

GSS Council Meeting Agenda

March 21, 2019 | Thea's Lounge, Graduate Student Society | After
AGM

A. Attendance

1. Present: Alexa Tanner, Amber Shilling, Anjali Gupta, Arash Shadkam, Arezoo Mehrizi, Claire Preston, Christina Wiesmann, Conny Lin (Speaker), Darren Touch, Erik Frieling, Gloria Mellesmoen, Farah Deeba, Hamed Pouryevali, Hilal Kina, John Ede, Joseph Ogbede, Joyce Lam, Jun Sian Lee, Kamaldeep Gill, Karen Thulasi Devendrakumar, Kate Sedivy-Haley, Kiana Yau, Larissa Peck (Nicolas Romualdi as proxy), Logan Lorenz, Lois Evans, Nevena Rebic, Nicolas Romualdi, Philip Karangu, Omri Wallach, Pouya Rezaeinia, Rahaf al Assil, Razi Bayati, Sara Hosseinirad, Sebastien Rettie, Solomon Atta, Tarique Pembo, Teesha Luehr, Teilhard Paradela, Temitayo Olarewaju, Temitope Onifade, Theresa Pauly, Timothy Luk, Uyen Nguyen, Victoria Gomez
2. Regrets: Jakob Gattinger, Kiana Yau, Negar Ghahramani
3. Absent: Andras Szeitz, Anjali, Gupta, Anna-Catharina Wilhelm, Arash Shadkam, Claire Preston, Cristina Rubino, Fapu Duan, Farah Deeba, Gurjot Singh, Hamed Pouriayevali, Hilal Kina, Jasleen Grewal, Jeanie Malone, Kamaldeep Gill, Karanpreet Matharu, Lily Takeuchi, Marie Jose Athie Martinez, Megan Holec, Omri Wallach, Phil Angel, Rahaf Al Assil, Rochelle Sumampong-Heavens, Sarah Izadi-Najafabadi, Solomon Atta, Temitayo Olarewaju, Theresa Pauly, Uyen Nguyen, Xana Mendez Prendes, Yee Fay Lim, Yangfan Zhang
4. Quorum: 22 Councillors

B. Call to Order & Adoption of the Agenda

1. The meeting will be called to order at **7:21 pm**.
2. BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.
MOVER: Amber S. SECONDER: Philip K.

Nicolas: I move to amend the agenda to include as the first item a proposition that BIRT the GSS Council, by special resolution, designate Amber Shilling as an honorary member.

MOVER: Nicolas R. SECONDER: Victoria G.

RESULT: Carried

Speaker: Any other amendments to the agenda? Seeing none. Moving for a vote to adopt the agenda as presented.

RESULT: Carried

Honorary member

BIRT the GSS Council, by special resolution, designate Amber Shilling as an honorary member.

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MOVER: Nicolas R. SECONDER: Victoria G.

Nicolas: I would like to motivate. Amber has been senator for two years, and has provided exemplary, nonmonetary service to GSS. She has not received anything back for all the time that she has dedicated to us. Our current bylaws only require two years of service to council.

Speaker: Any other debate? Seeing none. So we're voting Amber in as an honorary member, and this is by special resolution. We need a 2/3 vote.

RESULT: Carried (Abstain: 2)

C. Introductions

Introductions were made.

D. Approval of Minutes

1. GSS Council minutes for approval:
 - a. Council Minutes – Feb 21, 2019

2. Committee minutes for approval:
 - a. Code and Policy – Feb 26, 2019 and March 8, 2019
 - b. Elections – Feb 7, 2019
 - c. Executive – March 14, 2019
 - d. Governance and Accountability – Feb 13, 2019
 - e. Services – Feb 7, 2019

MOVER: Amber S. SECONDER: Kate S.

RESULT: Carried

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

E. 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

1. See final section for written updates from:

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| i. <i>President</i> | v. <i>House Finance Committee</i> |
| ii. <i>Financial & Executive Oversight Officer</i> | vi. <i>Code & Policy Committee</i> |
| iii. <i>Executive Oversight Committee</i> | vii. <i>Human Resources Committee</i> |
| iv. <i>Governance & Accountability
Committee</i> | viii. <i>AMS Council</i> |
| | ix. <i>Elections Committee</i> |

2. **Questions?**

Arezoo: I have a question for the President. I know it has already been passed, but usually in the AGM, GSS did some awards, so I was wondering why we didn't have any awards this year?

John: So at the February council meeting, it was decided that we move the awards to the April Council to shorten the AGM.

Amber: Could you forward the question to someone who could answer – if we move the awards from the AGM to the April council meeting, won't the likelihood of the awarding be seen by fewer people, and less likely to honor in a more public forum given the standard of attendance of the meeting vs the AGM.

