



ATTENDANCE

Present: Abhishek Somanagoudar, Alexandre Babin, Ali Khageli, Cara James, Edwin Quayson, Firoozeh Gerayeli, Franziska Mey, Ihomehe Golda, Jalisa Karim, Kathleen Gill, Maryann Rogers, Mehmet Hilmi, Negar Mousavi, Shishir Nurul, Samia Syeoti, Seja Elgadi, Simar Nagpal, Stephen Odoi, Tonje Molyneux, Vignesh, Violeta Fabiani.

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 5:30 pm.

1.2 AGENDA ADOPTION

BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Mover: Sam

Second: Tonje

Result: Carried

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President: Good evening, all councillors and our distinguished guests, as we acknowledge that up to a point where Campos is located on the traditional ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam people. We also want to acknowledge that many of us actually from traditional places, this place has been a place of learning for several years, and we are greatly honored to be here to be performing duties to be carrying out research, and also to be serving the community. For this we are grateful. Thank you.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions.

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1 MINUTES AMENDMENT



Responsible: Violeta Fabiani, VP External

Description: It came to VP External attention that during the All Chairs meeting on August 11, 2023, wrong and misleading information was shared with the attendees, resulting in irrevocable damage to said exec image.

Objective: Amending meeting minutes

Time: 10 minutes

Supporting Documents: [11.08.23 All Chairs Meeting Minutes.docx \(sharepoint.com\)](#), no supporting documents were provided that prove the audit findings on said meeting.

Gross Earnings		Deductions				
Description	Current	YTD	Rate	Description	Current	YTD
Salary	26.00	416.00	808.67	CPP	39.44	631.06
Retro Pay \$				Total:	39.44	631.06
Total:			808.67			

WHEREAS the information provided in the all-chairs meeting was wrong and misleading

BIRT the wording on the minutes: " The GSS is audited annually by an external agency (appointed during the AGM) to review the financials of the society. Two counts of inadequacies related to Executive pay for Vice Presidents have been highlighted in their comments: VP Students and VP external Payslips - \$20,000 amount (\$10,00 each - \$2,500 (before tax) x 4 months" be replaced with "Discussing the student status of the VP External and VP Students."

Discussion

Violeta: Mr. Speaker. So given that fake and misleading information, once you're in the meeting, I want to reassure you that I never received the claim amount of money. Nor I see any supporting documents in that regard. Making false allegations is a severe offense. And I was expecting a public apology given that it negatively impacted my image and me as an individual. I've also provided my year to date payments for transparencies, so that you can see the amount of money I make, all of this information can be confirmed by pay stubs that the JSs has access to. Furthermore, I wanted to know, I want to be able to know that I have students at heart I work for has been put benefit of graduate students. And it's sad that I had to leave my position with false allegations. Just to reassure I'm not leaving the position because of the allegations and leaving that position because of my



students that is that can be discussed. I trust the GSS will have better processes in the future to prevent this distribution of false information, even the domestic classes.

Sam: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And I like to say a big sorry to our VP external for that error. I think that is not good. I am not condoning wrongdoing on behalf of anyone. I'm saying that GSS is sorry, that was captured in the minutes. It shouldn't have been captured. It's wrong and misleading information. And I want to assure you that the GSS is proud of what you've done for the society. All your hard work will not be tainted by that error. And we want to stay on record that no executive of the GSS has ever paid 2500 I wish it hasn't happened. And that shouldn't be recorded. I would also want to say that perhaps it was an error during recording. Remember that. However, there is no excuse it should not have happened. And we apologize that this happened. And thank you for bringing it to our attention. And we want to support the correction of the minutes to reflect what you have said. Thank you very much

Mover: Violeta

Result:Carried

2.2 GSS COUNCIL MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Council minutes be approved:

[July 20th, 2023](#)

[August, 17, 2023](#)

Mover: Lily

Seconded: Simar

Result: Carried

2.3 COMMITTEE MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Committee minutes be approved:

Academic & External Committee:		Human Resources Committee:	August 8, 2023
Code & Policy Committee:	July 5, 2023	AMS Caucus:	
Engagement & Elections Committee:		Graduate Council:	
Executive Committee:	August 15, 2023	Health and Dental Plan Caucus:	
Executive Oversight Committee		All-Chairs:	July 14, 2023; August 11 2023



