ATTENDANCE

Present: Mahfida Tahniat, Firth McEachern, Parker Lund, Angelene Wu, Abhishek Somanagoudar, Emily Tang, Tonje Molyneux, Daemon Cline, Katelynn Hubenig, Simar Nagpal, Erica Dharmawan, Grace Gletsu, Sam Kenston, Patricia Unung, Alex Babin, Katelyn, Ihomhehe, Samia Ramin, Ritu Saha, Aaron Loewen.

Regrets:

Absent:

Quorum: 16 Councillors

CALL TO ORDER AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting will be called to order at 5:41pm.

AGENDA ADOPTION

BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Mover: Simar Seconder: Tonje Result: Carried

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President: We are gathered on the traditional ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam people. We also want to acknowledge that this place has been a place of learning for several years. We, as uninvited guests are conscious of that, and we want to promote national Truth and Reconciliation, agenda wise, we live on this land where we've carried out our academic duties and every other activities. We want to be conscious about this agenda of truth and reconciliation. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1.1 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

BIRT the following Agenda items be approved as presented as part of a Consent Agenda:

- 2.2 GSS Council Minutes
- 2.3 Committee Minutes
- 2.4 Seating of New Councillors

Mover: Simar Seconder: Mahfida Result: Carried

1.2 GSS COUNCIL MINUTES
BIRT the following GSS Council minutes be approved:
March 21st, 2024

1.3 COMMITTEE MINUTES
BIRT the following GSS Committee minutes be approved:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All-Chairs Committee</td>
<td>March 8th, 2024</td>
<td>Governance &amp; Accountability Committee:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic &amp; External Committee:</td>
<td></td>
<td>House-Finance Committee: March 12th, 2024; March 26th, 2024</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code &amp; Policy Committee:</td>
<td>March 12th, 2024</td>
<td>Human Resources Committee:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement &amp; Elections Committee:</td>
<td></td>
<td>AMS Caucus:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Committee:</td>
<td>March 11th, 2024</td>
<td>Graduate Council:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Oversight Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td>Health and Dental Plan Caucus:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.4 NEW COUNCILLORS
BIRT the following Seating of new Councillors be approved:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katelynn Hubenig</td>
<td>Physics and Astronomy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SEATINGS

2.1 EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES 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 seating of the following external representatives be approved:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee/Caucus</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Vacancies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMS Caucus</td>
<td></td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Council</td>
<td></td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Arts Council</td>
<td></td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Dental Plan Caucus</td>
<td></td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.2 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee/Caucus</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Vacancies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic &amp; External</td>
<td>Agnes Kyamulabi, Nikhil Kota</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code &amp; Policy</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement &amp; Elections</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Oversight</td>
<td>Katelynn Hubenig</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance &amp; Accountability</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Finance</td>
<td>Samantha Graham</td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ordinary Member</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mover: Patricia    Seconder: Sam    Result: Carried

2.3 CHAIR SEATINGS

BIRT the following Committee seatings be approved:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee/Caucus</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>House Finance Committee</td>
<td>Sanjana Sankar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic and External Committee</td>
<td>Simar Nagpal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. 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 April 2025:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Affiliate Organization</th>
<th>Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMS Children's Literature Student Association at UBC</td>
<td>Chloe Grant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MOVER: VP Students  SECONDER: Alex  RESULT: Carried

MATTERS FOR DECISION

4.1 EXECUTIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE UPDATE

Group Responsible: Code & Policy Committee, Executive Oversight Committee
Description: A motion to amend the GSS policies regarding an update to the EOC Terms of Reference.
Time: 10 minutes
Proposed Objective: To pass policy changes
Supporting Documents: Policy Revision Form - EOC Terms of Reference Update.pdf

WHEREAS there is no formal direction given to incoming Executives regarding SMART goals,
WHEREAS the Executive Oversight Committee and the Executives agree that ensuring continuity of long-term goals and proper formulation is imperative to improving the function of the Society
WHEREAS the Executive Oversight Committee and the Executives agree that the EOC Chair is the correct position to ensure these tasks are completed,
BIRT the changes listed in "Policy Revision Form - EOC Terms of Reference Update.pdf" be approved as presented.

Mover: CPC Committee  Result: Discussion

Firth: The font is really hard to see. Would you be able to summarize in one sentence what we're voting on here? What is the proposal?
Aaron: I'll speak on this as behalf of CPC. So essentially for smart goals for EOC. Our smart goals for executives or oversleep or overs are overs. C EOC. Takes care of SMART goals for executives. And essentially, this is the this is a
change to ensure that the chair of the EEOC is tasked with making sure that there's continuity within the goals, making sure that the executives are doing it. It's essentially making it more explicit that the EEOC chair has to be involved in this and giving a bit more direction COC in general to make sure that this happens. There is a slightly redundant with other policies. However, the other policy These dots specifically mentioned the EOC chair as being the one who should be pushing this along. And in particular highlighting that we need to have the have the previous years or previous executive goals be taken into account as you formulate the new goals, which is kind of a big push from EOC Does that answer the question? Okay, no worries if there is if the font is ever way too small and we do need to make it larger for whatever reason or even show the policy revision form itself. Definitely, you can add for it as for anyone, you may say point of privilege, and we can make those adjustments anytime.

