



ATTENDANCE

Present: Mehmet Helmi, Kathleen Gill, Aaron Loewen, Nick Phin, Tonje Molyneux, Abhishek Somanagoudar, Jonah Berean-Dutcher, Sam Kenston, Violeta Fabiani, Claire Thorimbert, Gayatri Gopalan, Olivia Tsihlias, Sabbir Hossain, Cara James, Firoozeh, Alex Babin, Seja Elgadi, Hannah Phelps, Avery McNair, Sina Halvei, Simargeet Nagpal, Mattan Gilboa.

Regrets:

Absent:

Quorum: 16 Councillors

CALL TO ORDER AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting will be called to order at 5:32 pm.

1.2 AGENDA ADOPTION

BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Mover: Nick

Second: Aaron

Result: Carried

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President: It is my joy to welcome you to another council meeting, we do acknowledge that we are gathered from the traditional unceded territory of the musqueam people, and this place has been a place of learning and impartation of knowledge for several years.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions.

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1 GSS COUNCIL MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Council minutes be approved:

- [December 8th, 2022](#)

Mover: Tonje

Second: Aaron

Result: Carried



2.2 COMMITTEE MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Committee minutes be approved:

Academic & External Committee:	Dec 16, 2022; Jan 16 2023	Human Resources Committee:	
Code & Policy Committee:		AMS Caucus:	Dec 12,2022
Engagement & Elections Committee:		Graduate Council:	
Executive Committee:		Health and Dental Plan Caucus:	Jan 26,2022; March 15,2022; April 14, 2022; May 26,2022; July 28,2022; Nov 14,2022.
Executive Oversight Committee		All-Chairs:	Dec 9,2022.
Governance & Accountability Committee:	Nov 24,2022; Dec 9,2022	Indigenous Engagement ad-hoc Committee:	
		House Finance Committee:	Dec 6 th , 2022, Jan 13 th 2023

Mover: Aaron

Second: Violeta

Result: Carried

3 SEATINGS

3.1 NEW COUNCILLORS

BIRT the following Seating of new Councillors be approved:

Name	Department
Gayatri Gopalan	Curriculum & Pedagogy

Mover: Sam

Second: Tonje

Result: Carried



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:

Committee/Caucus	Nominee	Position	Vacancies
Faculty of Arts Council		Representative	2
Graduate Council Caucus		Representative	0
AMS Caucus		Representative	2

Mover: Sabbir

Second: Aaron

Result: Carried

3.3 COMMITTEE SEATINGS

All GSS Councillors shall endeavor to sit on at least one committee as per Policy 6.2.2.

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

BIRT the following Committee seatings be approved:

Committee/Caucus	Nominee	Position	Vacancies
Academic & External		Councillor	0
		Ordinary Member	0
Code & Policy		Councillor	2
		Ordinary Member	0
Engagement & Elections		Councillor	2
		Ordinary Member	0
Executive Oversight		Councillor	3
		Ordinary Member	0
Governance & Accountability		Councillor	4
		Ordinary Member	1
House Finance		Councillor	3
		Ordinary Member	0



Human Resources		Councillor	1
		Ordinary Member	1
Indigenous Engagement ad-hoc Committee		Councillor or Ordinary Member	3
		Governance & Accountability Representative	0

Mover: Jonah

Second: Nick

Result: Carried

4 MATTERS FOR DECISION

4.1 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 January 2024:

Name of Affiliate Organization	Representative
School of Population and Public Health Unlearning Club	Jorden Henry
Statistics Graduate Student Association	Gian Carlo Diluvi
Graduate Law Student Society (GLSS)	Mattan Gilboa

MOVER: VP Students

SECONDER: Aaron

RESULT: Carried

DISCUSSION

Sabbir: Can the representative of the School of Population and Public Health Unlearning Club tell us more about it?