Governance & Accountability Committee:	August 14, 2023; August 18, 2023	House Finance Committee:	Jul 18, 2023; August 15, 2023

Mover: Violeta

Seconder: Nick

Result: Carried

3 SEATINGS

3.1 NEW COUNCILLORS

BIRT the following Seating of new Councillors be approved:

Name	Department
Maryann Rogers	Population and Public Health
Kathleen Gill (reseated)	Institute for the Ocean and Fisheries
Edwin Quayson	Population and Public Health
Ihomehe Ruth Golda	Creative Writing

Mover: Tonje

Seconder: Sam

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	Jalisa Karim, Negar Mousavi, Rakashdeep Kainth.	Representative	3



AMS Caucus	Binura Senavirathna	Member	3
Health & Dental		Representative	0

Mover: Violeta **Seconded:** Stephen **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	1
	Firth Mceachern	Ordinary Member	1
Code & Policy		Councillor	3
		Ordinary Member	2
Engagement & Elections		Councillor	4
	Zach Pollard, Benjamin Fyneah	Ordinary Member	2
Executive Oversight		Councillor	5
		Ordinary Member	2
Governance & Accountability		Councillor	5
		Ordinary Member	0
House Finance		Councillor	3
		Ordinary Member	3
Human Resources	Shishir Nurul	Councillor	3
	Zimei He, Mahfida Tahniat, Ellie Kim	Ordinary Member	3

Mover: Nick **Seconded:** Lily **Result:** Carried

3.4 COMMITTEE CHAIR SEATINGS



BIRT the following Committee Chair Seatings be approved:

Committee/Caucus	Nominee
House Finance Chair	Atul Aravindakshan

Mover: House Finance
Committee

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 September 2024:

Name of Affiliate Organization	Representative
BMEGA	John Price
IDEAS (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access, and Safe Space)	Kritika Joshi
ECEGSA (Electrical and Computer Engineering Graduate Student Association)	Jonathan Lew
BIGGSA	Manideep Pachva
French, Hispanic, and Italian Studies Graduate Students Association.	Nicholas Bartlett
Planning Students Association, School of Community and Regional Planning	Simarjeet Nagpal
Friends of Out on the Shelves	Kezia Elashchuk
UBC Economics Graduate Student Association	Pierre-Loup



MOVER: VP Students **SECONDER:** **RESULT:**

4.2 HONORARY MEMBERS NOMINATIONS

WHEREAS the following members have contributed significantly to the Graduate student society in the groups of their term

WHEREAS they satisfy the conditions stated in Bylaw 3.2.1.

BIRT The following members be conferred honorary membership in accordance with Bylaw 3.2.1.

Devarsh Bhonde

BIFRT the GSS Council directs the Code and Policy Committee to update the list of Honorary Members in the Policy manual.

MOVER: HF Committee **RESULT:** Carried

4.3 VP EXTERNAL APPOINTMENT

Responsible: Sam Kenston, GSS President; Executive Committee

Description: Election and appointment of the VP External by Council

Objective: Hold election and appoint the VP External

WHEREAS the position of VP External has been advertised, and

WHEREAS Council has reviewed the statements and heard from all candidate(s) for the VP External position,

BIRT GSS Council elects Emily Tang to the position of VP External, to take office on October 1st, 2023

Discussion

Simar: I'm the chair of the External Affairs Committee. I've been on the committee for a year now. This is where my journey with GSS and at UBC started. Over the year, we restructured the committee a bit. I took over as the chair over the summer. And now we're looking into focus the committee into figuring out what the students want, and then provide recommendations to the vice presidents who take over and deliver on those recommendations. If I get elected, then I will be the one delivering what you guys tell the committee to do. My in the tenure, I would want to focus on three things over the last student satisfaction surveys over the last three



