



ATTENDANCE

Present: Aaron Lowen, Abdul, Muntakim Rafi. Axel Hauduc, Bethany Adair, Bukola Mary Ibitoye, Camen Watson, Cathy Yan. Claire Thorimbert, Davi montecelli. Devarsh Bhonde, Ezra Yun, Ginny Pichler, Jenny Lee, Kimani Karangu, Kira Vandermeulen, Leila Matte- Kaci, Lisa White, Maria Jose Athie, Mopelola, Pauahi Souza, Perrin Waldock, Rachel Pillips, Rhea Vora, Ronak Shah, Sam Kenston, Taryn Scarff, Taesha Luehr, Temitayo Olarewaju, William Canero, Yundi Wang, Yuran Zhang, Zachar.

Regrets: Ashni Gill, Sandeep Gill

Absent: Abdul-Fatawu Abdulai, Aditi Nagaraj Nallan, Ahmad Azkhali, Amol Gupta, Andrew Zang. Charf Khalifa, Gara Dexter, Georgia Yee, Jackson Shumacher, Jose Gonsalves, Julia Burnham, Louise Harding, Mary Sullican, Max Holmes, Mohamed Kamel, Nevena Rebic, Saumadrita Kar, Torin McLachlan

Quorum: 16 Councillors

CALL TO ORDER AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting will be called to order at 5:48 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

SECONDER: Aaron

RESULT: Carried



AGENDA ADOPTION

BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.

MOVER: Maria SECONDER: Kimani RESULT: Carried

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President: Thank you everybody for joining us today. I hope the meeting will be amazing. So I will go ahead and acknowledge that for UBC Vancouver and on behalf of the UBC GSS, I would like to acknowledge that UBC’s Vancouver Point Grey campus is situated on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Musqueam people. I would also like to acknowledge that you are joining us today from many places near and far and acknowledge the traditional owners and caretakers of those lands. Thank you so much, Madam Speaker. And welcome to the meeting.

INTRODUCTIONS

[Introductions]

1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1.1 GSS COUNCIL MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Council minutes be approved:

- [September 16, 2021](#)

MOVER: Sam SECONDER: Maria RESULT: Carried

1.2 COMMITTEE MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Committee minutes be approved:

Academic & External Committee:		House Finance Committee:	September 14, 2021; September 28, 2021
Code and Policy Committee:	September 7, 2021; September 30, 2021	Human Resources Committee:	
Elections Committee:		Services Committee:	August 25, 2021
Executive	September 10, 2021	AMS Caucus:	



Committee:			
Executive Oversight Committee:		Graduate Council Caucus:	
Governance & Accountability Committee:	September 22, 2021	Strategic Planning ad-hoc Committee:	
All-Chairs Meeting:	September 10, 2021		

MOVER: Maria

SECONDER: Jenny

RESULT: Carried

2 SEATINGS

2.1 NEW COUNCILLORS

BIRT the following Seating of new Councillors be approved:

Name	Department
Claire Thorimbert	Anthropology
Carmen Watson	History
Jenny Lee	Experimental Medicine

MOVER: Kimani

SECONDER: William

RESULT: Carried

DISCUSSION

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
AMS Caucus	Carmen Watson	Representative	2
Graduate Council		Representative	0



Health and Dental Plan Caucus		Representative	0
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MOVER: President

SECONDER: Maria

RESULT: Carried

For (13): Yundi Wang , G&A Chair, Kira Vandermeulen , Ezra Yu, Teesha Luehr , Leila Mattekaci , William Canero , Ronak Sharah, Kimani Karangu, CPC Chair, Taryn Scarff , Mopelola Akinlaja, Ginny Pichler.

DISCUSSION

Speaker: We are voting on sitting Carmen on AMS caucus.

Speaker: Okay, motion carries congratulations Carmen thank you for stepping up next we have committee sittings be resolved the following committee sittings be approved.

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 Affairs	Bethany Adair, Davi Monticelli, Yundi Wang, Sofie McComb, Claire Thorimbert	Councillor	0
	Cathy Yan, Sarah Ebert, Zakhar Krekhno,	Ordinary Member	2
Code & Policy	Aaron Loewen	Councillor	4
	Beverly Yang, Daniel He, Heather Worthington, Victoria Barclay	Ordinary Member	1
Elections	Charf Khalifa, Taryn Scarff	Councillor	3
	Ehsan Ferdosi, Mostafa Hagar	Ordinary Member	3
Executive Oversight	Tayo	Councillor	4
	Daniel He, Nicholas Phin, Ritwik Bhattacharjee	Ordinary Member	2



Governance & Accountability	Jenny Lee, Ginny Pichler, Axel Hauduc	Councillor	2
	William Yip, Ryan Ghorayeb, Jin Wen	Ordinary Member	2
House Finance	Andrew Zang	Councillor	4
	Devarsh Bhonde, Shayan Fahimi, Vinoth Ganapathiraman, Candice Chiu	Ordinary Member	1
Human Resources	Aaron Loewen, Kira Vandermeulen, Leila Matte-Kaci, Sandeep Gill, Torin McLachlan	Councillor	0
	Pauahi Souza	Ordinary Member	4
Services	William Canero	Councillor	4
	Yiwei Hao, Perrin Waldock, Brook Haight	Ordinary Member	2
Strategic Planning ad-hoc		Councillor	1
		Ordinary Member	1

MOVER: President

SECONDER: Devarsh

RESULT: carried

DISCUSSION

2.3 COMMITTEE CHAIR SEATINGS

BIRT the following Committee Chair Seatings be approved:

Committee/Caucus	Nominee
Academic & External Affairs	Zakhar Krekhno
Code & Policy	Aaron Loewen
Elections	Charf Khalifa
Governance & Accountability	Jenny Lee
House Finance	Devarsh Bhonde
Human Resources	Pauahi Souza
Services	Perrin Waldock



MOVER: President SECONDER: Sam RESULT: carried
FOR (9): Ezra Yu, Axel Hauduc, CPC Chair, G&A Chair, Taryn Scarff, Kimani Karangu,
Mopelola Akinlaja, William Canero, Kira Vandermeulen ABSTAIN (1): Yundi Wang

DISCUSSION

Devarsh: No worries. Yeah, thank you. Thank you, Madam Speaker. So I would like to motivate for the House Finance Committee. So just as a quick overview, we essentially look after the financial well being of the society. So we look after the budget, and how it is getting spent month over month. Something interesting that we are doing is that recently, we invested almost half a million dollars into some mutual funds, which is going to yield us almost 50 to \$60,000 of additional revenue every year. So I would invite members to join our committee so that we can decide and sort of brainstorm how can we use this additional revenue that is being generated? Shall we use it for subsidizing GSS events? Or use it to create sort of an engagement fund so that we can have more people involved? NGSS? Or shall we put it into you to provide some financial incentive to the volunteers who actually take part in the committee's and differentiate assess activities? So all these are different ideas that are currently been brainstormed. So we would definitely like your participation and your perspectives. And I would invite you to join the House Finance Committee for that. Okay. Thank you.

Pauahi: Hello, everyone. Good evening, Madam Speaker.. I am the HR chair currently. And if you're interested in any sort of HR processes, from hiring to wage increase to how policies could be moved within the HR sector, we invite you to join us. HR committee. Have you, um, my screen isn't going something weird. So I can't believe seeing how many counselor positions ordinary member positions have available. So yeah, if there's an opening and you want to join us, please join us. We'd love to have you. Thank you.

