



ATTENDANCE

Present: Katelynn Hubenig, Aditi Adhikari, Alea Mohamed, Ali K, Anjana, Anna Bakchedjian, Anna Maria Zubieta, Brendan Chia, Cesar Landin, Daniel Amin, Emily Tang, Hayley Lawrence, Jess Tran, Jalisa Karim, Mahfida Tahniat, Mahder Teffera, Peter Zhang, Ryan Smith, Sam Carter, Woojun Kim.

Regrets:

Absent:

Quorum: 16 Councillors

CALL TO ORDER AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting will be called to order at 5:33 pm.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Motion to amend the agenda. (Remove Executive Professional Development)

Mover: Cesar

Second: Emily

Result: Carried

BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Mover: Aditi

Second: Emily

Result: Carried

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President: So I am from UBC right now, currently, but I don't know where everybody else is from or currently is in the world. If you are not at UBC, I am jealous. Please tell me about it afterwards. But yeah, I just wanted to acknowledge that UBC is situated on the unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, and I am so grateful that we're even able to study here and live here.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 1.2 GSS Council Minutes
- 1.3 Committee Minutes
- 1.4 Seatings of New Councillors



Mover: Aditi

Second: Jess

Result: Carried

GSS COUNCIL MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Council minutes be approved:

July 17th, 2025

COMMITTEE MINUTES

BIRT the following GSS Committee minutes be approved:

All-Chairs Committee	July 9 th , 2025	Governance & Accountability Committee:	July 21 st , 2025
Academic & External Committee:		House-Finance Committee:	
Code & Policy Committee:		Human Resources Committee:	July 21 st , 2025
Engagement & Elections Committee:	July 10 th , 2025	AMS Caucus:	July 20 th , 2025
Executive Committee:		Graduate Council:	July 25 th , 2025
Executive Oversight Committee		Health and Dental Plan Caucus:	

NEW COUNCILLORS

BIRT the following Seating of new Councillors be approved:

Name	Department
Patricia Unung	Curriculum and Pedagogy

SEATINGS

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:

Committee/Caucus	Nominee	Position	Vacancies
AMS Caucus		Representative	1



		Member	1
Graduate Council		Representative	0
Health and Dental Plan Caucus		Representative	0

Mover: Anna

Second: Brendan

Result: Carried

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	1
		Ordinary Member	2
Engagement & Elections		Councillor	5
		Ordinary Member	0
Executive Oversight		Councillor	4
		Ordinary Member	3
Governance & Accountability		Councillor	3
		Ordinary Member	2
House Finance		Councillor	0
		Ordinary Member	0
Human Resources		Councillor	2
		Ordinary Member	1

Mover: Anjana

Second: Brendan

Result: Carried



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 August 2026:

Name of Affiliate Organization	Representative
Microbiology and Immunology Graduate Student's Society	Jake Felker
UBC Querencia	Wendy Chung
VSE Diwali Association	Meghna Sinha Ray
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship	Kilian Krauss
Sauder Management Consulting Club	Jane Liu
Neuroscience Trainee Association	Anjana Rajendran
Mechanical Engineering Graduate Association	Janet Sun
Materials Engineering Graduate Student Association	Vrisha Vyas
Electrical and Computer Engineering Graduate Students Association	Hyejeong Choi

MOVER: VP Students

SECONDER: Emily

RESULT:Carried

O MATTERS FOR DECISION

GSS POLICY CHATBOT

Responsible: Code and Policy Committee

Time: 10 minutes

Description: CPC has developed a language learning model that can act as a chatbot to search GSS Policies and ask questions about them. We hope to make this tool freely available on the GSS website and to do so, we are seeking \$200 for a one-year implementation of the tool as well as permission to use the GSS's servers to run the chatbot's algorithm.

Objective: Obtain funding for Policy chatbot



Motion:

WHEREAS Councillors are required to interact with GSS Policies on a regular basis to perform their duties.

