

Call to Order – 12:31 pm, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 | MBC 2294

## 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  
Councilor ..... Michael Fujiwara  
Councilor ..... Kathleen Yang  
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 ..... Arjan Mundy

### Society Staff

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

### Absence

Vice President University Relations ..... Moe Kopahi  
Vice President Student Life ..... Kayode Fatoba  
Board of Directors Representative ..... Tesicca Truong

## 2. Adoption of the Agenda

### MOTION ADV 2014-10-02:01

Rajanala

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

*Revisiting issues policies item added, Discussion items on SFU Votes and Ethical Purchasing added*

### CARRIED AS AMENDED

## 3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

### MOTION ADV 2014-10-02:02

/

*Be it resolved to approve the minutes of 2014-09-18 and 2014-09-25*

### POSTPONED TO NEXT ADV

Bueckert

## 4. Discussion

### a. #SFUVotes

Political Science Student Union was interested in reviving the SFU Votes campaign, and has provided the committee with a proposal to promote student voting on campus.

Municipal voting booths are set three years in advance and Burnaby Mountain voting booths were set to be established at the University Highlands Elementary School, which was an area of contention for the SFSS given the distance between the school and the heart of campus. A voter registration booth would be set up at SFU Vancouver, but such initiatives were still in talks for Burnaby and Surrey campuses.

The SFSS may wish to host an all candidates' debate on all three campuses with a focus on student issues, particularly given the impact of the elections on a number of areas of concern. Surrey municipal elections also could impact Surrey campuses expansion and LRT establishment. Given the major impact of elections on the student experience, it was desired to seriously invest in the campaign.

**MOTION ADV 2014-10-02:03**

Bueckert

*Be it resolved to approve up to \$1500 for the Advocacy Committee and Political Science Student Union #SFUVotes Campaign for facebook ads, space booking, promotional materials and refreshments.*

*Be it further resolved to appoint Kathleen Yang as project lead.*

Focus for promotional materials and debate themes

- Municipal issues: transit, affordable housing, and environmental protection
- Electoral candidates
- Logistics of voting

Bueckert could provide the information, and follow up with the communications office on workload.

Municipal level voter registration was not handled by a central agency. As a workaround, Alberta colleges and universities, in the lead up to the elections, had volunteers handing out information and ask individuals to sign up, with text message and email reminders on the day before to vote.

SFU did not have a campus in Coquitlam – Coquitlam and other areas could be the focus of an information campaign, but without the hosted all candidates debates.

If political parties and candidates have promotional materials, they could be collated and provided openly via booths, which would reduce costs to the Student Society.

**CARRIED**

Abstention noted from Yang

**b. Ethical Purchasing Issues Policy**

SFU recently won the Fair Trade Campus award. Issues policies for the SFSS currently do not include a clear stance on fair trade.

It was possible both for the SFSS to lead the initiative or to form a campus committee with various other stakeholders, including SFU Ancillary Services, to oversee fair trade and other sustainable initiatives at SFU. Particularly given that SFU has won the award, it may be more prudent for SFU to begin the initiative. However, since the student population, and the SFSS in particular, was the catalyst for SFU's fair trade stance (SFSS was the first to bring fair trade

coffee to campus), it may be more desirable for the students to lead the charge, with support for groups such as SFSS Food and Beverage Services and SFU Ancillary Services.

The SFSS has its own commercial services as well as leasing space for tenants. There may be a financial ramification to the costs of running the businesses, potentially even impacting business viability. Thus, significant research would be necessary to determine the scope and impact of any such policy.

Internally, the SFSS could begin to look at their operational practices and consider the impact and options to enhance the ethical purchasing practices. Ethical purchasing was seen as intrinsically linked to fair trade as a result of its social and economic impact.

**Action Item:** Suleiman would provide the committee with a proposed initiative by next ADV. This would include specific areas of focus.

## 5. Updates

### Open Textbook Campaign

Nearly all petitions have been received. Working group would meet tomorrow to determine next steps. FARM would continue work to identify and liaise with undergraduate curriculum committee representative. Councilors have also requested talking points and informational material

Teaching and Learning Centre has invited the SFSS to provide a presentation on the campaign

### VP External Relations

- Financial Tracking Document has been prepared. Finance Office was completing final review.
- Has been in contact with a number of other student societies on campaigns.
- Looking at the development of organizational charts, to avoid constant research of existing organizational information.

### President

- SFU has been informed that the International Students Group had an interest in bringing questions on tuition fee increases to the budgeting process, and has informed the SFSS that individuals arriving at the budget consultations should provide alternative solutions to the funding gap.
- SFSS was currently preparing communications materials to promote the SFU budgeting process, as well as requesting the budgeting proposal documents from the university.

### International Students Group

Very little information was available at the moment. Meetings were underway to discuss continuing developments for the international tuition increase campaign.

Updates would be sought from the VP Student Life on the meetings with various international student groups

### MOTION ADV 2014-10-02:04

Bueckert

*Be it resolved to* task the Vice President Student Life to prepare a written report on the progress of the international student fee increase campaign, due ADV 2014-10-07

## **CARRIED**

### **Provincial Budget Submission**

Research on the provincial budget submission was taking longer than anticipated. President was meeting with SFU Facilities Services tomorrow for updated deferred maintenance data. Would follow up on transit data from the SFU commuter survey

Advocacy Committee had consensus on framing the report within the 4 major topic areas previously identified: Core institutional funding, transit deferred maintenance funding, funding for BC Open Textbook Programme. The committee also concurred with the SFU President's recommendation to support the SFU Surrey expansion proposals.

The GSS was unable to receive a slot for a budget presentation, and has requested that their points be included in the SFSS submission. While the time limits of the presentation may impact the ability to include SFSS topics, it may be desirable to assist as a sign of good faith. The grad provincial scholarship programme was endorsed by all graduate student societies of BC's research institutions. The SFSS would include a line in support of the provincial graduate scholarship programme.

A physical presentation would allow the SFSS to the ability to field questions and would be recorded as official legislative proceedings.

### **SFU Pass Up – Transit Campaign**

- Mock photoshoot was ultimately unsuccessful
- SFU Ancillary Services has been very active in ensuring that posters were on campus. Transit coordinator was also being kept informed on the issue.
  - Posters could be expanded beyond SFU campus
  - it may be desirable for the online form to include bus stop numbers to track precisely where passups were occurring
- A pickup only service could be considered for bus lines that operate along routes simultaneously serving other educational institutions.
  - Express 135 services was advocated by the previous administration.

## **6. Attachments**

Simon Fraser Student Society Advocacy Committee Proposal.docx

## **7. Adjournment**

---

DC | CUPE 3338

# **Simon Fraser Student Society Advocacy Committee Proposal: #SFUvotes**

## **Overview:**

The Political Science Student Union (PSSU) would like to enter a partnership with the Simon Fraser Student Society Advocacy Committee to host #SFUvotes, a campaign aimed to encourage SFU students to vote in the upcoming municipal elections.

With elections taking place on November 15, the PSSU has chosen the tentative date of Wednesday, November 12, 2014 to table in Convocation Mall and invite representatives from the surrounding municipalities to provide information to students regarding the process of voting. The PSSU will be providing information regarding student voter turnout as well as pamphlets from various municipal political parties. Representation will be sought from municipalities including, but not limited to Coquitlam, Burnaby, Surrey and Vancouver.

The PSSU is also looking into the feasibility of organizing other events such as an all candidates debate and hosting information tables at Harbour Centre and the Surrey Campus for the #SFUvotes campaign prior to November 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **Motion to be discussed in principal:**

- *Be it resolved to allocate \$100 from the SFSS Advocacy budget towards the purchase of refreshments for the #SFUvotes campaign.*
- *Be it further resolved that the Advocacy committee be responsible for booking Convocation Mall to showcase the #SFUvotes campaign.*