

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Board of Directors Meeting, September 13th, 2022, UNC 105 & Zoom

Called to order at 18:34

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
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
Student Senate Caucus Representative (ex-officio)	Salman Hafeez (Saami)

Guests

E@UBCO Innovation Manager	Sandra Spencer
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Directors Absent

Board of Governors Representative (ex-officio)	Tashia Kootenayoo
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Staff Present

Membership Outreach Coordinator	Izzy Rusch
Well Manager	Michael Ouellet

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, unceded, 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

22/09/13.01

Asif/Johnston

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

22/09/13.02

Johnston/Asif

Johnston moved to amend by adding a new item under New Business: Academic Advising

Carried

22/09/13.03

Bihani/Asif

Bihani moved to amend the agenda so that that under 8. New Business, the motions 13.14 to 13.16 be combined and 18 more clubs be added to be ratified: Karate Club, Queer Psychology Students and Allies, Dissecting Liberty, Physics Student Club, Red Cross, Men's Well-being Club, NITEO-Africa, Mood Psychology, Campus Conservatives, Back1babez, Runnymede Society, Diversity of Belief, Plant Forward, SAF International, Comparative Civilizations, Taekwondo Club, Battlebots Club

Carried

22/09/13.04

Ganesh/Desjarlais

Ganesh moved to amend the agenda by adding a motion to approve honoraria to Graduation Student Committee Business Section as Follows:

Elizabeth Houghton	\$50
Vikas Kumar	\$50
Dina Khrabsheh	\$100
Morgan King	\$100
Nibirh Jawad	\$100
Emily Comeau	\$100
Anne Claret	\$100
Fatima Canales	\$100

Carried as amended

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

22/09/13.05

Asif/Ganesh

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

Carried

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Childcare for Mature Students

Ganesh informed the Board of Directors that childcare was a concern for students, graduate and undergraduate students alike. She outlined that graduate studies and parenthood are unable to do both even though the decision to bear children is a human right, students Childcare has been a hidden problem that no talks about but as individual they are able unable to commit to full parenthood or studies as that they are not many resources available.

Johnston questioned in the student body what is ratio percentage of gender differences?

Ganesh replied that the numbers were not given or shown anywhere but needed to be calculated. In addition, the resource available, the Daycare on the UBCO campus, unfortunately has a two (2) year waitlist. After some research it emerged that UBCO does not own the daycare and it is run by a third-party company, so even though the capacity is thirty-four (34) it usually operates under capacity with twenty-seven (27) children. Also, within Kelowna the daycare centers have been decreasing and the ones that are open have a waitlist of three (3) years or more. The GSC released a survey about parenthood to graduate students and it was found that some students feel that they are being punished for being parents and pursuing graduate studies. Furthermore, maternity leave for UBCO is three (3) months, which has caused a number of students to either discontinue their studies or transfer universities to one which has better childcare. Ganesh also informed the board of information gathered from a meeting with UBCO, that UBCO will be taking over the childcare facility and aims to increase the capacity to ten (10) more spots which would mean that when the daycare runs at full capacity it will have thirty-seven (37) spots. The two main obstacles that graduate students reportedly faced was that the childcare facility is open first to faculty and staff, greatly limiting their chances as grad students to utilize the facility, and that other private daycare facilities in town are too expensive for international students. The solutions that were brought up by the AMS was that: first, they provided a one-time funding support for childcare facilities which was only to the students, and second, was that a daycare bursary program which could offer a certain amount of financial support to all students.

Johnston asked what the total allocated amount of the one-time funding?

Ganesh replied it was one million.

Pashelka asked how many students who are parents are enrolled within UBCO?

Ganesh answered saying that number is not stated anywhere and need to be calculated.

Pathak asked if students could volunteer at the daycare?

Ganesh answered that as it is a certified job working with children and that needed to

have an Early Child Education degree/certification (ECE).

Ouellet added that the ECE was currently available at the Okanagan College.

Evans responded to Pathak that students could volunteer as long as there was an ECE worker with them at all times.

Pathak also questioned why can't students just babysit?

Ganesh replied with that it's hard to find students with suited schedules as student parents are looking for their children to be taken care of nine to five (9am-5pm).

Desjarlais added that statistics are used when needing to propose something. When categorizing a UBCO student they mostly fall under 4 categories: Domestic, International, part-time and fulltime. In addition, there had been a lower rate of the amount of ECE workers in Kelowna, however it this continues to be a national issue.

Ganesh added that this is an issue that the Board needs to deal with instead of seeing it as a graduate student problem. In addition, there was a parent group being created to allow parents to meet and exchange schedules and babysitting options, and to create events that are more baby and family friendly.

McGrail agreed with Desjarlais and stated that even in her department, the Faculty of Education, there are many students who have reached out for parenting help. She also added that in BC multiple subsidies that are available and resources that are available to parents, the website is called BCSubsidy.

Pashelka wanted the Board to get behind this issue and wanted to work with Ganesh to see what bursaries are available and how much is available to the students knowing that students are quitting because of their issues. He added that the Board should release a survey that asks all students who are parents if they are struggling.

4.2 E@UBCO

Spencer came to talk about the entrepreneurship programs at UBCO. Being a part of the innovations team, she educated the Board on their e-discovery program, a five (5) part series and that they were recruiting students at EXPO. In addition, the goal of E-discovery was to teach students on entrepreneurial experience outside classes. The deadline to register for this program is Sunday, September 18th, 2022. The other program is the "Mentor to Market" program where ten (10) ventures are matched with students that help students with business growth idea development, creating main models, startups, and quick pitch competition. This program is not only for students but also for faculty and staff.

Pathak asked does the student have to bring a prototype or an idea.

Spencer responded that students do not need to have an idea to join the program. Spencer's aim was to connect with the student body and notify the Board that entrepreneurship is increasing, and, in addition, this increased women's involvement in the program and there is an event being taken place in downtown on October 14th, 2022. She continued by adding that Mitacs is a federal funding body that provides an internship to students. Their group wanted to reach out to the student body about how they co-fund some internships for students with industry research professors that are under the UBCO job board and give business strategies insurances.

Johnston asked are there any virtual platforms being used to promote E-discovery or

Mitacs?

Spencer replied that there has been much in-person promotion such as meeting at schools and faculties to find the area of research that will provoke students to reach out and make them willing to join. They are looking to find channels to promote further.

Ganesh added that Mitacs was generally connected to business mostly concerned with engineering and sciences rather than Faculties in the Arts.

Spencer responded that this was a common misconception, and that it tends to fall under the disciplines of sciences and engineering due to the fact that students from these faculties are more engaged compared to arts students. In addition, Mitacs has an additional program called E-accelerate where they allow students who are researching something create a company funded by Mitacs, allowing the student to become their own CEO.

Pashelka asked is this only for students or also for staff?

Spencer replied that E-discovery was for everyone and there was a VPR session scheduled in ADM 006 on September 14th, 2022, at 1:00pm – 3:00pm. Mitacs is for students only.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Set AGM Date

Pashelka informed the Board that we needed to decide on a date for the AGM and this must be moved by the Board. The dates that are available for the AGM were November 14th, 17th, 18th, 22nd, and the 24th in the evening after 6pm.

22/09/13.06

Pashelka/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that AGM be held on November 24th, 2022

Carried

5.2 New Director – Policy Committee

Bihani introduced that with Kyle Rogers leaving there is a vacant position in the policy committee, and that Lindsey McGrail, a member of our Board not currently on any committee, has reached out about her interest in joining this committee.

Johnston wondered if there was a student from the Faculty of Social Sciences who could potentially fill in the vacant position in the policy committee.

Desjarlais added that McGrail must be on a committee or Regulations will be broken.

Pashelka asked the Board if there anyone who would like to be on the committee, and there was no other nomination of nominee who put themselves forward.

22/09/13.07

Bihani/Johnston

Be it resolved that Lindsey McGrail be appointed as a voting member of the Policy Committee.

Carried

6. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

6.1 Executive Committee

22/09/13.08

Desjarlais/Pathak

Be it resolved that the minutes from the meeting held August 10th be adopted.

Carried

22/09/13.09

Desjarlais/Kekre

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

Desjarlais asked the Board if they read any of the meeting minutes?

Mindi and Johnston replied yes, they do read the previous meeting minutes.

Carried

6.2 Policy Committee

22/09/13.10

Bihani/Halpin

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held August 25th, be adopted.

Carried

6.3 Campus Life Committee

22/09/13.11

Asif/Bihani

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held June 28th, be adopted.

Carried

22/09/13.12

Asif/Halpin

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

Carried

6.4 Campaigns Committee

22/09/13.13

Desjarlais/Panah

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held August 25th, be adopted.

Carried

6.5 Oversight Committee

22/09/13.14

Ganesh/Desjarlais

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

Carried

6.6 Graduate Student Committee

22/09/13.15

Ganesh/Kekre

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held August 9th, be adopted.

Carried

22/09/13.16

Ganesh/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held August 25th, be adopted.

Carried

22/09/13.17

Ganesh/Johnston

Be it resolved that the Graduate Student Committee honoraria be dispersed as follows:

Elizabeth Houghton	\$50
Vikas Kumar	\$50
Dina Khrabsheh	\$100
Morgan King	\$100
Nibirh Jawad	\$100
Emily Comeau	\$100
Anne Claret	\$100
Fatima Canales	\$100

Carried

6.7 Student Association Funding Committee

22/09/13.18

Kekre/Bihani

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

Carried

22/09/13.19

Kekre/Bihani

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

Carried

7. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

7.1 Board of Governors – Update

Board of Governors update tabled to the next Board meeting

8. NEW BUSINESS

22/09/13.15

Bihani/Panah

Be it resolved that the following student association/Course unions be ratified which include:

Karate Club

Queer Psychology students and Allies

Dissecting Liberty

Physics Student Club
Red Cross
Men's Well-being Club
NITEO-Africa
Mood Psychology
Campus Conservatives
Back1babez
Runnymede Society
Diversity of Belief
Plant Forward
SAF International
Comparative Civilizations
Taekwondo Club
Battlebots Club

Pathak asked what is Mood Psychology and Back1Babez?

Bihani replied that Mood Psychology is club that was created for students to meet up and vent and discuss to people which is not necessary as a therapy but a place to vent informally. Back1Babez is a skateboarding club.

Pathak asked if the clubs that have not been active been removed?

Bihani replied we cannot remove a club until they are inactive for 12 months

Carried

22/09/13.16

Bihani/Panah

Be it resolved that the following student association/Course unions be re-activated which include:

Anthropology Student Union
Canadian Society civil Engineering

Evans asked if the name "Student Union" was on purpose or intentional?

Pashelka sought an amendment to change the name.

Bihani replied that we can't change the names without the Anthropology Student Union members involvement.

Collectively the Board decided that after the Anthropology Student Union be ratified, they will be contacted to change their name

Carried

22/09/13.17

Bihani/McGrail

Be it resolved that Regulation I: 57:

A Committee member may not serve or remain on the Oversight Committee if that person:

- a. is or becomes the member of an Executive Committee.
- b. is or becomes an employee of any Student Union business.
- c. is an Executive member of a Student Association.
- d. is deemed by the Board of Directors to be an unsuitable candidate for fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of an Oversight Committee member.
- e. misses (2) consecutive Committee meetings; or
- f. is guilty of violating any policy of the UBCSUO Regulations and Bylaws

be changed to the following:

A Committee member may not serve or remain on the Oversight Committee if that person:

- a. is or becomes the member of an Executive Committee.
- b. is or becomes an employee of any Student Union business.
- c. is deemed by the Board of Directors to be an unsuitable candidate for fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of an Oversight Committee member.
- d. misses (2) consecutive Committee meetings; or
- e. is guilty of violating any policy of the UBCSUO Regulations and Bylaws

by striking out number c. "is an Executive member of a Student Association."

Bihani stated that any director that is in any executive team from any other student associations/clubs cannot be on the Oversight Committee. Which does not seem to be a problem as the Oversight Committee is for SUO executives and not really the clubs or Student associations, in addition he thought that the SUO should not pull students from their student experiences.

Ganesh stated that she would like to be the chair of the Oversight Committee but being a treasurer in another course union she is in conflict due to this policy.

Kekre stated that when executives from other course unions/clubs are involved in the Oversight Committee they might be harsh on the VP Internal and VP Finances due something not going in favor of their club/union.

Bihani replied that being a part of the Oversight Committee there are regulations to follow and if they are being harsh on one VP, consequence can be faced.

Johnston added that she is on the fence as the justification as, yes, taking the student experience away is wrong, but the Oversight Committee is main standing committee and one who is on that committee has a lot on their plate and if the director really wants to be in the committee, they can also take part of their club or course union by not being on the executive team

Evans added that he supported the change as he and Bihani looked in-depth of why an executive should be chairing the Oversight Committee and be part of a student club/union executive team, while they are only review of what the SUO policies state as a whole, they do not see any reason why a person cannot join an executive team of another club or union

Desjarlais does not support the motion as that it is mainly involves finances that need to be transferred within the SUO, in addition, due to being under pressure or corruption, an individual in the committee could have a vendetta for an executive that could affect

the SUO. Mainly it is important that the individual prioritize the Oversight Committee. Pashelka supports Johnston and has seen students in the Oversight Committee over the past years, he knows how time consuming and pressure it can be.

Opposed – 9/16

Motion not carried

8.1 Academic Advising

Johnston stated that she met with Academic Advising and she learned that there was a struggle between students and faculty and that there have been discussions. Johnston asked the Board if anyone would want to table in the academic meeting that can be there to help change the academic advising website and ideas that can fix the academic advising issue. She understands academic advising helps with degree planning and knowing what courses need to be taken to get the credits and many more. As students we have a lot to say, so if the Board has any ideas or experience with Academic Advising that needs to be stated, we can email her so we can help the reshaping of Academic Advising.

Celik asked if we could increase the number of Academic Advisors?

Johnston replied that with the academic funding they have, they cannot afford any more Academic Advisors.

Celik responded with what can we as the Board do to increase the numbers for Academic Advising?

Johnston replied that Academic Advising funding comes half the faculties themselves and the other half comes from UBC.

Desjarlais added that due to the half and half funding there was a limit for drastic changes and he was working with Mullings to try to get more funding. So far, we have gotten funding for 1.5 Academic Advisors and the university understands Academic Advising was a major issue and that streamlining was needed.

Pashelka stated he spoke with the office and alumni from the group Think Forward and was trying to reach out to other alumni. Since Academic advising is half faculty funded maybe the donors are willing to fund to their faculty directly.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

9.1 Events Happening

September 14th, 2022, Expo and Harry Potter Trivia

September 16th, 2022, the White Lie party

September 22nd the Beer Garden (not insured to cover for the beer garden)

September 23rd the Carnival

September 25th the Frosh Concert – there are two-hundred (200) tickets are on hold, still at fifty dollars (\$50) and there is after party at the well.

Maybe a free breakfast at the end of the month

10. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 20:28