John: Thank you. So the observation is correct. We sacrifice that outcome for a shorter AGM. That said, the move is being tested for one year and after that Council can decide.

3. **Matter #1**

2. Matters for Decision

a. **Seatings**

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i. New Councillors

BIRT the following Seatings of new Councillors be approved:

Joseph Ogbede to be seated as a Councillor for **Genome Science & Technology.**

Timothy Luk to be seated as a Councillor for **Planning Students Association School of Community and Regional Planning.**

MOVER: Kate S.

SECONDER: Teesha L.

Nicolas: Point of information: is the name of the department correctly spelled – doesn't read like the name of a department?

Speaker: Can you confirm, Timothy? What is your department?

Timothy: The department would be the School of Community and Regional Planning.

Speaker: For the new councillors, for your information, these are legal documents so we need to be accurate. Bear with us.

Nicolas: I move to make an amendment as presented.

Speaker: This amendment to the name is being proposed. Any seconder? Seconded by Victoria.

MOVER: Nicolas. SECONDER: Victoria.

RESULT: Carried

Speaker: This is a special resolution to vote in councillors, so we need two-third.

RESULT: Carried

ii. **Committee Seatings**

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

[Committee descriptions and meeting times here.](#)

BIRT the following Seatings be approved:

_____ to be seated as an Ordinary Member to the **Academic and External Affairs Committee** (1 needed.)

_____ to be seated as a Councillor to the **Academic and External Affairs Committee** (1 needed.)

_____ to be seated as an Ordinary Member to the **Code and Policy Committee** (1 needed.)

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_____ to be seated as an Ordinary member to the **Elections Committee** (4 needed.)

_____ to be seated as a Councillor to the **Elections Committee** (2 needed.)

_____ to be seated as an Ordinary member to the **Executive Oversight Committee** (4 needed.)

_____ to be seated as a Councillor to the **Executive Oversight Committee** (1 needed.)

_____ to be seated as an Ordinary Member to the **Governance and Accountability Committee** (1 needed.)

Joseph Ogbede to be seated as a Councillor to the **Governance and Accountability Committee** (1 needed.)

_____ to be seated as an Ordinary Member to the **House Finance Committee** (2 needed.)

_____ to be seated as an Ordinary Member to the **Human Resource Committee** (1 needed.)

Christina Wiesmann to be seated as a Councillor to the **Human Resource Committee** (2 needed.)

_____ to be seated as an Ordinary Member to the **Services Committee** (1 needed.)

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_____ to be seated as GSS Representative to the **AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan Committee** (1 needed.)

Teilhard Paradela to be seated as GSS Representative to the **Faculty of Arts Council** (2 needed.)

MOVER: Kate S. SECONDER: Nicolas R.
RESULT: Carried.

b. Matter #1

Group responsible: Elections Committee

Objective: To ratify 2019 GSS Election results

Relevant materials: 2019 GSS Election Results.pdf in supporting material

WHEREAS the 2019 GSS election was conducted from March 4th to 15th with 8.0% graduate student turnout (815 of 10196 electors).

WHEREAS the election results were the following:

President: Nicolas Romualdi 525 Votes (86.5%) (Uncontested);

Vice President, University and Academic Affairs: Amir Fard Bahreini 113 (16.6%), Nathan Dhaliwal 153 (22.5%), Seyedrazieh (Razi) Bayati 392 (57.6%);

VP External Relations: Ali Mehrabifard 75 votes (10.5%), Hossein Piri 153 (21.4%), Sara Hosseinirad 464 (64.9%);

VP Students: Pouya Rezaeinia 562 (87.0%) (Uncontested);

Senate (2 seats): Alexa Tanner, Temitope Onifade (Elected by acclamation)

BIRT that the GSS ratify these results and accept the following members as GSS Executives: Nicolas Romualdi as President, Seyedrazieh (Razi) Bayati as VP University and Academic Affairs, Sara Hosseinirad as VP External Relations, Pouya Rezaeinia as VP Students; and Alexa Tanner and Temitope Onifade as GSS Senators; for term of May 2019 to April 2020.

MOVER: Amber S. SECONDER: Kate S.
RESULT: Carried [Abstain: 1 (Nicolas Romualdi)]

Matter #2

Person Responsible: President

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Objective: To ratify GSS Logo
Supporting materials: Coming

Whereas the GSS has been desirous to procure a logo design from an artist of First Nations origin, as the final stage of a reconciliation process resulting from the appropriation of the Sea Monster logo.

Whereas Ms. Susan Point who is a renowned artist of Musqueam origin, had been contracted by the GSS to design a logo for the GSS in February 2019.

Whereas the initial logo design by Ms. Susan Point was presented to council during the February 2019 council meeting, following which the logo design has been completed and delivered to the GSS by Ms. Point in March 2019.

