

University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society

Executive Board

(ONLINE VIA ZOOM) MEETING MINUTES

JULY 13, 2021

EXECUTIVE PRESENT: David FOSTER, Chair; Adair NG, Director of Services; Nahid SAFARI, Director of Student Affairs; Kyla TURNER, Executive Director (non-voting)

REGRETS: Ryan KHAN, Director of Finance; Nicole KENT, Director of Communications

STANDING ITEMS

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:34PM with FOSTER in the chair.

B. TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Land acknowledgement offered by TURNER alongside having a moment of silence in response to Penelakut Tribe's acknowledgement of the unmarked graves discovered at a residential school site on Penelakut Island.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: RESOLVED the agenda is approved as presented.
M/S: FOSTER/SAFARI
APPROVED by Consent

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: RESOLVED the approval of the minutes from the June 23, 2021 Executive Board Meeting is tabled until July 28, 2021.
M/S: FOSTER/NG
APPROVED by Consent

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

MOTIONS/TASKS noted as completed:

April 7, 2021:

TASK: TURNER to contact the Operational Relations, Exec to Exec, Global Communities, Student Wellness Centre, and ISS meeting secretaries and provide them with introductions to the new board.

TASK: Board members will be responsible to forward any GRC Committee vacancies to the Chair prior to April 13.

TASK: Executive Members will fill and return the Disclosure of Conflict of Interest forms by April 15, 2021.

April 13, 2021:

TASK: 2020-Jul-21 Refer definition of GSS member in bylaws to Bylaw and Policy Committee

April 21, 2021:

DECISION: Table discussion of ABCS training opportunity to April 28 Exec Board Meeting.

May 12, 2021:

TASK: SAFARI, NG, KENT and FOSTER to develop response to UVSS and propose and seek approval between Exec meetings via email. SAFARI, NG, KENT, FOSTER, KHAN to approve the letter via email.

F. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Motion: RESOLVED the resignation of David FOSTER from the Advisory Committee on Academic Accommodation and Access for Students with Disabilities is accepted effective immediately.

M/S: FOSTER/SAFARI

APPROVED by Consent

Motion: RESOLVED graduate student representatives are elected to the following UVic committees:

Advisory Committee on Academic Accommodation and Access for Students with Disabilities – 1 member

Nominations: Hannah Brown Member elected: Hannah Brown

M/S: FOSTER/NG

APPROVED by Consent

G. AGENDA PLANNING, OR MEETING DEBRIEF (GRC, OPERATIONAL RELATIONS, ETC.)

July Operational Relations Agenda: Sustainability Presentation, Childcare capacity

TASK: FOSTER to communicate with Mandy Suen around childcare capacity for July Operational Relations meeting agenda. We will ask for a report of the number of new seats versus the waitlist size and will ask for a certain percentage of new seats be dedicated to graduate students.

OLD BUSINESS

1. SCHEDULING

Motion: BIRT the following dates are set for Executive Board training sessions:

Indigenous Cultural Acumen

Sexualized Violence

Tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

1. GRC AGENDA

REF DOC: [July 20, 2021 GRC Agenda DRAFT](#)

Motion: RESOLVED the July 20, 2021 GRC Agenda is approved as presented.

M/S: FOSTER/NG

CARRIED

TASK: FOSTER and TURNER to prep presentation materials regarding a conservative and liberal approach to the in-person event regulations for GSS to present both sides of the issue.

2. GRC LOGISTICS

In-meeting tasks:

- Chairing: FOSTER
- Minutes: session to be recorded in full for minute taking at a later date
- Registration: TURNER
- Polls: FOSTER (TURNER to create new polls if needed)
- Chat monitor for seconding motions: NG
- Chat/reaction/raised hand monitor for content: SAFARI

Break-out room questions:

DECISION: This meeting's break out rooms will focus on Grad Rep exit interview questions: What did you like, what did you think needed improvement, what training did you get, what training did you need and NOT get?

3. ANNUAL PLAN UPDATES

Reference: [draft 2021-22 Annual Plan](#)

RE: Introduction

FOSTER discussed the contexts he has added to the annual plan for the introduction from both external and internal perspectives.

SAFARI noted that she is using formatting that works best for her.

TURNER requested permission to draft or have drafted by an elected board member a paragraph in the introduction about the ED turn over.

TASK: FOSTER to include ED turn over in the introduction to the annual plan.

RE: RA Legal Status

SAFARI requested to include the stakeholder consultations such as the Ombudsperson and CUPE 4163.

RE: UVic Committee Compensation

FOSTER outlined the University protocols and procedures that will need to be observed to create a new compensation policy – going through the Senate for approval, working with the University Secretary on drafting policy.

TURNER outlined the equity issue for students, who are not paid for this work while UVic faculty and staff are paid, that is the impetus for this campaign.

RE: International Student MSP

SAFARI outlined plan for a petition to gather student signatures across BC (working with GSSBC and undergrad alliances) on this issue.

FOSTER cautioned about how many GSS resources will go into this versus having that work shared equally among student societies. Suggested focusing on working with GSSBC and UVSS. Recommended FOI-ing the information on why international students still pay MSP. Suggested going to Ministry of Advanced Education on this matter.

RE: Governance

FOSTER outlined his work on these items.

RE: Student Wellness, BC MSP and Fair Pharmacare

NG to draft this week

RE: Visibility and Resource Development issues

KENT and KHAN not present.

RE: Student Advocate Fund

FOSTER reviewed the Student Advocate Annual Report drafted for GRC July 20, 2021 and priorities.

TASK: FOSTER to schedule an annual planning follow up meeting for the afternoon of Monday July 26, 2021 to ensure the Annual Plan can be approved by July 28, 2021.

CLOSING ITEMS

EXECUTIVE INFORMAL DISCUSSION/UPDATES/QUESTIONS

Chair: FOSTER has been working on completing his sections of the annual plan.

Director of Services: NG no report.

Director of Student Affairs: SAFARI is celebrating the resolution of one international student case! Congratulations to Nahid.

Executive Director: TURNER is working on getting an interim bookkeeper in to complete tasks. Also drafting policies for LMC on workplace bullying and harassment and a new employee welcome package created. The Health and Dental Coordinator hiring is progressing as expected. TURNER offered thanks to the board for their work on the Annual Plan.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING

GRC Recruitment and Orientation Planning

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT DATES

****Task Reminder: Please be sure your meetings and events are up to date on the GRC Connect Calendar****

Next Executive Meeting: July 28, 2021, 1:30pm

GRC Meeting: July 20, 2021

AGM: October 26, 2021

Office, Staff Scheduling Notes: Halpern Centre staffed Tuesday-Friday. Office closed on Fridays until end of August. Mindy's last day: Aug. 13. Karen on vacation July 20-Aug 30 inclusive.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: RESOLVED that the meeting is adjourned at 3:24pm.

M/S: FOSTER/SAFARI

APPROVED by Consent

KT/klp/KT

X

David Foster
GSS Chair 2021-22

X

Kyla Turner
Executive Director