

# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students  
Board of Directors Meeting, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, UNC Boardroom

---

Called to Order at 18:38

## Directors Present

Vice-President Internal (meeting chair)	Dhruv Bihani
President	Jakson Pashelka
Vice-President External	Cade Desjarlais
Vice President Finance and Administration	Vrushank Kekre
Vice-President Campus Life	Danial Asif
Director at Large	Berat Celik
Director at Large	Aryam Dwivedi
Director at Large	Spandan Ghevriya
Graduate Studies Representative	Kirthana Ganesh
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative	VACANT
Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative	Hanna Donaldson
Faculty of Education Representative	Lindsay McGrail
Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative	Grace Halpin
Faculty of Management Representative	Jes Mindi
Faculty of Science Representative	Maziar Matin Panah
Student Senate Caucus Representative (ex-officio)	Salman Hafeez (Saami)

## Directors Absent

Board of Governors (ex-officio)	Tashia Kootenayoo
Director at Large	Megan Johnston
Faculty of Applied Science Representative	Akshata Pathak

## Staff Present

Governance Coordinator	Bri Fedoruk
Well Manager	Michael Ouellet

## **1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY**

*We would like to acknowledge that we are on the unceded, 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 is important to understand the privilege we hold to be living, working, and learning on Syilx territory.*

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

22/10/11.01

Mindi/Celik

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

22/10/11.02

Pashelka/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that the agenda be amended by adding an item under "Discussion Items" called "Food Insecurity."

22/10/11.03

Desjarlais/Matin Panah

Be it resolved that the agenda be amended by adding a motion under "New Business," in regards to a statement that the VP External will present to the Board.

22/10/11.04

McGrail/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that the agenda be amended by adding an item under "Discussion Items" called "Office Hours."

Carried as adopted

22/10/11.05

Bihani/Pashelka

Move to table the adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting to the end of the agenda.

Carried

## **3. EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

22/10/11.06

Mindi/Ghevriya

Be it resolved that the Executive Reports of: June, July, August, and September be adopted omnibus as attached.

Carried

## **4. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

### **4.1 Executive Committee**

22/10/11.07

Pashelka/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that the minutes from the meeting held September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, be

adopted.

McGrail asked about a meeting with UBC as a follow up after Frosh.

Asif updated on the successful meeting.

22/10/11.08

Pashelka/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that the minutes from the emergency meeting held October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, be adopted.

Carried

22/10/11.09

Desjarlais/Pashelka

Be it resolved that the Project Manager be given voting rights in the Electoral Committee for the duration of the By-Elections period, Winter Term One (1), 2022.

Desjarlais motivated by adding the context that Ouellet was given voting rights to this committee, while the Project Manager did not have voting rights, so this motion was offered to make things fairer.

Carried

#### **4.2 Finance Committee**

22/10/11.10

Kekre/Mindi

Be it resolved that the minutes from the meeting held September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, be adopted.

Carried

#### **4.3 Graduate Student Committee**

22/10/11.11

Ganesh/Matin Panah

Be it resolved that the minutes from the meeting held October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, be adopted.

Carried

22/10/11.12

Ganesh/Asif

Be it resolved that honoraria be dispersed for the meeting held September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 as follows:

Nibirh Jawad	\$50
Vikas Kumar	\$50
Emily Comeau	\$50
Anne Claret	\$50
Elizabeth Houghton	\$50
Fatima Canales	\$50
Dina Khrabsheh	\$50
Morgan King	0

Carried

**a. Update for Board from GSC chair**

Ganesh provided an update to the Board.

**4.4 Electoral Committee**

22/10/11.13

Mindi/Asif

Be it resolved that the minutes from the meeting held September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, be adopted.

Carried

**4.5 Student Association Funding Committee**

22/10/11.14

Kekre/ Dwivedi

Be it resolved that the minutes from the meeting held September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, be adopted.

Carried

22/10/11.15

Kekre/Asif

Be it resolved that the minutes from the meeting held October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, be adopted.