BIRT the logo ~~set~~ designed and delivered by Ms. Susan Point, as presented in council, be adopted as the Logo of the GSS.

~~**BIFRT** the GSS Council directs the Communications Director to develop the logo into a coherent brand for the Society, including color palette and design parameters with the consent and support of the Executive Committee.~~

MOVER: Kate S. SECONDER: Amber S.

Amber: The history of this is that the logo you may have seen around campus or in old documents representing a Haida whale was misappropriated from the Haida nation. That is one of their sacred clans and we did not have the right to replicate it. There was no archival history or indications that we have been given the right to use it. So it was like that 5 years ago. I'm delighted that we have come to this place. This is a really great conclusion to all the things that we have asked. It was that there be a First Nation artist to honor the original intent. It's an act of reconciliation. Reparations were made. Communications were made with the nation, on which toes we had inadvertently stepped. Forgiveness and all of that went forward in a good way. As an Indigenous graduate student, I'm really pleased and proud to be a part of GSS as we move forward with this logo. I hope we can see it up on the screen. I think this is one of the things that, although it may take a little bit of time, this allows GSS to demonstrate its commitment to reconciliation. As a part of the student body, you are now part of a process of reconciliation in action; this is what it takes to redress wrongs that come out of no intentions of our own, but we can make changes in a positive step

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forward. We now have ongoing relationship with an incredibly well-renowned Coast Salish artist – Susan Point. She has carvings, weavings, and all kinds of wonderful pieces of art around campus. This is an outstanding coup that we actually have a logo designed specifically by Susan Point. I fully support this 100%.

Nicolas: I move to amend the last BIFRT clause: BIFRT **the GSS Council directs the** Communications Director **to** develop. Maybe this is friendly?

John: Yes, it is.

Speaker: It's friendly.

Lois: I was wondering if we have information describing the meaning of the new logo?

Amber: So this is in the shape of a spindle whorl, which is one of the traditional forms of weaving that was practiced at Musqueam and is now a part of a resurgence. Susan Point is an incredibly well-renowned weaver. The spindle whorl was how they would hold the spools of wool as they would create their weaving. Their weaving would then tell the story of either their family or their community. So now the spindle whorl is a one of the beautiful opportunities that we have to think about how we're weaving things together. In this implementation, I can tell there are many faces represented by all of us as a part of GSS, and that we're all considered part of one. The use of circular motifs in Indigenous art is often a representation of the fact that there's no linear time as we know it. This is an indication that we see things as operating in a cycle, so I would think this is a really good opportunity for us to acknowledge that as many times as GSS has continued to try to work with a logo that is representative of who we are, I would say that this is truly that. I would love for John to supplement any other information that Susan has offered you guys.

John: If you want you can share the introduction from Susan Point.

Amber: From Susan Point: "This is a traditional spindle whorl...Prior to European contact, the little dogs were bred for their fur, mixed with the goat wool, and that was the wool that they traditionally used... The oldest whorl discovered by archeologist was carved from stone and can be found here and in ancient cultural civilization around the world. Although shell bone and whale vertebrae were also used here in the Pacific northwest coast, but hardwood is the most common material from which they're made here in Musqueam. Traditional spindle whorl depicted outstanding original designs of complex integrated compositions of engraved animal and human figures as well as geometric and floral motifs, with some depicting mythical creatures. As she contemplated a new design to embody the spirit of the GSS, she felt that it's not only important to represent Musqueam traditional territory, but as well as the diversity of all of the students who come to UBC – past, present, and future from all of the corners of the world. The design is created with no end and beginning. The spindle whorl design illustrates an unwavering passing of time and successive generation. Each geometric moment in the whorl is identical to the one before it and the one that

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follows. Whether the mark indicates seconds, days, years, or millenia, the pace never changes. It is also a symbol for the people, where all the children of mother earth, no matter our homeland, the people's faces are embraced in a geometric motif to represent the beauty and fragility of mother earth. A reminder that everything we've worked hard toward must include a respect and duty to our beautiful planet. The faces are a circle, a metaphor for strong community and friendship. This is a design that can easily be monochrome or capable of being colored in any palette. I hope you like the contemporary spindle design." She notes that it's universal to all cultures, easy to recognize at a glance. She did acknowledge that we've briefly mentioned the blue color, which has been incorporated as well as potential for other colors. In my opinion, I think these colors are great representations of the colors both that they're natural and a nod to UBC's color palette." The text can be found in the supporting documents file.

Kate: Can someone involved in the design process clarify whether these color choices are final? The motion does say that the Communication Director will decide the palette.

John: These colors are not final. The second BIFRT clause actually gives the Communications Director the responsibility to develop these and can absolve the councillors and other committees to pick colors that adapt to different media. We refrain from picking a public color.

