



ATTENDANCE

Present: Abdul Ahad Mohiuddin (proxy for Abdul Ahad Ahmadi), Alejandra Botia, Alireza Kamyabi, Alexa Tanner, Aaron Loewen, Alison McClean, Andrew Zang, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi, Arwa Nemir, Axel Hauduc, Chelsea Gowton (AO Rep), Daniel He, Erik Frieling, Gillian Glass, Ginny Pichler, Hannah Green, Jackson Schumacher, Jenny Lee, Jin Wen, Julia Burnham, Kimani Karangu, Lihwen Hsu, Lucia Lam (student guest), Mahdi Izadi (proxy for Delaram Shojaei), Maria Jose Martinez, Mostafa Hagar, Mohammad Reza Karimi, Nevena Rebic, Nicolas Romualdi, Sarah Park, Stefanie Sternagel (student guest), Shiva Zargar (SPAHC Candidate), Smruthi Ramachandran (AcEx Candidate), Tayo Olarewaju, Teesha Luehr, Thomas Smith, Yangfan Zhang.

Regrets: Abdullah Hassan, Nancy Yang.

Absent: Maryam Tayyab, Mina Rigby-Thompson, Oluwakemi Oke, Rio Picollo, Tarique Benbow, Yundi Wang.

Quorum: 16 Councillors

CALL TO ORDER AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting will be called to order at **5:36 pm.**

SPECIAL RULES ADOPTION

WHEREAS the Council has not yet established in the policy suspending of Roberts Rules of Order and,

WHEREAS a similar decision has been made in the past and proved fruitful,

BIRT the Council adopts the following special rules of order for this Council meeting:

- Each member's speaking time limit per speaking turn is 3 minutes unless extended by the Council or otherwise specified in the agenda.
- The time limit of debate for each motion is 20 minutes unless extended by the Council; and
- There is no limit on how many times a member can speak on each motion.

Mover: Kimani Karangu

Seconded: Jackson Schumacher

Result: Carried

AGENDA ADOPTION

BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Mover: Kimani Karangu

Seconded: Nicolas Romualdi

Result: Carried

DISCUSSION



Kimani: I want to move to amend the agenda to include a section 4.3 to invite Lucia Lam to speak to Council.

Mover: Kimani Karangu

Seconded: Tayo Olerawaju

Result: Carried

Speaker: Kimani, would you like to talk about why you want to add this?

Kimani: Thank you, madam speaker. The reason as to why I want to invite Lucia to speak to Council is because, all of those that attended last meeting, remember we voted for the FEOO, having been the only person that had submitted the application. What happened is that Lucia had also submitted her application but due to some reasons, the application wasn't seen in good time. But I also think there was some sort of miscommunication from our end, internal communications, and as a result, her application wasn't taken into consideration. As a result, she has reached out to my office and I came to a conclusion that it would be important that she talks to the Council because it's Council that made the decision and of course Lucia is not a very new member, she's been here for some time, she was running for the same position last year and it would be good that we hear from her end.

Speaker: Anybody want to talk on this? I will setup a vote for this. If I'm not hearing a lot of debate and to save a lot of time, I'll ask some objections. I'm trying this new thing but let me know if you don't like it. Any objections? Hearing none, this is added to the agenda.

VOTES

FOR (21): Abdul Ahad Mohiuddin (proxy for Abdul Ahad Ahmadi), Mahdi Izadi (proxy for Delaram Shojaei), Alireza Kamyabi, Mohammad Reza Karimi, Aaron Loewen, Alison McClean, Nevena Rebic, Arwa Nemir, Axel Hauduc, Sarah Park, Ginny Pichler, Gillian Glass, Jin Wen, Andrew Zang, Jackson Schumacher, Maria Jose Martinez, Kimani Karangu, Jenny Lee, Lihwen Hsu, Daniel He, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President: Thank you madam speaker and all of you, welcome. On behalf of the UBC GSS, I would like to acknowledge that UBC's Vancouver Point Grey campus is situated on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam people. I would also like to acknowledge that you are joining us today from many places, near and far away, and acknowledge the traditional owners and caretakers of those lands where you come from. Thank you so much and welcome to our meeting today and may it be fruitful. Thank you.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions.



APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1.1 GSS COUNCIL MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Council minutes be approved:

- August 20th, 2020

Mover: Arezoo Alemzadeh
Mehrizi

Second: Nicolas Romualdi

Result: Carried

DISCUSSION

Arezoo: When I was reviewing the minutes, I saw a little typo and I also saw some missing words. Should I say what they are now? On page 11, the part that I'm speaking I was talking to "consider JD" and the minutes say JV, so this is one thing. The other one, I guess on page 23 very at the bottom, when it's time for Kimani speaking, in the second line there's a sentence that says "she was the previous VP and like she didn't have a chance to attend a meeting", but online is missing because he said "she didn't have the chance to attend online meetings", so online is missing here. So that's the second one. And on page 33 of the minutes, at the bottom of the page 33, on the last sentence, "I know in my capacity students are..." but the sentence was "I know in my capacity as Senator" so Senator is missing. Also, on page 40 when I was updating on full time staff report, on the third sentence, "we must report of full-time performance", the sentence should be "full time staff performance", the word staff is missing. Thank you for your patience, I would like for these changes to be amended.

Speaker: Kimani could you respond to that please?

Kimani: Thank you. I think those are quite minor changes but could have a big significance as to how people interpret our public documents so I would suggest that we put those ones in, however I would also want to suggest, because we do transcribe after having talked, sometimes we talk fast and sometimes slow, and that those errors could have been incurred as a result of how we speak as well, so I take these as friendly.

Speaker: So, your comment is friendly. I can't take this as friendly I can only take it as an amendment. Arezoo, can I take it as your proposing BIRT my rough note be the following amendments. I want you to check the list. Who is going to amend the minutes? Is that clear my notes? The first one is the misspelling on JD, the second is the sentence previous VP that is missing the word "online meetings" and the third one is to add the word "Senator" and on page 40, it's supposed to be "must report to full-time staff"

Arezoo: Yes, staff should be added to that sentence and on page 33, as Senator should be added.

Speaker: May I check with the minute person, are these clear?

Nicole (Minute taker): Yes, they are.

BIFRT the following be amended to the minutes:

- JV>JD



- Previous VP didn't have a chance to attend a lot of <online> meetings
- P33. Add "As Senator"
- P40. Must report of Full time <staff> performance.

Mover: Arezoo Alemzadeh
Mehrizi

Seconded: Maria Jose
Martinez

Result: Carried

Nicolas: I was going to suggest that we simply amend to review the recordings since the meeting is recorded, but now that everything is typed, I just yield.

Speaker: We're not passing this amendment until we go for vote, so Nicolas you can continue to speak on this.

Nicolas: No, it's fine, I yield.

Speaker: We're speaking on whether we want to add this amendment to the minutes and then pass it. Any comments? Seeing none, any opposed? Hearing none, we go back to the main motion, anyone want to speak on the minutes as a whole? Hearing none, I will send the vote out.

VOTES

FOR (20): Andrew Zang, Abdul Ahad Mohiuddin (proxy for Abdul Ahad Ahmadi), Lihwen Hsu, Mostafa Hagar, Mohammad Reza Karimi, Kimani Karangu, Arwa Nemir, Nevena Rebic, Alison McClean, Daniel He, Sarah Park, Alireza Kamyabi, Axel Hauduc, Maria Jose Martinez, Aaron Loewen, Ginny Pichler, Jenny Lee, Jackson Schumacher, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi, Gillian Glass.

1.2 GSS COMMITTEE MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Committee minutes be approved:

Academic & External Committee:		Human Resources Committee:	July 1 st , 2020
Code and Policy Committee:	August 26 th , 2020	Services Committee:	
Elections Committee:	August 6 th , 2020	AMS Caucus:	
Executive Committee:	August 14 th , 2020	Graduate Council:	
Executive Oversight Committee:		House Finance Committee:	
Governance & Accountability Committee:		Strategic Planning ad-hoc Committee:	July 28 th , 2020
All Chairs:			



Mover: Aaron Loewen

Seconded: Jin Wen

Result: Carried

DISCUSSION

Jin: Madam Speaker, may I inquire as to why the committees did not send minutes? I can start since we didn't submit either. I submitted my Council updates late and they didn't make it to this month's agenda.

Speaker: Would you like me to go to each committee chair and inquire?

Jin: Yes please.

Nicolas: We don't currently have an AcEx chair, we're hoping to sit one in this meeting.

Speaker: Nicolas are you in a position to comment on the minutes?

Nicolas: Yes, AcEx hasn't met since the last Council which hopefully gets remedied by approving a chair and we can approve minutes and meet.

Tayo: My apologies. EOC has had meetings between now and last time. It was my oversight, I failed to send the minutes, so I'll make sure I'll send them for next Council.

Andrew: Services had a meeting recently, but we haven't had a chance to get that in the agenda for this meeting but will be on the next one.

Jackson: AMS Caucus hasn't met but I'm not sure if we're required to submit minutes per the latest Caucus policy. Maybe CPC Chair can comment on that. Same applies to Grad Council Caucus.

Nicolas: As of the last meeting, the Grad Council has a space in Teams. The Caucus hasn't met for some time as a Caucus and Grad Council meetings have not been scheduled so we're scheduling the first meeting of the year ahead of the first Grad Council meeting and you should expect minutes, probably not for the next meeting as we will have had our first meeting, we will probably have minutes for November.

Tayo: We've had meetings, I'm not sure why they haven't been sent in, but I will check with the Chair.