4.2 HONORARY MEMBERS NOMINATION

WHEREAS the following members have contributed significantly to the Graduate Student Society in the course of their term

WHEREAS they satisfy the conditions stated in By Law 3.2.1

BIRT the following members be conferred honorary membership in accordance with By Law 3.2.1

Sam Kenston and Simar Nagpal

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

Mover: Abhishek

Seconder: Firth

Result: Carried

Discussion

Firth: What are the benefits of being an honorary member?

Sam: Let’s stick to the motion

Shishir: I wanted to congratulate Simar and Sam for their work at the GSS

4.3 APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR FOR 2024

Responsible: Financial Officer

Description: Every year an auditor must be appointed to review the GSS financial statements. At the AGM, it was decided that GSS would no longer continue with Loewen Kruse CPA, as their fees increased by over 50%. After going through interested auditing firms, the House Finance Committee recommends appointing Tompkins Wozny as the auditor.

Time: 5 minutes

BIRT Tompkins Wozny be appointed as financial auditor for 2024

Mover: HF Committee

Result: Carried

Discussion

Student: Do we have like quotes from each of these different auditors to see the like the different, like, financial proposals for the amount of money that they're charging?
Sam: We did receive about four quotes, we receive 30,000 20,000. And I think this is 12,000. So the motion was passed in House council, House Finance Council acting to go for this to save the society money.

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

**MATTERS TO NOTE**

Time reserved for questions regarding updates below.

**EXECUTIVES**

President:

- Meeting with the Lawyers representing the GSS regarding the civil lawsuit claim brought against the UBC/AMS/GSS/SUO

Financial Officer

- (None submitted)

VP University & Academic Affairs

- (None submitted)

VP External Relations

- (None submitted)

VP Students

- (None submitted)

**COMMITTEES**

Academic & External Committee

- (None submitted)

Code & Policy Committee

- CPC has been working on finalizing the HF and Executive policy manuals, as well as creating a draft of updated Executive duties to present to the incoming Executive Committee

Engagement & Elections Committee

- (None submitted)
Executive Committee

- The GSS Executives met with the UBC President (Dr. Bacon) and VP Students (Dr. Carry) to discuss the goals of GSS Executives and challenges of Grad Students.
- The Executives in collaboration with HR Committee reviewed applications for Work Learn positions and interviewed candidates. The successful candidates are being contacted.
- The Executives attended the AMS Gala, OER Awards Celebration and Just Desserts Awards Gala.
- The Executives are currently working with the HF committee to prepare the budget for 2024/25.
- The Executives are finalizing the GSS Gala and Awards. All Chairs are invited.

Executive Oversight Committee

- (None submitted)

Governance & Accountability Committee

- (None submitted)

House Finance Committee

- HFC is finalizing the annual budget for 2024-2025 by working with both incoming and outgoing Executives
- HFC recommends that GSS implements fees for transfers to Affiliate organizations and Departments
- HFC conducted an online poll for selecting an auditor on 7th April, 2024, and recommends that GSS signs a contract with Tompkins Wozny CPA as the auditor for FY 2024-2025.

Human Resources

- New HR Chair: Mahfida Tahniat
- New HR Member: Sydney Hood (Councillor)
- HR Updates:
  The HR committee is currently in the midst of the 2024 Summer WorkLearn hiring process. The interviews are already completed, and the reference checks are going on. Assuming all goes smoothly, the next task for the HR committee will be to organize the HR committee to vote on these appointments. This is expected to occur towards the end of April. This is also the reason why the monthly HR committee meeting had to be delayed. It is necessary to adjust the timing of the HR committee meeting to ensure that it aligns with the completion of prior recruiting processes, which will be crucial for the smooth onboarding of successful candidates.

AMS Caucus

- (None submitted)

Graduate Council Caucus

- (None submitted)

SENATORS AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Senators:
• (None submitted)

Board of Governors Representatives:
• (None submitted)

NOTICES

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: May 16th, 2024 at 5:30 pm

Location: Michael Kingsmill Forum, AMS Nest

NOTICE OF UNSEATINGS

• Atul Aravindakshan to be unseated as House Finance Chair (Effective May 1st)
• Jonah Berean to be unseated as Departmental Representative from Physics and Astronomy
• Mercy Ado to be unseated as Ordinary Member from the Code and Policy Committee
• Firth McEachern to be unseated as Academic and External Chair

ADJOURNMENT

BIRT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Mover: Tonje  Seconder: Abhishek  Result: Carried