



SUO

Students' Union
UBC Okanagan

2025-2026 Executive Summary Report

Oversight Committee Mandate

This committee consists of three (3) to five (5) members: the General Manager, up to three (3) non-executive directors, and one (1) student-at-large chosen by the committee and appointed by the Board. The chair of this committee is voted by the committee from among the student representatives. This committee is responsible for the oversight of the Executive Committee

Oversight Committee 2025-2026

Membership

Naden Qually (Chair) --Director-at-Large

Jessica Goel -----Director-at-Large

Ali Wasti-----Faculty of Health and Social
Development Representative

Nisha Choudhary -----Student-at-Large

Jason Evans-----General Manager

2025-2026 SUO Executives



**President
Peter Idoko**



**VP Finance and
Administration
Rajat Arora**



**VP Internal
Shreya Patnaik**



**VP Campus Life
Ashley Kyei-
Badu**



**VP External
Olivia Lai**



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Monthly Reports 2025-2026

- Initial reports submitted at the beginning of the year lacked details and specifications for the number of hours worked. Executives were reminded and asked to be very specific with details to confirm they were working the minimum 25 hours a week
- Most executives handed reports in on time. There were many incidents of reports not being handed in weeks after the deadline with little to no communication or request for an extension unless they were contacted.
- No reports resulted in any disciplinary action

Complaints 2025-2026

- No major complaints that resulted in immediate investigation were received during the 2025-2026 term
- One issue was raised during an in-camera session. No investigation proceeded afterwards
- The Oversight Chair was alerted to a few instances where an executive missed office hours or failed to communicate with the front desk about missing them due to circumstances. The executives were reminded various times to inform the front desk receptionist if they can not attend office hours.
- Most issues were concerns raised by the executives themselves. Actions such as one-on-one meetings were undertaken along with recommendations made to the Executive Committee twice

Complaints 2025-2026

- Most complaints or issues were informal and were promptly dealt with via email communication or meeting with executives.
- Complaints require enough detail and merit to be considered seriously and must provide information for how the executive acted outside of the regulations and rules. No such complaints were brought forward.
- Overall, all Executives acted within regulations and steps were taken to proactively prevent any major issues from arising

Executive Action Plan Reviews

- Executives submit their Action Plan for adoption to the Board of Directors after the Action Plan meeting in June
- It is the Oversight Committee's job to follow up and conduct reviews of progress on these goals in June, September, and January
- Action Plan reviews are held one-on-one with Executives and they are asked to provide their plans and relevant updates to their goals

Executive Review – President Peter Idoko

Goals:

- Rebranded SUO image and increasing positive messaging.
- Strengthened media relationships and student engagement programming.
- Collaboration with Career Development and Campus Life.
- Insurance review was started and completed
- Employee Handbook is still in progress, carried over from last president
- Worked to rebuild trust between executives and staff throughout the term



Executive Review – President Peter Idoko

Feedback from Staff:

- Did a great job setting the tone for the year and board
- Very present and outgoing

Feedback from fellow Executives:

- Meeting Agenda's and Scheduling could have been earlier
- Supportive
- Could head off problems a little earlier

Executive Review – VP Finance Rajat Arora

Goals:

- **Achieving a non deficit budget**
This goal remained ongoing throughout the term. Progress was made by regularly assessing funds that had been distributed and waiting for remaining funds to be collected from the university.
- **Strengthening SUO budget oversight**
This goal was also ongoing throughout the term. Progress was made by consistently reviewing where money was being spent, setting clear spending limits, and keeping track of expenses to avoid overspending. Enhancing financial transparency
This goal was successfully completed by the end of the term. The budget was published on the SUO website, and graphs and charts were made available for students to view.
- **Streamlining SA financial processes and use of Rubric platforms**
This goal is still ongoing. Progress was made through gathering feedback on whether Rubric is a suitable platform to continue using in the future.

Executive Review – VP Finance Rajat Arora

Feedback from Staff

- Watched the budget effectively
- Handled club funding on time
- Could have been stricter on not breaking deadlines for new club funding

Executive Review – VP Finance Rajat Arora

Feedback from fellow Executives:

- Has strong handling skills and manages responsibilities well.
- Is very vocal, clear, and straightforward when discussing financial matters, which helps to maintain transparency within the SUO.
- Regularly attends office hours and remains available when needed.
- Is firm, upfront, and direct in communication, which helps avoid confusion.
- Stayed focused on assigned tasks and did not get distracted

Executive Review – VP Internal Shreya Patnaik

Goals:

- Governance & Policy Development
 - Led a comprehensive review of SUO bylaws, strengthening governance structures and improving policy clarity and operational efficiency across committees; presented key updates at the Policy Committee and AGM.
 - Chaired the first Student Association Strategic Committee, drafting a comprehensive action plan with targeted recommendations to improve membership operations; successfully presented the framework at the AGM, driving alignment on future improvements.
 - Developed a detailed proposal for an Indigenous Representative role, outlining structure, responsibilities, and implementation framework; while not adopted, it contributed to ongoing discussions on representation and inclusivity.