Carried

**5. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS**

**5.1 Senate**

**a. Academic Concession policy has been revised**

Hafeez updated on the senate's first meeting of the year, September 29<sup>th</sup>. The academic concession policy has been revised. The senate website should be updated by the end of this week.

Celik asked if the cumulative average would be over one hundred (100) or a four-point (4.) scale?

Hafeez replied he thought it might be both, but he was unsure as of yet. He would be able to get back to the Board at a later time.

Asif asked when would workday be implemented.

Hafeez replied that this would not be until 2023.

**b. Cumulative Average and Credits Earned will appear on future student Transcripts, upon implementation of Workday Student.**

**5.2 Other University Committees**

**a. Update from President's Advisory Committee for Selection of New Provost and VP-Academic (UBCO)**

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

22/10/11.16

Matin Panah/Dwivedi

Be it resolved that the following student associations be ratified:

- Fencing Club
- Okanagan Engineering in Medicine
- English Course Union
- Speech & Interview Club

Ganesh wondered what the "Speech & Interview Club" are, and whether they were different than the debate club, or other clubs we already have?

Bihani replied that yes, they are similar to some clubs we already have, but they have a slightly different focus.

Matin Panah introduced his idea for this club, as it was his idea to begin the club. He outlined the differences between the types of debate available on campus already.

Kekre had a similar question about the fencing club.

Matin Panah replied that fencing was a sport, while the medieval club was a special interest club.

Celik replied that perhaps there should be a combination between the Debate and Speech clubs.

Matin Panah replied that they had approached the Debate club, and they were not interested in combining speech with debate.

Mindi replied that we should not worry about these types of details, if they want to collaborate, they could.

Celik replied that he understood what Mindi says, but he would prefer to give a club with many members more money, rather than smaller clubs being given more money.

Carried

### **6.1 VP External – Statement**

22/10/11.17

Desjarlais/Dwivedi

Be it resolved that the statement be adopted as presented and amended.

Carried

22/10/11.18

Desjarlais/Pashelka

Be it resolved that the Communications Manager work to make the proposed letter and accompanying links trauma informed, based off of examples from SVPro, alongside the VP External.

Carried

### **6.2 Call for two (2) director nominees from the SUO Board of Directors for the UBC Academic Integrity Committee**

Bihani opened the floor for nominations.

Pashelka motivated the UBC Academic Integrity Committee. The role of this committee is to help professors decrease cheating within academic spaces. It does seem to have higher time constraints. He called for executives in particular to sit on this committee.

Hafeez asked how this committee was different from the Disciplinary Committee?

Desjarlais replied that this was not a recent committee, this was different because this committee was about the processes, the other committee Hafeez brought up were dealing with issues after the fact. Processes vs. cases after the fact.

Asif and Celik nominated themselves for consideration for the committee.

22/10/11.19

Desjarlais/Kekre

Be it resolved that Danial Asif and Berat Celik be selected for appointment to the UBC Academic Integrity Committee.

Carried

## **7. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7.1 Food Insecurity**

Pashelka updated the committee, and furthered UBC support which was meant to directly impact students experiencing food insecurity.

Ganesh replied that grocery cards were great, however, we could opt for meal-kit subscriptions, to ensure that food was locally sourced, organic, and healthier.

Celik asked Pashelka for clarification of the funding that was being released.

Pashelka replied that the money was meant to most greatly impact students and their food security.

Mindi replied that she was going to bring up Red Frog, which she found helpful, and she thought that services like this would aid in time-saving as well as food security.

McGrail added that Red Frog had many volunteers available to help. They would be able to assist in many ways, like doing grocery shopping runs for us for example, so we should utilize our resources.

Halpin agreed with Ganesh, she liked the idea of meal kits.

Dwivedi added that chef's plate was doing three (\$3) dollar meal kits.

Desjarlais asked if the funds were given to the Food Hub/Picnic?

Pashelka confirmed.

Kekre further inquired about whether the funds could be used for building as well?