VOTES

FOR (19): Daniel He, Alison McClean, Erik Frieling, Axel Hauduc, Jackson Schumacher, Sarah Park, Aaron Loewen, Abdul Ahad Mohiuddin (proxy for Abdul Ahad Ahmadi), Lihwen Hsu, Gillian Glass, Maria Jose Martinez, Mostafa Hagar, Jin Wen, Jenny Lee, Ginny Pichler, Kimani Karangu, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi, Mohammad Reza Karimi, Nicolas Romualdi

2 SEATINGS

2.1 NEW COUNCILLORS

BIRT the following Seating of new Councillors be approved:

Name	Department
esha Luehr	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology



Zhenyang Xu	Educational Studies
Julia Burnham	Educational Studies
Andrew Zang	Materials Engineering
Hannah Green	Linguistics
Younus Ahmed	Anthropology

Mover: Jin Wen

Seconded: Maria Jose Martinez

Result: Carried

VOTES:

FOR (21): Alison McClean, Nevena Rebic, Jin Wen, Thomas Smith, Gillian Glass, Daniel He, Axel Hauduc, Kimani Karangu, Jenny Lee, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi, Jackson Schumacher, Sarah Park, Aaron Loewen, Mostafa Hagar, Mohammad Reza Karimi, Erik Frieling, Alejandra Botia, Arwa Nemir, Ginny Pichler, Abdul Ahad Mohiuddin (proxy for Abdul Ahad Ahmadi), Maria Jose Martinez.

ABSTAIN (1): Andrew Zang

2.2 EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES SEATINGS

All GSS Councillors are required by the bylaws to sit on at least one committee.

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

BIRT the seating of the following external representatives be approved:

Committee/Caucus	Nominee	Position	Vacancies
S Caucus	Alexa Tanner	representative	1
Graduate Council	Shiva Zargar Ershadi	Representative	1
School of Arts Council		representative	2
Health and Dental Plan Caucus		representative	0

Mover: Nicolas Romualdi

Seconded: Sarah Park

Result: Carried

DISCUSSION

Jackson: I didn't realize we had a vacancy. Are you sure that's accurate?

Speaker: Actually, on my record it's fully seated.



Jackson: I'm pretty sure it's 4 of us.

Speaker: Can I take this as a friendly amendment to change vacancy from 1 to 0.

Kimani: Yes.

Speaker: Oh, Delaram got unseated. I'll take this back. So, we do have 1 vacancy.

Jackson: Sure, I can motivate. The AMS Council is the general student body government at UBC they do a lot of cool stuff like operate the Nest and in collaboration with GSS, administer the health and dental plan and U-Pass. And, some other great student services like SASC and the Food Bank so having Graduate Student representatives to that Council is extremely important and just generally a good time. Council meetings can be a bit dramatic sometimes, they're juicy and entertaining so come join us at AMS Caucus.

Speaker: Alexa are you nominating yourself?

Alexa: I don't know if I am.

Jackson: So, to answer this question, yes, Ordinary Members can become members of the Caucus and by doing so, you become a voting member of both the GSS and AMS Council.

Alexa: I will nominate myself.

Speaker: I'm going to move on to Grad Council and then you can always nominate yourself for the previous one.

Nicolas: Thank you, Graduate Council is the legislative body of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. A lot of policies that affect Graduate Student get decided or drafted there and either get approved at that stage or submitted to Senate for final approval. It's a good space to work if you're interested in graduate student policy and working with the office of the VP Academic.

Shiva: I would like to nominate myself.

Speaker: Who can speak on Faculty of Arts?

Nicolas: I can madam Speaker, thank you. The Faculty of Arts Council is a unique opportunity that was given to the GSS to appoint 2 representatives. This is not a formal appointment as Grad Council and it's not in our bylaws, you do not become a GSS Councillor here but you're able to participate in the policy making decisions on the Faculty of Arts. I think it's important that we take these opportunities because it's a way to tell the University that the GSS is ready to expand and participate at all levels, so I very much encourage, particularly if there's any Grad Students in Arts, to take this position and engage further with your Faculty.

Speaker: Any other nominations? I'm setting up the vote.

VOTES:



FOR (20): Abdul Ahad Mohiuddin (proxy for Abdul Ahad Ahmadi), Axel Hauduc, Teesha Luehr, Jackson Schumacher, Ginny Pichler, Mostafa Hagar, Alejandra Botia, Nevena Rebic, Jin Wen, Kimani Karangu, Andrew Zang, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi, Aaron Loewen, Mohammad Reza Karimi, Jenny Lee, Daniel He, Alireza Kamyabi, Maria Jose Martinez, Sarah Park, Lihwen Hsu.

2.2.1 Committee Seatings

All GSS Councillors are required by the bylaws to sit on at least one committee.

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

BIRT the following Committee seatings be approved:

Committee/Caucus	Nominee	Position	Vacancies
Academic & External	Julia Burnham	Councillor	1
	Smruthi Ramachandran and Sean Ritter	Ordinary Member	2
Code & Policy		Councillor	0
	Heather Worthington	Ordinary Member	4
Elections		Councillor	1
		Ordinary Member	3
Executive Oversight	Julia Burnham	Councillor	1
		Ordinary Member	3
Governance & Accountability		Councillor	0
		Ordinary Member	2
House Finance		Councillor	2
		Ordinary Member	1
Human Resources		Councillor	2
		Ordinary Member	3
Services	Andrew Zang, Hannah Green and Daniel He	Councillor	3
	Jennifer Lipka	Ordinary Member	3
Strategic Planning Ad Hoc	Shiva Zargar Ershadi	Councillor	2
		Ordinary Member	2

Mover: Kimani Karangu

Seconded: Aaron Loewen

Result: Carried



DISCUSSION

Jackson: Can I nominate someone from Strat Plan? I'd like to nominate Shiva Zargar Ershadi

Speaker: Shiva you're a Councillor, right?

Jackson: Ordinary Member

Speaker: Shiva do you accept?

Shiva: Yes, I do.

Aaron: I have someone I'd like to nominate. Ordinary member Heather Worthington.

Nicolas: Point of information Madam Speaker. Didn't Shiva get seated as a Grad Council Rep? So, she just became a Councillor, and we need to give her voting rights. She's no longer an ordinary member for the purpose of committee seatings.

Speaker: Thank you, you're correct. Ben, could you add Shiva to the voting Team? Aaron if you feel like motivating, go ahead.

Aaron: I can give a few words. I think right now we only have ordinary member spots available so maybe I'm preaching to the wrong crowd here but it's a great place to start at the GSS as we work with a lot of committees. You get to learn the inner workings of the GSS. As you can see, we have some Ordinary Member spots available and we would love to have you if you're interested in knowing about the GSS a little bit more.

Mostafa: Elections Committee, we mainly work on two things. Facilitating the elections and improving engagement with the wide student base, so we're trying to get people to turn out to vote, getting them to think about actively participating in GSS and stuff like that and I wasn't around last year but apparently we have a pretty rocky election. Lots of spicy drama and right now we're trying to fix the system to account for snags like what happened last year and also adapt to the new circumstances of trying to do everything online including getting everyone excited, so it seems like a pretty interesting mix of stuff to do. So, if you're interested in helping, I encourage you to step forward.

Speaker: Kimani and Nicole, I'd like to confirm the vacancies according to the record I was given.

Kimani: Just a minute, I'll double check that.

Speaker: I'm going to move on, and you can confirm at any time.

Tayo: The executive oversight committee oversees the executives; we handle complaints and concerns regarding executives and we also look at ways to support them during their time in the office. It's a great place to get to know the executives and exactly what they do in office and just get introduced to the GSS. If you're an ordinary member, feel free to nominate and let us know that you want to join.



Jin: Just to give everyone a little idea of what G&A does, so as a committee, we evaluate and provide best governance practice recommendations to Council as well as ensure the accountability of other GSS committees and make sure that everything is going to plan, sort to speak. Thank you.

Speaker: Does the chair also count as councillor seat?

Kimani: No because some committees are led by Ordinary Members.

Nicolas: I think I wanted to clarify this, but I think it's clear. In order to be seated as a Chair you need to first be seated into the committee regardless of whether you're seated as a Councillor or Ordinary Member, then you can run for chair.

Tayo: I can speak for House Finance. Basically, HF Committee oversees the finances of the GSS. The committee works closely with the General Manager, FEOO and President and this is actually a great time to join as we're currently thinking of re-doing our budgets because of the effect of COVID-19 on our revenues and expected expenditures so it's a great place to get some project management and basically financial skills so a good place to join.

Arezo: Hi everybody, this is Arezo, I'm the chair of HR. In Human Resources we handle a variety of matters that are related to staff and it could be salary, hiring, firing, establishing positions, developing JD's, etc. Everything is related to the staff. Currently we're working on a very exciting project, we're working on changing the supervisory structure at GSS, we're working on changing the HR manual. The manual is part of the GSS policy manual and one area of the HR Committee so we're going through some changes on this manual, so by joining the committee not only do you get some managerial skills but you also learn about policy development and leadership. It's a great and exciting place to be.

Andrew: The Services Committee looks more into the fun aspect of Graduate life. We do a lot of thinking on events people may want to go to and how we build that community. We work very closely with our VP Students and Nicole, our event manager, both great people. Currently we have our work cut out for us, trying to navigate the situation right now around the world so lots to discuss. If you have any great ideas or anything, you're excited to try to get going in terms of fun aspects that people may want to do around UBC, consider giving Services a try.

Jackson: The SPAHC oversees creating the next 5-year Strategic Plan for the Society so it's a really great way to jump in and have a lasting impact on what the Society focuses on, over the next 5 years. Specifically, what we're doing right now is preparing to do a SWOT analysis so we will be essentially talking to various executives and chairs about the strengths and weaknesses of the Society, and so it's a great chance to learn about the Society for new members.

Speaker: Last call for all the openings. We have 1 vacancy and 2 names for AcEx so we need an election before we can approve this whole motion. Hannah and Julia, are you both here?

Hannah: Yes.

Julia: Yes.



Speaker: So usually how we do the election is that we usually give candidates 1 minute to talk about why you should be elected for this position and then we go to a round of questions. I usually go by last name first, for the question answering sequence and then the next question we would flip. And the answering, usually I give 30 seconds but Councillors, you can change that rule if you think it's too short. I'm going with the first name that's on my list, Hannah Green, would you be able to talk about why you should be elected for this position?

Hannah: Sure. So, I've never really been involved in a large student led body like the GSS before, however for the past year I've been the Department Rep for Grad Students in Linguistics, doing my best to advocate for the mental health, funding and things like program completion times and advocating for international students at the department level. And I hope that being a part of the Academic and External Committee, I might be able to help make a difference or at least help advocate for Grad Students at a larger level, university wide, level and I'd be very open to learning more about the committee and also working alongside other committees as appropriate. That's all.

Julia: Hi everyone, my name is Julia Burnham. I'm an MA Student in the department of Educational Studies. At my undergraduate at UBC I served as the AMS Vice President of University and Academic Affairs. Also, in my second year, serving in the UBC Senate so I have quite a long history of University advocacy. I think I've been a representative in over 4 Universities in both Senate Committees and Chaired, 5. Highlights of those include representing the AMS and SASC on the sexual misconduct policy review last year, chairing the ADHOC Senate Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, the student Senate Caucus and representing students on the academic freedom working group, which I know has been discussed in this committee previously. I'm keen to bring my experiences in University advocacy to the committee and I also intend to run for Chair of the committee. I want to strengthen the GSS advocacy capacities and work with executives to prioritize consultation and efficiency.

Speaker: Any questions?

Nicolas: Thank you Madam Speaker. I believe statements are allowed as well.

Speaker: Sure

Nicolas: I would like to offer my most full throttle support for Julia's nomination for this position, particularly because she's also interested in running for Chair of this committee. She has a lot of experience that's very valuable. I had the pleasure of working with her last year when I was president, and she was the VP Academic for AMS. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience and connections that will certainly be an asset to this very important committee. That being said, Hannah, you can join committee meetings, even if you're not seated in the committee and participate, it's just that I'd like to see Julia seated so that she can also assume the role of the Chair so that we can have a fully working and operational AcEx committee as soon as possible.

Arezo: I would like to second Nicolas as well. I fully support Julia. I know her in my capacity as a Senator. I have been in Senate since April and it has been 4 months, but she has done a lot of impactful work on a variety of student issues but specifically on Diversity and Inclusion, the area that I'm hoping to see some improvement in GSS as well. So as she said, she led the Academic, Diversity and Inclusion adhoc committee in the Senate and they made a recommendation and those have been approved in the Senate and also this adhoc committee will now be a standing committee so she's done great achievements and I fully support her.



Speaker: Anybody want to ask more questions? If not, because Hannah has requested to speak, and I didn't state any rules that you can't so why don't we have her speak and then Julia follow with the same timeframe so that's fair.

Hannah: I was just going to say, based on what all of you have said, I agree with you all, especially with the fact that I had no intention in running for chair but if that's going to be better for Council, then of course it sounds like Julia is better fitted for the position at this time, so if it's alright I would like to withdraw the nomination of my name and instead nominate myself for Services.

Speaker: I'm going to move on for a last call for any of the openings.

Sarah: I'd like to nominate Daniel for Services.

Speaker: Daniel do you accept?

Daniel: Yeah, that'd be fun. Thank you.

VOTES

FOR (25): Nevena Rebic, Kimani Karangu, Ginny Pichler, Shiva Zargar, Gillian Glass, Alireza Kamyabi, Axel Hauduc, Aaron Loewen, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi, Daniel He, Mostafa Hagar, Mohammad Reza Karimi, Alejandra Botia, Maria Jose Martinez, Nicolas Romualdi, Hannah Green, Alison McClean, Jackson Schumacher, Jin Wen, Lihwen Hsu, Arwa Nemir, Andrew Zang, Teesha Luehr, Sarah Park, Jenny Lee.

ABSTAIN (1): Julia Burnham.

2.3 COMMITTEE CHAIR SEATINGS

BIRT the following Committee Chair Seatings be approved:

Jackson Schumacher as Chair for AMS Caucus.

Andrew Zang as Chair for Services Committee.

Julia Burnham as Chair for Academic and External Committee.

Mover: Maria Jose Martinez **Second:** Sarah Park **Result:** Carried

VOTES:

FOR (19): Mohammad Reza Karimi, Aaron Loewen, Alison McClean, Kimani Karangu, Mostafa Hagar, Jenny Lee, Shiva Zargar, Alireza Kamyabi, Lihwen Hsu, Teesha Luehr, Ginny Pichler, Alejandra Botia, Axel Hauduc, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi, Gillian Glass, Arwa Nemir, Jin Wen, Daniel He, Maria Jose Martinez.



ABSTAIN (3): Julia Burnham, Andrew Zang, Jackson Schumacher.

3 MATTERS FOR DECISION

3.1 AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION

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

BIRT the following organizations be recognized as Affiliate Organizations for one year, ending at the meeting of Council in September 2021:

Name of Affiliate Organization	Representative
Economics Graduate Student Association	Allen Peters
Land and Food Systems Graduate Student Council	Chelsea Gowton

Mover: VP Students

Seconded: Maria Martinez

Result: Carried

DISCUSSION

Speaker: VP Students would you like to motivate?

Sarah: Sure! AO's are the people on the ground, and they do the main engagement with their departments so highly encourage you all to support his motion. Thanks.

VOTES

FOR (25): Mohammad Reza Karimi, Julia Burnham, Daniel He, Nevena Rebic, Alejandra Botia, Jackson Schumacher, Jin Wen, Teesha Luehr, Kimani Karangu, Nicolas Romualdi, Alison McClean, Sarah Park, Lihwen Hsu, Shiva Zargar, Hannah Green, Axel Hauduc, Aaron Loewen, Ginny Pichler, Alireza Kamyabi, Arwa Nemir, Jenny Lee, Andrew Zang, Gillian Glass, Maria Jose Martinez, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi.

DISCUSSION

Arezoo: Point of privilege. The Polly didn't show up for me and I wasn't able to vote so I am in favour, please add me in the minutes as in favour.

Speaker: Thank you, you will be recorded in the minutes.



3.2 ITEM 1: COUNCILLOR SEATING POLICY UPDATE

Group Responsible: Code & Policy Committee

Description: Policies 3.1.4 and 6.2.1 refer to the incorrect policies and bylaws and need to be amended. Policy 6.1.2 does not currently allow for online submissions of the “Confidentiality Agreement and Protection of Personal Information Agreement” and therefore should be changed to allow for that. Policies 6.2.2 and 6.2.4 are redundant with Policies 6.1.2 and 3.1.5, and therefore should be removed for clarity. Policy 6.2.3 reads that an incomplete Affidavit of Election form can be accepted for a seating of a Departmental Representative; however, it is the opinion of CPC that a complete Declaration of Election form is an appropriate minimum criterion for seating a Departmental Representative. Therefore, CPC recommends that Policy 6.2.3 should be repealed.

Proposed Objective: To remove redundant policies. To set the minimum standard for seating a Departmental Representative. To amend policies so that references to other areas of the Policy Manual and Bylaws are accurate.

Time: 10 minutes

Supporting Documents: [Policy Revision Form – Councillor Seating Policy.pdf](#)

WHEREAS Policy 3.1.4 incorrectly refers to Policies 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 (Executive Officers), when it should refer to Policy 6.1.2 (requirements for seating Councillors),

WHEREAS Policy 1.3.2.d allows for the “Confidentiality Agreement and Protection of Personal Information Agreement” to be online,

WHEREAS Policy 6.2.1 currently does not permit online submissions of the “Confidentiality Agreement and Protection of Personal Information Agreement”,

WHEREAS Policy 6.2.1 incorrectly refers to Bylaw 2.7 (does not exist), when it should refer to Bylaw 3.7 (standing in regard to membership),

WHEREAS Policies 6.2.2 and 6.2.4 are redundant with Policies 6.1.2 and 3.1.5,

WHEREAS the completion of a Declaration of Election is an appropriate minimum criterion allowed for seating a ~~Councillor~~ Departmental Representative, and this should not be waived as currently allowed by 6.2.3,

WHEREAS the policy was revised to apply only to Departmental Representatives, and is most suitable in that section of the policy,

BIRT Policy 3.1.4 be amended to read: “The Chair shall recognize and seat new councillors at the beginning of the meeting, following completion of the requirements stated in 6.1.2”

BIFRT Policy 6.1.2 be amended to read: “Prior to being seated on Council, all Councillors, including all Departmental and Non-Departmental Representatives, are required to submit to the Society Office a completed “Declaration of Election” found in Appendix II, and submit to the Society Office or online a completed “Confidentiality Agreement and Protection of Personal Information Agreement” found in Appendix IX.”

BIFRT Policy 6.2.1 be amended to read: “A Departmental Representative must be democratically elected from a Department in good standing as defined in Bylaw 3.7”

BIFRT Policies 6.2.2-6.2.4 be repealed

BIFRT Policy 6.1.3 be renumbered 6.2.2



BIFRT as a result of the above, 6.1.4 be accordingly renumbered 6.1.3, and 6.2.5 renumbered 6.2.3.

Mover: Kimani Karangu **Seconded:** Sarah Park **Result:** Carried

DISCUSSION

Speaker: Would you like to present it first? Is it a presentation followed by a motion or a motion that you move?

Aaron: It would be basically a presentation and then a move at the end. I'll just do a recap about what this is about if that works and answer any questions. These policies changes are basically housekeeping and removing redundant policies that were deemed unnecessary to have due to the redundancy. There were 2 changes that will have some impacts that I would like to highlight for the sake of being transparent. The first one is that this policy change will formally allow submissions of the confidentiality form online which is something that the policy manual already allows us to have but doesn't actually allow us to formally submit online so submitting this, we want to change it so that this form can be signed online. And be accepted just as equally as if it was a paper copy. The other change that could have an impact is currently and incomplete declaration of election, is acceptable for departmental representatives to be seated as representatives in Council. However, CPC considers that a complete form should be a minimum standard of accepting a departmental representative. So that's basically the gist of what the policy changes would be.