Perrin: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd like to motivate for people to join services are normally services in charge kind of events and outreach. But currently, we're in a bit of a transition period as will actually be merging with the election committee, the former New elections and Engagement Committee. So joining the services right now offers these kind of two unique opportunities or advantages. So first of all, there's lots of leadership positions available, we're currently searching for a deputy chair and the chair position will also open up shortly. But more importantly, you're gonna have an opportunity to shape a new committee as existence. Once services and elections are disbanded, and we are reformed to form the new committee, you'll be able to both like shape how the new committee is formed and where it goes. But also give you kind of a little bit of exposure to code and policy side of student governance as well as sort of the outreach side. So hopefully, you'll be able to or your interest in joining us for this exciting time.

Kimani: Madam Speaker, I can speak on behalf of elections. Yeah, thank you. Thank you so much. And I think I will want to follow the line that has been put by the two chairs that have



spoken before me, and elections is one of, again, an integral part of GSS. And especially when it comes to electing the next officials that are going to lead the society. You know, they do a very important job of vetting the member these members and aligning to see that they align with the Constitution, the bylaw and the policies that is set out by the code and policy that Madam Speaker, to be, you know, precise, we are about to launch our referendum that we passed a few, I think, one month ago, and these are the, you know, this is the committee that is in charge of making sure that everything is up to speed, and everything is followed the latter. So again, it does a lot of you know, exposure, especially if anybody wants to go to that field politics and all that election processes, and there's loads, loads of skills to learn here, coordinating between candidates, you know, electronic voting systems, AMS GSS, there is a lot that goes in there. And it's great to have the skills with anybody. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Tayo. We have five counselors here. And two ordinary member seats, or executive officer, next one is g in a Jenny, would you like to motivate?

Jenny: Thank you. Yeah, so I'll motivate for governance and accountability. If you want to know the broad picture of what goes on in all the GSS committees, or if you have an interest for setting and tracking goals, then I would highly recommend joining our committee. We're about to start our year, end of year goal reviews and that for that we'll start off a new cycle of goals. So this is a great time to join, especially if you're new, as you can quickly understand what all the other committees do. We also have our own committee projects that include a wide range of goals, most recently involving the restructuring of an executive position. And we're always happy to meet new people. So please don't hesitate to join.

Speaker: Second guys all right motion carries thank you everybody for nominating yourself okay next one is committee chair sittings be resolved the following committee chair sittings be approved. We have a Zakhar code and policy Aaron, elections Charf, G&A Jenny, House Finance Devarsh, HR Pauahi pouring I have a mover as president and seconder please.

Maria: what I want to say is that we all are counselors, we need to be part with commitment. Have come of committee meeting. And the as we remember last time for what we have been discussing lately, is the need for somebody new. Anyways, they we were discussing if we should divide the oversight with a HF position and tie you has been doing a lot of work. And we know that that area needs a lot of support to please. Whomever is not seated, please. I invite you to be part of it. We need more people there.

Speaker: Thank you, Maria. That's a very passionate motivation. Yeah, devilish. Sorry to keep you hanging

Speaker: But thank you thank you. Right so I've not here any further nominations I will like to encourage everybody again like Maria was saying it's important for counselors to be seated one or more of the committees want to set up all right now and then really good job getting all the



nomination down it's really saving a lot of time so I have William nominated for services William your counselors I believe

Speaker: Any further discussions on sitting of the committee chairs I'm hearing none I'm sending out a vote now. Now we voting on sitting committee chairs as nominated on the screen

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 October 2022:

Name of Affiliate Organization	Representative
Planning Equity Coalition	William Canero
Graduate Student Wellbeing Network	Lily Ivanova
Graduate Students in Nursing Association	Abdul-Fatawu Abdulai
Indian Graduate Students Association	Madhureeta Das Gupta
Pathology Student Association	Raelyn Gallant
Neuroscience Trainee Association	Yundi Wang
Genome Science and Technology (GSAT) Graduate Student Association	Axel Hauduc
Institute of Ocean and Fisheries Graduate Students Society	Max Miner

MOVER: VP Students SECONDER: Kimani RESULT: carried

DISCUSSION

Sam: Madam Speaker and fellow councillors. Thank you for second in this. I just want to encourage other council members that I sent out an email to AO requesting them to renew their affiliation. Please if you can coordinate and work with the current leaders of the various tables



and let them renew their membership. That will be great. This will help carry across GSS Ambit can also flow of information. So, thank you very much.

3.2 VICE PRESIDENT UNIVERSITY AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS APPOINTMENT

Responsible: Kimani Karangu, GSS President

Time: 20-minute introduction and question period

Description: Following the resignation of the interim Vice President University and Academic Affairs, Yundi Wang, the special appointment of the VPUAA by Council

Objective: Hold election and appoint the 2021-22 Vice President University and Academic Affairs

Relevant Materials: [VPUAA Candidate Statements – Folder](#)

Candidates: Abdul Muntakim Rafi, V. Pauahi Souza, Ronak Shah, Yuran Zhang

Majority in favour: Yuran Zhang

Results: Abdul Muntakim Rafi (1), V. Pauahi Souza (6), Ronak Shah (1), Yuran Zhang (12)

DISCUSSION

Kimani: Thank you. Thank you so much, Madam Speaker. And thank you for leading us so far, so good, and everybody who has been voted in now we have a vote to make the case that we are about to but I'm speaker this position fell back and and I would want to seriously start by thanking Yundi who has been, you know, step she stepped up and took up the, the humongous amount of work that was left by, you know, the outgoing VP UAA. And she did a fantastic job. Unfortunately, she couldn't go all the way to next year. And now we have the opportunity to do that. seven candidates applied for this position. And you can see we have four on four on the ballot today. Two of them applied late. And one of them applied, but still not yet on campus will be starting their studies next year. So on those back on those grounds, Madam Speaker, they were disqualified from that. And I hope our members have already gone through the briefs that were sent by our candidates here today with us. And I hope Madam Speaker, as we listen to them, we can be you know, we can make our own decisions. This particular position is very integral to the GSS it deals with matters, academic, and any other student affairs that are here on campus between the GSS and the AMS and other institutions are that our key partners, and of course, work so closely with the Office of the President, as we move around the university, making the changes it is quite integral and also, within this position, Madam Speaker, we have so many other offices that help students and therefore Madam Speaker, I want to say thank you for members that have put their names forward for this consideration. And whatever happens because the position is one so meaning one of you will have to go home with the seat. The rest please keep on join as GSS has got so many other things that need to be accomplished. And of



course, we also coming to the end of our semesters, our terms in office, there'll be more to do for you. So thank you, Madam Speaker. And over to you.

Speaker: Thank you, and thank you for all the candidates. So now I will We'll read out the proposed election rules. And counselors, this is a proposal for you to vote on it, you can change it or propose anything else. Okay. So in the past, we usually give three minutes speech for each candidate at the first round. And then the counselors can have asked questions to one or all or however many candidates and each candidate will have one minute to answer. And how are the elections going to be run, this will be a little bit different because we have more candidates. So this is a proposal first round of the vote. So when we have four candidates running the vote, if anybody wins, in a majority of the vote, that person wins. If there's no majority, then we'll drop out the last candidate and then go on to the second round vote until we have a majority. So is there any questions Kimani? Maybe I'll ask your opinion. First, is the three minutes three minutes speech on woman answers, pretty standard, but I'm wondering about the rounds of vote. That is not the same as before.

