



1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 4:38 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), Sḵw̓xwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selílwitlh (Tsleil-Waututh), k^wik^wəłəm (Kwkwetlem) and ǰícəy̓ (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 Student Society (ASS)	Seniha Inceoz
Bachelor of Environment Student Union.....	Tiana Andjelic
Behavioral Neuroscience Student Society (BNSS)	Aarthi Srinivasan
Biology Student Union (BSU)	Nicolas Bonilla
Biomedical Physiology Kinesiology Student Union.....	Jovan Gnjatovic
Business Administration Student Society	Meha Sidhu
Chemistry Student Society.....	Xiaohan (Hana) Li
Cognitive Science Student Association	Bhuban Karim
Collective of Arts and Cultures Studies Students	Vacant
Computing Science Student Society	Mabel Ling
Criminology Student Association.....	Henry Do
Dance Student Union.....	Vacant
Data Science Student Society	Jennifer Hung
Earth Science Student Union	Eden Lien
Economics Student Society.....	Rafid Rahman Chowdhury
Education Student Association	Vacant
Engineering Science Student Society.....	Tony Kooliyath
English Student Union.....	Vacant
Environmental Science Student Union	Grayson Barke
Faculty of Applied Science	Vacant
Faculty of Communications, Arts and Technology	Vacant
Film Student Union	Vacant
Fine and Performing Arts Student Union	Vacant
Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies	Vacant



Geography Student Union	Erik Makinen
Global Asia Studies.....	Vacant
Health Science Undergraduate Student Union	Ishika Rathore
History Student Union	Emilio Da Silva
Humanities Student Union	Vacant
Indigenous Studies Student Union	Evan Accettola
Interactive Arts and Technology Student Union	Vacant
International Studies Student Association (ISSA)	Vacant
Labour Studies Student Union	Vacant
Linguistics Student Union	Vacant
Mathematics Student Union.....	Vacant
Mechatronics System Engineering Student Society	Aiden Maymandy
MBB Student Union (Vice-Chair)	Sam Killawee
Music Student Union	Vacant
Operations Research Student Union	Vacant
Philosophy Student Union	Nava Karimi
Physics Student Association.....	Vacant
Political Science Student Union	Aliyah Apolonio
Psychology Student Union	Vacant
Science Undergraduate Society (SUS)	Catherine Ho
Semester in Dialogue Student Union.....	Vacant
Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS).....	Rajdave Gill
Sociology and Anthropology Student Union (SASU).....	Andres Sosa
Software Systems Student Society(SSSS)	Tal Zaloilov
Statistics and Actuarial Science Student Association	Van Nguyen
Sustainable Energy Engineering Student Society	Andrew Nathan
Visual Arts Student Union	Vacant
World Languages and Literature Student Union	Richa Daiya

Constituency Group Representatives

Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA)	Den Arias Guillen
First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association.....	Chris Sanderson
International Student Advocates	Vacant
Out on Campus Collective (OOC).....	Vacant
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)	Yaye Balde
Women Centre Collective	Vacant

Affiliated Student Groups

Residence Hall's Association (RHA)	Emmanuel Adegboyega
Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).....	Vacant

Teach Support Staff Union (TSSU)	Pranjali J Mann
Embark Sustainability	Vacant
SFPIRG	Tuleen Awad

SFSS Executive Committee

President (Chair)	Liam Feng
Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development.....	Ashley Flett
VP Finance and Services.....	Jadvinder Bolina
VP University and Academic Affairs.....	Thomas Lueth
VP External and Community Affairs.....	Navleen Brar
VP Equity and Sustainability	Priyanka Kaur Dhesa
VP Events and Student Affairs	Ayooluwa Adigun

3.2 Society Staff

Facilities Manager	Vacant
Temporary Operations Organizer	Sindhu Dharmarajah
Policy, Research, Community Affairs Coordinator	Beaty Omboga
Administrative Assistant	Hope Alica

3.3 Guests

SFSS Member	Chloe Anerson
SFSS Member	Abhishek Parmar
SFSS Member	Wallace Lee
SFSS Member	Wajahat Ullah

3.4 Regrets

Science Undergraduate Society (SUS)	Catherine Ho
Philosophy Student Union	Nava Karimi
Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS).....	Rajdave Gill
History Student Union	Emilio Da Silva
Bachelor of Environment Student Union.....	Tiana Andjelic
Engineering Science Student Society.....	Tony Kooliyath
First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association.....	Chris Sanderson
Indigenous Studies Student Union	Evan Accettola
Cognitive Science Student Association	Bhuban Karim
VP External and Community Affairs.....	Navleen Brar

