to go through job union meeting.
  - It was advised to be careful with the wording with the motion.
- It was pointed out that if there is something in the Collective Agreement, this will not be violated.
  - The pieces of the Collective Agreement will be looked at.
- There was a concern with the timing – the Executive committee may not be able to meet as often as required.
  - It was pointed out that the time is quick because email can be used.
    - This does not have to be a motion coming through the Board table.
- It was pointed out that the motion is about choosing the lawyers that are in line with the vision of the SFSS.
  - ED pointed that legal advice is in line with the law – regardless of the lawyers' opinion of the SFSS, they advice with what the law says.
  - They provide us with the answers about the law, not the answers the SFSS wants.
    - In addition, this alternation can affect the collective agreement and job descriptions.

- It was clarified that the Board is following everything legally, and it was pointed out that the lawyers have preferences.
  - Board members were on the position that the lawyers that are selected, need to be in tune with student societies.
- A Board member agrees with ED and said that just notifying is sufficient.
  - In addition, the Board member asked why this motion was brought forward
    - It was clarified that the board needs to be privy about all the decisions that are made in terms of which lawyers are spoken to.
- It was clarified that the motion is not about the lack of trust, rather it is the matter of the responsibility of the Board.
- Some Board members pointed out that the motion can interfere with the staff's work and suggested that the Board does not need to approve who the staff contact.
- It was pointed out that the motion can be revisited later.
- It was pointed out that legal advice was sought regarding this motion and more advice can be sought if necessary.

#### **6.19 Change in Voting Tracking in the Minutes – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:22**

##### **Corbett/Balgees**

*Whereas, multiple board members campaigned on improving the transparency and openness of the Board.*

*Whereas, "Accountability" is a guiding principle of the Simon Fraser Student Society.*

*Whereas, the tracking of votes allows the membership to better hold Board members to account for their individual and collective decisions.*

*Be it resolved that effective immediately, all Board and Committee meetings list all those "in favour", "against" and "abstain" on a motion in the minutes, unless it is a motion that carries unanimously, in which case it will read "CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY" in the minutes.*

##### **CARRIED unanimously**

- This motion came up also last year at the Governance committee meeting is for openness and transparency.
- It was pointed out that the students attend the meetings regularly and record the names anyway.
- It is to show that the Board shows that they do not have anything to hide.
- It was pointed out that there has been a practice that in previous years Board members have spoken in favour of the motion, but voted against it or vice versa
  - Students need to have access to this how someone votes.
- It was pointed out that any kind of dissent and concerns should be recorded in the minutes.
  - This would add on to the transparency.

#### **6.20 University and Academic Affairs Committee Members Appointment – MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:23**

??/??

*Be it resolved to appoint Samad Raza, WeiChun Kua, Nafoni Modi, Emerly Liu, and Anuki Karunajeewa as members of the University and Academic Affairs Committee.*

##### **CARRIED unanimously**

## **7. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7.1 SFSS Emergency Covid-19 Support Updates**

- There was a survey that was put together.

- This will be part of the advocacy plan in the coming weeks.
- One of the issues that have come up about the summer semester is the 2% late fee on tuition payment.
  - This upsets a lot of people at the time students are already struggling financially.
- At the next Senate meeting there will be several questions asked about the following items:
  - International students' supports
  - Tuition fee details
  - Pass/fail grading
  - Lecture recording and accessibility
- The SFSS is working on SFU C19 coalition with GSS and TSSU.
  - They ask that CESB would be made equal to the CERB;
    - Including international students.
  - They are working on the MSP issue;
    - MSP got doubled starting January and students have to pay the amount every month.
  - There was a meeting with the AMS VP External Affairs regarding BC budget consultation in June.
    - This update will be given to the Board soon.
- ED gave update saying that the terms of reference with the emergency funding for the FAC students has been signed and \$60,000 cheque has been delivered.
- The U-Pass is suspended for the summer semester.
  - This can be reinstated over the semester if the situation changes.
  - If the situation changes, this will be a joint decision with the SFSS and the GSS, because Translink is taking us as one cohesive union.
  - The contract has been signed.
- It was pointed out that FAC students who transferred to the SFU this semester say that the finance aid from SFU has been shut down and they also cannot apply for aid from FAC.
  - The aid will be help with bursaries and not the financial fund.
  - Board can consider if they want to put funds forward.

