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# **BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Students' Union UBC Okanagan, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students Board of Directors Meeting, May 3 at 1 pm 2024, ADM 121

#### **Directors Present**

President (meeting chair)

Vice President Finance and Administration

Vice-President External

Vice-President Internal

Vice-President Campus Life

Director-at-Large

Director-at-Large

Director-at-Large

Director-at-Large

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

Faculty of Education Representative

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative

Board of Governors Representative (ex-officio)

Student Senate Caucus Representative (ex-officio)

Danial Asif

Aryan Arora

Abby Newman

Rajat Arora

Saaim Imran

Ananya Bhattacharya

Mariam Al Barazi

Sheela Mbogo

Aliasgar Sakarwala

Dina Yaghi

Riko Otsuka

Amy Wang

Veeru Seethanaboyina

Sahar Sowdagar

Vacant

Elnaz Zamanzade

Olivia Lai

**Vacant** 

Salman Hafeez (Saami)

#### **Directors Absent**

#### **Staff Present**

General Manager

**Governance Coordinator** 

Well Pub Manager

Finance Manager

Membership Outreach Coordinator

Communications & Marketing Manager

Student Advocate

Food Security & Nutrition Manager

Jason Evans

Cecily Qiu

Michael Ouellet

Leanne Smailes

Izzy Rusch

Becca Evans

Rachel Fortin

Stephanie Patterson

#### **Staff Absent**



#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

#### **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

24/05/03.01

/

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

#### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

24/05/03.02

/

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 24th, 2024 be adopted.

#### 4. PRESENTATION

#### 5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- 5.1 Executive Committee
- 5.2 Finance Committee

24/05/03.03

/

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted.

#### 5.2.1 Calls for nominations from the Board of Directors for:

o up to two (2) additional directors

24/05/03.04

/

Be it resolved that \_\_\_\_\_ (names of directors) be appointed to the Finance Committee.

# 5.3 Policy Committee

#### 5.3.1 Calls for nominations from the Board of Directors for:

o at least two (2) additional directors

24/05/03.05

/



Be it resolved that (names of directors) be appointed to the Policy Committee.		
5.4	Campus Life Committee	
	5.4.1 Calls for nominations from the Board of Directors for:	
	o at least three (3) additional directors	
24/05/03.06		
/		
Be it resolved th Committee.	at (names of directors) be appointed to the Campus Life	
5.5	Campaigns Committee	
	5.5.1 Calls for nominations from the Board of Directors for:	
	o at least two (2) additional directors	
24/05/03.07		
/		
Be it resolved th Committee.	at (names of directors) be appointed to the Campaigns	
5.6	Graduate Student Committee	
5.7	Oversight Committee	
	5.7.1 Calls for nominations from the Board of Directors for:	
	o up to three (3) non-executive directors	
24/05/03.08		
/		
Be it resolved th Oversight Comn	at (names of non-executive directors) be appointed to the nittee.	
5.8	Media Fund Committee	
	5.8.1 Striking the ad hoc Media Fund Committee	
24/05/03.09		
/ Be it resolved th	at the ad hoc Media Fund Committee be struck for the 2024-2025 SUO Board.	
	5.8.2 Calls for nominations from the Board of Directors for:	
	o one (1) director	
24/05/03.10		



/		
Be it resolve Committee.		(name of director) be appointed to the Media Fund
;	5.9 S1	udent Association Funding and Clubs Oversight Committee
	5.9	1 Striking the ad hoc Student Association Funding and Clubs Oversight Committee
24/05/03.11		
/		
		ne ad hoc Student Association Funding and Clubs Oversight Committee be 2025 SUO Board.
	5.9	2 Calls for nominations from the Board of Directors for:
	0	one (1) Director at Large
24/05/03.12	2	
/		
		(name of Director at Large) be appointed to the Student and Clubs Oversight Committee.
!	5.10 D	isciplinary Committee
	5.10	0.1 Striking the ad hoc Disciplinary Committee
24/05/03.13	3	
/		
Be it resolve	ed that th	ne ad hoc Disciplinary Committee be struck for the 2024-2025 SUO Board.
	5.10	0.2 Calls for nominations from the Board of Directors for:
	0	two (2) additional directors
24/05/03.14	ŀ	
/		
Be it resolve Committee.		(names of directors) be appointed to the Disciplinary
6. REPORT	ON UNI	VERSITY RELATIONS
(	6.1 Se	enate
(	6.2 B	oard of Governors
(	6.3 O	ther University Committees



# 7. **NEW BUSINESS**

# 7.1 BCFS Executive Committee Appointment

24/05/03.15

Be it resolved that VP External, Abby Newman, be appointed to the BCFS Executive Committee.

