### **BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students Board of Directors Meeting, November 17, 2021, UNC 334

### 18:00 Call to Order

#### **Directors Present**

President (meeting chair) Tashia Kootenayoo Vice-President Finance & Operations Muhammad Waseem Vice-President External Ahmed Ahmed Vice-President Internal Shiven Vinod Khera Vice-President Campus Life Jakson Pashelka Director at Large Kai Rogers Priscilla Uribe Director at Large Jaanvi Shah Director at Large Director at Large Cade Desjarlais Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative Megan Johnston Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative Laavanya Prakash **Graduate Studies Representative** Kirthana Ganesh Faculty of Science Representative Leoul Woldemariam

Faculty of Applied Science Representative Sam Diab Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative **Grace Halpin** Faculty of Education Representative Vacant Board of Governors Representative (ex-offico) Shola Fashanu

Senate Caucus Student Representative (ex- offico) **Dylan Rogers** 

### **Directors Absent**

Faculty of Management Representative Josie Leung

### **Staff Present**

General Manager Jason Evans

GreenText Manager Shauna-Lee Hildred

### 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It's important that we understand that we are very privileged to be living, working, and learning in these territories that are not our own.

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP

21/11/17.01

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

21/11/17.02

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be adopted.

21/11/17.03

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be adopted.

21/11/17.04

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 be adopted.

### 4. PRESENTATIONS

### 4.1 Student Association Funding Report

- 5. EXECUTIVE REPORTS
- 6. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

#### 6.1 Executive Committee

21/11/17.05

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held November  $2^{\text{nd}}$ , 2021 be adopted.

21/11/17.06

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be adopted.

- 6.2 Finance Committee
- **6.3 Policy Committee**

21/11/17.07

Khera/

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held November 4th, 2021 be adopted.

- 6.4 Campus Life Committee
- 6.5 Campaigns Committee
- 6.6 Oversight Committee

21/11/17.08

Rogers/

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be adopted.

21/11/17.09

Rogers/

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be adopted.

21/11/17.10

Rogers/

Be it resolved that the September Executives review report be approved and adopted.

### 6.7 Electoral Committee

21/11/17.11

Saini/

Be it resolved that the Chief Returning Officer's 2021 By-Election report be approved and adopted.

### 6.8 Graduate Student Committee

21/11/17.12

Ganesh/

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 be adopted.

21/11/17.13

Ganesh/

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be adopted.

21/11/17.14

Ganesh/

Be it resolved that the Graduate Student committee October honorarium be disbursed as follows:

Nibirh Jawad	100%
Rina Chua	50%
Anne Claret	50%
Vikas Kumar	50%
Emily Comeau	50%

### 7. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

- 7.1 Board of Governors
- 7.2 Senate
- 7.3 Other University Committees

#### 8. NEW BUSINESS

21/11/17.15

Khera/

Be it Resolved that the following student associations be ratified:

Cultural studies course union

Data science Club
Turkish Students Association

21/11/17.16

Kootenayoo/

Whereas the UBC administration is requesting an official letter be provided from the Students' Union of UBC Okanagan outlining key areas for funding allocations, be it resolved that the Board of Directors task the Executive with drafting and sending a letter with the following areas of focus:

- 1. Equity Initiatives such as but not limited to Black resource centre, international student support.
- 2. Student Wellness such as but not limited to full-time physician and counselling support.
- 3. Improving off-campus housing program
- 9. INFORMATION ITEMS
  - 9.1 Next Board Meeting Date
- **10.** ADJOURNMENT

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students Board of Directors Meeting, October 25, 2021, UNC 334

### 18:06 Call to Order

#### **Directors Present**

President (meeting chair) Tashia Kootenayoo Vice-President Internal Shiven Vinod Khera Director at Large Kai Rogers Priscilla Uribe Director at Large Director at Large Jaanvi Shah Director at Large Cade Desjarlais Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative Lindsay McGrail Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative Laavanya Prakash **Graduate Studies Representative** Kirthana Ganesh Faculty of Management Representative Josie Leung Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative **Grace Halpin** 

**Directors Absent** 

Faculty of Education Representative

Vice-President Finance & OperationsMuhammad WaseemVice-President Campus LifeJakson PashelkaVice-President ExternalAhmed AhmedFaculty of Science RepresentativeLeoul Woldemariam

Serena Slonowski

Faculty of Applied Science Representative

Board of Governors Representative (ex-offico)

Senate Caucus Student Representative (ex- offico)

Dylan Rogers

### **Staff Present**

General Manager Jason Evans

### **Guests Present**

Phoenix Editor in Chief Rachel Macarie
Phoenix Management Sam Grinnell

### 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It's important that we understand that we are very privileged to be living, working, and learning in these territories that are not our own.

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP

21/10/25.01

Rogers/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Carried

#### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

21/10/25.02

Rogers/Khera

Be it resolved that minutes of the meeting held October 13, 2021 be adopted.

Carried

### 4. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

21/10/25.03

Leung/Rogers

Be it resolved that the Executive Reports be adopted as attached.

Carried

### 5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

### 5.1 Executive Committee

21/10/25.04

Desjarlais/Khera

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held October 19, 2021 be adopted.

Carried

### 5.2 Finance Committee

21/10/25.05

Khera/Leung

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held October 7, 2021 be adopted.

Carried

- 5.3 Policy Committee
- 5.4 Campus Life Committee
- 5.5 Campaigns Committee
- 5.6 Oversight Committee
- 5.7 Electoral Committee

21/10/25.06

Rogers/Khera

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held October 14 and 21, 2021 be adopted.

Carried

### 5.8 Graduate Student Committee

21/10/25.07

Ganesh/Haplin

Be it resolved that Vikas Kumar and Emily Comeau be appointed to the Graduate Student Committee.

Carried

### 6. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

- 6.1 Board of Governors
- 6.2 Senate
- **6.3 Other University Committees**

### 7. NEW BUSINESS

21/10/25.08

Rogers/Desjarlais

Whereas the covid-19 pandemic is an ongoing health crisis, and

Whereas covid-19 vaccines are safe and highly effective, and

Whereas the SUO Board of Directors has a responsibility to ensure the health and safety of all board members,

Be it resolved that SUO Directors must provide proof of being fully vaccinated against covid-19 in order to access any SUO space, attend in person meetings, or attend in person events under the purview of the SUO, and

Be it further resolved that exemptions be granted in extremely limited circumstances where evidence is provided for a reason(s) laid out in the BC Human Rights Code.

