

Call to Order – 4:37 pm, February 18, 2015 | Forum Chambers

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

1. Roll Call of Attendance

Student Union Representatives

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

Archeology.....	Cameron Pollock
Behavioral Neuroscience.....	Alysha Damji
Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology.....	Sam Spencer
Business.....	
Cognitive Science.....	Aaron Richardson
Communications.....	Gino Cutri
Computing Science.....	James Hannah
Dance.....	Cori Baldwin (<i>late-acad</i>)
Earth Science.....	Gleb Moiseyenko
Education.....	Melissa Lee
Engineering.....	Michael Fujiwara
English.....	
Environmental Science.....	Jerold Brito
Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies.....	Kaayla Ashlie*
Health Science.....	Sana Javaheri
History.....	Brandon Matheson
Humanities.....	
Interactive Arts and Technology.....	Amanda Poh
International Studies.....	Tina Bachl (<i>late</i>)
Labour Studies.....	
Linguistics.....	
Management System Science.....	
Mathematics.....	Charles Turo
Molecular Biology & Biochemistry.....	Marija Jovanovic
Operations Research.....	
Physics.....	Jesse Velay-Vitow
Political Science (<i>chair</i>).....	Kathleen Yang
Sociology and Anthropology.....	
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
Residence Hall’s Association (RHA).....	Nourhan Seifelnasr*
Women Centre Collectives (WCC).....	Anjali Biju

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
At-Large Representative	Rebecca Langmead
Faculty Representative (Applied Sciences)	Ben Rogers
Faculty Representative (Arts & Social Sciences).....	Brady Wallace
Faculty Representative (Communication, Art & Technology).....	Shirin Escarcha
Faculty Representative (Education)	Katie Bell
Faculty Representative (Environment).....	Tesicca Truong
Faculty Representative (Sciences).....	Deepak Sharma

Society Staff

Student Union Outreach Working	Katie Mai
Minute Taker.....	Dion Chong

Guests

Science Undergraduate Society	Amir Ali
Member.....	Gurpreet Kambo

Leave of Absence

At-Large Representative	Jeremy Pearce
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Regrets

Biology	Gurinder Saroya
Business	David Chapman (<i>SU event</i>)
Business	Daniel Love (<i>SU event</i>)
Chemistry	Pipreesh Gaind
Criminology	Erwin Kwok (<i>academic</i>)
First Nations Student Association (FNSA)	Maren Thompson (<i>illness</i>)
Mechatronics System Engineering	Gursher Sidhu (<i>academic</i>)
Geography.....	Jared Busse (<i>academic</i>)
Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)	Ryan Dhillon (<i>illness</i>)
Faculty Representative (Business)	Shadnam Khan (<i>class</i>)
Faculty Representative (Health Sciences).....	Ayla Kooner (<i>class</i>)

Absent

Arts and Social Sciences	Andy Untawala
Economics.....	Thomas Budd
French.....	Nick Poullos
Philosophy	Karen Abramson
Psychology	Yasmin Meawad
Statistics and Actuarial Science	Kristen Bystrom

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION COUNCIL 2015-02-18:01

Moiseyenko

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

MOTION COUNCIL 2015-02-18:02

Biju

*Be it resolved to approve the minutes of 2014-11-19, 2014-11-26, 2015-01-14,
2015-01-18*

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 2015-02-18:03

Jovanovic

Be it resolved to ratify the regrets from:

Biology	Gurinder Saroya
Business	David Chapman (<i>SU event</i>)
Business	Daniel Love (<i>SU event</i>)
Chemistry	Pipreesh Gaind
Criminology	Erwin Kwok (<i>academic</i>)
First Nations Student Association (FNSA)	Maren Thompson (<i>illness</i>)
Mechatronics System Engineering	Gursher Sidhu (<i>academic</i>)
Geography.....	Jared Busse (<i>academic</i>)
Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)	Ryan Dhillon (<i>illness</i>)
Faculty Representative (Business)	Shadnam Khan (<i>class</i>)
Faculty Representative (Health Sciences).....	Ayla Kooner (<i>class</i>)

CARRIED

b. Appointments to Council

MOTION COUNCIL 2015-02-18:04

Brito

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

Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies	Kaayla Ashlie
Residence Hall’s Association (RHA)	Nourhan Seifelnasr

CARRIED

c. Appointments to Committees

MOTION COUNCIL 2015-02-18:05

Jovanovic

Be it resolved to open nominations for vacant Councilor positions on SFSS committees.

CARRIED

MOTION COUNCIL 2015-02-18:06

Jovanovic

Be it resolved to close Councilor nominations and appoint the following Councilors to the respective SFSS Committees:

Commercial Services Committee— Melissa Lee and Anjali Biju

Constitution and Policy Review Committee (1)— Charles Turo

CARRIED

5. Committee Updates from Council Representatives

Granting Committee—Significant number of grants have been provided, including various conferences, dialogues, and networking events.

