



**Set Rep Meeting
School of Energy**

March 28th, 2017 – 5:30pm

Chair: Dean Tamboline

Staff: Darla Williscroft, Administrative Coordinator

Guest Speakers: Craig Woods, SA Career Specialist

1. **Meeting Called to Order**
2. **New Business**
 - 2.1. BCITSA Career Services – Craig Woods
 - 2.2. BCITSA Student Centre Referendum
 - 2.3. Upcoming events
3. **Open Forum Discussion**
4. **Next Meeting:** April 18th, 2017
5. **Meeting Adjournment**

1. **Meeting Called to Order** at 17:45.

2. **New Business**

2.1 **BCITSA Career Services** – Craig Woods, Career Specialist

- Craig helps with two main things: Job search skills and development (networking, interviews, resume and cover letters) through one-on-one Office Hours or group workshops; Provides industry engagement opportunities throughout the year.
- It's important to develop skills early on in your program to have the best preparation for when you are ready to obtain a job.
- Services are offered to recent grads and alumni as well. Will be able to help you advance your career along the way.
- Career Track online service – [Register here](#). This is where you sign up for appointments and events, as well as to receive hot jobs which are exclusive to the Student Association.
- Any network building is good; best to start practicing and building network with people who aren't necessarily your target.

Discussion:

- Are co-op jobs out of the question due to 3 months in-between terms over the summer?
 - Co-op is a specific program, run through [Centre for Workplace Education](#). Most programs you have to wait for third year to do a formal co-op. Outside of the formal co-op world, it's about creating opportunities for yourself. Know that only 10-30% of opportunities are actually posted. You can find out about these hidden ones through networking and willingness. Don't expect to go do a design job in your first or second year without prior experience; you will be able to work your way up but you have to do the legwork and be willing to do labour.
- What if there is a particular company who hasn't advertised anything?
 - Follow the warm lead path – utilize LinkedIn and your network to get there. You need to talk to people you know who want to support you in your job search (parents, colleagues, instructors, etc.). They might not work in your field, but if they work within the company you're targeting you could potentially have 75-80% success. More indirect route but it will get you in.
 - If after you do the work and don't have an "in" that's when you start to do cold calling. **DON'T ASK THEM FOR A JOB.** Don't recommend cold calling, as you will need sales skills, and will only have 10-15% success. You need to build relationships first.

2.2 BCITSA Student Centre Referendum

- Referendum about increasing fees to build a new building for students. Over the years there have been many complaints about a lack of space for students on campus outside of classrooms. The SA has looked into providing a new building to fulfill those needs. Hired a company to develop a functional program to determine the needs of students. See attached slides for space recommendations.
- Now is your time to pay it forward to future BCIT students. Everything you use from the SA now has been paid for by students before you.
- Need to increase fees now to generate enough initial capital, at a reasonable cost for students. Did discuss starting with a lower initial fee for current students, but this would not have generated enough to make the down payment and secure financing.
- The proposed fee will cap at \$90 per semester. In comparison, Capilano is going through the same thing, but their fee is \$130. Students at BCIT want practicality which is why the building fee is lower.

Discussion:

- Once we have the capital is the fee still going to be charged? Are there any plans to end the fee at some point?
 - Students will still be paying for building maintenance. The fee will likely lower once the building is paid off.
- Have we considered fixing up old buildings instead of building a new one?
 - BCIT has a Master Plan for their buildings. The last building they built on campus was SE2. They have a very slow process in regards to building or larger renovations.
- What has been cut from the plans so far?
 - Bike lockers, showers, and mini kitchens are for sure cut at this point. The Student Space Committee consisting of students are responsible for determining what the building will consist of.
- Is this building going to be too nice for BCIT? Do we need it?
 - Had over 800 responses from students during the initial survey for this building. One of the big things that came up during the survey was a building with 24/7 access. That's what will be provided. Food services will also be incorporated to address those issues which came up.
- If we're having a referendum, students can vote 'no'. What happens if this is the case?
 - We can only increase fees if students agree to them through a referendum as per Ministry regulations. We're here to serve students and want to address student concerns.
- If the referendum passes does it mean that it's just agreeing to add the fee? Numbers can change and plans can change too right?
 - Contingency is built into every step of the budget. We won't decide to not have a

building after instating the fees. Your fees will go to good use.

- Assuming the referendum passes, this process will move along as quickly as possible, as appropriate for a project of this size.
- How many people need to vote 'yes' to pass the referendum?
 - 50% of votes +1 is what it needs to pass. We don't need the majority of students to vote, but need at least 150 to make it legally binding. Ideally, we want 100% of students to vote and provide their voice. This is why you will see a big push from the SA in trying to get as many students as possible to vote.
- Food services: what would this look like?
 - Some options are a full cafeteria and/or specific chain retailers. Potential for saving students money by leasing out space. We need to referendum to pass first before any decisions can be made. This is why we want student input along the process to determine what they would like to have.
- Can't the issues of food services and 24/7 access be addressed now? What about extending the hours of SE2?
 - Because every building is currently owned by BCIT we can't change hours of operation due to campus security; we are renting SE2 from BCIT. BCIT is well aware that this building will be 24/7 and it will be planned for accordingly. Food services contract is coming to a close with Chartwells soon and BCIT is already looking at the future of food services in collaboration with the SA. Until this contract is up and we know what's going to happen next, don't expect anything big to change.
- SA is separate entity; does this affect BCIT and their plans?
 - They're planning for this already and are well aware of our plans. They want this building to happen. We are collaborating with them every step of the way.
- If BCIT is building a new building how do they get funding?
 - Government grants and private sponsorship for the most part. BCIT has a list of buildings and priorities for where funding goes; SW9 is on the list but it's lower down. If we were to add this student building to the list it could start at the bottom and may happen in 50 years.
- Is there a potential for private sponsorship should the referendum be a 'yes' vote?
 - Absolutely. This could either save students money or provide a better building. Need the referendum to pass first before we could start exploring this route.
- Do we know where this building will go?
 - Need to negotiate with BCIT for the land once the referendum passes.
- Why doesn't BCIT take the lead? They have better capabilities.
 - They are too slow to make it happen. BCIT used to have their own Career Services

department but students complained about how poorly it was operated and they were slow to react. We went to a referendum to expand and provide our services. They have a difficult process to find money for things outside of classrooms, like casual study spaces.

- There is a problem with space on campus - it's always crowded. Feels like BCIT is taking in more students than they can accommodate.
 - Valid observation. BCIT is out of space and we need to address that by building and providing more space. We can't address the institutional aspect like more classrooms, but we can address informal space which is the purpose of this building and why BCIT is working in collaboration with the SA to make it happen.
- Is there intent to put manpower and money into finding sponsorship?
 - Yes, there will be an honest and full attempt to secure outside sponsorship. We need to be sure that the referendum passes before we can take time and money to look into sponsorship.
- Is there a general area for where this building will be located?
 - Ideally we want a centralized spot so it is accessible for everyone. It's not going to be up by residences.

There is a Q&A session on Friday in the Great Hall. Friday 11:45am - 12:30pm. Will be streamed live on Facebook.

2.3 Upcoming events

Township of Langley Info Session

- **Wednesday, April 5th** @ 2:30-4pm in Council Chambers.
- They regularly post with us on Career Track. Will talk about recruiting, internships, part-time and full-time work.

Mark Godsy - More Than Just an Entrepreneur

- **Wednesday, April 5th** @ 3-5pm in SW9-110. May move to Telus Theatre depending on registration levels.
- Speaker with a diverse entrepreneurial background in multiple industries.
- Hosted by the School of Energy. Food will be provided.

APEGBC Info Session & Networking

- **Thursday, April 6th** @ 5:30pm in Telus Theatre (SE6); networking in Habitat @ 7pm.
- Features excellent guest speaker – liability insurance for engineers topic.
- Will have 50-100 engineers from the community to connect with; catered networking in the pub afterwards.

Industry Days Career Fair – Energy, Construction & Manufacturing

- **Wednesday, April 19th** @ 12-4pm in Great Hall & Townsquare D.
- Almost 40 employers looking for engineering, trades and technology students.
- Employers include BC Hydro, Vancouver General Contractors, Harris Rebar, etc. See link for full list.

•

Student Association Elections

- Multiple positions you can run for. Check the website for details.
- Nomination period is open now. Deadline to submit nomination package is April 5th at 2pm.
- Voting is from April 25th – May 1st.

3. **Open Forum Discussion**

- No discussion.

4. **Next Meeting:** April 18th, 2017 at 17:30 in Council Chambers (SE2).

5. **Meeting Adjournment** at 18:45.