Nicolas: This means we can adopt with consent the final colors and rest of the logo or we can use this design and color it differently moving forward?

John: Both. This color and design had been prepared by the artist at the delivery of the product. We can change it to different colors if it suits the Society anytime in the future. There's a black and white version, by the way – it, for instance, is good on a blue material. This is the kind of call that the Communications Director will have to make as time goes on.

Nicolas: Can we please get it in writing and in the institutional memory that the artist has proposed these initial colors but has allowed us to change the color?

Amber: It is in the statement that she sent.

Nicolas: Ok. But it goes properly in the institutional memory of the GSS.

John: Yes, it does. Because she delivered it along with a contract. What we will do with it going forward will also be tracked with recommendations within these minutes and in the contract.

Amber: So in line with that same conversation, although Susan has kindly offered the ability for us to alter the color, I would really like to stick with the colors she has suggested to acknowledge the incredible talent and support, and the fact that she took the time to design with our requests in mind. I do believe that when artists create something bespoke in this manner, specific with the discussions over many years, that

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we would do ourselves a great favor and the incoming executives a great favor, and adopt as is and move forward freshly, with the logo with colors accepted as is.

Nicolas: We can adopt our palette to that.

John: Both concerns are captured in the motion. The first says this be adopted by Council as the logo as designed and delivered. The second one is just to add to the ability such that if we have functional or technical requirements to present other colors. If the motion is passed, then this figure that is displayed becomes adopted as the official logo of the GSS, retaining the original design and colors.

Speaker: If I may, the first motion reads to me is to adopt as is. The second motion reads to me is that there is some adaption in some format where we are not significantly changing it.

Nicolas: I believe we have to leave that leeway – the spirit of the leeway. If for example, if we want to make it final like that one – that's only monochrome – we may need to make the logo in monochrome, so we need the ability to be a little flexible. But the idea is that we would use this logo in any color on paper documents and that color design move forward. It may not be all the way reflected in the motion, but I think that's the spirit.

Alexa: Would it be better to go with black and white rather than dealing with concerns around getting the exact colors on things like a banner?

Speaker: This is the whole set. I believe that when you have a design, it's a whole set. So this is the black and white, and then there's the color set. So you're adopting this set.

Alexa: So we're adopting the set, but going back to a previous comment to retain the ability to change the color, and the recommendation of not changing the color, and the other recommendation that we may need to for things like signs. Could that be, in our policy or our current memory, maybe using the black and white in case we cannot get the right color?

Speaker: So the second clause gives the flexibility. That's why the second clause.

Victoria: Would it be, perhaps, in the spirit, keeping this motion, can we get a straw poll to get the sense of this Council's feelings about how the current colors so that we can hand that off to the Communications Director?

Speaker: I would do that in the end; not a straw poll in the middle of a motion.

John: It does keep the flexibility. The last request is exactly what we're trying to avoid, not to have to come back to Council to change the colors every time that there needs to be minor changes for adaptability. Otherwise, once we lock it and pick a color, even if we want to change the hue or the color for adaptability, we would need to come to Council to redevelop it. That's also the reason why it was under the advice and approval of the Executive Committee such that nobody can change it without talking to the executives.

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Amber: I would feel much more comfortable if we adopted the logo as is, with the suggested colors by the artist, that the Communications Director develop the logo into a coherent brand for the Society, perhaps reading “honoring the color palette and design parameters as suggested by the artist, using the monochrome design supplied as needed.” Because if we have the flexibility for future executives to constantly change the logo, then these changes are likely occur far beyond the far year that I’ve already spent trying to change this. I would ask that other people who are better at wording can offer a solution like that.

Logan: Not a design professional. What I’m getting the sense of is that I think we should honor the color that Susan Point has put forward. Maybe part of the wording of the motion is around if there’s an existing color palette for GSS, we should perhaps look into adjusting that. Because that might be where we’re giving some of the discretion to the Communications Director is around making sure the brand is coherent, including the color scheme; so perhaps, we need to think about not adjusting the design or color of the logo, but adjusting the scheme of the GSS.

Victoria: To give context to what I’m about to do: I want to keep the motion as is, but I understand why we would want to change colors. Motion to amend the end of that motion: “..., respecting the vision of the artist.”

MOVER: Victoria G.

SECONDER: Kate S.

Lois: I motivate against. Firstly, what fulfills a logo is you want to make the graphic standard. You’re asking an expert for their work, regardless of their background. Secondly, this is a piece of reconciliation. We’re looking at a well-made logo, something that is really well done. We really need to think about what we’ve been offered and how we receive it.

Kate: I think that the motion is a good one because it preserves some flexibility to make modifications such as using a mono-color version where design parameters are requiring that, while putting in that mandate that the vision of the artist comes first and that this is something that we should not be changing casually.

Amber: I would like to second what Lois has said. Given the number of motivations I have given on this motion over the last five years, I would feel remiss and I would vote against something where GSS in any context, whether it’s the current or the future executives, as an honorary member, to have us go against what an artist of the calibre of Susan Point in the Indigenous community. It would be a misstep of epic proportions and possibly undo a lot of the action that we have taken as a Society in a very positive direction. Therefore, I would further reiterate my call to please help with the wording if we can specify that we keep the color palette suggested by the artist, and the monochrome option – because that was also provided. I do think that that is

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important, but there are two options already provided. I want to remove the opportunity for GSS in the future to change it willy-nilly.

John: First off, we have Susan Point's permission to adapt the colors as it fits us – we have that in writing. Second point is that the first BIRT clause makes this logo the official GSS's logo. The second one just gives us the opportunity to change the colors. Logan makes a good point. On the reverse side is to ensure that we put the logo up on something where the color is shown. The possibilities are endless. But there are things that we're going to print that these colors will not be suitable, it's just to give the opportunity for it to be changed for that particular purpose, and not to tamper with the official logo of the GSS at will. Once the motion passes, wherever we need to present the GSS logo, these colors and this design will come out. The second motion only allows it to use it for merchandising and other media that we need to adapt the color. We can adjust that clause for adaptability if we want, but we need to have that clause there because otherwise every time we have a technical issue with printing, we would have wait until Council and vote on allowing the responsible staff to adjust the color just for that reason – that is just too nitty gritty. We need to leave the flexibility for adaptation.

Nicolas: So now that's only technical. I would like to first of all, in the spirit of self recollection, make sure that all of us who are speaking on this matter who are neither Canadian nor Indigenous, or much less familiar with the history of reconciliation, that we try to listen to people who are much closer to the issue and pick up their perspective that we're missing. I think the way this motion is written is opening up a can of worm. I'm not sure if we can do this from where we are in the amendment, but I move that we approve only the first BIRT clause, and we can still prepare a set of monochrome designs that we run by Susan Point and we're all in agreement that these are the only variance of the logo that we're going to use and not leave the space open in the future to create a problem. If we don't listen to the people that know, this is going to create a problem.

Speaker: We need to first vote on the amendment.

Nicolas: I call the question so we can get out of the amendment.

Speaker: Someone has called the question with a speaker list that still exists. I need a special resolution. We're voting on not speaking anymore.

RESULT: Carried [Against: 2 (Arezo, Logan)].

Speaker: Now we're voting on the amendment. If you vote yes, this clause stays. If you vote no, this clause leaves.

RESULT: Lost

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Nicolas: Motion to amend: strike the second BIFRT clause completely.

MOVER: Nicolas R.

SECONDER: Amber S.

Amber: I want to give an unintended teaching for you on Indigenous rhetoric and ethics of non-interference. While I'm not a Musqueam member, I'm Indigenous and our teachings often align with the idea of the ethics of non-interference. That is, when we see things that are happening that we may or may not agree with, we're unlikely to intervene in how that person would react. My instinct to the offer from Ms. Point is that that is something she has offered. I don't feel comfortable in that; therefore, I strongly support removing the ability of us to change the logo we have provided. I think all of our options are covered here as presented by the incredible Susan Point, and I would like to respect what she has offered and the work of the Executives and point people over the years. And just acknowledge the work that she has done in this. And that's the two logos as presented to use as soon as possible.

Kate: If there's now a need to change the parameters of the logo, the Communications Director can still initiate that but it has to come to Council to approve the specific change.

Speaker: Yes.

Teilhard: When we're talking about logo, are we only talking about the color one...?

Speaker: We're referring to the set.

Teilhard: Would it be clearer to say "the logo set".

Speaker: Were these files sent out?

Amber: They were not sent out.

Teilhard: Because the black and white was not presented in Council.

Amber: This is the first time we've seen it.

Teilhard: Would it be clearer to say "the logo set".

Speaker: I need to refer to the person who wrote the motion. John, did you write the motion?

John: I wrote the motion.

Speaker: Is this a friendly amendment?

John: Yes. The "logo set".

Speaker: This is a friendly amendment to the motion.

Teesha: Quick question on the wording. I very much respect the color palette that Susan Point delivered us. I interpreted the opportunity to change the color palette to only mean to one that is lighter or darker to contrast. Within design, it's hard to predict 100% of the possibilities of where we're going to put this logo and as a palette. As a designer, a palette would exist – the same colors, but maybe a little darker, a

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little lighter, and that's how I interpreted a design palette; not to change it to bright pink on a random day on a whim, but within a design reason. I very much liked the statement of honouring the vision of the original artist so that we don't ever drastically change it. I don't know if this can be easily written, or maybe we should have a BIRT clause that Susan Point approves as well of small amount of variations as a designer might need in all forms of prints and electronics in the future.