Advocacy Committee—VP Student Life led a Sex Week conference, with significant number of speakers on gender equality/equity, sexual health, and community resources.

6. New Business

a. Establishing a Liaison System

The International Studies councilor has been working with a number of stakeholders to develop a number of reform items for the Council.

Council is an opportunity to take advantage of the direct channel of communication with members from all departments and groups, and to collate the various diverse opinions, and to maintain accountability.

Board Members were currently mandated to attend council meetings in order to receive their full stipend, however they are not encouraged to speak as the space was primarily for the Council to deliberate. There was a desire to ensure that the Board's oversight body could retain its independence, while ensuring that Council continues to benefit from the informed input of the Board. The liaison system would ensure streamlining of communications between the two groups, enhance oversight, and free up board member time to pursue their work in the most effective possible.

Board members would continue to be called to attend Council meetings where necessary to answer to specific projects and enquires. Additionally, the proposal to create Council Open Space would continue to allow the Board to leverage Council contributions in the development of their initiatives, as well as providing the Council with updates as to project progress and results.

MOTION COUNCIL 2015-02-18:07

Bachl/Amended Bachl

Whereas a liaison system includes a direct channel of communication between Board and Council, effective reporting and the physical presence of a liaison; in support of council's role as an oversight and advisory body to the board of directors of the SFSS.

Whereas there is currently no formal liaison system that enables an effective flow of information and communication between Council and the Board of Directors.

Be it resolved to create a liaison system between the Board of Directors and the Council.

Be it further resolved that the Council appoints a liaison and an alternate to the board, reserving the right to release the liaison from their position if necessary.

Be it further resolved that Council recommend to the Board to appoint (by simple majority vote) one of the members of the Board (and an alternate) as a liaison to the Council.

Be it further resolved that Council recommends to CPR to make the proposed policy changes to discontinue mandatory Board of Directors attendance—aside

from liaisons—at Council meeting, unless their attendance is requested by the Council.

Questions were raised around the original mandate for the Board to attend all Council meetings. In 2013, the Board did not attend Council meetings. At the time, Council expressed the desire to have the Board present at meetings, as they were the advisory body to Board and yet did not have a Board presence aside from the neutral chair being a member of the Board. As the chairperson was to maintain neutrality, they were often unable to provide input on discussions from the Board of Directors perspective and provide updates to Council. The creation of the liaison system would provide for a middle group between total lack of presence and ineffective presence.

As the liaison system had yet to be implemented by CPR and Board, the Board would continue to have to attend all Council meetings until such time that the policy is officially changed. Concern was raised around whether a single Councilor was sufficient representation, particularly given the potential for absences as a result of academic and other commitments. Communication lapses may occur if the liaisons were absent from a meeting. However, appointed liaisons would have expressed interest in taking on a greater role and would not likely be absent often. Further, an alternate could also be selected to avoid issues of absence resulting to lack of information. Finally, an increased stipend was envisioned for any liaison appointed, alongside an increased stipend to the Council chair.

Council wished to ensure that they could still retain the right to summon specific staff and board members whenever necessary.

As currently envisioned, the Board liaison would act as an advisor to the Council and would be expected to contribute to discussions from the Board perspective. They would have the space to update the Council on Board initiatives. There was a desire not to inconvenience the entire board to answer a small number of questions.

Board members raised that communications was a primary issue of the Society. Board could not contribute meaningfully to discussions or to request feedback on initiatives at present, but at minimum were provided with some sense of Council's opinions on matters of importance to the Student Body. A board member indicated that they were happy to attend, and invited all Councilors to approach board members with projects and initiatives they were interested in, and to attend Board meetings. The Council was reminded that it had the right to hold in camera sessions where necessary.

The creation of both a Council open space (30 minutes prior, with refreshments in an informal setting) and the liaison system was envisioned to fulfill the objective of creating meaningful dialogue in a more effective manner than the current system of having board members on the sideline of the meeting. This would also enable the Board and Council to develop a closer relationship. It would become the Board's responsibility to appoint a well-versed individual, but the Council was also responsible for oversight and avoiding miscommunication and misinterpretation. Dialogue was identified as an area of contention, and board members have raised concerns around the lack of SFSS engagement from the Council beyond attendance at meetings.

There was a desire to have a conversation around the areas of risk to anticipate and mitigate any issues with the proposal before the matter is brought to CPR.

Councilors were recommended to bridge the gap by attending Board, get in touch with Board members, and read minutes of board and committees.