Pashelka replied that it was meant for direct use for students, not for salaries or for building.

Desjarlais looked for clarification that those offering the funding wanted the money to be used for grocery cards?

Pashelka confirmed, yes, this was their first thoughts.

Ganesh wanted to know how we are supposed to know which students are most in need? And not supplying those taking advantage of the system.

Pashelka replied that it would be similar to how Emergency Funding was accessed, there is a process, and some staff that would have to be contacted, prior to funds being released.

Hafeez added that perhaps a system with the Pantry would be beneficial, so if the Pantry is out of food, they would be able to hand out grocery cards instead. He prefers

to get the funding out as soon as possible to ensure the most support to students. Ganesh replied that perhaps some of the money should be preserved for time periods during the semester when funding is lower, such as the summer for graduate students. Kekre added that he would prefer to have processes in place, to have services that cater to students for longer.

Ouellet replied that meal plan services have gotten at-risk students in trouble previously, because of the contracted plans which tend to charge full price without warning.

Celik added that this was way the Pantry was important as well. He thought that perhaps we should test demand on social media first, before deciding on what to do with the funding.

Mindi replied that she had tried food boxes, and they do become restrictive after a while. Their sign-up process sometimes lead to increased grocery charges, as Ouellet was saying.

Ouellet wanted to know if Patterson was aware of the money coming in. He urged the executives to sit down with her and see the places that are most in need of that funding.

## **7.2 Office Hours**

McGrail brought the Board's attention to a policy which stipulates that the executives must be in the office fifteen (15) hours a week. [Regulation V - Governance: 6]

Kekre asked what if there is a conflict with being in the office for fifteen (15) hours a week?

Bihani replied that then they would be breaking the policies.

Pashelka added that he agreed with the office hours, the problem was that he was busy until all the staff left. He was able to complete his office hours, however, they would be outside of the posted office hours.

Ghevriya replied that the Oversight Committee was hoping to get the Board back on track with the policies that already exist. They also want to make sure that the students are able to meet with the executives that they elected.

Mindi suggested that perhaps flexible days and hours could be a better alternative. From a student perspective, seeing that there could be a chance because of fluctuating schedules would be better than not having any set hours.

Ganesh replied that office hours are mandatory, but it would also be helpful for students. Having office hours is part of the job, and the hours do not matter, but it would help her to schedule for the future. It would be more efficient. Flexible or rigid, as long as we know one (1) week ahead of time, or the beginning of the month, for the rest of the month.

Desjarlais stated to the Board that this was a regulation, and it must be followed.

McGrail wanted to know how the Board felt about how this would be structured.

Desjarlais replied that he had been thinking about this currently anyways individually.

Kekre added that his schedule was volatile between office hours (8am – 4pm). He would personally opt for a flexible hours schedule. He would also prefer holding office hours

after hours.

Ouellet replied that because we are a student union with executives with heavier course loads, we may want to look into changing these office hours policies – looking to the AMS as an example.

Mindi wondered if there were virtual office hours offered during COVID, and whether this could be returned to?

Ganesh replied that COVID was over, office hours must be in person. The executives get paid more than graduate students make over two (2) years, they should be able to make it in to the office. She was worried about students who were walk-ins, and them potentially getting missed, or not being helped while distressed.

Ghevriya agreed with Kirthana, in-person was by-far preferred. It was not only for the Board to reach the executives, but for the students to be able to reach them.

Desjarlais seconded Ganesh, these positions had been run for, elected, and those running were aware of the duties when they ran. He was against holding office hours outside of the regular work hours. He thought that those who could not meet these specifications should resign from their duties.

## **8. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

22/10/11.20

Mindi/Kekre

Be it resolved that minutes of the meeting held September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 be adopted.

22/10/11.21

Hafeez/Desjarlais

Hafeez moved to amend the minutes of the previous meeting held September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, by removing the word “discrimination” and replacing it with “*Review of Assigned Standing.*”

Be it further resolved that the word “Hafeez” be removed and replaced with “Hafeez.”

Carried

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

20:31