

University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society

Executive Board

(HYBRID) MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

Zoom Link: <https://uvic.zoom.us/j/2244264481>

EXECUTIVE INVITED:

Wyatt MADDOX, Chair;
Greg GAUBE, Director of Communications and Vice Chair;
Samuel FIELDER, Director of Finance;
Maggie LAWTON, Interim Director of Services;
Lindsay BEAL; Director of Student Affairs;
Kyla TURNER, Executive Director (non-voting)

GUESTS: Robin Hicks, Dean of FGS;

REGRETS: Mitch NASCIMENTO, Director of Services;

STANDING ITEMS PART 1

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Maddox at 9:32am.

B. TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Territorial acknowledgement offered by TURNER.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA 9:34

Motion: RESOLVED the agenda is approved as presented.
M/S: FIELDER/LAWTON
CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

1. FGS EQUITY SURVEY 9:35

Lead: HICKS

Reference: [FGS survey draft](#),

For: Discussion

HICKS asked for a check in on the survey draft that he had circulated to us in August. The survey is one of the action items in the UVic equity action plan. The survey was developed via committee which included grad representation thru Zackary Derrick (Thanks Zack!) and EQHR. HICKS is seeking further grad student input from the GSS Board.

MADDOX noted that he had compiled our comments. HICKS committed to bringing our comments to the working group.

TASK: MADDOX to forward the board's compiled comments on the FGS equity survey to FGS Dean Hicks.

2. FGS COUNCIL TERMS OF REFERENCE REVISIONS AND GRAD REPRESENTATION 9:45

Lead: HICKS

Reference:

For: Discussion

HICKS provided a background overview of the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) Council terms of reference (TOR). HICKS is proposing a change to membership to include the GSS Chair, five student representatives, as well as a representatives from each faculty (generally the Graduate Advisor), all FGS Associate Deans, etc.

Currently, student representation on FGS Council includes dedicated seats for the GSS Chair, 2 elected Master's reps, 2 elected PhD students, (the latter four being elected from the entire student body),

HICKS proposes a new structure with:

1 GSS Executive Representative

1 grad student from Engineering & Computer Science, Science or Medical Sciences

1 grad students from Business, Law or Human and Social Development

1 grad student from Humanities or Fine Arts

1 Social Sciences or Education:

TURNER noted that this would resolved long-standing issues with the FGS Council elections that have been unsuccessful for the last three years. HICKS noted a desire to shift to open discussions about supervision practices, funding models, etc. and that having student voices in these dialogues may outweigh the full democratic process of a student-wide election.

TURNER requested language to say "normally" on the faculty distribution and noted that effort will be made to elect one international student and one Indigenous Student.

[HICKS left the meeting at 9:55]

FIELDER asked after the distribution of work for the electoral process, the impact on FGS Council and the workload distribution in terms of GRC elections. LAWTON asked whether the appointments need to be GRC reps. GAUBE noted the importance of the volunteer lists if we re-distributed committee appointments thru GRC. FIELDER asked after the ways this change would aligned with our proposed board restructuring.

3. GRAD STUDENT APPRECIATION WEEK 10:00

Lead: GAUBE/DAVIEL (TURNER to update for Daviel)

Reference:

For: Discussion

Events planned include a Big Board Game Night on Oct 24, Excellence in Graduate Research Symposium (EGRS), Supervisory Relations Panel Discussion, and a Faculty Tasting Night on October 25, Grad Wellness Day

(including a nature walk and colouring and cocoa and promotion for Student Wellness Centre wellness events such as the Grad Student Sharing Circle) on October 26, and an FGS Grad Student Social on Friday, Oct 27.

GAUBE provided details on how EGRS will be run: there will be three ways to present: posters, seminar presentation, and virtual seminar exclusively for distance students. GAUBE discussed how to make this all work with the AGM and having a two day booking for AV supports between October 24-25.

GAUBE requested assistance from FGS to judge the presentations. GAUBE requested board assistance on volunteering and volunteer engagement and management.