WHEREAS searching and reading the GSS Policies takes considerable time and effort from Councillors.

WHEREAS language learning model algorithms are highly efficient at searching documents and responding to queries.

BIRT the Council approves the spending of up to \$200 for a one-year implementation of a language learning model to answer queries about GSS Policies.

MOVER: Aditi

SECONDER: Ali

RESULT: Failed

Results: In favour (6), Against (8), Abstain (4)

Discussion

Cesar: Thanks, Ali, for this. It looks really useful. I've been going over the manuals for the past few weeks, and this will definitely be very helpful. I think the question is: what do we gain from having this on the website compared to simply having it on each person's GPT account?

Ali: I realized it today. We passed this motion last week and didn't have the chance to adjust it. It can be used as a standalone and it can be free, so we don't necessarily need to host it on the GSS website. Basically, we can ignore the motion as it is right now and just change it to a standalone system. It can also be hosted as an external link to the OpenAI API on the GSS website. So we don't necessarily need the budget anymore, but it still needs to be on the GSS website so that other students can access it. Because it's a private, specialized model, we need to share the link with students so it can be added to the newsletter and everything.

Aditi: I personally am not a fan of AI in general. I know it has some benefits, and I know lots of people use it for lots of reasons, but I'm wary for two different reasons. One is that I know it already has access—like even the free version already has access—to everything that's on the internet. But I am wary because sometimes you'll ask it a question, and then it'll say something like, "You said to me in March 2023 that your family doesn't share very much," and you're like, how do you know this about me?

Katelynn: I spent a second on what Aditi was saying. I am such a boomer when it comes to AI and how I feel about it; I'm also incredibly uncomfortable with its environmental impact. There has been a saying that any ChatGPT prompt, including saying "thank you," is equivalent to pouring out a water bottle's worth of water — always fresh water — and using a light bulb for 15 minutes. Considering our stance on colonization, genocide, and harm to communities around the world, these AI data centers are reportedly taking, like, 60% of power away from some cities they're connected to — say, in the U.S. I just find that, for the things we stand for at the GSS, and considering what we do know about AI and how it is used, the risks outweigh the benefits.

I think this tool — if it weren't ChatGPT, and if we had more ethical ways to use AI — would be really, really cool, and I incredibly appreciate the time and effort put into it. But additionally, ChatGPT can be wrong and it's hard to fact-check; I worry about the impact of people misquoting policy incorrectly because ChatGPT got it wrong. So I'm grateful for the time put into it, but I'm not comfortable with us having it as a society.



Cesar: I think I understand the concerns about the environmental impacts of AI, but I think that any argument against this tool based on environmental reasons has to be compared to equivalent tools that we use in our everyday lives. I don't want to get into the whole discussion here, but maybe it would be useful for Ali to give us a comparison. Like, how much does googling things for five minutes cost in terms of environmental impact, if that's the alternative? Then, based on that, we can know whether it's actually generating additional negative impact, or whether we would have generated impact either way just by using the internet.

Ali: Actually, I didn't really want to raise this since it gets very philosophical, but in terms of water and the state of the art, data centers now use liquid cooling. Basically, the reason they build these data centers somewhere like Texas, even though it's a fairly dry area, is because of new technology called dry-cool and liquid-cool systems. That means a fixed amount of water is looped within the system and reused for cooling. So it's not like we're constantly accessing an infinite resource of water to fill it. That said, I still understand the concerns about global warming, because at the end of the day, it's GPUs, and they emit some amount of carbon. That's true. But if we want to compare it with other technologies, it can be as simple as your phone. Phones, through telecommunications and the antennas they use, also generate a comparable amount of heat and harm to the environment. It's not really a fair comparison, though. I personally believe it's just comparing "worse" with "worse." It doesn't justify using it or not using it—it's simply a tool. We can use it, or we can choose not to. If anyone finds it useful, they can use it. If not, they don't have to. At the end of the day, it becomes very personal, based on our values and perspectives. But I do understand that the GSS has a mission, and we should follow that.