3.5 Alternates

SFSS Member	Yu-Xing Lim
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SFSS Member Ariana Shamsuddin

3.6 Absents

Teach Support Staff Union (TSSU) Pranjali J Mann
 SFPIRG Tuleen Awad
 Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA) Den Arias Guillen
 World Languages and Literature Student Union Richa Daiya
 Sustainable Energy Engineering Student Society Andrew Nathan
 Economics Student Society Rafid Rahman Chowdhury
 Chemistry Student Society Xiaohan (Hana) Li
 Archeology Student Society (ASS) Seniha Inceoz
 VP Events and Student Affairs Ayooluwa Adigun
 Sociology and Anthropology Student Union (SASU) Andres Sosa
 Behavioral Neuroscience Student Society (BNSS) Aarthi Srinivasan
 Biology Student Union (BSU) Nicolas Bonilla
 Data Science Student Society Jennifer Hung
 Geography Student Union Erik Makinen

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 CONSENT AGENDA

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

CARRIED AS AMENDED

4.1.1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – Council and Committee Minutes - MOTION COUNCIL 2023-12-20:01

Be it resolved to receive and file the following Council and Committee minutes:

- EXEC 2023-11-03
- EXEC 2023-11-17
- FASC 2023-10-06
- FASC 2023-11-03
- HRP 2023-11-06
- SCC 2022-09-30

4.1.2. Ratification of Regrets- MOTION COUNCIL 2023-12-20:02

Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Science Undergraduate Society Councillor,

Philosophy Student Union Councillor, Society of Arts and Social Sciences Councillor, History Student Union Councillor, Bachelor of Environment Student Union Councillor, Engineering Science Student Society Councillor, First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association Councillor, Indigenous Studies Student Union Councillor, Cognitive Science Student Association Councillor, VP External and Community Affairs for the Council December 20th meeting.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2023-12-20:03

President / Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

- CSA Councilor moved to place new business item 12.1, VP Finance Resignation, as the first New Business Item since quorum might be lost due to the holidays. President seconded this.
- SFSS Member moved to place New Business item 12.2 titled Science Undergraduates Society Women in Science right after the presentation for fear of losing quorum. President seconded this.
- VP Equity moved to have an In-Camera discussion titled Ceasefire Letter, which President seconded.
- VP Internal and Organizational Development moved to add new item Staff gift cards to New Business. President seconded this.
- President moved to add Issues Policy removal under notice of motion. President informed VP Equity there was a Notice of Motion last Council meeting.
- Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development replied that In-camera discussion does not count as a notice of motion.
- President asked if it was possible to amend the rules for this motion, if it is not possible, he would like to make it a notice of motion that can be addressed in this next meeting. CSA Councillor seconded this.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 VP Finance and Services Appointment-MOTION 2023-12-20:04

SUBMITTED BY: MBBSU Councillor

President/MBBSU Councillor

Whereas the VP Finance and Services has indicated he will resign effective December 31.

Whereas there is the opportunity that the VP Finance can still reconcile with bylaw 2.2.

Be it resolved to appoint “MBBSU Councillor’ acting VP Finance and Services and a signing officer of the SFSS from January 1, 2024, to April 30, 2024, in the case that the VPO Finance does not send proof of his compliance with Bylaw 2.2 to the president, VP Internal and OCEO Chair by 5:00 pm on Friday, December 22nd.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

- President made the first call for nominations.
- CSA nominated MBBSU councillor.
- MBBSU Councillor accepted the nomination.
- President made the second and third call for nomination without further nominations.
- President moved to strike “name” and replace it with MBBSU Councillor.
- VP Finance and Services stated that he would like to amend the motion since his resignation is not confirmed. He suggested amending the wording of the motion.
- MBBSU Councillor clarified that he would post an amendment that stated the motion “Be it resolved Clause..” would state “ Be it resolved to appoint “name’ acting VP Finance and Services and a signing officer of the SFSS from January 1, 2024, to April 30, 2024, in the case that the VPO Finance does not send proof of his compliance with Bylaw 2.2 to the president, VP Internal and OCEO Chair by 5:00 pm on December.”
- President accepted the change, and CSA seconded.