years. What we realized is mental health is a big issue and finance is a big issue. Those two are connected to each other and it's like a wicked problem. One effects the other the other effects the first one. So we want to focus our lot of our advocacy on that. So the three things that I would want to focus is mental health, money and more money. Because you need when you have students and then there's GSS we need more money because we don't want to take your money again. So that's what we're going to focus on, we're going to focus on getting grants from provincial government and federal institutions. For master research students, there is no minimum stipend that is that. So we want to advocate for that. So these are few advocacy policies that we know the students want, and you want to focus on those. But other than that, this year, we restructured the student satisfaction surveys, so we would actually know what the students actually are needing. And we would then want to focus our advocacy based on that. I will discuss about that in the next meeting, when we have the terms of reference for that. So often background before moving to UBC, I was the National President of the National Association of students of architecture, NASA, India. And so I was the VP that was the president, and then I was the appraiser for a year. And so I've had some experience where the executive work in schooling governance, it was a national level organization. So everything that the GSS does, is similar to it. The budget was similar to GSS, but the population was way more. So I think I can deliver on what you guys need. Community Planning has taught us to listen to the people and then get that work done from the people that are in power. And so I think I have 19 things left. So I think I'll deliver in three minutes was enough. Thank you

Benjamin: I, Mr. Benjamin Kofa Fyneh, I am a MPPAG student and resident of Ottawa, Canada. My work experience includes database management, retail data analytics and management. I've spent two (2) years at the United Nations as an E-content Creator/Specialist where I ensured that database technology systems were in place to collect and analyze core country program data - especially related to training non-governmental organizations personnel in order to enhance their operational capacities. Country of focus was Mongolia. Through this experience, I was able to understand the relationship between training policy design, impacts and evaluation. I also spent eleven (11) years in a corporate leadership role at Wal-mart Stores Incorporated, the largest grossing retail store in the United States of America. At Wal-mart, I worked in six (6) states and had to adhere to company's sales and operational goals were achieved. I have a Bachelor's of Science degree in Political Science from the University of Toronto. I am currently pursuing a a Master of Public Policy and Global Affairs degree to deepen my understanding of governance, policy and accountability. Having lived in more than ten (10) countries and with roots in Liberia, I see the world as my home. My future career interests include supporting increasing gender representation in politics and governance accountability in Liberia.

Patricia: I, Patricia Unung, embarked on my journey in networking, collaboration, and external relations back in 2014 when I embarked on my career as a lecturer at the University of Uyo. As a passionate PhD candidate in Curriculum Studies, my foray into this realm was a natural progression of my academic pursuits. During my tenure at the University of Uyo, I had the privilege of serving on various academic and non-academic committees. These roles exposed me to the intricacies of building networks and fostering relationships with external entities. As a committee member, I worked alongside diverse teams, engaging in courtesy calls and crafting sponsorship application portfolios. Our efforts were targeted at securing support from a wide array of external sponsors, including CEOs of multinational corporations, successful entrepreneurs, Deputy Governors, Commissioners of Education, and consultants in the Oil and Gas industries. This experience allowed me to hone my skills in collaboration and external relations within the academic sphere. Beyond the confines of academic committees, I also played a significant role in shaping the strategic external relations between the university and the community. This engagement enriched my understanding of the importance of connecting educational



institutions with their local environments. My involvement with the Supervised Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) at the University of Uyo was another pivotal moment in my journey. SIWES, responsible for student placements in organizations related to their fields of study, aimed to provide students with industry-based experience. Over the years, I closely collaborated with this unit, facilitating valuable opportunities for students. Teaching a community engagement course for over five years was another rewarding experience. This course revolved around the core principles of external relations and project management for community learning. It allowed me to impart knowledge and practical skills to students, equipping them for meaningful engagement with their surroundings. In May 2023, I had the privilege of taking my expertise in networking, collaboration, and external relations to Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH). During my tenure at VCH, I successfully coordinated a project that necessitated collaboration with various directors of health authorities under the VCH umbrella. This project, which is now in the process of publication, marked a significant milestone in my career, demonstrating my ability to forge positive connections with external organizations. My experiences both in Canada and internationally have further honed my skills in strategic negotiations with external entities, especially in the context of facilitating industry-based engagements for graduate students. With these experiences in my repertoire, I am confident that I am well-equipped for the role of Vice President of External Relations at GSS-Vancouver, UBC. I look forward to utilizing my expertise and passion for fostering meaningful connections to contribute positively to the community and the university.