Rogers motivated the motion

Carried

21/10/25.09

Khera/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that the following Student Associations be ratified:

Filmmaking Club

**Arabs Student Association** 

Engineering Entrepreneurship Club

Angels without Borders

Carried

21/10/25.10

McGrail/Desjarlais

Whereas the 2020-2021 Board of Directors established an ad-hoc Resource Center Advisory Committee tasked with the following mandate in response to student concerns on SUO

accountability to fair, equitable and adequate support for their Resource Centers:

- 1. To re-evaluate the Resource Centre spaces and structures;
- 2. To consult with the Equity and Inclusion Office on the space and needs of our members;
- 3. To make recommendations on the creation of a new Resource Center Structure;
- 4. To conduct an environmental scan of the processes and consultation feedback to demonstrate areas of improvement etc., and

Whereas the recommendations set forth by the Resource Center advisory committee in their report was adopted by the 2020-2021 Board of Directors, and

Whereas the 2021-2022 Board of Directors has a responsibility to continue actively addressing and implementing these recommendations,

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors ratify the attached implementation plan and be it further resolved any applications for new resource centers be tabled until at least phase three of the plan has been adequately completed as deemed by two-thirds majority by the Board of Directors.

Desjarlais requested a motion to table and the Board reached an agreeable census.

### 21/10.25.11

Desjarlais/Khera

Be it resolved that the motion 21/10/25.10 be tabled until the next Board of Directors meeting

### 8. INFORMATION ITEMS

### 8.1 UBC Committee Opportunities

Kootenayoo overviewed a request from UBC for two SUO representatives, one for the UBCO partnership with the RCMP working group and the second for the Multi-Hazard and Resilience Planning Committee.

Nominations opened for the RCMP working group

Desjarlais nominated himself

Shah nominates herself

Kootenayoo asked the Board of Directors if it would be best to relay to UBC administration that the SUO would require two representatives for the working group

The Board reached an agreeable census

### 21/10.25.12

Desjarlais/Shah

Be it resolved that Cade and Jaanvi be appointed to the UBCO partnership with the RCMP Committee.

Carried

Nomination open for the Multi-Hazard and Resilience Planning Committee Rogers nominates himself

21/10.25.12

Kootenayoo/Khera

Be it resolved that Kai be appointed to the Multi-Hazard and Resilience Planning Committee

# Carried

# 8.2 Next Board Meeting Date

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Wednesday October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021

# 9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 18:45

# **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students Emergency Board of Directors Meeting, October 27, 2021, UNC 334

Meeting called to order at 18:10

### **Directors Present**

President (meeting chair)

Vice-President Finance & Operations

Vice-President External

Tashia Kootenayoo

Muhammad Waseem

Ahmed Ahmed

Vice-President InternalShiven Vinod KheraVice-President Campus LifeJakson Pashelka

Director at Large

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative

Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative

Graduate Studies Representative

Faculty of Science Personntative

Lindsay McGrail

Laavanya Prakash

Kirthana Ganesh

Faculty of Science Representative

Faculty of Applied Science Representative

Faculty of Legith & Social Powelerment Representative

Cross Helpin

Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative Grace Halpin
Faculty of Education Representative Serena Slonowski

### **Directors Absent**

Faculty of Management Representative Josie Leung
Board of Governors Representative (ex-offico) Shola Fashanu
Senate Caucus Student Representative (ex- offico) Dylan Rogers

### Staff Present

GreenText & More Bookstore Manager Shauna-Lee Hildred

### 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It's important that we understand that we are very privileged to be living, working, and learning in these territories that are not our own.

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP

21/10/27.01

Rogers/Khera

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted with NEW BUSINESS moved to the top of the adenga.

Carried

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

21/10/27.02

Waseem/Khera

Be it resolved that the Pakistani Students Association be funded \$2500.

Waseem motivated the motion and stated that the Pakistani Student Association has been active throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and has continued to engage students. They have many events planned for the year and this funding request would cover both 2021-2022 academic semesters. Wassem also stated that to avoid any conflicts of interest as a Pakistani student, Khera took the meeting with the Pakistani Student Association.

Carried

21/10/27.03

Waseem/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that the Sex Positivity club be funded \$2500.

Wassem motivated the motion and noted that the Sex Postivity Club has already hosted sold out events and has more events planned for the semester. The Sex Positivity Club engages a lot of students on campus and works with other UBCO departments and SUO student associations.

McGrail arrived at 18:21

Kootenayoo would like to confirm that we are not double funding any events that include other SUO student associations by funding the Sex Positity Club and another student association for the same event.

Waseem mentioned that they have 6 or 7 events planned, but were not sure if any were being double funded at this time.

Desjarlais asked about the process for funding which was explained by Waseem.

Carried

21/10/27.04

Waseem/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that the Games Club be funded \$2500.

Waseem motivated and noted that the Games Club executives were all engaged in the funding process and that all the executives attending the funding meeting. The Games Club has many events planned and has had continued growth in membership. They were very active during the Covid-19 pandemic and are able to offer a variety of events for all students.

Carried

21/10/27.05

Waseem/Khera

Be it resolved that the Computer Science Course Union be funded \$2800.

Waseem motivated and spoke about the variety of events that CSCU has planned for the year, including a conference and career opportunities for students. They are one of the few student associations on campus that helps foster career opportunities for their members as well as they are experiencing a lot of growth.

Desjarlais expressed concern about funding expectations going forward.

Waseem confirmed that the funding was for term 1 only at this time and that the SUO plans to work with the CSCU to get sponsorships and funding going forward as well as help with the planning of their planned conference.

Kootenayoo wanted to know what the cap on funding requests was for the year and the account balance of the CSCU.

Waseem and Khera discussed the regulations around funding to answer various questions. Confirmed that at the beginning of the semester that CSCU had around \$5000 in their account, however have hosted events and been required to put deposits down for second semester events.

Slonowski confirmed that we not funding students to attend a conference, but helping the CSCU host a conference.

Ahmed spoke in favor of the motion, mentioned that the CSCU is a successful course union that benefits the students directly.

Waseem motioned the call to question. It was seconded by Desjarlais. The motion was carried.

21/10/27.05 Motion carried.

