

University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society

Executive Board
(HYBRID) MEETING MINUTES

OCT 27, 2023

EXECUTIVE PRESENT:

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

REGRETS: Mitch NASCIMENTO, Director of Services; Maggie Lawton; Interim Director of Services;

STANDING ITEMS PART 1

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by MADDOX at 9:36.

B. TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Territorial acknowledgement offered by TURNER.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: to approve the agenda as presented.

M/S: GAUBE/FIELDER

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

1. SCHEDULING BOARD RESTRUCTURING PLANNING MEETINGS

Lead: TURNER

Reference: Kyla's suggestion board job descriptions draft, Kyla's suggestion job description review template

For: Discussion

DECISION: The Board will meet November 7 at 1pm to review job descriptions.

TASK: TURNER to create individualized job description review templates for each board position inclusive of old and new job descriptions. TURNER to circulate meeting invite for job description reviews.

2. SOLIDARY STATEMENT DRAFTING

Lead: MADDOX

Reference: Solidarity Statement "Template"

For: Discussion

GAUBE noted that the Communications Committee does not feel that current structure of our solidarity statements as they are not always timely, relevant, responsive. Some are outdated and our gaps are speaking louder than our statements.

BEAL noted that our statements are talking to our members about campus life and what our commitments are as part of the campus community.

Decision: The GSS will remove older solidarity statements from our website and future statements will focus on campus life.

3. IN-CAMERA SESSION: LABOUR (ED ANNUAL REVIEW)

Lead: MADDDOX

Reference: Documents in the ED Review Folder on Teams

STANDING ITEMS PART 2

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2023 Executive Board Meeting as presented.

M/S: GAUBE/BEAL

CARRIED

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Lead: TURNER

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

Items assigned to board members that Kyla thinks are complete or abandoned will be listed below and highlighted in yellow. If there's an item you were assigned below highlighted in yellow, please confirm if the task was completed, revoked, or abandoned!

Tasks Completed/Decisions fully acted upon:

Sept 28 - TASK: MADDOX to forward the board's compiled comments on the FGS equity survey to FGS Dean Hicks.

Oct 12 - TASK: TURNER to format our agenda item lists and forward to Operational Relations

F. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

No appointments made.

G. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Item 1: Ministry of Post-Secondary Education Sexualized Violence Policy Review, Introductory Letter

Item 2: Robin Hicks request for volunteers at CAGS (appendix D)

Motion: to receive the correspondence.

M/S: FIELDER/GAUBE
CARRIED

H. AGENDA PLANNING, OR MEETING DEBRIEF

Reference: Meeting Debrief Template

1. Operational Relations – Debrief
 - i. Meeting postponed to November.
2. AGM – Debrief
 - i. GAUBE enjoyed having it in a seminar setting (rows of seating instead of restaurant setting)
 - ii. FIELDER and BEAL agreed that the setting worked well for engagement.
 - iii. GAUBE felt that the questions were robust and demonstrated strong engagement.
 - iv. MADDOX shouted out the food.
 - v. STAFF noted that keeping the meeting to a shorter more focused agenda worked well.
3. Excellence in Graduate Research Symposium/Grad Student Appreciation Week – Debrief
 - i. TURNER suggested tying Grad Student Appreciation Week to the Board elections in order to drive member engagement towards another important governance activity. However, we can continue in October if we conduct ALL planning in the Summer.
 - ii. GAUBE noted that having GSAW in October kept engagement high.
 - iii. Presentations and posters were very impressive. Turn out can improve in subsequent years.
 - iv. The virtual presentations went very well as well. Our thanks to Rosemary Webb for running that session!
 - v. GAUBE to host a fulsome debrief with the planning team and FGS.
 - vi. BEAL recommended having supervisor-supervisee pairs for the supervision panel (as was initially planned.)
 - vii. BEAL, TURNER, and GAUBE discussed improvements to faculty and FGS communications.
 - viii. MADDOX noted the ways we can pivot some of our feedback about FGS's engagement on planning and communications to be future-focused.

I. LOBBYING REPORTS

Reports due at the first meeting of every month.

J. ANNUAL PLAN CHECK-IN

Grad Student Appreciation Week and the AGM (jointly) fit very well into our annual plan. GAUBE asked about getting more communications out to bring more people to us that have not otherwise connected to the GSS. BEAL brought up more volunteer leadership in hosting events that interest them and in word-of-mouth communications and personal invitations. TURNER reviewed plans for rescheduling the Wellness Day that was cancelled due to a power outage.

CLOSING ITEMS

EXECUTIVE INFORMAL DISCUSSION/UPDATES/QUESTIONS

Chair: MADDOX thanked the board for their AGM work. Also reminded everyone that Nov 3 and 6 he is unavailable.

Director of Communications: GAUBE no report.

Director of Finance: FIELDER no report.

Director of Services: LAWTON no report.

Director of Student Affairs: BEAL referred a member at large to the Bylaw and Policy Committee who is interested in the policy work on the lactation friendlier campus.

Executive Director: TURNER is going on vacation over Reading Week.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM: Neil to report on the GH finances from September and October. BEAL sends regrets

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: Nov 9, 2023

Next GRC Meeting: Nov 28, 2023

AGM: March 19, 2024

Office, Staff Scheduling: GSS will be closing for Reading Week in November.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 11:13am.

M/S: GAUBE/FIELDER

CARRIED/FAILED

X

Wyatt MADDUX
GSS Chair 2023-24

X

Kyla Turner
GSS Executive Director