Abdul: Hello, everyone. My name is Abdul and my pronouns are he him his. I'm a PhD candidate at the School of Biomedical Engineering here at UBC. I'd like to acknowledge that I'm speaking from the traditional ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam people. So, why do I want to take this position? So, there are two mains goals that I have on my mind in addition to the duties that I have to perform, so, it is ensuring a better financial condition forget students and ensuring equal better internship opportunities for them. So, I think we all know that actually, right now, actually, inflation is on the rise and the cost of living will continue to rise for the next one or two years and the people who earn minimum wage or near minimum wage, as the students actually we will suffer most from this condition so that the money we earn as research assistants or teaching assistants are these need to be adjusted with inflation. And we need to have discussions with the university authority. So so that actually they adjust our site because they're adjusting tuition fees and everything. And the situation in MVC, the minimum funding that is that the university gives, ensures like it's barely actually affordable. Like I think the ProMaster students is If I didn't care, so these issues need to be discussed. And another thing actually, that some one issue that actually I find quite surprising for Canada, that international students like they're not allowed to actually take part in internships outside campus, if they're like doing their MSC or PhD, because the only way you can do full time, job intensive jobs is through Co Op. And if you don't have a co permit, you can't do that. So the only way actually, we can do internships or international students like is if you do it through my dad's because it is done with a collaboration with your lab. So this is an issue like that. Students find out like not every year, when they apply for internships in the final year of their enter final year of their degree, and they suddenly find out okay, they can't do these internships. So I think these questions need to be made with the authorities or if they can allow special permits for the GED students. So these are the things actually, I want to



Pauahi: my interest for this position, comes from 16 years of working in a psychiatric hospital, and having a leadership role while I was there. Um, also, it comes from being involved in student government at my previous institution where I was a student body president. Um, so my, I don't like to say that I have a main influence, or a main concern, because I feel like graduate students have versatile concerns, whether you know, they have different weather, we have different socio economic issues, or we have families, we don't have families, we're single, we drive we don't drive. So there's just a lot of stuff that's there for graduate students on the practical side. And so basically, I'm committed to, you know, everything that was listed as part of the responsibilities, the peer support services as well, I am also a graduate student, well being Ambassador because I think mental health is really, really important. Again, on the practical side, and on the physical side, first day, my interest, um, just comes with being able to advocate for every student previously, at my other institution, anytime somebody had an issue they brought to my office, I was always able to solve the issue. I had one girl one time who had a housing issue. And I emailed the Dean of Students, even though it was not my place. But as the student body president, I advocated for the student and was able to get her housing, another time students voice that they want to keys to the mailroom. And they didn't have access to that because they lived off campus, but they had campus. They had campus mailboxes. So I advocated for the students to get keys to get into the campus mailboxes, and they were able to do that. So I don't think that anything is invaluable. I think the smallest issue for graduate students can be the biggest issue for this position to take care of. So yeah, I just like to, you know, move forward in saying that I think that this position is not just grounded in one thing, and that everybody has something that they can bring to the table. And I feel like every graduate student should be heard, regardless of you know, what kind of interactions they have with faculty, staff, and the community. So not only with that, I am an advocate of making sure that the Graduate Students Society would be a great fit in different areas where we can work with the community and with each other at UBC. And I think my time is almost up.

Ronak: I'm Ronak here, and I'm studying masters of urban design at UBC. So speaking from my past experiences of education as a designer, it actually not only equipped me with the professional skills to kind of navigate myself in the field, but also gave or maybe thought to me a lot of empathy or a lot of desire to kind of intervene in communities and upgrade or have uplift them and help them in the ways that I can. So coming from there, and then also translating the opportunities or kind of the platform that the VP UA provides is also to kind of help the students or maybe the graduate students specifically to in various ways, like one of the most important issues that I personally faced while also enrolling in a graduate course was having affordable tuition fees. And I think that is one big thing to kind of like because even if you can, you are expect accepted into a good school. But what if you can't pay the fees. So that really takes of that is really a huge burden to students nowadays, specifically graduate international students, who are also moving to new continents, and on top kind of having huge student debt loans to pay once they are graduated. So this is one of the one of the primary reasons which also motivated



me to be enrolled in this committee, and kind of collaborate with maybe Trust's or organizations that are supportive of understanding the international student needs and give offering them funds scholarships are, and yeah, basically, making sure that no deserving student is has to give up on his or her or dream of studying at the desired University. For four years, for my I mean, the personal experience is enough for me to kind of make sure of this thing. And yeah, that's all I think. Thank you.

Yuran: Yeah. Hi, thank you, Madam Speaker. Hi, everyone. It's a great pleasure to be here to for me to be here today and run for the VP UAA position. My name is Yuran, and I'm a master student studying for science. In 2020, when I first joined UBC, I didn't really feel like I'm a UBC student, because for the first five months, I was stuck in China because of some visa issues during the pandemic. And even after I arrived, Canada this February, I still feel depressed because at that time, I was basically between my lab and the house. And funny thing is when I first learned about GSS, he was because I was looking for help for that situation. And right now I want to join GSS because I know there might be another version of me somewhere at UBC, and I want to offer support and listen to them. So back to my undergrad study when I was a VP multimedia communication. I was responsible for the promotion and communication of events held by the student council. And in my third year I study as an exchange student at the University of Guelph, where I joined Eisah Canada, and established connections with over 50 local companies and helped international interns to address their problems and living and working. And after joining UBC. I also work as a program representative in the Graduate Student Council of our faculty, where we advocate for students within my program. And if I'm fortunate enough to be elected, I will do what devote myself to making sure that grad students voices are heard. I will try my best to achieve this mainly by two aspects first, making sure our peer support is more accessible and effective by cooperating with faculty SN schools. Let more grad students to know their support here for them and a second advocating for grad students concerns. I will try to collect this issues through cooperating with individual faculties and through records of peer support to make sure concerns like increasing grass students foundings financial subsidies and adjusting program requirements during college 19 are hurt by UBC and reflected by the university decision maker. And thank you for your patient listening. I'd appreciate it if you could currently work for me and let me contribute to building a better grad students community at UBC.

Kimani: Thank you so much, Madam Speaker. And thank you to all candidates for putting their platforms for consideration there. Madam Speaker, I have one question to all candidates, maybe two. I know they may have done this. But I would want now to give these opportunities for them to maybe outline how their engagement has been with the GSS since they joined UBC Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Pauahi: Yes, thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm currently at the GSS. I am the HR chair. And I am also the graduate representative for the gender, race, sexuality and Social Justice Institute within



providing feedback to GRS J and bringing it to council as well. So my involvement with the GSS is with the HR committee, and it is with the GRS. J Institute as well. Also, I'm a PhD student, first year first semester, so I forgot to mention that earlier. Thank you. Thank you.

Ronak: Yes, hi, thank you, Madam Speaker. And to be honest, I just arrived in Vancouver two weeks ago. And you that was the first time I've actually visited UBC since my course started in May. I was not aware of JSs and its role until then, when later, we received an email and got to know about the position that Gss is offering. So I was I mean, the day since I entered, I wanted to be involved in some committee members, some committee related to student welfare and well being. And this was the opportunity that I could resonate with the most. So looking forward to be involved, but not until, I mean, I haven't contributed until now since it's just a start off UBC journey. Thank you.

Yuran: Yeah, thank you, Madam Speaker. So in terms of GSS, I haven't been in touch with UBC GSS. Since I joined UBC I only took part in the the yoga class one time, but as I mentioned, I work as a program representative in the Graduate Student Council of our faculty, where we provide program specific inputs, and we organize events, to be able to community of our grad students, faculty, within our faculty and we advocate for students to address concerns like financial problems, things like that.

Abdul: Thank you, Madam Speaker. So actually, I joined UBC in April. So, I have not had the opportunity to be washed with GSS. But when I saw the post for this position, then actually I realized okay, like that actually, this is an opportunity to actually talk about this issues that that need to be addressed by the GSS in the coming future, because that the world economy like it is not going to a really good face. Like there is a fear of a recession like 2008. So I just thought okay, I should address this issues, the financial side of grad students here. Thank you. Thank you.

Tayo: Madam Speaker. I have a question for our candidates. Knowing this position requires a lot of time, how much sacrifice Are you guys able to make if you are elected?

