

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 10:03 AM

## 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), Sḵw̓x̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selílwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k<sup>w</sup>ik<sup>w</sup>əłəm (Kwikwetlem) and ḡicəy (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> ) .....	Gabe Liosis
Ex-Officio .....	Osob Mohamed
VP External Relations .....	Samad Raza
Faculty Representative (Science).....	WeiChun Kua
Faculty Representative (Health Sciences) .....	Nafoni Modi
Faculty Representative (Education) .....	Emerly Liu
Faculty Representative (Environment) .....	Anuki Karunajeewa
Student At-Large .....	Jess Dela Cruz
Student At-Large .....	Priyanka Dhesa
Student At-Large .....	Zoya Nari
Student At-Large .....	<i>Vacant</i>
Council Representative .....	Serena Bains

### 3.2 Society Staff

Operations Organizer .....	Ayesha Khan
Administrative Assistant .....	Christina Kachkarova

### 3.3 Regrets

VP External Relations .....	Samad Raza
Faculty Representative (Health Sciences) .....	Nafoni Modi

## 4. CONSENT AGENDA

### 4.1 CONSENT AGENDA

*Be it resolved to adopt the consent agenda by unanimous consent.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### 4.1.1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES-UAA Minutes-MOTION UAA

**2021-04-16:01**

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

- UAA 2021-03-19

## 5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Gabe/Priyanka

### 5.1 MOTION UAA 2021-04-16:02

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

- Add Ratification of Regrets Section.
- Strike UAA YEAR-END REPORT from New Business
- Add Discussion Item 7.1 UAA YEAR-END REPORT
- Reorder the Discussion Items into the following order:
  - Discussion Item 7.2 COVID-19 Vaccine Prioritizing Students
  - Discussion Item 7.3 Sick Notes Policy
  - Discussion Item 7.4 Affordable Student Housing

**CARRIED AS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 6. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS

Jess/Emerly

*Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Samad Raza and Nafoni Modi.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Amend to add Regrets from Samad Raza and Nafoni Modi.
- Samad was unable to attend due to a meeting conflict.
- Nafoni was unable to attend due to an urgent family matter.

## 7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 7.1 UAA End-of-Year Report

- Chair reflected on the work that the UAA committee has done over the past year. He mentioned that this end of year report will be used to reflect actions that need to be carried over to the next Board term, actions that have been completed, as well as potential initiatives future committees might want to take on.
- Chair mentioned that some of the completed initiatives included: the Working Group on Emergency Response and Student Engagement, M.A.R.E Working Group, Tuition Condemnation Vote, work regarding Invigilation/Proctoring software, among others.
- Chair briefly mentioned some ongoing initiatives such as the Student Wellness Working Group, Textbook Bursary Program, Sick Notes, and OER initiatives.
- Chair discussed potential initiatives for future committees including following up and creating more Issues Policies, and COVID-2019 vaccine prioritization for students.

### 7.2 COVID-19 Vaccine Prioritizing Students (Matthew/Gabe)

- Chair raised concern surrounding the Fall 2021 plan by SFU to return to campus with the increasing cases of COVID-2019. He expressed fear that there would be lack of policies to keep students safe effectively.
- Chair raised concern that the 18-27 age bracket, into which most undergraduate students fall into, are the last priority in BC's Mass Vaccination Plan. He mentioned that while students are expected to receive their first does by the end of June, second doses will be given 4

months later. This means students will only be fully vaccinated after October, a month after the semester has started. He questioned what a mass in-flux of unvaccinated/not-fully vaccinated students would look like and raised the concern that International students might not have access to the vaccine in their home countries.