7. PRESENTATION

7.1 Science Undergraduate Society Women in Science (WinSci) Empower Seminar Grant Appeal

SUBMITTED BY: Science Undergraduate Society

PRESENTED BY: SFSS Member

- SFSS Member introduced themselves and stated that the Women in Science Empowerment event presentation will start with explaining why funding is required for the amount of 700 dollars and the nature of the event.

- SFSS Member shared that it would start with Keynote speeches that will speak with groups at different activation stations, talking to members about how they can get involved in a laboratory or network. The event is to inspire women to pursue Science, create a platform for networking, and get involved in local Science Initiatives. The event will include Keynotes, Activation Stations, and Networking.
- Sarah Wells of Believe Initiative runs cooperate seminars and a student-run initiative involving students running a leadership course. Sarah Wells will present a pre-recorded. Keynote
- Additionally, Jumai Abioye will present. She is a synthetic biologist who oversaw Northern RNA.
- Activation stations will be present for attendees; Embark sustainability and Science Coop coordinators will come to meet attendees. They are waiting on Dr. Nancy Hawkins and Dr. Joanna Woo.
- The event fulfils the main goals of SFSS: diversity, Accessibility, and Sustainability. Dr Jumai's presence is significant because it helps to amplify underrepresented voices in the STEM community. The event being held in the SUB ensures that all participants can attend. With Sustainability EMBARK Sustainability is involved in the event, using compostable material to reduce the carbon footprint.
- The event will involve participants to connect with presenters to ensure people can connect, which is valuable.
- The budget Breakdown requires decoration because, in the SUS lockers, there is asbestos removal near the lockers, so they cannot access their own decoration.
- Having gifts connects the speakers to Simon Fraser University, showing they are appreciated and making sure their input is valued.
- The stay at the hotel is a discounted stay at the Burnaby Executive Hotel for Dr Jumai. With the discount it costs about 400 dollars, which is why it is included in the budget. There is a contingency fee of \$250 dollars to cover anything that has been excluded.
- Notebooks will be provided for participants to take notes between stations. The event will provide food such as sandwiches and chips from Costco.
- SFSS Members shared that they believe this will be a well-developed platform for engagement for students within SUS. Making this event an annual event will make it more prestigious. They would like this to be a gender-inclusive and

celebrated platform.

- MBBSU Councillor shared a point of order and declared a conflict as they were present in the planning of this event. As per Council policy, he will leave the room as stated in rule 5. He will rejoin after the discussion of this policy is done.
- VP Events shared a similar point of Order with the MBBSU Councillor, stating that he, too, would leave the meeting and rejoin as per Council Policy 5.
- Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development shared that the presentation was a great way to make space for women in science and recognises SFSS values.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Science Undergraduate Society Women In Science (WinSci) Empower Seminar Grant Appeal-MOTION 2023-12-20:05

SUBMITTED BY: Science Undergraduate Society Councillor

President/Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development

Whereas the Science Undergraduate Society is hosting the first iteration of their Women in Science (WinSci) Empower Seminar with speakers including SFU's Dean of Science and Founder of Northern RNA Inc.

Whereas this event will establish SUS's connections to the science industry, and other SFU student organizations;

Whereas showcase opportunities for SFU Science students to get involved in the community;

Be it resolved that Council approve additional spending up to \$1,300 to support their event.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Temporary Operations Organizer shared that the approval process initially was for this; the budget was 500 dollars for décor, which was requested, and against funding guidelines, 50 dollars was approved; for guest gifts, \$300 dollars was requested, and 100 dollars was approved. For index cards, snacks and supplies, the full amount was approved. The group is looking for full funding for the decor and speaker gift and two items SFSS does not usually fund in the grant, which include speaker housing and contingency. She recommended removing the

contingency fund, which would put this at 1050.; however, she will leave it to the council to decide.

- President asked if anyone else had anything to say.

9. IN-CAMERA

9.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2023-12-20:06

SUBMITTED BY: VP External and Community Affairs

Mover / Seconder

Be it resolved to go in-camera for the remainder of the meeting.

POSTPONED.

- Ceasefire Letter

10. OLD BUSINESS

10.1 Western Engineering Conference Funding-MOTION COUNCIL 2023-12-20:07

SUBMITTED BY: Engineering Science Councillor

President/CSA Councillor

Whereas WEC (Western Engineering Competition) provides an outlet for engineering students across western Canada to demonstrate their skills and develop invaluable connections;

Whereas WEC will be hosted in the University of Manitoba on January 26th - 29th, 2024;

Whereas 17 winners as a result of 2024's EC SFU will be attending WEC for the categories: programming, senior & junior design, consulting, and re-engineering;

Whereas they are seeking financial support above what admin and staff are allowed to approve;

Whereas they are seeking \$20,000 of funding to support students for this event;

Be it resolved to approve of allocating \$2586 for the trip.