Avery: The idea of the club comes from an example set by the Office of the Federal Health Officer Bonnie Henry's office who brings her office together to talk about issues in our society largely around racism and colonization. And they use resources that are set out by people within Canada, US elsewhere, that have largely been written, represented or performed, that we can watch and read and engage with all led by largely indigenous or black, brown experts in the field. So we are using those resources and working with members of the club to adapt their club to the school population and public health. We currently have about 30 members and it's a commitment over the course this semester. We are currently piloting it and hoping to expand it more.

4.2 AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION RECOGNITION

BIRT the Auditor's report be approved as presented

- [Audit Report](#)
- [Approval Letter](#)

MOVER: HF Committee **SECONDER:** Sam **RESULT:** All in favour

4.3 OFFICE MOVING COST

BIRT the Council approves the office moving cost of \$3688.71 to be debited from the CPIF fund

CPIF fund utilization for ["Office moving cost \\$3688.71"](#)

MOVER: HF Committee **SECONDER:** Aaron **RESULT:** All in favour

5 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

5.1.1.1 SMART GOALS

Presenter: Sena Youn- G&A Committee

Time: 20 minutes

Description: SMART Goals End-of-term Progress Reports

Objective: To present end-of-term progress

Relevant materials: [Presentation](#)

DISCUSSION



Sam: Thank you Sena for the presentation and the hard work of the G&A Committee. My question is, how does G&A plan to prevent the high transitioning rate?

Sena: I mean, it's something that I experienced as well, because I haven't been sat there for very long either, when there was a turnover, our committee had a huge turnover. And we're still going through, because we're very small at the moment. But one thing that I feel like would be very helpful is to help every committee go through their transition when they're going to, you know, when someone new comes into the chair. So we do that by having these one on one meetings with the current chairs. And hopefully we can create a live them and the new chair that's coming in and get all the documents ready. So that's going to be a smoother handoff, rather than one person leaves and there is no plan of continuation.

Sabbir: I have two questions, actually. It's a very basic question. So like, for submitting new smart goals for 2022 23. Do I have to include the carryover SMART goals like the previous year? First question. Second question was, how do I know that okay, from joining the progress of the previous years is smart goals. If it's not completed, then I have to include this SMART goals in my new years goals.

Sena: I'm not sure how they did it in the past, I think it's more common to say that if you didn't finish your goal in the previous year, that would carry over to the next year. But I do understand that if there's changes in members, it's not very easy to do so especially if one person was spearheading that specific project and are no longer on the team. To try and answer your question, I would say it is recommended to work on the previous goals that have been that haven't been completed. If it is something that's going to help your committee or caucus in the long run. But if it's something that you feel like just is not going to move forward and the goal isn't going to be completed by the 2023 cycle that I wouldn't say look as a strategic planning some sets of new smart goals for the 2023 year.

5.1.1.2 FINANCIAL REPORT

Presenter: Abhishek FEEO

Time: 15 minutes

Description: GSS financial report

Objective: to present the financial reports

Relevant materials: Financial Report for [September](#), [October](#), [November](#), and [December](#)

DISCUSSION

Sam: Thank you very much for that speaker. Thank you very much audition for this hasn't been easy, especially changing our financial software. I have one question. Considering the months that there is the actuals are less than the budgeted adjustment more than budgeted? What are we doing to make sure those unused portions can be used for the needs of the society?

Abhishek: So we do consider few programs where we allocate these budgets. And then if you have any other departments requires any additional funds, then we just reallocate to their fund.



Sabbir: VP Students went over the budget, how are you planning to prevent this in the future?

Abhishek: So, to answer to that point, we will be sending this report to the respective departments and we'll tell that you're over budgeted and you have this much of funds left. So we will tell them that your department have spent so much, and you have left this amount, so you need to fine tune your events, or the expenditures based on these remaining funds.

Violeta: I think the rational for the VP students usually spending more money is because that's where all the event organization is like the money that's kind of like going back to students in the form of getting services, subsidy program and other things. So yes, it's over budget, but at the same time, it's kind of like going back to the students, whereas other departments, for example, my department is just expenditure. So I don't get anything, it's just Well, I made contacts with the government and other associations, right. But I don't know if this helps you understand a little bit more about why this department is spending.

6 MATTERS TO NOTE

Time reserved for questions regarding updates below.

6.1 EXECUTIVES

6.1.1 President:

Update: Election date has been finalized

Election date: March 1-4th

Nomination opens: January 23rd - February 6th

Campaign period: February 7th -28th

Meetings:

Executives met with UBC Interim President (Dr. Buszard) and VP Students (Dr. Ainsley) to discuss the goals for the year and report from students satisfaction survey

Executives met with Campus vision 2050 to provide feedback on the committee's goals

6.1.2 Financial Officer

- [Audit Report](#)
- Financial Report for [September](#), [October](#), [November](#), and [December](#)
- Sustainable Banking System



6.1.3 VP University & Academic Affairs

6.1.4 VP External Relations

Meeting with Campus Vision 2050

Attended committee meeting CV 2050

Launched Peko produce giveaway program together with Food Security

Attended meeting with Intermin President and VP students

Represented graduate students in Presidential Search Committee

Met with G+PS and career center to organize networking and job opportunity events

Represented graduate student needs in the Accessibility Task Force meeting

6.1.5 VP Students

6.2 COMMITTEES

6.2.1 Academic & External Committee

AcEx has drafted smart goals for 2023, and has reached out to provincial offices to inquire about grants for the GSFA/HSA

6.2.2 Code & Policy Committee

CPC has drafted their SMART goals for 2023, started work on the HF Manual, and continued working on the Elections Manual.

6.2.3 Engagement & Elections Committee

The committee is currently working on the SMART goals for the year.

As election is approaching, the committee is working on ensuring all is in order before the election

6.2.4 Executive Committee

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6.2.5 Executive Oversight Committee



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6.2.6 Governance & Accountability Committee

1. Setting new G&A SMART goals
2. New committee/caucus SMART goals first drafts due Jan 20, 2023
3. Two updates in memberships

6.2.7 House Finance Committee

- Audit Report review and approval
Relevant materials: GSS Audit [Report](#), [Approval Letter](#)
- CPIX fund utilization for ["Office moving cost \\$3688.71"](#)

6.2.8 Human Resources

6.2.9 Indigenous Engagement ad-hoc Committee

6.2.10 AMS Caucus

- Our Caucus's top priority is to reactivate the impact grant fund, a yearly fund to help graduate researchers, which was paused during the pandemic. As we reached out to the AMS via President, they responded that they are reviewing the files and should be started again soon. This caucus fears they aren't putting much effort into this, and we're continuing to put some pressure on AMS to reactivate this soon. We believe we will be able to reactive this fund by the end of February.
- Our caucus is also working on a new SMART goal, "Professional Development Grant (Pro-D grant)" which will aim to facilitate financial aid to graduate students seeking professional development in their relevant fields through partaking in paid courses, workshops, training, and one-on-one career coaching, that are offered at UBC or other institutions or online platforms.
- Our caucus also attends every AMS council meeting to give meaningful insights in terms of GSS perspective on any important discussant issues in the Council
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6.2.11 Graduate Council Caucus

6.3 SENATORS AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS

6.3.1 Senators:



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6.3.2 Board of Governors Representatives:

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7 NOTICES

7.1 NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: Thursday, February 16th 2023

Location: Michael Kingsmill Forum- AMS Nest 4th floor

7.2 NOTICE OF UNSEATINGS

Rodrigo Vallejo was unseated as Ordinary Member of the Governance and Accountability Committee.

Ginny Pichler was unseated as Councillor of the Governance and Accountability Committee.

8 ADJOURNMENT

BIRT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Mover: Aaron

Second: Violeta

Result: Carried