

Call to Order – 12:04 am, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 | MBC 2290

## 1. Roll Call of Attendance

### Committee Composition

Vice President External Relations (*chair*) ..... Darwin Binesh  
President (*ex officio*) ..... Chardaye Bueckert  
Board of Directors Representative ..... Brady Wallace (*late – academic*)  
Vice President Student Life (MSO *pro tem*) ..... Kayode Fatoba (*late*)  
Councilor ..... Kathleen Yang  
Councilor .....  
Councilor ..... Rahul Rajanala  
Councilor ..... Maren Thompson  
Board of Governors Representative .....  
Out On Campus Representative .....  
Women’s Centre Representative ..... Anjali Biju  
Senate Representative .....  
Student At-Large ..... Muhsin Suleiman  
Student At-Large .....

### Society Staff

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

### Guests

Member ..... Arjan Mundy  
Member ..... Curtis Pooghkay

### Regrets

Vice President University Relations ..... Moe Kopahi

### On Leave (AP-1)

Board of Directors Representative ..... Tesicca Truong

## 2. Adoption of the Agenda

### MOTION ADV 2014-09-18:01

Bueckert

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

*OpenCon funding item added*

### CARRIED AS AMENDED

## 3. Ratification of Regrets

### MOTION ADV 2014-09-18:02

Yang

*Be it resolved to ratify regrets from:*

Vice President University Relations ..... Moe Kopahi

Vice President University Relations was in class. The committee could potentially ask board to consider the viability of standing orders as currently written. The committee would like the Executive Officers to attend and there was an expectation that members named to committees attend.

**CARRIED**

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

**MOTION ADV 2014-09-18:03**

Yang

*Be it resolved to approve the minutes of 2014-08-12 and 2014-09-04*

**CARRIED**

**5. Updates**

**a. Financial Tracking Form**

The Finance Office was looking for financial tracking from the committee. The Vice President External Relations was preparing a Google Doc which would be shared with the Finance and CRP offices, along with project leads. Project/campaign leads and the Vice President External Relations would be responsible for updating the document after all expenditures, verified against the general ledger.

Board could reasonably review or suspend the budget of a committee should they not be fulfilling their duties in reporting back to Board. It was deemed expedient for budgets to be prepared for approval at the committee level, and matching expenditures to the budget. Committees may wish to harmonize the method of financial tracking for committees.

**b. Working Group Updates**

**Open Textbooks**

- Met with president of Faculty Association with positive results
  - Recommendation was received to request either Ministry of Advanced Education or SFU to providing funding for staff to customize books for courses
- Continuing to receive signatures on the petition
  - Once Facebook promotion begins, may receive significantly more electronic signatures
- Article in The Peak
  - Error was identified: 23 textbooks were in use in the province, not at SFU
    - **Action Item:** Vice President External Relations would follow up
- OpenCon – Wallace was accepted to attend.
- Provincial Budget Submission – open textbooks segment with recommendations would be included.
- Joint Operation Group meeting – Bookstore had a presentation on SFUread, a mandatory programme where students pay a fixed fee for all electronic books. Publishers would have rights for all content.
  - President would follow up on the potential of a presentation to ADV.
- The Funny Shirts may be desirable to promote the Open Textbook Campaign, given recent traction with the campaign.
- Build SFU pyramids may provide an opportunity to promote the open textbooks.

**International Students Tuition Fees** (*not a working group yet*)

- The Peak had created a form for international students to submit stories on the impact of rising tuition fees.

- The Peak would be preparing a feature, which hopefully would be released around the time of university budget consultations.
- Information was to be circulated to international clubs
  - A number of groups would be meeting soon.
  - ISG would be writing an official letter signed by the presidents of all international clubs.
  - Confusion was expressed around the level of involvement from ISG and various international clubs.
- International clubs have done interviews with CJSF, connecting with The Peak.
  - Social media campaign underway.
    - GSS may also become involved.

Overlap was identified between advocacy in the community, ADV, and the portfolio of the Vice President Student Life

### **Vice President External Relations**

A number of students had approached the VP ER with ideas for campaigns, such as fair trade, pipelines etc.

Rally on Saturday – National Energy Board has approved the Kinder Morgan pipeline to be drilled underneath Burnaby Mountain. MP Kennedy Stewart has made resources available to the community to apply for intervener status. ADV would discuss the matter in the next week.

### **Council**

Council tabled the motion indefinitely on taking a stance on both the Kinder Morgan and Northern Gateway pipelines. Board thus had not yet had a conversation on the subject.