Nicolas: I do hear what you're saying. We've been years without a logo, and we have here the opportunity to move forward. What I propose we do is that we stay with the logo as presented. If such challenge as not being able to print in the exact colors present, Council can revisit this decision. There's a problem with the second motion, and I totally see this that this could very easily get out of control. It's a precedent that the Communications Director and any future executive team would be able to do whatever they want. That's not OK. I strongly advise to adopt the logo as presented. If we have a problem with the limited color palette, we can wait a month, bring it to Council and address it in Council.

Amber: Perhaps what we might do is borrow from the Brand website of UBC, where they specify the color palette, including a range of color opportunities. However, there are clear guidelines – for example, that the logo may not be taken and changed into green, for UBC. So in this case, something along those lines, that the main colors are honored, but the shade is respected. Nonetheless, as I interpreted Susan's offer of color change, it would to be a discussion between her and the Executives. In light of expediency, I would like that to be how we move forward: keep the color and monochrome logos as is with the shade possibility.

Lois: I just wanted to note that there is a method for determining colors in graphics arts – it's the pantone mapping system. So that's very easy for Susan Point to tell us the number that matches each color, and the degree of shifts that happen with print and in production happens with everything. If you look at the UBC logo, I'm sure they tell you what that blue is. We just need the pantone code. That explores the need to really guide it to specific colors and its range. There will be some variation in it, but it will be aimed toward what was intended in the beginning. In this case, I am enamored with this logo – it's fantastic, I think it's perfect, why would we change it? There will be a bit of variation here and there as it needs, but within the realm with what usually happens with graphic art. UBC is very strict on its logo use, why wouldn't we be the same?

Kate: Speaking in favor of the current amendment to remove. I think it is simple. It is a huge step of progress from where we were, which was no logo. I think it is perfectly alright to have the Communications Director and whatever any other committees or bodies who are interested in the use of this logo to go and proactively figure out what sort of leeway they need in terms of design and then present that later to say here are

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our set of variations we want Council to approve for these purposes. This is good for a motion for now to approve this amendment. We can work on approving later iterations.

Nicolas: Point of parliamentary inquiry, have we voted on the amendment to remove the second clause?

Speaker: No. Before you speak, please state your position of striking this second clause.

John: Speaking in favor of the amendment, and speaking as both the original presenter of the motion and as someone who has worked with the staff in question. It makes a lot of sense to remove this for now, pass this one and accept the logo. There are ample opportunities in the office to make any adjustments. Let's remove this motion.

Teessa: I am in agreement to strike the second clause, with the potential of adding in the very simple request that someone on the executive team to ask Susan Point for the color code, and a lighter/darker code that she deems acceptable that we can use from here on out that we would still be approved by Susan but with those slight flexibilities that we would be approved to use.

John: That would not be necessary because it is part of our contract and discussion that we have that flexibility and authority to do that. So we do not have to put that in a motion in Council – we have a contract that specify that for us already, so we do not have to put that in Council.

Speaker: So are you speaking for or against striking this motion?

John: I'm speaking to keep the motion as it is, and not to add anything as per the last speaker.

Speaker: We're speaking about taking this second part out. Are you in agreement with that or against it?

John: I'm in agreement with removing that part.

Speaker: I'm not hearing anybody else talking against this motion. My recommendation is to stop talking about it and then pass this.

RESULT: Carried

Speaker: So now we're back to this main motion with a slight amendment.

RESULT: Carried

Matter #3

Person Responsible: President

Objective: Increase Health Plan Premium

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Supporting materials: None

Whereas the AMS/GSS health and dental committee in its February 2019 meeting voted unanimously in favor of increasing the plan premium by 5% with effect from the 2019/2020 session.

Whereas the 5% increase in plan premium is proposed to jointly cover inflationary plan cost and a 200.00 CAN increase in psychology services coverage.

Whereas the AMS council in its February 2019 meeting has approved the aforementioned proposed increase in premium.

BIRT the 5% increase in the AMS/GSS health and dental plan premium is approved with effect from the 2019/2020 session.

MOVER: Amber S. SECONDER: Kate S.

Amber: Can someone please specify what 5% increase is?

Kate: About \$10-\$13 bucks per year or less.

RESULT: Carried

Matter #4

Group Responsible: Code & Policy Committee

Subject Description: Establishing definitions for Policy Manual (Housekeeping)

Motion:

WHEREAS definitions are not stated within the Policy Manual

BIRT Policy 1.1.4 be adopted stating "Definitions of terms within the Policy Manual are as outlined within Bylaw 1.2.1."