Aakshi: I have a Bachelors and a Masters degree in Cell and Molecular Biology from The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, India. My journey in academia began during my high-school where I used to be in the student council followed by a position in the university as well. I have great leadership skills and my dedication and passion for fostering meaningful connections with stakeholders is an added advantage. I also have experience working in a pharmaceutical company called Cadila Pharmaceuticals Biologicals where I worked as a Research Associate and was also quite active in the management part of it. Over these years of experience in higher education leadership, I have cultivated mutually beneficial relationships with various organisations, industry partners and alumni. My approach to external relations is to basically spearhead public relations, make strategies, enhance the university's visibility on the map and ensure that its message and agenda resonates with people all around the world. This involves leveraging social and digital media platforms to engage prospective students, alumni and other vast communities. I would also like to build community outreach and enhance external political events of the society. I am deeply committed to UBC's values and mission and I am willing to participate and give my best to foster a culture of inclusivity and diversity within the university promoting a welcoming environment for students, faculty and staff. If offered the position as the Vice President, I would continue the transformative work driving UBC's engagement with external collaborators and organizations along with the government to new heights ultimately leaving a positive impact in the society. I hope I get the opportunity to be part of the GSS and actively contribute towards the betterment of the community and help promote UBC's reputation as a premier institution dedicated to academic excellence, research and community service. I look forward to hearing from you. If you need any more details from my end, kindly let me know.

Maryke: My name is Maryke Peter, and I am interested in the VP, External Relation position to help serve and contribute to the Graduate Student Society community. If appointed, I hope to use my current skills and experience to assist and advocate for students. My goal is to listen to the issues students feel are important and work to improve the graduate student experience at UBC. I hold a Bachelor of Legal Studies degree and I am currently a practising paralegal in education law. In my role, I support various BC elected officials and



committees to ensure schools provide students with opportunities for quality education. I offer experience in education advocacy and legislation alongside skills in working with external stakeholders in the education sector. In addition, I am a member of the Graduate Student Society's Executive Oversight Committee. As a graduate student at UBC, I joined the Faculty of Medicine as a Master of Science in Experimental Medicine candidate. I would be honored to represent our student community and look forward to engaging with all of you to build a society that reflects your values and priorities. UBC is a community with various strengths as well as diverse needs. If elected I look forward to following the guidance of the student community to assist in helping UBC meet the expectations of students. Furthermore, I will work with various stakeholders to encourage the highest levels of student satisfaction and achievement.

Divyanshu: I have served as the President of the GLSS (Graduate Law Students' Society) at Peter A Allard School of Law (UBC) which helped me gain valuable skills of building relations with external parties and source funding when needed to. I was involved in lobbying for the interests of graduate law students within and outside UBC. Continuing my journey in representing student and collegiate interests, I would love the opportunity to stand for elections as the VPX. I am currently enrolled in the Diploma in Accounting (DAP) program with Sauder School of Business. Please let me know if that qualifies me to stand for elections for this position.

Najem: I am a third-year PhD student specializing in Project and Construction Management, and I would like to bring a unique perspective to the role of Vice President of External Relations. While my academic focus is closely related to the construction industry, my studies delve deeply into the art of managing projects and human resources, as well as conflict resolution strategies. These interdisciplinary skills have not only enriched my understanding of complex organizational dynamics but also equipped me with the tools to foster productive external relationships, advocate for graduate students, and drive positive change within our academic community. Drawing from my experience in UBC civil engineering graduate student society (CEGSS) as the Alumni Relations Head, I organized alumni talk sessions and industry connections, demonstrating my ability to connect our graduate community with valuable external resources. Additionally, as the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Representative in CEGSS, I collaborated closely with the department head and faculty members to address the concerns and challenges faced by students, honing my expertise in advocating for inclusive policies. These experiences have equipped me with a vital skill set crucial for the VPX position. Furthermore, I am proud to mention that I was honored with the UBC Civil Engineering Excellence Award for two consecutive years. I am eager to apply my experience and acquire further insights to establish strong connections with external organizations and passionately advocate for the needs of our fellow graduate students, contributing to the development of a stronger, more inclusive future for our graduate community.