## **6. Unfinished Business**

### **a. Academic Advocacy**

#### **~~MOTION ADV 2014-09-18:04~~**

~~/~~

~~*Be it resolved to task Darwin Binesh to investigate the feasibility of the Academic Advocacy Campaign as presented.*~~

~~*Be it further resolved that an update be presented to the Advocacy Committee at its next meeting*~~

#### **MOTION WITHDRAWN**

Binesh would continue investigating the matter.

## **7. New Business**

### **a. OpenCon Funding**

#### **MOTION ADV 2014-09-18:05**

Bueckert/Amended Bueckert/Yang

*Be it resolved to approve up to \$1000 from 820/23 Advocacy – Campaigns for Brady Wallace - Arts and Social Sciences Representative to attend the OpenCon 2014 Conference.*

Wallace, Bueckert, and Cassidy had all applied. Wallace indicated that they would be interested in partial funding from the OpenCon Organizing Committee. Bueckert has also been waitlisted for full scholarship.

Total cost without the scholarship was \$882: flight \$492 CAD, conference hotel \$250 shared with another participant, and no conference fee. As per policy, SFSS would also provide a per diem (\$140 for 4 days).

#### **MOTION AMENDED**

The Organizing Committee has indicated that scholarship funding may be available. Should the ADV choose to fund the full amount, combined with savings from other participants who may be able to partially fund their participation, potentially could provide the space for Bueckert to also attend.

Since ADV had already set Open Textbooks as a major initiative, the members considered this to be a positive investment.

#### **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

##### **b. International Student Tuition Increase Working Group**

Working Group was an idea of the president of ISG. There was a desire to elevate the voices of the international community at SFU. While working group would come from the Advocacy Committee, ISG was asked to take a leading role in the working group, such that further integration of international student advocacy could be possible.

The SFSS had the responsibility to advocate on behalf of the student body, and it was deemed important for the SFSS to ensure that a campaign be conducted, regardless of whether the international community had the capacity to take on the matter themselves. Further discussions would occur.

#### **8. Discussion**

##### **a. Kinder Morgan Pipeline**

##### **MOTION ADV 2014-09-18:05**

Bueckert

*Be it resolved to recommend to Board to approve a joint submission with SFU for intervener status on the kinder morgan pipeline.*

Joint proposal is coming from a meeting between the Environment Representative and SFU, where interest was expressed to pursue such status together.

#### **CARRIED**

##### **b. Revisiting Issues Policy**

IP was sought for ethical trade. The SFSS was the organization which pushed forward the issue of fair trade at SFU. The SFSS may wish to make a decision on ethical purchasing decisions. Ethical purchasing practices were not well defined, and thus there was a desire to adopt a standard with specific measures. There may be significant impact to societal operations.

##### **c. January Debate/Marc Emery at SFU- Discussion item**

9. Adjournment 1:00pm

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DC | CUPE 3338

# Academic Advocacy: Studying

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## Overview:

The intent of this campaign is to engage students while they do what they presumably do most at school: study. This campaign has three parts: communication, outreach, and volunteer coordination. The focus of the campaign is to promote good study habits, give snacks to students in the evening after food hours are closed, and provide quiet study space for the volunteers who work on this project. This campaign can be kept very simple or made very elaborate; moreover, this flexibility makes it easy for members to get involved with, and repeat for every mid-term and exam period.

## Communication:

Communications will focus on the promotion of good study habits. Upon consultation with the SFSS Communications Coordinator, it is a good way of creating useful videos as that will be feasible with the concert done at that time. We can create a useful list of tips for students to use as a reminder with a handout, and use this as an opportunity to give away our branded office supplies. Such a campaign is also tied with an open textbook campaign in a higher level approach of academics generally through more than one campaign.

## Outreach:

Handing out snacks to students while they study on campus after the food outlets are closed. We can *show* the membership how we are here to make their life at school, during its most difficult time, easier. Instead of hosting an event offering free food for the people who attend, we can use this as an opportunity to go them.

## Volunteer Coordination:

Volunteers are essential for everything from outreach, promotion, down to hanging up posters. Hopefully, we can open a conference room for the volunteers with refreshments as a quiet place for them to study in at the same time. If this campaign is to be during examination periods, the student volunteers should also be given perks that help them with their studies. The campaign may also include us shifting SFSS space into quiet study space with coffee and refreshments provided.

## Next Steps:

1. Reach out to Nestor's, Costco, etc...to see if food could be donated for this campaign.
2. Recruiting and coordinating volunteers.
3. Booking room(s) for the volunteers, and refreshments to be provided.
4. Arranging for a communications plan with the Coordinator. (dates and times, postings online, posters and other communications pieces. Note that these are just examples since no plan exists at the moment.)