POSTPONED

- SFSS members requested a quick presentation to showcase any new updates relating to this motion.
- President allowed it.
- SFSS Member shared that WEC, Western Engineering Competition is the largest Engineering Competition in Western Canada. They have spoken to staff and

come up with a budget outline with a new proposal: decreasing the amount to save money and sending winners from ESSS to participate.

- The hope is to have students pay less and allow students to attend.
- The event will allow students to connect with people in a higher place.
- The new Breakdown requires funding from SFSS at about \$5000 to send 17 students to the University of Manitoba for this event.
- The benefit is connections; it allows the SFSS to connect with companies that can create opportunities for SFSS in the future. The experience will enhance SFU's experience and make them more stable in their industry. It will create influence on the national stage, encompassing all of Canada. The constitution aligns with their purpose as a student society and SFSS's purpose. The sending of students to this competition enriches all their students as all participants are requested to write a report highlighting their experiences, which are shared with the entire Society. The benefit is a connection, sponsorships, and national experience.
- AVPOID asked if the President will follow policy 5.2 by declaring himself as a participant in organising this event.
- The president declared he had no conflict because he did not participate in planning this event. He participated in planning the engineering competition, which was different from the Western Engineering competition, which was a completely different event.
- Acting VP of Internal and Organizational Development then asked the SFSS Member how they could cut 15k; they wanted to know why 20k was the first option and not 5k.
- SFSS Member explained that it was the original grant submitted for 20,000 dollars because it estimated the flight amount and Uber costs, which was used to draw up this estimate. They eventually got better deals with a different airline, which brought the cost down to \$5000.
- The MBBSU Councillor asked the SFSS Member to put the presentation back up so that Councillors could compare both presentations with the old and new proposal for comparison.
- The MBBSU Counselor asked about the trip to Silicon Valley for the Engineering Student Society, for which they asked for 7,500 dollars, although 80% of the cost was covered by the individuals participating as it removes the burden from SFSS and the individual student society. He would like to know whether a cost scheme

such as that was considered.

- SFSS Member shared that historically, they cover the most they can. They investigated potentially making participants pay 70% more, and they believe that they are doing their best to subsidize the students' costs.
- SFSS Member added that delegates were contacted on the day to decide how much students would pay. One of the groups has four members who expressed an interest in paying up to 300 dollars. And it would be a shame if delegates were prevented from gaining such an experience due to the cost.
- MBBSU Councillor responded that when people were asked, it was how much they were willing to pay or how much they could afford.
- SFSS Member shared they asked people how much they could afford to pay. The group of four responded they could afford to pay \$300.
- MBBSU responded that this motion has shown that it is honourable for the Engineering Student Society to relieve students of spending more than they can afford; however, it is a challenge for the SFSS right now, considering where it stands financially, to support this. He would be willing to provide a reduced grant funding of \$3000 dollars instead of \$5000 because it will provide a budget that leaves room for the event.
- Temporary Operations Organizer shared that based on this budget and the funding guidelines, this request would receive \$0.00. The staff recommendation was to reduce the request for core contributions.
- Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development asked how core funding would be reduced, especially if staff recommended it.
- SFSS Members responded that core funding had been reduced to about 40%, reducing student payments and FASS money because that is the only amount they receive for the entire year till about June or the end of the spring semester. The increased funding for students is not significant enough.
- MBBSU Councillor shared that since there is an aspect of financial responsibility, he would be more comfortable with a budget with an increase in FASS Funding and student payment and reduced core funding. He asked if that would be acceptable.
- SFSS Member shared that this would not be possible.
- SFSS Member shared that they would like to understand why it would be \$0.00 from staff.