The discussions around the creation of a liaison system spawned from concerns of the Board taking formal positions on an issue and Council not having been adequately consulted. BOD was perceived to currently lack oversight and Council has a major role in mitigating such issues. body, the BOD should not be telling what the Council to do. Further, there was concern that the Student Politicians either speak too much and dominate the conversation or speak too little. The Council was reminded that Executive Officers were remunerated at the tune of \$20,000 per year, and that it was the Board's job to meet the needs and requests of the Council. EXECs get paid \$20K per year. It was the BODs job to meet the needs and requests of the Council. Board members saw value in the liaison system as a first step in formalizing reporting mechanisms.

The Council retains the authority to change the current system to meet the needs of their role as an oversight body.

The discussion at hand was seen by a Councilor as a demonstration of the frequency at which Board has dominated discussions of Council and therefore understood the need for a liaison system.

QUESTION WAS CALLED

Turo

An explanation of the Notice of Motion process was provided to the Council.

CARRIED

b. Creation of Council Open Space

MOTION COUNCIL 2015-02-18:08

Bachl

Whereas Council represents a space for DSU representatives and constituency groups to address the concerns of their constituents and ensure that these concerns are addressed by the Board of Directors

Whereas Council lacks an open space where the diverse perspectives of the Councilors can be utilized in effectively discussing ideas and concerns of the student body and where collaboration among Councilors can take place

Whereas an open space would increase the efficiency of the Council and improve the quality of its work as advisory and oversight body of the Board

Be it resolved that Council institutes a 30 minutes time slot at the beginning of each Council meeting which is a designated "open space".

Be it further resolved to recommend to the Board to fund refreshments for the open space.

Be it further resolved that Council is able to call on the Board of Directors or specific members of the Board to attend open space, whenever it is deemed necessary

Be it further resolved that the Student Union Organiser and the Campaigns, Research, and Policy Coordinator are present during the open space to assist

Councilors in drafting ideas to be brought forward during the formal council meeting and help in refining their motions.

The open space proposal spawned from a desire for communication between Council and Board to be enhanced. Beyond providing a space for informal and collaborative engagement between Councilors and Board members, Open Space also would provide the Council with the opportunity to iron out issues and conduct discussions that would expedite procedural matters at the Council table, leaving more room for substantive discussions. Council maintains the right to call Board members to attend at any time.

At present the Board members maintain scheduling freedom during the Council meeting time. A councilor indicated that the Board should continue to be available during the time to attend the meetings if necessary. However, it was expressed that it was unlikely for all board members to have the Council Meeting timeslot filled on any given semester, and BOD continued to keep the timeslot open, the argument for the liaison system in reducing wasted Board time may not hold.

Although board members are stipended, the Council was reminded that the Board is a volunteer position and board members regularly go above and beyond stipended hours.

CARRIED

Abstention Noted: Wang, Biju, Jovanovic

c. Facilitating Direct Engagement with the Student Body

MOTION COUNCIL 2015-02-18:09

Bachl

Whereas "open governance" mechanisms enable a direct participation of the student body and provide for effective channels of communication for students to openly engage with the Council

Be it resolved that Council strikes a Council working group to look into "open government mechanisms" and appropriate online platforms to create political space for students at-large to discuss ideas, create initiatives, and to obtain an insight into the work of SFU's student government.

Be it further resolved that the working group reports back to the Council in two weeks.

A Councilor expressed the need create mechanisms to allow members to engage directly with Council in a more effective and more easily accessible manner.

Open governance mechanisms included using social media to encourage student participation in deliberation, improving opportunities for students to directly approach councilors.

CARRIED

The following members were interested in participating: the Councilors of Molecular Biology & Biochemistry and International Studies, Environment Representative

7. Discussions

a. Improving Communication Flow Between Student Body And Council

The International Studies Student Association created a survey, distributed by the department, which provided the student union with areas of student interest for departmental advocacy and

DSU programming. The ISSA and the departmental advisor promoted the survey heavily, as this provided the ISSA with concrete numbers and improved student union services to their constituents. In addition, controversial topics within the departmental curriculum has also assisted in enhancing response rates.

As the SFSS does not have consistent access to student emails, this would also allow the Society to reach out to the membership in a decentralized manner.

For the Special General Meeting, the Surrey-based student unions also conducted a similar survey system to gauge the views of their membership and therefore finetune the advocacy work of those respective groups.

8. Other Business / Announcements / Notice of Motions

Behavioral Neuroscience—Brain Week from March 16th onwards —working with Cognitive Science, Psychology, Health Science, and BPK.

GSWS and Criminology—March 11 joint Women in Law and Criminal Justice event. saywell atrium 5pm to 7pm. Refreshments provided and raffle draw.

Residence Hall Association SGM next week to address issues such as dining hall and laundry fees

MBB – trying to organize and streamline the process of students volunteering in the student biotechnology network

BPK – KIN Cup, allowing for networking and competition between students and faculty.

