



GSS Council Meeting Agenda

Updated: 14 Aug 2012, 9:13am (China time)

**Aug 16, 2012 5:30 PM
GSS Ballroom**

**Dinner at 7:00
Social after @ Patio or Ballroom**

Link to Agenda and supporting materials:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pjgtrykuy8xm55v/iqf93BdTBn>

Present: Joel Atwater, Molly Campbell (proxy), Ambrose Chan, Cara Dong, Michael Fairchild, Gwen Huber, Mary Jinglewski, Conrad King, Robert Klinzmann, Vivian Lam, Conny Lin, Jan Luedert, Anna Lund, Kristan Marchak, Natalie Marshall, Victor Padilla, Radu Racovita, Hafizur Rahman, Jahidur Rahman, Sabrina Rashid, Chris Regier, Chris Roach, Elie Sarraf, Paul Save, Stephania Schwartz, Cory Shankman, Natasha Sihota, Maxim Stykow, David Waddell, Stephanie Williams, Yunfei Zhang, Ling Zhang, Ting Ting Zhou, Cynthia Min, Brenda Fitzpatrick

Regrets: Stephanie Avery-Gomm, Michael Begg, Amanda Grochowich, Christine Hochbaum, Sarah Jo, Rabia Khan, Sancho McCann, Ingrid Olson, Andrew Patterson, Ling Zhang, TingTing Zhou.

I. Call to order 5:42pm

II. Adoption of agenda

III. Introductions (Speaker, Joel Atwater)

IV. Presentations & relevant motions

1. Collegia

Chad Hyson and Kim Kiloh {presenter} (10 min) followed by Q&A (15 mins) and closing remarks by VP Admin (2 mins)

This is a follow up presentation to the previous questions brought up at Council. Discussion of the concept development. Initially developed with the AMS, and had concerns identified. Directed towards 50% of the population that commutes to improve the university experience. A number of these institutions are already in Canada, like Trinity Western. Had first been approached around 2011. Questions of membership model- there is a preference for one without membership fees. Objectives are to have a "home away from home" for commuters. This is a key tactic of the Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy. Similar model exists at UBC-O. Focus is on graduate student members, and first year students. \$75 member per term. Will have a student advisor at all times to host. Estimate 250 students per Collegium. Have it by 2016/17.

Questions:

Was there space allocated for grad students only in the collegia proposal for UBC?

-Yes, the one here at the GSS (The Penthouse).

Do you know what the commute times are?

-We know generally overall, and how it impacts how they spend time on campus.

Students often have to commute because it is too costly (rent prices, etc.)- given that, if this is the group in question, then can you explain why you'd put in a membership fee?

-The model has been developed at \$75 per student per term. It covers costs to staff the space. For the majority of students it wouldn't be a large barrier. For those that it is, we don't want to limit them so we will build in mechanisms for this. Also will have free coffee, tea, and honor bar for direct financial offsets.

Renovation costs- is that a one time cost?

-Cost is tied to how much renovation is needed per site. This is University funding that is already committed.

Have you discussed leases?

-Yes, it would be a sub-lease of the Penthouse (if the GSS agrees) that we would negotiate.

What will the selection process be for the membership selection?

-Good question. Still needs to be developed. Need to evaluate over time.

BIRT the Council directs the GSS Executive to engage in formal negotiations with VPS and UBC regarding the Collegia Project at the Penthouse in the Graduate Student Center

BIFRT that the GSS Executive will present the final contract to the Council for ratification

Moved: Cory **Seconded:** Chris Regier

Victor Motivates.

Debate.

Concerns about the figures being to fix the internal space, not the external. Should also lower income question, too. And find out best use of space rather than voting on this single option. Lease will be for 5 years, let's think about this.

Understand this is a timing issue- they are only offering this now.

-There are some other options, but this is the most developed.

Not comfortable not knowing what other options are. Might table this motion later.

-There's not a lot now. Bookings, Collegia, or do it ourselves? GSS has tried doing this before, tried to make the Penthouse into a community kitchen. We don't have the resources to do it.

This is the Executive team asking you, do you want us to explore this direction? They need more commitment from us to go forward.

After examining proposal, we concede that fees are not the greatest obstacle. Spots could be filled by the wealthiest students. Few students see benefit of Collegia. GSS would give up \$25,000 at least in bookings income. This would support less than 3% of members. Would lose this gorgeous space. Converting Penthouse is not a good idea!

-When GSS has the new space at the AMS things will change. Rental revenues here could go down then. Not sure if this is a good idea at all.

\$25,000 is from past with little motivation from former bookings staff. What do you want me (Rob) to do with this? I hope to get a lot more, if that's what you want me to do. That room is our main seller, and we are making people pay for it. All of you (graduate students) can have it now for free. No one is asking me to organize that at the moment.

-\$25,000 is from Graduation Ceremonies- even if the new SUB goes up, they should still be here.

Lots of pros and cons for this. Intrigued about options. Has a lot of potential. But now we are wasting the time of people involved in the project.

