

Simon Fraser Student Society

January 14, 1998
Forum Meeting

Attendance: Joey Hansen, President; Maya Russell, Treasurer; Jennifer Overington, University Relations Officer; Mark Veerkamp, External Relations Officer; Phil Zirkwitz, Internal Relations Officer; Joy Morris, Graduate Issues Officer; Meghan Fisher, Archaeology; Rachel Erstling, Biological Sciences; Aidan Reid, Business Administration; Tony VanderByl, Business Administration; Jonathan, Frate, Canadian Studies; Hieu Nguyen, Chemistry/Biochemistry; Kim Mathewes, Communications; Paul Olynek, Computing Science; John Chao, Economics; Maaikie Niet, Education; Jason Thomas, Education; Ryan Cousineau, English; Marcia Chandra, Environmental Science; Jonathan Howell, Film; John Crawford, FPA Theatre & Music; Vanessa Tellier, Geography; Christa Peters, Humanities; Victor Finberg, Physics; Sukhi Sidhu, Political Science; Jessica Stanley, Psychology; Ryan Mijker, Sociology/Anthropology; Tania Aguila, Latin American Studies.

Excused: Sheryl Beaudoin, Earth Sciences; Pam Bermingham, Linguistics.

Absent: Jennifer McAuley, Visual Arts; Jeannie Morgan, Women Studies.

Staff: Lona Cunningham, Staff Representative; Laurine Harrison, Ombudsperson (Staff); Jennifer Whiteside, University Relations Fieldworker; Anne Jinnouchi, TPW; Scott Perchall, Resource Coordinator; Cailey Crawford, Resource Coordinator.

Guests: Dale Kirby, Chair, Newfoundland/Labrador Component of the CFS; Bess Lovejoy, Peak External News Editor; Alexandra Flynn, Ombudsperson (Student); James Fletcher.

I) Forum Speaker Series

There was no speaker.

II) Appointment of the Chair

Thomas/Peters

M/S/C

To appoint Dale Kirby (Chair of the Newfoundland/Labrador Component of the CFS) as the Chair of the January 14th, 1998 Forum meeting.

III) Adoption of the Agenda

VanderByl/Peters

M/S/C

To adopt the agenda with the following changes:

To add under item IX) New Business 3) Notice of Motion Rule 10; 4) December 5th Ministers Forum Report; 5) SFSS Election Dates; 6) ACE Billboards; 7) School Closure Policy.

To add under Item X) Announcements 2) Next Forum Meeting.

IV) Adoption of the Minutes

Thomas/Peters

M/S/C

To adopt the November 19, 1997 Forum minutes with the following changes:

* The amendment (top of page 4) appearing under the discussion on Rule 4 Honorary Forum Members and referring to the requirement of "unanimity versus 3/4s vote" failed.

* To amend discussion appearing under New Business 4) Rule 4 Honorary Forum Members from "First it (Constitution and Policy Review Committee) wanted to avoid public discussions on "former Forum representatives" to read "First it (Constitution and Policy Review Committee) wanted to avoid public discussions on "individuals nominated" that may be unfair or humiliating"

V) Matters Arising From the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

VI) Resignations/Appointments/Excuses
1) To/From Forum

Zirkwitz/Peters

M/S/C

To appoint Jonathan Howell (Film) to Forum.

Zirkwitz/Veerkamp

M/S/C

To accept omnibus the resignations of Meredith Holmes (French), Vipul Pachchigar (Business Administration), Rhiannon Coppin (Engineering) and Melissa Adams (Criminology) from Forum.

Zirkwitz/Overington

M/S/C

BIRT Vanessa Tellier (Geography) will arrive to Forum at 5:30 p.m. for the duration of the 98-1 semester.

Zirkwitz/Fisher

M/S/C

BIRT Tania Aguila (Latin American Studies) will arrive to Forum at 5:30 p.m. for the duration of the 98-1 semester.

Zirkwitz/Peters

M/S/C

To excuse Phil Zirkwitz (Internal Relations Officer) from Forum at 6:30 p.m. for the duration of the 98-1 semester.

Zirkwitz/Hansen

M/S/C

To excuse Sheryl Beaudoin (Earth Sciences) and Pam Bermingham (Linguistics) from the January 14th, 1998 Forum meeting.

