University of Victoria Graduate Students’ Society

Graduate Representative Council

MEETING AGENDA

OCTOBER 16, 2018, 5-7 PM

Council Member Invitees:

Anthropology: Maya Cowan, Anu Lotay
Art History & Visual Studies: Anahita Ranjbar
Biochemistry & Microbiology: Jacob Imbery, Jay Joshi
Biology: Keyrian Le Gratiet
Civil Engineering: Kamran Tayyebi
Computer Science: Olga Gould
Earth & Ocean Sciences: Christiaan Laureijs
Economics: Ryley Erickson
Education Curriculum & Instruction: Meaghan Storey
Educational Psychology & Leadership Studies: Theresa Wanninger
Electrical & Computer Engineering: Muniyat Rafa
English: Janice Niemann, Kirsten Schuhmacher
Environmental Studies: Tanya Tran
French: Ryleigh Lightbourn, Rachel Corwin
Germanic & Slavic Studies: Lauren Thompson, Jae Hyun Kim
History: Sydney Fuhrman
Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs: Anthony Gavin

Law: Chinwendu Nwanisobi
Mathematics & Statistics: Joseph Horan
Neuroscience: Chad Williams
Physics & Astronomy: Maan Hani
Political Science: Franziska Fischer
Psychology: Tom Ferguson
Social Determinants of Health: Matty Cervantes
Social Work: Trish Pal, Sarah Krahn
Theatre: Jemma Llewellyn
CUPE 4163: Mitchell Haslehurst

GSS Executive and Staff:

Chair: Arash Isapour
Director of Communications: Kelly Clark
Director of Finance: Carla Osborne
Director of Student Affairs: Esmaeil Rahimi
Director of Services: Mahsa Mahtab
Executive Director: Stacy Chappel
Office Coordinator, Governance: Karen L. Potts
Operations and Services Manager: Mike Ronning

Guests:

Regrets:

Council Vacancies:

Business
Chemistry
Child & Youth Care
Community Development
Cultural Heritage Management
Exercise Science, Physical & Health Education
Geography
Greek & Roman Studies
Health Information Science
Hispanic & Italian Studies
Indigenous Education
Indigenous Governance
Linguistics
Mechanical Engineering
School of Music
Nursing

Pacific & Asian Studies
Philosophy
Public Administration
Public Health & Social Policy
Sociology
Visual Arts
Writing

DINNER AND NETWORKING - 4:30 PM

Invitation to GRC reps who would like to learn more about Roberts Rules and meeting process to discuss and ask questions informally. Please RSVP to gssgov@uvic.ca if interested.
CALL TO ORDER  5:00 PM

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Council members are asked to volunteer to provide a personal statement of land acknowledgement.

GUEST SPEAKER 5:10 PM

DEAN DAVID CAPSON, FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Our Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies will be here to provide information about the services available for us and how we can collaborate to bring students' issues to the FGS and resolve the existing problems.

Please take advantage of the time and write down your comments, questions and if there is anything important you'd like the FGS to be aware of and take action, this is the first step to connect with the Dean.

NOTE: You are under the administration of Faculty of Graduate Studies, NOT the faculty you're studying at. Dean Capson is our dean not the Dean of your discipline's Faculty.

STANDING ITEMS  5:25 PM

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

CHAIR’S REMARKS

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

MEETING BUSINESS 5:35 PM

AGM PROMOTION/UPDATE

COMMITTEE REPORTS: GRC AND UVIC

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: GRC

**Motion:** BIRT to accept the resignation of Jo Roy as GRC rep for Greek and Roman Studies, as a Bylaw & Policy Committee member, as the GSS rep to the Senate Committee on Academic Standards, and as grad student rep on the Faculty of Humanities Council, as of October 9th, 2018.