- President replied it is because of the amount of money that delegates will get, which means that they would be getting a net revenue. As a result of reducing funding that delegates are paying, they may need funding from SFSS.
- The MBBSU Councillor requested clarity that Core funding comes from SFSS, and the FAS funding comes from faculty.
- SFSS Member asked if the reduction of funding from FAS or core was specific to any of these.
- MBBSU Councillor replied that, in their opinion, reducing the core funding for this would be the better option. He suggested making up the difference between the two goals at \$1500 would be ideal.
- The Temporary Operations Organizer responded that the recommendation of \$0.00 was based on the guidelines; however, the decision would be up to the council.
- The CSA Councillor asked if there was a reason why increasing student pay was not possible.
- SFSS Member responded with the previous example. So far, the budget relies on \$300 for the delegates because students' offering to pay more meant they would back out of attending the event.
- Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development shared that they strongly believe in following policy, especially if this money is not aligned with this policy. They recommended charging students who are going. It is not reasonable to have SFSS cover personal spending.
- SFSS Member presented a new proposal with a reduced core funding of \$1000, FAS \$4000, T & C \$1700, and student \$200.
- Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development asked about 300 dollars per student in the slides.
- SFSS Member shared that there is a new budget, and it is possible to go to \$300 dollars for the delegates, but they would prefer to keep it brief.
- Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development confirmed that the new request from SFSS would be \$3500.
- SFSS member agreed that it would indeed be \$3500 dollars.
- MBBSU Councillor reiterated that they cannot get away from staff declining funding this proposal. They expressed interest in covering an event using full FAS Funding and student payment.

- SFSS Member replied that they had already contacted FAS, and unfortunately, what they get for the Fiscal year is all they have access to.
- Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development suggested increasing student payment to \$250 or preferably \$300.
- SFSS Member agreed to increase payment for delegates to \$250, bringing the total to \$2600.
- President argued that at the get-go, delegates knew they were paying less for the event, and it is important to be careful with the amount of money charged to students. However, given the student, \$250 would be reasonable. In his opinion, he does not believe this group can be pushed any further.
- MBBSU Councillor agreed with the Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development.
- President asked if there were any further lists and moved to strike “x” and replace it with \$2586 for the WEC Funding trip; VP UAA seconded this.

**Quorum Lost at about 6:00 pm*

- AVPOID raised a point of order that Quorum was lost before the motion was passed, and as such, the motion cannot be passed, and New Business cannot be completed.
- MBBSU shared that the policy states that the quorum issue is only met if it is brought up.
- The temporary operations organizer shared that if it was inquorate at the time of the motion, it would not pass. The other option would be to go through the attendance list to check the time that the motion was passed to confirm. It cannot be passed if it was called into question before the motion was passed.
- VP Finance asked if they could make changes to a motion.
- The president shared no other motions cannot be taken care of, including amendments.
- SFSS Member shared that the motion did not pass and asked for clarity at the next SFSS meeting on January 3rd. SFSS Member shared that they would return on January 3rd.
- President agreed not to carry the motion but postponed it instead and suggested going In-camera.

- AVPOID informed the president that going IN-Camera requires quorum, although coming out of it does not. They can do discussions, Q&A and Adjournment.

11. DISCUSSION ITEMS

11.1 Continuing discussions around space in the SUB

SUBMITTED BY: MBB Councillor

- The item was submitted on behalf of the FASS Councilor regarding space for Engineering Design teams and to let everyone know that BAS has expressed interest in securing a space since they are a faculty student union.
- President replied there will be multiple student societies wanting the space, and regarding that, an email needs to go out to everyone about how they would like to use the space, gather votes and vote in the council.
- BAS Councillor asked if all the clubs and societies expressing interest will receive this.
- The president responded that it would be a list of questions and that a presentation would be required when it comes to the council.
- The MBBSU Councillor asked if this would be related to discussions on the engineering team and if everyone would be chosen based on that.
- President asked if there were any discussion items.

12. NEW BUSINESS

12.1 Finance Policy- MOTION COUNCIL 2023-12-20:08

Submitted by: Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development

ATTACHMENT: SFSS Finance Policies

Mover/Seconder

Whereas the FASC Committee reviewed and recommended changes to the Finance Policy of the Society on October 13th, 2023;

Whereas the Governance Committee reviewed and discussed these changes on October 30th, 2023;

Be it resolved that the SFSS adopt the changes to Finance Policy outlined in attachment "SFSS Finance Policies 2023-10-30".

POSTPONED



12.2 Staff Gift Card- MOTION COUNCIL 2023-12-20:09

SUBMITTED BY: Acting VP Internal and Operations Development

Mover/Second

Whereas SFSS gives staff gift cards annually at the end of the calendar year as a gesture of gratitude for their work.

Be it resolved to approve \$5,813.62 from 816/31 to purchase gift cards for staff members.

