

University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society

Graduate Representative Council

(HYBRID) MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION: GSS BOARD ROOMS OR:

[HTTPS://UVIC.ZOOM.US/J/4301702495?PWD=EW9RSND4UUPBSWXRDWZLCVZUSGV6QT09](https://uvic.zoom.us/j/4301702495?pwd=EW9RSND4UUPBSWXRDWZLCVZUSGV6QT09)

MAY 23, 2023, 5-7 PM

Elected Academic Unit Reps (1 vote per academic unit) Invited (as of April 3, 2023):

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Anthropology: Rachel Hooton | Studies: Weiyi Liu, Sindhu Merwin | Narayana |
| Art History and Visual Studies: Sarah Roberts, Megan Austin | Electrical and Computer Engineering: Amer Kumar, Anushka Singh | Music: Sean Kiley |
| Biochemistry & Microbiology: Ladan Kalani, Loc Ngo | English: Lucie Kotěšovská | Nursing: Lorilee Scott |
| Biology: Sarah Lane, Talen Rimmer | Environmental Studies: Lauren Burton | Pacific and Asian Studies: Iván Garcimartín Carmona |
| Business: Ethan Sun | French: Cédric Trahan | Political Science: Katy Rosnau, Marlowe Evans |
| Chemistry: Harvey MacKenzie; Mitch Nascimento (Director of Services) | Geography: Kali McDougall | Psychology: Cian Dabrowski |
| Civil Engineering: David Serrano Suarez, Prakriti Raizada | Greek and Roman Studies: Alix Galumbeck | Public Health & Social Policy: Zachary Derrick |
| Computer Science: Andrea Nguyen | Health Information Science: Dee Dee Wong, Evangeline Wagner | Social Dimensions of Health: Olvie Li |
| Curriculum and Instruction: Yi Qian, Denneisha Griffin-Pinnock | Law: Kirsty Broadhead | Sociology: Tyler Branston, Hossein Rahmati |
| Earth & Ocean Sciences: Moronke Harris | Linguistics: Matthew Somerville, Rosemary Webb | Theatre: Barbara Clerihue |
| Educational Psychology and Leadership | Medical Sciences/Neuroscience: Kamal | CUPE 4163: Kaitlyn Diederichs |

GSS Executive Board (1 vote per elected Board member) Present:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Chair: Wyatt Maddox | Director of Student Affairs: Lindsay Beal |
| Director of Communications: Greg Gaube | Executive Director: Neil Barney representing Kyla TURNER (non-voting) |
| Director of Finance: Samuel Fielder | |
| Director of Services: Mitch Nascimento | |

Recorder: Irfan Tanveer, GSS Governance Coordinator

Regrets Received:

- Political Science:** Katy Rosnau
- Biology:** Sarah Lane
- Director of Communications:** Greg Gaube
- Public Health & Social Policy:** Zachary Derrick

Academic Units without Representation:

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Child and Youth Care | Germanic and Slavic Studies | Mechanical Engineering | Visual Arts |
| Economics | History | Philosophy | Writing |
| Exercise Science, Physical & Health Education | Indigenous Education | Physics and Astronomy | |
| French | Interdisciplinary Studies | Public Administration | |
| | Mathematics and Statistics | Social Work | |

CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CALL TO ORDER 5:00 PM

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT 5:01 PM

Land Acknowledgement is done by: SARAH ROBERTS

STANDING ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA 5:05

MOTION: RESOLVED the agenda is approved as presented.

M/S: Executive Board/WEBB

B. TIMEKEEPER VOLUNTEER 5:07

Today's timekeeper was: BURTON

C. MEMBERSHIP REPORT, MEETING QUORUM AND ATTENDANCE 5:10

GSS Membership: Kyla to update this section when she's back from vacation. Sorry guys. There's lots of you, but I left before the add/drop date.

Meeting Quorum: With 5 regrets received, quorum for tonight's meeting is 21.

Meeting Guests: Any non-voting reps or co-reps? Please identify yourself so we can welcome you!

Welcome to new GRC reps: Delaney Johnson (Pacific and Asian Studies), Jade Fischer and Jamal Muhammad Khani (Physics and Astronomy), Kalpana Jha (Public administration)

Moved/second: ROBERT/BURTON

D. CHAIR'S REMARKS 5:15

MADDOX will update GRC on the goings on of the Executive Board.

Participate in science walk out

Meeting with politician

Most of event and ideas are in September and NASCIMENTO has a lot of ideas

Mostly the board is aiming for annual plan.