BC3 YCC LETTER

Responsible: Aditi Adhikari (VP External)

Time: 10 minutes

Description: Endorse letter prepared by the BC3 undergrad societies (AMS, UVic Student Society, SFSS, and SUO) for the creation of a Canadian Youth Climate Corps

Objective: To endorse this letter, so that the GSS logo may go on the letter

Relevant materials: [BC3 YCC Letter](#)

BIRT the GSS Council endorses the letter prepared by the BC3 undergraduate societies (AMS, UVic Student Society, SFSS, and SUO) calling for the creation of a Canadian Youth Climate Corps, and authorizes the inclusion of the GSS logo on the letter.

MOVER:

SECONDER:

RESULT:



Discussion

Emily: So I'm just going to speak about it for a little bit. Two weekends ago was the Student Union Development Summit, which the AMS organizes every year. At that summit, the three BC universities—UVic, Simon Fraser, and UBC undergraduate student societies—came up with this letter, and they wanted us to endorse it. That's the reason we brought it to Council.

It's a letter addressed to the federal government as well as the MPs. I think you should all read it—it's a lot to read out loud—and then we can vote on it.

Katelynn: I was hoping to fill the silence with, I am supportive of putting the GSS logo on this. I think we just talked about how it feels like it's in our mandate to support initiatives like this they could protect the future of everybody the planet, our climate, our ability to get jobs after we graduate. And so I think this is incredibly appropriate for the GSS to be added to this letter.

BC3 BC FERRIES LETTER

Responsible: Aditi Adhikari (VP External)

Time: 10 minutes

Description: Endorse letter prepared by the BC3 undergrad societies (AMS, UVic Student Society, SFSS, and SUO) for student fare on the BC ferries

Objective: To endorse this letter, so that the GSS logo may go on the letter

Relevant materials: [BC3 BC Ferries Letter](#)

BIRT the GSS Council endorse the letter prepared by the BC3 undergraduate societies (AMS, UVic Student Society, SFSS, and SUO) advocating for a student fare on BC Ferries, and authorize the inclusion of the GSS logo on the letter.

MOVER: Emily

SECONDER: Katelynn

RESULT: Carried

Discussion

Emily: It's the exact same premise. This was also presented at SUDS. Right now, the BC Ferries fare is around \$20 for foot passengers, and \$70 if traveling with a vehicle. This one actually mentions Nanaimo, so it's specific to Horseshoe Bay and Nanaimo—\$20 for foot passengers and \$70 with a vehicle.

What they're suggesting is a flat \$10 ferry rate for post-secondary students. I don't think it specifies which routes—like if it's only the Victoria to UBC route—but I've read it multiple times and I don't think it does. It's simply advocating for a \$10 flat rate.

It also doesn't say anything about traveling with a vehicle—whether or not there would be an additional charge for a vehicle, which I assume there would be. So this letter, I think, is a little bit more complex if you look at the



specifics. But at the end of the day, it's about what we would be advocating for, and then the government or BC Ferries or the provincial government decides whether or not to listen

Katelynn: You're going to hear a bunch from me, as you usually do, but I have a question. I don't know if it's something you have an answer to, but was there ever a discussion about a ferry that connects Vancouver to Victoria? Was it ever brought up? I think it'd be great if we could connect the places where our universities are, because otherwise, getting a car between Nanaimo and Victoria is actually quite complicated—or Vancouver to Dawson. I would love an opportunity to visit a sister campus sometime.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

GSS FINANCIAL BUDGET UPDATES

Responsible: Cesar Landin (Financial Officer)

Time: 20 minutes

Description: Changes in UBC-wide finances have resulted in lower revenues than anticipated for this year. The Financial Officer prepared an updated budget to address these issues. Graduate Student Society (GSS) operates on a fiscal year running from June to May. Each year, the GSS Executive Committee reviews, updates, and presents the revised budget to the House Finance Committee (HFC). The HFC reviews the budget, addresses any corrections, and once satisfied, forwards it to council for approval.