**Motion:** BIRT to elect Anthony Gavin to the Stipend Review Committee.

**Motion:** BIRT to elect Jae Hyun Kim to the Appeals Committee and the Bylaw & Policy Committee.

**Motion:** BIRT to elect Matty Cervantes to the Bylaw & Policy Committee.
GRC members (9 reps as of October 12, 2018) yet to be assigned to a Committee:

*Motion: BIRT to elect ___________________ to the GRC Committee: ___________________.*

Electoral Officer and Electoral Appeals Committee: Further Nominations and Election

*Motion: BIRT to elect _________________ as the GSS Electoral Officer for 2018-19.*

*Motion: BIRT to elect _________________ as the Electoral Appeals Committee for 2018-19.*

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: UVIC

Graduate student representative on the UVic Convocation Committee

The President's office wanted the GSS to provide a nomination of one graduate student for consideration by the President to be appointed as the graduate student representative on the Convocation Committee per the Convocation Committee Terms of Reference.

The student representative is appointed for a term effective immediately to September 15, 2019. The Committee normally meets once a year. It is currently set to meet on January 9, 2019 from 12:00 – 1:00 PM in the Michael Williams Building, Boardroom 120.

Please take a look at the linked document and see if you are interested to represent the GSS in that committee, nominate yourself at the GRC meeting.

*Motion: BIRT to elect ______________ to represent the GSS on the UVic Convocation Committee.*

Other UVic Committees

*Motion: BIRT to elect Nicole Goldring to the Campus Sustainability Fund Applications Review Committee.* See APPENDIX B: Campus Sustainability Committee Applicant

*Motion: BIRT to elect _______________ to the Senate Committee on Academic Standards.*

*Motion: BIRT to elect _______________ to the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies.*

*Motion: BIRT to elect ______________ to the Faculty of Humanities Council.*

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

*Motion: BIRT the Executive Reports are referred to the Stipend Review Committee for review.*
GRADUATE STUDENT ELECTIONS AND STUDENT REPRESENTATION

See Briefing: 2018-10-16 Briefing on proposal to update GSS elections of student reps

Motion: WHEREAS GSS policy on election of Grad Reps to the Graduate Representative Council has not been reviewed in recent years; and
WHEREAS a consistent electoral policy ensure graduate students all have the vote to stand for election and vote in elections to GSS and UVIC committees; and
WHEREAS unclear and irregular electoral policies undermine confidence in elections and impedes graduate student representatives in performing their role; therefore
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Bylaw and Policy Committee conduct a review of election procedures for graduate students elected in department and faculty elections; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bylaw and Policy Committee develop proposals for improving election procedures and report on their findings to Graduate Council.

CLOSING ITEMS 6:50 PM

IMPORTANT DATE REMINDERS

   Upcoming GSS Events: Annual General Meeting, October 23, 2018, 5pm

   Next GRC Meeting: November 27, 2018

NOTICES OF MOTION FOR NEXT MEETING

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: BIRT to adjourn the meeting.

AGENDA APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: 2018-09-25 GRC Minutes – DRAFT

APPENDIX B: Campus Sustainability Committee Applicant
University of Victoria Graduate Students’ Society

Graduate Representative Council

MINUTES – DRAFT

SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2018, 5-7 PM

Council Members Attending:

Anthropology: Maya Cowan
Art History & Visual Studies: Anahita Ranjbar
Biochemistry & Microbiology: Jacob Imbery
Computer Science: Olga Gould
Earth & Ocean Sciences: Christiaan Laureijs
Economics: Ryley Erickson
Education Curriculum & Instruction: Meaghan Storey

Educational Psychology & Leadership Studies: Theresa Wanninger
Electrical & Computer Engineering: Muniyat Rafa
Environmental Studies: Tanya Tran
French: Ryleigh Lightbourn
Germanic & Slavic Studies: Lauren Thompson
Greek & Roman Studies: Jo Roy
Hispanic & Italian Studies: Tobi Panter (ONLINE)

History: Sydney Fuhrman
Mathematics & Statistics: Joseph Horan
Neuroscience: Chad Williams
Physics & Astronomy: Maan Hani
Psychology: Tom Ferguson
Theatre: Jemma Llewellyn
CUPE 4163: Mitchell Haslehurst

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Director of Services: Mahsa Mahtab
Executive Director: Stacy Chappel
Office Coordinator, Governance: Karen L. Potts

Guest:

Myles Maillet, 2017-18 Student Affairs Committee Member

Absent:

Civil Engineering: Kamran Tayyebi
Political Science: Franziska Fischer

Council Vacancies as of Sept 25, 2018:

Biology
Business
Chemistry
Child & Youth Care
Community Development
Cultural Heritage Management
English
Exercise Science, Physical & Health Education
Geography
Health Information Science
Indigenous Education
Indigenous Governance
Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs
Law
Linguistics
Mechanical Engineering
School of Music
Nursing

Pacific & Asian Studies
Philosophy
Public Administration
Public Health & Social Policy
Social Dimensions of Health
Social Work
Sociology
Visual Arts
Writing
DINNER AND NETWORKING - 4:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ISAPOUR called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm, with the following statement:

“We acknowledge and respect the Lkwungen-speaking peoples on whose traditional territory the Graduate Students’ Society exists, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose relationships with the land continue to this day.”

ISAPOUR also shared his personal experience in learning about the indigenous people and traditional indigenous land issues in Canada. He invited all GRC members to take turns in future GRC meetings to contribute their personal experiences and understandings as part of the GRC land acknowledgement.

STANDING ITEMS

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: RESOLVED that the agenda is approved as presented, with corrections as noted.
M/S COWAN/CLARK

Discussion: HORAN commented that the communication about the use of the informal/formal time before the meeting was unclear and time for individual introductions would have been appreciated.

Germanic and Slavic Studies, and Studies in Earth and Ocean Science now have representatives.

The representative for Hispanic and Italian Studies is present online.

CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: RESOLVED that the July 24, 2018 Grad Council meeting minutes are approved with minor corrections as provided.
M/S RAHIMI/HORAN

Discussion: HORAN noted the full name of his department should read as “Mathematics and Statistics”.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.
ASSIGNMENT OF TIMEKEEPER

TRAN and COWAN volunteered to act as a timekeepers.

NEW BUSINESS

A. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

ISAPOUR welcomed everyone to the new 2018-19 GRC year. On behalf of the Executive Board ISAPOUR emphasized that the amount and quality of work that the GRC can accomplish is dependent on the individuals making up the Council.

ISAPOUR affirmed the two main goals for the GRC this year:

1. Securing the status of research assistants who have been left without protection and support when their official employer is an individual faculty member, and not the university.
2. Establishing a student advocate position, in collaboration with UVSS.

ISAPOUR also reminded GRC members that the GSS exists as a society, not part of the university, and as such consists of the support and help graduate students as members provide to each other.

B. ORIENTATION TO THE GRC

CHAPPEL presented a brief overview of the GSS, its history, accomplishments and current work for graduate students, as well as the differences between the GSS Executive and the GRC Council. GRC members were encouraged to familiarize themselves with governing legislation, GSS governing documents, and the culture/working norms of the GRC.

Slides presented in this Orientation will be posted on the GRC Connect site.

C. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

1. GRC Standing Committees

CHAPPEL explained the requirement of each GRC member to sit on at least one GRC standing, service committee. ISAPOUR circulated a Committee preference form and requested members to indicate their choices.

MAHTAB emphasized that for anyone interested in the Appeals Committee, they must be able to attend the Oct. 9 training session. MAHTAB also emphasized that Events Committee members must also have the time to host/participate in events, and that the first meeting will be re-scheduled and not on Oct. 2.

The Committee preferences of the GRC members in attendance were collected, summarized by staff, and presented back with each GRC member assigned to one or more standing committees. With the committee assignments being acceptable to members, the following motion was made:

*MOTION: RESOLVED that GRC members are appointed to the GRC standing committees for the 2018-19 term as follows:*
2. UVIC Sexualized Violence Education and Awareness Committee Representative

COWAN and GOULD nominated themselves. Each candidate spoke, introducing themselves and their interest in the topic. GOULD spoke about her work with in the Engineering and Computer Science departments. COWAN spoke about her experience as an undergraduate student and living in residence, as well as being a graduate student and the incongruities behind the UVic public statements and student experiences.

A secret ballot vote was held. The results were a tied vote.

Rather than flip a coin, the candidates requested that GOULD be the official representative and COWAN be designated as the alternate.

MOTION: RESOLVED that Olga Gould (Maya Cowan, Alternate) are appointed to the UVic Sexualized Violence Education and Awareness Committee.

M/S WILLIAMS/TRAN
CARRIED

3. UVic External Committees

The Humanities Faculty requested a graduate student representative for the Associate Dean of Humanities, Research, Appointment Committee, as well as for the 2018-19 Humanities Faculty Council. The GSS circulated notices to eligible members and one member formally applied for each position.

