1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 4:37 PM

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that the SFSS is located on the traditional, unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples, including the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selí̓lwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), kʷikʷəλ̓əm (Kwikwetlem) and q̓icə̓y̓ (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 Council Composition
Student Union Representatives

Archeology ....Clara Wilmot
Art, Performance, and Cinema Studies ....
Bachelor of Environment..Bradley Sarandi
Behavioral Neuroscience ....Ramsha Farooqui
Biology ....Nicolas Bonilla
Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology...Joshua Ham
Business..Mohnish Farswani
Chemistry ....Gwen Bui
Cognitive Science ....
Communications ....
Computing Science ....Ryan Vansickle
Criminology ....Charlotte Taylor-Baer
Dance...
Data Science Student Union ....Myckland Matthew
Earth Science...Alex Kristinsson
Economics ....Sandra Pal
Education..Adrienne Blas
Engineering Science ....Alvin David
English..Liz Giardin
Environmental Resource...
Environmental Science ....Caitlin Heide
Film Student Union...
First Nations Studies Student Union ....
French..Kylee Pocrnich
Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies.......................................Devynn Butterworth
Geography ....Jonathan Ling
Gerontology Student Union..
Global Asia Studies Student Union..
Health Science...
History ....
Humanities ....Sara Wong
Interactive Arts and Technology ....Jeremy Felix

International Studies ....Alea Mohamed
Labour Studies ....Justin Chen
Linguistics ....Brianne Limb
Mathematics ....Ben Tischler
Mechatronics System Engineering ....Kimia Rezaeian
Molecular Biology & Biochemistry ....Kyle Newcomb
Music Student Union ....
Operations Research ....Ashutosh Dubal
Philosophy ....Tony Yu
Physics ....Manuel Rojas
Political Science (*Vice-Chair*) ....Helen Pahou
Psychology ....Tiffany Liu
Science Undergraduate Society (SUS) (*Chair*) ....Zaid Lari
Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS) ....
Sociology and Anthropology ....Kayla Chow
Software Systems ....Mahek Khan
Statistics and Actuarial Science (SASSA) ....Stephanie Chung
Sustainable Community Development ....
Sustainable Energy Engineering Student Society ....Maven Sera
Theatre Student Union ....
Visual Arts ....
World Literature ....Ksydalg Henry

Constituency Group Representatives
Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA) ....Serena Bains
First Nations Students Association (FNSA) ....Kali Stierle
Out on Campus Collective (OOC) ....
Residence Hall's Association (RHA) ....
Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) ....Ryan Stolys
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA) ....Juanita Julius Ndyamukama
Women Centre Collective (WCC) ....Nisha Manhas

Board of Directors
SFSS Directors (*non-voting*)
President .... 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
Transition Manager .... Lawrence Jones
Campaign, Research, and Policy Coordinator .... Sarah Edmunds
Administrative Assistant .... Christina Kachkarova
Administrative Assistant .... Somayeh Naseri

3.3 Regrets
Political Science (*Vice-Chair*) .... Helen Pahou
First Nations Students Association (FNSA) .... Kali Stierle

3.4 Guests
Student .... Jess Dela Cruz
First Nations Students Association (FNSA) .... Lauren Robson
Data Sciences Student Union President .... Warren Ho Kin

4. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS
4.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2021-01-20:01
Jonathan/Caitlin

Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Helen Pahou and Kali Stierle.

CARRIED AS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY
- Amend to include regrets from Kali Stierle.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
5.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2021-01-20:02
Zaid/ Ryan V.

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as amended.

CARRIED AS AMMENDED UNANIMOUSLY
- Amend to include Section 7 Liaisons including 7.1 Board Liaisons and 7.2 Council Liaisons.
- Amend to include Section 8 Board Executive Director Reports including 8.1 President Report, 8.2 VP External Relations, and 8.3 VP Finances.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
6.1 COUNCIL Minutes – MOTION COUNCIL 2021-01-20:03
Kyle/Sandra

Be it resolved to receive and file the following minute(s):
- Council 2020-12-16
- Council 2021-01-06

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. REPORTS FROM LIAISONS
7.1 Board Liaisons
- VP Student Life provided a link to the report (see link below):
  https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QUvAMHmyPuBlxDz4twWkfWdGKauxVAUCniLXih6

BqFc/edit
- VP Student Life discussed introduction of Meaningful Work, a company that would helps new students find clubs they want to participate in, and clubs allow to look for students who want to participate in executive roles through a centralized platform.
- SFSS townhall for students to raise concerns with board, host after elections
- VP Student Life mentioned the Senate Motion on Pilot Undergraduate Grading Scheme and that the Board currently believes that more leniency needs to be given, and individual faculties and departments should set their own rules.