21/10/27.06

Waseem/Khera

Be it resolved that Beats UBCO be funded \$4000.

Waseem motivated and said that Beats UBCO is a student association that competes on an international level. Waseem further explained how well Beats UBCO is managed and that their funding application was completed at a very high level. Beats UBCO does a lot of events and fundraising on their own to compete, and their events are well attended.

Kootenayoo questioned why we were approving funding for more than the student association requested.

Waseem confirmed that this was their total funding request for the year and the

committee felt that it made more sense to request their full funding request for the year at once instead of once per semester.

Khera confirmed that Beats UBCO had requested \$2000/semester and that the committee agreed to fulfill their funding at once.

McGrail spoke in favor as their events are very well run and attended. They are also one of our student associations that has beat UBC Vancouver in competition.

Desjarlais spoke in favor.

Desjarlais motioned to call the question. McGrail seconded. Motion was carried.

21/10/27.06 Motion carried.

21/10/27.07

Waseem/Khera

Be it resolved that Age Link be funded \$2600.

Waseem motivated and said that they were an active student association throughout the Covid 19 pandemic. Age Link is a community driven student association that brings together students and senior citizens, often over meals. They do a lot of community outreach and their events are very positive.

Rogers spoke in favor, "Old people are dope".

Carried.

Waseem left at 18:49

### 4. OLD BUSINESS

21/10/27.08

McGrail/Rogers

Whereas the 2020-2021 Board of Directors established an ad-hoc Resource Center Advisory Committee tasked with the following mandate in response to student concerns on SUO accountability to fair, equitable and adequate support for their Resource Centers:

- 1. To re-evaluate the Resource Centre spaces and structures;
- 2. To consult with the Equity and Inclusion Office on the space and needs of our members:
- 3. To make recommendations on the creation of a new Resource Center Structure:
- 4. To conduct an environmental scan of the processes and consultation feedback to demonstrate areas of improvement etc., and

Whereas the recommendations set forth by the Resource Center advisory committee in their report was adopted by the 2020-2021 Board of Directors, and

Whereas the 2021-2022 Board of Directors has a responsibility to continue actively addressing and implementing these recommendations,

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors ratify the attached implementation plan, and Be it further resolved that any applications for new resource centers be tabled until at least phase three of the plan has been adequately completed as deemed by two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors.

McGrail motivated and encouraged all directors to read the recommendations in full to

ensure a proper understanding. McGrail read out the purpose of the Resource Center Advisory Committee Recommendation Implementation Plan.

Waseem rejoined meeting at 18:52

McGrail explains that it is the duty of the board of directors to continue actively addressing and implementing the recommendations of this plan.

Desjarlais expressed that there needs to be a better process for ratifying student associations, including more time and discussion moving forward. Desjarlais also brought forward a concern specifically around the wording for the lgbtqia2s+ students and felt that those students were not adequately represented in the plan.

Desjarlais motioned to table to discussion to a future board meeting. Seconded by Pashelka.

Rogers did not feel that it was a good practice to continue to table and delay motions at multiple board meetings. Rogers felt like there was still time left in the meeting where some discussion could be help before tabling again.

McGrail reminded all that the Resource Center Advisory Committee did consult with a very robust group that included the resource center leadership (Pride Resource Center, Women's Resource Center, Peer Support Network, and the Indigenous Student coucil \*now renamed the Indigenous Peoples Collective\*) as well as the Equity and Inclusion Office and we are not tokenizing any of the marginalized group outlined in the implementation plan.

Desjarlais said that they understand the concerns about tabling the motion for a second meeting, they felt that there was not enough time between meetings.

Waseem mentioned that he has a letter in his inbox from the Pride Resource Center that needs consideration.

Waseen motioned to call the question. It was seconded by Desjarlais. Motion to table discussion carried.

### 5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 19:00.

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students Board of Directors Meeting, November 03, 2021, UNC 334 & Virtual

### 18:08 Call to Order

#### **Directors Present**

President (meeting chair) Tashia Kootenayoo Vice-President Finance & Operations Muhammad Waseem Vice-President External Ahmed Ahmed Vice-President Internal Shiven Vinod Khera Vice-President Campus Life Jakson Pashelka Director at Large Kai Rogers Priscilla Uribe Director at Large Jaanvi Shah Director at Large Cade Desjarlais Director at Large Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative Lindsay McGrail Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative Laavanya Prakash **Graduate Studies Representative** Kirthana Ganesh Faculty of Applied Science Representative Sam Diab Faculty of Education Representative Serena Slonowski Senate Caucus Student Representative (ex- offico) **Dylan Rogers** 

#### **Directors Absent**

Faculty of Management Representative

Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative

Faculty of Science Representative

Board of Governors Representative (ex-offico)

Josie Leung

Grace Halpin

Leoul Woldemariam

Shola Fashanu

### **Staff Present**

General Manager Jason Evans
GreenText Manager Shauna-Lee Hildred

### **Guests Present**

Financial Auditor Erik Allas
Student Megan Johnston

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It's important that we understand that we are very privileged to be living, working, and learning in these territories that are not our own.

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP

21/11/03.01

Desjarlais/Waseem

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Carried

Khera arrived at 18:10

#### 3. PRESENTATIONS

### 3.1 Audited Financial Statements

Allas presented the final draft of audited financials from the 2020/2021 fiscal year. *Khera exits at 18:21* 

### 3.2 Bylaw Proposal

Kootenayoo presented the proposed by-law changes attached. Kootenayoo reviewed all proposed by-law changes along with rational behind all changes recommended. The mission statement will be added to this document ahead of the AGM and sent out via email to all directors.

Waseem exits at 18:45

Rogers exits at 18:46

### 3.3 2021-2022 Strategic Plan

Kootenayoo presented the strategic plan document and reviewed the history of strategic planning. Kootenayoo worked with Evans after he joined the SUO to review and update the document to match more closely with where the organization is now and reflect the work yet to be done.

Desjarlais and Ganesh bring forward spelling and grammar concerns.

Ganesh will review the document for spelling and grammar and correct as necessary.

### 4. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

#### 4.1 Senate

Rogers provided an update on the senate. UBCO will not be issuing any honorary degrees this academic year out of respect for the findings at the Kamloops Residential Schools and the awarding of an honorary degree to people directly involved in the residential school system. Conversation regarding the issuing of honorary degrees and the process by which applicants are chosen, nothing has changed at this time. Climate Action Plan 2030 was presented at the recent senate meeting and next steps discussed.