POSTPONED

13. NOTICE OF MOTION

13.1 Issues Policy Removal - MOTION COUNCIL 2023-12-20:10

SUBMITTED BY: President

Whereas the Simon Fraser Student Society aims to maintain political neutrality to ensure fair representation of all its members;

Whereas the Issues policy may Inadvertently introduce bias or preference towards specific political stances, potentially compromising the society's commitment to impartiality;

Be it resolved that the Issues Policy of the Simon Fraser Student Society be removed to uphold the principles of political neutrality and provide equitable representation of all members. This motion seeks to safeguard the student Union's commitment to inclusivity and fairness by eliminating any potential source of bias or partiality arising from the Issues policy

DISCUSSION

- Following reading this motion, the President stated that the motion's wording can be changed and if the motion fails, he is seeking the removal of the policy entirely.
- SFSS Member discussed the concept of political neutrality, and having been in SFSS for a while, she does not see how this aligns with the founding principles of the SFSS, whose guiding principles are Equity, community, empowerment, integrity, sustainability community and accountability. And she believes these guiding principles present a level of political responsibility to students to uplift them. She does not see how removing Issues policies that promote an equitable

and diverse space for students is beneficial. It could create opportunities for harm to students. She wants to know what the president will do to protect marginalised students if the Issues Policy is removed. Removing this policy shows no forethought or afterthought.

- President responded he had not provided a proper notice of motion. The subject was only brought up In-Camera at the last meeting. As far as he is aware, SFSS is meant to represent the student body that contributes to it. The question is how the Student Society is supposed to support everyone if it holds sharp, specific and controversial political opinions that do not represent the entire body of its members. It takes these opinions and codifies them for everyone in council and future councillors to uphold. He cited IP 10 as one of those policies that does not represent all members. These policies separate people instead of bringing people together. As far as moving forward, if all issues policies are gone, there are elements in the Issues policies that will be maintained. For example, climate change, anti-racism and others are not things that are going to be ignored. He could implement these policies into existing policies or community guidelines that the SFSS currently has. Items like anti-racism, according to him, are not a political stance but rather a by-product of a student Union behaving in the way it should. If a student Union is not to exclude anyone based on race, religion, colour of skin, etc, it will exist as an organization without any racism or religious discrimination whatsoever. He does not believe it is a political stance or needs to be labelled as such and rather a result of a student Union acting in the way it should to maintain political neutrality in the interest of representing everyone. If the SFSS wants to support marginalized voices he agrees with, we can support them by voting on it in Council meetings that include everyone's vote. He provided an example of TSSU; whatever SFSS supported was done through Council without an Issues policy. This was done through advocates, communications etc. He believes the Issues policy separates people, does more harm than good, and is unnecessary in supporting marginalized voices. The good parts of the Issues policy can be reimplemented in other areas so that the organization does not damage its ideas of justice. He would like to seek their complete and absolute removal.
- Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development stated that they would keep what they had to say short since this is a notice of motion and not the actual

discussion of the motion which hopefully will take place at the next meeting. They shared they would like to address some of the things mentioned by President that they believe to be very wrong. AVPIOD shared that the President was correct in stating that Issues Policies are not the only way to enact policy change for marginalized people. However, they are currently the way that the SFSS protects marginalized people. AVPOID gave an example of an argument that it is the student Society's policy to be responsible, and the expectation for financial responsibility is assumed without a policy. This seems like the idea that the president is putting forward because, without Issues and Policies, there is no clear way to ensure that the organization is not going to be racist. That would be a lot of work to change where policies are located simply because we do not like the name "Issues Policies". Furthermore, she would like to critique the idea that issues and policies further divide us. Understandably, while the president is specifically trying to get rid of Issues Policy 10, this is especially an issue because people who are bothered that society has anti-racist policies are essentially racist, and that is not something she is worried about. She further shared that it is important to have a stance and gave an example of being aware of climate change and being anti-racist. It is important to codify that so that the next generation of councillors can have the grounding to advance. For example, the presentation today with SUS relied on Issues policies to ground what they requested and why their event is important. The CGs and equity-seeking groups that use these policies. Meanwhile, the location of these policies can be changed. It is important that these policies exist to ground what the student society is supposed to do. She is disappointed this has not been brought to the Equity Sustainability Committee and then to the Governance Committee as this is how it has been traditionally done. She directed the president to the Finance policy that was on the agenda. The policy is changed in Council via this procedure to prevent a single Executive from making a policy without general input as it is undemocratic not to have Council to look at and consider those changes. She would like to recommend this be reviewed at Equity and Governance before bringing it to the January 3rd meeting because there are some problems with the motion, and it needs some work.

- VP Equity shared that she would echo what AVPOID had stated. Regarding TSSU, it is grounded in Issues Policy – IP 5 regarding Living Wage and Union Rights,

which provides guidance to support TSSU. Secondly, as AVPOID mentioned, it does not seem that most of the president's concerns appear to be with Issues Policy 10, and it would be important to consider the work that equity-seeking groups have put in. While the President has had discussions with the council, he has not had discussions with the people who have advocated for these issues and policies, including proper consultation with Equity groups and Coordinators. These conversations are being had with new councillors who do not understand the history of the formation of these policies.

- AVPOID responded to SFSS Members' question of how the SFSS will resolve issues for marginalized people without policy by sharing that writing more policies appear to be the way forward. AVPOID informed the President that writing all the policies to replace the issues policy would be a minimum of six months of work and probably a whole year, and the councillors have only four months left in office. It seems like assigning more work than the available time required to pursue this simply because the president does not like the Issues Policies. AVPOID responded that the President should have run this by her at least, and if there were some policies he needed to edit, he could have brought them up first.
- President replied that AVPOID does not need to worry about being assigned more work. He is not interested in amending or replacing them with a list of other things. He is interested in removing the policies entirely. He would want to implement some of these within community guidelines, and it is possible this will take longer than their term of office. Or it depends on how much the AVPOID and VP Equity want to do. He did not seek to add any more elements and reiterated he is only interested in removing this policy as it is a blank slate; issues such as climate change and antiracism can be implemented into community guidelines and nothing else.
- MBBSU Councilor stated that in the initial clause, the President stated there was a duty towards impartiality and according to the by-laws and constitution, nothing is allocating responsibility to impartiality. We are to represent our students and advocate on their behalf, which is different from being impartial. He would like to know where the president got "being impartial" from.
- President explained that one thing that people could agree on is that SFSS is going to be representing its students and the SFSS is to represent student sin the

best way. SFSS should have the best way to represent its students. According to him, if representation is going to be neutral and fair and make everyone happy, it would involve impartiality. He is flexible with the wording of this motion and stresses the motion of impartiality. He believes it is important because how would Councillors represent people if they present a voice that does not represent everyone? Especially if SFSS is going towards controversial political subjects that could alienate some.

- VP Equity shared that she does not believe the Issues policy is an issue because anti-racism, disability inclusion, and asking for tuition availability are signs of not advocating for students properly. She is failing to see how these policies fail to show student advocacy. She argued that the president did not have a clear plan for implementing this as it appeared to be a blanket request with no clear way forward. She would like to see a clear plan of how these policies will be shifted and maintained. It appears the president would like to leave a gap of uncertainty. She wants a plan ready to be implemented before any policies are removed.
- The president responded that he does not have a detailed plan and plans on providing a good, detailed plan, and a more detailed conversation can happen when he has a plan to present.
- SFSS Member shared that Councillors have a fiduciary duty to the society. Although there is no clear definition of fiduciary and impartial duty, even if they are legal definitions and can mean different things to different people. He thinks people should make an effort to define this to know how much they represent their groups and interests in society.
- Software Systems Student Society Councillor stated that he believes Councillors should stay out of politics. A lot of the things mentioned were regarding being anti-racist and calling out racists, and he agrees, but there are other policies that and other policies that need to be followed being part of a publicly funded institution, such as the Human Rights Code, which is thorough against racism. Specifically in the context of IP 10. It is not antiracist; it questions the right of the ethnic groups of people to exist and self-determine. Many of them are part of the SFU community, so this goes against the fundamental reason of having a student Union on campus. He does not believe this can happen in the case of politics, which can be objectified like finance.
- The Acting VP of internal and organizational development stated that politics is

what all councillors are; indeed, they are student politicians. Their role there is to participate in politics. This is where they ought to discuss changes to any policy; however, if there needs to be conversations, it is different. She is advocating for keeping the issues policy, and if this policy was worded differently, for example, to a specific policy, a conversation could be had. However, to suggest that student politicians should not participate in politics simply because people are upset that a motion does not represent them, it is important that certain policies, such as antiracism, are a political stance that the SFSS has decided to take on. To have a conversation regarding not having any political stance ignores why Councillors are there in the first place. The SFSS exists to take stances that are important to the students. She will vote against removing all Issues and policies because some of them are great and make jobs easier. Since Tal argues IP 10 is going against anti-racism policies, work would have to go in to make those changes.