Zirkwitz/Overington

M/S/C

To excuse John Crawford (FPA Theatre & Music) from the January 14th, 1998 Forum meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Zirkwitz/Thomas

M/S/C

To excuse Ryan Mijker (Sociology/Anthropology) from the January 14, 1998 Forum meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Zirkwitz/Hansen

M/S/C

To excuse Maaik Niet (Education) from the January 14th, 1998 Forum meeting at 6:15 p.m.

M/S/C

To thank all student representatives serving on Forum during the 97-2 and 97-3 semesters for their contributions to the Simon Fraser Student Society.

2) To/From Committees

Overington/Morris

M/S/C

To appoint omnibus the following committee appointments:

James Stewart to the Radiation Safety Committee (grad student);

Rachel Erstling to the Date and Acquaintance Rape Committee (at-large) and the Constitution and Policy Review Committee (at-large).

Overington/Fisher

M/S/C

To accept the resignation of Rachel Erstling from the Committee for Departmental Student Unions.

Overington/Russell

M/S/C

To ratify the nomination of Jessica Stanley (Psychology) to the Senate Committee on University Teaching and Learning (SCUTL).

2) a) Ombudsperson (Student) Ratification

Zirkwitz/Sidhu

M/S/C

To appoint Alexandra Flynn as the Ombudsperson (Student) for a term of January 1, 1998 to December 31, 1998.

Hansen/Erstling

M/S/C

To thank Tracy McCabe for her work as the Ombudsperson (Student) and her contributions to the Student Society.

Russell reminded Forum representatives of their responsibility to sit on at least two committees. Morris noted that committees would begin to meet January 19.

VII) Unfinished Business

1) Food and Beverage Services Summer Financial Statements - Unaudited

Russell distributed an unaudited statement of revenues, expenditures and members' deficit for the Food and Beverage Service operations. She drew attention to the amount the Society budgeted to lose during the summer semester (71,000) and the actual loss (81,000).

VanderByl asked if there were opportunities to make recommendations to the Food and Beverage Services Committee other than attending Committee meetings themselves.

Russell replied that comments could be made at Forum, e-mailed to the committee, dropped off at the Executive Office or placed in the suggestion box located in the Highland Pub.

VIII) Reports of Committees, Representatives, Delegates

Hansen/Stanley

M/S/C

To receive and file items 1) thru 12) appearing under section VIII) Reports of Committees, Representatives and Delegates.

13) President's Report

Hansen reported that he had been allocating a lot of time to his responsibilities as a member of Harassment Policy Task Force. Though the revised harassment policy was an improvement, Hansen noted that work around educating the campus community about harassment and the Harassment Office had just begun. He suggested the Society look into the possibility of organizing a harassment awareness campaign, possibly in conjunction with the Harassment Office. He stressed the importance of improving the profile of the Harassment Office through awareness and education of its purpose and mandate. Hansen concluded by stating that he had background information on the evolution of the harassment policy since its inception as well as comments, some of which were rather "frightening", received during Task Force consultations.

14) Internal Relations Officer's Report

Zirkwitz/Sidhu

M/S/C

To receive and file the Internal Relations Officer's Report of December '97/January '98.

15) Treasurer's Report

Russell reported that the Society's cash flow was particularly bad lately. In spite of financial difficulties, the Society had made their annual Pub Bursary contribution of \$10,000 and was anticipating receipt of matching funds from the provincial government. Concluding, she mentioned that financial statements on the most recent book buyback program would be available soon and that a contribution was made to an SFSS employee who had suffered a stroke.

16) External Relations Officer's Report

Veerkamp and Morris reported on the CFS National General Meeting they attended in November. Veerkamp stated that the purpose of the meeting was to establish direction for the next six months for CFS campaigns, its budget, policy committee and organization and development. Veerkamp and Morris noted the following:

Organization and Development: Discussion occurred on replacing CFS constituency groups with working groups; the speaking privileges of CFS national executive members; defederation and the requirement of petitions; purchase of advertising space in the corporate media; the possibility of mandatory anti-oppression workshops; and requests for more frequent distribution of CFS reports, documents and research.

Budget: The CFS Health plan was operating at a deficit and Arthur Anderson had been terminated as the organization's auditor.

Campaigns: Local associations were encouraged to organize campaigns around GlobeVote, Free East Timor, APEC and the Day Against Hate. A \$5000 legal defense fund was established.

Constituency Groups: The Francophone constituency group suggested a language alternating speakers list; Students of Color were planning on organizing an anti-oppression workshop at the next national general meeting; the Students with Disabilities changed their name to the Special Needs Constituency Group.

Workshops: Workshops occurred on the MAI, corporate influence on university board of governors and tuition and user fees in post-secondary institutions.

17) Graduate Issues Officer Report

Morris extended an invitation to all graduate students to attend the 'Grad Grab and Grub Night' on January 21, 1998.

Hansen/VanderByl

M/S/C

To receive and file the November/December 1997 Graduate Issues Officer Report.

18) Economics Departmental Representative Report

Hansen/Overington

M/S/C

To receive and file the Economics Departmental Representative Report (January 1998).

M/S/C

To break for 10 minutes.

IX) New Business

1) CFS Provincial General Meeting Delegation

Morris reported that the CFS Provincial General Meeting would take place January 15-18 in Parkesville, BC. The budget would only allow for four delegates to attend in addition to one grad student who would be paid for out of the Graduate Issues Committee budget.

Morris/Peters

M/S

To send four delegates in addition to the graduate student representative to the January 15-18 CFS Provincial General Meeting.

Hansen stated that the cost to send each delegate was \$175.00.

Morris/Overington

M/S/C

To open nominations.

Morris noted that she had already been selected by the Graduates Issues Committee to attend as the graduate student representative.

John Chao (Economics); Vanessa Tellier (Geography); Paul Olynek (Computing Science); Joey Hansen (President); Mark Veerkamp (ERO), Tania Aguila (LAS) and Jeannie Morgan (Women Studies) were nominated. Chao, Veerkamp, Hansen, Aguila and Morgan (Veerkamp accepted on Morgan's behalf) accepted their nominations.

Hansen withdrew his nomination.

M/S/C

To close nominations.

Hansen explained that he withdrew his nomination, despite wanting to attend as a delegate with full speaking privileges, so that more people could attend the meeting.

Erstling asked who would be paying for Hansen and Veerkamp since they were both members of the CFS provincial executive.

Veerkamp and Russell clarified that as the Chair of the CFS-BC component, Hansen's delegate fee would be paid for by the CFS. Veerkamp's fee though, would most likely not be paid by the CFS.

Chao offered to let Hansen attend as a delegate as he had more experience at these meetings and may be more effective. He offered to 'standby' as an alternate.

Extensive debate occurred on whether Hansen should attend the meeting as a delegate or member of the CFS provincial executive.

Hansen/Finberg

M/S/C

To table the motion of sending four delegates in addition to the graduate student representative to the January 15-18 CFS Provincial General Meeting for five minutes.

Finberg/Russell

M/S/C

To reconsider the motion of sending four delegates in addition to the graduate student representative to the January 15-18 CFS Provincial General Meeting.

Amendment M/S/C

To send 5 delegates in addition to the graduate student representative to the January 15-18 CFS Provincial General Meeting providing the fifth delegate attends at no cost to the Student Society.

Overington/Cousineau

M/S/C

To ratify John Chao (Economics), Mark Veerkamp (ERO), Tania Aguila (LAS), and Jeannie Morgan (Women Studies) as the four SFSS delegates and Joey Hansen as the fifth SFSS delegate to attend the CFS Provincial General Meeting January 15-18.

Question was called.

2) January 28th Day of Action/Student Debt and ICLRS

Veerkamp stated that the focus of the January 28th National Day of Action revolved around issues of student debt, income contingent loan repayment schemes (ICLRS) and accessibility to post-secondary education. Veerkamp identified some of the more salient issues with regard to ICLRS, the increasing debt load carried by students, the Millennium Scholarship Fund and the proposal for a national system of grants. VanderByl raised concerns about a possible correlation between a tuition freeze, declining resources and an increase in enrollment.

Frate inquired how the ERO planned on addressing concerns with ICLRS, student debt and accessibility on the Day of Action.

Veerkamp replied that a demonstration/march would take place at the Vancouver Public Library at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday January 28th. On campus activities would include an information picket (January 27th);

the unveiling of a debt wall (January 28th @11:30); circulation of a petition asking that the tuition freeze be renewed.

3) **Notice of Motion Rule 10**

Morris served notice of motion on R-10 (Departmental Representatives' Duties, Responsibilities and Stipend Requirements). She said that proposed changes to Rule 10 allowed for more flexible stipend eligibility requirements for students on Co-op and PDP semesters.

4) **December 5 Ministers Forum Report**

Morris reported on the December 5th Forum organized by BC's Ministry of Education. The Forum, organized to discuss an accountability framework for universities in BC covered the following topics: The role of the university in a differentiated system, the relationship between universities and government and teaching and research, and issues related to continuing education.

5) **Election Dates**

Crawford (Resource Coordinator) distributed a tentative schedule of dates for the 1998 Spring General Election. Though the dates were typically set by the Chief Electoral Officer and the Electoral Standing Committee, a CEO had not yet been selected. In the interest of time, the Resource Office and Executive had preemptively set an election timeline.

Peters requested that the dates be moved forward a week (e.g. move January 26 call for nominations to February 2) since some of the dates conflicted with Douglas Colleges' CFS referendum dates. She said that as members of the CFS, a number of Forum members would be assisting with Douglas' referendum.

M/S/C

To move the proposed 1998 SFSS Spring Election Dates forward by one week.

Hansen also added that the call for nominations conflicted with the January 28th Day of Action. He argued that some recovery time from these activities, especially for those interested in participating in the Day of Action as well as the general election would be best.

Stanley/Frate

M/S/C

To suspend Standing Order 2.0.3.

There was opposition to suspending S.O. 2.0.3.

Cousineau stated that 6 hours per month should be a sufficient amount of time to deal with Society business. He argued that suspension of Standing Order 2.0.3 was a crutch for Forum's inability to expedite business more efficiently.

M/S/C

To move to the vote.

Frate argued that rather than looking at what was convenient for Douglas College, Forum should be concerned about what was convenient for SFU students.

Reid stated that campaigning for the CFS should be done on one's own time. Further, he added that he was confident students at Douglas were capable of conducting their own referendum.

Fisher noted that although the SFSS was part of the CFS and thus should support its members, allocating time to the Douglas referendum was a matter of priorities and time management for each individual.

Thomas pointed out that PDP students would not be on campus during the daytime hours of the proposed campaign period. He said that moving the timeline one week forward or back was better for PDP students.

Cross debate occurred between Thomas and Fisher.

Thomas made an offensive remark. Tellier called a point of personal privilege objecting to Thomas' remark. Thomas apologized.

Question was called.

There was opposition.

M/S/C

To move to the vote.

6) **ACE Billboards**

VanderByl stated that dates of the ACE Dream Auction had been moved to February 14 thru to March 20, 1998. Consequently, another motion regarding installation of ACE Billboards needed to be passed.

M/SC

To ratify the installation of one ACE Dream Auction billboard near the student parking lot and one on Gagliardi Way/University Drive for the period beginning February 14 thru to and including March 20, 1998.

7) **School Closure Policy**

Stanley stated that the administration responded poorly to the snowy conditions SFU experienced on January 13th. She said that failure to close the university earlier on in the day jeopardized students' safety. She suggested that the university closure policy be obtained and that the Society submit a letter to the administration conveying its concerns.

Morris/Overington

M/S/C

BIRT that University Relations Officer, Jennifer Overington, convey Forum's concerns on the university's response to the weather conditions of January 13th to the appropriate officials, and further, to obtain, examine, and report back to Forum on the university's closure policy for both the Burnaby Mountain and Harbour Centre campus.

8) **Ratification of SFSS/CUPE 3338 Collective Agreement**

M/S/C

To table ratification of the SFSS/CUPE 3338 Collective Agreement until the next Forum meeting.

X) **Announcements**

- 1) Morris announced that the Deputy Minister of Education was apparently visiting SFU on February 3rd and 4th and that the Society would attempt to meet with him.
- 2) The next Forum meeting would occur in three weeks (February 4, 1998) due to the January 28th Day of Action.

RO:aj
SFSS/Forum/Minutes/98-1
cupe 2396