

A. Attendance

1. Present: Bradley Balaton, David Gil, Elham Abouei, Jeanie Malone, Kevin Doering, Alyssa Kirlin, Anna Vozna, Atefeh Mohammad Vali Samani, Emily Leischner, Emily Murphy, Heather Mackay, Jun Sian Lee, Kallan Lyons, Katerina Othonos, Lisa Zhu, Madison Bolger-Munro, Balsher Singh Sidhu, Megan Russell, Moutoshi Saha, Francisco Gallegos, Erik Frieling, Nicole So, Peter Musser, Theresa Pauly, Zeynab Nosrati, Zoe Lam, Keskin Owusu Poku, Darren Touch, Yangfan Zhang, Taran Dhillon, Amber Shilling, Hanna Murray, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi, Teilhard Paradela.
2. Regrets: Lily Takeuchi, Nathaniel Lim, Nandinee Haq, Mohammad Chaudhry,
3. Absent: Claire Grégoire, Nayid Contreas, Eric Ottenbacher, Arjun Banghela.
4. Quorum: 19 Councillors

B. Call to Order & Adoption of the Agenda

1. The meeting will be called to order at 5:30 pm.
2. BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.
MOVER: Krish M. SECONDER: Alyssa K.

For (24): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Madison Bolger-Munro, John Dupuis, Erik Frieling, David Gill, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirlin, Zoe Lam, Jun Sian Lee, Atefeh M.S, Emily Murphy, Hanna Murray, Peter Musser, Zeynab Nosrati, Katerina Othonos, Teilhard Paradela, Theresa Pauly, Sebastien Rettie, Megan Russell, Amber Shilling, Nicole So, Yangfan Zhang, Lisa Zhu

Motion Passed.

C. Introductions

D. Urgent presentations

a. Ballroom Space Usage: UBC Ceremonies

- i. *Group responsible:* UBC Ceremonies Office, Eilis Courtney, Director, Ceremonies and Events
- ii. *Presentation time:* 5 minutes
- iii. *Presentation description:* Presentation on future rental of Graduate Student Centre Ballroom for Graduation
- iv. *Proposed objective:*
- v. *Relevant materials:* <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jBGY5YHh->

KRmppiPXU6__3aLwGAdvT7zW/view?usp=sharing

Questions:

Bradley: Can ceremonies plan to move somewhere else?

Presenter: We did an informal review of it, and even if it happened, it would take two to three years. It takes a long time to plan and actually get things started, so we can't move.

Alyssa: There's Peter Wall Institute and Sage Bistro, have you considered those spaces?

Presenter: It's not usable and there are no other buildings. Also, the alumni centre is too far to walk.

b. Ballroom Space Usage: FG+PS

- i. *Group responsible:* Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies office– Dr Susan Porter and Jens Locher
- ii. *Presentation time:* 10 minutes
- iii. *Presentation description:* _____
- iv. *Proposed objective:* _____
- v. *Relevant materials:*

Questions:

Alyssa: We also have spaces here in the loft, how about those spaces?

Presenter: It's convenient to have our events there because it's not too far from our office. The Ballroom is better fitted to provide more varieties of events.

David: Where would the Grad Life Centre be?

Presenter: It would be in the GSS building.

Peter: Having the Grad Life Centre in the Ballroom is not that great for grad students because it's located in the northern part of the campus, and we have a lot of students who are off campus.

Presenter: Still there are many students who come to the building. If you have evenings that you would like to meet with other people, the GSS space would be ideal.

Krish: Why is FG+PS doing this now? The need has been there for a long time. What's changed?

Presenter: It did not bubble up to a priority. We had so many other things to take

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

care of. But it is now, because we need the Ballroom to provide better facilities for grad students.

Hanna: There were several very pressing issues for the GSS Execs and the faculty has been excited about the Grad Life Centre for several years.

Presenter: So our issue boils down to having a permanent lease by Sauder vs. current multi-use of ballroom.

Nicholas: How would the Grad Life Centre be applicable to a greater population of students?

Presenter: It applies to all grad students and we'll look into benefiting the whole student body as a whole.

c. Renting Out the Ballroom: Sauder

- i. *Group responsible:* Sauder School of Business– **Linda K. Tommasini** (Director, Sauder Resources and Operations), John Ries (Senior Associate Dean, Research, Sauder)
- ii. *Presentation time:* 10 minutes
- iii. *Presentation description:* _____
- iv. *Proposed objective:* _____
- v. *Relevant materials:*
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zre7TozYcAtlj_hZentfaz_nhehz64Lf/view?usp=sharing

Questions:

Peter: If you still need the office space for the Master of Business Analytics, we have spaces in this building so you don't need to renovate the space.

Presenter: The Ballroom is more ideal, but we want everyone to be happy, so if we can figure out an alternative, we re open to it.

Krish: What is going to happen in 5 years?

Presenter: What you've just saw in the presentation with renovations to the building (in the relevant materials link).

d. 2016/2017 Financial Statement

- i. *Group responsible:* Erik Allas – Auditor from Tompkins Wozny chartered Professional Accountants
- ii. *Presentation time:* 10 minutes
- iii. *Presentation description:* GSS Finance Statement 2016/2017

- iv. *Proposed objective:* To present the 2016 Finance Statement of GSS to the GSS Council for approval
- v. *Relevant materials:*
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GE6VyAo_qZs8Q9p0bJ7IXhiNstWjQAS-/view?usp=sharing
- vi. *Motion:*

WHEREAS 7.4.1. (a) of the GSS Policy Manual enjoins the House Finance Committee to ensure the financial stability and accountability of all Society operations, and

WHEREAS 7.4.1. (a)(i) of the GSS Policy Manual requires that the House Finance Committee shall ensure the annual audit is organized at the end of the fiscal year and is completed for presentation to Council before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting, and

WHEREAS 7.4.1. (a)(iii) of the GSS Policy Manual requires the House Finance Committee to ensure that annual and quarterly financial statements are prepared and presented to Council in annual audit format, therefore

BIRT the GSS Council approve the 2016/2017 GSS Financial Statement.

