

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Board of Directors Meeting, August 11th, 2022, UNC 105 & Zoom

Directors Present

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| President (chair) | Jakson Pashelka |
| Vice-President External | Cade Desjarlais |
| Vice President Finance and Administration | Vrushank Kekre |
| Vice-President Internal | Dhruv Bihani |
| Vice-President Campus Life | Danial Asif |
| Director at Large | Berat Celik |
| Director at Large | Aryam Dwivedi |
| Director at Large | Megan Johnston |
| Director at Large | Spandan Ghevriya |
| Graduate Studies Representative | Kirthana Ganesh |
| Faculty of Applied Science Representative | Akshata Pathak |
| Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative | Kyle Rogers |
| 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 |
| Board of Governors (ex-officio) | Tashia Kootenayoo |
| Student Senate Caucus Representative (ex-officio) | Salman Hafeez (Saami) |

Directors Absent

Staff Present

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| General Manager | Jason Evans |
| Governance Coordinator | Bri Fedoruk |
| Communications Manager | Becca Evans |
| Student Advocate | Rachel Fortin |
| Membership Outreach Coordinator | Izzy Rusch |
| Executive Coordinator | Sarah Speier |
| Well Manager | Michael Ouellet |
| Project Manager | Aaron White |
| Finance Manager | Leanne Smailes |

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 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

22/08/11.01

/

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

22/08/11.02

/

Be it resolved that minutes of the meeting held July 11th, 2022 be adopted.

4. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

4.1 Executive Committee

22/08/11.03

/

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held July 13th be adopted.

22/08/11.04

/

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held July 27th be adopted.

4.2 Finance Committee

22/08/11.05

/

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held July 27th be adopted.

4.3 Policy Committee

4.4 Campus Life Committee

4.5 Campaigns Committee

22/08/11.08

/

Be it resolved that minutes of the meeting held July 14th, 2022 be adopted.

4.6 Oversight Committee

4.7 Graduate Student Committee

22/08/11.09

/

Be it resolved that minutes of the meeting held July 8th, 2022 be adopted.

22/08/11.10

/

Be it resolved that minutes of the meeting held July 22nd, 2022 be adopted.

22/08/11.11

/

Be it resolved that Elizabeth Houghton be appointed to the Graduate Student Committee as a student-at-large.

22/08/11.12

/

Be it resolved that Dina Alkharabsheh be appointed to the Graduate Student Committee as a student-at-large.

22/08/11.13

/

Be it resolved that Fátima Canales be appointed to the Graduate Student Committee as a student-at-large.

22/08/11.14

/

Be it resolved that Morgan King be appointed to the Graduate Student Committee as a student-at-large.

5. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

5.1 Board of Governors

5.2 Senate

5.3 Other University Committees

6. NEW BUSINESS

22/08/11.15

/

Be it resolved that the following student association be ratified: the Piano Club

22/08/11.16

/

Be it resolved that the following student association be ratified: the Chemistry Graduate Student Society

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1 A bird's eye-view of policy(ies) and/or procedure(s) that impact UBCO student experience

- [Discrimination Policy](#)
- [Assistance from the Equity and Inclusion Office on Discrimination Policy](#)

7.2 Announcement from the Arts & Social Science Rep

7.3 Graduate Trivia Night

8. ADJOURNMENT

EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Executive Meeting, July 13th, 2022, SUO 133 Conference Room

Called to order at 13:06

Directors Present

President (meeting chair)

Jakson Pashelka

Vice-President External

Cade Desjarlais

Vice President Finance and Administration

Vrushank Kekre

Vice-President Internal

Dhruv Bihani

Vice-President Campus Life

Danial Asif

Directors Absent

Staff Present

Governance Coordinator

Bri Fedoruk

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 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

22/07/13.01

Desjarlais/Kekre

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Carried

22/07/13.02

Bihani/Desjarlais

Bihani moved to amend the agenda by adding an information item called Homecoming Event

Carried

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP

22/07/13.03

Asif/Bihani

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held June 29th, 2022 be adopted.

Carried

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Homecoming Event

Bihani updated the committee on the meeting he had with the UBC team about an event – homecoming. The SUO is busy with events, but they were looking to collaborate with us. They are getting back to us with quotations. He alerted Asif that they would contact him soon.

Pashelka wondered if they are wanting to work with us for the UNC night events. Back in the day, there was a takeover of the UNC laneway, where events and games happen.

Bihani replied that they have not mentioned this, but they are wanting to have their event outside.

Pashelka wondered if there is a date in mind?

Bihani said it was the 24th, but this conflicted with Orientation, so changes have been made. The 24th is now open for them to use if they would like. They told him they would get in touch with us soon.

5. IN-CAMERA

22/07/13.04

Desjarlais/Bihani

Desjarlais moved to take the meeting in camera.
Carried

6. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 13:47

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Executive Committee Meeting, July 27th, 2022, Zoom

Called to order at 13:03

Directors Present

President

Jakson Pashelka

Vice-President External (meeting chair)

Cade Desjarlais

Vice President Finance and Administration

Vrushank Kekre

Vice-President Internal

Dhruv Bihani

Vice-President Campus Life

Danial Asif

Directors Absent

Staff Present

General Manager

Jason Evans

Governance Coordinator

Bri Fedoruk

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 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

22/07/27.01

Asif/Bihani

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

22/07/27.02

Kekre/Bihani

Kekre moved to amend the agenda by adding:

Be it resolved that the June Board of Directors honoraria be dispersed as follows:

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Berat Celik | 100% |
| Aryam Dwivedi | 100% |
| Spandan Ghevriya | 100% |
| Megan Johnston | 100% |
| Kirthana Ganesh | 100% |
| Akshata Pathak | 100% |
| Kyle Rogers | 100% |
| Hanna Donaldson | 100% |
| Lindsay McGrail | 100% |
| Grace Halpin | 100% |
| Jes Mindi | 100% |
| Maziar Matin Panah | 100% |

to Old Business, and

by adding a Discussion Item called Budgeting 101 with Vrushank

Carried as amended

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

22/07/27.03

Bihani/Kekre

Be it resolved that minutes of the meeting held July 13th, 2022 be adopted.

Carried

4. PRESENTATIONS

5. OLD BUSINESS

22/07/27.04

Kekre/Bihani

Be it resolved that the June Board of Directors honoraria be dispersed as follows:

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Berat Celik | 100% |
| Aryam Dwivedi | 100% |
| Spandan Ghevriya | 100% |
| Megan Johnston | 100% |
| Kirthana Ganesh | 100% |
| Akshata Pathak | 100% |
| Kyle Rogers | 100% |
| Hanna Donaldson | 100% |
| Lindsay McGrail | 100% |
| Grace Halpin | 100% |
| Jes Mindi | 100% |
| Maziar Matin Panah | 100% |

Carried

6. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Budgeting 101 with Vrushank

Kekre touched base with everyone about our budgets. It is important that we are tight on our expense lines. Every time we want to make a major expense, it would be great if the Finance Committee take a look at it prior to purchase – event, initiative, or items.

Desjarlais agreed that it is important to track our documents, but is he hearing right, that we need to have approval prior to making the purchase from the Finance Committee?

Kekre replied, no, it is simply a way to track the finances, and to make sure everyone is within the bounds of the budget they presented. A review.

Asif wondered when they should send these reports?

Kekre replied before you sign on to anything, inform the Finance Committee, before things have been signed off.

Desjarlais stated he had a small pause with that. Some purchases involve negotiations, and he worries this may get in the way of the natural order of those types of interactions.

Evans clarified that each person will have an allotted budget that they are responsible for. If, before a major transaction is made, that is the time it will be reviewed, that is when we will say if there is anything out of line in the budget. Contracts, he would like, to have passed through his desk prior to them being signed.

and he worries this may get in the way of the natural order of those types of interactions.

Evans clarified that each person will have an allotted budget that they are responsible for. If, before a major transaction is made, that is the time it will be reviewed, that is when we will say if there is anything out of line in the budget. Contracts, he would like, to have passed through his desk prior to them being signed.

Kekre added that it is a second opinion, there are no approvals required. For example, the MOU we recently signed – our committee caught a huge oversight that doubled the amount we would have paid, but it was caught before anything happened.

9. IN-CAMERA

22/07/27.05

Desjarlais/Bihani

Desjarlais moved to move the meeting in-camera.

Carried

[13:16 moved in-camera]

[13:32 moved out of camera]

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 13:41

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Finance Committee Meeting, July 27th, 2022, Teams

Called to Order at 10:05

Directors Present

Vice President Finance and Administration
Director at Large
Faculty of Management Representative

Vrushank Kekre
Aryam Dwivedi
Jes Mindi

Directors Absent

Staff Present

General Manager
Finance Manager

Jason Evans
Leanne Smailes

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 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

22/07/27.01

Mindi/Dwivedi

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Carried

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

22/07/27.02

Dwivedi/Mindi

Be it resolved that minutes of the meeting June 23rd, 2022 be adopted.

Carried

22/07/27.03

Smailes/Dwivedi

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held June 26th, 2022, be adopted

Carried

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 Budget Year To Date Discussion

Kekre introduced and discussed the updated budget.

Evans mentioned that the business had renewed their leases.

Mindi asked why there was a difference to date between last year's and this year's revenue?

Smailes replied that last year there was the COVID-19 Canadian Government Wage Subsidy, which is no longer available.

Dwivedi asked that during COVID, bursaries were given so will that take place again this year?

Kekre responded that he does not know about all the bursaries but there are some available and that he knows that UBC has wanted to collaborate with The SUO about more bursaries or just marketing the available ones

Smailes added that we should market the bursaries properly so they know how much is available and how to apply.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 10:24

CAMPAIGNS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Campaigns Committee Meeting, July 14th, 2022, TEAMS meeting

Called to order at 10:01

Directors Present

Vice-President External

Director at Large

Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative

Student at Large

Student at Large

Faculty of Science Representative

Cade Desjarlais

Megan Johnston

Hanna Donaldson

Ash Marin

Twinkle Hora

Maziar Matin Panah

Directors Absent

Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative

Grace Halpin

Kyle Rogers

Staff Present

Governance Coordinator

Bri Fedoruk

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 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

22/07/14.01

Johnston/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Carried

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

22/07/14.02

Johnston/Donaldson

Be it resolved that there are no previous minutes to be adopted.

Twinkle arrived at 10:03

Carried

4. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

4.1 New Appointment and Policy Changes

Desjarlais updated that a new appointment has been made for a SAL position. The new appointment was started by putting out a call, holding videos, and only one person showed up. Georgia Mayhew has been appointed.

Desjarlais also updated that some policy changes have been made. We have upped the number of people on this committee from a minimum of three (3) to five (5).

Previously our Advocacy and Governance Coordinator position was one position, however, there are now two positions, and we made some updates to reflect this.

5. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

5.1 Santa Ono Departure

Desjarlais wanted to hear the opinions of the committee on this news. Likely what is going to happen is that a hiring committee will be struck, and he will be attempting to sit on the committee, and extending the invitation to the rest of the committee if they are interested and if there is room.

Johnston provided that she had a lot of information regarding this, and wanted to know if we could take this up again in the next meeting.

5.2 Tuition Engagement

Desjarlais gave some background on this topic. There is a yearly survey that asks about areas that students are lacking funding, struggles with personal affordability – food security, housing – basically it is used to find pain points in the students' budget.

Students are asked if they are alright with a tuition increase, one to five. Year after year students say no, overwhelmingly. He wants this to be a meaningful exercise with students. This year what we are looking at is a two percent (2%) increase for domestic students, a four percent (4%) increase for international students. This is a little problematic, we are lacking that transparency, like answers for why there is another tuition increase. We do not need to know exactly where the money is being spent, but we would like to know why and what it is being used on. He wanted to hear from the committee.

Johnston appreciated that the problematic word is tuition. On the administrative side, it would be nice for them to acknowledge that it does or does not have effect on tuition. Students she has spoken to have said why even do it if it does not do anything? Perhaps if administration was open that this is not about tuition, it is about something else, students may approach it better.

Desjarlais agrees that this is misleading. Technically tuition increases are not guaranteed, it goes to the Board of Governors. How come tuition increased during the pandemic, when services were cut, quality of education went down, etc. The response was that it passed the Board of Governors by three (3) votes. We need to keep the Board of Governors accountable, as well as administration. Mullings gave an answer that last year was because of inflation. Perhaps we cannot ask for no tuition increase, but we could ask for a lower tuition increase.

Johnston wondered if the Board of Governors is pressured to pass tuition increases through the Board? This seems to be a misjudgment of the electoral process.

Desjarlais told Mullings that this is why it is important to know where this money is going. How much actually goes into salaries for faculty and staff? Next year we will encourage as many people as possible to take this survey, to help inform Dr. Carey in his process.

Johnston wondered if the Students' Union has incentives to provide to students to complete the survey?

Desjarlais said he liked that question, unfortunately the administrative side of the survey falls outside of the SUO, so tracking may be an issue, but perhaps we can reward students for posting it to their stories. Perhaps we can have a one day tabling process to help spread awareness. It is an easy way to catch a few students walking about. Is that something that the committee would be interested in doing?

Marin said that last year they saw students posting on their social media, and this would be helpful to try again this year.

Hora added that for Shiven's campaign, if a student showed us that they did the survey, they were provided with some swag.

Desjarlais stated that he is comfortable picking a date next meeting for the tabling event, and at this we will provide some incentive. It could a draw, ask them to bring a friend, we can brainstorm.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Dates and Logistics for Tabling Events

Desjarlais stated that these are to do with the events that he must complete as per the

Bylaws. He thinks we should start off by picking three (3) dates, and going from there if we want to do more. He opened up discussion to the committee.

Johnston stated that it is good we are meeting now so we can jump into action come September. She thinks we should do two (2) right away in September. It is not a lot of time, two (2) or three (3) hours, take a break over the winter months, do one (1) November, December, January, and then more once March hits.

Desjarlais wanted to push the 'Fairness for International Students' topic, since there is a lot there that is surprising, and it is easy to engage students for this issue. Then we can decide if we want to do one campaign for the BCFS specifically, or if there are other we may want to split our time on. The Campaigns are: Federal Loans for Students Should be Interest Free (this has already occurred within BC), Fund it Fix it, Fairness for International Students, Open Education Textbooks Now, Reconciliation through Education, and the last that is one of their main ones is Period Promise.

Desjarlais was working, and continues to work with the OET Committee now to help students find free textbooks. He opened up the floor for the committee to share their interest in any particular campaign.

Marin stated that the Open Education Textbook campaign engagement was great last year. They had an interactive whiteboard that students could post how much they spend on books.

Desjarlais stated that perhaps we do that one at the start of the second semester of the winter session.

6.2 Concerns for Students: Security, Transportation, and Academic Advising.

22/07/14.03

Desjarlais/Johnston

Desjarlais moved to table this point until next meeting.

Carried

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

7.1 Lobbying Efforts Update

Desjarlais updated the committee on the work he had been doing and his plans for the upcoming year. His main goal for the year is to return this committee to Campaigning with the external members of parliament in the community. He has had introductory meetings with our elected leaders to let them know we are back and wanting to engage with them. The three levels of government are separated by responsibilities. He brought up transportation with the MLAs. They informed him they are having a funding review to improve Kelowna's transportation system over the next 4 to five years. This left a gap, an issue that he brought to the major. His goal, which he shared with him, is that he is not asking for the best transportation system in Canada, or even BC, but just back to the same level as pre-pandemic service, when there were less buses in the bus yard.

Something is not adding up, if we have more buses, more drivers, but less service for students. The student perspective is not known by these leaders, so regular meetings with these elected officials is imperative.

Desjarlais updated on his meeting with Tracy Grey. Affordability, living, the use of international students to supplement the cost of education for domestic students, as well as economic stimulus. In the future what he would like to do, if there are parties that are interested in joining the chair at these meetings, they are more than welcome to come, if one (1) or two (2) participants with him. He would love to leave the committee and the SUO with connections after he leaves.

Johnston replied that she would love to attend meetings with Desjarlais, but with that being said, with your last point, perhaps a better director may be someone who will be able to maintain the relationship with someone who has a couple years ahead of them still.

Desjarlais stated that the purpose of this committee is to take in student perspective, issues, and ideas. He called on the committee to use their reach to get these perspectives.

7.2 Next Committee Meeting

Desjarlais stated that next meeting will be next month. We will work towards one meeting a month, and may move up to two meetings a month, or two meetings in a week leading up to an event.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 10:52.

GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Graduate Student Committee Meeting, July 8th, 2022, Zoom

Called to order at 16:01

Members Present

Graduate Studies Representative (*chair*)
Student at Large
Student at Large
Student at Large
Student at Large
VP Internal

Kirthana Ganesh
Anne Claret
Nibirh Jawad
Vikas Kumar
Emily Comeau
Dhruv Bihani

Staff/Guests Present

Governance Coordinator
Graduate Student Community Facilitator (*incoming*)

Bri Fedoruk
Nadhiyya Shabir

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 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

22/07/08.01

Jawad/Kumar

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Carried

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

22/07/08.02

Bihani/Kumar

Be it resolved that minutes of the meeting held June 24th, 2022 be adopted.

Carried

4. PRESENTATIONS

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Survey

Ganesh asked Comeau to update on the survey so far.

Comeau stated that some students are completing the surveys more than once. But we are at about a hundred (100) right now.

Claret wondered if we should check the latest versions of they survey and get rid of the older submissions in case of updates.

5.2 BBQ Event: Debrief

Ganesh updated the committee on the success of the event. More than a hundred (100) people showed up for sure, we gave out one hundred and fifty (150) burgers. Our final count is one hundred and fifty (150) plates of food at twenty (20) each, approximately thirty-five hundred (3500) for that event.

Claret shared her thoughts on how the food situation was handled. We might want to have the actually GSC members serving the food, rather than people serving themselves. This would both solve the problem of duplicates, as well as ensuring connection between the committee and the community. We were also thinking about perhaps ticketing the food, so that everyone who wants some food gets some food.

Ganesh also shared that perhaps we could stagger the serving of the food for the later shows of people. Some people also mentioned that music would have been nice.

Jawad suggested that we perhaps have a door prize.

Ganesh said that some of the things that went well were: sending reminders the day of, and moving the tables under cover last minute so that people were more likely to stay

and connect. She thinks we have found a good time of year for Graduate events. Summer seems good for graduate students, which is different than the undergrads. Ouellet, Evans, and Desjarlais suggested that we have another event before the end of the summer. What kind of event should we consider for this next event?

Claret wondered if doing it indoors could be an option since it will be hot, that way AC is an option. The Well could be an option.

Ganesh added that perhaps the Collegium would be a good alternative to the Well.

Claret also added that boardgames would be a fun option as well.

Bihani stated that the Well can hold around three hundred (300) people.

Jawad stated that we had also been talking about a beach day, downtown perhaps.

Ganesh said that perhaps we can try for a beach day. Aside from fires, the only advantage I can see having the events on campus because some grad students are working up until the starting minutes of the events.

Claret wondered if we should table the beach event until September.

Bihani asked about the boat party mentioned in the last GSC meeting.

Ganesh stated that the boat party is in September, so perhaps we could do the indoor event in August.

Jawad said that he has been asked about having a FIFA event, which might be fun, although it does not need to be FIFA, it could be a Mario Party event.

Claret stated that if we do video games, there will be people who do not like video games, but perhaps multiple games could solve this problem.

Fedoruk added that perhaps we could add the board games for the people who do not like video games, as an option, and make it a video and board games night.

Bihani agreed about the board games, and added that there are billiard tables in the Well.

Jawad suggested that it may be difficult to source a game console, and that he would not suggest that anyone on the committee bring their personal system.

Ganesh summarized that we are thinking of board games and video games in the Well, and perhaps having pizza as the food.

Ganesh also suggested that we have an on-campus Intro Event at the beginning of September, perhaps September 4th. She asked Shabir, when is the boat party going to happen?

Shabir said they are not sure yet, but thinking mid-September.

Ganesh stated that with our earlier September event, it should be low key, and perhaps have ice breaker activities. She decided that we will focus on the August 11th event for now. She will not be here for that event, so she requests that we send her photos.

Claret shared some feedback from students who were interested in the activism and wanted to know more.

Kumar added that when we were doing most of the work for the event, he thinks we should have more posters, he does not know where we are allowed to post them, but it is good to have more posters.

Claret shared that the Collegium and the work spaces in the Commons would be the best places to place posters. As well as downstairs in the Arts building.

Ganesh added that the library, Starbucks, and the Subway. EME as well.

5.3 BCGEU Bargaining Feedback Update

Ganesh caught Bihani up to speed that we had the BCGEU Bargaining agreement available at the GSC BBQ Event, because it is a negotiating year. She heard from a couple of students that they did not know this existed. They did not know they had rights. Our VP External, Desjarlais, was surprised we did not know who our BCGEU rep was. He is now looking into this for us.

Claret added that we should hand out the contact information of this person once we have their information.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Student-at-large interviews

Ganesh updated the committee on the five (5) student-at-large position interviews her and Fedoruk had conducted. She asked the committee how many students we want to add at a time, whether we want to double our membership overnight, or if it should be a gradual change over the summer?

Bihani stated that having a bigger committee is better in terms of how many grad students we can approach at one time. The positive aspect here outweighs the negative in this case. Hearing ideas from different people could help shape our decisions better.

Claret added her agreement, and that we do not know who will be staying throughout the year. The only downside would be something that came up during the interviews.

Fedoruk added that the nine (9) spots are for a breadth requirement for the number of Faculties that are on campus, to better represent the needs of certain disciplines that are on campus.

Claret wondered if there would be a benefit to a cap for the disciplines.

Kumar wanted to know whether we have criteria for the interviews? He also wanted to add that there will be time to add more. It is good to have more students in the system at this time.

Ganesh updated the committee on the method of the interview process, including the scoring rubric, and the comparisons.

Claret wanted to delve further into the process of leaving the committee. Perhaps we should write some procedures, make this more official. She wonders if we should establish a system.

Kumar wondered if there was a way to sort the applicants so that we do not have the same types of applicants the next time around.

Ganesh replied that in the Regulations we did not want to limit the functioning of the committee by limiting the departments that can apply. Perhaps we can specifically share with certain departments.

We are okay with getting a bunch of SAL simultaneously, but we are also open to

leaving a spot or two empty. How early do we want them to join?

Claret stated that ASAP would be nice, more voices at the table, more help. Then again, she could see some of them wanting to join in September.

Comeau replied that starting now may help, with planning and getting us ready for September.

Jawad agreed that getting them acclimatized could be a good idea.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

7.1 Graduate Student Community Facilitator Update

Shabir brought up that at the GSC BBQ event, a member brought up having a Graduate Student Community video, so she is wondering if anyone wants to join them in the video? It is an introduction video about the Collegium for the Grad students. Niels wants to do it next week to include an upcoming event.

7.2 Positive Space Committee: Course

(<https://wpl.ubc.ca/browse/equity-and-inclusion/courses/wpl-eio-psfnd>), events, volunteers

Ganesh updated the committee on the Positive Space Committee, and the open invitation to join it. Equity and Inclusion are offering a course for safe spaces, follow the link above.

7.3 Resource Centre Coordinator Postings: <https://www.suo.ca/were-hiring/>

Ganesh updated that the Resource Centres are hiring coordinators. The link above has the advertisement.

22/07/08.03

Jawad/Ganesh

Be it resolved that the agenda be amended to include another information item about the DRC Job Postings.

Carried unanimously.

7.4 DRC postings

Jawad updated the committee on information he meant to bring up at the BBQ. They are looking for part-time students for exam invigilation. The job postings are on the UBC Okanagan job board. In person and on-line positions. <https://okanagan-ubc-csm.symphlicity.com/students/app/jobs/detail/69cc462b53132b5700eeda50e42fe69f>

8. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 17:18

GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Graduate Student Committee Meeting, July 22nd, 2022, Zoom

Called to order at 16:32

Members Present

Graduate Studies Representative (*chair*)
Student at Large
Student at Large
Student at Large
Student at Large

Kirthana Ganesh
Anne Claret
Nibirh Jawad
Vikas Kumar
Emily Comeau

Staff/Guests Present

Governance Coordinator
Graduate Student Community Facilitator (*incoming*)

Bri Fedoruk
Nadhiyya Shabir

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 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

22/07/22.01

Jawad/Claret

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

22/07/22.02

Ganesh/Jawad

Ganesh moved to amend the agenda to add one more item under new business, letter in support of downtown campus.

Carried as adopted.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

22/07/22.02

Comeau/Claret

Be it resolved that minutes of the meeting held July 8th, 2022 be adopted.

Carried

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 August Event

Ganesh caught the committee up with the progress holding an event in the Well. Checking in about the Board Game and Video Game event, she wondered if a Trivia Night may be less work and less stressful. She opened the floor to discussion.

Claret agreed that karaoke or something more low prep may be a better option.

Jawad also agreed that trivia or an outside coordinator setting things up or providing things for us would be helpful.

An informal vote was cast and unanimously passed to make the event a lower prep type of event.

Ganesh wonders if we should hold it in the collegium or the well.

An informal vote was taken, the Well won out unanimously.

Food was next up for decision.

Comeau asked to avoid burgers, as we served them at the BBQ.

Jawad wondered if Mike had food staff or if he was making all the food himself. He also wonders if the ballroom is an option if we are not eating food at the Well.

Claret wondered if this will be making things easier on ourselves, or while increasing options, also increasing the amount of other things that people can eat because of food restrictions or taste.

Shabir added that catering services can make things so much easier, so things do not have to be coming from the Well to be easy.

Claret added that on campus catering does not necessarily make more choices available either, but an off campus catering body may be a better option.

Ganesh wonders if there is external catering, could we still do it in the Well.

Jawad suggested pizza or sandwiches as a good food option for dietary restrictions.

Ganesh added potentially sushi.

Claret added anything that is easy to handle. Not too messy.

Ganesh wanted to know what the committee thought of a make-your-own-taco type of thing?

Resounding approval of this option.

Claret added that the ballroom can hold one hundred and thirty people (130).

Ganesh asked what time of the day we want for this event?

Comeau stated late afternoon, evening.

Jawad added sometime around five to seven (5pm – 7pm).

Ganesh wondered if we should wait a little later than the last event, to allow students to get out of their labs.

Ganesh settled on five thirty to seven thirty (5:30 – 7:30) after input from the members who worked in labs.

Comeau wondered what the trivia company provides?

Ganesh replied that they will change their questions for their audience, so it will be an appropriate challenge for graduate students.

Comeau wondered if that mean that we need to finalize a date sooner rather than later?

Ganesh replied that yes, we she had a meeting coming up on Monday with Evans, B.

Comeau wondered if there were any ideas for prizes.

Shabir supplied that there are tote bags.

Claret wondered if a gift card for the bookstore could be a potential option.

Ganesh added that gift cards are a little difficult with current SUO dealings.

Comeau added movie passes.

Claret agreed that tote bags are a good option.

Shabir added that Haylee has leftover water bottles that we can contact her about.

4.2 Graduate Representative Office Hours

Ganesh wanted to have office hours next year at least once a month, so Grad Students can come in and ask questions if they have them in person. She was thinking of doing one Wednesday once a month for a couple hours. If there are more of you interested in joining, we can open it up to more time.

Claret and Comeau are happy to join once a month.

Jawad is happy to join once or twice a month.

Ganesh added that biweekly is a good idea. Perhaps in two different spaces.

Fedoruk added that she can be available as well, either in the collegia or in her own office.

Ganesh moved add this item to the next Graduate Student Committee meeting. Coffee and tea will be available for students who come by. We will also have some swag for people to pick up.

4.3 Student-at-large Appointments

22/07/22.03

Ganesh/Fedoruk

Be it resolved that Elizabeth Houghton be appointed to the Graduate Student Committee as a student-at-large.

Carried

22/07/22.04

Ganesh/Fedoruk

Be it resolved that Dina Alkharabsheh be appointed to the Graduate Student Committee as a student-at-large.

Carried

22/07/22.05

Ganesh/Fedoruk

Be it resolved that Fátima Canales be appointed to the Graduate Student Committee as a student-at-large.

Carried

22/07/22.06

Ganesh/Fedoruk

Be it resolved that Morgan King be appointed to the Graduate Student Committee as a student-at-large.

Carried

Comeau wondered what their interests were in general?

Ganesh supplied that both Houghton, Morgan and Fatima wanted to increase community engagement. Dina is an architecture student who is also a parent and passionate about including parent graduate students.

4.4 Downtown campus

Ganesh updated on the meeting she had with a proposal proposing five hundred (500) housing units. Nursing, Health and Exercise Sciences, and social work. We were asked if we were willing to write a letter supporting the proposal? We have a rough draft of the letter already. Ganesh wanted to know if we as a committee are comfortable endorsing such a letter.

Claret wanted to make sure that if we are supporting, she would need guarantees that these spaces are going to graduate students, and numbers supporting these things.

Ganesh replied that the housing is not guaranteed. She told them that this was an issue, but they did not listen to her at the time. The housing will be prioritized with the whole discipline in mind, not just the graduate students.

Claret stated that if the undergraduate students are included, she is not comfortable

endorsing the letter.

Jawad also agreed that he is uncomfortable with the ratio of grad students to undergrad students in the disciplines that are getting preference, in order for an endorsement.

Vikas stated that he would not like to support the letter without a quota of thirty percent (30%) or more.

Fedoruk would tend to agree with the rest of the committee on their pause to endorse the letter at this time.

Shabir as well was not comfortable with the endorsement.

Ganesh added that there is no reason for the GSC to endorse something that has no real benefit for Graduate Students.

4.5 Grad Orientation: Magnets

List of resources for the magnets:

- Grad Rep
- Rachel – Advocacy Coordinator
- OMBUDS
- SVPro
- COGS
- Health and Wellness
- BCGEU
- CSC
- Psych department Walk-in Clinic
- Safe Walk
- Website pages for funding (CoGS)
- Global Engagement
- Research librarian page URL

Ganesh asked for feedback on the list presented above.

Comeau and Jawad said this list seemed good.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 SUO Budget 2022-23

Ganesh updated on the budget that was passed. We budgeted for an average of two small events and two large events per term, as well as a fund for Graduate Students to tap into for conferences or other assisted funding.

5.2 H&D fee increase

Ganesh updated on the Health and Dental fee which has increased the mental health coverage amount, as well as additional chiropractor and massage. These coverage increases were based off of student feedback.

Jawad left at 17:31

5.3 Integrative Evaluation of Teaching Policy

Ganesh updated on the presentation. She noticed that teaching assistant opinion was not taken, which she brought forward and they had no idea they were missing. They felt like taking only student feedback was not holistic enough. They presented this like it would be more holistic.

Claret brought forward that TA opinion should and must be taken, but it must be protected, as they are working directly for the professors that they are working for.

5.4 Administrative Housekeeping Paperwork

Fedoruk reminded the committee to get their paperwork into the Executive Coordinator.

5.5 Kelowna SBK Tuesdays in the Summer – free dance: class and social

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/kelownasalsacomunity>

5.6 Graduate facilitator update

Shabir ordered grad sweaters recently. She has not posted about it yet, but it will be out soon. Tours are starting up again, and they are looking for volunteers for leading tours if anyone is interested.

Ganesh updated on the tours, there is a script for places to hit.

Shabir asked to let her know if anyone is interested, or Haylee.

Ganesh wanted to know what the budget was for the Graduate Student cruise. Ganesh has imaged fifteen hundred (1500), but there was obviously wiggle room.

Shabir said that they were hoping to have the GSC pay for the cost of the boat, which is going to be around three thousand (3000).

Ganesh asked Shabir to submit a receipt for the budget line.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 17:45.