MOTION: RESOLVED is that Sean OLIVER is elected as the graduate student representative to the Associate Dean of Humanities, Research, Appointment Committee.

M/S CLARK/HANI
CARRIED

MOTION: RESOLVED that Jo Roy be elected as the graduate student representative to the 2018-19 Humanities Faculty Council.

M/S TRAN/GOULD
CARRIED (Roy abstained from the vote.)
D. STUDENT AFFAIRS SURVEY FINAL REPORT PRESENTATION

Myles MAILLET, 2017-18 Student Affairs Committee Member, presented the final report on the results of the Student Affairs Graduate Student Survey. Reference doc: GSS Survey Report v2.0 in GRC Connect Site.

Discussion: GRC members agreed on the importance to both protect the confidentiality promised to the survey respondents, at the same time ensuring the results were quickly distributed to the decision making bodies who could address the critical issues raised.

Discussion: can GRC members then share this interpretive analysis with their departments and to a wider audience? GRC has a responsibility to the wider student body to get these results out. Would like to see the GRC make data informed decisions to get the data to relevant bodies.

MOTION: RESOLVED that GRC directs Student Affairs Committee to do an interpretive analysis to be presented in a private meeting with the UVic President and senior administration.
M/S HORAN/GOULD
CARRIED

MOTION: RESOLVED that GRC directs Students Affairs Committee and Communications Committee to develop a press release that will include results of the survey to be released publically.
M/S HORAN/RAHIMI
CARRIED

MOTION: RESOLVED that the GRC directs the Student Affairs Committee (with support from other committees as appropriate) to review the results presented today, strip away unneeded interpreted information, and make the amended results available to relevant decision making bodies and members at large.
M/S HANI/WILLIAMS
CARRIED

CLOSING ITEMS

IMPORTANT DATES

Upcoming GSS Deadlines:
Health and Dental Plan opt in/Opt out deadline: September 30

Upcoming GSS Events:
Welcome Back Barbecue: September 27
Colouring and Cocoa: October 11

Next GRC Meeting:
October 16, 2018, 5 pm Dean Capson will be in attendance.

NOTICES OF MOTION

GRC Election process: motion to refer to Bylaw & Policy Committee a review of GRC elections and have the committee develop some proposed updates for submission to GRC.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting.
M/S: HANI/HASLEHURST
CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Approved, Chair

Approved, Executive Director

KLP/
APPENDIX B:  Campus Sustainability Committee Applicant

First Name: Nicole
Last Name: Goldring
Program: School of Public Administration
Committee: Campus Sustainability Fund Applications Review Committee

Candidate statement:

Hi, my name is Nicole Goldring, and I am applying to the Graduate Student Representative for the Campus Sustainability Fund Applications Review Committee (CSFARC). I am a current graduate student in the School of Public Administration, with a focus on environmental policy. I am also a UVic alumna, having completed my undergraduate degree at UVic in 2015, double majoring in Geography & Environmental Studies. I would be very interested in being a member of the CSFARC as a Graduate Representative because of my passion for sustainability and campus engagement. During my undergraduate studies, I held a Board of Directors position with the University of Victoria Sustainability Project from 2011-2012. This position involved working collaboratively with the Board to budget and allocate grants to support sustainability initiatives in the UVic and greater Victoria community. I also helped organized and facilitate on-campus sustainability events, including the annual UVic Environmental Round Table and recycling program. During my undergrad, I also worked as a Community Leader and Senior Community Leader for UVic Residence Life & Education from 2011-2015. I was responsible for coordinating numerous sustainability events, including "Sustainability Week" which facilitated the UVic Dump and Run Residence Move-Out, a previous program approved by the Campus Sustainability Fund. I believe my past sustainability funding and grant allocation experience would be an asset that I bring to the Committee, along with my passion to support innovative, grassroots student-led initiatives and projects that foster campus sustainability objectives. I also see this as an incredible opportunity to give back to the UVic community and to work with members of the broader university community to support students through the Campus Sustainability Fund. For these reasons, I would be pleased to be the Graduate Student Representative for 2018-2019.