MOVER: Keskine Owusu Poku

SECONDER: David Gill

Questions:

Alyssa: What's causing the dip in the revenue from Koerner's Pub?

Keskine: the 60k from the Pub means 5k every month. At the end of the year, it says we can accept 6% of the revenue and anything above that, it pays back to the GSS.

Anna: is the 500k for the ballroom and the whole building?

Keskine: the ballroom alone is 52k

Krish: how do you make sure the numbers are accountable?

Keskine: the calculation must be made month by month and based on what they've been doing over the years, HF is to decide if we need to have a fixed amount or not.

Jennifer: The 6% of revenue was decided on their year end audits, and that 6% would not be affected.

For (25): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Darren Banghela, Taran Dhillon, John Dupuis, Eric Frieling, David Gill, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirilin, Zoe Lam, Jun Sian Lee, Emily

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

Leischner, Krish Maharaj, Emily Murphy, Hanna Murray, Peter Musser, Katerina Othonos, Keskin Owusu Poku, Teilhard Paradela, Theresa Pauly, Megan Russell, Moutoshi Saha, Balsher Sidhu, Yangfan Zhang, Lisa Zhu

Abstained: Sebastien Rettie

Motion Passed.

e. The Future of Recreation at UBC.

- i. *Proposed objective:* To present and seek feedback from graduate students regarding the Future of Recreation at UBC framework
- ii. *Group responsible:* Kavie Toor, Jenna Omassif
- iii. *Presentation time:* 10 minutes

Relevant materials: <http://www.recreation.ubc.ca/home-page/future-rec/>

Questions:

Amanda: is there a way to make this as affordable as possible?

Presenter: We're trying to come up with a reasonable rate, and our long term goal is to make it free of charge. We did work with the university and received five million dollars to upgrade the old sub to open up next February. The bigger campaign is to do with the new Recreation building. Therefore, having access to this system is the key.

f. Governance vs. Operations: A crash course on motions

- i. *Group responsible:* Amanda P. and Natalie M., GSS Governance & Accountability ad hoc Committee
- ii. *Presentation time:* 20 minutes
- iii. *Presentation description:* Review how the GSS manages the 'governance' vs. the 'operations' of the Society, and the role that Council plays, vs. the complementary roles that GSS Committees play. Review what makes a strong motion, when one is needed, and how motions get things done in our Society's structure.
- iv. *Proposed objective:* Review the distinct roles & responsibilities of Council and committees. Inform and encourage confidence, due diligence, and productivity in all relationships between Councillors/committees and Council.
- v. *Relevant materials:* Will be circulated as a reference to all Councillors after the presentation.

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

Natalie: Another reason for minutes is to allow us to make decisions. So having WHEREAS clauses and minutes is important to justify why we have come to our decision and why we need to come to council.

Amanda: As councillors, you are responsible for what happens in the GSS and doing it in an informed matter is important.

Speaker: I need a motion to extend time.

Mover: Anna Seconder: Krish

Five more minutes given to present.

For (22): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Darren Banghela, Madison Bolger-Munro, Taran Dhillon, Eric Frieling, David Gill, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirlin, Jun Sian Lee, Atefeh M.S, Krish Maharaj, Emily Murphy, Hanna Murray, Peter Musser, Katerina Othonos, Keskine Owusu Poku, Teilhard Paradela, Theresa Pauly, Nicole So, Christina Wiesmann, Lisa Zhu

Motion passed.

g. New Councillors

BIRT the following Seatings of new Councillors be approved:

Madison Bolger-Munro to be seated as Departmental Representative of Microbiology and Immunology.

Moutoshi Saha to be seated as Departmental Representative of Civil Engineering.

Kallan Lyons to be seated as Departmental Representative of School of Journalism.

MOVER: Taran Dhillon SECONDER: Bradley Balaton

For (23): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Darren Banghela, Madison Bolger-Munro, Taran Dhillon, David Gill, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirlin, Jun Sian Lee, Emily Leischner, Atefeh M.S, Krish Maharaj, Emily Murphy, Hanna Murray, Peter Musser, Zeynab Nosrati, Katerina Othonos, Keskine Owusu Poku, Teilhard Paradela, Sebastien Rettie, Balsher Sidhu, Nicole So, Lisa Zhu

Motion passed.

E. Approval of Minutes

1. GSS Council minutes for approval:

- a. *GSS Council minutes: Oct. 19, 2017.*
2. **Committee minutes for approval:**
 - a. *House Finance Committee: Aug. 02, 30; Sept. 13, 25; Oct. 16, 2017.*
 - b. *Services Committee: Sept. 11, 29; Oct. 11, 27; Nov. 8, 2017.*
 - c. *Executive Oversight Committee: November 3, 2017.*
 - d. *Governance & Accountability ad hoc Committee: October 11, 2017.*

Mover: Bradley Secoder: Katerina

For (20): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Madison Bolger-Munro, Taran Dhillon, Eric Frieling, David Gill, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirlin, Jun Sian Lee, Atefeh M.S, Krish Maharaj, Emily Murphy, Peter Musser, Zeynab Nosrati, Katerina Othonos, Keskine Owusu Poku, Teilhard Paradela, Sebastien Rettie, Moutoshi Saha, Lisa Zhu

Motion Passed.

... Next page: *Strategic Theme 3: Our Graduate Student Society*

F. Strategic **Theme 3: Our Graduate Student Society**: Presentations & Motions

Theme 3: Our Graduate Student Society

Vision: The GSS continually strives to improve its efficiency, transparency, accountability, and communication in order to better fulfill its Mission.

1. **Matters to Note**
 - a. See final section for written updates from:
 - i. *President*
 - ii. *Financial & Executive Oversight Officer*
 - iii. *Executive Oversight Committee*
 - iv. *Governance & Accountability ad hoc Committee*
 - v. *House Finance Committee*
 - vi. *Code & Policy Committee*
 - vii. *Human Resources Committee*
 - viii. *AMS Council*
 - ix. *Elections Committee*
 - x. *Senate*

b. Questions?

2. Matters for Decision

a. Rescheduling December Council

WHEREAS December 15th is the last day for final doctoral oral examinations in time for December 31st program end date and February degree granting;

WHEREAS several graduate students will be unavailable on the third week of December, based on past attempts of conducting GSS council in the month of December,

WHEREAS Policy 3.1.2 states that “Council may vote by special resolution to change the meeting date to an alternative Thursday within the same calendar month as the originally scheduled council meeting. “(GSS Policy Manual)”

BIRT the December 21st GSS council meeting be rescheduled to December 7th 2017.

MOVER: Alyssa

SECONDER: Bradley

For (18): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Darren Banghela, Madison Bolger–Munro, Taran Dhillon, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirlin, Jun Sian Lee, Atefeh M.S, Krish Maharaj, Peter Musser, Zeynab Nosrati, Katerina Othonos, Keskin Owusu Poku, Teilhard Paradela, Sebastien Rettie, Nicole So, Lisa Zhu

Against (3): Heather MacKay, Emily Murphy, Hanna Murray

Motion passed.

b. Seatings

i. Committee Seatings

All GSS Councillors are expected to sit on at least one committee.

Committees	Meeting Times
ACADEMIC AND EXTERNAL COMMITTEE The Academic and External Committee endeavours to promote the interests of graduate students within the University community and the society at large. The committee addresses academic matters, financial concerns and the political needs of graduate students.	
CODE AND POLICY COMMITTEE	Currently meets

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

<p>The Code and Policy Committee is responsible for reviewing the GSS Constitution, Bylaws, and Policy Manual. It collaborates with all other GSS committees, departments, and council to keep the bylaws and policies current. Up-to-date bylaws and policies reflect the will of the society and help the GSS run effectively. The Committee has just finished conducting a major revision of the Society bylaws, and are now in the process of updating the policy manual.</p>	<p>once a month. Regular schedule TBD</p>
<p>ELECTIONS COMMITTEE The Elections Committee is accountable for conducting annual Society elections.</p>	
<p>EXECUTIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE The Executive Oversight Committee is responsible for providing constructive performance review of elected GSS executive members, and for facilitating resolution of concerns about the functioning of the elected executive.</p>	<p>Biweekly schedule: Mondays 5:30- 7pm</p>
<p>GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY AD HOC COMMITTEE The Governance & Accountability ad hoc Committee ensures that the GSS as an organization is as effective as possible by reviewing the GSS governance structure, and helps the Society support UBC grad students by creating accountability to the vision and goals within the GSS Strategic Plan. This year, our main goals are (1) to provide recommendations to restructure the GSS as an organization, and (2) to help all GSS committees create and accomplish goals aligned with the Strategic Plan.</p>	<p>Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 5:00-6:30pm</p>
<p>GSS/AMS REFERENDUM AD HOC COMMITTEE The GSS/AMS Referendum Ad Hoc Committee conducts a needs assessment on the AMS services that graduate students currently use, drafts proposals for how to proceed as a Society, and prepares for a related 2018 referendum.</p>	<p>once a month as determined by a doodle poll</p>
<p>HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION AD HOC COMMITTEE The Harassment and Discrimination ad hoc committee has been struck to address the issue of harassment and discrimination which covers all aspects of graduate student life at UBC, including work as a Teaching Assistants, student-supervisor relationships, and peer-to-peer interactions, etc. The committee conducts research about student experiences not only across Canada, but also worldwide. The findings will be used to develop a code of conduct.</p>	<p>First Wednesday of each month, 3-8pm (we have long working meetings at the moment)</p>
<p>HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE The House Finance Committee works to ensure the financial stability and accountability of all Society operations. It is accountable for organizing the annual audit, preparing and monitoring the budget, and the creation of the annual business plan. In addition to all matters financial, the House Finance Committee is also responsible for overseeing the use of the physical facilities and equipment of the Graduate Student Centre, dealing with complaints and suggestions, and making recommendations to Council regarding the House and Rules, and the Venue Rental Policy.</p>	<p>Every second Monday at 5 PM</p>

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

<p>HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE The Human Resources Committee evaluates and reviews all coordinators and student staff, and provides regular reviews for the employee handbook of the Society. It is their responsibility to ensure all staffing needs are met.</p>	<p>Every Second Monday 5:30 PM</p>
<p>SERVICES COMMITTEE The Services Committee aims to provide diverse services to the UBC graduate student community through direct, face-to-face communication and interaction. Its main function is to plan programming and events that enhance the campus and community experience of UBC graduate students and their families.</p>	<p>Biweekly schedule alternating between Fridays at 4:30-6pm and Wednesdays at 5-6:30pm</p>

BIRT the following Seatings be approved:

- _____ to the Code and Policy Committee as an Ordinary Member. (2 needed).
- _____ to the Code and Policy Committee as a Councillor. (2 needed).
- _____ to the Code and Policy Committee as Chair. (1 needed)
- _____ to the Elections Committee as an Ordinary Member. (2 needed).
- _____ to the Elections Committee as a Councillor. (3 needed).
- _____ to the Executive Oversight Committee as an Ordinary Member. (1 needed).
- _____ to the Executive Oversight Committee as a Councillor. (4 needed).
- _____ to the Governance and Accountability Ad Hoc Committee as a Councillor (3 needed).
- _____ to the Harassment and Discrimination Committee as an Ordinary Member. (1 needed).
- _____ to the House Finance Committee as an Ordinary Member. (1 needed).
- _____ to the House Finance Committee as a Councillor. (1 needed).
- Christina Wiesmann to the House Finance Committee as a chair.
- _____ to the Human Resources Committee as an Ordinary Member. (2 needed).
- _____ to the Human Resources Committee as a Councillor. (2 needed).
- _____ to the Services Committee as a Councillor. (2 needed).

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

MOVER: Alyssa

SECONDER: Atefeh

For (21): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Darren Banghela, Madison Bolger-Munro, Taran Dhillon, David Gill, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirilin, Jun Sian Lee, Areezo M., Atefeh M.S, Krish Maharaj, Emily Murphy, Hanna Murray, Peter Musser, Katerina Othonos, Keskin Owusu Poku, Theresa Pauly, Balsher Sidhu, Nicole So, Lisa Zhu

Motion Passed.

c. Election of the Chief Electoral Officer:

WHEREAS the GSS Policy 12.1.1 states that GSS Council shall appoint a Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) no later than three months before the election of each year, and

WHEREAS the CEO will:

- Chair the GSS Elections Committee,
- Report to the Council meeting following the election and make recommendations on the election process and procedure,
- Prescribe and employ the necessary advertising strategies to call for nominations and to announce the date, time and place or method of polling,
- Prescribe the procedures for counting ballots and communicate these procedures to the Candidates before the counting begins,
- Announce the election results to the Society membership via the Society website, and
- Perform any other CEO responsibilities as laid out in the GSS Policy Manual, therefore

BIRT the GSS appoints Anna Ringsred as the Chief Electoral Officer for 2017-2018.

MOVER: Taran D.

SECONDER: Peter (Requires 2/3rds)

Questions:

Katerina: We'd love to have Anna as the CEO. But, anybody else wants to apply?

Taran: We advertised two weeks ago but no one else applied. We are excited to have her on board again.

For (25): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Darren Banghela, Madison Bolger-Munro, Taran Dhillon, Eric Frieling, David Gill, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirilin, Jun Sian Lee, Areezo M., Atefeh M.S, Heather MacKay, Krish Maharaj, Emily Murphy, Peter

Musser, Zeynab Nosrati, Katerina Othonos, Keskin Owusu Poku, Teilhard Paradela, Sebastien Rettie, Moutoshi Saha, Balsher Sidhu, Nicole So, Lisa Zhu

Motion passes.

d. Election of GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ON KOERNER LIBRARY TRANSFORMATION PROJECT COMMITTEE

WHEREAS the UBC Library is planning to renovate the 4th and 5th floors of the Koerner Library, and one of these floors shall be transformed into a graduate student space or graduate success commons and

WHEREAS the UBC Library has requested one graduate student representative on the Koerner Library Transformation Project Committee, and

WHEREAS the graduate student representative shall attend regular bi-weekly meetings with the staff and administration of UBC Library and brainstorm the design for the Graduate Students Space, therefore

BIRT that GSS appoints Ingrid Petro, Arash Shadkam as the graduate student representative to the Koerner Library Transformation Project committee.

MOVER: Taran Dhillon SECONDER: Alyssa Kirilin

Ingrid: I am a current student doing library studies. I have four degrees at ubc so I've seen the UBC change and how the studying styles changed. I have renovated libraries before and grad students need space for themselves for inter-disciplinary purposes.

Arash: I am in 2nd year of civil engineering. I've worked with designing, constructing and actual usages of spaces. I understand how to balance the design and actually constructing the pace.

Questions:

Teilhard: for both, how do you plan to represent our voices heard?

Ingrid: I plan to use surveys.

Arash: Aside from surveys there is an option of putting posters up to have people send us their ideas. Rezoning applications are received this way.

Peter: To you both, how much experience do you have in looking into library expansions and transformations?

Ingrid: I was in class studying designs of renovating spaces from the US.

Arash: It was not specific to libraries, but it takes me about two weeks to learn new things, and understand the new concept.

For (19): Bradley Balaton, Madison Bolger-Munro, David Gill, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirlin, Jun Sian Lee, Areezo M., Atefeh M.S, Heather MacKay, Emily Murphy, Peter Musser, Zeynab Nosrati, Katerina Othonos, Keskine Owusu Poku, Teilhard Paradela, Theresa Pauly, Sebastien Rettie, Balsher Sidhu, Lisa Zhu

e. PRESENTATION BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON BALLROOM SPACE USAGE

Group responsible: CHRISTINA WEISMAN AND KESKINE

Presentation time: 10 minutes

i. *Presentation description:* _____

ii. *Proposed objective:* _____

WHEREAS the GSS Ballroom has been under-utilized in recent years

WHEREAS the GSS council approved the GSS to enter into rent or rent-type temporary agreements with UBC for any rooms at the Thea Koerner House (GSS building), except for Thea's Lounge, at the July 20, 2017 council meeting.

WHEREAS the decision to rent the GSS ballroom space must be made before end of November for renovations to begin as soon as possible

WHEREAS the GSS has held extensive discussions with Faculty of Graduate and Post Doctoral studies, UBC Ceremonies office, the Sauder School of Business, the UBC Infrastructure Development - Capital Planning, and the Assistant Treasurer, Contracts & Leases

WHEREAS the proposal from the Sauder School of Business offers the most value to graduate student society over the next 5 years

BIRT the House and Finance committee review and agree on specific terms and conditions prior to formal engagement in any binding agreement.

BIFRT the GSS council approve the GSS House Finance Committee to review and approve rental of the GSS Ballroom by the Sauder School of Business for the next 5 years following further negotiation.

Mover: Christina W. Seconder: Keskin O.

Questions:

Hanna: I was in meetings with FGS and they want to use that space for the grad students and we're not going to lose that space.

Alyssa: What is HF's opinion?

Christina: We'd like to rent it out to Sauder but we think the council needs to approve.

Peter: Are we really losing the space if we rent out to FGS/Ceremonies?

Keskin: the space will refuse to remain the same. We should not forget that we get that space back from Sauder after 5 years. It will be easier to convert the space for the Grad life Centre later.

Balsher: do you know how much of the labour would cost?

Keskin: If they use \$5200, it's \$5200 plus utilities. Sauder is willing to pay for the utilities and labour cost so there's nothing to worry for us.

Anna: Sauder seemed open to allow ceremonies to use the space has anyone spoken with them?

Christina: They did not explicitly said but ceremonies would not be able to use the space if SAuder used it.

Krish: We're up by 30k if Sauder rents, what's our next step after two of these options?

Keskin: Ceremonies will move out in three to five years. At the end of the five year period, the value of the building goes up with their investment and image. With \$800,000, there's no guarantee that any other parties will be willing to commit that amount of money. The option two does not give us as much certainty as the Sauder.

Theresa: Is that the final offer they have from the Sauder?

Keskine: There's room for negotiations, but we wanted to save that room for later. After graduation, they want to start renovating, and from December to March, they only have four months to prepare for their events.

David: we need to consider how Thea Koerner was initially intended to be used. It's not all about money.