GAUBE's draft plan for division of labour: TURNER, GAUBE, DAVIEL and BARNEY to lead and coordinator

Virtual presentation coordinator: Rosemary Webb

2 Coffee Hour Coordinators: AM: Lindsay BEAL, PM: Events Committee Volunteer

Side Project/Presentations Coordinator/MC: Sam FIELDER

Grad House/Poster Session Coordinator: Maggie LAWTON

Panel Coordinator: Lindsay BEAL

4. EVENTS FOR OCTOBER-DECEMBER 10:05

Lead: GAUBE/DAVIEL (TURNER to update for Daviel)

Reference:

For: Discussion

GAUBE also reported on planned October events including board games continuing every Tuesday, Crafty Wednesdays (4th, 11th, Nov 1st), a Zoom Show and Tell (6th), Galey Farms Pumpkin Fest (21st), Grad Student Appreciation Week (Oct 24-27), Werewolf (online and in person 31st)

5. CUPE UPDATES 10:10

Lead: FIELDER/GAUBE

Reference:

For: Discussion

Moved to closing items.

6. WELCOME NEW D SERV – MAGGIE LAWTON 10:20

Lead: MADDUX

Reference:

For: Discussion

MADDUX provided an overview of the D. Services work that is required of an Interim role. MADDUX also reviewed the perks of being a board member. MADDUX noted the general workflow for the board.

STANDING ITEMS PART 2

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES 10:28

Motion: RESOLVED the minutes from the September 14, 2023 Executive Board Meeting are approved as presented.

M/S: BEAL/GAUBE

CARRIED

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS 10:30

Lead: TURNER

Note: To ensure motion log is updated, ensure completed items are reported in the minutes.

No reports made.

F. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS 10:35

Reminder to Kyla: Include full name and titles for Governance Coordinator in Committee Appointments.

Motion: RESOLVED to elect the following members to the following committees:

Committee: Awards and Recognition Committee

Committee: Committee on Equity and Diversity

Committee: Dean's Advisory Forum on Indigenization

Committee: Convocation Committee

Committee: Gilian Sherwin Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching

Committee: Award for Inclusive and Innovative Course Design

Committee: Nəcəmaat kʷəns čeʔi ʔaʔ šqʷeləqʷən | ČĀNEUEL OL ÍY, ŚĀLEŽEN | Work together with a good heart and mind (Award for Decolonization and Anti-Indigenous Racism)

No appointments made.

G. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED 10:40

No correspondence received.

H. AGENDA PLANNING, OR MEETING DEBRIEF 10:40

Reference: [Meeting Debrief Template](#)

1. GRC – went great! Good job!
2. Operational Relations – MADDIX noted concerns around the lack of cross-walks around campus and request updates from Jim Dunsdon, AVP Student Affairs, about Umo accessibility provisions in the bus loop. BEAL raised creating a lactation friendlier campus.

I. LOBBYING REPORTS 10:45

Reports due at the first meeting of every month.

J. ANNUAL PLAN CHECK-IN 10:45

FIELDER presented the finalized Annual Plan document to LAWTON in further detail than what was discussed at GRC.

CLOSING ITEMS 10:50

EXECUTIVE INFORMAL DISCUSSION/UPDATES/QUESTIONS

Chair: MADDOX noted that he received notification from Joel Lynn, Executive Director Student Development and Success, last night regarding a reported case of sexualized violence that took place on campus on September 26. MADDOX has previously sent around UVic's advice on responding to sexualized violence and support for impacted members.

Director of Communications: GAUBE is pleased with the numbers for sales in the Grad House. Tuesday nights (board game night with the UVSS Board Game Club) are bumping in the restaurant. Mini-painting has tripled attendance this month. GAUBE also reported on a meeting with CUPE 4163.

Director of Finance: FIELDER reported on CUPE 4163 operational level updates for the RA unionization card drive.

Director of Services: LAWTON no report.

Director of Student Affairs: BEAL – reported two new advocacy campaigns raised by members: creating a lactation friendlier campus and Greater Victoria Acting Together raising a desire to work together on transit and housing advocacy. TURNER noted that the lactation friendlier campus issue should be raised to Operational Relations. MADDOX suggested that the transit advocacy campaigns would be outside the scope of our capacity due to the difficulties specifically occurring the Victoria Regional Transit area.

Executive Director: TURNER no report.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING

Events paperwork, photos (15 minutes)

Regrets from Sam for Oct 12

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT DATES

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

Next Executive Meetings: October 12, 2023

Next GRC Meeting: Nov 28, 2023

AGM: October 24, 2023

Office, Staff Scheduling: GSS closed Mondays Oct 2 and 9.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: RESOLVED the meeting is adjourned.

M/S: FIELDER/BEAL

CARRIED

X 

Wyatt MADDOX
GSS Chair 2023-24

X 

Kyla Turner
GSS Executive Director