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS

21/11/03.02

Kootenayoo/Ahmed

Be it resolved that the 2021-2022 Strategic Plan as attached and presented (with spelling and grammar changes previously discussed) be adopted.

Carried.

21/11/03.03

Khera/Waseem

Be it resolved that the Bylaw proposal as attached and presented be recommended for adoption to the membership at the 2021-2022 Annual General Meeting.

Carried.

21/11/03.04

Waseem/Rogers

Be it resolved that the audited financial statements ending May 31, 2021 be adopted as attached.

Carried.

21/11/03.05

Waseem/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that Tomkins Wozny LLP be recommended as auditors for the 2021/2022 fiscal year at the Annual General Meeting.

Carried.

21/11/03.06

Saini/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that the 2021-2022 By-Election Results be ratified as attached.

Carried.

### 6. INFORMATION ITEMS

### 6.1 Next Board Meeting Date

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday November 17<sup>th</sup> 2021

### 7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 19:11

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

# Students' Union Okanagan of UBC Executive Committee Meeting, November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021, Virtual Call

### 14:15 Call to Order

### **Committee Members Present**

Vice-President ExternalAhmed AhmedVice-President Finance & OperationsMuhammad WaseemVice-President Internal(meeting chair)Shiven Vinod KheraVice-President Campus LifeJakson Pashelka

### **Committee Members Absent**

President (regrets given) Tashia Kootenayoo

### **Staff Present**

General Manager Jason Evans

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It's important that we understand that we are very privileged to be living, working, and learning in these territories that are not our own.

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

21/11/02.01

Pashelka /Ahmed

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Carried

### **3.** PRESENTATIONS

### 3.1 SUO Vision Statement

Evans presented the SUO Vision statement to the Executive committee. He overviewed the various components of principles and values included.

Waseem suggested an amendment to include "Free Speech" under the protection the organization provides to students.

Evans explained that this was covered under the principles of respect.

Pashelka added that a principle of responsibility should be included.

The executive agreed with the addition.

Ahmed suggested the addition of advocacy.

Evans provided a solution that these necessary additions be added under the dynamic principle, where they could be looked at further.

The Executive agreed and decided to acquire feedback at the Board of Directors meeting to ensure the document was reflective of everyone's' perspective.

#### 4. OLD BUSINESS

#### 4.1 Referendum

Evans discussed the capital project referendum and mentioned the changes in the timeline. He presented the UBC perspective and the importance of success in the first running of the referendum. It was concluded that it will be pushed to next academic year and instead an insight question regarding the referendum will be asked this February.

- 5. NEW BUSINESS
- 6. INFORMATION ITEMS

### 7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 14:50

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

# Students' Union Okanagan of UBC Executive Committee Meeting, November 16 2021, UNC 133C

### 16:04 Call to Order

### **Committee Members Present**

President (meeting chair)

Vice-President Internal

Vice-President External

Vice-President Finance & Operations

Vice-President Campus Life

Tashia Kootenayoo

Shiven Vinod Khera

Ahmed Ahmed

Muhammad Waseem

Vice-President Campus Life

Jakson Pashelka

### **Committee Members Absent**

### **Staff Present**

General Manager Jason Evans

### 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It's important that we understand that we are very privileged to be living, working, and learning in these territories that are not our own.

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Waseem/Ahmed

- 3. PRESENTATIONS
- 4. OLD BUSINESS
- 5. NEW BUSINESS

### 5.1 Board of Directors Honorarium

21/11/16.01

Ahmed/Waseem

Be it Resolved that the Board pay be distributed as below for October:

NAME	PERCENTAGE
Cade Desjarlais.	100%
Sam Diab	100%
Kirthana Ganesh	100%
Grace Halpin	100%
Josie Leung	100%
Lindsay McGrail	100%
Laavanya Prakash	100%
Kai Rogers	100%
Jaanvi Shah	100%
Serena Slonowski	100%
Priscilla Uribe	100%
Leoul Woldemariam	100%

Carried

### 6. INFORMATION ITEMS

### 6.1 Annual General Meeting update

Kootenayoo provided an update to the committee on the AGM such as the confirmation of the agenda. She presented the executive report from 2020-2021 to explain the way the 2021 AGM presentation will look like.

Additionally, there was a discussion on the safety plan with food and beverage offerings.

### 6.2 Per-Diem BCFS Skills

Waseem requested an overview of the food services provided by the BCFS at the Skills symposium to determine the travel pier diem approval.

Ahmed provided the itinerary and explained which meals were not provided.

Waseem approved one breakfast and one dinner per diem.

Ahmed agreed to notify the delegates of these approvals.

### 6.3 Staff x Executive Gatherings

Evans overviewed the plans for the staff holiday gathering to the executive. He also explained the plan for resumption of the monthly staff executive meetings. It was agreed upon that the committee would attend the last Tuesday monthly staff meeting to ensure the time worked best for the staff.

Khera entered at 16:45

The executive discussed plans for holiday gifts for the staff.

### 6.4 Round-Table

There was no round-table discussion items brought forward.

#### 7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 16:50.

# POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

# Students' Union Okanagan of UBC Policy Committee Meeting November 4<sup>th</sup> 2021, Virtual Call

### CALL TO ORDER AT 14:00

### **Committee Members Present**

Vice-President Internal (meeting chair)Shiven Vinod KheraFaculty RepLindsay McgrailStudent at largeNolan SchmeeckleGeneral ManagerJason Evans

### **Staff Present**

Membership Outreach Coordinator Izzy Rusch

### **Committee Members Absent**

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It's important that we understand that we are very privileged to be living, working, and learning in these territories that are not our own.

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

21/11/04.01

Khera/Mcgrail

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Carried.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

### 3.1 Discussion on SUO's Credit Card Policy

A very wholesome discussion on the credit card policy. Some clauses were added and taken out of the document regarding how many people can access the credit card, who would access the credit card and what would be the procedure of usage. The benefits and drawbacks of introducing a credit card were also discussed in detail. Shiven suggested that since some members of the committee are not present, the discussion take place at the next policy committee meeting when everyone is able to be present.

#### 3.2 AGM discussion

The vision and mission statement was discussed and minor edits to both were suggested.

### 3.3 Resource centre Policy

Lindsay brought forward the resource centre policy suggestions from the previous board meeting. The committee had a wholesome discussion. Shiven acknowledged that these were important to discuss and will be discussed and fleshed out when all committee members are present.

#### 4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 14:55

### **OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

# Students' Union Okanagan of UBC Oversight Committee Meeting, October 26th 2021, Hybrid Meeting

### 16:00 Call to Order

### **Committee Members Present**

Director at Large
Director at Large
Director at Large
Student at Large
General Manager
GUEST

Kai Rogers
Priscilla Uribe
Cade Desjarlais
Fatima Al-Roubaiai
Jason Evans
Noah Saini

### **Committee Members Absent**

### 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It's important that we understand that we are very privileged to be living, working, and learning in these territories that are not our own.

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#### **3.** PRESENTATIONS

### 4. OLD BUSINESS

Members discussed next steps for September reviews.

### 5. NEW BUSINESS

Two complaints were brought forward to the committee regarding two separate executives. Committee members discussed the complaints and determined that they both had merit.

**MOTION** 

21/10/26.01

Rogers/Desjarlais

Whereas a complaint brought to this committee deals with confidential information, be it resolved that Regulation II, Section 55, be invoked to allow the proper access of information for a fulsome investigation.

### 6. INFORMATION ITEMS

### 7. ADJOURNMENT

17:00

### **OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

# Students' Union Okanagan of UBC Oversight Committee Meeting, November 15, 2021, Hybrid Meeting

### 17:00 Call to Order

### **Committee Members Present**

Director at Large
Director at Large
Director at Large
Student at Large
General Manager
GUEST

Kai Rogers
Priscilla Uribe
Cade Desjarlais
Fatima Al-Roubaiai
Jason Evans
Shiven Vinod Khera

**Committee Members Absent** 

### 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It's important that we understand that we are very privileged to be living, working, and learning in these territories that are not our own.

- 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- **3.** PRESENTATIONS
- 4. OLD BUSINESS

Members approved September report to the board

5. NEW BUSINESS

Complaints were discussed as follows:

- The complaint in regards to the hiring committee was resolved, no further action required.
- The complaint in regards to the by-election was closed, no further action required.

Members discussed executive pay during days that are considered paid days off for the university. A consensus was reached to continue the historical norm of paying SUO Executives for those days for this year. We recommend that the board of directors mandate the policy committee to look into fixing this gap in our regulations.

- 6. INFORMATION ITEMS
- **7.** ADJOURNMENT

18:00

# **SUO Oversight Committee**

# Executive Review Report - September, 2021

#### **OVERVIEW**

The Executive Reviews are conducted in accordance with Regulation IV, Section 43:

The Oversight Committee shall conduct three reviews of each Executive Director. The Committee shall review the executive reports and meet with all staff partners and other relevant individuals to assess the performance of each Executive in relation to Appendix A of this Regulation and their established Executive goals. These Reviews shall occur:

- a. during the June Oversight Committee Meeting;
- b. during the September Oversight Committee Meeting; and
- c. during the January Oversight Committee Meeting;

Reviews are scheduled to reflect the Executives' initial goal planning, goal progress, and overall performance. This report covers the period of June 30 – September 1, 2021.

### **PROCESS**

The Oversight Committee followed review procedures laid out in 2020-2021. The Oversight Committee Chair led the review process by requesting executive goal reports ahead of scheduling individual review meetings. Guiding questions for each review were formulated based on executive reports, SUO team member feedback, and Oversight Committee members' observations. Oversight Committee members were randomly assigned executives to review. Committee members summarized review notes into this report.

### **TIMELINE**

Executives Notified of Review Process	Sept 13, 2021
Progress Report Submission Deadline	Sept 17, 5 PM, 2021
Individual Executive Review Meetings	Sept 20-28, 2021
Final Report Submitted	Nov 17, 2021

### **REVIEW OVERVIEW**

Each review followed a similar structure, while the content and focus of each review differed slightly. Members of the Oversight Committee asked unique questions pertaining to stated goals,

perceived challenges, and successes to date, as well as one standardized question: Please rate yourself on a scale of 1-10. Executives were also asked questions relating to their overall performance. Responses to the questions were written down by the committee member leading the review and Jason Evans, shared with the Oversight Committee, and used to create this report.

### **NEXT STEPS**

By and large, each executives review went well, and significant improvements were made by all. The Oversight Committee does have specific concerns relating to some executives, but overall the concerns expressed by this committee are both minor, and easily rectified. Compared to the previous review, the reports received this round were of a higher quality, and clearly showed that time and thought were put into each one.

### **EXECUTIVE SELF RATING - SCALE OF 1-10**

	June 2021	September 2021	January 2021
President	7.5		
VP Finance	7-8	8	
VP External	7.5-8	7.5	
VP Internal	8	8	
VP Campus Life	6-7	7.5	

### <u>SUO PRESIDENT - TASHIA KOOTENAYOO</u>

### **OVERALL FEEDBACK SUMMARY**

Tashia continues to be a powerful voice for students. Respectable progress has been made on most of her goals, and she has a good road map to ensure success down the line. Unfortunately, the absence of a general manager put considerable strain on Tashia, resulting in not as much being accomplished as she would have liked. This is not a concern to the Oversight Committee, as triaging tasks is a skill few are fortunate to have this early in their careers. This committee is still concerned about the possibility of Tashia burning out, and would like to see greater steps being made towards a healthier work-life balance, and the delegation of tasks. That said, with the recent hiring of Jason Evans, we believe much of Tashia's additional workload will shift, freeing up time to focus on her goals.

# **SUO VP FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION - Muhammad Waseem**

### OVERALL FEEDBACK SUMMARY

Muhammad has actioned several of the items on his to do list, and is increasing momentum on his pending items. The Oversight Committee received good feedback from Muhammad's SUO

counterparts. It was noted that Muhammad puts a large amount of effort into his role, and takes his responsibilities very seriously. Muhammad was very receptive to feedback from his first review, and has taken steps to implement corrective change. Muhammad should continue to put effort into the administrative side of his role, and collaborate with other executives to help them achieve their goals. Looking forward, the Oversight Committee is excited to see how Muhammad revitalizes the executive transition plan, and builds more structure into his role for future executives.

## **SUO VP EXTERNAL - Ahmed Ahmed**

### OVERALL FEEDBACK SUMMARY

Ahmed has made good progress in his role. His passion for helping students has become even more evident in the last few months. Feedback received from his peers indicates that Ahmed has a clearer focus in his goals, and better understands the steps needed to achieve them. Good progress has been made on most of his goals. In line with feedback from the Oversight Committee back at the beginning of his term, Ahmed has narrowed the scope of his goals to make them more attainable, and added short-term milestones. Going forward, Ahmed should continue to ensure the feasibility of all his goals, and make use of our new communications manager to increase outreach.

# SUO VP INTERNAL - SHIVEN VINOD KHERA

### OVERALL FEEDBACK SUMMARY

Shiven continues to bring good energy into the SUO offices. Feedback received from his peers indicates a high level of cooperation and collaboration across the board. Shiven has made acceptable progress on most of his goals, but admits that some milestones have been pushed back. The Oversight Committee is concerned about the lack of action on the policy committee, Shiven has yet to spearhead any policy changes. Compared to this time last year, the policy has accomplished very little. For Shiven to be successful in his role, this must change, as the policy committee is very important to the success of this union. As well, the Oversight Committee is cautious about Shiven's hyper focus on climate initiatives. While noble, this committee is concerned that other aspects of Shiven's portfolio may be slipping through the cracks, and that Shiven is overlapping into the VP External portfolio.

# SUO VICE PRESIDENT CAMPUS LIFE - Jakson Pashelka

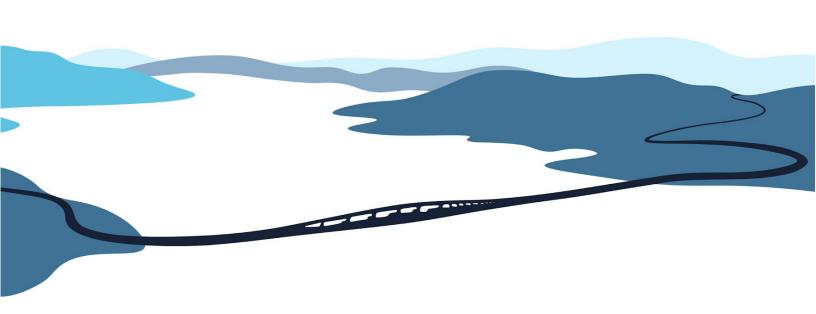
### OVERALL FEEDBACK SUMMARY

Jakson has made improvements since his previous review. Jakson appears to have a better understanding of his role, and the responsibilities associated with it. Jakson has had to make

changes to his goals to reflect challenges that have arisen due to campus restrictions. That said, progress has been made with our volunteer program, and inroads have been made with the party safe initiative. The lack of a staff partner, and managing a work-life balance remain struggles for Jakson, but a greater harmony has been achieved when compared to the previous review. The Oversight Committee is concerned about the lack of diversity among the planned events, but understands that covid protocols make planning difficult. The Oversight Committee had concerns relating to Jaksons relationship with RedBull, and that there may be a conflict of interest. Jakson has since taken the appropriate actions to mitigate that risk, without compromising his employment at either organization. We look forward to seeing more improvements from Jakson going forward as he continues to grow into his role.



# Student's Union Okanagan of UBC By-Election 2021-2022



November 1, 2021 Prepared by the Chief Returning Officer Students' Union of UBC Okanagan UNC 133-3272 University Way Kelowna, BC V1V 1V7

2

November 2, 2021

Dear Chairperson of the SUO of UBC's Board of Directors

Every year the Board is responsible for ratifying the elections report. Approval of this report makes the election results final. I submit this report as the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) with the following motions that I ask the Board to approve:

1. Be it resolved that the SUO of UBC Board of Directors approve the 2021 By-Election report as submitted by the Chief Returning Officer.

2. Be it further resolved that the SUO of UBC Board of Directors approve the destruction of the nomination forms used in the 2021 By-Election.

This report is to be accepted as an all-or-nothing package and without amendments. If the Board finds that changes need to be made, the report will be retracted for changes and further consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Nash Laini

Noah Saini

Chief Returning Officer

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4

Introduction

This report serves as official documentation for the 2021 SUO By-Election. It shall contain

details of the procedures followed before the elections; the announcement of the election, the call

for nominations and ensuing nomination period; the campaign period, the voting period and

thereafter, the announcement of the results.

It provides a clear report of how the elections were carried out, providing that due process was

followed to give a free, fair and transparent election. I also hope it serves as a template for future

CROs to follow when preparing to carry out an election.

This By-Election was the first SUO Board of Directors Election that was carried out online. The

pandemic has been improving since the previous (exclusively online) two elections, but remains

uncertain with ever-changing restrictions..

Regards,

Noah Saini

Chief Returning Officer

**Candidate Positions** 

The following positions were included in the UBCSUO 2020 By-Election:

College of Graduate Studies Student Representative

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Student Representative

Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies Student Representative

Faculty of Health and Social Development Student Representative

# **Election Officials**

Chief Returning Officer Noah Saini

Deputy Returning Officer
Emmanuel Stephen

## **Timeline**

October 5th - Prenomination Period

The Annual By-Election was called on Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, via the UBCSUO Elections Instagram page. Due to my late hiring, the prenomination period was delayed from late September to early October.

October 5th to October 8th - Nomination Period

The nomination period opened at 8:00 AM on Monday, September 28th and closed at 4:00 PM on Friday, October 8th. Nomination forms were available exclusively online via the UBCSUO Elections Instagram Page and the UBCSUO Web Page. Candidates were required to submit their nomination form to the CRO by email before the close of the nomination period.

October 8th - All Candidates Meeting

The all candidates meeting (ACM) took place at 5:00 PM on Friday, October 8th via *Zoom*. The CRO outlined campaign expectations and the rights and responsibilities of the UBCSUO Board of Directors. All candidates were in attendance with the addition of my (then) DRO.

October 11th to October 15th - Campaign Period

The Campaign period opened at 8:00 AM on Monday, October 11th and closed at 11:59 PM on Friday, October 15th.

October 14th to 15th - Voting Period

The voting period opened at 8:00 AM on Thursday, October 14th and closed at 11:59 PM on Friday, October 15th. Voting occurred through the university system, WebVote.