Christian: I am Christian Sopuruchi, a doctoral student candidate at the prestigious Peter Allard School of Law. Throughout my academic and community journey, I have had the privilege of assuming various leadership roles, contributing to both the university and the broader community. One of my significant roles within the university was as the Career Services Representative of the Graduate Law Students Society at the Peter Allard School of Law. In this position, I dedicated myself to enhancing professional development opportunities for my fellow graduate students, striving to empower them on their academic and career paths. Furthermore, I had the honor of chairing the Fundraising Subcommittee for the Annual Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference hosted by the Peter Allard School of Law in May 2023. This role allowed me to showcase my organizational and management skills in orchestrating complex academic events. Beyond the realm of academia, I extended my leadership impact as the current Chair of the Liu Institute Network for Africa. Additionally, I host the "African



Vibes" radio program on Vancouver Coop Radio 100.5, using this platform to engage with and inform the community on critical issues. I am also privileged to serve as the President of the Precious Fountain Foundation, where I actively contribute to the organization's mission and objectives. In addition to my leadership background, my current doctoral research focuses on the intricate subject of environmental dispute management in West African states. I am deeply committed to understanding the environmental conflicts that have emerged in this region and developing a tailored dispute management model to address these challenges effectively. This research underscores my dedication to addressing critical global issues through rigorous academic inquiry. My academic journey has taken me across the globe, encompassing experiences as a law lecturer and professor at esteemed institutions such as OP Jindal University in Haryana, India, and Obafemi Awolowo University in Ileife, Nigeria. These experiences have not only expanded my horizons but have also provided me with valuable insights into the university environment, equipping me to excel in both academic and leadership roles.

Emily: I have a wealth of experience in student government. My passion for advocacy and my dedication to making the university more diverse, inclusive and equitable are some positive attributes that I can bring to the team. In my undergraduate degree, I served as the Co-President of the Health Sciences Students' Association at the University of Saskatchewan. This role required me to have strong communication skills. I have collaborated with local non-profits in Saskatchewan to help fundraise for harm reduction and safe injection sites across Saskatchewan. I have also drafted emails and maintained communication with faculty, and students across different health science colleges. In this role, I have planned conferences and developed inter-professional education curriculum in trauma-informed care. These are all experiences that I could bring to this role on the GSS. I am confident that I have the skills to connect and communicate with local organizations and other organizations and act as a liaison on the council. On the national level, I am an advocate for inclusivity in sexual health and rights for all Canadians. I am currently on the Youth Advisory Board of Action Canada for Sexual Health and Rights, where I am helping with a national STBBI testing campaign to provide Canadian youths with resources for sexual health. I have also worked with the organization and petitioned for universal contraception coverage as well. Additionally, I am also working with Women and Gender Equality on a national digital hub where we provide resources to educate youth across Canada on the issues around gender-based violence. From these advocacy roles, I have experience with lobbying for political issues and I am confident that I can fulfill the role as the VP of external affairs. Last but not least, I am currently a resident at Ponderosa Commons as well. Therefore, I am able to communicate with residence associations and advocate for housing-related issues for graduate students here at UBC.

Negar: My name is Negar Mousavi Firouzabadi, and I am a first-year Master's student in Experimental Medicine. I am running for the position of Vice President of External Relations with the aim of using my expertise in student government to enhance the well-being of graduate students. I've been in graduate school for more than two years, having completed a master's program at McGill University, and now I'm embarking on my second master's degree at UBC. I've held various volunteer roles within McGill's Post Graduate Student Association (PGSS), including serving as a representative for the Goodman Cancer Institute, where I advocated for the interests and rights of graduate students. If I were to be elected as VPX, my focus during my term would be to partner with the Graduate Students of Canada (GSSC) in advocating for enhanced federal funding, advocating for Ph.D. student's 4-year doctoral fellowship to extend to a 5-year fellowship. I would also partner with the Alma Mater Society, advocating for reasonable housing, enhancing support for indigenous students, and providing childcare assistance to graduate students. I would also advocate for convenient access to mental



health support services. Due to the expertise I've acquired while working in PGSS up to this point, I believe I can implement my experiences at GSS and capably fulfill my role in the Vice President's External Office.