## 7.2 Board Jackets

- The previous Boards have often ordered Board jackets for team building.
  - It was suggested to postpone this project until the Board members are back in office in person.

## 7.3 Studentcare Stakeholders Meeting

- This meeting has been cancelled because of Covid-19
- ED pointed out that the person who previously was Studentcare representative, has moved to a new position, and now there are 2 new representatives.
  - It was pointed out that the stakeholders' meetings is not the priority at the moment, because there is a big influx of other services.

## 7.4 Open Letter

- DNA is writing an open letter because a lot of lectures have mandatory attendance and class participation which is not feasible for a lot of students because of Covid-19.
  - Parents are now in charge of childcare;
  - Some course components are not needed to be synchronous, rather they could be made through canvas participation.
- Board members are in support of this letter, because a lot of students have to wake up very early to attend classes.

- Although some courses need to have in person discussions and contact, but not all classes have to be this way.
- There are many reasons why students cannot participate the classes live and this should not affect the quality of the education.
  - Even the simple problems like Wifi keeps cutting off, are not considered.
- In addition, students may have job and other commitments and it is relevant to acknowledge the stress that the students are facing right now.
- ED asked why professors are reluctant to make accommodations.
  - It was explained that some professors are not putting up recordings because they feel that then the students would not attend classes.
  - Another reason is that some professors do not want to change and are still operating under the assumption that the classes through Zoom are accessible.
- **The Board did a straw poll:**
  - The voting was unanimous, and it was decided that the letter will be signed by Board as a whole.

## 8. GUEST 30 MIN Q&A

- It was suggested that for the future meetings the guests could speak during the meeting.

## 9. ATTACHMENTS

- First Year Engagement Committee Terms of Reference Proposal.pdf

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

### 10.1 MOTION BOD 2020-05-15:23

**Gabe/Samad**

*Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 PM.*

**CARRIED unanimously**



## FIRST YEAR ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Proposed Terms of Reference by Gabe Liosis, Balqees Jama, and Sude Guvendik

### Name and Type

**Name:** First Year Engagement Committee

**Duration:** The committee will be established upon the adoption of these terms of reference and dissolved at the discretion of the Board.

### Purpose

This purpose of this committee is to make and report on the development of recommendations to the Board regarding all aspects of the undergraduate experience of first year students.

- 'First Year' is defined as a student in their first or second semester at the University.

### Membership

- Voting Members
  - President (ex-officio)
  - 1 board member (Chair)
  - at least 2 and up to 4 Board members in addition to the Chair
  - up to 1 councillor on the recommendation of Council (first year preferred)
  - up to 6 first year at-large members

### Selection

The selection of Student At-Large members for this Committee will be prioritized to First Year students at the University.

### Deliverables

As a Board Committee, the purpose of this committee is to provide the Board with formal recommendations and reports including but not limited to:

- engagement initiatives and results,
- community building events for first year students, and
- first year advocacy

### Governance

The committee will strive for consensus. Where no consensus is reached, the committee will make decisions by simple majority vote.



A majority of voting members constitutes quorum.

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of committee meetings.

### Communications

The committee shall meet in person as required and at the call of the Chair.

The committee shall report on its progress at Board meetings.

The committee shall set a meeting calendar for the duration of the academic the first meeting of the term.

The Chair may call a meeting where a notice of three working days has been provided.

### Relevant Policies

The members of the committee should be familiar with the following:

- GP-6: Board Committee Principles
- GP-7: Board Committee Structure