MOVER: Code and Policy Committee SECONDER: Nicolas R.

Kate: It's simple housekeeping. We should have a reference to where our definition is found so that it's clear.

RESULT: Carried

Matter #5

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Group Responsible: Code & Policy Committee

Subject Description: Amendments to definition of Standing Committees
(Housekeeping)

Motion:

WHEREAS the standing committees of the Society are defined in the Bylaws, and duplication of this information is unnecessary,

WHEREAS Policy Manual 8.1.1.h established a standing committee without any terms of reference (“Safety & Sustainability”), violating Bylaw 7.5.2.F,

WHEREAS Policy Manual 8.1.2 incorrectly references Policy 5 (Executive Officer Spending) instead of Policy 7 (General Committee Policy),

WHEREAS it is more consistent to include similar policies together, it is appropriate for the definition of Standing Committees to be included in Policy 7, near definitions of Ad-Hoc and Sub-Committees, rather than in Policy 8 along with Terms of Reference,

BIRT Policy 8.1 (“Standing Committees”) be re-numbered 7.4.

BIFRT Policy Manual 8.1.1 shall be re-numbered 7.4.1 and amended to read: “Standing Committees of the Society are as stated in Bylaw 9.1.1.

BIFRT Policy Manual 8.1.2 shall be re-numbered 7.4.2 and amended to read: “All Standing Committees shall operate according to Policy 7 and their respective terms of reference, as set out in Policy 8.”

BIFRT Current Policies 7.4-7.8 be incremented by one and 8.2-8.10 be decremented by one, along with any references to these policies within the Policy Manual.

MOVER: Code and Policy Committee

SECONDER: Nicolas R.

Kate: We’re just taking out the explicit list of standing committees in the policy manual and referring to the list in the Bylaws, because they don’t match up, which is a problem. So we just refer people to the Bylaws to the list of standing committees. And we’re moving it from the beginning of the terms of reference chapter to the committee chapter, next to the definitions for ad hoc committees and sub-committees. So it’s a bit more consistent in terms of defining committees in 7 and terms of reference are all together in 8.

Speaker: This is what we call housekeeping changes. It’s moved by Code and Policy and seconded by **Nicolas**. We don’t usually have discussion on housekeeping motions.

RESULT: Carried

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F. 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*
 - ii. *Services Committee*
- b. **Questions**

Speaker: Are there any questions for VP Students and Services Committee? Seeing none. Next.

c. **Matter #1**

BIRT The Services Committee approves the following statement for the VP Students to reference in the next GSS Council Meeting:

STATEMENT: The AO dinners are not a SMART Goal and are not required to be held by any policy. Services suggested to cancel the events, but did not vote on it (see Services meeting minutes dated 2018-05-31). Off the record comments on the events from participants indicated that the events were too structured to allow AO representatives to interact with AOs of their choosing. Due to the budget running a slight deficit at budget proposal time, the VP Students opted to focus on making the most of the available funds in the way of servicing as many graduate students as possible, in lieu of running an expensive dinner for very few individuals. Our purpose is to assist AOs, not simply be seen by them. If we are seen, but do not assist, then the event was not successful or helpful, which off the record comments indicate was the case for the AO dinners.

Nicolas: I call quorum.

Speaker: The quorum is called. If we don't have quorum, meeting is automatically

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adjourned. We lost quorum. Meeting is adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Matter #2 : Upcoming Events

- April 1st: Woman's Self Defense class- Thea's Lounge / 5:30 to 7:30 pm
- April 22nd: Lunch and Learn: Nutrition- Thea's Lounge / 12:00 to 2:00 pm
- April 26th: Grad Year End Social @ Koerner's / 6:00 to 8:00 pm
- April 27th: Curling-Vancouver Curling Club (4575 Clancy Loranger Way) / 6:00 to 8:00 pm

2. Matters for Decision

a. Affiliate Organization Recognition

i. *Motion:*

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

BIRT the following organizations be recognized as Affiliate Organizations for one year, ending at the meeting of Council in March 2020:

- **Creative Writing Students Association**

MOVER: _____ SECONDER: _____ RESULT: _____

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G. 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

ii. VP External Relations

iii. Academic & External Affairs
Committee

iv. Graduate Council

v. Senate

vi. Board of Governors

b. Questions

c. Matter #1

2. Matters for Decision

a. **Matter #1:**

... Next page: Matters for Discussion

H. Matters for Discussion

1. Strategic Theme 3: Our Graduate Student Society:
Group Responsible: Code & Policy Committee
Presentation Time: 10 minutes
Presentation Description: Findings on clarifying and improving policy for electing chairs
Proposed Objective: Inform and consult Council on new policy
Relevant Materials: CPC_ChairPolicy7.6.pptx
2. Strategic Theme 2: Graduate Student Community:
3. Strategic Theme 1: Graduate Student Academics:

I. Adjournment

1. **BIRT** there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at **8:32 pm.**
MOVER: _____ SECONDER: _____ RESULT: _____

J. Notices

1. Notice of Next Meeting
 - a. *Date:* April 18, 2019
 - b. *Time:* 5:30pm
 - c. *Location:* Michael Kingsmill Forum, the Nest (4th floor)
2. **Notice of Unseatings**
Alyssa Kirlin to be unseated as an Ordinary Member from the **Executive Oversight Committee.**
Lily Takeuchi to be unseated as a Councillor from the **Executive Oversight Committee.**
Rochelle Sumampong to be unseated as a Departmental Representative for the Department of Nursing.
Rochelle Sumampong to be unseated as Councillor from the **Elections Committee.**
Soheila Zarei to be unseated as GSS Representative from the **Health and Dental Plan Committee.**

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3. GSS Updates (~100 words, sent in advance and included in the final agenda)

a. Strategic Theme 3: Our Graduate Student Society

i. **President**

Tuition Consultation meeting with VPSO

15th March 2019

Purpose: Presentation and discussion on Plan for the annual review of student tuition and mandatory fees.

Outcomes:

- Timeline for consultation span June 2019 to Dec 2019
- Proposed benchmark discussed as presented.
- VPS proposed to present to GSS during the Fall term

ii. **Financial & Executive Oversight Officer**

-

iii. **Executive Oversight Committee**

-

iv. **Governance & Accountability Committee**

The G&A committee continues to oversee and monitor the SMART goal setting process for GSS committees. Cementing the goals of the various committees has been a top priority and we are pleased to announce that this has now been completed. Furthermore, we have initiated discussions with the various committees re the upcoming mid-year performance review/update against the agreed SMART goals.

Notwithstanding, the committee itself, continues to actively work towards achieving its very own SMART goals. A key milestone for the period includes, creation of a series of new first draft GSS Council Agenda Templates. These drafts are currently being reviewed by the committee; ultimately to be narrowed to the most appropriate, comprehensive and user-friendly agenda for these meetings.

Finally, the G&A committee continues to press forward with its mandate, which is to ensure proper governance within the GSS structure.

v. **House Finance Committee**

vi. **Code & Policy Committee**

CPC has consulted with committee chairs regarding the policy for electing chairs;

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the result of this consultation will be presented during this Council meeting prior to codification. We are in discussion with Services regarding aligning its Terms of Reference to the Strategic Plan, and changes to the Event Fund. We have updated the Policy Manual – which is now available on the website – and have brought additional housekeeping changes to this Council.

vii. Human Resources Committee

-

viii. AMS Council

-

ix. Elections Committee

Elections committee has successfully conducted the 2019 GSS Elections from March 4 to 15. New initiatives such as boothing with candidates at AMS Nest; graphic and poster creation for nomination, individual candidates and for voting; greater support for candidates in terms of graphic design; as well as the longer voting period and holding voting the same time as AMS election, have helped increased the turnout. The turnout was 8%, which is higher than ~3% in 2018, but still fell short of our SMART goal target of 10%. The next step is to update the elections procedure based on insights and feedback from organizing the 2019 GSS Elections.

b. Strategic Theme 2: Graduate Student Community

i. VP Students

-

ii. Services Committee

-

c. Strategic Theme 1: Graduate Student Academics

i. VP University & Academic Affairs

-

ii. VP External Relations

-

iii. Academic & External Affairs Committee

iv. Graduate Council

–Four applications for strategic plan initiatives have been approved including (1) building of the Graduate Life Centre (GLC) in collaboration with the Graduate Student Society, (2) Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement (SAGE) initiative, (3) Post-

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Doc Career Insights and (4) Responsible Conduct of Research Courses

-Student feedback requested: recent discussion on instituting a nation-wide application deadline similar to the April 15 Resolution for American graduate schools is currently underway for Canadian graduate programs. If you or your departments have any input on the discussion please email chair of the GCSC at lily.takeuchi@alumni.ubc.ca

-Student feedback requested: Graduate Council recently discussed the expansion/rebranding of the the UBC Graduate Student Travel Fund to widen the scope of use to other dissemination of research purposes (such as open access publishing or field work costs) and professional development. If you or your departments have any input on the discussion please email chair of the GCSC at lily.takeuchi@alumni.ubc.ca

v. Senate

vi. Board of Governors

The [next set of Board meetings](#) will be held on April 1-2 (Committees) and April 18 (full Board). We are pleased to welcome Ainsley Carrey (VP Students) and Robin Ciceri (VP External) to the UBC Executive team, and look forward to working with them.