Main concern is that this is a limited target audience. (first year grad students) It's a very specific and exclusive target. There are some amenities like this already in Buchanan D (showers). Takes a while for students to get used to it.

Motion to extend time by 5 minutes.

Moved: Conny Seconded: Cory

Share concerns about taking space away. Not sure we can use it effectively, though. We have a lounge in Law like this and it never gets used.

Can you raise your hand if you don't have office space? (6 or so do)

-Don't think this is about office space, it's more about social space.

It's not about that. Though some of us would love to have a place to put a backpack so we don't have to carry it all day long. But this location is far.

-Location- please go check it out! It has the best view on campus. Jaw dropping sunsets.

Some concerns are valid, but this proposal means we are entering in an agreement. We could promote this space more. I'm for it to enter in negotiations.

When the new SUB is there, we'll have two study spaces and a place to study. We're not taking that away. We're not losing it.

Have agreed with both pros and cons. Promotion is done by UBC- those 250 will hopefully participate in GSS activities, and this we are not doing it well now.

Motion Fails.

Against: 12

Abstentions: 6

2. Budget

Robert Klinzmann (5 min) followed by Q&A (10 mins) Have switched the budget over to the fiscal year; every prior executive violated it. Explains different departments in the presentation. Goes over revenue, costs, subsidized, etc. for the various departments. Explains that half of the budget goes for labor costs. Explains last year we did not have CASA fees (costs us \$28,000 + travel costs). Explains awards, donations and other costs. I would like to introduce a better funds structure. This is useful for the DOFs, for example. Would like to do this for CPIF and legal fees. Membership income of almost

\$500,000 is received. Net budget is \$8600 over. This is unrestricted. The most important part is that there is something positive!

Motion to extend time to 5 minutes

Moved: Mary Seconded: Vivian

Questions:

EOC stipend is budgeted at...?

- \$200.

What do we pay for CASA? Per student?

-\$28,000 total. And must add travel costs. Costs us around \$50,000.

How much do students pay per?

-It's fixed, now we pay 50 for membership fees, subtract \$49,000 or so in CPIF.

Like Robert said, we have some money left, so it would be great if you had some ideas.

BIRT the Council adopt the budget as presented.

Moved: Cory Seconded: Chris

Motion Carries.

3. Green Room

Robert Teagle, Bookings coordinator (10 min) followed by Q&A (5 mins)

Explains current booking system. Talks about potential revenue, projects, online booking, calendar, building issues, maintenance, working with the Koerner Foundation, renovations, helping grad students, contracts, and the Green Room (shows slides from the Green Room transformation, done in 2 days!), developing booking software. We are often the first point of contact with the GSS!

Questions?

This is phase one, what is the next step?

-Will talk to architects, and find out how feasible and fast it can get done!

*Can we use CPIF? No, don't think so...it is only for the building. Wanted to clarify it.
-We are only using money for renovations! We have a great VP Finance looking out.
Thank you Rob for doing this! We need more victories like this!*

4. GSS Advocacy Office seasonal report

Elie Sarraf & Brenda Fitzpartick, Advocacy coordinators (5 min) followed by Q&A (5 mins) Report of activities to Council as recommended by HR. Speaks about the four cases this year, ongoing. Had one emergency funding case, one disciplinary case. Had discussion about our new office. Doing liaison with Graduate Student Wellness Center, also working with Disability Task Force with Christine. Also attended workshops. Also in contact with Alison Wong, will have more conversations with her. Have regular meetings with AMS and ombudsperson. Have presentation about building supervisor relationships.

Motion to Recess: Passes Unanimously

(30 minute recess for dinner)

V. Executive Remarks (5mins max. each report)

- *President, Conny Lin: Approached by UBC to organize this by September- The Terry Fox Cancer Research Run. Have passed it on to Chris Roach for the future. Most of my time was spent (two weeks) in China representing students. Main thing we talked about is the exchange between students to China. There's a disproportionate amount going back and forth. Most attendees are from China- main issues are quality assurance and professional development. Current committee topics are CASA, F05; we are getting support from AcEx Committee. Was elected as chair there, and am attending meetings. Will need help with that!*
- *VP Administration, Victor Padilla: Lots going on- the main thing is the RFP for the Pub. We issued it after the previous council meeting. Have 4 candidates now. Was in a lot of Collegia meetings. Worked on the Green Room Project. Working on the Archivist project, thanks to Mary J for helping set that up, for the next 3 months, set it up. Have one centralized one. We are having Koerner's Day on August 31st at 11:30am. Talk about heritage and history of the building- will even have never-seen footage of the building's opening!*
- *VP Services, Yunfei Zhang: Orientation prep is coming to an end. This is the biggest event for us! Go to the website to see it. It will start from Aug. 29th and run to Sept. 7th. Will host new students and old. We may need your help to introduce our events to new students in your department. Also working on the international cultural festival, which we are cooperating with the AMS and the President. We are going to Deep Cove this weekend, let me know if you would like to go as we have some free spots!*

- VP Finance, Robert Klinzmann: *My big part was working on the budget. Will work on that funds structure.*

VI. Committee Chair and Representative Reports (5mins max, each report)

(none)

VII. Approval of Minutes

1. Council Minutes

BIRT the minutes of the GSS Council meeting dated *July 26, 2012* be approved as presented.