Executive Review – VP Internal Shreya Patnaik

Goals:

- **Transparency & Communication**
 - Implemented **student transparency initiatives through social media**, including short-form explanatory content explaining policy decisions, significantly improving student awareness and accessibility of SUO actions.
- **Events & Initiatives**
 - Organized and executed the **first-ever Student Association Gala**, celebrating student association executives and achieving strong engagement and positive reception.
 - Introduced and distributed **certificates of recognition to SA executives**, a first-time initiative to formally acknowledge contributions.
 - Established the **Health and Dental Plan Working Group**, improving awareness and accessibility of student benefits through social media .



Executive Review – VP Internal Shreya Patnaik

Goals:

- **Student Engagement & Outreach**
 - Increased **Student Association engagement and trust** by actively attending and supporting club events and Course Union AGMs, fostering stronger on-ground relationships between SUO and student bodies.
 - Attended **approximately 70 Student Association events**, demonstrating consistent presence and commitment to student engagement.
 - Successfully organized **two Student Association Orientations and EXPOs**, strengthening outreach and onboarding for student groups.

Executive Review – VP Internal Shreya Patnaik

Goals:

- **Oversight & Accountability**
 - Chaired the **Student Association Oversight Committee**, convening multiple times each month to address concerns.
 - Ensured **prompt and effective resolution of complaints** from Student Associations, strengthening accountability and responsiveness within SUO.

Executive Review – VP Internal Shreya Patnaik

Staff feedback:

- Shreya upholds the principle and practice of good governance.
- She is open to different opinions. When controversy arose during the process of making recommendations for the policy,
- She always consulted a third opinion and professional advice. She committed to transparency of our organization from policy perspective and made efforts to make policy accessible to student body, which really demonstrates her commitment to serving students
- Very deliberate in executing goals and backing during staff absence
- Very well intentioned
- Dealing with clubs and offering promises could have used more consultation
- Fulfilled campaign promises effectively
- Needs to set boundaries with clubs
- Better preparedness with planning is advised
- Some more organization and time management would be beneficial

Executive Review – VP Internal Shreya Patnaik

Fellow Executive Feedback:

- Communication was good
- Committed to ensuring the SUO is as transparent and open with students as possible.
- Big appreciation for the Student Association Gala and her push for in-camera meeting summaries

Executive Review – VP Campus Life Ashley Kyei-Badu

Goals:

- **1. Increasing Accessibility and Affordability**

Multiple subsidized or free events were organized for students.

Events typically cost around \$5 or were completely free.

Initiatives included regular programming such as events like Paint Nights and Carnival-style activities.

- **2. Increasing Student Participation in Campus Life**

Student engagement has been somewhat lower compared to the previous year.

Some events were successful (e.g., Paint Night sold out).

Some events were postponed or cancelled due to low turnout (e.g., Clash of Clubs).

Efforts are being made to improve promotion and outreach to clubs.

- **3. Building Community and Sense of Belonging**

More culturally diverse events were introduced.

Student feedback has been collected, though responses through social media have been limited.

Executive Review – VP Campus Life Ashley Kyei-Badu

Goals:

- **4. Building Institutional Memory**

Work is underway to improve transition documentation for future VP Campus Life roles. A transitional document was submitted and passed down to the incoming VP Campus Life.

