University of Victoria Graduate Students’ Society

Graduate Representative Council

MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 12TH, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 pm with KIM in the Chair, making the acknowledgement that the GSS convenes on the traditional Coast Salish territories of the Lekwungen speaking peoples.

Present:

Anthropology: Luke Keman
Community Development: Mike Butler (ONLINE)
English: David Eso
History: Carla Osborne
Linguistics: Adar Anisman (ONLINE)
Mathematics and Statistics: Joseph Horan
Mechanical Engineering: Markus Sommerfeld
Philosophy: Gennady McCracken
Physics and Astronomy: Mean Hani
Political Science: Stephanie Gruhlke
Psychology: Mylés Maillat
Public Administration: Leila Bautista (ONLINE)
Visual Arts: Evelyn Sorochan-Ruland

Chair: Susan Kim
Director of Communications: Danny Martin
Director of Finance: Ola Gould
Director of Student Affairs: Gillian Dorman
Director of Services: Jessica Wyatt

Guest: President, UVic: Professor Jamie Cassels
Guest: Dean, Graduate Studies: Dr. David Cappson
Guest: Grad Rep, Strategic Planning: Amanda McLaughlin
Guest: Sociology member: Elaine LaBerge

Executive Director: Stacy Chappel
Office Coordinator, Governance: Karen L. Potts

Regrets:

Biology: Malcolm Cowan and Lucianne Marshall
Computer Science: Seth Greylyn
Environmental Studies: Tanya Tran
Greek and Roman Studies: Lee Anderson
Social Dimensions of Health: Lindsay Shaw
Writing: Janet Munsil

Absent:

Biochemistry & Microbiology: Emily Kolde, Karen Lithgow
Business Administration: Harleen Randhawa
Civil Engineering: Pejman Azarza
CUPE 4183: Mitchell Haslehurst
Economics: Tien-Yun (Arielle) Shih
Electrical & Computer Engineering: Priyani Vanaparthi
Exercise Science, Physical & Health Educ: Stephen Luehr
French: Emma Kwasnica and Regina Grishko
Germanic and Slavic Studies: Tessa Coutu
Neuroscience: Chad Williams
Social Work: Madeleine Harber
Sociology: Renay Maurice
PRESIDENT’S STRATEGIC PLAN CONSULTATION

Reference: Email from the Director of the Office of the President

GRC reps met with President CASSELS, Dean CAPSON and Strategic Planning graduate student member MCLAUGHLIN to participate as a special session of the President’s Strategic Plan consultation process. GRC members made contributions on the following questions:

(1) What are the things about UVic that best contribute to the graduate student experience and that we might further build on?

(2) What can UVic do to best prepare graduate students for their future in either academia or other sectors?

For more information about the strategic planning process all graduate students are encouraged to visit: www.uvic.ca/strategicplan as well as the engagement update outlining the themes that have emerged from the consultation process so far: https://www.uvic.ca/strategicplan/assets/docs/Fall2017_UPDATE_FINAL_V3.pdf, and the original strategic plan discussion document: https://www.uvic.ca/strategicplan/assets/docs/StrategicPlanRenewal-Discussion-Sept2017.pdf

MEETING BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: RESOLVED to approve the agenda.
M/S ESCO/GRUHLKE
CARRIED

B. FOR DECISION: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS — BY-ELECTION

Motion: RESOLVED that the GRC accept the resignation of Danny Martin as of December 31st, 2017.
M/S HORAN/GOULD
CARRIED.

KIM relinquished the Chair to ANISMAN, GSS Electoral Officer, to conduct the by-election for Director of Communications.

Reference: GSS Constitution and Bylaws (see Bylaw XI, §. 12)
ANISMAN opened the call for nominations. There were two nominees.

Laberge, Elaine.
Hohendorf, Quirin.

ANISMAN closed the call for nominations.

ANISMAN invited the nominees to give a statement.

LABERGE, present, introduced herself and presented her qualifications for the position.

MARTIN read a statement from HOHENDORF outlining his qualifications for the position.

ANISMAN opened the floor for questions from GRC members to the candidate present. (MARTIN explained that HOHENDORF was unable to alter Christmas travel plans to be present.) LABERGE answered several questions.

ANISMAN closed the period for questions. HANI and SOMMERFELD volunteered to be scrutineers. CHAPPEL and KIM agreed to ballot count.

ANISMAN turned the explanation of the voting process to CHAPPEL. CHAPPEL explained that voting would be by secret ballot. 14 paper ballots were distributed to the voting members present. It was agreed that the 3 online attendees would private message CHAPPEL who will include their candidate choice on paper ballots for inclusion in the count.

The counters and scrutineers adjourned for the count.

ANISMAN reported that there were no spoiled ballots. Hohendorf received the majority of the votes. A request was made for the full vote count. It was read out as:

Hohendorf 9 votes
Laberge 8 votes

Motion: RESOLVED that HOHENDORF be ratified as the new Director of Communications as of January 1st 2018.

M/S MARTIN/OSBOURNE
CARRIED

Motion: RESOLVED to destroy ballots.

M/S HORAN/GRUHLKE
CARRIED
C. FOR DECISION: LIBRARY COMMITTEE LETTER

KIM resumed the Chair, and thanked ANISMAN for overseeing the by-election process.

Reference: GSS Library Funding Letter

KIM reminded GRC members regarding the context for the letter and the timeliness of the submission.

Motion: RESOLVED that the GSS send the approved letter to the federal Minister for Canadian Heritage and Minister for Innovation expressing an aspect of our concern on the library funding crisis.

M/S MARTIN/KERNAN
CARRIED

CLOSING ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting.

M/S DORNAN/ANISMAN
CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Approved, Chair

Approved, Executive Director

KLP/SC/klp