



UVIC GRADUATE STUDENTS' SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 5 pm – 7 pm

(Member verification and registration 4:30-4:55 pm)

Location: Halpern Centre (GSS Building) or Zoom

Minutes

Voting Members Present:

1. Chair: Wyatt Maddox
2. Director of Finance: Samuel Fielder
3. Director of Internal/University Relations: Rosemary Webb
4. Director of External Relations: Jitendra Palaparty
5. Director of Student Life: Maggie Lawton

GRC Reps for:

6. Anthropology: Semyon Drozdetskii
7. Art History and Visual Studies: Sarah Roberts
8. Biochemistry and Microbiology: Gillian Leach
9. Business: Jenna Mehlman (online)
10. Chemistry: Phillip Jurek (online)
11. Chemistry: Jesse Delmage
12. Civil Engineering: Samira Sarkardei
13. Earth and Ocean Science: Stacey Edmondson (online)
14. Earth and Ocean Science: Nadiya Shore
15. Educational Psychology and Leadership: Yasmeen Barakat
16. Electrical and Computer Engineering: Victor Marrugat Arnal
17. Electrical and Computer Engineering: Mahmoud Chick Zaouali
18. Environmental Studies: Lauren Burton
19. Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education: Maryam Sheikhi (online)
20. French: Jacqueline Rutherford
21. Geography: Adam Regier
22. Geography: Hazim Ismail
23. Greek and Roman Studies: Luke Montgomery

24. History: Joan Kelly
25. Indigenous Governance: Ali Malhi
26. Law: Katarina Sawchuk (online)
27. Mathematics: Khai Quigley
28. Mechanical Engineering: Bernardo Leite
29. Music: Talietha Sangha
30. Pacific and Asian Studies: Bryce Bartsch
31. Philosophy: Yukio Jamieson-Burns
32. Physics and Astronomy: Nathan Clements
33. Physics and Astronomy: Olivia Moluchi
34. Political Science: Michael Chutskoff
35. Public Administration: Mary-Ann Sing
36. Sociology: Jasmine Padam (online)
37. Sociology: Neve Sugars-Keen (online)

Regular GSS Members:

38. Asma Noreen, Educational Psychology and Leadership (online)
39. Hayle Dambrowsky, Political Science (online)
40. Bryn Lonsbrough, Physics and Astronomy
41. Rowan Hargreaves, Public Administration (online)
42. Tahir Jamil, Electrical and Computer Engineering
43. Aida Majidi, SLLC
44. Mahfuza Rahman, EPLS
45. Anna-Elaine Rempel, Political Science
46. Asif Ali, ECS
47. Ted Grosson, Physicals and Astronomy
48. Amin, Economics
49. Diana Bertuol-Garcia, Environmental Studies
50. Mahdi Sheriati, Economics

GSS Staff and Non-Voting Guests Present:

Executive Director: Kyla Turner

Operations and Services Manager: Neil Barney

Governance Coordinator: Irfan Tanveer

Meeting Chair: Wyatt Maddox

5:00 1. Call to order – Wyatt Maddox, Chair

Meeting called to order at 5:03pm by MADDUX.

5:05 2. Land acknowledgement

Territorial acknowledgement offered by MADDUX.

5:07 3. AGM Quorum Report – Kyla Turner, Executive Director

TURNER reported that we are quorate with five board members, 21 members in person and nine members online. Quorum is 25 voting members.

5:08 4. Approval of the agenda

Motion: to approve the Agenda of the October 22, 2024 GSS Annual General Meeting as presented.

Moved: Executive Board Seconded: BURTON
CARRIED

5:10 5. Approval of Minutes

REF DOC: [2024-03-19 Semi-Annual General Meeting Minutes](#)

Motion: to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2024 GSS Semi-Annual General Meeting as presented.

Moved: Executive Board Seconded: CHUTSKOFF
CARRIED

5:15 6. Presentation of the 2023-24 Audit – Sam Fielder, Director of Finance

REF DOC: [2023-24 GSS Audited Financial Statements](#)

Motion: to approve the 2023-24 Audited Financial Statements as presented.

Moved: Executive Board Seconded: ROBERTS

Discussion:

FIELDER presented an overview of our audited financial statements for 2023-24.

TURNER noted the high level of equipment repairs and maintenance for our kitchen equipment including freezers, fridges, and glass/dishwashers.

A member asked for clarification on how wages were presented in the audit.

A member asked after our net assets and long-term savings.

CARRIED

5:35 7. Re-Appointment of the Auditors

Motion: to appoint Clarke Trowsdale LLP as the 2024-25 financial auditors.

Moved: Executive Board Seconded: LEACH

Abstained: Lonsbrough

CARRIED

5:40 Break

5:45 8. Presentation of the 2024-25 Annual Plan

REF DOC: [2024-25 GSS Annual Plan](#)

MADDOX presented the 2024-25 GSS Annual Plan which focuses on the themes of:

- Fostering student-centre partnerships
- Advocating for graduate student support and well-being
- Facilitating personal and professional development opportunities
- Providing access to on- and off-campus resources

Discussion:

A member asked about our partnerships with other student societies, particularly at a provincial and national level. PALAPARTY noted the work ongoing with GSSBC and TURNER gave a backgrounder on our federation bylaws. ROBERTS asked after our work with community associations.

6:00 9. Reports to the Membership

- a. Report of the [2024-25 Executive Board](#)
- b. [Membership and representation report](#)
- c. [Report of the Executive Director](#)
- d. Reports of GRC Standing Committees
 - i. [Advocacy and Campaigns](#) – Jitendra PALAPARTY, Director of External Relations
 - ii. [Appeals](#) – Samuel FIELDER, Director of Finance & Rosemary WEBB, Director of Internal Relations
 - iii. [Bylaw and Policy](#) – Wyatt MADDOX, Chair
 - iv. [Events](#) – Maggie LAWTON, Director of Student Life
 - v. [Finance](#) – Samuel FIELDER, Director of Finance
 - vi. Stipend Review – TBD, Chair, Stipend Review Committee
- e. [Extended health and dental insurance plan update](#)

Motion: to receive the reports of the 2024-25 Executive Board, committees of the Society, and the semi-annual extended health and dental insurance plans update.

M/S: BURTON/LEACH

Discussion:

Regarding suggestions for future campaigns from the A&C Committee:

CLEMENTS mentioned the Grad Student Income Offset Plan cost increased. FIELDER has been tasked with reaching out to UVic about the GSTIOP fee.

ROBERTS asked after language requirements including Indigenous languages for programs with a language requirement.

HARGREAVES asked after the comparable cost of our insurance plans versus other student societies. TURNER provided the information that our plan is more costly due to membership

size, adding in services through referendum (vision care, dental care, physiotherapy, gender affirming care, vaccine coverage, removal of the requirement to have a referral for paramedicals) and the lack of using StudentCare.

CARRIED

6:30 10. Bylaw Amendments (Appendix A if any)

No bylaw amendments were proposed at this general meeting.

6:50 11. Other Business (with notice of agenda item) and announcements

7:00 12. Adjournment

Motion: to adjourned the meeting at 6:31pm.

Moved: ROBERTS Seconded: CLEMENTS

CARRIED

X

Wyatt MADDOX
GSS Chair 2024-25

X

Kyla Turner
GSS Executive Director