Executive Review – VP Campus Life Ashley Kyei-Badu

Staff Feedback:

- UBC has shared with staff that they are quite happy with Campus Life Operations and Culture this year
- Strong in organizing meetings
- Developed good partnerships with clubs
- Event attendance could have been better but materials for the events were always ready to go
- Great small events

Executive Review – VP Campus Life Ashley Kyei-Badu

Fellow executives Feedback:

- Great to work with
- Attention to responsibilities going forward is advised
- Communication was up and down
- Don't take on tasks you may not have time for
- Reminder to send regrets or cancel meetings when they are busy

Executive Review – VP External Olivia Lai

Goals:

- **Goal 1:** Supporting students' physical and mental health by ensuring all students have access to a proper meal. Hoped to focus on food insecurity one student at a time. Planned to secure \$35,000 in additional funding from sponsorships.
- **Goal 1 Completed:** Started the SUO Community Meal program where we partnered with PICNIC and served two free meals for breakfast and lunch on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The program was a success, and we served over 7,500 students. Although, we could not provide three free meals, PICNIC had already provided a free meal program on Tuesdays. As for sponsorships, we secured over \$40,000, surpassing the \$35,000 goal.
- **Goal 2:** Transit has long been one of the greatest frustrations for students. Though we have made tremendous progress by adding additional routes and increasing the frequency of routes, Olivia's goal is to continue creating awareness of our students' needs by continuing to advocate for more frequent and reliable services.
- **Goal 2 Completed:** In consultation with the City of Kelowna, Olivia was able to advocate for an increase in bus service hours for the 84-bus route for the 2026-2027 year.

Executive Review – VP External Olivia Lai

- **Goal 3:** With the Mental Health of our students being a long-standing priority, Olivia's goal is to achieve a sense of community on our campus. While listening to the needs of our students I have come to appreciate that faith and community often go hand in hand. They plan on collaborating with our campus partners, including Chaplains, to become part of our campus activities.
- **Goal 3 Completed:** Olivia partnered with 14 different faith / spiritual / religious groups to create our first Spiritual and Multi-faith fair. We had high engagement with 300 students attending through our BBQ, and we were able to gain insightful feedback for future spiritual wellness initiatives. We also partnered with Campus Chaplains, and the spiritual and multi faith centre to ensure all faiths were represented or at least supported.
- **Goal 4:** Though already discussed in Goal 3, Olivia wished to acknowledge student mental health and wellbeing through partnerships with Picnic, health, and Wellness etc. – making every attempt at tackling loneliness from a different angle. The goal is to provide a holistic approach to mental health with the goal of each student feeling heard.
- **Goal 4 Completed:** During Valentine's week, we were able to host a Spread Love Campaign. Student's participated by sharing their thoughts on a whiteboard about words of encouragement to other students. We also had a Spread Love Mental Health kit station where students could build a kit and add snacks, roses, and cookies.



Executive Review – VP External Olivia Lai

- **Goal 5:** BCFS and SUO collaboration. Goal was to collaborate with the BCFS to lobby for an updated funding model. The current model is outdated by more than 20 years, and they are looking to spend some quality time and energy advocating for a much-needed change in this model, one that represents the needs of our current and future students rather than the existing model.
- **Goal 5 Completed:** Olivia attended the B.C. Legislature twice, where they got to participate in lobbying efforts for the BCFS and BC3 coalitions. We advocated for an updated funding model, increased funding for post-secondary education, and a protection for the TLP (Tuition Limit policy) 2% cap. The goal was completed as we discussed provincial issues and lobbied for change to the NDP Government.

Executive Review – VP External Olivia Lai

Staff Feedback:

- Overall communication was good
- An understanding of other people's timelines and responsibilities would be good
- Very effective in her role
- Remember that staff handle many requests and some tasks take time
- When developing posts and materials communication with communications staff could have been better to avoid toes being stepped on
- Communicate with the communications staff that you plan to use different materials and post your own content

Executive Review – VP External Olivia Lai

Fellow Executive Feedback:

- Great job connecting with external parties
- Great at getting sponsorships
- Lobbying and communication with politicians was great
- Advocated well for students
- Dependable and dedicated
- Remember not to rush people as fellow executives and staff have responsibilities and goals as well

Executive Review – Conclusion

Overall:

- Very effective group of executives
- Public and student relations was great
- Event execution was great
- Great at setting tone and expectations
- No major issues and overall year was a success on many fronts

Executive Review – Conclusion

Constructive Feedback:

- Group could have been more cohesive
- Less clashing with event planning, a more united front avoids labour splitting
- Communication with the front desk about missing drop-in office hours could have been better
- Avoid promising more than what the staff can handle
- Consult each other for advice and help more often

Recommendations

- Better definition of staff roles for who to go to for specific tasks would help future executives
- Future and returning executives need to be respectful of staff having many tasks and responsibilities on top of their own requests
- Early communication to staff to help or conduct tasks is advised
- Executives need to respect the time of the Oversight Chair and respond on time more effectively
- A communication protocol for dealing with external communications would be great
- Future and returning executives need to have restraint and not overstep staff if staff are already helping or inform staff of changed plans

Thank you!
Questions?



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