Nicholas: We're running a balanced budget, and we don't see GSS's and graduate students' immediate benefit. How is this going to offset the opportunity cost?

Taran: We don't have a full time staff member and we've reduced a full-time staff to part time staff. Current usage is only 13% in one year. We need our finances to grow and increase our expenditure on grad students. The fee increase referendum was feared by grad students so we need to look for other options for revenue; renting out GSS spaces. Sauder offered us the lease and we are negotiating to get the best deal for the GSS. The other offices reached out to us only after they heard about this, and they came up with their proposals. Prior to Sauder's offer, they used to pay almost nothing until now. We have to make a decision here. We'd like to expand our staff, and executives have cut down on event funds, travel funds, and we are unable to hold events that we'd like to hold.

Keskine: we don't have a GM; he resigned and we made some savings there. If we want to hire a GM, no one will be willing to move in for an eight month period. Money is a serious issue. Grad students will still have the loft and Thea's Lounge and still make gains from the ballroom, and plus get a renovated space which will be usable for grad students.

Erik: Will the AO's have trouble finding spaces for themselves?

Keskine: TL is there and if we are to get a GM, our expenditure will rise and with this revenue, we can still make a lot of savings.

Claire: If we'd like to borrow the boardroom, would we have to pay money?

Keskine: None of the Grad students would have to pay except for labour, and that will stay the same over time. Other spaces will be made available to you with same rates.

Peter: Did you take into account political costs and benefits? Burning bridges between FGS will put us in bad terms in the longer run.

Christina: We should try to find more revenue, and renting out to Sauder which is more stable for us. Yes, there may be cons, but we don't feel we'd be burning that many bridges.

We're renting them much cheaper than any other places so they don't have much of a choice.

Katerina: how many GRad AO's rent the ballroom?

Keskine: GPS has rented four times. GPS - 17 times, Ceremonies office - twice, GSS (3 times), grad bookings (12 days out of 365 days).

Mover: EMILY SEconder: Keskine

For (21): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Darren Banghela, Madison Bolger-Munro, Taran Dhillon, David Gill, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirlin, Jun Sian Lee, Areezo M., Atefeh M.S, Krish Maharaj, Emily Murphy, Hanna Murray, Peter Musser, Katerina Othonos, Keskine Owusu Poku, Theresa Pauly, Balsher Sidhu, Nicole So, Lisa Zhu

Questions:

Atefeh: Dr. Susan has said she will support us no matter what decisions we come up with. This decision has been made five years ago and it should not be conditional. We should stand strong. This is a good proposal and it's more concrete and tangible.

Amanda: GPS did not make any promises. She kept saying dreaming and hoping. \$800,000 is a lot of money that university will never be willing to provide us. But with Sauder, the benefit we'll be getting after five years is huge. If you look at Sauder's renovation, it looks a lot more like a space for grad students. we don't have to wait for the GPS's to someday come up with the actual plans to set up the grad life space. We're at an advantage with the Sauder in negotiation.

Peter: To be fair, how much have we been going to them to ask for help? Keskine, you mentioned the idea to be in good place to negotiate. It's good but how much of that pressure to decide is real? Having a GM is a good thing, but we've been going for some time without having a GM. The space will serve for the five years, and only the Master of Business Analytics will be able to use.

Balsher: Two years of opportunity cost of losing other possible rent opportunities that might come in the future should not be dismissed. Also, we should reach out to non-UBC advocates and they may be willing to pay more than Sauder.

Hanna: The ceremonies and GPS were not aware that they would have a chance to make a proposal until very recently. Our past GM did not like the faculty, and our past president

was as well so the lack of relationship is on both of us. In terms of the space Sauder is trying to build, I am not convinced that it would be ideal for the Grad students.

Krish: We're at a benign neglect; the will is there but the follow through is not evident. The \$52,000 can be made up by renting out the Thea's Lounge or the Loft. We're struggling financially and we can just keep winging it. So, to provide us sustainability, we need financial support.

Katerina: Grad student bookings are only 12 times per year and most of them were in Thea's Lounge. We also have the loft space and options to book rooms at the AMS. We should advertise more on our other spaces as grad students can use and bring in more income.

Teilhard: 5 years with an option to renew - we need to clarify that. It could be seven years, and maybe 10 years. Regardless of decisions made tonight, we need to come up with long term goals. I would like to make a friendly amendment that we think about coming up with future goals. - creates a motion; a long term for the Koerner house, and a GM.

Keskine: there's always an opportunity cost. We need extra money to renovate the space. With our negotiation, all of them are desperate and with option A, they have a concrete plan. If we decide to go with the 2nd option, there's no guarantee that they'll come back to us. The only thing that'll be used if the offices. But we'll get the kitchen, and the bathroom. Either way, we gain something.

Darren: It's our responsibility to follow up with those who were in our place before us. We need to keep their promises and we need a place for the community.

Taran: The offer by FGS and Ceremonies (\$20k) is for the whole building. Sauder is only offering for the ballroom. The other two spaces will be used for the FGS and Ceremonies as they need them. The two parties did not give us any offers until Sauder made an offer. There's no commitment from the GPS and ceremonies' that they'll actually promise what they offered. We have a lot of spaces that are not utilized at all. Also, bringing the whole department (Master of Business Analytics) will have a good footfall in the building.

For (14): Elham Abouei, Madison Bolger-Munro, Taran Dhillon, David Gill, Alyssa Kirlin, Jun Sian Lee, Atefeh M.S, Krish Maharaj, Emily Murphy, Katerina Othonos, Keskine Owusu Poku, Theresa Pauly, Christina Wiesmann, Lisa Zhu

Against (7): Bradley Balaton, Darren Banghela, Hanna Murray, Peter Musser, Teilhard Paradela, Balsher Sidhu, Nicole So

Abstained: Eric Frieling

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

The GSS Ballroom contract goes to Sauder.

... Next page: Strategic Theme 2: Graduate Student Community

G. Strategic Theme 2: Community: Presentations & Motions

Theme 2: Graduate Student Community

Vision: The GSS supports UBC graduate students by fostering a positive, inclusive, and connected community on and off-campus, and by actively supporting initiatives to improve health and well-being.

1. Matters to Note

a. See final section for written updates from:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| i. VP Students | Committee |
| ii. Services Committee | iv. GSS/AMS Referendum Ad Hoc |
| iii. Harassment & Discrimination ad hoc | Committee |

b. Questions?

2. Matters for Decision

a. **Affiliate Organization Recognition**

i. *Motion:*

WHEREAS the **Library and Archival Studies Student Association** represents the entire student body of UBC's School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies, and

WHEREAS UBC's School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies has been solely a graduate program since 1971, and

WHEREAS the GSS Bylaw 3.5.2 states, "[a]ffiliate organization membership shall be for one year, or such other period determined by Council at the time affiliate membership is granted, provided that affiliate membership shall in no case be granted for more than two years at a time," and

WHEREAS the vision of Theme 3 of the GSS Strategic Plan states that, "[t]he GSS continually strives to improve its efficiency, transparency, accountability, and communication in order to better fulfill its mission," Priority 3.1 is to "improve the

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

efficiency, productivity, and effectiveness of GSS Council," and Priority 3.5 is to "strengthen GSS relationships with other graduate student-run or university-based groups at UBC," and

WHEREAS the Library and Archival Studies Student Association submitted a petition for recognition as an Affiliate Organization,

BIRT the Library and Archival Studies Student Association be designated an Affiliate Organizations for two years, ending at the meeting of Council in October 2019.

MOVER: Peter Musser SECONDER: David G.

Peter: To reduce the administrative burden it's better to extend to a two year term, and the Library and Archival Studies Student Association is composed only of grad students.

Bradley: Some organizations may forget to renew their membership if it's longer than one year.

Peter: It will not be too bad. The G&A will be happy to work with it.

Alyssa: Would other AOs be able to benefit the same?

Arezoo: Yes.

For (17): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Darren Banghela, Madison Bolger-Munro, Eric Frieling, David Gill, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirlin, Jun Sian Lee, Atefeh M.S, Emily Murphy, Peter Musser, Katerina Othonos, Keskin Owusu Poku, Teilhard Paradela, Nicole So, Lisa Zhu

Against (1): Krish Maharaj

Motion passes.

ii. *Motion:*

WHEREAS the following organizations have submitted a petition for recognition as an Affiliate Organization, therefore

BIRT the following Graduate Student Associations be Affiliated Organizations for two years, ending at the meeting of Council in November 2019.

- Master of Business Analytics Student Society
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Graduate Student Society

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

- Master of Public Policy and Global affairs

MOVER: Arezoo SECONDER: Alyssa

For (15): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Darren Banghela, Madison Bolger-Munro, David Gill, Jun Sian Lee, Atefeh M.S, Krish Maharaj, Emily Murphy, Hanna Murray, Peter Musser, Keskine Owusu Poku, Teilhard Paradela, Nicole So, Lisa Zhu

Motion passed.

... Next page: Strategic Theme 1: Graduate Student Academics

H. Strategic [Theme 1: Academics](#): Presentations & Motions

Theme 1: Graduate Student Academics

Vision: The GSS empowers UBC graduate students to succeed in their academic endeavours by conducting data-driven advocacy.

1. Matters to Note

a. See final section for written updates from:

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| i. VP University & Academic Affairs | iv. Graduate Council |
| ii. VP External Relations | v. Senate |
| iii. Academic & External Affairs
Committee | vi. Board of Governors |

b. Questions?

2. Matters for Decision

a. **Interdisciplinary Graduate Careers Fair and Networking Event**

- i. Group responsible: Amanda Pizio – CphyGS (Cell Biology and Physiology Graduate Society)
- ii. Presentation time: 5 minutes
- iii. Presentation description: We are in the process of organizing a careers event that involves as many graduate programs as possible. Looking for people to get involved. The more people from different areas that help, the more diverse the number of companies we can bring in, and the wider the spread of options that can be presented to graduate students.
- iv. Proposed objective: To present the Interdisciplinary Graduate Careers FAir and Networking Event to council and get graduate programs involved.
- v. Relevant materials: None.

Questions:

David: Have you talked to the GPS office?

Presenter: I haven't talked to them about the budget, but I've talked to the faculty

of Medicine and got 1k.

Arezoo: On Dec. 1st we're planning a dinner with all the AO's and this will be a good opportunity to spread words, and GSS may be able to sponsor this event.

David: I recommend talking to Arts co-op and Science co-op as well.

b. Resolution to advocate the interests of the residents of the Acadia Park Residence Association (APRA)

WHEREAS the Graduate Student Society (GSS) is the duly recognized organization of graduate students in UBC Vancouver, AND

WHEREAS the mandate of the GSS is to protect and promote the interests of all graduate students in UBC, and

WHEREAS a significant majority of the residents at Acadia Park, a 600-plus-unit student family housing in the UBC Vancouver campus, are graduate students; and

WHEREAS the Acadia Park Resident Association (APRA), the sole body that represents the residents of Acadia Park, have sought support from the GSS on their continuing problems with residents of neighbouring fraternity houses, and

WHEREAS the representatives of APRA have identified in their presentation to the November GSS council meeting that their main complaint for fraternity houses has been the level of noise, and

WHEREAS these issues have fostered tensed relations between the residents of Acadia Park and their fraternity neighbours as documented in various media coverage, and

WHEREAS these issues have festered for some years now and have remained unresolved despite numerous attempts of APRA to work with UBC, AMS, RCMP, University Neighbourhood Association or UNA, and, most especially, the UBC Interfraternity Council, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GSS, through its representatives, advance and advocate the interests of the residents of Acadia Park, to concerned authorities within the university community, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the GSS VP University and Academic Affairs will work with APRA to address their current problems by supporting and campaigning for their following asks:

(1) for fraternities in the UBC Vancouver Campus to follow student residences quiet hours regulations

(2) for the university administration to establish mechanisms for lodging noise complaints and penalties in respect to that and processes of mediation among the pertinent parties.

MOVER: Atefeh Samani

SECONDER: Alyssa Kirlin

Discussion:

Atefeh: Rabia came to us last council to talk and UBC does not have any discretion over the noise complaints in some areas. We want to support them and to bring this forward as they are part of the grad student society.

Darren: This feels like lobbying the school administration almost. I would like to hear from the fraternity to hear their side of the story before pushing this forward.

Alyssa: Objection to the point just raised. They are out of options, and none of fraternities are grad students.

Teilhard: They have felt really marginalized. With this show of support, the fraternities may be willing to work with us. APRA is the largest grad student residence.

Krish: We have to be concerned for their well being as they are a small group.

Atefeh: this motion is a priority. This is not us vs. them. It comes to advocating for their rights. They don't fall under any law or guidelines in term of getting their rights met.

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

For (15): Elham Abouei, Bradley Balaton, Madison Bolger-Munro, David Gill, Claire Gregoire, Alyssa Kirlin, Jun Sian Lee, Atefeh M.S, Krish Maharaj, Emily Murphy, Peter Musser, Katerina Othonos, Keskiné Owusu Poku, Teilhard Paradela, Nicole So
Against (1): Darren Touch

Motion passed.

... Next page: Matters for Discussion

A. Matters for Discussion

1. Strategic Theme 3: Our Graduate Student Society:

c. **For feedback: Preliminary GSS Governance Recommendations**

- i. **Proposed objective:** Collect feedback from Council to determine the future directions for GSS governance.
- ii. **Group responsible:** Peter M., Governance & Accountability ad hoc Committee
- iii. **Presentation time:** 10 minutes
- iv. **Presentation description:** The GSS Governance & Accountability (G&A) ad hoc Committee is mandated to identify gaps in the GSS governance structure and provide recommendations accordingly. At this time, this committee will share the most pressing gaps that we have identified and will ask for Council's feedback on which gaps to prioritize in the rest of our term. Finally, we will present possible ways forward for each gap, also for Council feedback. This presentation will also explain why the committee does not recommend conducting a new external governance review at this time.
- v. **Relevant materials:** Straw poll during the meeting, and will circulate a survey for further Council feedback by email after the council meeting.

Questions:

Alyssa: EOC has a scheduled a performance review.

2. Strategic Theme 2: Graduate Student Community:

a. **Reminder to Council: Ongoing survey prizes**

- i. Group responsible: Katerina Othonos
- ii. Presentation: 2 minutes
- iii. Presentation description: A quick reminder to council to complete the survey as the survey and prizes are ongoing and to advertise to their departments.
- iv. Proposed objective: To remind council to complete the survey and advertize it to their departments.
- v. Relevant material: None.

Referendum discussion:

Motion to move in camera

No more minutes recorded from this point onwards.

3. Strategic Theme 1: Graduate Student Academics:

- a. None at this time.

I. Notices

1. Notice of Next Meeting

- a. *Date:* December 7, 2017
- b. *Time:* 5:30 pm
- c. *Location:* Michael Kingsmill Forum, AMS Student Nest

2. Notice of Unseatings

Krish Maharaj to be unseated as Departmental Representative of Law.

Emma Watson to be unseated as Departmental Representative of Applied Science.

Christina Wiesmann to be unseated as Departmental Representative of Microbiology and Immunology.

Rachele Benjamin to be unseated as Departmental Representative of Psychology.

~~Arjun Banghela to be unseated as Departmental Representative of Bioinformatics.~~

Sarah-Nelle Jackson to be unseated as Departmental Representative of English.

Nathaniel Lim to be unseated as Chair of the Code and Policy Committee.

Jennifer Campbell to be unseated as the chair of the House Finance Committee.

3. GSS Updates

a. Strategic Theme 3: Our Graduate Student Society

i. President

- 2018 UBC Student Leadership Conference (SLC): on behalf of the entire 2018 SLC Planning Committee, I would like to extend an invitation to the Graduate Students Society to attend the Conference on Saturday, January 13th, 2018.
- Meeting with FOGPS: The GSS Exec members had meeting with the Dean, FGPS
- GSS councillors Retreat: The GSS Councillors retreat and Training event will be held on November 18th, Saturday from 12 noon–7 PM.
- Meetings updates attending the GSS HR Committee
 - ◆ 1. Response from the UBC HR regarding support for GSS staff members
 - ◆ 2. Employee Performance Review
 - ◆ I held meeting with the GSS staff members to brief them about the Employee Performance Appraisal Form (collected annually in November each year)
- Increase the continuing fees for international graduate students
- There is a submission by the Provost's Office to increase the continuing fees for

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

international graduate students to be the same as the tuition instalment amounts, for select programs.

- Meeting the Architect with the Koerner Transformation Project Committee:
 - ◆ I attended the meeting with the architect to help design the Graduate student space in the Koerner Library. The architect hired for this project is Perkins + Will (architects) located at 1220 Homer. Other members in the meeting included Susan E. Parker, librarian, UBC Library, Melody Burton MLS, Deputy University Librarian
- Meeting the Health and Dental planning committee: Meeting with Sophia and Bahareh, and CEO of Student Care Lev Bukhman
- Attended VPS AMS GSS meeting on November 1st
- Meeting with Nicholas Romualdi to prepare the plan for creating a software for management and making the job of GSS Admin Assistant easier.
- Meeting James Heth October 20th to discuss about the offer to lease from the Sauder School of Business.
- Meeting representatives from the Sauder School of Business to talk about their offer to lease for using the GSS ballroom space (8 Nov 2017 at 11 am)
- Talked with Lawyer Jason Koshman (Acumen Law) to get answers about the GSS AMS referendum. (Nov 9th)
- Meeting with GSS staff members to discuss about the employment performance review.
- Attended meeting with UBC Student Careers and Student Development (Oct 16, 2017)

ii. Financial & Executive Oversight Officer

-

iii. Executive Oversight Committee

- On November 3, 2017, the EOC Committee met to review the goals of the GSS Executive members to ensure that the goals are aligned to the GSS strategic plan and policy manual. On November 13, 2017, the committee met to review the progress made by the Executive Members on their goals thus far. The committee looks forward to meeting the GSS Executive Members individually, on Monday November 20 and Tuesday November 21, 2017, to complete the first of the three evaluations recommended in the GSS policy manual.

iv. Governance & Accountability ad hoc Committee

- GOVERNANCE: We have completed the initials steps of our internal review of the

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

GSS governance structure, identifying 8 top priorities and recommendations to address each. We will be coming to Council for feedback and direction this month in order to determine the top 4 priorities to focus our committee's attention on for the rest of our term (i.e. until the March 2018 AGM).

ACCOUNTABILITY: (re: GSS Committee Annual Goals) As required in our Strategic Plan, the G&A Committee is collecting annual goals from each GSS standing committee and external caucus, to ensure that all committees are setting goals aligned with the Strategic Plan. So far, 6/11 committee have submitted their goals, which we will present at the December Council meeting. Because this is the first year that such a process has occurred, we will be prioritizing taking feedback on how this process goes so that we can have the best possible process for goal-setting and evaluation in the next 4 years of our strategic plan (and beyond).

v. House Finance Committee

- HF meetings have been scheduled for every second Monday at 5PM
- Call for Committee Updates: Section G, Theme 1, 2, a, i: HF has begun a new evaluating the financial utility of our spaces. Recently, we have also been working on the new contract with Koerner's Pub.
- Committee Members Vacancy: 1 ordinary member seat and 1 councilor seat

vi. Code & Policy Committee

•

vii. Human Resources Committee

•

viii. AMS Council

- Our GSS senate nominee was accepted by the AMS and sent on to senate. One member of AMS council was questioning why the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies has 2 seats while all of the other faculties only have 1 and has started the AMS into looking into why that is and if that seat could be better used elsewhere.

ix. Elections Committee

- The elections committee has met with GSS marketing to develop a marketing campaign for this year's election. A large part of this year's campaign will be to create short videos that can be shared with students. One video will answer the question, "What is the GSS?" to get students engaged with the Society, which is the main hurdle to voter turnout according to past polls. The second video will be used to encourage students to run for GSS executive positions by interviewing

past executives. The first video is under way and the committee is working to find GSS executive alumni (10 years +) to interview."

b. Strategic Theme 2: Graduate Student Community

i. VP Students

- **Event Fund** has been approved for: Rehabilitation Science Executive Committee; School of Journalism Student Association; Reproductive and developmental sciences social organization; Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Graduate Student Association
- **Events:**
- **Thrive and Archery tag** was held on Nov 1st, and Nov 10th, respectively. 25 registered for the both. Thrive was mental health awareness event, and was a collaboration between GSS and wellness center.
- **Career Launchpad: Graduate Student Workshops & Professional Headshots** will be held on NOV 24th. Tickets for Professional headshots are sold out, and no limitations for the workshops participation.
- **Affiliated organization dinner** will be held at Dec 1st. This is sponsored by both GSS and UBC Vice president student's office.
- **Surveys has been run for recreational and French classes:** Between 80-90% were very satisfied and the rest were satisfied with them. Overall, about 80-90% Were saying very likely will take the classes again, and the rest were somewhat likely.
- **Off campus:** On NOV 20th, there will be "Building an Effective Graduate Supervisory Relationship workshop" at Children's hospital. This is a collaboration between children's hospital RE office, G+PS, and GSS.

ii. Services Committee

- **October Updates:** The services committee has started the process of adding a clause to the policy manual to prevent the event fund from being used to reimburse alcohol. This change is intended to protect the GSS from liability suits as well as ensure the most effective use of our limited resources.
- We have also started the process of adding clauses in the policy manual to ensure off-campus students are accounted for in the future. To make the best policy changes, we have started to collect data on a) clubs that identify as "off-campus student groups" and b) the total percentage of "off-campus" graduate students.

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

- We have worked on refining “Grad Student Night Out” (Halloween event) and archery tag being held at the GSS in November.
- **November Updates:**
- The Services Committee has designed and is in the process of implementing a standardized survey for event feedback. We hope to use data collected from these surveys to have reliable data that we can use to guide future event planning.
- As per request of the Executive Oversight Committee, the Services Committee has set 3 goals for the rest of the academic year. 1) design and implement a survey for event feedback 2) increase participation in GSS events by 10% year over year 3) Plan an equal number of events targeted towards on-campus vs. off-campus students.

iii. Harassment & Discrimination ad hoc Committee

- The H&D committee has had 2 working meetings since the last council meeting. We sent out the survey on November 1st, dealt with any concerns or other emails we got back and started preparing to handle the incoming interview requests. Half of our qualitative analysis on the 2016 set of data and stories is done. We are aiming to complete the 2016 qualitative analysis set by the end of 2017.

iv. GSS/AMS Referendum ad hoc Committee

- We have finalized our survey to send out and plan to send it out in January after the Harassment and Discrimination survey has finished.

c. Strategic Theme 1: Graduate Student Academics

i. VP University & Academic Affairs

- VP UAA November 2017 Council Update
- I attended the 2017 Canadian Association for Graduate Studies conference in Quebec City. I went with GSS VP Students, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi. Together, we represented the UBC Graduate Student Society in a three-day forum on pressing issues affecting graduate students in Canada: from how different Canadian universities have approached graduate supervision to how the Tri-Agency Council is restructuring funding for graduate students to reflect new challenges and possibilities. We took away many things from the conference. In this update, I am just mentioning a couple. The first is how graduate representatives should work with our respective graduate faculty. The second is

GSS Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017 | Michael Kingsmill Forum, The Nest | 5:30 pm

how working with graduate student organizations from other universities could help advance our common advocacies. I would be happy to elaborate on these and more take-aways in how I am realizing my future endeavours as GSS VP UAA.

ii. VP External Relations

-

iii. Academic & External Affairs Committee

-

iv. Graduate Council

-

v. Senate

- Senator's report can be found in the Google Drive link.
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BzNwNMNpdLlaeGpTcmZwSl85VEk/view?usp=sharing>

vi. Board of Governors

- The next Board of Governors meeting is to be held on Dec 5th, with Committees meetings on Nov 28th. The time, locations, and agendas will be posted at bog.ubc.ca. We expect to see topics such as an update on the university's strategic plan, and a review of the Housing Action Plan (student, staff and faculty).

J. Adjournment

1. BIRT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at ___ pm.

MOVER: _____ SECONDER: _____ RESULT: _____