Maryke: Thank you for your question. So my availability, I'm towards the end of my masters, I've completed all the coursework, I'm just in the writing stage. So basically, that's all that I'm doing right now. So I would be happy to commit as much time as necessary to the role. My experience with GFS is, as I mentioned a few times, I am on the executive Oversight Committee, and I've worked with many of you here with your goals and my goals for the office, I actually worked off of the letters clients, for instance, she was working a lot with accessibility to childcare for students. So I wanted to extend that she was doing a lot of work with, like the on site, childcare center, I actually wanted to extend that to beyond students that have their children in care on site to like, maybe providing some type of like a bursary or a grant to like all students that have children, like some type of family first person who's willing to cut you off,

Benjamin: We just have to ensure that the graduate student experience the best. And I don't say this, because of the last month I've seen it, because I think, just the tip of the iceberg. Last time I was to look at the study, I want to be part of a group that will help improve the existing framework. So time, I want to get my time because I wanted to show that really, there should be a sustainable framework, so that other people can come and experience. And I want to say I got all your emails I couldn't attend. But all invited each and every time I couldn't.

Najem: What I want to do with the GSS as the VPS student, I'm already working on them. And then having a platform like the JSs vice presidential will only facilitate what I'm already doing. And so I have time to repeat what everyone else have said, it is something my university that mopey. Jinnah University was here in UBC to try to sign an MOU and I was part of the conversation. And I don't think building relationships and things like that is something that I cannot have time for I will have time because I want to do this. I'm passionate about it. As a matter of Justice Programs. Last week, as I said, I was here holding an event for dinner. I benefited a lot from the support of DSS in fact somebody who is here had to leave what he was doing to come and give me speakers and all that. So I joined JSs programs, I told you guys, in essence.

Christian: Thank you so much. As a policy student, I think this will be part of professional achievements in whatever the role that I'm taking at VP external, because this is much of what we are studying. And this is part of rotating. I'm currently not working. So I'll take this passionately to do a proper work done. And I mean, look at the Vice President's students. He did it when he was the first year that's like me, why can I do it? I can do it. And in terms of experience, online engagements on the platform, that is good. I joined the GSS even before joining the compass, which a lot of retirees are active, you get to connect with people you get to ask questions. You get to learn quite a lot. Last Saturday, this past Saturday, I was meant to bring my kids at the Acadia Park. Unfortunately, something came up and I couldn't make but I love what Sophia you're doing and it would be such a great honor to be part of the team. Thank you.

Divyanshu: I took summer classes, so I have lesser coursework this time around, which means I will definitely have the required time commitments, I'll be spending 12 hours on coursework, and I think there's 13 or 14 hours for the VP external. So this would be the major focus of attention in a way considering the hours. But apart from that, when it comes to traveling, I've organized press conferences in different cities while handling five, six clients at once. So I don't think that's going to be an issue at all. And my memories, the GSS are very fond, especially in times of cultural festivals like Diwali, and only when I'm extremely homesick. And all I have is



like this one event to look forward to. So I hope to create more such memorable experiences for the graduate students here.

Patricia: So PhD candidate, I have all the time to travel around Canada and beyond Canada. And I have saved as the as an unofficial advocate for community relations in GSS. And I can categorically say that VPS today is one of the products. I remember when I bought him the first time to JSs. And he liked it, and he fell for it. And then he's saying so because I was so active in building community relations. JSs recognized me with the kids as the most active juices, students to eat to deter. So I have been following this organization for a long time more than three years now. I think I'm well versed with all the knowledge I need to serve in this office. Thank you.

Simar: So quickly, time commitment. I've got two courses based on two courses next term. I'm a full time student somehow. And it's a professional course. So no thesis. Travel. Travel is not a problem. I'm the only guy in our studio school that is traveling to Kelowna, for our design work. So that reimbursement will be from UBC so we can save some money for GSS in terms of experience with Jesus personally have been a power user of all the students subsidies. I was at the opener two weeks back, I will be at Bard next week, and then I will be at the capital of edge. In terms of work, I've been in the markets, I think from last September. And I've seen the work I've I know how the administration works, I know how the system works. I know most of the files where they are gone through them. So in terms of my background to onboard very quickly, I don't think that would take more than two days or three days to onboard.