- Chair mentioned that while the Province and Health Authorities are drafting guidelines for a safe return to campus, it is uncertain how specific they will be. He mentioned that the guidelines for public grade schools were vague. Chair mentioned that it would be beneficial for the province to consult with Student Societies regarding the guidelines for return to campus for Post-Secondary.
- Student At-Large (JDC) mentioned that SFU President Joy Johnson encouraged students to get vaccinated and mentioned, during a townhall with staff and faculty, that there would not be any form of hybrid education such as a zoom call at the same times as lecturing students.
- Student At-Large (JDC) suggested that the SFSS should take a stand on the vaccine, and work with local government and other Student Societies to write a letter to Dr. Bonnie Henry urging for strict guidelines for a return to campus.
- Faculty Representative (Environment) suggested that the letter could be written in collaboration with Student Societies Canada-wide. She inquired about the implications of making a mandatory vaccine and briefly acknowledged the intersectionality surrounding the vaccine and the implications of historical medical trauma.
- Faculty Representative (Science) inquired as to if there would be a location of SFU campuses to get vaccinated like there is at UBC.
- Student At-Large (JDC) highlighted the specific difficulties international students would face with the return to In-person education. She commented that since the return to in-person would not be finalized until May, it would be difficult for international students to get visas which can take months. Additionally, because of the pandemic or other issues, they might struggle in accessing the services they need to get a visa. Student At-Large (JDC) also mentioned that International students might be getting different vaccines with different effectiveness rates and highlighted that there might be an unknown number of undocumented students at SFU.
- Chair mentioned that Catherine Dauvergne, the VP Academic and Provost of SFU, has stated that SFU has two plans for return both of which include some in-person activity. Plan A relies on the vaccination effort proceeding to plan. Plan A will result in a planned 80-100% occupancy on campus, almost a full return. Plan B will be put into effect if the mass vaccination effort does not go according to plan and will result in a 30-50% occupancy on campus. The details of in-person vs online offerings and who can have online is still to be determined.
- Chair highlighted that the plans put out by SFU mean students will be in-person, but it is unclear as to what occupancy level. He mentioned that the concern of a vaccination clinic will need to be brought up with Health and Counselling.
- Faculty Representative (Science) highlighted that an on-campus vaccination clinic would make the vaccine as accessible as possible to SFU students.
- Chair mentioned that students living on residence are on campus 24/7 and questioned what a return to campus would mean for these students. He mentioned that they could be exposed unnecessarily, and that those living on residence should be vaccinated.
- Council Representative mentioned that there were complaints about students on residence not following COVID protocol and students have even been evicted because of this. They commented on the morality of evicting students from their housing in the middle of a pandemic.
- Chair mentioned that since BIPOC might be less likely to receive a vaccine, excluding unvaccinated people would mean excluding marginalized folks.

- Faculty Representative (Environment) mentioned that there needs to be a way to address how to navigate the intersectionality of vaccination and that she respects it not being mandatory.
- Chair commented that SFU had not discussed making vaccines mandatory.
- Student At-Large (PD) suggested a delayed start with September being online and, once students are fully vaccinated, there could be a full return to in-person education.
- Chair commented that SFU would probably say that a delayed start would be too much work for faculty as they would have to prepare an in-person and an online version of their class. This would not be well received by SFU or their faculty.
- Faculty Representative (Science) suggested that recording classes could be a solution.
- Chair commented that SFU might be adding more recording equipment in classrooms across campus, but that SFU was adamant on not doing a hybrid format.
- Faculty Representative (Environment) commented that hopeful increased investment by SFU into expensive equipment would not be used to justify increases in tuition.
- The Student Wellness Working Group and UAA will continue working on COVID concerns until appropriate actions are taken to protect and promote student safety and health.

### **7.3 Sick Notes Policy (Anuki/Jess)**

- Faculty Representative (Environment) mentioned that the work on the Sick Notes Policy will be passed onto the next UAA Committee.

### **7.4 Affordable Student Housing (WeiChun)**

- Faculty Representative (Science) brought up a conversation from Lobbying days with an MP who mentioned that he had worked on the National Housing Co-Investment Fund which SFU has not applied for. This fund can be used to provide Student Housing.
- Chair mentioned that the committee should check how this fund can be used and how SFU would be able to apply for it before bringing it up to SFU. He mentioned that the SFSS should check-in with SFU with regards to working on affordable housing for students.
- Faculty Representative (Science) suggested that UAA committee should work with senators to bring this to the attention of SFU. [Residential Tenancy Act \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/lc/statreg/02078_01)
- Faculty Representative (Science) raised the issue that the BC Residential Tenancy Act does not apply to Student housing as it states, “This Act does not apply to (b) living accommodation owned or operated by an educational institution and provided by that institution to its students or employees.” He mentioned that this means that students are not protected from rent increases as investors, or the University sets the prices.
- RESIDENTIAL TENANCY ACT (link below):  
[https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/lc/statreg/02078\\_01](https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/lc/statreg/02078_01)
- Chair suggested that the SFSS should push for these issues in lobbying efforts and should work with MLAs including Katrina Chen who has expressed interest in working on affordable housing. He mentioned that the Student Affordability Working Group is looking to taking on housing affordability.
- Faculty Representative (Science) suggested these issues be added to the potential initiatives in the end-of-year work report.

*\*Anuki Karunajeewa left at 10:55AM*

*\*Gabe Liosis left the meeting at 11:01 AM*

## 8. UPDATES

### 8.1 M.A.R.E. Working Group (Nafoni/Anuki)

- Not present.

## 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 9.1 This Is the Last UAA Committee Meeting of the 2020/21 Board Term.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

### 10.1 MOTION UAA 2021-04-16:03

Jess/Emerly

*Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 11:06 AM.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**