

University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society

Graduate Representative Council

(HYBRID) MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION: GSS BOARD ROOMS OR: [HTTPS://UVIC.ZOOM.US/J/83252952515](https://uvic.zoom.us/j/83252952515)

JULY 25, 2023, 5-7 PM

Elected Academic Unit Reps Present (1 vote per academic unit) Invited (as of June 7, 2023):

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

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

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

Invited Guests:

Recorder: Irfan Tanveer, GSS Governance Coordinator

Regrets Received:

- Barbara Clerihue
- Lucie Kotěšovská
- Andrea Nguyen
- Amer Kumar
- Harvey MacKenzie
- Anushka Singh
- Kamal Narayana
- Olive Li

Academic Units without Representation:

- Child and Youth Care
- Economics
- Exercise Science, Physical & Health Education
- French
- Germanic and Slavic Studies
- History
- Indigenous Education
- Interdisciplinary Studies

Mathematics and Statistics
Mechanical Engineering
Philosophy
Social Work
Visual Arts
Writing

CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CALL TO ORDER 5:00 PM

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT 5:01 PM

Councillors (non-Executive Board members) are asked to take a turn to provide a personal statement of land acknowledgement.

Councillors are reminded to sign up for either a timekeeper or land acknowledgement provider spot on the GRC Teams site [sign up sheet](#).

Today's personal land acknowledgement will be provided by Sarah ROBERTS. ROBERTS provided further education on why it is important to say "we acknowledge" the territories on which we work instead of "I acknowledge" as all involved in a meeting are working on traditional, often unceded/stolen land of Indigenous nations.

STANDING ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA 5:05

MOTION: RESOLVED the agenda is approved as presented.

M/S: Executive Board/ JOHSSON

B. TIMEKEEPER VOLUNTEER 5:07

Today's timekeeper was ROBERTS.

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

GSS Membership: As of May 30, 2023, the GSS has 2659 members.

Meeting Quorum: With 10 regrets received, quorum for tonight's meeting is 15.

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

Welcome to new GRC reps:

D. CHAIR'S REMARKS 5:15

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

Focus on annual plan and MADDOX appreciated FIELDER on his work for the annual plan.

MADDOX will submit it to Petri.

MADDOX mentioned that event coordinator will be taking time off due to school commitment.

A new health coordinator is hired and will have a month of overlap with the current health and dental coordinator.

MADDOX also reported on personnel changes: Daniel Gudino (Events Coordinator) and Glenda Beecham (Health and Dental Coordinator) from the staff have resigned their positions in August (Daniel) and October (Glenda). We are hiring internally for both.

Working with Research Assistant and unionizing them. SFU have shown some sign of tuition relieve for the graduate students.

Events are all prepped for the September.

GSS will be focusing onto the orientations for September.

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

- Appeals: NASCIMENTO – Appeal meeting update was given by FIELDER and its pretty chill
- Bylaw & Policy: MADDOX – Working on first project with our new framework and will get more active for the fall. Some of the work will be presented today.
- Communications: GAUBE – WEBB noted that Comms Committee is working on materials to distribute over orientation. They are focusing on recyclable materials. Further WEBB mentioned about health and dental pamphlet and bookmark design have been sent to Petri.
- Events: NASCIMENTO – ROBERTS attended last meeting of events and it happened during pride parade week. Moving forward to orientation events like BARNEY working on BBQ events. KALANI would like people to join for bike ride event in august. ROBERTS gave thanks to Fierce Brosnan for hosting trivia night.
- Finance: FIELDER – July meeting is postponed due to FIELDER school commitments and nothing new update now. TURNER mentioned about FIELDER’s work on credit card policy and new controls on credit card usage have been submitted to the board.
- Student Affairs: BEAL – cultivating the food sovereignty project and its slow project and will take long time. So far, a google doc has been created and ROBERT’s is working on completing it. Lastly the committee is getting involved in Campus Community Garden.
- Stipend Review: GALUMBECK – WAGNER have written executive board reports and finalized it. WAGNER will be sending in an email about the new reports that board member should follow it.
- Electoral Officer: BURTON no electoral event occurred in July.
- Conduct Committee: TBA no Conduct Committee active at this time.

E. OPEN DIALOGUE AND REPORTS 5:35

LEAD: MADDOX

Please provide us with your feedback to the email we have sent you mid July.

GRC Debrief and wrap up: From Irfan Tanveer’s July 17 email (erroneously titled “Tes” sorry y’all, my bad – Ky):

- * How did you become interested in serving as a Graduate Student Representative?
- * What were some of the main responsibilities and tasks you undertook during your tenure?
- * Can you highlight any significant accomplishments or positive changes that occurred during your time as a representative?
- * What were the challenges you encountered while representing the graduate student community?

TURNER mentioned NASIMENTO's will officially taking off on August 1st.

TURNER mentioned that BURTON should consider looping the committee on voting for the interim director of services.

MADDOX mentioned that NASMENSITO have significant work accomplished and we are not too worried.

Further MADDOX said that for the up coming term we would like other directors on the board to take lead on some projects if they are planning to stay with the GSS.

WAGNER – For the leave of absence will pause board members stipend to be paused. NASMENSITO will get his last stipend payment for the July.

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: DERRICK reported: LAC had our last meeting, and the Harassment Policy will be up for student wide consultation very soon!
There was also a Faculty of Grad studies Equity meeting, that unfortunately I missed but they are working on a student-wide survey for more consultation as well.
- UVic Award Committees: name
- UVic Search and Hiring Committees: n: MADDOX reported that the Ombudsperson hiring committee is conducting interviews this week. The candidates are highly varied by high quality.

MADDOX is a member and the committee selected 5 people out of 14 applications. 5 People were sent home with questionnaires and their interview will be happening soon.

UVic Faculty Committees: BURTON – said she received an email from the dean of the faculty of social science about support for the international students and he is seeking someone is interested to join.

ROBERTS – Mentioned that international student council exist, and they meet at global community office, and it comprises of undergraduate and graduate students.

BURTON – said she received an email from the dean of the faculty of social science about support for the international students and he is seeking someone is interested to join.

ROBERTS – Mentioned that international student council exist, and they meet at global community office, and it comprises of undergraduate and graduate students.

WEBB asked for volunteers for a button and bookmark worker bee party.

RIMMER noted that the Province and the Ministry for Post-Secondary Ed is in discussions about MITACS grant funding. RIMMER asked for information from students funded by MITACS. FIELDER promoted a tour of the campus observatory that he will be leading in the Fall. More info in August.

WEBB mentioned about the creating and cutting of bookmarks and suggested people to join.

TURNER – Further there will be button making event as well.

RIMMER – mentioned about my tax grants for graduate students and he said the result is that there is a miss understanding of the portion of grants being paid to graduate students. RIMMER further asked the GRC to report if or any information about the grant related work going on. MADDOX will get back to RIMMER and update.

FIELDER – Running a tour of the observatory on-campus. It will happen in the fall.

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

LEAD: MADDOX

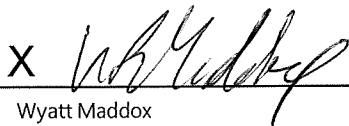
Next GRC Meeting: Cancelled

E. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: RESOLVED the meeting is adjourned.

M/S: FIELDER/DERRIK

CARRIED

X 
Wyatt Maddox
GSS Chair 2023-24

X 
Kyla Turner
GSS Executive Director