A. GRC COMMITTEE, ELECTORAL OFFICER REPORTS, UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS 5:20

- Appeals: NASCIMENTO: **5 Appeal, done good job**
- Bylaw & Policy: MADDOX: **bylaw policy committee decided to wrap up and made entries work flow to better understand and track projects using project tracker. Maddox mentioned that bylaw 6.5B has to be eliminated or replaced.**
- Communications: GAUBE – Sarah mentioned about Wednesday writers coffee in **communications meetings main focus of social median and particularly Instagram which is gaining attention. Another plat form being worked on is Reddit. Furthermore UVic TV advertisements. Lastly orientation docs, such as handbooks and pamphlets will be achieving by the end of summer.**
- Events: NASCIMENTO: **2 event happened, mini painting night and knitting night was successful in its own way. Low turn around in board game club and expecting a lot when people will be back in fall. Some events are coming up soon such as movie nights by Sarah Roberts and painting nights. Wednesday coffee will be on to Wednesday writing starting in June 7th in side project**

- Finance: FIELDER - **planning to have first committee meeting, placing structure f broad planning. Looking into funding scheme which must be smooth out for graduate students**
- Student Affairs: BEAL – **first student affair committee meeting had the opportunity for team building and few task relevant to compilation of data base for food sovereignty and security.**
- Stipend Review: GALUMBECK – **Evangeline’s committee’s goal is to working on feedback and reports.**
- Electoral Officer: BURTON – **no election happening**
- Conduct Committee: TBA

E. GRC STANDING COMMITTEES – APPOINTMENTS 5:30

MOTION: RESOLVED the 2022-23 GRC reps are appointed to the GRC Standing Committees as follows:

*Student Affairs: KALPANA JHA,
Communications: FISCHER
Events: KHANI
Events: JOHNSON
Stipend: FISCHER*

M/S: FIELDER/BEAL

F. OPEN DIALOGUE AND REPORTS 5:35

LEAD: MADDOX AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Councillors will have a chance to discuss issues facing colleagues in their unit and UVic graduate students in general.

Detailed minutes are not taken in this discussion. This is a space for grad students to discuss concerns, advocacy work, successes, and lessons learned. If members want information specifically recorded in the minutes (which are public record), please send a written report to gssgov@uvic.ca.

SARAH said reports are still yet to be submitted. She also talked about campuses limited access to food and beverage access.

MADDOX said when he was a GRC rep he wrote a letter to UVic admin and his letter went through proper process and end up going to administration and their response was no action because of insufficient revenue or not being able to break even then shutting off is the only option for the uvic administration. Since uvic pays much hire and hence forth can't employ if keep getting into losses.

ROSEMARY emphasise on the reports and feedback sent by the GRC reps so that communication committee can better understanding.

JHA said she has particular hurdles in socializing and wasn't able to access to community events info. Same said it's due to unfortunate huge barriers present but try to spread words using word of mouth.

BARNEY said that reps should reach out to communication coordinator and ask if reps have any questions and concern regarding social events.

Overall the discussion revolved around the spread of information among students. What are some of the places where graduate students can get help or become a part of the community and further chance to mentor other students?

ROBERTS mentioned about global community.

BEAL talked about how her grad secretary can be helpful in signing graduate students up for events and being part of the community.

BREAK – 5 MINUTES –6:00 PM

MEETING NEW BUSINESS

1. DEBRIEF OF SUPPORT OUR SCIENCE WALK OUT 6:05

Lead: GAUBE

Reference: Notes from GAUBE – overwhelmingly successful. Everyone showing. That was really positive and appreciates everyone who joined. Social media was highly active on that day and since it was a last minutes plan change which turned to be successful.

For: Decision

ROBERTS – question about who lead ‘support our science’ student organize.

MADDOX – said we have a draft email, its generic email which can be sent to any government officials. The draft will be soon shared by the Board w GSS with the GSS Reps.

2. DEBRIEF OF LAUREL COLLINS AND SELINA ROBINSON MEETING 6:15

Lead: MADDOX, BEAL

Reference: MADDOX - Meeting with LAUREN COLLINS the MP, to support science campaign.

Unfortunately Lauren was out of office but was reached out by email and Lauren said the graduate students issues are taken seriously and will bring up to the floor in Ottawa

MADDOX- Meeting with SELINA ROBERTS regarding compensation for students who have graduated but she wasn’t that helpful.

ROBERTS – asked about did SELINA considers graduate students to fall under the compensation?

MADDOX said SELINA talked about my tax but stipend are removed.

For: Decision

3. DEBRIEF OF CUPE UBC MEETING 6:17

Lead: MADDOX

Reference: MADDOX – had lunch with CUPE for RA unionization and UBC GSS is not really supporting the cause and MADDOX mentioned that we are not joining with UBC GSS but will get in touch with SFU GSS.

For: Decision

4. GRC VOLUNTEERS DATE, TIME, LOCATION, AND FOOD FOR SEPTEMBER 6:20

Lead: MADDOX

Reference: Food discussion, MADDOX questioned about if the food entice them to come and join the GRC meeting.

For: Decision

JHA asked about if side project and NEIL responded that we cannot offer openings space because of the liquor licence.

ROBERTS – Said that we should invite non-GRC members to join and will create more awareness.

MADDOX - Asked if Wednesday would be better for GRC meeting compared to Tuesday for the fall 2023.

NIEL – Mentioned that we could offer drinks for GRC meetings.

NEIL – Thinks if many people want to come and join he would be happy to accommodate.

STANDING ITEMS 2 AND CLOSING ITEMS 6:30 PM

B. REPORTS FROM GRAD REPS ON UVIC COMMITTEES 6:30

LEAD: MADDOX

Open Floor to hear any reports from graduate student representatives on:

- Board of Governors: name
- Senate: name
- Faculty of Graduate Studies Council: name
- UVic Advisory Committees: name
- UVic Award Committees:
- UVic Search and Hiring Committees: name
- UVic Faculty Committees: name
- Fine Arts of Associate dean appointment committee: ROBERTS said the hiring has been postponed to September.
- Award for Excellence in Teaching for Experiential Learning: Denneisha and needs specific dates.

Note: Reps are encouraged to submit short written reports to gssgov@uvic.ca for inclusion in the minutes.

G. GRADUATE REPRESENTATION ON UVIC COMMITTEES – VACANCIES (APPENDIX C) 6:35

LEAD: TANVEER

As per GSS Bylaws, Grad Councillors are asked to sit on at least one UVic Committee to ensure graduate student interests are represented. There are currently 1 vacancies to be filled. For information on each committee please see the GSS webpage: <https://gss.uvic.ca/about-gss/get-involved/committees/grad-representation-at-uvic/>

MOTION: RESOLVED the following graduate student representatives are elected to the following UVic committees, accordingly:

H. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (APPENDIX A) 6:40

MOTION: RESOLVED the Minutes of the February 28, 2023 GRC meeting are approved as presented].

M/S FIELDER /NASCIMENTO

I. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/PAST MEETINGS (APPENDIX B) 6:42

LEAD: MADDOX

If you, or your committee, were assigned a task at a previous meeting, please provide an update. This is also the time for Councillors to ask follow-up questions on previously assigned tasks and motions.

J. EXECUTIVE BOARD STIPEND REPORTS – QUESTIONS ARISING AND MOTION TO ACCEPT – 6:45

LEAD: WAGNER

REF DOCS: Executive Board Reports Folder

Councillors are required to read the Executive Board reports (REF DOC on Connect) prior to the meeting.

MOTION: BIRT the Executive Board Reports for April 2023 from BEAL, NACIMENTO and FIELDER are approved as recommended by the Stipend Review Committee.

BIFRT the Executive Board Reports for April 2023 from MADDOX and GAUBE are approved upon receipt as recommended by the Stipend Review Committee. Moved: Stipend Review Committee

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M/S: SRC/KALANI

C. REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT/ADVOCACY/PARTICIPATION 6:50

LEAD: MADDOX

Opportunity for any GRC member participating in a group or issue to request support or participation from other graduate students. Bring information about rallies, events, good information and resource links and be ready to post in the CHAT!

D. NOTICES OF MOTION FOR NEXT MEETING

LEAD: MADDOX

Please see Appendix D for a GRC Agenda Item template.

E. IMPORTANT DATE REMINDERS: CHECK YOUR GRC CONNECT HOMEPAGE CALENDAR!

LEAD: MADDOX

Next GRC Meeting: June 27, 2023

- Please have any potential agenda items, with supporting materials, to the Executive Board for consideration, in advance of May 9, 2023
- Agenda posted: May 16, 2023

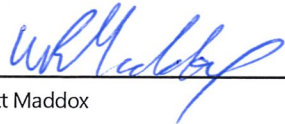
Office, Staff Scheduling Notes:

F. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: RESOLVED the meeting is adjourned.

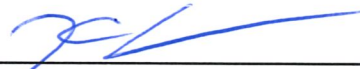
M/S: BOURTON/FIELDER

X



Wyatt Maddox
GSS Chair 2023-24

X



Kyla Turner
GSS Executive Director