Mover: Tonje **Seconder:** Sam **Result:** Carried

5.1 ADOPT STUDENT SATISFACTION SURVEY 2023 STRUCTURE

Presenter: (Acex Chair) Simar Nagpal

Time: 7 minutes

Description: Presentation about the student satisfaction survey

Relevant materials: [Presentation](#)

5 MATTERS TO NOTE

Time reserved for questions regarding updates below.



5.1 EXECUTIVES

5.1.1 President:

5.1.2 Financial Officer

Working on Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) for Zoho books implementation

Working on Auditing Files (consuming more than 20 hrs per week)

Had meeting with Vishwa AMS Sr. Food & Manager regarding

5.1.3 VP University & Academic Affairs

5.1.4 VP External Relations

Met with the Minister of Research of Innovation from the Federal Government

Preparing transition material for incoming VPX

Roundtable with the Minister of Advanced Education

Drafting follow up to Ministers meetings

Reached out to other Federal government offices to arrange for meetings to discuss smart goals

VP Students

5.2 COMMITTEES

5.2.1 Academic & External Committee

Reviewing previous surveys and preparing SSS 2023 with Survey Coordinator and Terms of Reference for AcEx committee

5.2.2 Code & Policy Committee

CPC is working on fund policy updates as well as on a joint project with G&A regarding unseating inactive Chairs.

5.2.3 Engagement & Elections Committee



5.2.4 Executive Committee

-

5.2.5 Executive Oversight Committee

-

5.2.6 Governance & Accountability Committee

Completed 2022-2023 SMART goals, currently drafting new goals and policies. Reviewing 2022-2023 SMART goals, will present end of term report in Oct council.

5.2.7 House Finance Committee

1.

Devarsh Bhonde stepped down as HF chair in August as he graduated from UBC. Atul Aravindakshan has taken over the responsibilities of HF chair temporarily till the council nominates a long-term HF chair.

The HF committee has recommend the following items:

- 1) continuing with the accounting firm Enkel for a few months till a new accounting firm is selected.
- 2) signing the one-year lease for the GSS ballroom with UBC Sauder School of Bussiness
- 3) review of food vendors and vending machines for the GLC building will be finalized soon and submitted to council for review for the meeting in October.
- 4) purchase of Canon EOS M50 MarkII Mirrorless Camera by the Communications team at GSS to follow events.
- 5) renewal of corporate insurance for GSS
- 6) decisions about the purchase of certain software requested by GSS were been made in the HF meeting on 31st August. The meeting minutes will be approved in the next HF committee meeting on 19th September and forwarded for council approval in October.

5.2.8 Human Resources

1. ITEM 1 [Decision]

GSS Event Production Assistant (EPA)

Vote Parham Kazemi and Oluoma Ubabukoh

2. ITEM 2 [Decision]

GSS Information Desk Attendant

(IDA)

Vote Keengan Parkhurst and Golnoush Mashhadi

3. ITEM 3 [Discussion] Professional



Development Fund for GSS Staff
Review and discuss the request of using the Professional Development Fund

5.2.9 AMS Caucus

- We have three vacancies for the 'member' of the committee. Please note that they will not be representative to the AMS council. They will only 'member'

5.2.10 Graduate Council Caucus

5.3 SENATORS AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS

5.3.1 Senators:

-

5.3.2 Board of Governors Representatives:

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6 NOTICES

6.1 NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: Thursday, November 16 2023 at 5:30 pm

Location: Michael Kingsmill Forum

6.2 NOTICE OF UNSEATINGS

Matan Gilboa was unseated as Departmental Representative from Law

7 ADJOURNMENT

BIRT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 7:47 pm.



GSS Council Minutes

Thursday, September 21st, 2023 | MK Forum | 5:30 pm.

Mover: Stephen

Seconder: Sam

Result: Carried