- The Software Systems Student Society Councillor stated IP 10 sets dangerous precedents if a motion is passed at Council. He argued it reminded him of the idea of being prescribed medication and getting prescribed more medication for medication. He does not believe anyone should be playing politics here because it is unfair to the student body instead of focusing on ensuring students have a good experience at SFU. He stated that focusing on IP 10 is silly when Councillors could focus on other things.
- MBBSU Councillor responded by stating that it appears there is a specific issue with a specific issues policy, especially when a lot of them are important for operation. For example, IP 1 provides birth control, such as condoms. This protects students from being denied their reproductive rights, for example, if a staff is not in support of reproductive rights. It is important that this is not something that people should refuse to take a stance on. A lot of policies help, and if IP 10 has issues, then a discussion should be made instead of throwing a lot of things out.
- The president shared that he believes a discussion can be had, especially since the Issues Policy 10 is the one with which he has an issue. He does not like that it is controversial and makes people feel like SFSS is attacking them. He insists he would like to remove all the Issues Policies because his issue with IP 10 is deep and a core issue that SFSS is expressing a clear political stance towards a political

issue bound to separate people. SFSS expresses a clear stance on antiracism and inclusivity. The specific issues the Issues policy addresses can be dealt with without it. Another thing is reproductive rights; however, the most valuable things that SFSS provides are not held within policies but supported by living, breathing people such as those who work in the Women's Centre, FNMISA. These services exist because there are people backing them through Council meetings. He stated he does not see the value of IPs because these services are supported by people but policies that imply speaking on behalf of everyone.

- VP Equity replied that she would like to believe that society would function with the knowledge that racism is bad. However, research and society have shown we need these clear guidelines to protect people. It is important to have clear rules. These living people support them and advocate for issues policies. She insists that proper consultation has not been done to suggest the removal of these issues policies. She reiterated that these living, breathing people providing these services are the same people who advocated for these policies, and it is important to keep that in mind before glossing over such facts and claiming things can be swept away.
- AVPOID added the President is right that SFSS policies support anti-racism. She is curious to know where our issues policy is. She also states that the work done at Council and by staff is because it is in policy. Removing these policies would negate the requirement to meet and make it casual. Without women's centre staff, it would be hard; their work is based on our Issues Policy. Councillors voted upon those issues. However, it is important that although Councillors can vote on an issue, having Issues policies prevents situations where councillors have to vote on handing a singular student a condom. She recommended that this move be adjourned.
- President stated that there are parts of the policies he believes are valuable. However, he believes these issues would continue to exist and be upheld in the SFSS with or without the existence of the Issues policies because they are implied or directly addressed in other policies. To answer the question, the policies are everywhere for example fundamental issues are addressed within for example disability. He does not understand how you can be free of discrimination and not be anti-racist. He believes by removing discrimination, society will inevitably become antiracist.

- MBBSU Councillor replied that his biggest concern with this is that the suggested changes are not ready when these policies are removed.
- RHA Councillor shared that this conversation would continue going back and forth. It is simply a notice of motion, and more discussion will come from this. It is important to be aware of people's time and respect it. He believes that if there are values to be upheld by student society, redundancy should not be an issue. Again, the president can introduce the motion to bring more discussion later.
- The president agreed with RHA and decided to proceed to Adjournment.

14. 30 MINUTES Q&A

- VP Finance asked about VP Finance policy and if it could be amended.
- MBBSU Councillor replied that the motion was passed while quorate and is therefore done.
- VP Finance shared that more information can be provided before the end of the year.
- AVPOID responded that the amendment is for December 22nd because that is when SFU Closes, and that date is the selected one. Therefore, VP Finance will have to provide proof that he is not violating the policy by enrolling in Spring classes and providing proof by January 1st.
- VP Finance shared that he may have an answer after December 22nd, which he finds conflicting.
- AVPOID wanted to double-check that VP Finance was not addressing items mentioned In-camera, and it appears everything is okay.
- The president replied that another motion could be passed after to address this motion.
- AVPOID shared that the deadline of 22nd December is not fixed, and it is flexible to December 31st if VP Finance can fix the contradiction.
- VP Finance asked about how to present a confirmation of enrollment.
- The president suggested reviewing this on gosfu and downloading the PDF version, which he can share. This would be more legitimate compared to a screenshot. President provided VP Finance the directions on how to access this proof of enrollment.
- VP Finance confirmed this can be sent via email before next EXEC Meeting. He suggested making this a presentation item.

15. ADJOURNMENT

15.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2023-12-20:11

President /CSA Councillor

Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 pm

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY