

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Board of Directors Meeting, June 20th, 2023, Zoom

Called to Order: 11:07 a.m.

Directors Present

President (meeting chair)
Vice-President External
Vice President Finance and Administration
Vice-President Internal
Vice-President Campus Life
Director-at-Large
Director-at-Large
Director-at-Large
College of Graduate Studies Representative
Faculty of Applied Science Representative
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative
Faculty of Education Representative
Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative
Faculty of Management Representative
Faculty of Science Representative

Cade Desjarlais
Lakshay Karnwal
Osho Gnanasivam
Shreyansh Mehendiratta
Uday Gill
Aryan Arora
Darsh Alamchandani
Twinkle Hora
Anjali Desai
VACANT
Georgia Mayhew
VACANT
Grace Halpin
VACANT
Sunish Grover

Directors Absent

Director-at-Large
Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative
Board of Governors Representative (ex-officio)
Student Senate Caucus Representative (ex-officio)

Maziar Matin Panah
Hanna Donaldson
Isabella Bravo
Salman Hafeez (Saami)

Staff Present

General Manager
Finance Manager
Well Pub Manager
Governance Coordinator
Membership Outreach Coordinator
Food Security & Nutrition Manager

Jason Evans
Leanne Smailes
Michael Ouellet
Cecily Qiu
Izzy Rusch
Stephanie Patterson

Staff Absent

Executive Coordinator
Communications & Marketing Manager
Student Advocate

Sarah Speier
Becca Evans
Rachel Fortin

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

23/06/20.01

Halpin/Karnwal

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Carried.

23/06/20.02

Gill/Desjarlais

Be it resolved that the agenda be amended by adding a motion under **5.4 Campus Life**

Committee: Be it resolved that Sunish Grover be appointed to Campus Life Committee.

Carried.

23/06/20.03

Desjarlais/Karnwal

Be it resolved that the agenda be amended by adding a statement under **7 New Business.**

Carried.

Desjarlais explained that this statement is related to the incident that Mona Wang was assaulted by a RCMP member on campus a few years ago. The outcome of this case is disappointing. Desjarlais would like the Board of Directors to discuss the statement before he presents it to the relevant organizations and authorities.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

23/06/20.04

Halpin/Gnanasivam

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on May 3rd, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Budget Presentation

Gnanasivam presented the draft budget **SUO Finances (2023/2024)** in four aspects: the breakdown of SUO's finances; a brief overview of Phoenix and Student Health & Dental Budget; last year's allocations and review; and the financial goals and considerations for planning.

By showing a table of non-tuition fees, he explained how those fees are allocated to each budget. The Student Health & Dental budget comes from the dental and medical fees that

students pay per term. Media fund that students pay per year goes to Phoenix Budget. Student Union fee is the main source for SUO General Budget to cover the expenditures from operations, initiatives and events. U-Pass fee is collected for the bus transit. Management students' fee is managed by their course union. BCFS fee is the membership fee as SUO is a member of BCFS.

General Budget comes from the revenue from membership fees and general society revenue, and covers director expenses, service expenses and general expenses. General society revenue is collected from the businesses at UNC building such as RBC, J's Café starting in September. Director expenses include honoraria, conference and training expenses. Service expenses cover campus life events and other student services such as pantry, website maintenance and advocacy campaigns. General expenses are related to operation, administration, and human resources. Student Health and Dental Budget covers students' health and dental insurance premium, health and wellness initiatives (a small portion of the budget), and administrative support and space lease. The remainder goes to the reserve fund for students' health and dental plan. An example of health and wellness initiatives is the opening of Picnic last year. They used this budget to cover the Picnic renovation and operations last year. This year, they still need to cover Picnic operating expenses. Phoenix budget mostly covers wages with the remainder going towards printing, events and supplies & equipment.

Gnanasivam provided a summary of 2022-2023 budget and expenditure breakdown. SUO had a deficit net revenue last year but it was smaller than the budgeted net revenue. Regarding the expenditure, the general expenses (for all SUO operations) took up 48% while campus life events accounted for 25%. The rest 27% of the expenditure consisted of Directors' expenses, student services and advocacy expenses.

Gnanasivam presented the financial goals for this year as follows:

- Non-deficit net revenue (before amortization).
- More detailed information for executives and directors to make better decisions. Also, Gnanasivam would like to create a system for students to understand the budget.
- Maintain allocations for the pillars. Gnanasivam mentioned that the operating income is projected to come down this year due to various reasons.
- Cutting expenses without sacrificing operationality.

He plans to have the budget ready by June 30 this year and leaves July for final amendment.

Meeting was recessed at 11:30 a.m. due to technology issue and was called back to order at 11:41 a.m.

Karnwal asked Gnanasivam for clarification on the health and wellness initiatives under Student Health and Dental Budget. Gnanasivam explained that the wellness initiatives cover anything related to Gym membership subsidy, for example, the free monthly gym pass promoted last year; the health initiatives cover the operating expenses from the

Picnic, the food hub. Smailes added that both of these initiatives are in partnership with UBC and SUO covers a portion of the initiatives. SUO has a 2-year contract with UBC on the Picnic and covers a portion of capital and operating expenses. This year, the capital part is done as the renovation has been completed, but the operating expenses remain.

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.1 Executive Committee

23/06/20.05

Halpin/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on May 1st, 2023 be adopted.
Carried.

23/06/20.06

Mehendiratta/Halpin

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on May 29th, 2023 be adopted.
Carried.

23/06/20.07

Gnanasivam/Karnwal

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on June 9th, 2023 be adopted.
Carried.

Regarding 5.3.2 conference budget, Halpin asked if it is the funding that she could request to attend any conference related to her faculty. Desjarlais explained that this budget is related to the basic conference and events related to Students' Union and team building activities. The conference budget does not cover the faculty-related conference as it should come from the faculty budget. Gnanasivam added that they are considering a budget allocated for faculty representatives for certain initiatives. He encouraged faculty representatives to have a good plan for this potential budget and they can work towards it.

Regarding 5.4 Gym Membership Subsidy, Halpin expressed her interest in helping with this initiative and her preference for subsidizing other recreational events. Desjarlais added that he had a meeting with Recreation, and unfortunately subsidy for other recreational programs is not possible based on the current technology support that UBC Recreation has. Executives will discuss more about this initiative in the upcoming executive meeting. They need to re-evaluate the proposal and will continue the free monthly gym pass promotion in a more organized way. Meanwhile, they would like to promote the idea that fitness is different for other people and may consider some partner campaigns. Halpin said she runs social media for the gym, and she could work with Becca Evans on the promotion.

[Karnwal left at 11:53 a.m.]

5.2 Finance Committee

23/06/20.08

Gnanasivam/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on May 30th, 2023 be adopted.
Carried.

5.3 Policy Committee

5.4 Campus Life Committee

23/06/20.09

Gill/Mehendiratta

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on May 19th, 2023 be adopted.
Carried.

Hora mentioned that she was appointed to the Campus Life committee during the May Board of Directors meeting, but she has not received any notification or emails for Campus Life committee meeting. Desjarlais reminded Gill of sending the invitation to Hora, and he also made a note to Ouellet.

23/06/20.10

Gill/Gnanasivam

Be it resolved that Zeyad Elganainy be appointed to Campus Life Committee as a Student-at-Large.
Carried.

Gill explained his motivation for appointing Zeyad as a Student-at-Large. Zeyad has engaged in a lot of clubs on campus, and he is also a member of UBCO's first Response Team. The diverse background, the volunteer experience, and the knowledge he has as a First Response Team member will benefit the campus life committee.

23/06/20.11

Gill/Mehendiratta

Be it resolved that Sunish Grover be appointed to Campus Life Committee.
Carried

Desjarlais explained that Sunish Grover was absent from the May Board of Directors meeting, and as a director, he needs to join at least one committee. Grover explained the reason for the absence and expressed his interest in the Campus Life Committee.

5.5 Campaigns Committee

23/06/20.12

Desjarlais/Hora

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on May 29th, 2023 be adopted.
Carried.

5.6 Graduate Student Committee

23/06/20.13

Desai/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on May 30th, 2023 be adopted.
Carried.

Desai explained it was an introductory meeting with no major updates. They discussed the structure of Graduate Student Committee (GSC) and the events carried on from last year.

Desjarlais mentioned that in the future Board of Directors meetings, he would ask the executives and chairs of standing committees to provide an update on their business to the board.

23/06/20.14

Desai/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the following students be appointed to Graduate Student Committee as Students-at-Large (SAL):

Continuing Members:

1. Dina Khrabsheh
2. Emily Comeau
3. Fatima Canales
4. Nibirh Jawad

New Members:

5. Satabdi Das
6. Alanna Shwed
7. Naeem Nadaee
8. Yazdanmehr Gordanpour

Carried.

Desai provided the motivation for the selection of these students-at-large. GSC had received some strong and solid SAL applications over the last month, and conducted the interviews. Some of the candidates are from UBC Graduate Student Society and some are continuing members. They have been engaged themselves in the graduate student community for a long time, and advocated for graduate students.

5.7 Oversight Committee

23/06/20.15

Halpin/Alamchandani

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on May 26th, 2023 be adopted.
Carried.

23/06/20.16

Halpin/Hora

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

Halpin expressed appreciation to executives for submitting the reports on time. The committee was impressed by the good quality of the reports. Jason Evans commented that the Board of Directors do not need to approve the executive reports as it is the mandate of oversight committee. Desjarlais disagreed. They will investigate it after the meeting.

23/06/20.17

Halpin/Gnanasivam

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on June 15th, 2023 be adopted.
Carried.

6. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

6.1 Senate

6.2 Board of Governors

Desjarlais, Evans and Qiu will contact them to ensure the Board of Governors Representative and Student Senate Caucus Representative are aware that they need to attend the Board of Directors meetings.

6.3 Other University Committees

Desjarlais explained that the board members sitting on a university committee could share some updates on the university committee business under this session.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Faculty Representative Appointment

23/06/20.18

Desjarlais/Gnanasivam

Be it resolved that Abby Newman be appointed as Faculty of Management Representative.
Carried.

Desjarlais explained the process of selection. In the May Board of Directors meeting, they put out a call for the vacant faculty representative positions. They advertised on Instagram and other social media and received applications. For the Faculty of Management Representative position, they received two applications. Desjarlais, Evans and Qiu reviewed the resumes and cover letters, and conducted interviews following a rubric. They discussed and compared their rubric scoring, and agreed that Abby Newman is qualified for the position and she has a clear and deep understanding of SUO operation. Therefore, Desjarlais recommended that Abby Newman be appointed as Faculty of Management Representative. As the chair of the board, it is his responsibility to fill vacant positions until By-Election.

Halpin asked how many people applied. Desjarlais answered there were two applicants. Gnanasivam asked if it is an interim position before By-Election. Desjarlais confirmed that this appointment will last until the By-Election in fall, possibly in October. They need to run the By-Election to remain on the board. Alamchandani asked if Desjarlais could disclose the information of the other applicant. Desjarlais refused to disclose the information unless the board disapproved of this appointment.

23/06/20.19

Desjarlais/Mehendiratta

Be it resolved that Rishan Pfaender be appointed as Faculty of Applied Science

Representative.
Carried.

Desjarlais explained that they only received one applicant for this position, and they undertook the same selection process and agreed that Rishan Pfaender is qualified for the position. Desjarlais added that they received an application for Faculty of Education Representative and would start the selection process next week.

7.2 Statement of Mona Wang

23/06/20.20

Desjarlais/Halpin

Be it resolved that the statement regarding Mona Wang be adopted as attached.

Mayhew emphasized the importance and impact of the statement. She wondered if it would be distributed to the Members. Desjarlais confirmed that it would circulate in SUO social media and would be sent to City of Kelowna, UBC and RCMP. Halpin asked if SUO has contacted Mona to make sure she is fine with the statement. Gnanasivam agreed with Halpin that SUO should reach out to Mona before circulating the statement. Desjarlais agreed and he would contact Mona to obtain her insight as she was the one who was directly involved in the incident. Desjarlais also pointed out that this is the type of issue that Students' Union should provide advocacy for. Desjarlais was seeking amendment to the motion.

Desjarlais/Halpin

Be it resolved that the motion be amended as follows: Be it resolved that the statement be approved as attached pending approval from Mona Wang.

Carried. All members voted in favor of the amendment.

All members voted on the amended main motion: Be it resolved that the statement be approved as attached pending approval from Mona Wang.
Carried.

Desjarlais will reach out to Mona Wang and update with Board of Directors afterwards. If there is any change in the statement, he will send the statement to the Board of Directors for informal approval, and get the statement formally approved at the next board meeting.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Directors Monthly Report

Desjarlais mentioned that a few directors have not submitted the May monthly report, and some of the reports submitted were incomplete or inaccurate. He recommended the executive committee postpone the approval of May honoraria until the first or second week of July. He requested the directors to resubmit May reports when submitting their June reports. Executives will review May and June reports at the same time, and approve the honoraria for both months. He expected to see the directors match the eight hours of work criteria and submit the report on time. Training, board meetings, committee

meetings should be included in the reports. Executives will give feedback on the reports. Desjarlais requested directors to send the reports to both Jason Evans and him.

Desjarlais showed an example of his report when he was a director and explained how to write the report. Alamchandani asked if he could include the orientation in May. Desjarlais confirmed it. Arora asked for a template. Desjarlais will re-send the template. Halpin requested Desjarlais to send an outline of requirements or expectations together with the template.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.