

Next Review Date 2020-06

BOARD POLICY ON THE STUDENT UNION SOCIETY

Approval Authority	Board of Governors
Primary Contact	President
Related Policies / Legislation	Board policy direction Student Support, Student Co-Curricular Learning and Student Societies Dedicated to Student Engagement (BPD-230)
	University Act, s. 27.1

PHILOSOPHY

The Student Union Society (SUS) plays an important and positive role in student life at the University of the Fraser Valley. The SUS serves all students by creating a unified student voice and providing services important to students. The Board of Governors believes the SUS provides important student leadership opportunities, preparing students for responsibilities as engaged citizens and future community leaders.

Participation in student government gives students special opportunities to engage in political processes, governance opportunities, and decision-making experiences. It also provides for development of critical thinking, practical leadership skills, and promotes an understanding of social and political responsibility, and enables experiential learning.

POLICY

The Board recognizes the SUS as the university's official student government organization, with responsibility for representing the collective interests of students enrolled and attending the university including the management of all student clubs and associations. The Board also recognizes the central role of SUS in the management of the Student Union Building (SUB) and acknowledges its authority and responsibility to oversee SUS dedicated space.

The relationship between the university and the SUS is one of independent entities, and, as such, a memorandum of agreement (MOA) will be developed and maintained, outlining the relationship and responsibilities of the two parties. The Board delegates to the President responsibility to negotiate this MOA, with the Board providing final approval through the signature of the Board Chair. From time to time, the President may negotiate other agreements to further define this relationship.

The SUS bears sole and complete responsibility for their employees, officers, governance decisions, and actions, and for use of student fees remitted to them by the university.

UFV will ensure all requirements of the University Act related to the collection of fees will be followed. This includes, but is not limited to the responsibility of collecting fees on behalf of the SUS at a rate approved by a student referendum, the remittance of the collected fees to the SUS, the use of appropriate and generally accepted accounting methods in collecting, recording and remitting these fees, and the reporting and auditing of these fees.

The university will develop and maintain reporting structures for the Board's oversight of the university's actions in meeting its responsibilities to the SUS. The Board will receive information confirming compliance of the SUS with the reporting and audit requirements outlined in the Act.