# 7.2 Upcoming Meeting Times

# 8. ADJOURNMENT

24/05/03.16 /
Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_\_.

# **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students Board of Directors Meeting, April 24 at 6 pm, 2024, UNC 334

#### **Directors Present**

President (meeting chair) Cade Desjarlais Vice President Finance and Administration Osho Gnanasivam Vice-President External Lakshay Karnwal Director-at-Large Twinkle Hora Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative Grace Halpin Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative Hanna Donaldson Faculty of Applied Science Representative Rishan Pfaender (Zoom) College of Graduate Studies Representative Anjali Desai Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative Georgia Mayhew

Faculty of Education Representative Vacant

#### **Directors Absent with Notice**

Vice-President Internal

Director-at-Large

Faculty of Science Representative

Faculty of Management Representative

Board of Governors Representative (ex-officio)

Student Senate Caucus Representative (ex-officio)

Shreyansh Mehendiratta

Aryan Arora

Sunish Grover

Rajat Arora

Isabella Bravo

Student Senate Caucus Representative (ex-officio)

Salman Hafeez (Saami)

# **Directors Absent without Notice**

Vice-President Campus LifeUday GillDirector-at-LargeDarsh AlamchandaniDirector-at-LargeJapnit Singh Madaan

#### Staff Present

General Manager Jason Evans
Governance Coordinator Cecily Qiu

#### Guests

Incoming VP External Abby Newman
Incoming VP Campus Life Saaim Imran
Graduate Student Yazdan Gordanpour

#### 1. CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:24 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

24/04/24.01

Mayhew/Halpin

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

# Desjarlais/Gnanasivam

Be it resolved that Motion#7 and Motion#8 be tabled until the next board meeting. Desjarlais explained that one of the motions was to make sure the policy for the AGM petition aligns with other policies, and the other one was about the student course union AGM quorum. He did not think they were in the position to approve those policy changes and suggested those be presented to the next board for adoption.

Amendment carried.

# Desjarlais/Halpin

Be it resolved that the agenda item 8.1 Application Process and Criteria for the New Student Recreation Facility Fee Refund be removed.

Desjarlais stated that during the last by-election, they passed the referendum regarding the new student recreation facility fee. It was stated in the referendum question that the SUO board would create an opt-out process for students in financial needs. This process required collaboration with other UBC offices. He was trying to get information about what UBC does with other fee refund. He did not encourage the current board and the incoming board to create a new opt out process. The enrollment office had not provided any information yet. Gnanasivam asked if the process could be done before Desjarlais leaves the office. Desjarlais stated that he would schedule meetings with the incoming SUO president and Dale Mullings from AVP Student, and this process must be done during the summer as the university would collect the fee starting from the next academic year. Amendment carried.

# Desai/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the Graduate Student Representative Engagement Report be attached under the agenda item 7.1.

Amendment carried.

Carried as amended.

#### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

24/04/24.02

Hora/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted. Carried.

#### 4. PRESENTATION

# 4.1 Executive Summary Report - Oversight Committee

Halpin stated that executive monthly reports were submitted on time every month, and she gave a summary of the January Executive review. She presented the successes the Executives had achieved over the year and provided some recommendations for them and the incoming oversight committee. She mentioned that there were only minor complaints and one on-going investigation. The Executive Summary Report would be published on the SUO website.

# 5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

# 5.1 Executive Committee

24/04/24.03

Donaldson/Karnwal

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted. Carried.

24/04/24.04

Donaldson/Karnwal

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted. Carried.

#### 5.2 Finance Committee

24/04/24.05

Gnanasivam/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted.

Carried.