### **Marketing Efforts**

Instagram and the SUO's website (<a href="https://www.suo.ca/by-election/">https://www.suo.ca/by-election/</a>) were the primary sources of information for candidates and students. Instagram was chosen as a marketing channel over Facebook, as the CRO transition report stated that Instagram had greater reach and effectiveness.

The stories and posts on the SUO's elections Instagram account (@suo\_elections) were shared by students, volunteers, UBCO and SUO-related accounts, and candidates alike. Stories were posted nearly every day throughout the campaigning and voting periods to keep the presence of the elections in the minds of students. Specific stories were interactive, thus allowing for student participation with the social media page. Additionally, stories received greater student interaction than posts; to maximize the output of the Instagram account, elections results were posted on the page's story. Election results remain on the Instagram page. Posts on @suo\_elections announced important dates, signified the commencement of steps, displayed candidates along with their photos, platforms, biographies, and voting steps. Each candidate had their information posted on the Instagram account on the same day to ensure fairness. One post was taken down and reposted as it contained incorrect information, but it was reposted within 24 hours.

Linking both Instagram and the SUO's website was Linktree. Linktree is a reference page for links. The site was used to manage essential links to published dates, nomination forms, candidate info, a link to vote, and announcements. This tool was incredibly influential in redirecting students to the exact page they desired. The SUO's website had various information,

including the election announcement, the elections schedule (dates and times), available positions to run for, candidates and their biographies, and election results.

Throughout the by-election, it was reassuring to know that other pages (tagged on Instagram posts and stories) were sharing by-election information, which was deemed potent. Examples of these pages include the main SUO account and the SUO's Board of Directors' accounts.

A total of 11 posts and 17 stories were posted on Instagram. Also, a total of eight links were available on Linktree.

All elections processes were displayed by stating the necessary steps on Instagram posts and stories using the images themselves or their descriptive captions.

## **Campaign Period**

The campaign period started on Monday, October 11th and closed on Friday, October 15th. As previously mentioned, the overall timeline was rushed due to my late hiring. Campaigning continued through the voting period due to time constraints.

Candidates were guided by the SUO of UBC by-laws and regulations during the campaign period as well as the guidelines set out by the CRO. These provided a fair opportunity for all to campaign sufficiently. Accordingly, the CRO was explicitly clear that candidates were expected to 'ask first' before engaging in any campaign activities.

In line with UBC Policy and Covid-19 recommendations prescribed to SUO Student Associations and Clubs, the electoral committee mandated that candidates abide by social distancing measures and explicitly prohibited in-person gathering or campaigning on campus – including but not limited to approaching students – in order to protect the health and safety of our members. This was clearly communicated to candidates on October 9th, 2021 at the mandatory ACM. As every candidate signed their assent to having read the official regulations and otherwise agreed to abide by the expectations of the CRO, the committee strictly upheld these guidelines.

Official complaints had to be submitted by email to the CRO within 24 hours of the occurrence or discovery of the evidence forming the basis of the complaint. All complainants were kept anonymous and their names shall not appear in this report.

Candidates were made aware of the procedure that the CRO would follow in the investigation of any complaints during the All-Candidates Meeting and were reminded during the investigation process. As outlined in the regulations:

- 61. The CRO shall investigate and decide a complaint along with the General Manager within twenty-four (24) hours of its receipt or twelve (12) hours on the last two days of the election. The CRO must bring the complaint to the Electoral Committee.
- 62. The CRO must give fair consideration to all evidence relevant to a complaint.
- 63. Upon the conclusion of an investigation of a complaint the CRO must decide whether an offence has occurred and, if so, whether the offence is minor or major.
- 64. Upon the conclusion of an investigation of a complaint relating to the administration of an Election or Referendum or the conduct of a candidate, if the CRO along with General Manager decides that the complaint is valid, the CRO must also determine whether the integrity or result of the Election or Referendum has been materially affected. If the CRO decides that the integrity or result of the Election or Referendum has been materially affected, the CRO must determine whether all or part of the Election or Referendum is invalid.
- 65. The CRO and General Manager must publish the reasons for his or her decisions in writing.

The official CRO Determinations are included in Appendix II.

# **Voting Period**

Voting occurred through the online UBC WebVote system. The WebVote system was utilized because it is easy to use, highly secure by design, based on the SSC Platform, and administered by the university. Any attempt to interfere with the system and influence the results would be met with serious repercussions such as expulsion from the university for non-academic misconduct (Student Code of Conduct 4.1).

There was no evidence of system interference, malfunction, or spoiled ballots.

# **Suggestions and Recommendations**

SUO Elections Instagram Account

Given the success of the Election-specific Instagram page, it is highly recommended that the electoral committee continue to utilize this channel in order to increase engagement with SUO members. Specifically, posting platform points for each position and clearly identifying the candidates in each race proved effective; candidates, volunteers, and general members frequently reposting this content, vastly extending the page's reach beyond our primary following. It is the preferred social media outlet over Facebook.

All-Candidates Meeting

This year the ACM was completed in just under 30 minutes and covered a lot of content. Due to an issue a complaint submissions being submitted 24 hours after discovering the violation, future ACMs should be more in-depth and explain how important it is to submit complaints right away. Additionally, it was beneficial to explain to candidates that if they had any questions or uncertainties with any of the elections processes, they could reach out to the CRO. Many

Conclusion

Overall, we feel that this was a successful election. We reiterate that we ask the Board of Directors to pass the following motions:

candidates reached out to CRO for knowledge and insight, thus eliminating future issues.

- 1. Be it resolved that the SUO of UBC Board of Directors approve the 2021 By-Election report as submitted by the Chief Returning Officer.
- 2. Be it further resolved that the SUO of UBC Board of Directors approve the destruction of the nomination forms used in the 2021 By-Election.

We hope that this report provides a thorough understanding of the process of the 2021 By-Election.

Respectfully,

Noah Saini

Chief Returning Officer

Nach Acin

# **Appendix I: Unofficial Election Results**

# College of Graduate Studies Student Representative

Yes, Kirthana Ganesh 6 votes
No, Kirthana Ganesh 1

Total votes 7 (0.6% of the voters)

# Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Student Representative

Megan Johnston37 votesLindsay McGrail30Mashal Narsi18Geetika Sadarangani7

Total votes 92 (3.4% of the voters)

# Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies Student Representative

Yes, Laavanya Prakash 6 votes

No, Laavanya Prakash 0

Total votes 6 (2.0% of the voters)

# Faculty of Health and Social Development Student Representative

Yes, Grace Halpin 2 votes

No, Grace Halpin 0

Total votes 2 (0.1% of the voters)

# **GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

# Students' Union Okanagan of UBC Graduate Student Committee Meeting, 22 October 2021, Virtual Call

Call to Order 15:05

## **Committee Members Present**

Graduate Student Representative Kirthana Ganesh
Student at Large Anne Claret
Student at Large Nibirh Jawad

### **Committee Members Absent**

Student at Large Rina Garcia

# **Staff/Guest Present**

Advocacy & Governance Coordinator Sarah Furgason Graduate Student Community Facilitators

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It's important that we understand that we are very privileged to be living, working, and learning in these territories that are not our own.

#### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#### 3. PRESENTATIONS

# 4. OLD BUSINESS

#### **4.1** Survey

Ganesh created a new survey and shared it with members so edits can be made to reflect the changes over the past academic year.

# **4.2** Membership update

Ganesh informed members about the interview process and the applicants that have been shortlisted for Board approval

Chua suggested an in-person social event for members to meet each other.

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS

#### 6. INFORMATION ITEMS

### **6.1** By-elections

Ganesh informed the members about the results of the by-elections and thanked them for their support

#### 6.2 SVPRO educator

Ganesh informed members that a Sexualised Violence Prevention Educator from SVPRO would be coming in the following meeting for a presentation.

## **6.3** AGM presentation

Ganesh informed members that a she would be making a presentation at the AGM about the GSC. She asked members to look over the slides beforehand to provide feedback and help cover all relevant information.

#### 7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 16:00

# GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

# Students' Union Okanagan of UBC Graduate Student Committee Meeting, 5 November 2021, Virtual Call

Call to Order 15:00

## **Committee Members Present**

Graduate Student Representative Kirthana Ganesh Student at Large Rina Garcia Student at Large Nibirh Jawad Student at Large Vikas Kumar Student at Large Emily Comeau

### **Committee Members Absent**

Advocacy & Governance Coordinator

Student at Large Anne Claret

# **Staff/Guest Present**

Graduate Student Community Facilitators Johannah Black Sunil Suresh

Sexualised Violence Prevention Educator CSC Writing Consultant

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It's important that we understand that we are very privileged to be living, working, and learning in these territories that are not our own.

#### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#### **2.1** Introductions

All members and guests introduced themselves.

#### 3. PRESENTATIONS

### 3.1 Johannah Black: SVPRO

Black introduced the SVPRO, its location, contact information, and team members. She described the unique position of graduate students in a university, as well as the barriers in addressing sexualized violence and other forms of exploitation they face. Black clarified the role that the SVPRO plays on campus and invited questions.

Black asked for graduate student interest in participating in a pilot program to train graduate students, as well as suggestions for changes the University could make to manage sexualized violence

Chua suggested breaking the session into two installments of 1.5 hours to manage fatigue and graduate student schedules.

Kumar suggested expanding the scope of the program to educate faculty members.

Black concurred and described future plans to expand mandatory training for faculty members. Ganesh offered members the option to anonymise their responses in the discussion with the intention of creating a safe space. Members were encouraged to send her a personal message if they wished to be anonymous.

Jawad suggested inviting research groups (including supervisors) to such trainings.

Suresh remarked that his lab had had such training and found it useful to include faculty in the discussion

Black concurred, and suggested offering multiple options in order to minimize potential discomfort for students, who may have to discuss difficult themes in the presence of their supervisor.

Chua suggested considering the fluid boundaries that typify UBCO interactions. She suggested accommodations for students with chronic illness, conflicting committee members etc. She also mentioned that experiences of harassment often occur outside UBCO, and needed to be considered.

Black discussed different strategies that she has considered for types of training. Ganesh suggested including internalized colonization and the intersectionality between authority and race as a potential area of concern in terms of training around consent and boundaries.

Ahmad extending an invite to Black to join GSCF events to meet with graduate students. Jawad offered to open communications between Black and members in his faculty.

# **3.2** Sunil Suresh: CSC Writing Consultant

Chua introduced that CSC and described their role in assisting graduate students, postdocs, and faculty to assist with academic writing, offered links to share with other students. Suresh was introduced as the newest consultant, specializing in Engineering and the Sciences.

#### 4. OLD BUSINESS

### **4.1** Survey:

Ganesh shared the survey with Kumar and Comeau to look over. Members agreed to distribute the survey by the following week.

#### **4.2** Graduate Trivia Night Funding

Ahmad requested funding of \$1500 for the graduate student budget. Members unanimously approved the funding.

Members discussed forming a trivia team for the event. Ahmad offered to call on the committee during the event to introduce themselves to the students.

### **4.3** CoGS Orientation Update

Ganesh provided updates regarding communications with CoGS to involve the GSC in orientation events.

### **4.4** Senate update

Ganesh provided updates regarding the Senate and its recent discussion about honorary degree conferrals.

### 5. NEW BUSINESS

**5.1** Role of Advocacy and Governance Coordinator Ganesh provided updates regarding recruitment for the role.

### **5.2** Mental health awareness campaign

Ganesh asked for suggestions for mental health campaigns specifically for graduate students. Chua discussed promoting the Interprofessional Clinic among students.

Kumar emphasized that the events themselves are not helpful unless they can reach the students the need it. He suggested focusing on advertising the event, such as scratch cards, coupons, or smaller prizes to encourage participation. He also suggested that emails regarding the same should reach students through supervisors/professors to encourage participation. Chua agreed and emphasized the colonialized hierarchy of power that mediates this anxiety. She also described other barriers for access (i.e., stigma, elitism, financial issues, etc.). Jawad agreed with points made, and suggested the AVP as a potential resource to contact. Kumar suggested speaking with research deans

Chua suggested reaching out to admin assistants to advertise events.

#### 6. INFORMATION ITEMS

#### 6.1 AHMAD PROVIDED SUGGESTION FOR GRAD SOCIETY DAYS.

## **6.2** AGM presentation updates:

Ganesh mentioned that the AGM will be held on November 25<sup>th</sup>, and asked members to publicize and attend the meeting to vote on the motion to make the GSC a standing committee.

Chua and Jawad said that they hope the meeting would be virtual/hybrid.

# 7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 17:07