Nicolas: I'd like to suggest to the mover of this policy to adopt if possible, a friendly amendment. I believe were it reads: "Whereas the completion of the declaration of Election is an appropriate minimum criterion allowed for seating a Councillor" that is meant to read "allowed for seating a Departmental Representative". The Councillors that are seated with a Declaration of Election are Departmental Representatives, everyone else is seated through different mechanisms so I believe were it says Councillor in that sentence should read Departmental Representative.

Speaker: Aaron is this ok?

Aaron: Yes, apologies for the inaccuracy of the language used.

Speaker: Anyone else has a question for Aaron before I read the motion?

VOTES FOR POLICY AMENDMENT- SPECIAL RESOLUTION

FOR (23): Julia Burnham, Alison McClean, Erik Frieling, Mohammad Reza Karimi, Jin Wen, Axel Hauduc, Nevena Rebic, Daniel He, Andrew Zang, Lihwen Hsu, Teesha Luehr, Kimani Karangu, Shiva Zargar, Mostafa Hagar, Jenny Lee, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi, Sarah Park, Maria Jose Martinez, Jackson Schumacher, Alireza Kamyabi, Alejandra Botia, Hannah Green, Arwa Nemir.

ABSTAIN (1): Aaron Loewen



4 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

4.1 AUGUST FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Group Responsible: Financial and Executive Oversight Officer

Description: August 2020 GSS Financial Overview.

Proposed Objective: Update on GSS Revenues and Expenditures.

Time: 10 minutes

Supporting Documents: [August 2020 Financials.pptx](#)

DISCUSSION

Nicolas: Thank you Madam Speaker. I would like to see if it's possible and to clarify to Council that the reason I'm underspending in Financial Aid is because we've more than doubled the Financial aid available for Graduate Students as a result of funding that we were able to obtain from UBC which is not reflected in my budget income, it's just reflected in my budgeted expenses so that's why it systematically looks deviated like I'm spending irresponsibly. So, I wonder if there's a possibility to adjust the budget to reflect that I have an extra amount available so that I don't systematically appear to be deviated for the rest of the year.

Tayo: Thank you for that comment Nicolas, it's well noted. And this is one of the reasons of why we currently, as you are aware, are redoing the budget to reflect such discrepancies.

Nicolas: Thank you Tayo.

4.2 ROLES BETWEEN GSS AND CUPE 2278

Group Responsible: GSS VP UAA / CUPE 2278 President

Description: Proposed statement of mutual recognition of roles between the GSS and CUPE 2278.

Proposed Objective: Inform Council.

Time: 10 minutes

Supporting Documents: [GSS-CUPE2278.pptx](#)

4.3 FEOO APPLICATION

Group Responsible: President/ Lucia Lam

Description:

Proposed Objective:

Time: 20 minutes

Supporting Documents:



DISCUSSION

Speaker: Kimani how would you like to do this? I yield the floor to you.

Kimani: Is Lucia in the Team?

Lucia: Yes, can you hear me?

Speaker: Hi Lucia, my name is Conny and I'm the Speaker. Would you like to present your case to Council and then we'll have a discussion?

Lucia: Sure. So basically, I submitted my statement for my application to the FEOO position before the deadline on August 20th. It says on the deadline August 20th at 5:00 pm and I did submit it before that deadline. However I heard back later from Kimani that somehow that email wasn't checked before 5:00 pm that day so that my application was missed and that's why it wasn't included in the Council meeting, because nobody was able to check the inbox in time but I did submit it in time so I feel it should be considered as well.

Speaker: Lucia is there anything you'd like to propose Council to do for you or that's it?

Lucia: So basically, I was just expecting my application to be considered because I did submit it in time.

Speaker: So, I'll try to rephrase this to Council. My role here is to provide a space for constructive discussion. So, Council the application of FEOO role was submitted on time and I'm assuming there's a record so it's up to Council to discuss how to deal or respond to this. Anybody want to speak?

Nicolas: Madam Speaker, I think to expedite this if I may suggest that given Lucia's exposition what is up for Council now is to make a decision on whether there's enough to warrant a revision of the decision made in the last meeting, whether we want to engage in re-electing the FEOO and I think we can do this in just one motion. We can see if there's enough to make us reconsider the decision to appoint Tayo or not, so what I'm going to move as I was on the winning side of this motion, actually no, I abstained from this motion. So, I'm going to ask any Councillor who voted in favour of Tayo to be the FEOO to move to reconsider the discussion in that motion, but I can't move since I abstained from that motion.

Sarah: Point of personal privilege, could you share the agenda again?

BIRT the Council reconsider the appointment of FEOO in August 2020 Council meeting.

Mover: Daniel He

Seconded: Jin Wen

Result: Carried

Speaker: I'm going to explain this motion before I ask someone to talk more about this. This basically brings back the motion from last time of voting the last FEOO in and voted again.

Gillian: I was just going to say, I can't remember how I voted before so I could move but it's alright because it was moved already.

Speaker: I'm going to start a poll and if you want to speak, type speak.

Maria Jose: Point of information. So, what we're going to do is to go again with the vote? And the whole election thing as we usually do?

Speaker: Yes, so let me pull out last month's minutes and just double-check.

Nicolas: Madam Speaker for simplicity I think we can do the whole discussion in this motion that is Lucia can make her case and then Council can vote whether they think it's worth reconsidering the re-appointment of Tayo, particularly considering that Tayo has served with the Society for a long time. Instead of entertaining the whole election procedure perhaps it's worth for Lucia to advocate her case to the Council and then if Council



decides that there's enough to warrant reconsideration of the vote then we go into election mode, just for the sake of expediency.

Speaker: So, the motion that I have right now is very specific, I need to bring back the exact motion. I'm checking what that motion looks like. I can't just bring back any sort of motion. So, give me a second. Maybe right now Lucia would you like to speak on this while I'm looking for the motion. Anything else you would like to say?

Lucia: You mean my statement and why I should be elected?

Speaker: Anything else you'd like to say?

Lucia: I feel that since I did submit it in time, before the deadline, so I followed the procedure then I should be one of the candidates considered in the election.

Speaker: I just found the motion, but my computer is slow so bear with me for a second.

Jackson: I was going to recommend that if we go with Nicolas's suggestion of essentially housing within this motion then probably Lucia and Tayo should both speak briefly on why they would be best fit for the FEOO role.

Speaker: Before I get to that, I will call this motion to see if it's in order or not or if it's in the spirit of what I hear you guys want to do. So, this motion is basically to have the Council reconsider this whole motion and no other. So, the motion that we're reconsidering right now is:

BIRT the Council elect an officer in the office of the Financial and Executive Oversight.

BIFRT Temitayo Olarewaju is the only person nominated and is elected by acclamation.

Speaker: So, what we could do is, right now, if you want to do something differently, you need to amend this motion and it would be a BIFRT clause. Otherwise we're voting on this as is and there's no election and Lucia is not allowed to talk either.

Nicolas: I think you're making a point about procedure that's quite valid so based on where we are, maybe the best course of action and I will get somewhere here, is to just vote yes on the motion to reconsider and go back to the main motion, have a short discussion and then vote on the election again. And to just record keep the election neatly as the wheel of a meeting of Council, which person they'd like appointed as FEOO so there's no question about the legitimacy of the appointment and we wrap that up very quickly and neatly. Having said that, I'm going to call to question on the issue at hand.

Speaker: Ok, so:

BIRT the Council reconsider the appointment of FEOO in August 2020 Council meeting. If you vote yes, and this is special resolution, we will come back to this motion and then you guys can amend it then. Are we clear? If you're not clear, ask for Point of Information.

Arezo: Point of information, could you explain again? I couldn't follow.

Speaker: Right now, we're voting on this, to reconsider this motion that was voted in last Council. If you vote yes, that means the next step we'll have is that we'll start talking about this motion. We're not voting the second part of the motion yet, we're just voting on "yes, I want to talk about this motion that we voted last Council again". Does that help?

Arezo: Yes, it did, thank you.

Speaker: You're now voting to talk about the motion again, that's all. You're not obligated to anything. This is a special resolution.

Sarah: Point of Information. Because this is special resolution, how many votes do we need to pass?



Speaker: Two thirds in favour. In special resolution, abstain doesn't count in the total votes.

VOTES TO RECONSIDERATION FEOO APPOINTMENT

FOR (18): Daniel He, Sarah Park, Nicolas Romualdi, Maria Jose Martinez, Axel Hauduc, Andrew Zang, Teesha Luehr, Mostafa Hagar, Alison McClean, Jenny Lee Jin Wen, Lihwen Hsu, Mohammad Reza Karimi, Aaron Loewen, Jackson Schumacher, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi, Gillian Glass, Nevena Rebic.

ABSTAIN (5): Hannah Green, Kimani Karangu, Alireza Kamyabi, Tayo Olarewaju, Julia Burnham.

DISCUSSION

Speaker: Next step now is bringing back the motion that we did last time. I need a mover and seconder to start talking about this motion even if you want to amend it. Anybody want to speak?

BIRT the Council elect an officer in the office of the Financial and Executive Oversight Officer.

BIFRT Temitayo Olarewaju is the only person nominated and is elected by acclamation.

Mover: Nicolas Romualdi **Seconded:** Jin Wen **Result:**

Nicolas: I move to amend this motion to read: BIRT -blank- is elected for the position of Financial and Executive Oversight Officer until we can hold an election to determine who should occupy that position. First line remains as is.

BIRT the Council elect an officer in the office of the Financial and Executive Oversight Officer.

BIFRT Tayo Olarewaju is elected by the Council.

Mover: Nicolas Romualdi **Seconded:** Kimani Karangu **Result:** Carried

Speaker: Any objections to this amendment? Now the election has restarted. So, what I hear is that both Lucia and Tayo are both candidates for FEOO position and is being reconsidered today because both submitted their application before the deadline. Same drill, you'll each have 1 minute to talk about why you should be FEOO and the Council will have a question round period. I'm going to have the person on the top of my screen first. So Tayo, are you ready?

Tayo: I'm Tayo Olerawaju the former FEOO. I'm also the Departmental Representative from Law school and prior to being the FEOO, for the past 3-4 months I was an active member of CPC, House Finance and also the Executive Oversight Committee. I think it's important for the current FEOO to have an overview of how GSS operates and I think I bring that to the table. Over the past few months, I think I've made strides and tried to improve the financial reports to Council and also to try to streamline the Executive Oversight process. I'd be glad to continue serving in capacity as the FEOO. Thank you.

Lucia: I have been a Councillor for both the AMS and GSS. At the GSS I was VP Finance so also on House Finance and other committees and responsible for doing the budget and other finance matters. I studied Business so I have done classes in accounting and management.



Nicolas: Point of order. Sorry. I feel it's my fiduciary duty and I'm obliged to communicate to Council and particularly to Lucia, that this meeting is in the public record and any statements made in this meeting are subject to the public record. Based on her previous actions on disclosures made to and during GSS meetings. And I'm happy to elaborate but I think this is enough at this point. To clarify, that any statement made throughout this meeting is subject to the public record.

Speaker: That is correct Lucia. And you can start again but what is said is already said. I'll re-start the timer.

Lucia: I have been a Councillor for both the AMS and GSS. At the GSS I was VP Finance, so I sat in various Finance committees like House Finance committees and also responsible for budget issues and different things. Having studied Business, I have experience in accounting and management. I have held a lot of financial related positions for example I was the Finance Chair for the UBC Commerce Community program and VP Finance for ISAC and I'm really good at managing budgets and cutting costs for non-profits. So, I've done this also for NGO's, monitoring and evaluation as well.

Speaker: Thank you, your time is done. Question period.

Kimani: Thank you Madam Speaker. I have a question to Lucia. I remember, this is not your first time and you're talking about having been involved in GSS and AMS, could you please tell us which time that was because I think I have seen a pattern, you only come to the GSS matter when there are elections happening. I remember last year you also promised to do something to the GSS but somehow vanished. Would you tell us what other motives you have other than serving the GSS?

Lucia: My motive is only serving the GSS. Yeah, I also ran for the FEOO position, but I lost to Kimani, and yeah, I didn't vanish and didn't promise to do anything else. I was really interested in the FEOO position. And so, I ran, and now I'm running again. What did I promise to do? Cause that was the only thing I ran for.

Kimani: Madam speaker if I may respond?

Speaker: Nicolas gets to speak first.

Nicolas: I got lost as to what was the question directed to me Madam Speaker, I apologize.

Speaker: No, sorry. That was Kimani. I mistook you because you have the same logo. Kimani you may speak again.

Kimani: Thank you. May I start by responding that during our campaign last year, when Tayo, myself and Lucia ran for the same position and I won, there was a suggestion that there were other parts of the GSS that you could play part in to make sure we improve the services of the GSS. And I went ahead and ran for Presidency and won, Tayo went ahead and ran for FEOO that time and won.

Speaker: No cross talking Lucia.

Kimani: And Tayo went ahead and became the member of House Finance as well as EOC. So, he has been active and never disappeared. We stood to what we thought we were coming to do for the GSS. Whether we won or not, we had a commitment to the GSS. There were other things we could've done and that's what we



continue to do until this time. Madam Speaker, if I may talk on support of Tayo for this position. I think Tayo has displayed a lot of profession and a lot of commitment to the Society. He has moved ahead noting that the Society is losing some money because of COVID-19, suggested that we need to get some money from the government and we went ahead and did this and got the money, and he has been very keen to make sure we're financially stable and healthy and hasn't deserted us at any point so I think at this particular time, I would want everyone to run behind Tayo and vote that way. Thank you.

Arezoo: Point of order Madam Speaker, I was wondering if a member can tell, I mean of course we can express our support for which candidate we support, but I was wondering if we can tell the members to vote whom.

Speaker: Yes, this is a good point you brought up. In every debate, it's a good practice when you're starting to talk, you should state your position. Are you making the statement to encourage everyone to vote yes or against? This is a good practice. I hope that answers your question Arezoo.

Arezoo: I didn't hear sorry. Point of privilege. I didn't understand, it's a good practice to tell people to vote on whom?

Speaker: It's a good practice to be clear when you speak what ways do you want the members to vote for. So, it is ok what Kimani was doing, is perfectly fine and I'm encouraging that. This is how Roberts Rules debates should happen.

Arezoo: Thank you.

Sarah: Thanks, Conny. I had a question for Lucia. As FEOO what are some of the goals or things are that you would like to implement for the GSS this year.

Lucia: I would like to implement cutting costs as well as spending money wisely and using the budget well. And that we are meeting all budget goals and other policies and goals to GSS. So, everything is done fairly, and money is spent the best way that it can be spend without wasting anything.

Nevena: I guess, I'm trying to figure out what I want to say here. I feel like there's some maybe, I would like to hear a little bit of more information about the things that are being said below the surface in some of the conversations that are going on here because as much as I understand that Kimani and Nicolas have very distinct kind of, opinions towards what is going on, I feel that for some of us Councillors who may not be as informed, as to maybe what our concerns are. I'm having a bit of trouble as to how we're having these conversations and whether this feels like, I would just like to know more about what's going on so if anybody can fill in some details, I'm not phrasing my question the right way.

Speaker: I can rephrase it for you.

Nevena: When I feel that maybe somebody is being talked over, my inclination is to step in, but I would like more context. And I feel that some of us who may not be as familiar with some of the past experiences of the candidates, we would also like more context but given some of the limitations that we can of course, share here without maybe going into camera if that's applicable, etc. So yes, please Conny, rephrase my words into English.



Speaker: So, Council, Nevena is requesting more information to specifically Nicolas and/or Kimani, just to remind you guys, in camera or not, it's Council's decision and whatever is said on camera, is all in record.

Lucia: Can I answer?

Speaker: No, this is a question directed to Kimani, Mr. President, I'll refer it back to you.

Kimani: Thank you Madam Speaker and sorry Nevena that you're floating.

Nicolas: Kimani I think Nevena has a particular question as to why I interrupted Lucia so if you don't mind, I'd like to answer that.

Kimani: Sure, I just want to make sure that there's no need for us to go into camera because the decision of whatever needs to be done, needs to be done in daylight.

Nicolas: Thank you Mr. President. There's no need to go into camera because I'm not concerned about making statement in the public record on this matter. My reason, Nevena, for interrupting Lucia in what apparently was a rude manner, and I do understand that it was not the best way to do it but it's just that when it came back to my memory and my fiduciary duty obligated me to do it in that matter or at least that's how I interpreted my duty to the Society. The matter in question is that in the last year, when she applied for the role and lost the election, she threatened to sue the Society because she wanted statements made in favour of her election and particularly her election blurb submitted to Council which was included in the agenda, and the statements made during the election, removed from the public record that is our minutes, after it had been approved by Council. After I informed her that these were part of the public record, she threatened to sue the Society and I had to incur into legal consultation which carried hefty fees to make a decision on whether minutes approved by Council, could be modified in the moment by me, unilaterally as the President of the Society, if it reduced legal liability to the Society. So given that, even though Lucia claims that she has experience with the GSS, she seemed not to be aware that at the time, any statements, absolutely any statements made and submitted to Council, are completely subject to public record and are submitted to the BC Registrar along with our minutes every year because we're a Society subjected to Law and rule of law and we, as director of the society are obligated to be transparent in the actions and statements that we make. I felt that I was compelled to clarify this to avoid another situation in which the Society would be threatened with legal action.

Lucia: Can I respond to that?

Speaker: If you wish to speak at this point, because nobody directly asked you to speak, type it on the chat and I'll put you on the speakers list. Nevena, did that answer your question? If it did, I'm going to Maria.

Nevena: It did to some extent, but I would like to hear Lucia to get the complete picture.

Lucia: Thanks Nicolas. I do remember what you're talking about. When I was running for the position last year, at that point I was under the understanding that our statements published would only be for the Election itself. So, I thought it would serve more so as an election blurb for the campaign, so I wasn't expecting the materials from the campaign to be published publicly after that. So, when I found out I did express my concern, but I don't think that I threatened to sue the society. I did express my concern, but it wasn't like that rude to the point of



suings. Just a concern for sure and I do appreciate that the concern was addressed. So, thank for that. But yeah, I just wanted to clarify that I didn't threat to sue the Society from what I can remember. I think it was a misunderstanding I thought the statement were used as Election campaign materials that would just be for the purpose of the election rather than remaining in public record.

Speaker: Guys, we have 2 minutes and 30 seconds left for this motion. Would you want to extend? We have a few speakers on the list waiting to go. Otherwise, I'm continuing.

Maria: Yes, I wanted to be fair and ask both of them a question but because we're running out of time, I just wanted to say that I'm part of the House Finance Committee and I've seen the work that Tayo does and just wanted to being favour of him working as FEOO because his work has been helpful for us too and he's very committed.

Jin: I'm not privy with other information however I just wanted to touch on what Tayo has done this year. Just given the transfer to online and all, he still managed to complete his SMART goals such as making budget guidelines which he submitted to House Finance. I just wanted to say that.

Jackson: In the interest of time, I'd just like to declare my support for Tayo who has been doing an excellent job navigating the Societies finances even as COVID makes that a much more complicated job.

Arezo: I would like to express my support for Tayo as well. I don't know, since the last 4 years that I've been at the GSS I haven't seen as professional, as committed, as transparent FEOO as Tayo. He's really on top of his role and I'm very impressed in this short time, how much he has contributed to the Society. And any, myself, any issue that I've brought up to his notice, he acted very actively on it. I fully support Tayo.

Speaker: Ok my 20-minute timer is up, and we still have a few people on the speaker's list. What would you like to do?

Kimani: Madam Speaker, I move that we extend the time to another 5 minutes.

Mover: Kimani Karangu **Second:** Andrew Zang **Result:** Carried

Speaker: Ok, so 5 more minutes guys. Lucia it's your turn.

Lucia: Yeah, I think I already spoke basically just wanting to.

Speaker: Just to clarify that when you say speak on the speakers list you will be put on the list and that you will be responding to a question that doesn't count against you. So, you can speak otherwise you can say you yield.

Lucia: Could I say something responding the previous statements?

Speaker: Yes, it's your floor.

Lucia: Sure, I'd like to say that even though I don't know the current people at GSS and haven't been involved in a while, that's why I would love to come back to get involved and contribute to the GSS again. And I would



definitely do my best. I understand that Tayo has been involved more recently. It would be good to have new ideas and new people to come in as well.

Nicolas: Thank you Madam Speaker. I'd like to first clarify to Council that as an executive I'm obviously conflicted in trying to influence the decision made on the Financial and Executive Oversight Officer which is why I have restricted my comments and the information provided to Council to simple factual record and to the question in the matter, Lucia emailed us on November of last year, let me just double check that I have the timing right. Yes, November 11th of last year, and I read, verbatim: "Do not consent to it being online, if it's not removed immediately, I would have to hold the GSS liable to any potential losses of any affiliated prospects". Such threat led to the interpretation of legal action against the Society which is at which point I advised all of the GSS executives and staff to interrupt any further communications with Lucia and consulted with a lawyer. Again, I'm not trying to influence a decision made by Council because I'm obviously conflicted to a way in in who'd be the person that most responsible for my oversight. I'm simply answering the question raised by Nevena on what was the reason that prompted me to interrupt the initial statement, to make sure I was clear that anything said in this meeting is subject to private record and the GSS is in no way liable for making any of these statements public.

Kimani: Thank you Madam Speaker. I have a question for Lucia. I don't know if she's aware that for the last 9-10 years, we've been one of the best financial performing Student Societies in North America. So, when she suggests that she wants to come and start cutting costs, I would wish to know what kind of costs she's talking about and whether she has looked at our audited reports in the few years to understand what she might be wanting to cut and specially within this COVID situation, when we want to have as much for the Society as possible. And another question related to this is that she says she wants to come back and help the Society, I don't believe being the FEOO is the only way to participate and to help GSS grow. Lastly, she says she was a member or executive of the GSS, could she tell us which time this was?

Speaker: Lucia are your clear on the questions?

Lucia: Yes, there's a few questions. First question, in what ways I would cut costs and have I looked at the audited report yet, I'm glad to hear that for the past 9-10 years the GSS has been one of the best financially well performed in terms of budget. I actually haven't looked at the recently audited reports or budgets yet. And in terms of cutting costs, I would have to look more. I'd be thinking of all different possible ways to further cut costs and maybe to even cut down student membership fees. Just every possible way. And then, when I did VP Finance it was 9-10 years ago, exactly what Kimani was saying.

Nicolas: Point of information Madam Speaker, would this be the year when the Society went almost bankrupt and we had to crawl our way out of that ever since then?

Speaker: Are you asking who?

Nicolas: You Madam Speaker. I believe you held the roll of President and Vice President during those times and you're responsible for us not to cease existing as a Society? If you could please clarify that?

Speaker: Ok so I've been asked to answer this question. My year is 2013 and yes, before my year it was an imminent bankruptcy happening because the pub was almost closed down and pleading money so my year we



had to close down the pub and re-opened it with the joint venture we have right now, otherwise, we were not in a good position. That was 2013, if you check my linked in right now, you get the right year. So, no further questions and we ran out of the total time. So, I'm going to go for vote for this one. Before we can fill the underscore name, we need to vote for one person. Let me set the vote up. Just so that you know, if Council does not request, this will not be anonymous by default. If you want this to be anonymous, let me know.

Sarah: Point of information, will there be an abstain option?

Speaker: Then just don't vote.

VOTES FOR FEOO APPOINTMENT

TAYO (19): Kimani Karangu, Alison McClean, Ginny Pichler, Nevena Rebic, Jackson Schumacher, Jin Wen, Jenny Lee, Aaron Loewen, Daniel He, Hannah Green, Gillian Glass, Mostafa Hagar, Mohammad Reza Karimi, Maria Jose Martinez, Arwa Nemir, Teesha Luehr, Axel Hauduc, Andrew Zang, Julia Burnham.

LUCIA (0):

Speaker: Tayo has won the election so we're putting his name back. Lucia thank you so much for being with us today, we appreciate your nomination.

Lucia: Thank you.

Speaker: Now Council, this motion is back on the floor, we're going straight into voting this motion unless someone wants to speak.

VOTES FOR TAYO AS OFFICIAL FEOO

FOR (17): Axel Hauduc, Nevena Rebic, Jackson Schumacher, Aaron Loewen, Julia Burnham, Mostafa Hagar, Shiva Zargar, Mohammad Reza Karimi, Gillian Glass, Daniel He, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi, Lihwen Hsu, Andrew Zang, Maria Jose Martinez, Arwa Nemir, Jenny Lee, Teesha Luehr.

ABSTAIN (1): Kimani Karangu.

5 MATTERS TO NOTE

Time reserved for questions regarding updates below.

DISCUSSION

Arezoo: Yes, Madam Speaker. Thank you very much. I have one question for the President and 2 for VP External. And I was wondering, I have 2 follow up questions for AcEx Committee. In June Council, I had to send a



letter and then they considered my concern in the meeting, but I didn't have a chance to be there. So, I wanted if someone was there in that meeting, I can ask some follow up questions with them. My question is just out of curiosity, in his updates he was talking about the Strategic Plan Discussion with students and I'm just curious if he can expand on that and in regard to VP External, I see a working on revamping GSS privacy policy. I was wondering if this is the work of VP External or CPC, is my question. And also wondering if VP External is advocating for, because last VP External was advocating for reducing or eliminating the MSP fee and was wondering if that advocacy is still continuing. So, I would like to ask my questions from, not sure how much time I have left, but would like to ask my questions from AcEx member if anyone is there, in the second chance. Thank you.

Kimani: Thank you Madam Speaker and thank you Arezoo for asking the question about the Strategic Plan that's being laid for the students. This is a new project or maybe a Strategic Plan that's being laid out by the office of VP Students and also both UBC-O and UBC-V. It has come to a point that most of the plans that have been laid out to be performed or specifically be done to benefit students in both campuses, have been left in written forms and no actions have been taken. And with the new, he's not new anymore, but the current VP Students Ainsleigh, he's come up with the plan to hire a working committee within his office to look at all Strategic Plans that have been laid there that have specific things for students and they want to map them out and try to strategize them, execute them, but before they do that, they want to have consultation with students so they will likely reach out to you people, they have already reached out to the student leadership thus why I can update on this and it's a lot of work in progress. We can't say much about it because it's at very initial stages and we're working together to develop UBC Student plan. At this particular time, I would say that we're at the stage of mapping out the specific issues that affect students in both campuses. The plan will be out, they will come to you and ask specific questions and after that we'll have a strategic plan maybe for the next 5-10 years to come. I think this answers your question Arezoo?

Arezoo: Yes, you did. Thank you very much.

Speaker: Arezoo, you asked multiple people questions. I just want to make sure there are other people that need to respond to your question, have spoken. Are they all answered?

Arezoo: I asked 2 questions for VP External.

Alireza: Yes, I hope you can all hear me. The 2 points were regarding the privacy policy as was the advocacy on MSP for international students. I will touch on them both starting with privacy policy. As Executives we have a shared duty towards the general wellbeing of the Society and that includes having a confidentiality and privacy policy in place that covers the requirements of BC PIPA. In this instance the VP External office is collaborating with the President in revamping the GSS privacy policy so that it is in line with provincial legislation and privacy guidelines. On the issue of advocacy for MSP fee for international students, that's still on our agenda. In fact, you might've heard of rumors of provincial elections right around the corner, that will be an issue that we will try to bring to voters' attention. In fact, MSP fee is something a lot of student societies are agreeing upon and I hope we can see more unity and more united approach when it comes to advocate for the removal of this fee. I'd be happy to answer any more questions on this matter.

Speaker: Arezoo, is there a third person you asked a question to?



Arezoo: Point of privilege. Thank you Alireza and Kimani for answering my question. I would like to ask you if any of AcEx members were in that meeting where my concerns that were brought up to Council were discussed. If anyone was here.

Speaker: Arezoo, this is going back and forth. I'm feeling challenged and this is my fault. Arezoo, is it ok if we finish the questions that you asked the first time and then you can have a follow up question after since you're already on the speaker list?

Arezoo: Sorry I didn't get your meaning.

Speaker: So, your first question you asked a question for Kimani and VP External. Did I miss anybody?

Arezoo: Not now but I have following questions. I asked my direct questions to President and VP External and they answered my questions, but I wanted to ask questions.

Speaker: Then, if that's ok, can you ask the second time because there's people on speakers list. This is how I always want this, I'm going to hold this, and I will not forget you.

Alireza: Yes, I just wrote speak to answer Arezoo's question.

Speaker: Arezoo, you were asking if AcEx members were there or not?

Arezoo: Let me put it that way. I spoke to all Council members and wrote my concerns about an advocacy letter written by VP Academic and send to the BOG's. So AcEx discussed that letter and I didn't have a chance to attend that meeting, I am ex-officio but based at the time, I wasn't involved in that timing, I had another meeting to attend and every time I look at the agenda, I have to ask permission. I don't know, I've never seen something on the agenda except for that time that I had to get access to the agenda and I think they discussed my question, so oversight officer updated me that they discussed my question and gave me some context of what was their answer. So, I want to ask a follow up question of any AcEx member if they were in that meeting, that they discussed my concern but not sure if any person is in this Council right now.

Speaker: Anybody from AcEx can speak to your presence?

Alireza: Yes, me, the VP External is ex-officio part of the Committee and was there. May I respond?

Speaker: Yes, please.

Alireza: So, the point was brought out from the FEOO to ask AcEX regarding how the VPUAA has conducted his advocacy when it comes to governors. AcEx Committee reviewed the details in question at length and then the motion was passed unanimously that there were no issues found for advocacy approach from the VPUAA and in fact, AcEx Committee applauded the actions that our VPUAA has taken in strengthening the advocacy approach of the Society.

Tayo: Basically, just want to emphasize and fully provide context to Council if they're wondering what's happening right now. So, my office received some concerns which I think all executives were copied on, by Arezoo. We directed those concerns to the applicable committee which is AcEx and I also got a report from



them that they looked at those concerns and basically pleased with the actions of both concerned executives. I would also want to remind Arezoo, please, that since the committee has made a majority decision, that she should please comply with that decision and try not to re-open matters that have already been discussed.

Nicolas: Thank you Madam Speaker. Not sure if I should have asked for the floor or raise a point of personal privilege. Over this particular exchange with the BOG's, I've been questioned in Council already, I've had to answer to the Executive and Oversight Committee and officer and thank you Tayo, for clarifying that. And I've had to answer to the AcEx Committee where I was literally put on trial by my peers to have to answer point by point about each one of the statements or allegations made about the way that I conduct my advocacy. This being brought up again is starting to border, and this is the reason why I feel I should've brought this as point of privilege, is starting to border on harassment. If somebody wants to do my job, they're welcome to run against me in an election. But after 2 committees, Council and the Executive Oversight Officer have reviewed my actions and reports on them, I think this being brought up again, is not appropriate for this venue anymore. Thank you.

Kimani: Thank you Madam Speaker and so sorry Nicolas that you have to answer that question. Madam Speaker, I remember when this matter was brought to the public domain, I did as President, take an action of trying to understand what my VP University and Academic Affairs has been doing in terms of advocating and all that and from the report that I got from the people that have interacted with the VPUAA, Nicolas, they have nothing to say. Actually, I got 2 pages expressing that for the last so many years, they haven't seen somebody so convincing and passionate for the students, like Nicolas. It has never happened. So I think that I would wish that whoever has questions about this, I would suggest strongly that we withdraw such statements because it would not only adversely affect our ways of engaging with people on campus but also affect our way of performing as individuals in the Society. I believe and think EOC has done a great job trying to put us on our toes and I think it's evident, even other people can say, we work as a team but with a lot of responsibility and fiduciary guidance as you can tell. So I think there may be somethings that are seen as not important but I think that the data collected, pointed that a lot has been done by the VPUAA and I don't think that there isn't anybody that will do this kind of a job once he's out of office. Thank you so much.

Arezoo: Thank you very much Nicolas and Kimani for bringing your concerns but I think even in my letter, I commend Nicolas for his hard work, I have no personal thing with him. And actually, I advertised for him in his election, so I want him to understand that it's not personal. I want to understand that I'm also an advocating person, I was a VP and also right now as Senator. My whole concern was, if I need to summarize right now, and I'm sorry, I didn't have all the background that you've been on those committees and whatever you've gone through. I wish that, you know, on whatever meeting I was there, and we could've discussed more but I want to reference to what I'm bringing up. This is not personal, nor do I want to harass you. But remember you're an elected member and when a member raises a concern, don't take it personally. The main concern with that letter was that it was suggesting that the advocacy of the VPUAA through the words was advocating more for people of UBC scholarship and what I was saying is that not a lot of people hold that scholarship and not why we advocate for them as well. And also, about housing issue. I was asking about, it's not just on campus students that they don't get house from BC, also people who reside on Vancouver or whatever, off site houses, they don't get help and why we don't advocate for them as well. So, it's about equity and inclusion, my whole concern with the letter and I think it should be concern of the Society, is our advocacy targeting equity and



inclusion. Why some groups have advocacy for example scholarship or people who reside on campus, is more emphasis and more force compared to other students who have the same issue. Please, don't take it personally, when I read some context from Tayo and AcEx I feel like my concerns were not addressed. I'm also a Departmental Rep for my Department and also want to advocate for them in GSS. The reason is that still the concern of equity and inclusion is with me with regards to Advocacy and I know that you're doing a lot of great job and I commend you and again, I advertised for you in Elections, so that's the reason that I'm bringing it up again.

Tayo: Thank you Arezoo for letting us know your concerns and for your dedicated service to the GSS over these years. I just want to bring just to reminds us Councillors of various responsibilities, so, we are going to discuss matters in detail at a committee level and in this case, that has been done. We looked at it in EOC and subsequently at AcEx and as Alireza has mentioned, there was a unanimous decision that there were not concerns. We understand that you have your concerns however in this case I think the majority has determined that there is no need to further look into this matter. During the meeting in question, as an ExOfficio member you should have also gotten an invite and being asked to partake in the relevant meetings so you had the opportunity to get involved and question the VPUAA at the committee level. But in this case, that opportunity was not made use of. So, it might not be appropriate to keep bringing Council in this considering that AcEx and EOC have made decision on these matters. To save Council time, I suggest, to call this into question.

Speaker: There's not motion, so I can't do anything or control the topic. We've ran out of the 20 minutes maxium, is there any extension of time? If there's no extension the discussion will end here.

Nicolas: I move to extend by 3 minutes.

Mover: Nicolas Romualdi **Seconded:** Kimani Karangu **Result:** Carried

Nicolas: Thank you Madam Speaker. I will try to use these 3 minutes very wisely and not address the concern in question but try to explain myself a bit to the rest because as Tayo has expressed, this has been discussed ad nauseum at this point. I have been questions on my advocacy and had to explain myself to the Executive Committee, Executive Oversight Committee, Financial and Executive Oversight Officer and Academic and External Committee. This is a level of scrutiny that no executive at the GSS has ever been put through. I don't know anything else I can do to explain myself. When all of these instances have agreed that there are no issues in the way that I conduct myself as an executive, I don't think at this point that any actions from my part can calm any concerns on how I conduct myself. After having answered, again, to the Executive Committee, President, FEOO, EOC and AcEx. I do not know, I think and the President can comment on this, that the level of my advocacy, effectiveness and way that I conduct myself with the University was questions to the BOGS Representatives and student senate Caucus chairs and they replied to that and I believe it's also been very favourable feedback. I don't understand what else I have to do to show that I conduct myself in a professional manner and that I have the best interest of the Society and of all Graduate Students at UBC when I discharge my duties. With this I'm saying how other to explain myself anymore so I will stop doing it and leave it up to Council to make any decision anymore. If there's any motion put forward to mandate how I should conduct myself, I have always about by the will of Council. I did it when I was an Ordinary member, did it when I was a Departmental Rep and Committee Chair, when I was President and will continue to do it as VPUAA. I don't know



what else to do to satisfy concerns about how I conduct myself. So that's what I wanted to share with Council. Thank you.

Kimani: Thank you Madam Speaker. I want to reiterate whatever has been said by Nicolas and this is according to the information I gathered when this matter came to office. I'm just going to get an extract from the people that told me what they said: "Nicolas has been extremely adept at securing advocacy priorities for students. A simple example of this is the tuition waiver piece that was not something I would've fathomed a year ago". Another person said: "There's no GSS Executive I have worked with who I believe does a better job at managing to be the most passionate Graduate Student advocate in the room while also being the most effective, the way Nicolas does". Madam Speaker, I rest the case. I quoted directly from the sources I was doing my research with and I can give this to whoever wants it.

Speaker: Is it a will of the Council to extend this discussion period or not? If I hear no extension, then we're going to notice of the next meeting.

Arezoo: Can I ask for 1-minute extension?

Speaker: Any seconder? Hearing no seconder, the discussion for this part is finished. Oh, Sarah I'm sorry, I just saw you seconded. I did wait for quite a while.

Mover:	Arezoo Alemzadeh	Seconded:	Sarah Park	Result:	Failed
	Mehrizi				

Speaker: I'm going to a vote since I sense a little bit of split here so that's why I'm going for a vote. I'm not sensing a clear way to go here. If I would, I wouldn't be doing this, to save us time. Any debate on the time? I think the extension of time is a special resolution but I'm checking. The reason for this is that any motion that changes the rights of any member or the assembly as a whole, will be a special resolution and extension of time is taking time away from people, so that's taking the right away. Either way, the motion failed so there's no extension of time. I'm going straight to adjournment since that's the next motion, unless there's an amendment of the agenda.

VOTES FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

FOR (8): Mohammad Reza Karimi, Aaron Loewen, Andrew Zang, Axel Hauduc, Alison McClean, Erik Frieling, Daniel He, Arezoo Alemzadeh Mehrizi.

AGAINST (10): Alejandra Botia, Lihwen Hsu, Nevena Rebic, Kimani Karangu, Alireza Kamyabi, Mostafa Hagar, Julia Burnham, Nicolas Romualdi, Maria Jose Martinez, Gillian Glass.

ABSTAIN (3): Hannah Green, Jin Wen, Jenny Lee.

5.1 UPCOMING EVENTS

- Virtual orientation month activities:



- Campus Tours
 - Speed Friending
 - Trivia
 - Games Night
 - Yoga classes
 - Book Club launch
- French 101 and 111 starting virtually at the end of September.
- Yoga and Latin Funk starting virtually at the beginning of October.

5.2 EXECUTIVES

5.2.1 President

- **Anti-Racism and Discrimination Task Force Committee:** Initial meeting held with the voluntary members of the ARDTFC, introductions and a plan of the key areas to address laid out. Future meetings scheduled.
- **Archiving Project:** The project to continue organizing and archiving GSS documents is underway. Initial phases are almost completed.
- **GSS commercial Rent Reduction:** Plans to financially help both the GSS and the Pub have been laid down, a report provided to UBC for further evaluation and basically the rent reduction will be based on the percentage of the Pub sale loss.
- **Admin Assistant Position:** Over 200 applications were received for the GSS AA position.
- **Cyber Liability Policy:** Reviewed and discussed the updated Cyber Liability policy with Vivian as the current liability coverage does not address internet/network related exposures. The insurance clauses include Cyber Incident Response, Cyber Crime, System Damage and Business Interruption, Network Securing & Privacy Liability, Media Liability, Technology Errors and Omissions and Counter Attendance costs.
- **Move GSS Data to the EduCloud Server:** The GSS IT team has been working on a solution to the server issues and after much consideration and the upcoming GLC project they recommend moving to the EduCloud server system on campus. Build server support into a GSS role, and provide appropriate training as required.
- **Student Strategic Plan Discussion with the Student:** The office of the VPS/AVPS has kicked discussions with the student leaders in both campuses to bring to the table a plan that will be used to address student specific issues.

5.2.2 FEOO

- The President, Vice President University Administrative and Academic Affairs, General Manager and FEOO are negotiating rent payments with Koener's Pub.
- House Finance Committee and the FEOO are working on altering the society's budget due to the impact of COVID.
- A bank application for monitoring and transferring funds was updated by the FEOO.



- GSS Application for Canadian Emergency Business Account (CEBA) has been approved and the funds have been received.

5.2.3 VP University & Academic Affairs

- **Community Food Security Framework Development:** A proposal to develop a Community Food Security Framework was developed jointly by the GSS, the AMS and the Food Security Core group. The purpose of the project is to establish an evidence informed assessment framework for community food security at UBC. The completed assessment framework will be used in subsequent years to monitor the state of food security on our campus and advocate for programs and/or policies to promoting the Sustainable Development Goals, specifically good health and wellbeing, sustainable communities, responsible consumption and production and climate action. As indicated in the previous update, the proposal has been fully funded through the UBC sustainability scholars' program. The selection process for the scholar will begin at the end of September. The GSS VP UAA together with a the FSI chair will lead and monitor the project.
- **Health & Dental Plan:** Changes have been adopted to increase flexibility for international students during the COVID-19 pandemic. For the Sep-2020 to Aug-2021 policy year, international students will be able to opt out of the plan without the need to show proof of alternative coverage. Students will be able to opt out during the normal opt out term and also additionally, they will have a chance to opt out of the plan retroactive in July 2021. This last option is designed for students who are not sure whether they will be in Canada or not during the policy year. Opt ins after opting out are not allowed.
- **Teaching Assistant 2.0:** The project has moved forward, and the preliminary research questions have been laid out. Follow up meetings are still required to scope down and finalize the research questions before moving to the survey design stage.
- **Support for Graduate Student Survivors of Sexual Assault:** The GSS advocacy office has been collaborating with SASC to set up support groups for graduate students who have survived sexual misconduct. The groups are expected to start operating during the term.
- **Graduate Life Centre:** A memo with the proposed funding allocation that includes the 1.2 MCAD for the Graduate Life Centre was sent to the Finance Committee of the Board of Governors and approved as a consent item without objections.

5.2.4 VP External

- **UPass:** The UPass negotiations have finished with several additional provisions added to the UPass Contract. Most importantly, two new provisions allow for:
 - Students not residing in the Lower Mainland to opt-out of the program
 - For graduate students to be considered as a separate group of students with an option to remain in the UPass program in PSI's that have decided to opt-out all distance-only students from the program.
- The VPX GSS Office is waiting to hear back from AMS on finalized numbers on utilization of the Summer Transit Subsidy as well as current number of opt-outs from students not residing in the Lower Mainland. The deadline to opt-out of the UPass (if residing outside of the Lower Mainland) or apply for a transit subsidy (if experiencing financial hardship) is September 21st, 2020.



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- **Uniting BC Graduate Student Societies:** The GSS VPX Office is meeting with BC GSS's next week to finalize our joint letter and advocacy efforts to BC Ministry of Advanced Education.
 - **Graduate Education & the Public Good' Report:** The GSS VPX and VPUAA Office are collaborating on producing a new report that outlines the important role that graduate education plays in terms of socioeconomic contributions to our society. The foundational report will form the basis of future advocacy efforts internally and externally.
 - **Revamping GSS Privacy Policy:** The GSS VPX Office is working on an initiative to revamp and complete the GSS Privacy Policy. Details to come soon.
 - **Provincial Lobby Days with ABCS:** Graduate asks for the BC Lobby Days have been drafted and completed by the GSS VPX Office. We are waiting for next meeting of AcEx Committee to finalize. The asks are as follows:
 - Extension of BC Graduate Scholarship and its expansion to non-STEM disciplines.
 - Expanding eligibility criteria for needs-based BC Access Grants to include graduates.
 - **News of a fall provincial election and student voter mobilization campaigns:** With news of a fall provincial elections looming around the corner, the GSS VPX Office is working with AMS, Alliance of BC Students, and BC Federation of Students on a voter mobilization campaign for students named 'Take it Over'.

5.2.5 VP Students

- Orientation events are sold out! Feedback so far has all been super positive!
- Hosting additional Virtual Speed Friending events during the rest of September.
- Virtual Latin Dance & Yoga classes to begin starting first week of October with UBC Recreation.
- Looking into more creative virtual events for the upcoming term and with potential collaboration.
- Meetings with UBC SUS (Science Undergraduate Society) to partner on their Mentorship Program – grad students would be mentors.

5.3 COMMITTEES

5.3.1 Academic & External Committee

- (none submitted)

5.3.2 Code & Policy Committee

- CPC has been actively working on revising the Executive Duties as laid out in the Bylaws and Policy Manual.
- CPC is currently undergoing an annual Forms revision as directed by Policy 8.3.2.f.
- CPC has ongoing projects with HF Committee, G&A Committee, and Elections Committee which include a booking policy review, creation of the Councillor Code of Conduct, and Electoral Officer policies

5.3.3 Elections Committee



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- Currently working with HR committee in the process of interviewing candidates for the elections officer (EO) position.
 - Working with CP committee to establish the elections committee chair as the backup EO for election cycles where an EO could not be hired.
 - Drafting a series of policy recommendations for CP committee-based deficiencies uncovered in the previous election.

5.3.4 Executive Committee

- Working together with the staff to establish key features of a desired GSS “company culture”
- Revising the 2020/2021 departmental budgets to feature current financial and forecasted trends.

5.3.5 Executive Oversight Committee

- EOC recently met to decide on an executive complaint and discuss progress on set goals.

5.3.6 Governance & Accountability Committee

- (none submitted)

5.3.7 House Finance Committee

- (none submitted)

5.3.8 Human Resources

- HR Committee reviewed the staffs' performance for the period of Oct2018-Jun 2020 and presented to the council. We stroked hiring committee for administration assistant position as well as electoral and engagement officer. The hiring process for these positions has been started. HR has started working on marketing assessment of AA's salary. We are developing distinct survey questions to be send to the executives, full time staff, part time staff and committee chairs. HR will use the results of these surveys for changing the supervisory structure as well updating the HR manual.

5.3.9 Services Committee

- (none submitted)

5.3.10 Strategic Planning ad-hoc Committee

- Thanks everyone for the discussion and vote on the strategic plan themes last council! The committee is now moving onto performing a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis on each of the 4 themes. We met on September 3rd to form an analysis plan and identify what members of the GSS and UBC we can consult with to aid in the SWOT analyses. A working group is currently fine tuning that plan, and we will begin reaching out to members of council for meetings in the coming weeks



5.3.11 AMS Caucus

- AMS committee members are unseated during the next AMS council meeting so the AMS caucus members have reapplied for committee positions. AMS committee seats are competitive so we will update council on what spots we got next meeting!
- In the August 26th AMS council we discussed the AMS equity plan, CampusBase, U-Pass, UBC housing contracts, Health and Dental Plan, Committee Appointments and new furniture for the Nest. Shoot me (Jackson) an email if you have any questions or advocacy ideas on these or other topics.

5.3.12 Graduate Council Caucus

- The meeting for Graduate Council has been scheduled for the Winter term. We are in the process of improving the organization of the Caucus. A space in MS Teams has been created. The VP UAA is currently liaising with FGPS to understand how to best move forward in the faculty facing front.

5.4 SENATORS AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS

5.4.1 Senators:

- (none submitted)

5.4.2 Board of Governors Representatives:

- The Board of Governors met on Sept 9th and 10th for its normal committees' cycle. All the materials, including the livestream, can be found on the [Board website](#). This cycle included updates on the [financial impacts of COVID](#), allocation of the [domestic tuition increase](#) by the AMS and GSS, the [impacts of COVID on tenure track faculty](#), [programs in place for online teaching](#), an update on the [inclusion action plan](#), annual SC17 reporting from [SVPRO and IIO](#), [employment equity plan](#), and a report on [faculty and staff housing preferences](#).

6 NOTICES

6.1 NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: Thursday, October 15th at 7:00 pm (after the AGM)

Location: Online Via Teams

6.2 NOTICE OF UNSEATINGS

- Jonathan Turcotte-Summers was unseated as Departmental Representative for Educational Studies.
- Jonathan Turcotte-Summers was unseated as Councillor from Academic and External Committee.
- Sara Hosseinirad was unseated as Chair from Academic and External Committee.
- Sarah Hosseinirad was unseated as Ordinary Member from Academic and External Committee.
- Delaram Shojaei was unseated as member of the AMS Caucus.



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- Andrew Zang was unseated as Departmental Representative for Materials Engineering.
 - Andrew Zang was unseated as Chair for Services Committee.
 - Andrew Zang was unseated as Councillor from Services Committee.
 - Gloria Mellesmoen was unseated as Departmental Representative for Linguistics.
 - Hannah Green was unseated as Ordinary Member from Code and Policy Committee.
 - Cody Brown was unseated as Departmental Representative for English.
 - Cody Brown was unseated as Councillor from Services Committee.
 - Negar Ghahramani was unseated as Departmental Representative for Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences.
 - Alireza Kamyabi was unseated as Councillor from Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee.
 - Sarah Park was unseated as Councillor from Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee.
 - Timothy Luk was unseated as Ordinary Member from Code and Policy Committee.

7 ADJOURNMENT

BIRT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at **8:27 pm.**

Mover: Sarah Park

Second: Aaron Loewen

Result: Carried