Objective: Inform the Council on budget updates made by the Financial Officer in consultation with the Executives and House Finance Committee.

Relevant materials: Presentation and budget excel sheet.

Discussion

Amin: Thank you, Cesar, for a beautiful presentation. Still, two things surprise me. One is that the student fees decreased by \$64,000—that's a huge number. Do we have any estimate of how many graduate students we have right now? Based on my research, it's around 11,000, right? So a \$64,000 decrease would probably be a significant reduction per graduate student, but I don't think that's correct. Is there a possibility that, for example, the university allocated less from the student fees?

The second question is that, in previous years, the bookkeeping issues involved large sums of money, and it seems like they didn't fully realize what happened. The exact amount of money remaining after one year is still really surprising.



Cesar: I understand it seems surprising that we're getting \$64,000 less, but since our student fee is around \$80, that would mean a decrease of around 800 students, which sounds reasonable. That's only a 7% decrease in grad students this year.

The second question is how this could happen. I think there are basically three reasons. First, the previous bookkeeping service was really bad. My understanding is that previous financial officers had to do a lot of extra work that the accounting service should have been doing. With all that additional workload, it's just hard to focus on going through the budget in detail and making sure that every single budget line works, and that the formulas are well defined.

Beyond that, I think it might be worth including a sort of policy amendment where there is an external—but internal—review. That is, a different person from the accountant and FO inside the GSS goes over the budget in detail, just to make sure that: one, the calculations are correct and the formulas are not wrong, including every single cell that needs to be included, and two, that we're following policies. One of the issues I identified was because we were simply not following the policy for the Capital Project Improvement Fund. If we have a checklist of what the budget needs to include, that could be a good tool for future executives to use.

Amin: For the 800 I can follow up with g plus PS and see what's their answer, because in the previous meetings that we had with them, they didn't mention any decrease in the registration of the graduate students. And from the previous meeting meetings, I remember that people were saying because we have lower number of the international students, and because of that, we have less student fees, but actually the student fees comes from both international and domestic students, so that argument can be used. But yeah, thank you for those answers.

Jess: First of all, thank you so much for this presentation and for all the work you've been doing. I really appreciate the transparency to Council, so thank you.

The question I had was concerning what you were saying about the ball not being rented out for almost a year. Can you speak more to this? It seems to me like this is an insecure and precarious source of revenue for us. Why is it not being rented out? What are the barriers? Given the current economic situation, should we be looking for other ways to generate revenue?

Cesar: Yeah, thanks for your question, Jess. So, like most people who haven't seen it—I'm assuming you haven't—most people who haven't seen it don't really have an idea of what this ballroom is. Just to explain a bit: this is office space that we have in the basement of the building, almost next to Kerner's Bar.

This is really high-quality office space. Just to give you an idea, the Sauder School of Business was renting this space up until November last year, and they invested, I believe in 2017, close to a million dollars to renovate it. So it's pretty high-end office space. You know, if a big firm downtown had these offices, I wouldn't be surprised—it's really nice.

It used to be a secure source of funding because office contracts, as the person doing the appraisal explained to me, are usually done for five years. So you know exactly how much money you're going to get for the next five years. It can't really be used for much else other than office space because it's designated as office space, and it would be very costly to renovate and change it into something different.



That's just to give you a little context of what this space is and how it looks. I wish I could show you a picture, but I don't have anything handy right now. We stopped renting this space to Sauder because they opened additional offices after expanding their own building.

After that, there wasn't enough push to rent it out to other departments or flexibility to negotiate with them, acknowledging that some departments might not be willing to pay that much. For now, we've reached out to other departments and are in talks with the Forestry Department to rent out the space. We've been very clear that we're super flexible on pricing. There's no reason to charge as much as we were charging Sauder. Of course, we'd like to get almost \$10,000 per month from that space, but considering the current financial situation of the university, we want to be a bit more flexible.

Katelynn: When we talk about marketing, advertising, and promotion, like when we lose something there, I'm hoping that it's something minor—like we're losing our emails or just a small graphic budget. I ask because I think we really rely on marketing to get people to come to our events and to buy into our initiatives. Can you speak more to that, and maybe also to what the meeting expenses are, by chance?

Cesar: Oh, and just to clarify, these are annual budgets, not monthly budgets. The marketing budget doesn't include actually making the graphics we use to promote events, because we already have a Communications Manager who works on this, and she's really good at what she does. She's still going to be working for us, so this marketing budget isn't affecting what she's able to do. I think it's mostly what we spend on advertising—reaching out to students via Instagram, for example—and we might also have some Google Ads.

It's very hard to evaluate the impact of spending money on ads, but I'm sure it helps bring students to these events, so I didn't want to cut too much of that budget. Just to clarify, this is the 2025–2026 budget, not last year's budget. Last year, the marketing budget was much higher—around \$9,000—so there's already been a substantial cut.

Regarding meeting expenses, I can give you an example. I actually don't know where my meeting expenses are because I fall under Department 10. The General Manager also falls under this department. My meeting expenses might already be below the threshold I set for further cuts. For example, I met with the General Manager and the Director of Operations of the Department of Forestry. We went for coffee and spent around \$15 on a coffee and a croissant—that's part of the meeting expenses. Some executives might also use this budget to meet with other administrators from UBC. During trips, that goes under travel or conference costs, which I cut significantly.

Katelynn: 'm looking at our Council and Committee retreat still being around \$3,500. I think it's great that we get to bond together, but I don't think we need to do really big, fancy things or get expensive food to build that bond. I think we could order no more than \$1,000 worth of pizza—that's already a ridiculous number—and then go sit in the park and play games. I'm sure we can all contribute from our own pockets or use things we have at home. We can still create that bonding experience cheaply.

When we're in such dire straits budget-wise, I think the high costs of the executive retreat and the counselor retreat should be among the first things to go. I don't want to speak for other counselors, but if others agree, it'd be great to hear from them. I think we should definitely cut this more than it already has been cut.



Amin: Yeah, regarding the policy mentioned about the ballroom—that we cannot rent it out to external people—I was thinking, and we actually discussed this at our retreat, that we could talk with the university to make it more flexible. \$140k is not a small amount, and decreasing it by lowering the number of four-year curriculum positions would affect some of the important services that GSS provides, like advocacy coordinators or other vital services.

So I think that avenue would be very good. We should also consider that lowering the number of graduate students in the coming years would reduce student fees even more than this. We could probably get it down to \$100k under this plan, especially if we extend the four-year funding to five years. So I think the best approach would be to talk with the university about this current situation.

EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS POLICY

Responsible: Aditi Adhikari (VP External)

Time: 20 minutes

Description: To discuss the GSS's joining, leaving, and participation in external organizations.

Objective: To discuss the creation of a policy that dictates how we can join, leave, or participate in external organizations.

Discussion

Aditi: Right. I totally forgot about this one. This one is fun. So in our AGM last year, we voted to leave the ABCS, which is the Association of BC Students, and Well, I'm on board with that decision, given that ABCS is an organization that currently has only two members. However, what we don't have, so I was going through all our policies and all our bylaws and all the documents that I could find. And unless I've made a grave error, I do not think that we have a policy on how we join or leave or stay in external organizations that are. Multiple coalitions of student associations that are provincial and federal. We are currently still a part of ABCS until the end of this year, but not any others, unless I'm gravely mistaken. But I think that it would be helpful to have an actual policy that says how we can join or leave such an organization. And so I welcome comments, questions, queries, emotional outbursts regarding this.

Emily: Hi, thank you, Mr. Speaker and everybody for contributing to this discussion. Basically, with ABCS, the reason I brought it up and put it forward in our AGM last year to leave is because, like Aditi said, there are only two organizations. And currently UBC GSS is strong enough and big enough to make provincial and federal connections. For example, we are able to get meetings with Premier Eby, our MP Wade Grant, who is a very big advocate for graduate students, and a really good ally in general at the federal level. In terms of these coalitions, most of the time it can be very costly. For example, ABCS charges us around \$7,000 per year, and there are also federal organizations like CASA, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, which charges students about \$4 per year to join in order to lobby together and have conferences. SFU has a policy where



they do not join any coalitions. They can lobby with them and put their names on a letter, but they do not officially pay a membership fee. I just wanted to give context and background for why this is brought up.

Aditi: Thank you, Emily. If I may add to that: SFU does not join any official alliances or external organizations. However, you did see their letter logo on the BC3 letter. BC3 is not a formal alliance or membership organization; it is an alliance, but not an organization. We will still have the opportunity to lobby with and work with other student organizations if we decide that memberships are not for us. Memberships come at a huge cost. Like Emily said, and partly the reason I brought this to Council, is because personally, as a vice president of external relations with years of experience in policy, I don't really feel the need to have that organizational backing. I did think that maybe other people with different perspectives and life experiences would also like to weigh in on this, and I think Cesar wants to speak.

Cesar: Thanks. Yeah, Aditi, I think we discussed this at the retreat, and I want to reiterate my argument that if we have a VP external, then there is no reason to pay for an additional service for advocating for students. If we didn't have a VP external, it would make sense to join these sorts of organizations. Maybe we could have a policy similar to the one the President mentioned, explicitly outlining that we do not pay for these organizations, since we're already paying one of our own executives to do this job.

Aditi: Yes. Also, I am already working on creating an archive of all the work we've done in past years with lobbying within and outside UBC. I think that archive is a really good source of knowledge for any other VP external going forward. I do share your belief, Cesar.

Katelynn: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not totally familiar with the nuances of the different organizations, but I would be concerned about a policy because I'm not sure how different organizations mandate how leaving works. If that means we have to buy out something, I would need more information about what kinds of organizations we are currently in or would like to join to see what policies we might want to create.

Aditi: Right. Federally, there are two big organizations: the Canadian Federation of Students and CASA, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations. Provincially, there are two major ones we know of: the BC Federation of Students (BCFS) and the Alliance of BC Students (ABCS). The AMS is not part of any alliances, partly because of their student numbers, which would make it very costly. But I agree with Emily that we are a large university and have a sufficient number of skilled people running the organization. We're not 70,000 students, but we're still 11,000 students.

Emily: Another reason to set forward a policy is that we have a high turnover rate for executives. This ensures continuity in terms of the organizations we join and those we would never consider joining, and it helps pass down that information.

It also prevents other organizations from repeatedly asking us to join and charging us money. New executives might be pushed into making decisions like that, so this would be an accountability policy.

Aditi: If we have a few minutes, can we motion to go in camera, please?



Motion to move discussion in-camera

MOVER: Aditi **SECONDER :** Emily **RESULT:** Carried

[Discussion continues in-camera]

Motion to continue discussion in-camera.

MOVER: Aditi **SECONDER:** Cesar **RESULT:** Opposed

[Discussion moves out of camera].

MATTERS TO NOTE

Time reserved for questions regarding updates below.

EXECUTIVES

President:

- July 21: Meeting with AMS
- July 22: Health and Dental meeting
- July 24: Meeting with EOC chair
- July 30: Meeting with UBC Campus + Community Planning
- July 30: NEADS meeting (National Educational Association of Disabled Students)
- July 31: Meeting with Vivian
- August 6: All chairs meeting
- August 8: president's council
- August 8-10 Student Union Development Summit
- August 15: Food Security Meeting (internal with AMS)

Financial Officer

-

VP University & Academic Affairs



- AMS/GSS Executive Social – July 21
- Graduate Student Priorities with AMS VPUAA – July 22
- House Finance Committee – July 22
- ADA Ads Meeting – July 24
- Staff + Executive Meeting – July 25
- AcEx Committee Meeting – July 28
- Ombudsperson Meeting – July 29
- GCC Meeting – July 29
- GSS + Campus + Community Planning Meeting – July 30
- Executive Retreat – August 4–6
- All Chairs Meeting – August 6
- Interviews for Advocacy Coordinator Position (with Maria and Rowshan) – August 11–12
- House Finance Committee- August 12
- Staff Meeting – August 14
- Discussion with FSI on Remaining Funds (Execs + Staff) – August 15
- Meeting with AMS on FSI Fund – August 15
- Meeting with Execs, Vivian, and Financial Officer on Budget Calculation for FSI Funding – August 15
- Academic Caucus Meeting with AMS VPUAA – August 18
- Meeting with AMS VPUAA about Graduate Student Funding – August 21

VP External Relations

- July 21-25: Canadian Alliance of Student Associations Policy and Strategy meeting
- July 22: HFC meeting
- July 23: Acadia Food hub meeting with FO and Coordinators
- July 25: Executive and Staff meeting
- July 28: AcEx meeting
- July 29: Meeting with the Alliance of BC Students
- July 30: Meeting with UBC Campus+Community Planning
- July 30: Intro meeting with Jessie Sunner, Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills
- August 4-6: Executive retreat
- August 6: All chairs meeting
- August 8-10: SUDS (Student Union Development Summit)
- August 12: Meeting with AMS VPX
- August 14: AcExmeeting
- August 15: Food Security meeting (Internal and with the AMS)

VP Students

- AO Meeting – July 21st
- AMS/GSS Executive social – July 21st
- Meeting with Events Assistant – July 22nd
- Beach day event and coordination with events assistant – July 23rd
- GradStart Presentation meeting with GPS – July 25th



- Events budget meeting with Anna Bo – July 25th
- AO event approvals and reimbursements - ongoing
- Staff+ Executive meeting – July 25th
- GradStart planning meeting – July 29th
- GSS + Campus + Community Planning meeting – July 30th
- Grad podcast series – July 30th
- Events team meeting – August 5th
- Executive retreat – August 4-6th
- All chairs meeting – August 6th
- GSS wellness retreat – August 7-8th
- Events team meeting – August 19th
- Networking event coordination – August 20th

COMMITTEES

Academic & External Committee

- (None submitted)

Code & Policy Committee

- (None submitted)

Engagement & Elections Committee

- Planned the next event, TreeWalk @UBC.
Good number of registrations have been received.
The committee has planned and organized the event's activities and refreshments.
The next meeting would discuss further events and mini-events.

Executive Oversight Committee

- (None submitted)

Governance & Accountability Committee

- Ongoing discussions with the Executive on OneDrive training for all Chairs. Review G&A Report of SMART goal submission and updates, completion of KPI surveys, holding one meeting every six weeks and Chairs submitting the information to Council on a monthly basis. Discussed the requirements with all Chairs.

House Finance Committee



- (None submitted)

Human Resources

- 1. PT Accountant hiring process was complete
- 2. WL W25 hiring process is on-going

AMS Caucus

-

Graduate Council Caucus

- Conduct several important meetings with the AcEx Chair and AMS leadership to discuss the issues raised.
Address the reduction in the number of Work Learn students and other budget-related concerns.
Apply for additional grants.
Strengthen the relationship with G+PS.

NOTICES

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: Thursday, September 18th at 5:30 PM

Location: Michael Kingsmill Forum (AMS Nest)

O ADJOURNMENT

BIRT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Mover: Katelynn

Second: Aditi

Result: Carried



**GRADUATE
STUDENT SOCIETY**
UBC VANCOUVER

GSS Council Minutes

Thursday, August 21st , 2025 | MS Teams | 5:30 pm

NOTICE OF UNSEATINGS