7.2 Council Liaisons
- SAAC Representative briefly discussed Meaningful Work as mentioned by VP Student Life, mentioned the Senate Motion on Pilot Undergraduate Grading Scheme that would be affect only elective classes and not degree requirements. and various hiring committee appointments.

8. Board Executive Director Reports

8.1 President Report
- President provided updates on progress with hires of various staff including an Accessibility Assistant and discussed the finalized hiring of an Operations Organizer. She also mentioned that as the SFSS Council is working on the transition to the new structure, there are upcoming working groups to discuss the details of the transition.
- President discussed the SFU Gondola including the recent Phase 2 Gondola Survey preformed by TransLink which had high engagement, particularly student engagement. While this project is still facing vocal opposition from the Forest Grove neighbourhood, the SFSS want to encourage that student voices are being heard particularly when this will be heard by the Burnaby City Council.
- President mentioned that proctoring software trial was halted by SFU, tentative win for the students as official information is expected to be released soon.
- President discussed the recently passed Senate Motion on Pilot Undergraduate Grading Scheme and the issues that this could cause for those who would be switching majors in the future as classes they had previously considered elective might not be elective. Future conversation needed with SFU to resolve this issue. Students deserve to be allowed leniency in a difficult situation like this pandemic.
- President provided other general updates such as mentioning the success of Clubs Day. She also discussed a working group that was working with the university to reduce costs (not just tuition), food security, open education resources, access to supplies, and financial affordability workshops.

8.2 VP External Relations
- VP External Relations discussed recent success working with the Minister of Immigration resulting in an 18-month visa extension for former international students to remain in the country. He mentioned upcoming meetings with other ministers such as the Higher Education Minister to discuss Operating Grants and other Post Secondary related issues. He discussed the creation of an Advocacy Office for International Students in British Columbia which is currently being working on by the SFSS and GSS but is still in a logistical phase.

8.3 VP Finances
- VP Finances briefly mentioned the Annual Budget Process that has started to which he provided an overview under section 10.1 SFSS Budget. He discussed the Training and Communication

Working Group which is working on developing a new training and communication system for the new Council effective May 1st. VP Finances also discussed the Participatory Budget Pilot where students are allowed to vote on different projects to be funded. This project will be approved by the Board in December of 2021.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Council Roll Call Procedure – MOTION COUNCIL 2021-01-20:04
Ryan S./Jonathan

Whereas in the survey for changing the roll call procedure, a majority of councillors voted in favour of the quick roll call procedure,

Whereas roll call at council meetings often takes between 15 and 30 minutes in our current virtual setting,

Be it resolved that council adopt the following roll call procedure in lieu of the current verbal roll call for the remainder of the council term:

- *When councillors enter the meeting, they will adjust their display name to include their pronouns along with their DSU/ CG*

- *When the council chair calls for roll call, all present councillors will enter their DSU/ CG and accessibility needs in the chat.*

- *Councillors will then be responsible for reading the messages of all other councillors to be informed of the access needs of other councillors.*

MOTION WITHDRAWN UNANIMOUSLY

- SAAC Representative stated that this motion is to allow the Council meetings to happen faster and that stating pronouns and accessibility needs through the chat would allow for the process to take place in a matter of minutes. He mentioned concerns about the legality of the issue as he had heard VP University Relations mentioned that a verbal roll call might be legally necessary.

- VP University Relations stated that, as per Roberts rules, there is a need to establish quorum under verbal roll call. This is necessary for the SFSS to cover all of its legal bases. VP University Relations also discussed the importance of access needs and pronouns to allow for other to be comfortable in the meeting.

- GSWS Representative raised concerns about how the motion would be put into effect.

- SAAC Representative, in response to VP University Relations stating that verbal roll call was needed for quorum, mentioned that Chair does not start meetings until quorum is met as councillors are present for roll call.

- DNA Representative discussed how a verbal roll call is vital for accessibility. For instance, a student with low vision or using a screen reader might not be able to access things written in the chat. She also highlighted that verbal roll call is needed for captioning.

- President mentioned that time constraints might no longer be an issue as Council meetings will be extended to 3 hours. She also raised concerns that if Council was considering cutting out roll call, they might next consider cutting out the land acknowledgement which would be very concerning. She highlighted the importance of stating pronouns and accessibility needs and mentioned that Council is setting a precedent for other groups.

- Engineering Science Representative encouraged the implementation of a voting system for contentious motions to increase efficiency. He mentioned that he has a software in mind that will allow for authentication; however, he was unable to confirm whether Council would be able to use it.

- Chair stated that he would contact Engineering Student Representative to discuss the software in question. He mentioned that Zoom doesn't keep track of who voted for which option so this

would be beneficial to Council.

- GSWS Representative highlighted the importance of accessibility needs and pronouns and stated that individuals can always message the Chair individually with their accessibility concerns if they feel uncomfortable.
- English Representative voiced opposition to the motion.
- SAAC Representative clarified that intent of this motion was not to move backwards, and he wants to maintain accessibility and inclusion.
- SAAC Representative requested the Motion be postponed indefinitely.
- Faculty Representative (Sciences) inquired as to why the Motion was being postponed indefinitely as opposed to being withdrawn.
- SAAC Representative requested that the Motion be Withdrawn.

10. PRESENTATIONS

10.1 SFSS Budget

- VP Finances mentioned that future consultation times will be a more in-depth while this presentation would allow for a general overview of revenues and expenses, development process, and discussion of key items.
- The General Fund is the main operation fund that pays for most staff and programming that the SFSS is responsible. This is also where the membership fee collects. Restricted Funds include the Space Expansion Fund, Health and Dental, Accessibility Fund, First Nations Student Fund, and Build SFU Fund. This fund collects around 11-12 Million per year. $5 million goes towards Health and Dental while another $5 million is put towards Build SFU. The remainder is placed in the general fund.
- Revenues include SFSS membership fee, FIC membership fee, Health and Dental admin fee, rent revenue (coffee shop and convenience store in Student Union Building), MBC food court revenue (it was sold back to SFU in 2018, but the SFSS will be getting revenue for the next 7-8 years), interest revenue, Advertising, Commissions, and various events like the annual poster sale in AQ.
- Expenses including offices, campaigns, Out on Campus, Women's Centre etc. total around 3million a year. At the end of the year, most offices are under budget.
- Consideration needed that FIC might have lower enrollment due to the pandemic which might impact income slightly.
- The current budgeting process is concerning the General fund.
- The budget will be starting with Office Staff, Admin, and the Board budget sessions and discuss changes in finances for the following year. Information and Consultation sessions with the Council and Board will follow.
- The current timeline for the Budget is as follows:
  - Late February – Budget Draft
  - March – Consultations
  - Late March – Second Budget Draft
  - April – Board Approval of Preliminary Budget
  - May – Council Approves Final Budget
- This timeline will allow for the new Council and Board to have input into the Budget.
- Key Items of considerations for this budget include: SUB operations being fully in budget covered by the Build SFU Levy, Stadium contributions will come out of the Build SFU Levy, longer operating hours in the SUB resulting in an increase in staff support. This will also be

impacted by results the of CUPE Collective Agreement bargaining late January and Early February. VP Finances mentioned that Council should consider that even if there are high staffing costs, it is important to consider that most of the staff are student support staff.

- Uncertainty around in-person classes and activities also raises important concerns for the budget.
- After being asked about an SFSS Student Fee breakdown, VP Finances mentioned that it is available on the SFSS website, but that he would send it out after the meeting.
- VP Finances mentioned that the SFSS has approximately 26 000 students and fees are charged 3 times a year. Approximately ever 1$ paid to the SFSS generates $65K a year.
- ESSS representative suggested that Budget sessions be separated into aspects (For Instance, one session on Member Services and another on Build SFU and the SUB) to allow for breakdown of the material and improve understanding among Council.

11.   DISCUSSION ITEMS

11.1 Transition Steering Committee Update

- VP Finance's working group met last week to review goals and a timeline and will be meeting on January 28th again to discuss what kind of training will be given to Council and specific committees and general training ex. SFSS 101.
- VP University Relations mentioned that the Governance working group hasn't met yet but has had initial communications policy documents and looking at other policies. VP University Relations is currently in the formative stage of looking at and reorganizing board policies to fit in with new governance structure.
- President - Operations working group will be looking at any changes in staffing and other operational changes.
- Chair suggested that more councillors should be included. Any members in good standing can join, and he asked the working group leads to share appropriate links in the Discord to allow other Councillors to get involved.

11.2 Senate Motion on Pilot Undergraduate Grading Scheme

- Postponed until February 3rd.
- Councillors should be ready to discuss at next meeting.

12.   ATTACHMENTS

12.1 Faculty of Arts and Social Science S.21-12

13.   ANNOUNCEMENTS

13.1 Next Council Meeting February 3rd.

14.   ADJOURNMENT

14.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2021-01-20:05
Stephanie/Juanita
Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 PM.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SFU OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC

MEMORANDUM

8888 University Drive,   TEL: 778.782.6654   avpacad@sfu.ca
Burnaby, BC   FAX: 778.782.5876   www.sfu.ca/vpacademic
Canada V5A 1S6

ATTENTION	Senate	**DATE**	January 11, 2021
FROM	Wade Parkhouse, Chair	**PAGES**	1/4
	Senate Committee on		
	Undergraduate Studies (SCUS)		
RE:	Pilot Undergraduate Grading Scheme		
	Spring, Summer, and Fall 2021 terms		

Action undertaken by SCUS on January 11, 2021 via electronic voting, gives rise to the following recommendation:

Motion:

That Senate approve a pilot to implement a new, temporary undergraduate grading system of Pass/ Credit/No Credit (P/CR/NC) for the Spring, Summer, and Fall 2021 terms, and directs the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS) to develop an implementation plan as soon as possible.

Motion:

That Senate approve a pilot to implement a new, temporary undergraduate grading system of Pass/Credit/No Credit (P/CR/NC) for the Spring, Summer, and Fall 2021 terms, and directs the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (SCUS) to develop an implementation plan as soon as possible.

This P/CR/NC grading scheme may be used towards a maximum of 12 units, deemed as elective(s) within a student's program, over the pilot period. Within a given term, no more than 6 units may be graded P/CR/NC for students enrolled in 9 or more units and no more than one course may be graded P/CR/NC for students enrolled in less than 9 units. Within the 12-unit maximum, individual programs may allow, on a restrictive basis, the utilization of a P/CR/NC grading system for certain program-specific requirements.

Students must choose this grading system no later than the last day of classes for the spring 2021 term. A student cannot change from a standard grade to a 'P/CR/NC' standing, or vice-versa, after the deadline to opt into the 'P/CR/NC' grading system.

Background:

It is recognized that the pandemic and remote learning environment have adversely affected students. Students have advocated for greater flexibility in grading, withdrawal and academic standing and continuance policies. Although SFU does not currently have a P/CR/NC grading system, a number of other comparator universities across Canada do (see Appendix). Initiating such a grading scheme, as a pilot, during the pandemic is seen as one of a number of important supports needed by students. It also provides an opportunity for SCUS to consider, in the longer-term, effective undergraduate grading systems.

In addition to the pilot P/CR/NC grading system for Spring 2021, the withdrawal (WD) deadline will be extended to the last day of classes.

Additional options for students:

SCUS will bring to Senate at its February meeting a proposal for:
- Creating a temporary amendment to the academic standing and continuance policy

In addition, the Registrar will work with SCUS to:
- Ease the Withdrawals under Extenuating Circumstances process for pandemic related reasons
- Add transcript notations to reference courses taken during pandemic

Students will be encouraged to seek guidance from an academic advisor in advance of making decisions about their options.

Additional information on implementation of P/CR/NC:

Credit will be awarded for 'P' and 'CR' grades and included in the number of total units earned. No credit will be awarded for 'NC' grades.

Courses taken under the 'P/CR/NC' standing will be excluded from the grade point average (GPA) calculations.

A 'P' grade will be awarded for grades of C- or higher and will fulfill the minimum grade required in a pre-requisite course and, for programs that permit it, will fulfill program-specific requirements.

A 'CR' grade will be awarded for a grade of D and will fulfill the total units required for degree completion.

An 'NC' grade will receive no credit.

Only standard letter grade courses will be used to meet the grade point average requirements for awards and scholarships, including honour roll designations and entrance scholarship renewals. P/CR/NC grades will not be used toward this requirement.

Appendix

Comparator Institution Policies

UBC - Credit/D/Fail
  - No more than 6 credits per session (ie two terms), and 12 units in a degree program
  - Courses must be electives
  - CR for courses between 55%-100%, D 50-54%, In the case of programs or courses that define a pass as higher than 50%, only the standing of Cr and F
  - Programs and courses may opt out
  - Credit/D/Fail does not count towards academic performance or awards/scholarships

University of Toronto - Credit/No Credit
  - No more than 2 credits per degree (ie two full year courses)
  - Courses must be electives
  - CR for courses with 50% grade, NC for 49% and below
  - Programs/faculties have specific policies, such as Commerce and Engineering courses are ineligible

University of Calgary - Completed Requirements/D*/D+*
  - Fall 2020 pandemic response
  - One course only
  - CR for courses with C- grade or higher
  - May impact scholarship eligibility

McGill - Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U)
  - No more than one course per term, and no more than 10% of total degree credits
  - Courses must be electives
  - S for courses with grade A through C; D, F and J grades converted to U
  - Programs have specific requirements, such as Engineering courses ineligible and those with practicums (ie Nursing)
  - S/U does not count towards academic performance or awards/scholarships