ATTENDANCE

Present:

Regrets:

Absent:

Quorum: 18 Councillors

CALL TO ORDER AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting will be called to order at ____ 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: \hfill SECONDER: \hfill RESULT:

AGENDA ADOPTION

BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.

MOVER: \hfill SECONDER: \hfill RESULT:

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President:

INTRODUCTIONS

[Introductions]
1 EXPEDIENT MATTERS

At the discretion of the President, the following are deemed urgent matters for Council and are presented at the beginning of Council (not exceeding 10mins):

1.1 AMS-GSS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON EXTERNAL ADVOCACY

Group Responsible: Academic & External Affairs Committee; Ashni Gill, VP External; Saad Shoaib, AMS VP External

Description: Presentation and motion to approve an MOU between the AMS and GSS regarding external advocacy

Objective: Approve signing of MOU by President and VP External

Time: Presentation - 10 minutes; Motion – 10 minutes

Supporting Documents: AMS-GSS Memorandum of Understanding On External Advocacy.pdf; slides to be provided

WHEREAS the VP External Offices of the Alma Mater Society (AMS) and the Graduate Society (GSS) have had a historically productive relationship in the past year, and

WHEREAS the AMS and GSS both recognize the importance of preserving and retaining the relationship between the two Parties in understanding that UBC undergraduate and graduate students are members of a joint community with common mutual interests, and

WHEREAS the AMS has sought to formalize its membership to the Undergraduates of Canadian Research-Intensive University (UCRU) for the past year and UCRU will be considering establishment of a membership fee,

BIRT GSS Council authorize the GSS President and Vice-President External to sign the AMS-GSS Memorandum of Understanding On External Advocacy.

MOVER: AcEx Chair SECONDER: RESULT:

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1 GSS COUNCIL MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Council minutes be approved:

- April 15, 2021

MOVER: SECONDER: RESULT:

2.2 COMMITTEE MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Committee minutes be approved:
3 SEATINGS

3.1 NEW COUNCILLORS

BIRT the following Seating of new Councillors be approved:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Louise Harding</td>
<td>School of Population and Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandeep Gill</td>
<td>School of Population and Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron Loewen (reseated)</td>
<td>Cell &amp; Developmental Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teesha Luehr (reseated)</td>
<td>Biochemistry and Molecular Biology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MOVER:                    SECONDER:                RESULT:
### 3.2 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee/Caucus</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Vacancies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMS Caucus</td>
<td></td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Council</td>
<td></td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Dental Plan Caucus</td>
<td></td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MOVER:**  
**SECONDER:**  
**RESULT:**

### 3.3 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee/Caucus</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Vacancies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic &amp; External</td>
<td>Bukola (Mary) Ibitoye, William Yip</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code &amp; Policy</td>
<td>William Yip</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elections</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Oversight</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance &amp; Accountability</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Finance</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4 COMMITTEE CHAIR SEATINGS

BIRT the following Committee Chair Seatings be approved:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee/Caucus</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Services Committee</td>
<td>Perrin Waldock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources Committee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.1 RETENTION OF ABSENT COUNCILLORS

WHEREAS Bylaw 7.7.2 states that “any member of Council who misses three consecutive meetings without providing a proxy shall, except by special resolution of Council, forfeit their seat without notice”, and

WHEREAS the President contacted Councillors who were absent from January–March 2021 to notify them of their removal, and

WHEREAS the following Councillors expressed interest in remaining on Council for the rest of their term and improving their attendance,

BIRT Council, by special resolution, allow these Councillors to remain seated for the remainder of their term:

Rachel Philips (Geography), Torin McLachlan (English)

4.2 POLICY REVISION FORM

Group Responsible: Code & Policy Committee
Description: A motion to revise the policy revision form (appendix XIV) in the Policy Manual.
Proposed Objective: To approve policy changes related to the Policy Revision Form.
Time: 5 minutes
Supporting Documents: Policy Revision Form - Appendix XIV.pdf
WHEREAS the current version of the Policy Revision Form states that policy amendments and additions must be posted on the Society website and emailed 7 days prior to Council, and

WHEREAS changes were made in March 2021 that removed this requirement from the Policy Manual (Policy 1.2.1),

BIRT the policy amendment from Policy Revision Form – Appendix XIV.pdf be implemented as presented.