# **5.3** Policy Committee

24/04/24.06

Donaldson/Karnwal

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 10th, 2024 be adopted. Designals stated that they had done the experiment of letting the policy committee meet at least six times a year, which he thought did not work well. He thought the number of the policy changes they presented was not consistent. He thought it was hard to hold the executive accountable if there were no recurring meetings. He recommended that the next board could change the frequency of policy committee meetings back to monthly meetings like other standing committees to make sure certain policies would be worked on and put forward to the board. Secondly, Designal stated that this board adopted a motion to mandate the policy committee to present an indigenous representative implementation plan to the board by April 1, 2024 but it did not happen. Desjarlais expressed his deep disappointment by their failure to complete the task. It was not fine to send him a copy from another student union two weeks later. He hoped that the incoming VP Internal could continue working on it. Karnwal asked about the recommendation from Desjarlais regarding the minimum or maximum times of meetings. Desjarlais stated that in the past they received a lot of policy amendments, and the policy committee had to work on some unnecessary policy changes just to fill in their meeting time. In his mind, it would be fine to have a meeting to just approve the meeting minutes. In this way, at least they would touch in base regularly, have feedback from directors and students at large, and produce meeting minutes. Halpin added that the oversight committee had encouraged VP-Internal to interact with Indigenous students but had not received update yet. Mayhew asked if the policy committee had ever worked on the task. Gnanasivam and Qiu stated they had a couple of meetings discussing about the indigenous representative plans, and they were in favor of establishing a standing committee, but the document presented did not fit in the SUO committee structure. More work needed to be done.

Carried.

# 5.4 Campus Life Committee

24/04/24.07

Donaldson/Hora

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted. Qiu stated that Campus Life Committee had not submitted their February committee meeting minutes yet.

Carried.

# 5.5 Campaigns Committee

24/04/24.08

Karnwal/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted. Carried.

# 5.6 Graduate Student Committee

# 24/04/24.09

Desai/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted. Carried.

# 24/04/24.10

Desai/Hora

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted. Carried.

24/04/24.11 Desai/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the March & April 2024 Honoraria for GSC Students at Large be disbursed as follows:

GSC March		
Sr. No	Name of SAL	Amount(\$)
1	Akshta Sharma	0
2	Ammar Riyadh	50
3	Dina Khrabshesh	50
4	Fatima Canales	50
5	Hammad Ahmad	50
6	Nibirh Jawad	0
7	Omang Baheti	50
8	Satabdi Das	50
9	Yazdanmehr Gordanpour	50
	GSC April	
	asc April	
Sr. No	Name of SAL	Amount(\$)
Sr. No 1	•	Amount(\$)
	Name of SAL	
1	Name of SAL Akshta Sharma	50
1 2	Name of SAL  Akshta Sharma  Ammar Riyadh	50 50
1 2 3	Name of SAL  Akshta Sharma  Ammar Riyadh  Dina Khrabshesh	50 50 0
1 2 3 4	Name of SAL  Akshta Sharma  Ammar Riyadh  Dina Khrabshesh  Fatima Canales	50 50 0 0
1 2 3 4 5	Name of SAL  Akshta Sharma  Ammar Riyadh  Dina Khrabshesh  Fatima Canales  Hammad Ahmad	50 50 0 0 50
1 2 3 4 5 6	Name of SAL  Akshta Sharma  Ammar Riyadh  Dina Khrabshesh  Fatima Canales  Hammad Ahmad  Nibirh Jawad	50 50 0 0 50 50

Carried.

# 5.7 Oversight Committee

24/04/24.12

# Halpin/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 5th, 2024 be adopted.

Halpin stated that they received a complaint on VP-Internal regarding the indigenous representative plan. As it was close to the end of his term, the oversight committee decided not to take disciplinary process, but to encourage VP-Internal to send an apology letter to Indigenous students and set up meetings with IPS/IPC. They were still waiting for updates from him.

Carried.

#### 24/04/24.13

Halpin/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the March Executive Reports be adopted as attached. Desai pointed out VP Internal did not attend IGS AGM, which had been reported as an activity completed in his monthly report. She would kindly suggest he make necessary amendments. Desjarlais stated that he, Gnanasivam and Karnwal took the job very seriously, and he was beyond disappointment with the code of conduct of some directors. He stated that the SUO had achieved a lot this year and made some major wins; however, they need a better process for accountability, especially during March and April. Carried.

#### 24/04/24.14

Halpin/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the January Executive Review be adopted as attached. Carried.

# 6. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

- 6.1 Senate
- 6.2 Board of Governors
- 6.3 Other University Committees

# 7. NEW BUSINESS

# 7.1 Term 2 Faculty Representative Engagement Report

# Attached:

- Rajat Arora\_2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Management Representative
- Sunish Grover\_2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Science Representative

- Hanna Donaldson\_2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative
- Georgia Mayhew\_2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative
- Grace Halpin\_2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative
- Anjali Desai\_1 Engagement Reports from Graduate Student Representative (attached to the Minutes)
   Missing:
- 2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Applied Science Representative Rishan Pfaender

# 7.2 CRO Report

24/04/24.15

Hora/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the CRO Report for 2024 General Election be adopted as presented. (The report would be attached to the minutes.)

Desjarlais stated that the CRO report was delayed due to her wrist injury. He gave some time for members to read the report. Meeting recessed at 7:08 p.m. and reconvened at 7:17 p.m. Desjarlais stated that the CRO report was incomplete as it was missing an appendix of complaints and resolutions, which information was critical for the election report. However, there was a need to adopt the report as they need to send the bank the change of signing authorities with the approval of election results. Based on the advice from Evans, he proposed they adopt the CRO report and request the appendix be circulated and approved by the board later, but he stated that this was not his preference. Gnanasivam asked about the consequence of not adopting the CRO report. Desjarlais explained that it would affect the change of signing authorities, as they need to ratify the incoming board before changing the signing authorities. Desjarlais then suggested that they table the CRO report and approve the complete one via email outside the board meeting. For the following motion regarding the change of signing authorities, he could amend it by adding "pending approval of the CRO report" after the motion.

Evans advised that they ratify the report with a clause that requires the CRO to submit an appendix with complaints and resolutions. The appendix could be reviewed and approved by the next board. This report had provided the results, recommendations, and an overview from the CRO, which were the most essential parts of the report and could be ratified by the current board. Gnanasivam stated that the complaints and resolutions indicated the fairness of the election. Desjarlais would like to request the board of directors to remain in position until April 30, so

they could approve a complete report via emails. Evans expressed his concerns about collecting the complete report on time. Karnwal asked about the possibility for the CRO to complete the report by the end of this month. Evans stated that the CRO had presented a doctor's note indicating she should not work during this time; and the SUO has the obligation to expect it. Mayhew suggested approving the election results as she thought it would be inappropriate to request the CRO to work against the Doctor's note. Gnanasivam stated the election results should not be separated from the report and he thought electoral committee should make more efforts. Karnwal agreed with Gnanasivam, but he was concerned about the impact on the change of signing authorities. Evan stated that the power to produce the report was invested in the CRO, and none of the electoral committee member could do it. Mayhew stated that she would like to see an efficient start for the next board rather than a delay.

# Desjarlais/Halpin

Be it resolved that the CRO Report for 2024 General Election be tabled for approval. Carried.

# Desjarlais/Donaldson

Be it resolved that 2024 General Election results as presented in the CRO report be adopted.

Carried.

# 7.3 Signing Authorities

#### 24/04/24.16

Hora/Donaldson

Be it resolved that Osho Gnanasivam, Cade Desjarlais and Uday Gill be removed as signing authorities on all bank accounts held by the Students' Union of UBC Okanagan, namely the Valley First Credit Union, the Royal Bank of Canada and RBC Dominion Securities as of May 1, 2024.

Carried.

#### 24/04/24.17

Mayhew/Donaldson

Be it further resolved that Aryan Arora, Danial Asif and Saaim Imran be granted signing authority on all bank accounts held by the Students' Union of UBC Okanagan, namely the Valley First Credit Union, the Royal Bank of Canada and RBC Dominion Securities as of May 1, 2024.

Carried.

# 7.4 SUO Graduate Student Bursary

Desjarlais sent an email on April 19 to the board of directors requesting their approval of the SUO Graduate Student Bursary with the following motion:

Whereas UBC has committed to matching funds from the SUO for the creation of a Graduate Student Endowment up to \$50,000,

Be it resolved the Board of Directors approve the contract for the creation of a Graduate Student Endowment for \$35,000 as recommended by the Executive Committee bringing the total endowment to \$70,000.

By April 23, eight (8) directors responded by email stating they are in favor of the contract. The eight directors are Hora, Donaldson, Mayhew, Karnwal, Gnanasivam, A. Arora, Desai, and Halpin. Their emails were attached. Motion passed outside the board meeting.

Desjarlais stated that the reason he requested approval through email was he needed to work alongside the UBC's timeline, so they could create this bursary before April 30. The money was from their budget line, and he was very excited that the board provided support to graduate students. The bursary was established in perpetuity.

# 8. INFORMATION

# 8.1 BC3 MOU (attached)

Desjarlais stated that he had been working on this project for almost two years. This contract was to establish a lobby coalition with AMS under the UBC, the University of Victory Student Society and the Simon Fraser Student Society. It would create a more catered approach to provincial and federal lobbing for those major student societies in BC and create a more direct contact with politicians and elected officials.

#### 24/04/24.18

Donaldson/Karnwal

Be it resolved that the board adopt the BC3 MOU as attached.

Gnanasivam asked if this would be under VP External's portfolio. Desjarlais confirmed that the VP External would be the representative, and there would be room for additional staff. The representatives would schedule meetings to maintain the connection with those big student societies.

Carried.

# 9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.



# **SUO Engagement Report**

# (Graduate Students)

Name: Anjali Desai

Position: Faculty of College of Graduate Studies

Report End Date (by the end of each term): 31/04/2024

#### **OBJECTIVES**

(Please indicate what the purpose of the engagement; what you hope to achieve through the engagement; or why the project was initiated if there was a project involved.)

As the Graduate Student Representative and the chair of the Graduate Student Committee (GSC), various activities and events have been undertaken to foster a sense of community amongst the graduate students who often belong to a different demographic age group compared to the majority students on campus. The hope was to create a socially engaging space on campus to prevent the new and existing students to feel isolated which has been one of the most common feedback received from students over the years.

#### **ENGAGEMENT SNAPSHOT**

(Please describe when, where and how the engagement activities were conducted; and briefly showcase the key touchpoints and communication channels. Engagement activities could be faculty events, faceto-face workshops/meetings, forums, idea walls, surveys etc.)

One of the most successful programs initiated by the GSC this year has been the Weekly Graduate Student Coffee Chats which has also been expanded to weekly pizza and coffee chats. Over the term, we have seen an increased participation with up to 70- 100 students regularly showing up. This repetitive event has enabled people to make friends, the GSC to get familiar with the student body and use this as an open office hour to assist the students with their concerns.

In the Winter 2 term, the Graduate Cultural Night was one of the biggest events with a turnout of over 70 students. A range of events inclusing Valentine's Paint night at The Well, Winter party for graduate students with children, Graduate Course Union Networking Event, Silverstar Mountain Tubing trip, Workshop on dealing with imposter syndrome and Yoga Rest as Resistance event were organized through the term.



#### **ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS**

(Please display the feedback from the undergraduate students of your faculty; summarize what you heard or what issues were addressed.)

Last term at the weekly graduate coffee events, we had received feedback regarding the need to have more family friendly events to accommodate graduate students with children and family. We had also received interest in having graduate student nights at The Well. As a response events were organized to cater to these areas.

Additionally, students have expressed concerns about the limited food options on campus during the summer term. A group of students also brought to our attention the change in regulation regarding the provision of experience letter for non-unionized RA positions. All these concerns have been communicated to the Assistant Vice President Students during the periodic connects.

#### **OUTCOME AND NEXT STEPS**

(Please outline how the feedback has been considered and applied. You can reflect on the following questions: What actions are you taking based on the feedback; What's coming up next in the engagement process; What impact do you hope that your actions will have? How can students stay informed on the issue? Did you meet your objectives of the engagement.)

In the past two terms, the GSC has successfully been able to create an engaging space for the students on campus and has assisted students with their concerns regarding funding and childcare where they can. In capacity of being the current GSC Chair, I shall ensure to incorporate all the learnings in the transition document for the incoming board and leadership to ensure a continuity of graduate student welfare activities.

# **NOTES / OTHER**



Prepared by	Chief Returning Officer – Tashia Kootenayoo
Election period	February 5 – March 6, 2024
Elections Officials	Chief Returning Officer – Tashia Kootenayoo Deputy Returning Officer – Oscar Munoz Campos Deputy Returning Officer – Chad Owens



Dear SUO of UBC Board of Directors,

Thank you to each of you as well as the invaluable efforts of every staff member that supported the Students Union of UBC Okanagan 2024 General Elections. This year was a remarkable turnout with increased engagement both in candidacy and voter turnout.

On behalf of the electoral committee, I share with you the elections report which will make the elections results final. I'm providing this report along with the following motions that I ask you as the Board of Directors to approve:

 Be it resolved that the SUO of UBC Board of Directors approve the 2024/2025 General Election report as submitted by the Chief Returning Officer;
 Be it further resolved that the SUO of UBC Board of Directors approve the destruction of the nomination forms used in the 2024/2025 General Election

Acceptance of this report means ratification of the 2024/2025 General Elections results and as such, this report is to be accepted as an all or nothing package and without amendments that would compromise the integrity of the report.

If the Board sees changes outside of language/grammar should be made, the report will need to be taken off the table for changes and further consideration.

Sincerely,

Tashia Kootenayoo



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#### Overview

The purpose of this report is provided official documentation for the 2024/2025 SUO General Election, detailing electoral processes, timeline, candidates, and positions contested for, as well as summary of events during the campaign, voting period including the announcement of the results.

#### 1. Procedures and Information Dissemination:

Aligned with past processes every candidate was equipped with a comprehensive nomination package, including key dates, electoral regulations, descriptions of each available position and contact information for the electoral team members. These nomination packages were accessible to all-students and were available both online and in-person.

For this year's General Election, the electoral committee voted ahead of the deadline to extend the nomination period as follows:

- nomination period was extended until Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 4:00 PM PST; and
- the mandatory all-candidates meeting was rescheduled to Thursday, February 22nd, 2024, at 5:00 PM PST via Zoom.

The purpose of this extension was to support students by alleviating scheduling conflicts of their academic calendars and facilitate increased participation. We are pleased to report that as a result there was an increased in the number of candidates, which increased contested races for each available position. This proactive measure not only addressed barriers but also enhanced electoral integrity by fostering a more competitive electoral landscape.

Additionally, in collaboration with the Communications team we leveraged a new integrated communications strategy to increase student engagement in the elections. Through the leadership of the Communications Manager there was a surge in voter turnout across the board. The implementation of in-person voting stations increased campus awareness during voting period. Our strategy also included the sharing of frequently asked questions, elections regulations, and other pertinent information to enhance voter engagement and understanding.

#### 2. Candidacy and Positions:

For the 2024/2025 General Election there was a total of **forty-one (41)** candidates. Here a few notable points:



- There was no candidate and as result **one (1)** vacancy for the Graduate Student representative position;
- There was notably fourteen (14) candidates running for the four (4) Director at Large positions; and
- There were seventeen (17) candidates for the executive positions in comparison to the twenty-four candidates for the other Board of Director positions.

The electoral committee was pleased with the turnout in respects to candidates for the various roles and positions.

#### 3. Voting Mechanism:

Voting was conducted through the UBC WebVote system, chosen for its user-friendly interface, robust security measures, integration with the SSC Platform, and administration by the university. While, there were ten (10) reported spoiled ballots across positions, voting through WebVote was seamless.

Importantly, there were no instances of system interference or malfunction detected during the voting process that impacted the elections integrity.



# **Election Objectives**

In the spirit of fostering a robust and inclusive democratic process for the SUO of UBC 2024/2025 General Election, the electoral committee aimed to address key challenges faced in previous elections. There were two (2) objectives we aimed to meet: be summarized as follows:

- 1. Facilitate increased student participation by addressing scheduling conflicts and barriers to candidacy.
- 2. Enhance electoral integrity through a competitive electoral landscape and proactive measures to ensure fair representation.



# **Timeline**

#### **Elections Forum**

Happened on February 7, 2024, at 4:00 pm PST online.

#### Nomination Period

- Opened on February 5th, 2024, at 8:00am PST.
- Closed on February 22, 2024, at 4:00pm PST.

# All-Candidates Meeting

• Happened on February 22, 2024, from 5:00pm PST.

# **Campaigning Period**

- Opened on February 26th, 2024, at 8:00am PST.
- Closed March 6th 2024 at 11:59pm PST.

#### Debates

- Night #1 DIRECTOR AT LARGE CANDIDATES
  - o Tuesday, February 27th, 2024, at 6:00 pm
- Night #2 FACULTY REPS & VP CAMPUS LIFE CANDIDATES
  - o Wednesday, February 28th, 2024, at 6:00 pm
- Night #3 VP EXTERNAL, VP FINANCE, VP INTERNAL & PRESIDENT CANDIDATES
  - o Thursday, February 29th,2024, at 6:00 pm

# Online Voting

- Opened on March 4th 2024 at 8:00am PST
- Closed March 6th 2023 at 11:59pm PST



# List of Positions and Candidates

Below is a list of available positions, the number of those positions and the name of candidates in the 2024/2025 elections.

# President (1)

- o Danial (Muhammad) Asif
- Henry Pak (disqualified\*)

# Vice-President Finance and Administration (1)

- o Ali Kandeel
- o Aryan Arora

# Vice-President Internal (1)

- Aakash Deep Singh
- Darsh Alamchandani
- Hanna Donaldson
- Norimasa Musashi
- Rajat Arora
- Yazdan (Yazdanmehr) Gordanpour

# Vice-President Campus Life (1)

- o Arnav Mishra
- o Enesh Jakhar
- o Saaim Imran

# Vice-President External (1)

- o Abby Newman
- Adnan Mehaboob Sheik
- o Anitej Sharma
- Japnit (Singh) Madaan

# Director at Large (4)

- o Aayush Tomar
- o Aliasgar Sakarwala
- Ananya Bhattacharya
- o Arjun Berry



- o Deepak Bedi
- Emily Kaakyo Rubooga
- Harsh Patel
- Mariam AL Barazi
- Mhamoda Moli
- Mohamed Sakr
- Nadeen Hamdona
- Sheela Mbogo
- Shreya Patnaik
- o Tejasva (Beer Singh) Bhatia

# Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Student Representative (1)

Olivia Lai

Faculty of Sciences Student Representative (1)

- o Aman Ullah Waseem
- Veeru Vaidesh Seethanaboyina

# Faculty of Management Student Representative (1)

o Riko Otsuka

Faculty of Applied Sciences Student Representative (1)

- Omang Baheti
- o Pranav Ramesh Badrinath
- Sahar Sowdagar

# Faculty of Health and Social Development Student Representative (1)

o Dina Yaghi

Faculty of Education Student Representative (1)

Elnaz Zamanzade

Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies Student Representative (1)

Amy Wang

College of Graduate Students Representative (1)

VACANT



# Recommendations

Upon the conclusion of the 2024/2025 General Election, the electoral committee held a post-modem meeting. This debriefing session provided an opportunity for reflection and assessment of the electoral process. Our discussion centered on evaluating the effectiveness of procedures, handling complaints and misconduct allegations, and assessing the clarity and accessibility of the communication strategy.

Through collaborative dialogue and insightful observations, the following recommendations emerged to address areas of improvement and enhance future electoral endeavors:

#### 1. Procedural Enhancements:

- Create a streamlined form for submitting receipts to support document management, potentially integrating it with the nomination process.
- Revise policies to address overspending concerns and establish clearer finance processes outlined in the candidate elections handbook.
- Extend the deadline for receipt submissions and ensure they are due before the last day of voting to uphold financial integrity.

# 2. Campaigning Regulations and Definitions:

- Define and regulate canvassing activities on campus, distinguishing between tabling with food and campaigning materials versus approaching students.
- Clarify where canvassing is permitted, including designated areas and restrictions on campaigning in study rooms, libraries, and residential spaces.
- Allow in-person campaigning until the voting period, then transition to online methods to mitigate student overwhelm and ensure a fair voting process.

# 3. Handling of Complaints and Misconduct Allegations:

- Develop a clear and accessible form for submitting complaints, including dropdown menus and explanations of the stages and expected response times.
- Enhance the endorsements process to include recent executives.
- Initiate discussions on privacy, data storage, and information sharing protocols among relevant stakeholders to ensure compliance and transparency.

#### 4. Communication and Engagement Strategies:

 Increase polling stations and in-person tabling activities to enhance visibility and engagement throughout the electoral process.



- Provide a comprehensive candidates elections handbook post-all-candidates meeting to serve as a reference guide for campaigning guidelines.
- Compile common issues and examples into an FAQ document to address questions and concerns raised during the electoral period.

These recommendations aim to address identified challenges and gaps in the electoral process, fostering greater transparency, fairness, and accessibility in future SUO elections.

The 2024/2025 SUO General Election was characterized by robust candidate participation, effective dissemination of information, and the utilization of a secure voting mechanism. The adherence to established procedures ensured the integrity of the electoral process, culminating in the announcement of results free from interference.

#### THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

UBC ELECTIONS
Enrolment Services
2016 - 1874 East Mall
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z1
elections.information@ubc.ca

7 March 2024

Tashia Kootenayoo Chief Returning Officer, UBCSUO

#### **RE: 2024 SUO General Election – Results**

Dear Tashia,

Set out below are the count of votes in the 2024 SUO General Election held from 4 March to 6 March 2024. Winning candidates/options are indicated in bold.

#### President

Danial (Muhammad) Asif	<b>797</b>
Henry Pak <i>DISQUALIFIED</i> *	377

Total 1176\*\* (9.8% of voters)

# Vice-President Finance and Administration

Aryan Arora	596
Ali Kandeel	361

Total	958* (8.0% of voters)
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<sup>\*</sup>Includes 1 spoiled ballot

# Vice-President External

Abby Newman	663
Japnit Singh	482
Adnan Mehaboob Sheik	308

Total	1454* (12.1% of voters)
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<sup>\*</sup>Includes 1 spoiled ballot

# Vice-President Internal

Rajat Arora	387
Darsh Alamchandani	385
Yazdan (Yazdanmehr) Gordanpour	349
Hanna Donaldson	252
Aakash Deep Singh	119
Norimasa Musashi	93

<sup>\*</sup>Disqualified by the SUO for three minor offences of campaigning

<sup>\*\*</sup>Includes 2 spoiled ballots

Total *Includes 1 spoiled ballot	1585 (9.5% of voters)
Vice-President Campus Life Saaim Imran	572
Enesh Jakhar Arnav Mishra	409 338
Total *Includes 2 spoiled ballots	1321* (11.0% of voters)
<u>Director-at-Large</u> <b>Ananya Bhattacharya</b>	330
Mariam AL Barazi	323
Sheela Mbogo	315
Aliasgar Sakarwala	253
Harsh Patel	246
Arjun Berry	243
Deepak Bedi	242
Nadeen Hamdona	231
Tejasva (Beer Singh) Bhatia	196
Mohamed Sakr	142
Aayush Tomar	135
Emily Kaakyo Rubooga	93
Mhamoda Moli	48
Total Votes	2797
Total Voters	1305 (10.9% of voters)
Faculty of Applied Science Represe	ntative
Sahar Sowdagar	117
Pranav Ramesh Badrinath	76
Total	193 (8.7% of voters)
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences	Representative
Yes, Olivia Lai	137
No, Olivia Lai	28
Total *Includes 1 spoiled ballot	165* (6.3% of voters)
includes I sponed buildt	
Faculty of Creative and Critical Stud	dies Representative
Yes, Amy Wang	42
No, Amy Wang	1

43 (10.1% of voters)

Total

Faculty of Education Representative

Yes, Elnaz Zamanzade 3 No, Elnaz Zamanzade 1

Total 4 (1.3% of voters)

Faculty of Health and Social Development Representative

Yes, Dina Yaghi 66 No, Dina Yaghi 6

Total 72 (4.0% of voters)

Faculty of Management Representative

Yes, Riko Otsuka111No, Riko Otsuka27

Total 139\* (13.3% of voters)

\*Includes 1 spoiled ballot

Faculty of Science Representative

Veeru Vaidesh Seethanaboyina119Omang Baheti97Aman Ullah Waseem66

Total 283\* (8.4% of voters)

\*Includes 1 spoiled ballot

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Results will be posted on WebVote when instructed by the SUO. Please contact UBC Elections with any questions whatsoever.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Iverson

**UBC** Returning Officer

# FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students Finance Committee Meeting, April 24th, 2024, UNC 133 Conference Room

# Called to Order at 01:00PM

# Committee Members Present

Vice President Finance and AdministrationOsho GnanasivamCollege of Graduate Students RepresentativeAnjali DesaiPresidentCade Desjarlais

# Committee Members Absent

Faculty of Health & Social Development Student Representative Grace Halpin

# Staff Present

General Manager

Jason Evans
Finance Manager

Leanne Smailes

# Staff 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

24/04/24.01

Desjarlais/Smailes

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Carried.

#### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

24/04/24.02

Desjarlais/Evans

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 24/03/27 be adopted. Carried.

#### 4. INFORMATION ITEMS

# 4.1 Quarterly Report Presentation – Kuan

Ho informed that committee that the portfolio has been performing well in this past quarter and that we have fully recovered from losses incurred during the COVID-19 period. We currently are at a ~4.5% return rate based on the YTD frame and growth looks positive here on out. Ho also informed the committee that he is hoping to set up a meeting with the new committee sometime in the summer.

# 4.2 Plans for next year and closing remarks – Osho

Based on the March YTDs, Smailes stated that we are on track for a non-deficit bottom line. While more expenses from April, Board Training in May and some other grants and transfers have not been accounted for yet, we will likely be hitting our target for a non-deficit. Gnanasivam stated that Aryan Arora, the incoming VP Finance and Administration will be kept updated regarding our progress and will be given transition material to continue the efforts in leading the incoming finance committee.

#### 5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjorned at 1.50PM