Ronak: Yes, hi. Thank you for your question. Yes, I do understand. And also there was a brief meeting today afternoon where we understand that it's, it would take significant amount of time from our schedules. And I think that meeting is noble. I'm ready to kind of also put I'm definitely put this positions and its responsibilities first. And, yes. And my maybe other agendas later. So I don't know in terms of ours, since it will, I'll only understand that once I am in the position, but definitely, I put forth the priority of it much ahead of anything else that is along with it. Thank you.

Yuran: So first, I will also take put this position first, if I'm fortunate to be elected, like elected, and then I will take full responsibility of the parts that I should do. And if I encounter any



problems, I will do my best first to learn how to do it by looking for some materials in the GSS, and also actively cooperate with other members. Yeah, that's it. Thank you.

Abdul: So actually, I think one of the things that we realize growing up, is that be the change that you want to see. So I think I explained why actually one of the things that I want to address If I'm selected for the position, and these are things that actually I'm passionate about, and I care about these things, and I think and I believe that actually these issues can be solved and they need to be solved. So and I also believe that if you are passionate about something like if you really want to make a change to do something, then you can always find time to actually towards solving that problem. So that's why I think that I will be able to spend time to perform by cities.

Pauahi: Thank you, Sam, for your question. Um, so just a quick background. The year that I was the student body president, I was on two committees, I chaired three of them. I also had six classes as a graduate student getting my master's. And I worked a part time job in a psychiatric facility that I had been at for 15 years, already at that point. And so what do I say is, um, as the VP UA, I don't feel like, again, bringing issues to the office. You know, at any time, I think that students, UBC students, graduate students should have access to myself and the president, the majority of the day, and so when I was the student body president, I made sure that I was always accessible except for like, at night when I was sleeping, and answered all concerns in the morning. So I am devoted to giving a significant amount of my time to the students,

Maria: My question is, how are you gonna thank you can address because I think that the position that you're looking for has to be a very humbling position that just does that one hand front, one hand back. Right. Um, so I think it's important for you guys to understand that it's a hands up front and hands back. And how are you going to make it happen with all because all of you have great inputs, all of you have good, big goals and all of you have great way do you want to make it happen in curriculum? So? I hope I was clear. If I wasn't please let me know. Mrs. Speaker.

Speaker: Okay, if I may rephrase it. Just how are you going to come in unable to do the job with short periods

Yuran: Yeah, thank you, Marissa, that I think that's a great question. So I think our previous, I would definitely consult with the previous a, with how she she's done the work. And also, I'll try my best to learn how GSS work as fast as possible, using all the materials we have, and all the help we can get from the amazing GSS members. Yeah, and apart from that, I think I'm passionate about student work and helping grad students at UBC. Yeah, so that I would take a lot of time to study what I should learn. Thank you.

Abdul: So I think what even say, actually, yeah, that is like, you know, one thing that actually to actually discuss with the people that you know, who have been in the position previously, and to learn from them, like, you know, how they managed to do all the duties. And one thing, I should



say that, particularly whenever you were working as a group, because Jesus is a strong body. And so I think actually, you can discuss with all the all other members to actually whenever you're facing a problem, that okay, how to finish everything within the given time, I think a discussion with the members that will allow you to efficiently solve the problems, whatever the deadline, so I think you work as a group, when you can do it alone. Just go for it.

Pauahi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And thank you, Maria, for your question. And I'm so mine would be, I don't know that I could fill the shoes of the previous three people. Although I would like to make my own imprint in the GSS. And so how would I do that? It would be very strategic, by talking to committee members, the President, of course, and anybody else who would provide feedback and give input into, you know, their experience like yourself, you've been there for three years. So just your experience with the GSS so that I can maneuver and create a new pathway for myself so that when somebody else speaks of me, they can say that they also have big shoes to cover, you know, with me. So, yeah, just being humble and listening to the voices, again, of, you know, committee members, and people who have been involved in GSS, as well as the previous individuals who have been involved. And I hope that answers your question, Maria, thank you so much.

Ronak: I would like to start by saying that I strongly believe that if the deed is good, and if it is righteous and idealistic in its sense, then it really things really fall in place. First of all, secondly, definitely there are resources. And there are people and there are experienced people whom we can consult and speak to. And talk to. Just a second, I'm sorry, but I cannot see my timer here. Have you started? Oh, now. I will continue to continue from where I stopped. So yes, there are definitely experts whom with whom with which we can consult with and discuss the issues with since that will help us to gain some insightful knowledge. But also, again, as I've emphasized earlier, if the intentions are right, things will definitely fall in place. And the second question of however, how that how are we going to achieve that? I think, yes, I answered by discussing with the experts who already are there on the panel in the committee. So yes, thank you.

Kimani: Thank you. Thank you so much madam Speaker and thank you to all candidates today. Madam Speaker, I would want to speak from a point of experience some of the issues that we have found within our members, our students range quite a lot. But one that is quite prevalent is about mental health. I would want maybe our candidates to address this issue, how would they present this matter to the UBC president, President, Vice President students and to their department or faculties or any member that is responsible for dealing with student welfare, and especially on mental health perspective. Thank you so much, Madam Speaker.

Abdul: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yeah, so some mental health is an actually critical issue progress students, because we are expected to perform like, regardless of what we are going through in our personal life. So I think like, you know, how I will discuss this issue with the department is actually take into consideration to make things like, you know, as comfortable as it



can be made for the GED students, like, how the department can help the students through this. Like, if you look at some departments, even for some degrees, like some departments have, like, no more costs, loads, and then other departments, they can summer Mediterra courses, maybe the students don't need it for their research and, and some departments like minimum funding, they're less than other departments. So I would actually try to address these issues so that it helps the students sorry.

Pauahi: Hi, yes, thank you, Madam Speaker. some mental health is something that is very important to me and something that I'm passionate about. Like I said, I worked in a psychiatric facility for 16 years. So I'm student mental health and graduate student mental health is really important to me. I'm grateful for the extra funding that was provided during the COVID time for graduate students. And I think it was across the board for students in general, to be able to seek mental health services. And so what does that look like? I feel I think that we need to do better as servicing our graduate students and providing more resources and having different like, talks and Claire's for them to come to, or different Canvas modules that they can look at if they're interested in it. And just being a little bit more promotional of how we are in the practicality of how we handle our mental health. So some people like to meditate, some people like the color, and so just, um, address,

Ronak: I think I've touched on this briefly in my statement, as well. But I'll reiterate it here that it is important to understand what is the core of students affecting with issues of mental health? And I think one of the major reasons or issues of today's world is the overexposure as well as the competitiveness, which is always surrounding graduate students to kind of excel in each and everything that they do. I think that competitiveness as well as the overexposure, which students are surrounded by nowadays, are one of the two primary things, basically, and maybe a while discussing them with the committee's, or the higher authorities it would have, it would have to be structured in a much more systematic way, as well as we could maybe, with the consent of students, we could share their personal experiences with them so that they could relate it to it more, and basically develop a sense of empathy towards all the graduate students.

Yuran: Yeah, thank you, Madam Speaker. I think first how do we present this problem to the university, his staffers, I want to make sure the university understand the problem comprehensively. So first, we want to let the university know what mental problems they're facing, what's the percentage of Age Concern, so, this can be done by survey opinions of individual faculties, records of peer health in our faculty, we have something called wellness check in so that might be one source to understand this problem more comprehensively. So, another thing is, how can we address this problem? So first, I think because people are not really happy to talk about their mental issues. So first to promote the solutions that we can give. So first, like public events, such as like, in my home university, we used to have public public puppy cuddling and a suitable and confidential consulting services.



Maria: While it was already addressed, I just wanted to mention the mental health stress that COVID created, and the mental health stress that some students while trying to come here to Canada, like been addressing and the mental health stress that indigenous communities have been having, also, because of all the vaccines and all the history of not providing the proper vaccines to to the people and to the indigenous people who are actually giving them the blankets with Fox law, chicken pox, or stuff like that. So, what I wanted to ask was like Mental Health has like different areas, and that we need to address right now. So I don't know if, if anybody will want to add something else or or not.

Pauahi: Yeah, thank you, Madam Speaker. I think first how do we present this problem to the university, his staffers, I want to make sure the university understand the problem comprehensively. So first, we want to let the university know what mental problems they're facing, what's the percentage of Age Concern, so, this can be done by survey opinions of individual faculties, records of peer health in our faculty, we have something called wellness check in so that might be one source to understand this problem more comprehensively. So, another thing is, how can we address this problem? So first, I think because people are not really happy to talk about their mental issues. So first to promote the solutions that we can give. So first, like public events, such as like, in my home university, we used to have public public puppy cuddling and a suitable and confidential consulting services.

Ronak: Okay. Sure. Thank you. Thank you for that clarification. So definitely, I mean, being an international student and stuck in my home country since past five months, whereas my course has already started here. And struggling each and every day to kind of check whether the new updates and when can I finally reach in Vancouver or in Canada was was a big trauma for me. But I also feel that maybe some things are better handled by professionals and experts like maybe collaborating with psychological or psychiatrist in that sense, or maybe not everything is in capable capability of our hands to do alone. And it's much more of a collaborative process rather sometimes. So I would definitely get on board them and then kind of discover how can the solutions be customized to these individual problems rather than dictating them myself alone?

Yuran: Yeah, I understand that different groups of people in Canada are facing different faculty difficulties. During the COVID-19, me as an international student, myself, also was ducking another country for almost six months. And then I think that we need right person for individual problem that that has been mentioned by other candidates. And I think Peer Help a peer support is also a great resource to just a problem because some people prefer professionals, we have that in a UBC, we can also have a GSS, we could also improve our peer support by to a better matching that we require us to have a larger pool of resources. So that was why I suggested we could cooperate with individual faculties that could give us a large pool of resources to and to do a better matching effective matching between the helpers and the people who need supports.



Abdul: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My video. Okay. So I think, you know, like, you know, actually, the problems that, you know, the mental health problems that is related, that COVID actually created are that people from different races this suffer from, I think, if they could, like, you know, engage in dialogues with each other, then actually, we would start to realize that actually, the problems are kind of, you know, a lot of people suffer from these problems. So, I will try to actually, you know, arrange dialogues between the students with, we're going to drop train, and they will, this way, actually, they will get the feeling that they're not alone. And, and it is hard for everyone, and they will actually be able to help each other out. And, obviously, I'll be also there for them. And if like, you know, some of the students actually, they are going to more extreme difficulties. I'll refer them to counselors. Thank you.

Kimani: I call the question madam speaker.

Speaker: Okay, we're pretty close. 19 results. Okay, I am gonna change the resort. We are 21. Now, okay, so we do have a majority win. So Yuran, you have 60% of the vote. 12 votes out of 20. So congratulations. Not yet, I need to go into the next motion. So I would like to take this chance to thank every candidate, every candidate, if you wish to have 30 seconds or so to say thank you, you are welcome to you don't need to.

Abdul: So I would like to congratulate Yuran for her selection. And I just I hope that you know, we all talked about different issues. So I think she remembers the two issues that I talked about. And I hope like you know, she will try to address these issues with a couple of hands. So congratulations. Best of luck.

Pauahi: Sure. Yeah, I was actually unable to vote um, because I can't get in my teams is messed up. So I can't actually vote even though I can be voting member. But I wanted to thank everybody for your questions, and for just being part of the GSS and I still look forward to working with you in this capacity. Thank you again, and congratulations to urine.

Ronak: And thank you everyone for listening to us and like giving us some amazing questions to kind of think upon and really look forward to kind of working in some form or the other with the GSS if not right now in future as well. Thank you.

WHEREAS Bylaw 8.4.3 states that “in the event of a vacancy in the office of a Vice President, the position may be filled by appointment upon a special resolution of Council”, and

WHEREAS the position of Vice President University and Academic Affairs has been advertised, and

WHEREAS Council has reviewed the statements and heard from all candidate(s) for the VPUAA position;



BIRT GSS Council appoints Yuran Zhang to the position of Vice President University and Academic Affairs, to take office immediately.

MOVER: Sam

SECONDER: Maria

RESULT: carried

DISCUSSION

Maria: I just want to thank everybody who applied and also want to acknowledge the effort you put into it. And the hope is to that you're still involved. And we hope that because most of you are in your first year, and they will see you around in the next voting session, so you can take a turn for a full year. Thank you.

Yuran: I really want to thank everyone. Amazing counselors and the question askers for for asking so much. So many great questions. And then three other candidates. They, they they talk about many things they want to achieve that really inspire me, and I learned a great deal from them. And thank you so much. Yeah, sorry about that. Yeah, because I didn't I didn't get to say that in the last round. Yeah, but thank you so much.

3.3 BYLAW AMENDMENT – FEOO POSITION RESTRUCTURING

Responsible: Governance & Accountability Committee, Code and Policy Committee

Description: A motion to include a motion in the next referendum/AGM regarding the restructuring of the FEOO position

Time: 15 minutes

Objective: To bring a motion to the next GSS referendum or AGM

Relevant Materials: [2021_10_FEOO Restructure Bylaw and Policy Amendments.pdf](#)

WHEREAS Council voted in September 2021 in favour separating the FEOO role into a Financial Officer position and an Executive Oversight Committee Chair position,

BIRT the following item be included in the next referendum and/or Annual General Meeting of the GSS, whichever comes first:

BYLAW AND POLICY AMENDMENTS: Restructuring the Financial and Executive Oversight Position

EXPLANATION: The Financial and Executive Oversight Officer (FEOO) is responsible for 2 very important duties in GSS: financial duties and executive oversight duties. After consultations with the FEOO, President, staff, and committee/caucus chairs, a restructuring of the position was deemed the best way forward. In September 2021, Council has voted to recommend the action of splitting the FEOO position into a Financial Officer position and an Executive Oversight Committee chair position. We propose the above changes to reflect the changes in positions due to this split.



SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: 2021_10_FEEO Restructure Bylaw and Policy Amendments.pdf

MOTION:

WHEREAS the Financial and Executive Officer currently takes on both financial and executive oversight duties, and

WHEREAS GSS Council, Executives, and staff recognize that the current structure of the role imposes a huge work burden for the FEEO, and

WHEREAS Council has voted to separate the FEEO role into a Financial Officer position and an Executive Oversight Committee Chair position,

BIRT the FEEO position be restructured into Financial Officer position and an Executive Oversight Committee Chair position.

BIFRT the changes listed in “2021_10_FEEO Restructure Bylaw and Policy Amendments.pdf” be made to the Bylaws and Policy Manual.

MOVER: Governance & Accountability Committee SECONDER: Code & Policy Committee RESULT: Carried

FOR (15): Maria Jose Martinez , Davi Monticelli , Yundi Wang , Kimani Karangu, G&A Chair, Ginny Pichler, C Thorimbert , Yuran Zhang , Taryn Scarff, CPC Chair, William Canero , Ezra Yu, Axel Hauduc , Teesha Luehr , Kira Vandermeulen

DISCUSSION

Jenny: So about this motion. This is a submission for the bylaw and policy amendments regarding the restructuring of the FTO position put to be put forth next referendum. And as many as many of you know, the financial executive oversight officer is currently responsible for two very important duties and GSS financial duties and executive oversight duties. GMA has had consultations with multiple bodies, including the Fe O president, staff and committee caucus chairs, and a restructuring of the position was deemed the best way forward. So last month council had voted to recommend the action of splitting the Fe O position into a financial officer position and an executive oversight committee chair position. And we worked in conjunction with CPC as well as the president to propose the above changes so that they can reflect the changes that would be needed due to this split. So that's a little bit of background about this.

William: What's the minimum number of votes that we need on a referendum for it to be ratified?

Kimani: We'll need 600 participants and 400 votes saying yes. Alright, thanks



3.4 POLICY REVISION – CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES

Responsible: Code & Policy Committee

Description: A motion to make policy changes regarding the AMS Caucus and Graduate Council Caucus membership.

Objective: To approve the listed policy changes.

Time: 10 minutes

Relevant Materials: [Policy Revision Form - Caucus Representative Updates.pdf](#)

WHEREAS the current GSS policy regarding caucus composition and seating does not align with current GSS practice and AMS policy,

BIRT the policy changes listed in "Policy Revision Form - Caucus Representative Updates.docx" be approved as presented.

MOVER: Code & Policy Committee RESULT: carried

FOR (17): Axel Hauduc , Kimani Karangu, Yuran Zhang , C Thorimbert, G&A Chair, Maria Jose Martinez , Yundi Wang , Leila Matte-Kaci, Sam Kenston, Ezra Yu , Davi Monticelli , Taryn Scarff, Kira Vandermeulen, Teesha Luehr , CPC Chair, William Canero , Ginny Pichler.

DISCUSSION

Motivation from Aaron

Speaker: It's full. In Motion carried policy revisions caucus representative updates various occurrent GSS policy regarding caucus composition and seating does not align with current GSS practice and AMS policy be resolved at the policy changes listed in policy revision form. caucus representative updates be approved as presented is moved by cold and policy need a seconder? Excuse me, when the motion is moved by a committee it technically by Robert's rule, you don't need a secondary because there's more than one person. Aaron, would you like to motivate? Sure.

Aaron: Yeah, this one is pretty straightforward. Basically, the main changes here are changing the receding of the members in our caucuses just to align more with current practice. And the only other change listed in the policy revision form would be to change the number of AMS represented as caucus representatives to align with the AMS policy and current practices



3.5 POLICY REVISION – CHAIR HONORARIUM

Responsible: Code & Policy Committee

Description: A motion to make policy changes regarding the Chair honorarium.

Objective: To approve the listed policy changes.

Time: 10 minutes

Relevant Materials: [Policy Revision Form - Chair Honorarium.pdf](#)

WHEREAS the Chairship honorarium currently is not adjusted with CPI, and

WHEREAS fees and Executive honorarium are adjusted annually with CPI,

BIRT the policy changes listed in "Policy Revision Form - Chair Honorarium.docx" be approved as presented.

MOVER: Code & Policy Committee RESULT: carried

FOR (13): Ezra Yu , Yundi Wang , Axel Hauduc , Bukola Mary Ibitoye , Leila Matte-Kaci, Ginny Pichler , Davi Monticelli , C Thorimbert , Maria Jose Martinez , Taryn Scarff , Kira Vandermeulen, William Canero , Teesha Luehr. ABSTAIN (2): G&A Chair, CPC Chair

DISCUSSION

Aaron: Thank you Madam Speaker. So, this policy revision is as it states in the motion implementing a line that allows the chair ship on ramp to be adjusted annually according to eight CPI. This is something that is being done after discussions with our FBO and HF chair while Gss is in a position to do this, and this will be something that is done annually. So, HF when they adjust their other when they adjust fees, as well as executive honoraria implement after implementation chair ship honorarium will also be adjusted at the same time

Maria: I just want to ask for like more time in terms of voting

4 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

4.1 MOU FOR USE OF AMS ELECTRONIC VOTING SYSTEM

Responsible: Kimani Karangu, GSS President

Time: 10 minute presentation

Description: Briefing to Council on the Memorandum of Understanding between the GSS and AMS signed to allow use of the AMS electronic voting system for the Fall 2021 referendum

Objective: to brief Council on the signing of an MOU



Relevant Materials: to be provided

Kimani: Thank you so much, Madam Speaker. I'll be quite fast, because I think you don't want to listen to the music coming from my background here from the pub. So yeah, today, I want us to quickly highlight on a few things that have been happening. And one of those is the GLC updates, the AMS, electronic voting. And, of course, the GSFA. In case there are any questions, you're welcome to ask this team for the new members that really were here. And now that this is the, the directors or the executive that you have selected. And of course, we are now going to have a picture of urine there. I'm here as the president and then we have sorry, we have actually with our VP external some who is here. So our VP student and of course who oversees us is Tayo. The GLC I may go quite fast is all about you remember, we we did say that we would want to have a space where a graduate student would want to come and have time to form community and talk to one another. And of course, try to adjust to meet our needs, for example, our students that have got two dependents, and of course those who are living with disabilities. So we are going to be upgrading our center to what we are calling the graduate Life Center and some of the for whatever happens at UBC usually because it's a major renovation that is going to happen and we do not have all the monies we are trained even to ask for donors and all that. It has to go to the board and they it has been you know, being sponsored here by a few offices that are key allies that is a VP, Student Affairs, them, and also the the office of the finance. And of course they operations. And we shall be presenting these one with the dean of post doctoral studies. That is Susan and her office down there. And currently just to mention that we have also brought in our former president, who is also helping us, Nicolas, he's also helping us to put things together because we've been working with him for on this project for the last I think, four years, the consultations have happened. And as you can see, more consultations aren't going the one that has not yet gone all the way to the end is about a graduate students, staff in leadership, that is always going everyday, because by the end of the day, they're the ones who will be affected by the movement of the offices, and their way of doing work every day. But as I you know, we want it to be a very transparent project and all that. And in case you have any preference of whatever you would want to see happening, just come and talk to us. You know, we are comparing this one to a few other institutions that have done the same, say, for example, University of Toronto, McGill, and of course, Virginia Tech, these are houses that are meant for their graduate students. We also a key thing that I'm very, you know, interested in looking at how we can bring it on board is you know, how to bring cheap food outlet within the GLC. And of course, a place where we can have people with children come and just, you know, be with them, not a daycare, but a place you can hang out with your child and away from home kind of a situation. In that case, the timeline here might not find some of us in office, but I'm so impressed by the new members that are joining us. This is likely to like go for a few years down the line. And the reason as to why this one is take longer than we expected. You know, there are many projects that are ongoing on campus. And we also face some sort of financial constraints. And we will because our pledge to our students, our membership was that no student will be forced to



or be taxed to finance this kind of a project. We want to get money from other places and that one has a little bit slowed us down. But as of I think last year, we had 1.2 million and to you know, to cater for the fast face. So that one will be kicking up soon. Going forward. The next one is about the AMS about the EMS this thing can go forward the AMS and GSS electronic voting majority of you I don't know whether you're aware that we as I said initially Gss is not a member of AMS. However, our members, our our, our members, our members of the AMS and without we try to do things together and participate in elections.

However, as of last year, the AMS did amend their policies that requires anybody who uses the electronic voting system to be or to register with them, and have a memorandum of understanding. That one was a big blow when I received the news because I wasn't aware of the of the amendment, and which happened in December last year. And now we have a kind of an agreement that we have not yet legally gone into. But they they have allowed us to continue using the electronic voting system up to first of December. So after that a the GSS will have to think of either getting our own voting system or getting to an agreement with the AMS so that we can continue holding our referendum and elections. And as one that one can explain why we have been late calling for the elect referendum that was passed some time I was we were dealing with that thing. And thank you so much members for your support and your patients and I hope once the referent Ebola goes up next week, we shall call it next week. Are you going to talk to your members talk to your constituencies and kindly ask them to vote for these changes because these are the changes that will need to make the best decisions and allows your elected leaders to have the capacity to deliver on the mission that they you have sent them to go and accomplish. Of course that that gives that to that end. The next one is about the GSFC for those who are not aware about the G SFA. This is the graduate student financial aid. Last year we did conduct a very serious referendum and you can visit the website and you will be able to see some of these applets there. We call upon students to allow or agree to contribute \$2 per year, so that that money could at least go to the kitty that finances, student emergency, unforeseen emergencies, and all of you agreed. And we have been very, very happy supporting our students. So for this one, I'm just going to a very brief overview of what has happened and what is happening with the GLC Sorry, I'll be the GS FA, going forward. And as I said, you can always go back to the website and see for yourself.

So since last year, that not since the last few years, you know, from September 2019, we had the, the, you know, the panel was approved. And they so far, so good, they have awarded up to I think 30,000 to about 36 graduate students. And as you can see, the amounts they are they vary quite significantly. And then the intake as well you can tell the trend, and it's helping most of these monies, or most of these finances, do help students that have got, you know, who have got some unforeseen and unexpected financial challenges as you can tell, you know, you maybe you didn't know that your your landlord will come and tell you kick you out, maybe for having some time, some good time last night, we don't encourage that, but it could happen. And when you



were kicked out, you didn't have maybe a deposit or you didn't have whatever you know, you need to come to us you know, we are your buddy ch for student by student come explain to us and you'll definitely get some help in doing that. And as you can tell this fee as it was approved will not in any way cover tuition and other school fees. So, this is away from that and to do that, you need to you know, move to other places just to be clear on that for you to be able to access some of these monies. The the eligibility criteria is as follows You know, you have to like be a current student of course, cover letter delineating you know, a recent unforeseen financial hardship, hardship sorry, of course, some some supporting letter, you know, which can be also be provided by any academic or non academic office. And, of course, the letter from our Enrollment Center, and or any additional documentation should the panel feel that they need that one from your end. From my end here, the panelists who were in August 2019 been on this panel include the general manager, and, you know, and who is the chair of the GSF a panel. And we have the the Advocacy Coordinator office, the administrative assistant or the office, one representative from the GSS House Finance Committee and one representative from the GSS academic and external offices. I think when we passed it usually our membership here if you happen to be one of them, I think there should be a special resolution to help one of the directors, I personally cannot benefit from these, because it will be like seen as a conflict of interest and maybe something like that, but it can be done because it is for student and by student. And with that, Madam Speaker, I have, you know, I have talked quite fast and I will ask for any questions. If you have any.

4.2 GRADUATE LIFE CENTRE UPDATE

Responsible: Kimani Karangu, GSS President

Time: 10 minute presentation

Description: Update on the progress of the Graduate Life Centre renovation project

Objective: Inform Council about the progress on the Graduate Life Centre

Relevant Materials: to be provided

Kimani has covered 4.1 and 4.2 together.

DISCUSSION

William: So in the beginning, you talked about the creation of the new GLC building. I just wanted to bring to your attention that Dr. Nora Angeles leads a class for the School of Community and Regional Planning called qualitative survey methods, where they do consultations with community groups, governments and nonprofits. So qualitative consultations with any stakeholder group that could be alumni, it could be students, they've done it for the MS in the past and expedite your process of consultations. You might want to reach out to her for your contact information, just get a hold of me and I can give that to you.



4.3 SEPTEMBER 2021 GSS FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Responsible: Financial and Executive Oversight Officer

Description: September 2021 GSS Financial Overview

Time: 15 minutes

Objective: Update on GSS Revenues and Expenditures

Relevant materials: [GSS_September_2021_Financial_presentation_v2_10202021.pptx](#)

DISCUSSION

Davi: Okay, so thank you very much for the presentation. And I was just wondering if you want to get into the details of those numbers that we just saw. How do we do this?

Tayo: Quick question. We actually take a deeper look at the numbers at HF committee, right like that's essentially what the committee does. So, do consider joining HF the House Finance Committee actually some vacancy rates are available for both councils and are nowhere members. So it would be great to have you on board.

Davi: So this will be the only way. I mean that is that is now it's not publicly available as I would say this the details of this estimation

Tayo: the monthly details of the estimation as are not publicly available, but the accounts right what we do spend on to win a whole year is publicly available and it's actually available on our website

Kimani: I think also madam speaker for this particular presentation will be also once the minute have been approved in the next minute it will be a public document and members can be able to see them as well.

Speaker: I'm sorry, I have to stop the back and forth. I'm not allowed to do that by Robert's Rules of Order. So I can put you on the speaker's list to the next slide

Devarsh: Thank you might have to, I'll just expand on what David just mentioned. So I'll just give some context on where these numbers will be exactly available. So basically, Tao just showed a monthly summary or a high level picture, the House Finance Committee will be going through the exact spreadsheet, which has, which has the line by line item breakdown of each of these, each of these numbers specifically, and in the House Finance minutes of meetings, we will be adding comments of you know, about the breakdown. So the September actuals, have not yet been reviewed by the committee, but for August or any of the months before, the details will always be available in the House Finance, minutes of the meetings for each of the line items. Does that help? Thank you.



Tayo: Thank you for thank you for the question. The reason why we do give a quick summary right is because of we're actually mandated to do so by our bylaws and policy manual. And I DHFR level at the committee level, we actually take time going over specific numbers, right. And that usually takes not half an hour. And I'm sure you will agree with me that doing that eye to committee meeting will likely be problematic. So thank you for letting us know, market concerns and phf committee and now my myself will will discuss and hopefully come up with some water solution. Thank you.

5 MATTERS TO NOTE

Time reserved for questions regarding updates below.

5.1 UPCOMING EVENTS

- (none provided)

5.2 EXECUTIVES

5.2.1 President

- GLC Updates & Discussion items
 - Funding gap (Provost contribution, food security fund, remaining gap)
 - Executive proposal for remaining renovations of the building (draft attached)
 - Next steps regarding food outlet (lease agreement) and food subsidy
 - Timelines in general (wait for design to complete or go in parallel, GSS input on office move)
- Student Affordability Task Force: On-going and latest discussions
 - Government Student Loan and UBC Bursary
 - Emergency Bursary Overview
 - Financial Wellness/Literacy
 - Financial Literacy/Wellness
 - DRAFT outline/recommendations
- Made a presentation for Graduate Student Society (GSS) at the Open Session Board of Governors Meeting: Key priorities, Anti-racism Survey report, and return to campus survey report.
- AMS x UBC Emergency Food Partnership Discussion: On current scopes and evolution of emergency food needs, including the Acadia Food Hamper program and how we can work together towards better meeting needs.
- Tuition Engagement Survey Questions Discussion with Student Leadership: To review and discuss the Tuition Engagement Survey questions with the elected Student Leadership.



- GSS Coaching Program, over 70 students attended the session.
- GSS-G+PS Monthly Meeting: Discussion of the Joint PhD program (do away with this over time) maintaining the number of students following the increased FYF
- G+PS, GSS and OO meetup: Collaboration on key students' advocacy
- UBC GSS Investment Account Opening: Committed \$200K
- Interview Session Start Debrief: AA & HR Contractor
- Student health and dental: Increased services negotiations on new products (Legal representation, and Dialogue Box)

5.2.2 FEEO

- Along with the President and House Finance Chair, invested \$400, 000 with Scotia Securities.
- Reviewed, approved, or effected financial transactions at the GSS.
- Coordinated Executive Oversight Committee Meetings

5.2.3 VP University & Academic Affairs

- (none submitted)

5.2.4 VP External

- Met with GSSC and determine that there are many changes still required of the MOU i.e. need a clause that states that there is an easy “in and out” process for joining the alliance. Western, UOttawa, UofA, UofSask, UofC and McGill are very interested in signing on.
- Meeting with Chantelle, the chair of Students for Consent Culture Canada, to discuss the score card for ranking the efficacy of sexual violence policies of post-secondary institutions – several BC institutions have been looked at.
- SUDS from the 15th to the 18th – networking with other student leaders across Canada
- Working with ABCS to prepare different asks such as mental health where that will be a topic of discussion at SUDS

5.2.5 VP Students

- (none submitted)

5.3 COMMITTEES

5.3.1 Academic & External Committee

- (none submitted)



5.3.2 Code & Policy Committee

- CPC has been working on various projects including Chair honorarium changes, caucus membership policy, elections policy, and conflict resolution policy.