MOVER:  CPC Chair  SECONDER:  RESULT:

4.3  GSS EVENTS FUND POLICY CHANGES

Group Responsible: Code & Policy Committee
Description: A motion to revise policies in section 9 of the Policy Manual.
Proposed Objective: To approve policy changes related to the GSS Events Fund (Policy Manual Section 9).
Time: 5 minutes

WHEREAS the current policies regarding usage of the GSS Events Fund do not cover projects/initiatives outside of events, and

WHEREAS the current policies require updating to make the GSS Events Fund more accessible to on- and off-campus Affiliate Organizations as well as to groups who may not have departmental/external funding,

BIRT the policy amendments and additions from Policy Revision Form – Policy 9.pdf be implemented as presented.

MOVER:  CPC Chair  SECONDER:  RESULT:

4.4  APPROVAL OF PROPOSED 2021/22 BUDGET

Group Responsible: Tayo Olarewaju, Finance & Executive Oversight Officer; House Finance Committee
Description: Overview of GSS Finances and Proposed 2021/2022 Budget
Objective: Adoption of Proposed Budget
Time: 15 Minutes
Supporting Documents: To be provided

WHEREAS the GSS fiscal year ends on 31st of May every year, and the House Finance Committee has undergone extensive discussions and consultations regarding the 2021/22 budget and is satisfied with the proposed budget,

BIRT the GSS Council approves and adopts the 2021/22 budget as presented.

MOVER:  FEOO  SECONDER:  RESULT:
5  MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

5.1  GSS EXECUTIVES 2021-22 KEY ADVOCACY AREAS

Responsibility: Kimani Karangu, President
Description: Present this year’s executives’ goals to Council
Objective: Update to Council
Time: 15 minutes
Relevant materials: 2021-22 Exec Goals_GSS Council May2021.pptx

5.2  SPAHC PRESENTATION

Responsibility: Axel Hauduc, Strategic Planning ad-hoc Committee Chair
Description: Following consultation with the UBC community, Strategic Planning is considering overhauling the second and third themes of the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. Currently, the 2nd and 3rd themes are "Equity" and "Environmental & Financial Sustainability + Infrastructure", respectively. Our committee now believes that this does not adequately encapsulate the interrelatedness of EDI and environmental issues, and does not put enough emphasis on the justice and environmental implications of Canada’s exit from the COVID-19 pandemic and the inevitable restructuring in areas such as accessibility, work, fairness, and environmental policy this will entail. In this way, we propose a new, unified theme defined as "A Just Recovery," and want to make our case before Council, and seek feedback & permission to make this modification to the strategic plan.
Time: 15 minute presentation + 15-30 minutes of discussion (approximate)
Objective: Council discusses strategic plan, and Council (hopefully) ratifies new Themes structure
Relevant materials: to be provided

6  MATTERS TO NOTE

Time reserved for questions regarding updates below.

6.1  UPCOMING EVENTS

- None for now – keep an eye out for summer programming!

6.2  EXECUTIVES

6.2.1  President

- GSS Meetings: Executive Transition: Robert’s Rules with Nicolas, Privacy Training with Jiwan, SVPRO Training; HF Committee Meeting (rescheduled); Executives & Staff meeting (Outgoing/incoming, full and part-time staff); Interview with a candidate for the Archives Assistant position; GSS-G+PS Monthly Meeting-welcoming new executive team as well as wishing the outgoing team the best; Health and Dental GSS Reps; Communications Team Meet; Meeting with G&A, Stratplan, and senators Jackson and
Lisa - Indigenous engagements (Planning workshops for all chairs meeting and later during all council retreat (Reconciliation and decolonizing the mind)

- **UBC Meetings:** Faculty of Science Meeting; Managing Director, Student Affairs search committee (invited to the committee); Director of HR on Remote working: Suitability for our organization; Meeting with AMS VP Finance follow-up on Dental and Health committee issues; Climate Emergency Fund-Notice of Request for Funding Meeting; Tuition Disbursement Planning- Food Security Related Investments at UBC 2020 – 2025 + Tuition Aid for Students; IBPOC discussed with Samantha and Rohene-spaces and programmes;

- **External Meetings:** Canada Graduate Student Alliance - Special General Meeting on MOU; GSSBC Executive Committee Meeting - Transition & farewell; Meeting with Minister Joyce Murry on Federal Govt budget, more (doubled) allocation for Indigenous Nations (post-secondary); BCSS executive meeting: Elections (SFU voted unopposed)

- **AMS/GSS/SUO Joint Meeting: Meet & Greet with the incoming Student Executives**
  - Discussion on affordability plans-defining and its meaning (strategic planning) eg anti-racism
  - Tuition consultation – need to make it more meaningful.
  - Post Covid-19 plans
  - Tuition increment $ 18M go to tuition, cost of living and Teaching and Learning.
  - Wellness and mental health Equity
  - Self Isolation – one house set aside for this and new one coming up, $34 subsidies for isolation.
  - UBC SkyTrain public participation

- **GSS & C+CP Connect: Campus Planning Engagement.**
  - Engagement for UBC's Campus + Community Planning Department,
  - Ways to connect with diverse communities of students across campus
  - Find ways to meaningfully involve students and/or partner with them in planning processes
  - Plan a campus that works for everyone.
  - Upcoming large-scale, long-term (30 year) campus planning process launching early in 2022
  - Sharpening approach to engagement & consultations to ensure clear plan or co-design processes that would work for the graduate student community.

- **GSS Executive Team & Santa Ono:** 2021-22 Agenda 1. Affordability and Key areas: students with dependents and disabilities, and other marginalized groups 2. Concrete steps towards dismantling racism and discrimination 3. Funding for master’s programs 4. Mental health and well-being 5. Sexualized violence on campus 6. Supervisory support for both students and supervisors in partnership with (SVPRO) 7. Graduate Life Center (next step) programs

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**FEOO**

- Involved in 2021/22 Executive Orientation.
- Approved or effected GSS Financial transactions.
- House Finance Committee approved the sum of $1,000 as one time Bonus payment to 2020/21 executives and recommended a maximum increase of $6,000 for each executive position going forward. Executive Oversight Committee is in the process of reviewing Bylaw provisions and suggesting changes to executive work hours and remuneration. Further consultation will be undertaken with relevant committees.
6.2.3 VP University & Academic Affairs

6.2.4 VP External

- **GSSBC**: Alireza finished his term so Ruben Munoz from SFU was nominated and elected as Chairperson
- **Skytrain advocacy**: discussed what advocacy has currently been done by the AMS such as the SkyTrain video and survey and talked about next steps that will include the GSS
  - Meeting on May 20th prior to council to discuss this further
- **Government Relations team**: next step is to work on advocacy for a cohort tuition model so we need to do a feasibility report
  - Want to put together a survey to ask about funding and expenses for graduate students in order to adequately advocate for needs based grants
- **AMS/GSS and UBC VPS Ainsley Carry**: considering what is affordability and coming up with a clear definition by conducting a survey on students’ expectations with affordability and what is needed i.e. in terms of tuition, food and housing
  - Talked about self-isolation and how we need to work on the 3 day hotel mandatory stay to create more affordable options
- **President Santa Ono**: discussed the need for sexual violence and anti-racism mandatory modules for students and employees of UBC and then working on the broader scope of BC provincial standard modules that can be implemented into all post-secondary institutions
  - Work with AMS, SVPRO, ABCS, Students for Consent Culture, GSSBC
- **UPass**: further advocacy on behalf of immunocompromised, financially burdened and differently abled students – we need to survey and ask them about their needs and concerns rather than assuming on behalf of them

6.2.5 VP Students

- Liaising with the active Affiliated Organizations to undertake "inter-AOs" event
- Contacting and encouraging expired AOs to renew their membership with GSS
- Collaborating with events manager to organize summer activities for members
- Working with G+PS and other committees to structure the September orientation for new students
- Planning GSS-wide events for the fall

6.3 COMMITTEES

6.3.1 Academic & External Committee

- AcEx welcomed new ex-officio members of the Board of Governors (Max Holmes and Georgia Yee) and the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies student senators (Lisa White and Jackson Schumacher)
- Continued discussions of an MOU between the AMS and GSS pertaining to graduate student advocacy and the AMS’s membership to UCRU (Undergraduates of Canadian Research-Intensive Universities)
• Began discussing the possibility of a GSS anti-discrimination policy. Committee has committed itself via motion to investigate this.
• AcEx welcomed two new executives, Ashni Gill and Alison McClean, and discussed their preliminary priorities for advocacy
• Discussion of a return-to-campus survey for graduate students

6.3.2 Code & Policy Committee

• CPC has been working diligently on a full Policy Manual review and noting changes that will be presented to Council at a later date.
• CPC has been developing a new approach to Deputy Chairship within our committees and caucuses.

6.3.3 Elections Committee

• (none submitted)

6.3.4 Executive Committee

• Met with President Santa Ono to discuss key advocacy areas for GSS Executives 2021-22

6.3.5 Executive Oversight Committee

• EOC is having discussions on executive work hours and remuneration.

6.3.6 Governance & Accountability Committee

• Reached out to Elections and Services to get more information about the feasibility of the merger. Met with Lisa White (Grad Senator) and talked about G&A’s plans for increasing indigenous engagement ad-hoc committee. Brainstormed ways G&A can support other committees that are missing KPIs

6.3.7 House Finance Committee

• Approved the reallocation of $8000 in the VP External’s budget from the line items 810 (Dues, License Fees), 840 (Travel/Conference Costs), and 850 (Student Recognition) for development of the videos related to the “Graduate Education for Public Good” report.
• Approved the lease offer from CUPE 2278 for the Foundation Room in the GSS building and further directed the General Manager, FEOO, and the President to complete the contract requirements with CUPE 2278 representatives.
• Approved the budget reallocation to contract the position of Acting Events Manager for a period of 7.5 months from 15 May 2021 to 31 Dec 2021.
• Approved the $600.66 (+ tax) payment for purchasing the annual subscription of the email marketing platform, MailerLite. The expense should be documented in the budget line item 10-810 – Dues, License Fees.
• Approves a 50% discount on the rent payments made by Koerner’s Pub to GSS for the months of June-Aug 2021, given the low sales due to COVID-19 restrictions. Following the UBC directive to return to on-campus activity for Winter Session, Term 1 for 2021, the Koerner’s Pub would be charged full rent from Sept 2021 onwards.
• Approved the draft budget for the financial year 2021-22 for GSS.

6.3.8 Human Resources
• Two of the minutes documents for this council are outstanding from last month's council. The Committee was involved in hiring two Advocacy Coordinators this month, and the interviews do not have minutes.

6.3.9 Services Committee
• Services is currently discussing how best to proceed with a "merging" (reallocating responsibilities) with Elections.

6.3.10 Strategic Planning ad-hoc Committee
• The Strategic Planning Committee is in the process of finalizing its SWOT analysis and writing out Strategic Plan Priorities, Goals, and Proposed Strategies. We are currently running around a month behind schedule but should still be able to make our timeline for submitting our final strategic plan by the August Council Meeting. Recent work has focused on how to incorporate Reconciliation priorities throughout the strategic plan, rather than as an offshoot of general EDI goals.

6.3.11 AMS Caucus
• (none submitted)

6.3.12 Graduate Council Caucus
• (none submitted)

6.4 SENATORS AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS

6.4.1 Senators:
• (none submitted)

6.4.2 Board of Governors Representatives:
• (none submitted)

7 NOTICES

7.1 NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: Thursday, June 17th at 5:30 pm

Location: Online Via Teams
7.2 NOTICE OF UNSEATINGS

- Alison McClean was unseated as Representative from Grad Council Caucus.
- Ashni Gill was unseated as Representative from AMS Caucus.
- Alireza Kamyabi was unseated as Councillor from Governance and Accountability Committee.
- Gillian Glass was unseated as Chair from Human Resources Committee.
- Kaiya Yamada was unseated as Ordinary Member from Academic and External Affairs Committee.
- Sean Ritter was unseated as Ordinary Member from Academic and External Affairs Committee.
- Smruthi Ramachandran was unseated as Ordinary Member from Academic and External Affairs Committee.
- Zohreh Sharafianardakani was unseated as Ordinary Member from Human Resources Committee.

8 ADJOURNMENT

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

MOVER:                SECONDER:                RESULT: