



ATTENDANCE

Present: Sam Kenston, Violeta Fabiani, Stephen Odoi, Isha Gill, Abhishek Somanagoudar, Conny Lin, Teesha Luehr, Aaron Loewen, Tonje Molyneux, Olivia Tsihlias, Felix Hong, Seja Elgadi, Abhishek Somanagoudar, Yuting Lin, Franziska Mey, Nick Phin, Nurul Shishir, Gayatri Gopalan, Ali Khageli, Simarjeet Nagpal.

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 5:52 pm.

1.2 AGENDA ADOPTION

BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Mover: Sam

Second: Lily

Result: Carried

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President:

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions.

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1 GSS COUNCIL MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Council minutes be approved:

- [April 20th, 2023](#)

Mover: Abhishek

Second: Daemon

Result: Carried



2.2 COMMITTEE MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Committee minutes be approved:

Academic & External Committee:		Human Resources Committee:	
Code & Policy Committee:	April 11 th , 2023	AMS Caucus:	April 17 th , 2023
Engagement & Elections Committee:	May 4 th , 2023	Graduate Council:	
Executive Committee:	April 4 th , 2023	Health and Dental Plan Caucus:	
Executive Oversight Committee		All-Chairs:	April 15 th , 2023
Governance & Accountability Committee:	May 1 st , 2023	House Finance Committee:	April 4 th , 2023; April 18 th 2023, April 25 th 2023, May 2 nd 2023; May 9 th 2023.

Mover: Olivia

Second: Nick

Result: Carried

3 SEATINGS

3.1 NEW COUNCILLORS

BIRT the following Seating of new Councillors be approved:

Name	Department
Daemon Cline	Cell & Developmental Biology



Mover: Sam

Second: Aaron

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	1
Graduate Council Caucus		Representative	1
AMS Caucus		Representative	0
Health & Dental		Representative	0

Mover: Stephen

Second: Nick

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	
		Ordinary Member	0
Code & Policy	Ali Khajegili	Councillor	4
		Ordinary Member	0
Engagement & Elections		Councillor	4



		Ordinary Member	1
Executive Oversight		Councillor	4
		Ordinary Member	0
Governance & Accountability		Councillor	5
		Ordinary Member	0
House Finance		Councillor	3
	Atul Aravindakshan	Ordinary Member	1
Human Resources		Councillor	1
	Linxiu Wang	Ordinary Member	1

Mover: Shishir

Seconded: Stephen

Result: Carried

3.4 COMMITTEE CHAIR SEATINGS

BIRT the following Committee Chair Seatings be approved:

Committee/Caucus	Nominee
AMS Caucus	Shishir Nurul
Engagement & Elections	Bill Zhao

Mover: Olivia

Seconded :Lily

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 May 2024:

Name of Affiliate Organization	Representative
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English Graduate Student Caucus

Emily Lints

MOVER: Stephen

SECONDER: Aaron

RESULT: Carried

4.2 GSS FISCAL BUDGET

Group Responsible: Sam Kenston, President; Abhishek Somanagoudar, Finance Officer; House Finance Committee

Description: Overview of GSS Finances and Proposed 2023/2024 Budget

Objective: Adoption of Proposed Budget

Time: 20 Minutes

Supporting Documents: GSS Financial Overview (Presentation being prepared by Ola), [GSS Consolidated Budget](#)

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 2023/24 budget and is satisfied with the proposed budget,

BIRT the GSS Council approves and adopts the 2023/24 budget as presented.

MOVER: Financial Officer

SECONDER: Sam

RESULT: All
in favour

5 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

6 MATTERS TO NOTE



Time reserved for questions regarding updates below.

6.1 EXECUTIVES

6.1.1 President:

GSS Updates

- Supported the onboarding of new WL students and assisted the WL students in defining their job descriptions at the GSS.
- Working with outgoing committee chairs to find a suitable replacement (i.e., E&E to find a replacement and train the new chair).
- Working with the Execs and staff to approve events, newsletters, budgets, and time sheets.
- Meeting with GSS lawyer to discuss contractual issues.

UBC Update

- GLC Stakeholders meeting with G+PS to discuss the operationalization and the way forward for phase 2.
- Attended the Graduate Student Affordability Taskforce meeting to discuss Grad Students' needs.
- Meeting with UBC treasury to discuss contract renewal issues.
- Meeting with Health and Dental Plan (student care manager) to discuss ways to improve the plan.

External Updates

- Attended the inaugural Stronger: BC Future-ready action plan training event organized by the Premier, David Eby and Minister of Post-Secondary and Future Skills, Selina Robson.
- Attended and presented updates about GSS to other GSS Presidents across Canada
- Attended working meeting with UBCO Grad committee to form GSS on UBCO

6.1.2 Financial Officer

6.1.3 VP University & Academic Affairs

6.1.4 VP External Relations

6.1.5 VP Students



External updates

- Visited EQ3 and Heritage furniture stores with GSS staff as part of the final stage for GLC phase 1 furniture approval.
- Attended GLC phase 1 furniture proposal and approval with G + PS, GSS staff and external stakeholders (furniture store representatives).

UBC updates

- Identified and prepared events list and budget and presented to the GSS Housing Finance.
- Working with the newly hired WL students under VP students to support and help them familiarize themselves with their roles and related expectations.
- Attending weekly GLC lunch|operations|Programming|Coordination meetings to plan GLC lunch.
- Attending GradStart bi-weekly meetings with G +PS to discuss orientation activities and possible partnerships.

6.2 COMMITTEES

6.2.1 Academic & External Committee

6.2.2 Code & Policy Committee

- CPC has been in discussions with the AMS and Grad Council Caucuses to determine how they fit into the Society as well as who should present in these caucuses. These discussions are on-going and will result in policy changes

6.2.3 Engagement & Elections Committee

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

- SMART goals

6.2.7 House Finance Committee



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- Reviewed and approved budget for FY 2023-24
Reviewed and approved the request for a pay rate increase for 2 WL Students
Reviewed request for one-time bonus to outgoing executives from the 2022-23 term
Reviewed budget actuals for March 2023

6.2.8 Human Resources

6.2.9 AMS Caucus

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6.2.10 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, June 15th 2023 at 5:30 pm

Location: Online via MS Teams

7.2 NOTICE OF UNSEATINGS

- Aatul Aravindakshan was unseated as Representative of the Graduate Council Caucus
- Ruth Irene was unseated as Chair of the Elections & Engagement Committee
- Ruth Irene was unseated as Ordinary Member of the Elections & Engagement Committee
- Sabbir Hossain was unseated as Chair of the AMS Council Caucus



8 ADJOURNMENT

BIRT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 6:26 pm.

Mover: Violeta

Second: Stephen

Result: Carried