

Call to Order – 12:30 am, July 22, 2014 | MBC 2292

1. Roll Call of Attendance

Committee Composition

Vice President External Relations (<i>chair</i>)	Darwin Binesh
President (<i>ex officio</i>)	Chardaye Bueckert
Vice President Student Life (MSO <i>pro tem</i>)	Kayode Fatoba (<i>late</i>)
Board of Directors Representative	Tesicca Truong
Board of Directors Representative	Brady Wallace
Councilor	Kathleen Yang
Councilor	Rahul Rajanala
Councilor	
Councilor	
Board of Governors Representative	
Out On Campus Representative	
Women’s Centre Representative	Anjali Biju
Student At-Large	Muhsin Suleiman
Student At-Large	

Society Staff

Campaigns, Research, and Policy Coordinator	Pierre Cassidy
Minute Taker	Dion Chong

Guests

Business Representative	Shadnam Khan
Health Sciences Representative	Ayla Kooner
Member	Arjan Mundy
TSSU Chief Steward	Keagan Belan
TSSU Member	Derek Sahota

Absent

Vice President University Relations	Moe Kopahi
-------------------------------------	------------

Regrets

Senate Representative	Athina Pilarinos
-----------------------	------------------

A number of members had scheduling changes and therefore stepped down from the committee.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION ADV 2014-07-22:01

Bueckert

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as amended.

Guard.Me guest speakers shifted to the beginning of the meeting.

S Frosh Discussion Item added

CARRIED AS AMENDED

3. Ratification of Regrets

MOTION ADV 2014-07-22:02

Truong

Be it resolved to ratify regrets from:

Senate Representative Athina Pilarinos

CARRIED

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

MOTION ADV 2014-07-22:03

Wallace

Be it resolved to approve the minutes of 2014-07-15

CARRIED

5. Guest Speakers

a. Guard.Me

The TSSU provided a presentation based on the November 18th, 2013 TSSU/GSS Townhall. Guard.me was a replacement to the BC MSP until such time that international student became eligible for MSP coverage.

- Basic health care covered emergency medical services – MSP eligibility began from the 3rd month in BC
 - While Guard.me is intended to be basic coverage, it also moved into the realm of extended coverage, which GSS and SFSS provided to its membership
 - A number of extended coverage areas overlapping into extended insurance areas were identified
 - Coverage included repatriation, which the previous provider did not provide.
- Prior to 2012, insurance was recommended but was not mandatory for international students
 - In 2012, a number of incidents resulted in SFU issuing requests for proposals for international student medical insurance.
- TSSU had collective agreement language covering delays between arrival and MSP coverage. However, concerns were identified when students who were covered under MSP being charged for duplicate coverage areas.
 - No global mechanism for permanent opt-out. Primary issue of reenrollment was found at the graduate levels.
- October 2013 – GSS officially passed a motion opposing SFU's implementation of Guard.Me
- In comparison to other universities in BC, the SFU plan was significantly more expensive as a result of the extra coverage.
 - International Services for Students indicated that they were unconcerned with the additional costs that the Guard.me plan represented for international students.
 - Other universities plans also facilitates MSP enrollment
 - 5% of premiums were received by SFU.
 - There was concern around costs of competing plans and their respective coverage, as they were all approximately \$150 lower in required

premiums. The only key difference identified by the TSSU was the 5% kickback.

- SFU's English Language and Culture Programmes and Fraser International College both feed into SFU, they utilize Guard.me, and have a lower premium with basic medical coverage.
- Major Concerns
 - High cost compared to other providers, with students not having the choice to select coverage nor provider.
 - Duration, since only 2 months and remainder of month of arrival required coverage, yet coverage was for 4 months.
 - Automatic reenrollment – international undergraduate tuition was already high, and this was an additional financial burden for students who did not understand the process of opting out or did not realize that they had to opt out
 - Early Refund and Opt out - Early opt out is only available to graduate students, as a result of the system providing only graduate students with physical cards. Narrow window of early refund.
 - Duplicate coverage with SFSS and GSS provided services
 - Dependents – While RFP requested 50% cost for dependents, Guard.me demanded 100% cost
- As the contract ends 31 December 2015, there was a desire to make clear to the SFU administration that the implementation was unacceptable.
- The TSSU was recommended to contact the Vice President Student Services on the SFSS implementation of the extended medical plan.

The TSSU was requested to provide all relevant materials, including costs benefit breakdowns, to the Advocacy Committee.

The TSSU desired to tailor information to the undergraduate student body and share such information, particularly for incoming international students in the fall term.

In the previous year, the SFSS provided information on opting out, but did not take a formal stance. It was recommended to consider providing information in other languages as well given the involvement of the process.

6. Committee Priority and Goal Setting

The Arts and Social Sciences Representative had prepared a breakdown of all advocacy goals as established at the previous members.

Fatoba entered at 1:03pm

Project Leads

- Making the SFSS More Accessible (Awareness and visibility of services) – Student At-Large Suleiman and Councilor Yang
- Improving Voter Turnouts – Councilors Rajanala and Yang would bring the project to the Political Science Student Union
 - **Action Item:** Vice President External Relations would contact former student At Large Lehal to determine interest
- Promotion of Public Transportation – President Bueckert
 - GSS/Sustainable SFU/SFSS in the previous year had joint initiatives

- Course Selection – Member Dagenais (*preliminarily*)
- Kinder Morgan Pipeline – Environment Representative Truong
- Mental Health – Arts and Social Sciences Representative Wallace would contact Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee. Health Sciences Representative Kooner would contact Hi-FIVE Movement
 - Hi-FIVE had become its own independent entity with its own executive. It may be prudent to assist them in continued work.
- Sex Week – Vice President Student Life Fatoba
- Funding Cuts – Arts and Social Sciences Representative Wallace
- Food Bank – Members were invited to contact the Health Sciences Representative to become involved with the Board working group.
- Lobby Training
 - Was considered an ambiguous goal.
 - Arts and Social Sciences Representative would look into options and report back
 - The President had provided a number of organizations who provide lobby training.
 - **Action Item:** Vice President External Relations would provide the package
- Tap SFU – Health Sciences Representative Kooner

7. Updates

a. Committee Chair Role and Function of Committee

Members would work on their initiatives and bring a plan and updates to the committee. The Vice President External Relations would assist in prioritization at the committee level and coordinating organizational and staff resources to facilitate the projects, as it was under the purview of the Executive Officers to request staff resources.

Action Item: The Vice President External Relations would prepare a list of available Society staff resources for the committee.

b. ~~SFUVOTES~~ Working Groups

c. Northern Gateway Pipeline and Kinder Morgan Pipeline

Environment Representative was tasked to consider campus groups working on the Kinder Morgan Pipeline. A number of organizations were looking to work together to host a dialogue on the construction of the pipeline. The intent was to provide space for discussions from varying groups on the direct impact the pipeline would impact the university. The Kinder Morgan Pipeline would directly impact the campus and therefore it was deemed important to provide a space for conversation around the impact of such a massive project.

Sustainable SFU applied and received commentator status. Outcomes of the dialogue may influence the final comment submitted to the review board.

Sustainable SFU has offered to cover space costs, and the SFSS may consider funding facilitation for the dialogue.

8. Discussion

a. S Frosh

Sustainability Frosh occurring in September, available to any student from across Metro Vancouver interested in sustainability. Provides opportunities for students to connect to one another and with campus organizations interested in matters of sustainability.

MOTION ADV 2014-07-22:05

Truong

Be it resolved to recommend to BOD to officially partner with the Sustainability Frosh.

The Frosh was occurring primarily at SFU Harbour Centre. The desire of the motion was to partner with the event, with no monetary contribution. The committee requested a proposal or SMART template to be presented to the committee.

Action Item: Environment Representative would provide a SMART template for the partnership to the committee.

POSTPONED TO NEXT ADV

Fatoba

9. Announcements

The Campaigns, Research, and Policy Coordinator met with the Heidi, who held a similar position at Kwantlen Student Union, in order to build long-term continuity and provide the Advocacy Committee with context on initiatives of other student unions. At the time, they were working on a series of transportation initiatives. The CRPC would begin to provide the committee with updates from other universities.

A number of other organizations also existed in working on pan-academic institutional advocacy, such as GetOnBoard or the ABCS.

President was working on a proposal for the open textbook campaign.

ISG and International Clubs were coming an organized caucus.

Pearson representative would present at the next meeting.

10. Adjournment 1:32pm