

Call to Order – 5:33 pm, November 19, 2014 | Forum Chambers

The Council acknowledged that the meeting was being conducted on the Unceded Coast Salish Territories of the Squamish, Musqueam, Stó:lo, and Tsleil-Waututh people.

1. Roll Call of Attendance

SFSS Directors (*non-voting*)

President	Chardaye Bueckert
Vice President External Relations.....	Darwin Binesh
Vice President Finance	Adam Potvin
Vice President Student Life.....	Kayode Fatoba
Vice President Student Services.....	Zied Masmoudi
Vice President University Relations	Moe Kopahi
Faculty Representative (Applied Sciences).....	Ben Rogers
Faculty Representative (Arts & Social Sciences)	Brady Wallace
Faculty Representative (Business).....	Shadnam Khan
Faculty Representative (Communication, Art & Technology)	Shirin Escarcha
Faculty Representative (Education)	Katie Bell
Faculty Representative (Health Sciences)	Ayla Kooner
Faculty Representative (Sciences)	Deepak Sharma

Student Union Representatives

*New Councilors that need ratification will be denoted ****

Arts and Social Sciences.....	
Behavioral Neuroscience	Alysha Damji*
Biology.....	Gurinder Saroya
Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology.....	Debbie Wong
Business.....	
Chemistry.....	Pipreesh Gaind
Cognitive Science	Aaron Richardson
Criminology.....	Erwin Kwok
Dance.....	Cori Baldwin
Earth Science.....	Gleb Moiseyenko
Economics	Thomas Budd
Education	Melissa Lee
Engineering.....	Michael Fujiwara
Environmental Science.....	
French.....	Nick Poulos
Humanities.....	
Interactive Arts and Technology.....	Amanda Poh

Labour Studies	
Linguistics	Gloria Mellesmoen
Management System Science	
Molecular Biology & Biochemistry	Marija Jovanovic
Physics.....	Jesse Velay-Vitow
Political Science	Kathleen Yang
Psychology.....	Yasmin Meawad

Sociology and Anthropology	
Statistics and Actuarial Science.....	Grace Lam
Sustainable Community Development.....	
Theaters.....	
Visual Arts	
World Literature	
Constituency Group Representatives	
International Student Group (ISG).....	
Out on Campus Collectives (OOC)	Jason Wang
Students United for Disability Support (SUDS).....	Anthony Janolino (<i>late</i>)
Residence Hall’s Association (RHA).....	Brett Payne*
Women Centre Collectives (WCC)	Anjali Biju
Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).....	Ryan Dhillon
Society Staff	
Campaigns, Research, and Policy Coordinator.....	Pierre Cassidy
Student Union Organiser	Antonio Daling
Minute Taker	Dion Chong
Guests	
TSSU	Melissa Roth
Chief Electoral Officer	Stephanie Munez
Regrets	
At-Large Representative	Jeremy Pearce
At-Large Representative	Rebecca Langmead
Archeology.....	Madisen Hvidberg
Business.....	Jessica Gutierrez
Business.....	David Chapman
Communications.....	Gino Cutri
English.....	Stephanie Hall
Health Science.....	Sana Javaheri
International Studies.....	Tina Bachl
Mathematics	Charles Turo
Mechatronics System Engineering	Gursher Sidhu
Philosophy.....	Karen Abramson
First Nations Student Association (FNSA).....	Maren Thompson
Absent	
Computing Science	Rahman Kadirdin
Geography	Jared Busse
Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies	Caroline Doerksen
History.....	Brandon Matheson
Operations Research	Michelle Baillet
On Leave	
Faculty Representative (Environment)	Tesicca Truong

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-11-19:01

Moiseyenko/Amended Kwok

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Discussion item on Student Life Award added.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-11-19:02

Biju

Be it resolved to receive and file the minutes of 2014-10-29

The original motion received to have the SUS referendum question was amended by Council and caused the IEC some issues. The original motion proposed to the Council had a condition that the Constitution and Policy Review Committee recommend that the BOD approve the proposed constitution and bylaws – such that only CPR had to recommend. The condition in the amendment required approval from both the Board and CPR, the latter of which had not authority to approve. Further, since the meeting was held on October 29, and CPR on November 3, it took the Sciences Representative some time to make those changes, with Board only receiving it after November 5th. Questions for the referendum ballot were only accepted until November 5th. The Chief Electoral Officer approached the CRPC, and the Campaigns, Research, and Policy Coordinator sought to interpret the matter to the end of the voting period, as opposed to end of the nomination period.

A member indicated that this may set a bad precedence to accommodate groups. BASS and SASS were both organizations identified as having had to go through significantly more processes prior to being accepted for referendum. It was expressed that the term “Without Prejudice and Precedence” could be used, although this still sets some precedence.

The CRPC asked the Council to support an interpretation of the motion which did not preclude SUS from adding a referendum question.

A student from within Sciences did recommend the amendment to the original motion. As such, it may not be the place of the Council to make a decision on the intentions of the Science membership.

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-11-19:02

Moiseyenko

Be it resolved that the conditions placed on Council’s inclusion of the referendum question pertaining to the establishment of the SUS were to be met by the date of the referendum and not by the end of the nomination period.

CARRIED

Opposition noted from Mellesmoen

EARLIER MOTION CARRIED

4. Elections, Appointments, Resignation and Excuses

a. Ratification of Regrets

Excuses or regrets will be kept track of by the chair of council. Missing two meetings in a row without sending excuses (that are approved) will result in the removal from Council.

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-11-19:03

Jovanovic

Be it resolved to ratify the regrets from:

At-Large Representative.....	Jeremy Pearce (<i>workshop training</i>)
Archeology.....	Madisen Hvidberg (<i>work</i>)
Business.....	Jessica Gutierrez (<i>SU event</i>)
Business.....	David Chapman (<i>SU event</i>)
English.....	Stephanie Hall (<i>work</i>)
Health Science.....	Sana Javaheri (<i>class</i>)
Mechatronics System Engineering	Gursher Sidhu (<i>SU event</i>)
First Nations Student Association (FNSA).....	Maren Thompson (<i>class</i>)
At-Large Representative.....	Rebecca Langmead (<i>family matters</i>)
Economics	Thomas Budd (<i>no reasoning provided</i>)
International Studies.....	Tina Bachl (<i>work</i>)
Mathematics	Charles Turo (<i>family matters</i>)

CARRIED

b. Appointments to Council

MOTION COUNCIL 2014-11-19:04

Lee

Be it resolved to ratify the appointment of the following Councilors:

Behavioral Neuroscience	Alysha Damji
Residence Hall's Association (RHA).....	Brett Payne

CARRIED

5. Discussions

c. Residence Issues – Louis Riel and Affordable Student Housing

Wang left at 5:51pm

The Organiser of the Teaching Support Staff Union [TSSU] provided context for their participation in discussion on Louis Riel and other mould issues on campus.

BC Residential Tenancy Act was a law which defined the rights and responsibilities of tenants and landowners, such as costs of rent not increasing further than cost of living, and provisions for remunerations for repairs, rights of nondiscrimination etc. While SFU Residences used to be covered by the act, both university residences and Single Residence Occupancy Hotels were removed from the act's jurisdiction after an incident with a UBC student who refused to leave residences after graduating. TSSU was currently in discussions with the MLAs who were involved with the addition of SRO back into the BC Residential Tenancy Act, and wished to reintegrate Residences within the act.

The repercussions of university residences not being covered under this law were being observed, from the continual mould issues (now confirmed in both Louis Riel and Towers), maintenance issues, and maintenance delays at SFU, to the proposed massive increases to residence costs at UBC. Such housing problems formed part of a Vancouver-wide affordable housing issue, where 50% of Vancouver residences were spending more than 30% of their

income on rent and thus were being placed into a precarious living situation where a missed paycheck could result in eviction.

Concern was raised that SFU was devolving its costs down to those with the least amount of power.

The SFSS President was contacted in October by a member of the Student Society with issues around both the Louis Riel situation and the future of affordable housing at SFU. At the time, RHA did not have a Board, such that the SFSS could not engage with the organization was tasked with advocating for residences. The SFSS Advocacy Committee began to follow up with the University, and began to engage with stakeholders, including representatives with Council, ADV, TSSU, and Graduate Student Society.

The University had indicated that testing was 2/3 of the way through, and it was not protocol to release test results. 196 of 226 spaces had been tested, and 4 spaces had been reallocated as a result of the test results. Results would be released in January 2015.

Louis Riel was one of the oldest buildings on the university grounds. As part of the assessment, the university would be reviewing the viability of maintaining the building into the future. The university was currently looking into potential replacements, however Residences were provided at market rate which meant that any replacements would likely come at an increased cost as they would be in a significantly better state.

While private development could be considered, affordability would continue to be an issue, as market rate would continue to be charged. Should private development be sought by the university, a subsidy system would have to be considered in order to maintain residence affordability.

The university was in a position where it was experiencing a \$2.5 million funding cut by the provincial government in the current fiscal year. The University has also been banned from borrowing money, including for the development of residences despite the fact that such buildings would likely be cost recovery.

In the leadup to the municipal election on November 15, all Burnaby city candidates were contacted and the only responses received by the SFSS were from candidates who were not electorally successful.

Residence Hall Association had not conducted a substantive discussion on the matter as of yet. A petition and campaign may be developed around the issue of residence costs. The Board of RHA was of the position that residences costs were high and any further increases would be untenable, particularly for international students who were already facing tuition fee increases. The university had not provided much information to students on both international student fee increases and the residence issues.

The Council was in a position to support an advocacy campaign to pressure the government around university funding. It was requested that councilors fulfill their duty to their constituency groups by reporting information and polling their constituents. The Vice President University Relations recommended that the Council lobby the university to consider housing affordability as a priority.

As per the invitation to the university to discuss international student tuition fee increases, AVP Students Tim Rahilly would be able to make the November 26th meeting, but President Petter and VP Academic John Driver would not be available until December 3rd at 9am. The Council was reminded that the AVP Students was responsible for international student services

as well as both Residence and Housing. Further, the Council was reminded that SFU presidents used to be active guests of Council meetings.

The Council indicated that the time proposed by the President and VP Academic was not desirable, given conflicts with exams. Advocacy Committee would be interested bring in as many students as possible to any such meeting.

The Councilors may wish to bring the matter back to their respective groups, given the increased amount of information, including the discovery of mould in residences affecting new students. The Council may also wish to support continuing efforts to reintegrate Residences into the BC Residential Tenancy Act. It was indicated that SFU was already responsible for repairs to residences, and adding residences within the Residential Tenancy Act would simply reinforce students' rights.

Council was commended for their involvement in advocacy initiatives. The Council was reminded that the Council could engage with the SFU Board of Governors on any matters of importance to the membership.

d. EPCOM - Student Life Award

The Criminology Representative provided an overview of the Student Life award proposal.

There was a desire to recognize volunteer contributions throughout the SFSS.

Recommendations would be provided to the Events and Promotions Committee or another body, which would then make decisions on the persons to recognize. The Council's input was sought, particularly around the name of the award, type of award, the frequency of awarding etc.

The award was potentially a matter which would be more within the realm of the Student Union Organiser position.

Further, the University now provides a co-curricular record program to provide official recognition of extracurricular activities that students have been engaged in.

6. Adjournment 6:32pm