Computer Science – beginning weekly Coffee Linux in the Applied Science Building every Friday 1:30pm to 3:30pm – provide support for Linux distros and an environment to learn about linux computing.

Cognitive Science—have completed letter to the Faculty, which has been circulated to all Councilors. All Councilors were encouraged to sign as individuals and to present the document to their respective groups.

Archaeology social being planned for Friday

Environmental Science – had a faculty meet and greet in the Faculty of Environment

Out on Campus – queer awareness week from March 16 forward discussing issues faced by LGBTQ+ peoples.

Biology movie night on Friday.

Science Undergraduate Society – pub social alongside all science DSUs. Cards Against Humanity and live music and games. Subsidized beer.

Physics Colloquium – How to make money in science

History – planning a pub night by the end of the year

Math – trying to spend money

Education – Meet and Greet event on March 6, with free food and an opportunity to discuss ideas with the executive.

Interactive Art and Technology – organizing annual spring formal, tentatively for April 6. Bake sale and Krispy Kreme sale incoming, \$10 per dozen.

Communications – March 11 Careers in Communications event at Coast Coal Harbour hotel, with 8 industry professionals for roundtable discussions on career opportunities.

Women’s Centre – pancake breakfast march 4th, and planning stages for March 20th vagina monologues

Dance Student Union – Mainstage show ‘Twelve’ is running from February 26 to 28.

International Studies – Confluence journal team is hosting another dialogue on March 3 – discussion on need for energy and environmental ethics.

Political Science – planning out table for the Arts Week March 10th to 13th. Plenty of activities and free food promoting the faculty of arts and social sciences.

9. Attachments

10. Adjournment 6:16pm

ISSA Student Survey Fall 2013

Annual survey of IS students to receive student input on relevant issues to the department. This is your chance to provide feedback on what you like about the program and what you want to see improved. The department uses the information collected from these surveys to directly impact the School's direction and decision making, so please take the time to respond thoroughly. Also, don't hesitate to critique the program- we want your honest feedback!

Q1 . What year are you in?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5+

Q2 . Are you declared as an IS Major or Minor?

- Yes
- No

Q3 . Are you satisfied with the learning outcomes of your International Studies classes? (I.e. are you learning what you expected to in your International Studies courses?)

- Extremely Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Neutral
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Extremely Dissatisfied

Q4 . Are you satisfied with the learning outcomes of the International Studies program? (I.e. are you satisfied with what you are learning in your degree?)

- Extremely Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Neutral
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Extremely Dissatisfied

Q5 . Would you be interested in having a joint Hellenic Studies/ International Studies courses offered that could count toward your degree?

- Yes
- Neutral
- No

Q6 . The language component is valuable for IS Majors

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Neutral
- Somewhat Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Q7 . – Q.11 (similarly specific to the IS program as Q6)

I would encourage the DSU's to find address questions that are relevant to their respective programs.

Q12 . Please explain what works and what does not work in the current requirements for completing the study abroad and language components. How do you suggest that these requirements can be restructured to better serve students? (If you are satisfied with the language and study abroad requirements, please leave blank).



Q13 . Are you satisfied with the variety of courses offered which allow you to specialize in a particular region?

- Yes
- Neutral
- No

Q14 . Which regionally-specific courses would you like to see offered more? (If you are satisfied with regionally-specific courses, please leave blank)

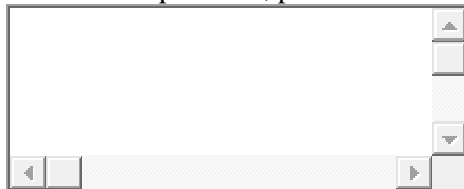
- Latin America
- Eastern Europe
- Western Europe
- Middle East/ Northern Africa

- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Central Asia
- Southeast Asia
- South Asia
- East Asia
- Other

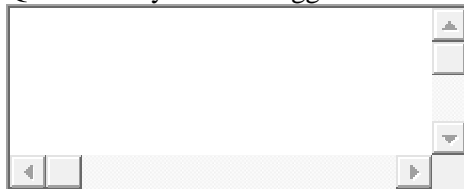
Q15 . Are you satisfied with the frequency that IS courses are offered?

- Extremely Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Neutral
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Extremely Dissatisfied

Q16 . How could the ISSA improve student life of IS Students? (If you are satisfied with student life within the department, please leave blank)



Q17 . Do you have suggestions or concerns you would like the ISSA to address with the Department?



Other questions that could be asked are:

Q.: What concerns do you have as a student in your program and as a student at large?

Q.: Do you know what the SFSS stands for and what their role is?

Q.: Would you know whom to access if you have concerns that are related to being a student at SFU? How would you access them?

Q.: What would you like the SFSS to focus on in their work?

Q.: Do you have any suggestions for projects / initiatives that you would like the SFSS to take on?

Q.: What would you like to see changed at your university?

etc.