

University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society

Executive Board

(ONLINE VIA ZOOM) MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 19, 2022

EXECUTIVE PRESENT: Summer OKIBE, Chair; Nicole KENT, Director of Communications (partial); Nahid SAFARI, Director of Student Affairs; Robert BICKLEY, Director of Finance; Kyla TURNER, Executive Director (non-voting)

REGRETS: Wyatt MADDOX, Director of Services

GUEST: Karen POTTS, Governance Coordinator

STANDING ITEMS PART 1

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 with OKIBE in the chair.

B. TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Land acknowledgement offered by SAFARI. OKIBE invited all board members to take a moment of silence to reflect on their own connection to colonized lands.

C. ICE BREAKER

What is your dream job? What is a skill/tool/talent from your time at the GSS you think will be useful in that dream job? Board members noted a desire to teach and research. They were focused on sustainability and leadership.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: RESOLVED the agenda is approved as presented.

M/S: BICKLEY/SAFARI

CARRIED

[KENT arrived at 1:44pm]

BOARD TRAINING

1. TRAINING – INDIVIDUAL DUTIES AND FINANCE 101

For discussion: What are the overall and individual duties of GSS board members? Where does the GSS get its money and what do we spend it on?

TASK: TURNER to circulate powerpoints from training session from April 19, 2022 Executive Board meeting to all board members.

NEW BUSINESS

2. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

GUEST: Karen POTTS to provide an overview of committees requiring a Board member

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

- *Faculty of Graduate Studies Council – 1 Executive Board member*

Nominations: Nicole KENT Member elected: Nicole KENT

- *Graduate Fee Reduction Appeals Committee – 1 Executive Board member*

Nominations: Bobby BICKLEY Member elected: Bobby BICKLEY

- *Graduate Recruitment, Retention and Success Implementation Committee – 1 Executive Board member*

*Nominations: Kyla TURNER Member elected: Kyla TURNER**

- *VP Research Advisory Committee – 1 Executive Board member*

Nominations: Nahid SAFARI Member elected: Nahid SAFARI

- *Campus Planning Committee – 1 Executive Board member*

Nominations: Bobby BICKLEY Member elected: Bobby BICKLEY

- *Integrated Steering Committee for the Climate Sustainability Action Plan – 1 Executive Board member*

Nominations: Nahid SAFARI Member elected: Nahid SAFARI

- *Mandatory Temporary Medical Insurance Opt-Out Appeal Committee – 1 Executive Board member*

Nominations: Wyatt MADDOX Member elected: Wyatt MADDOX

M/S: SAFARI/BICKLEY

CARRIED

**NB: The election of the Executive Director to a UVic committee will be a one year trial to re-balance elected board member workloads. The Executive Director shall only serve on limited UVic committees per the Executive Board's direction.*

Motion: RESOLVED one Executive Board member is elected to the Victoria Regional Transit Commission Student Transit Advisory Committee.

Nominations: Summer OKIBE Member elected: Summer OKIBE

M/S: SAFARI/BICKLEY

CARRIED

Motion: RESOLVED Nicole KENT is reappointed as the incumbent to the EQHR Policy Advisory Committee for 2022-23.

Nominations: Nicole KENT Member elected: Nicole KENT

NOTE: Nicole was elected to this committee in the 2020-21 Board term. Per new University and External Committee Representation Policy section 4.3, GSS representatives with an unspecified term of office will be deemed to have a 12-month appointment. Nicole is now overdue to be reappointed.

M/S: BICKLEY/SAFARI

CARRIED

3. GOVERNANCE ANNUAL CALENDAR

GUEST: Karen POTTS to present a high-level overview of major, time-intensive annual governance activities of the GSS.

Discussion tabled to April 26, 2022.

[POTTS left meeting at 2:57pm]

STANDING ITEMS PART 2

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: RESOLVED the minutes from the April 12, 2022 Executive Board Meeting are approved as presented.

M/S: SAFARI/KENT

CARRIED

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

TASKS Completed:

April 8, 2022:

TASK: TURNER to circulate calendar invites to upcoming Executive Board, GRC, General Membership meetings and April 29 strategic planning day.

TASK: TURNER to circulate conflict of interest forms to all board members. All board members to return conflict of interest forms by April 29, 2022.

TASKS: TURNER to circulate the March 22, 2022 bylaws and governance manual to all board members.

POTTS to circulate training materials presented to the board to all board members.

TASK: TURNER to circulate information about GSSBC and GSSBC Executive Committee before next board meeting on April 12, 2022 to allow board members to make an informed decision around their engagement on external committees.

TASK: TURNER to send Executive Board and Jim Dunsdon an introductory email and invite Jim Dunsdon to a subsequent session of the Executive Board to give an overview of Operational Relations and Exec to Exec meetings.

April 12, 2022:

TASK: TURNER to confirm May 10, 2022 board meeting attendance with Jim Dunsdon.

April 19, 2022:

TASK: TURNER to circulate powerpoints from training session from April 19, 2022 Executive Board meeting to all board members.

G. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Moved to new business.

CLOSING ITEMS

EXECUTIVE INFORMAL DISCUSSION/UPDATES/QUESTIONS

Chair: OKIBE no report.

Director of Communications: KENT requested support in recruiting members to the Communications Committee as the only active member is graduating this semester.

Director of Finance: BICKLEY requested scheduling for individual meetings with staff supports for incoming board meeting. TURNER to schedule meetings

Director of Student Affairs: SAFARI no report.

Executive Director: TURNER reported that she will be finalizing staff summer work plans (including the restaurant re-opening) and collective bargaining prep in the next two weeks so the staff and board can be fully briefed on these plans starting in early May.

TURNER requested board members shout out their key issues for the annual plan and reminded the board that the annual planning “retreat” is coming up next Friday. Board members were in favour of a themed plan around cost of living this year, which could include housing availability and affordability, International Student MSP fee reduction/elimination advocacy to the Province of BC, calling on members to sign up for Fair Pharmacare and MSP Supplemental Benefits.

TASK: TURNER to start email chain with the entire board regarding annual planning that includes examples of past plans and suggestions for how to formulate the current plan.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING

Agenda item: Governance Annual Calendar

GUEST: Karen POTTS to present a high-level overview of major, time-intensive annual governance activities

Motion: BIRT to approve the in-camera minutes from XYZ dates.

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 Meetings: April 26, 2022 – Land acknowledgement by BICKLEY

Next GRC Meeting: June 21, 2022

AGM: October 25, 2022


Office, Staff Scheduling Notes:


ADJOURNMENT

Motion: RESOLVED the meeting is adjourned at 3:15pm.

M/S: BICKLEY/SAFARI

CARRIED

X 
Summer Okibe
GSS Chair 2022-23

X 
Kyla Turner
Executive Director