5.3.3 Elections Committee

- (none submitted)

5.3.4 Executive Committee

- Approved an MOU with the AMS regarding using the AMS SimplyVoting platform for the GSS referendum in Fall 2021

5.3.5 Executive Oversight Committee

- (none submitted)

5.3.6 Governance & Accountability Committee

- FEOO restructure bylaw/policy amendments: drafted with feedback from President & CPC
- SMART Goals: asked committees for end of year progress reports, started conversation about new cycle of goals
- KPIs: discussed future plan of action, assigned point person for each committee
- Switch in the Deputy-Chair position: Jin will step down and Axel will be our new Deputy-Chair
- We will be welcoming Ryan Ghorayeb as a new ordinary member to our committee

5.3.7 House Finance Committee

- Contract signing for mutual fund investment of \$200,000 executed by the President and FEOO on Tuesday, Oct 5, 2021. The amount was split equally in two portfolios of 3-5 years and 5+ year duration in line with the presentation made to GSS Council in Sept 2021.
- Approved the final estimate for the IT (Information Technology) server migration project and associated subscriptions
- Approved the Budget Actuals for August 2021
- Working on the end term update for SMART Goals

5.3.8 Human Resources

- (none submitted)
-



5.3.9 Services Committee

- reviewed SMART goals
- discussed upcoming events (possible happy hour promoting the Referendum, mental health awareness event Nov 4th, and Powerpoint Karaoke in January).

5.3.10 Strategic Planning ad-hoc Committee

- The Strategic Planning ad-hoc committee has submitted its draft text of the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan to Communications, and will engage with Communications as needed for the final formatting of the text into a presentable document.

5.3.11 AMS Caucus

- (none submitted)

5.3.12 Graduate Council Caucus

- (none submitted)

5.4 SENATORS AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS

5.4.1 Senators:

- (none submitted)

5.4.2 Board of Governors Representatives:

- (none submitted)

6 NOTICES

6.1 NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: Thursday, November 18 at 5:30 pm

Location: Online through Microsoft Teams

6.2 NOTICE OF UNSEATINGS

- Aaron Loewen was unseated as Councillor from Code & Policy Committee.
- Aaron Loewen was unseated as Chair from Code & Policy Committee.
- Aaron Loewen was unseated as Councillor from House Finance Committee.
- Aditi Nagaraj Nallan was unseated as Councillor from Services Committee.
- Andrew Zang was unseated as Councillor from House Finance Committee.



- Axel Hauduc was unseated as Councillor from Governance & Accountability Committee.
- Bethany Adair was unseated as Councillor from Academic and External Affairs Committee.
- Beverly Yang was unseated as Ordinary Member from Code & Policy Committee.
- Candice Chiu was unseated as Ordinary Member from House Finance Committee.
- Charfeddine Khalifa was unseated as Councillor from Elections Committee.
- Charfeddine Khalifa was unseated as Chair from Elections Committee.
- Daniel He was unseated as Ordinary Member from Code & Policy Committee.
- Daniel He was unseated as Ordinary Member from Executive Oversight Committee.
- Daniel He was unseated as Ordinary Member from Services Committee.
- Davi Monticelli was unseated as Councillor from Academic and External Affairs Committee.
- Desiree Fiaccabrino was unseated as Councillor from Academic and External Affairs Committee.
- Desiree Fiaccabrino was unseated as Departmental Representative from Chemistry.
- Devarsh Bhonde was unseated as Ordinary Member from House Finance Committee.
- Devarsh Bhonde was unseated as Chair from House Finance Committee.
- Edgar Liao was unseated as Departmental Representative from History.
- Heather Worthington was unseated as Ordinary Member from Code & Policy Committee.
- Huseyin Doganay was unseated as Ordinary Member from Human Resources Committee.
- Jenny Lee was unseated as Departmental Representative from Experimental Medicine.
- Jenny Lee was unseated as Councillor from Governance & Accountability Committee.
- Jenny Lee was unseated as Chair from Governance & Accountability Committee.
- Jin Wen was unseated as Departmental Representative from Psychology.
- Jin Wen was unseated as Councillor from Governance & Accountability Committee.
- Julia Burnham was unseated as Representative from AMS Council Caucus.
- Kieran Maheden was unseated as Ordinary Member from Executive Oversight Committee.
- Kieran Maheden was unseated as Ordinary Member from Governance & Accountability Committee.
- Kira Vandermeulen was unseated as Councillor from Human Resources Committee.
- Leila Matte-Kaci was unseated as Councillor from Human Resources Committee.
- Maria Jose Athie Martinez was unseated as Departmental Representative for Curriculum and Pedagogy.
- Maria Jose Athie Martinez was unseated as Councillor for House Finance Committee.
- Nevena Rebic was unseated as Representative from AMS Council Caucus.



- Nicholas Phin was unseated as Ordinary Member from Executive Oversight Committee.
- Pauahi Souza was unseated as Ordinary Member from Elections Committee.
- Pauahi Souza was unseated as Chair from Elections Committee.
- Pauahi Souza was unseated as Ordinary Member from Human Resources Committee.
- Pauahi Souza was unseated as Ordinary Member from Strategic Planning ad-hoc Committee.
- Perrin Waldock was unseated as Departmental Representative from Physics and Astronomy.
- Perrin Waldock was unseated as Councillor from Services Committee.
- Perrin Waldock was unseated as Chair from Services Committee.
- Ritwik Bhattacharjee was unseated as Ordinary Member from Executive Oversight Committee.
- Sandeep Gill was unseated as Councillor from Executive Oversight Committee.
- Sandeep Gill was unseated as Councillor from Human Resources Committee.
- Sarah Ebert was unseated as Ordinary Member from Academic and External Affairs Committee.
- Shayan Fahimi was unseated as Ordinary Member from House Finance Committee.
- Shiming Iris Wu was unseated as Ordinary Member from House Finance Committee.
- Sofie McComb was unseated as Councillor from Academic and External Affairs Committee.
- Taryn Scarff was unseated as Councillor from Elections Committee.
- Torin McLachlan was unseated as Councillor from Human Resources Committee.
- Vinoth Ganapathiraman was unseated as Ordinary Member from House Finance Committee.
- William Yip was unseated as Ordinary Member from Academic and External Affairs Committee.
- William Yip was unseated as Ordinary Member from Code & Policy Committee.
- William Yip was unseated as Ordinary Member from Executive Oversight Committee.
- William Yip was unseated as Ordinary Member from Governance & Accountability Committee.
- Younus Ahmed was unseated as Departmental Representative from Anthropology in September 2021.
- Yundi Wang was unseated as Councillor from Academic and External Affairs Committee.
- Yundi Wang resigned as Vice President University and Academic Affairs on September 24, 2021.



- Zakhar Krekhno was unseated as Ordinary Member from Academic and External Affairs Committee.
- Zakhar Krekhno was unseated as Chair from Academic and External Affairs Committee.

7 ADJOURNMENT

BIRT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 8:23 pm.

MOVER: Maria

SECONDER: William c

RESULT: carried