

In attendance:

Bertille Antoine (Economics)
Ronda Arab (English)
Lyn Bartram (SIAT) via zoom
Kumari Beck (Education) Chair
Adena Brons (Library)
Tim Beischlag (Health Sciences) via zoom
Janice Regan (Computing Science)
Mike Sjoerdsma (Engineering Science)
Rochelle Tucker (Health Sciences)
Ljiljana Trajkovic (Engineering Science) via zoom
Brian Green (Executive Director) via zoom
Melanie Lam (Executive Assistant, Minutes)

Regrets:

Jennifer Scott (Member Services)

The meeting was called to order at 9.45 am.

1. Approval of Agenda

Approved with two additions i) Appointment of David Broun to the executive committee
ii) Presidential renewal committee.

Moved: Bertille Antoine/Mike Sjoerdsma

Carried.

2. Approval of the June 15th minutes

Approved with one edit.

Moved: Mike Sjoerdsma/Bertille Antoine

Carried with one abstention.

3. Business arising

None to report.

4. Presidents Report – Kumari Beck

- Welcome to a new semester and welcome new committee members Ronda Arab, Adena Brons, Time Besichlag and Mike Sjoerdsma. Ronda and Mike have previously served on the SFUFA executive committee.
- It is preferred that committee members attend meetings in person rather than on zoom.
- Kumari gave an update on her meeting with the VPPEI and outgoing VPA Wade Parkhouse.

- The annual executive committee planning session will be held next Tuesday at Kumari's residence. Final details are to be circulated by email.

5. Executive Director report

- Bargaining was expected to wrap up in June but negotiations have stalled. Brian will provide an in-depth report on the current round of collective bargaining at the planning session next week.
- TSSU strike: More strike action is likely to happen later in the Fall semester.

6. Member Services report - Jen was absent but Brian provided a report on her behalf.

- There has been an increase in sick leaves and grievances related to medical accommodations.
- Generally speaking, communication with FR and getting answers from them remains a barrier in trying to get advocacy cases resolved. SFUFA is hoping this improves with the appointment of the new Provost.
- SFUFA is working well with the new Human Rights Officer to resolve advocacy cases.

7. a) D. Broun appointment

A vacancy exists on the executive committee, and as per the by-laws, the executive committee voted to appoint David Broun as Director for one term from September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024. David previously served as Director on the executive committee for the last two years and is also SFUFA's chief negotiator for the bargaining committee. He is eligible to run for re-election in the Spring.

Motion:

That David Broun be appointed as Director to the executive committee from September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024.

Moved: Kumari Beck/Tim Beischlag

Carried.

b) Appointment of Treasurer

Motion:

That Mike Sjoerdsma be elected as SFUFA Treasurer for the September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024 fiscal year.

Moved: Kumari Beck/Rochelle Tucker

Carried.

c) Fiscal year to date report

- Most line items are within budget but conferences, donations and legal fees are over budget. Legal fees are a lot over and there was a discussion about how to fund increasing

legal fees. It was noted that a 15% increase in dues income is expected after the ratification of our new Collective Agreement.

- Bargaining committee is under budget: It was noted that Teaching Releases were not provided this year. The executive will have a follow up discussion about this at the planning session next week.
- Salaries and benefits are slightly lower. SFUFA had budgeted an extra salary for a potential new staff person for the office.
- Donations: Many faculty associations went on strike this past year and there was a donation to the Alan Black bursary fund for \$5000.
- There was an error noted in the CAUT dues line item and a revised budget will be circulated at the next meeting.

8. Committee Reports

- Parking: The committee is meeting on Wednesday's at 3pm and Rochelle Tucker noted that she is unable to attend due to her teaching schedule. Kumari noted she would reach out to David Agosti, Manager of Parking, to see if the meeting time can be changed.
- Equity: The committee continued to meet over the summer. Elections were held and Wenona Hall from Indigenous Studies was elected as the new committee member. The committee is working on a survey and there are discussions about making Equity a standing committee of the Executive Committee and this will require changes to the SFUFA by-laws. More discussion about this is planned at next Tuesday's planning session at Kumari's.
- BOG: Janice is on vacation and unable to attend the September 28th meeting in Surrey at 8 am and Kumari noted she might be able to attend in her place.

9. Consult Items – September 14th at 10:30

- I. SFUFA would like to welcome Dilson, and we appreciate that he took time to visit our Executive meeting. We would like to invite him to speak to his major priorities for his first year, and specifically to hear about how he sees his own role in relation to the faculty relations portfolio and the roles of the ED faculty relations and the special advisor faculty relations. We are hoping to have a clearer understanding of decision-making in that portfolio so that we can better identify paths to informal resolution of issues.
- II. SFU has recently indicated that it is re-focusing on the core academic mission. Thinking of teaching and student support, we have a couple of specific things we would like to hear about.
First, faculty members have found that supports previously offered to support teaching, for example through CEE, are no longer available. We would like to hear

exactly how supports for teachers are being made available. Among the areas of concern are: language support, Canvas support, and the lack of discipline-specific and embedded support for units. We would also like to have an update on return to campus student services, given that many front-facing offices have been understaffed or only staffed remotely since the pandemic.

- III. SFUFA would like to hear about steps to improve accessibility in general and accessibility for persons with disabilities in particular. We have previously raised here issues with walkways, elevators, and bathrooms, and SFU has indicated it was taking action to improve accessibility. We are hoping for an update on specific actions that have been undertaken and are planned.

10. Other business:

The re-appointment review process for current SFU President Joy Johnson has begun and Mike Sjoerdsma noted he is the Employee Rep. on the renewal committee representing SFUFA, CUPE, TSSU and Poly Party. SFU is starting broad consultation and a survey to the community is planned shortly. Joy's term expires August 31, 2025.

- 12. Adjournment:** There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 12:10pm.
Moved: Ronda Arab/Bertille Antoine **Carried.**