Moved: Chris Roach **Seconded:** Victor

Supporting Document: Council 2012-07-26 minutes

Motion Carries.

2. Committee minutes

BIRT the minutes of *Academic and External Meeting 2012-07-24, Code and Policy 2012-07-24, Executive 2012-07-23, House Finance 2012-07-24, and Services 2012-07-03, Human Resource 2012-07-23* be approved as presented.

Moved: Chris **Seconded:** Cory

Supporting Document: AcEx 2012-07-24 minutes, CPC 2012-07-24 minutes, Exec 2012-07-23 minutes, HF 2012-07-24 minutes, Services 2012-07-03 minutes, and HR 2012-07-23 minutes

Approved

VIII. Seatings, unseatings & appointments

1. Notice of unseatings (no vote necessary)

BIRT Cory Shankman has submitted his resignation and is to be unseated from the *Executive Oversight Committee* and as the Chair of the Committee.

BIRT Anna Lund would like to be unseated from the *EOC Committee*.

BIRT Kenji Scott be seated on the *EOC*.

BIRT Cara Dong be seated on the *Academic and External Committee*.

Motion Passes.

Special Resolution:

EOC chair appointment.

BIRT *Max Stykow* be appointed as EOC chair.

Moved: Cara Seconded: Victor

Motion Passes.

2. Seatings

BIRT *Gwen Huber* (Forestry) be seated as representative in the Graduate council

BIRT *Max Stykow* be appointed as the Chair of *Executive Oversight* Committee

BIRT *Conrad King* be seated on the House Finance Committee

Moved: Cara Seconded: Mary

Motion Passes.

IX. Motions

(max. 3 min. for motivation; 15 min. for discussion; 2 min. per question)

Gwen Motivates.

1. Committee Terms of Reference Revision Part I

Supporting Document: P6.Committee TOR revision

Link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/i15nkkonzw7uz25/P6.Committee%20TOR%20revision.pdf>

a) Policy 6.1. Standing Committee

BIRT Policy 6.1 be revised as presented in *P6.Committee TOR revision*

Moved: Gwen Huber

Seconded: Code and Policy Committee, Executive Committee

b) Policy 6.2. Academic and External Committee

BIRT Policy 6.2 be revised as presented in *P6.Committee TOR revision*

BIFRT Policy 6.5, External Affairs Committee be deleted as presented in *P6.Committee TOR revision*

Moved: Gwen Huber

Seconded: Code and Policy Committee, Academic & External Committee

c) House and Finance

BIRT Policy 6.6 Finance Committee and Policy 6.7 House Committee be combined and re-numbered as presented in *P6.Committee TOR revision*

Moved: Conny Lin

Seconded: _____

d) Human Resources – policy # changes

BIRT Policy number for Human Resources Committee be revised as presented in *P6.Committee TOR revision*

Moved: Conny Lin

Seconded: _____

e) Services Committee

BIFRT Policy 6.8, Services Committee be adopted as presented in *P6.Committee TOR revision*

Moved: Yunfei Zhang

Seconded: Communication Committee, Code and Policy Committee (only policy 6.8.1-6.8.3)

Moved as Omnibus Discussion of all motions.

Approved Unanimously.

In terms of transparency, these have been separated piece by piece.

Motion Carries.

Abstentions: 3

X. Discussion Period

***Cory is honored for his dedicated service to the GSS Council. Thank you!**

XI. Other Business

- Please fill out
 - Pub Straw Poll
 - Council Retreat feedback: Couldn't access googledocs in China, will do it soon!
- **Acadia Park Residence** issue: *Academic & External Committee is asking for someone who is passionate to represent the GSS on this issue. AMS is asking us for help! If you know anyone, please send them to Conny, as she needs to send a delegate.*
(Sabrina Rashid volunteers)

XII. Notice:

- Strategic Plan Update will come to Council in Sept 2012
- **CASA Policy and Strategic Conference Report:** "President_Report to Council_CASA PolicySTtratConf_20120815_1521.pdf" Dropbox link:
https://www.dropbox.com/s/h201wjweccirwc5/President_Report%20to%20Council_CASA%20PolicySTtratConf_20120815_1521.pdf
- Policy revision/amendment for next Council
 - Officers job description revision
 - Executive Committee Terms of Reference revision
 - House Finance Terms of reference revision

XIII. Next meeting & Adjournment

XIV. Meeting adjourned: 8:12pm

Moved: Mary Seconded: Chris

The next Council Meeting shall take place on Sept 20, 2012
Special Guest, Executive Director, Koerner's Foundation