

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Board of Directors Meeting, October 10th, 2023, UNC105

Directors Present

President (meeting chair)
Vice President Finance and Administration
Vice-President Internal
Vice-President Campus Life
Director-at-Large
Director-at-Large
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative
Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative
Faculty of Management Representative
Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative
Faculty of Science Representative
Faculty of Applied Science Representative
College of Graduate Studies Representative
Board of Governors Representative (ex-officio)
Student Senate Caucus Representative (ex-officio)

Cade Desjarlais
Osho Gnanasivam
Shreyansh Mehendiratta
Uday Gill
Aryan Arora
Twinkle Hora
Georgia Mayhew
Grace Halpin
Abby Newman
Hanna Donaldson
Sunish Grover
Rishan Pfaender
Anjali Desai
Isabella Bravo
Salman Hafeez (Saami)

Directors Absent

Vice-President External
Director-at-Large
Faculty of Education Representative

Lakshay Karnwal
Darsh Alamchandani
Jeffrey Tookey

Staff Present

General Manager
Well Pub Manager
Governance Coordinator

Jason Evans
Michael Ouellet
Cecily Qiu

Staff Absent

Memership Outreach Coordinator
Communications & Marketing Manager
Student Advocate
Food Security & Nutrition Manager

Izzy Rusch
Becca Evans
Rachel Fortin
Stephanie Patterson

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

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

23/10/10.01

Desai/Newman

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Carried.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

23/10/10.02

Desai/ Pfaender

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on September 12th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

23/10/10.03

Desai/Arora

Be it resolved that the minutes of the emergency meeting held on September 27th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

[Isabella Bravo entered at 5:13 p.m.]

4. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

4.1 Student Association Funding Committee

23/10/10.04

Gnanasivam/Gill

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors approve two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2500) to the Computer Science Course Union (CSCU).

Desjarlais explained any student association funding above \$2000 shall be approved by the board. Gnanasivam added that this year they had received about

130 applications. Desjarlais also asked about how the committee decided on the amount of \$2500. Gnanasivam responded that the decision was based on the historical document and their application.

Carried.

23/10/10.05

Gnanasivam/Newman

Be it resolved that the the Board of Directors approve two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2500) to the Concrete Toboggan Club (GNCTR).

Gnanasivam explained that this funding would mainly cover their competitions and travel expense. They had \$4000 funding approved in the past.

Carried.

23/10/10.06

Gnanasivam/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors approve two thousand four hundred dollars (\$2400) to the Microbiology Course Union (MCU).

Gnanasivam stated that the amount was decided based on their application and initiatives. He would give a report regarding the approval of student association funding at the next board meeting.

Carried.

23/10/10.07

Gnansivam/Newman

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors approve three thousand two hundred and fifty dollars (\$3250) to the Okanagan iGEM.

Desjarlais asked about what iGEM is. Gnanasivam explained the definition and mentioned that each year they participate in the International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition.

Carried.

23/10/10.08

Gnanasivam/Gill

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors approve three thousand dollars (\$3000) to the Varsity Outdoor Club Okanagan (VOCO).

Gnansivam stated that the funding would be mainly for the insurance coverage. They have the membership fee and do fundraising events.

Carried.

The meeting recessed at 5:18 p.m. and then reconvened at 5:26 p.m.

[Gnanasivam left at 5:20 p.m.]

[Hafeez entered at 5:37 p.m.]

4.2 Executive Committee

23/10/10.09

Desai/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on September 11th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

23/10/10.10

Desai/Pfaender

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on September 25th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

4.3 Finance Committee

23/10/10.11

Newman/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on September 21st, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

4.4 Policy Committee

4.5 Campus Life Committee

23/10/10.12

Gill/Grover

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

Carried.

4.6 Campaigns Committee

23/10/10.13

Donaldson/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on September 27th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

Desjarlais encouraged all board members to help with Smart Meal this Wednesday.

4.7 Graduate Student Committee

23/10/10.14

Desai/Newman

Be it resolved that the August and September Honoraria for GSC Students-at-Large be disbursed as follows:

GSC: August		
Sr. No	Name of SAL	Amount(\$)
1	Alanna Shwed	50
2	Dina Khrabshesh	50
3	Emily Comeau	50
4	Fatima Canales	50
5	Naeem Nadaee	0
6	Nibirh Jawad	50
7	Satabdi Das	50
8	Yazdanmehr Gordanpour	50
9	Hammad Ahmad	50

GSC: September		
Sr. No	Name of SAL	Amount(\$)
1	Alanna Shwed	0
2	Dina Khrabshesh	50
3	Emily Comeau	50
4	Fatima Canales	50
5	Nibirh Jawad	50
6	Satabdi Das	50
7	Yazdanmehr Gordanpour	50
8	Hammad Ahmad	50

Carried.

23/10/10.15

Desai/Mehendiratta

Be it resolved that Akshata Sharma be appointed as Student-at-Large to GSC.

Desai stated that Nadaee was disqualified as a Graduate Student-at-Large because he was absent from the committee meetings without sending regrets. Sharma worked at Student Experience Office focusing on the collaboration with graduate students. She would be a good fit for the committee.

Carried.

23/10/10.16

Desai/Pfaender

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on August 17th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

23/10/10.17

Desai/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on September 27th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

4.8 Oversight Committee

23/10/10.18

Halpin/Grover

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on September 14th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

23/10/10.19

Halpin/Mayhew

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

Carried.

Desjarlais and Halpin encouraged the board members to read the reports as the board acts as resource to the executive members.

4.9 Electoral Committee

23/10/10.20

Mayhew/Mehendiratta

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on September 22nd, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

Evans updated with the board that SUO had a new CRO and DRO. The voting system would be open on time. Hafeez inquired about what Electoral Committee

had done for the referendum. Evans responded that UBC was in support of the referendum question framework the committee provided and would do the marketing. Though the board had decided to support the referendum question and facilitate it, the Electoral Committee remained neutral as it should be.

5. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

5.1 Senate

Hafeez provided updates on the first senate meeting and the approval of awards. He specifically mentioned that the SUO Service Award had been revised by adding more clarifications.

5.2 Board of Governors

Bravo stated that they had the September meeting last week, and Desjarlais gave a good presentation on SUO. She introduced some of the big topics and concerns that were addressed at the meeting, such as graduate students funding, affordability crisis, and eligibility of faculty recommended awards. She also mentioned that the Tuition Engagement approach had been sent out. Recommendations for tuition freeze had been pushed by student governors. They were still working on it.

Some members asked about the bigger increase in the tuition for international students than that for domestic students. Desjarlais and Hafeez explained the provincial cap on the tuition fee for domestic students. They recognized that this model would be not sustainable as the university saw a significant decrease in the enrollment of international students. SUO and BCFS had been advocating a cap on the tuition increase for international students for years. Bravo also explained that student governors not only serve the student group but also UBC. They would take the budget into consideration.

5.3 Other University Committees

Desjarlais stated that he was in the Student Affordability Task Force Committee. He was working for a multi-year tuition contract.

Hafeez also reminded that there was the Accessibility Committee, and Fortin was the SUO representative.

[Newman left at 6:21 p.m.]

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 The Ad-hoc Student Workers Advisory Committee - Yazdanmehr Gordanpour

Gordanpour introduced the background, the mandate and the duties of this committee. He stated that this committee could provide education to student workers on their rights and their labor union; meanwhile it would advocate to the

British Columbia General Employees' Union (BCGEU) for better contracts on the Collective Agreement; in addition, the committee members could study the practice from other universities and labor unions, thus providing recommendations to student workers. Desjarlais and Ouellet raised a concern on the duty of advocating for the BCGEU, which would put SUO in an awkward position in the relationship with the University. Gordanpour confirmed that this would be just an advisory committee. Desjarlais stated that he and Evans would look into the details.

6.2 Badminton Club Presentation and Ratification

23/10/10.21

Pfaender/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the Badminton Club be ratified as a student association. Mehendiratta had informed them of a presentation, but they did not attend the board meeting.

Desjarlais/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the ratification of the Badminton club be tabled for the next meeting.

Failed.

The original motion failed.

6.3 IP1 Club Presentation and Ratification

IP1 representative introduced the background, the structure, and the purpose of this club. This club would mainly consist of graduate students, research staff and PhD students. However, the proposed events would be open to all students, including undergraduate and high school students. They would like to be connected to UBC through this club, and have access to the resources from UBC.

23/10/10.22

Mehendiratta/Pfaender

Be it resolved that the IP1 Club be ratified as a student association.

Failed.

Board members discussed on the purpose of this club and Desjarlais asked Mehendiratta to help them connect with UBC.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Student Association Ratification

23/10/10.23

Mehendiratta/Grover

Be it resolved that La sobremesa Club be ratified as a student association.
Mehendiratta stated that it was a Spanish language club, aiming to develop the Spanish speaking ability. Bravo pointed out that SUO has a similar language club for French speaking.

Carried.

23/10/10.24

Mehendiratta/Donaldson

Be it resolved that Football and Futsal Enthusiasts Club be ratified as a student association.

Mehendiratta stated that this club planed to organize football matches and tournaments. Desjarlais confirmed that there was no soccer club at SUO.

Carried.

23/10/10.25

Mehendiratta/Rfaender

Be it resolved that Anime and Manga Club be ratified as a student association.

Mehendiratta stated that it was a club for students who love Anime and Manga.

Carried.

23/10/10.26

Mehendiratta/Gill

Be it resolved that Taste Buds Club be ratified as a student association.

Mehendiratta mentioned that the club would be a food club with the goal of increasing food security. It would provide various cuisines and cooking classes.

Board members discussed about the food security initiatives on campus and the purpose of Picnic (food hub) and Pantry. Pfaender also mentioned the VP External Karnwal was campaigning for the food security. They believed that a lot of efforts had been made to advocate food security. They did not think it necessary to create a new club to address the issue.

Failed.

23/10/10.27

Mehendiratta/Rfaender

Be it resolved that Ogopogo Solar Vehicle Club be ratified as a student association.

Mehendiratta stated that the club aimed to promote solar energy, and design and construct the solar power cars.

Carried.

23/10/10.28

Mehendiratta/Rfaender

Be it resolved that South Indian Student Association be ratified as a student association.

Mehendiratta stated that he had reached out to the club executives and there might be a possibility for them to collaborate with Indian Student Association.

Mehendiratta/ Arora

Be it resolved that the ratification of South Indian Student Association be tabled.
Carried.

23/10/10.29

Mehendiratta/Rfaender

Be it resolved that Parindey Dance Club be ratified as a student association.

Mehendiratta stated that that club ratification failed at the previous board meeting as some of their members were not in good standing. They removed those members and resubmitted a new application. It would be a dance club. Gill mentioned that SUO had five dance clubs already. Desjarlais stated that if it is a unique type of dance, and their application meets SUO standard, they should be ratified.

Carried.

7.2 Establishment of AGM Date

23/10/10.30

Desjarlais/Desai

Be it resolved that the SUO Annual General Meeting 2023 be held on November 23rd, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Desjarlais explained the policy on the establishment of AGM date and encouraged board member to attend the meeting.

Carried.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.