University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society

Executive Board

(ONLINE VIA ZOOM) MEETING MINUTES

JULY 7, 2021

EXECUTIVE PRESENT: David FOSTER, Chair; Nicole KENT, Director of Communications (partial); Adair NG, Director of Services; Nahid SAFARI, Director of Student Affairs; Ryan KHAN, Director of Finance; Kyla TURNER, Executive Director (non-voting)

STANDING ITEMS

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:36PM with FOSTER in the chair.

B. TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Land acknowledgement offered by NG. FOSTER acknowledged that appointment of Canada's first Indigenous Governor General as an important historical step towards reconciliation.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: RESOLVED that the agenda is approved as presented.

M/S: FOSTER/KHAN APPROVED by Consent

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: RESOLVED to table the approval of the minutes from the June 23, 2021

Executive Board Meeting.

M/S: FOSTER/NG APPROVED by Consent

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

No task/motion review.

F. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Motion: RESOLVED graduate student representatives are elected to the following

UVic committees:

2021-22 Campus Planning Committee

Nominations: Ryan KHAN, Jeffrey BRUTON Member elected: KHAN

2021-22 Senate Committee on Libraries

Nominations: Adair NG, Jeffrey BRUTON Member elected: NG

M/S: FOSTER/SAFARI APPROVED by Consent

G. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Reference: 1) Request from UVic to test the user experience on the Student Wellness Centre new website. 2) Access4All is asking to partner with GSS on an accommodations for students with disabilities campaign

Motion: RESOLVED the correspondence is received as presented.

M/S: FOSTER/SAFARI APPROVED by Consent

TASK: SAFARI and TURNER to participate in the review of SWC website. TURNER to correspond with UVic website designers.

TASK: FOSTER, SAFARI, NG to support Access4All campaign on accommodations for students with disabilities. FOSTER to correspond with Access4All.

H. AGENDA PLANNING, OR MEETING DEBRIEF

A. OPERATIONAL RELATIONS JUNE 25, 2021

TURNER commented the meeting went well. We need to focus on the systemic issues at this meeting. SAFARI stated we need to keep a close relationship with this committee in order to influence decisions to benefit our members.

B. GSSBC JUNE 28, 2021

Foster reported on this meeting: There will likely be a federal election in Fall so there was discussion regarding creating and supporting federal level advocacy campaigns. The UBC rep noted that they were working with 15 GSS's across Canada and expressed interest in forming a federal alliance. UVic and SFU GSS have restrictions on joining provincial or federal alliances. There is concern around arriving international students finding off campus housing and getting vaccinated. Island Health has not yet responded to requests for an on-campus vaccination clinic. We should contact the Ministry of Health regarding this issue. GSSBC is hoping to hold a conference for all Board members at participating schools in early 2022.

OLD BUSINESS

1. SCHEDULING

Motion: BIRT the following dates are set for Executive Board training sessions: Indigenous Cultural Acumen
Sexualized Violence

Tabled.

2. RECOGNITION OF HOLIDAYS AND IMPORTANT DATES

REF DOC: Dates to post on social media

Motion: RESOLVED the Society shall recognize and promote the recommended dates in the attached document, excluding those showing as religious holidays, during the 2021-22 Board term.

M/S: SAFARI/FOSTER

Discussion:

SAFARI noted that this would motivate the GSS to create our own posts on awareness dates and holidays instead of sharing UVic or UVSS content.

TURNER noted that this list would help focus our social media content, but this list does not do any work in creating more capacity to create social media posts at the GSS.

FOSTER requested religious holidays be removed from the list.

KHAN concerned about distinguishing between religious holidays.

SAFARI mostly concerned with awareness dates.

APPROVED by Consent

TASK: TURNER to provide Communications Director and Coordinator approved list.

3. SIGNING AUTHORITY

Motion: RESOLVED Adair NG is removed as a signing authority from Society

accounts.

M/S: FOSTER/KHAN APPROVED by Consent

[KENT arrived at 2:13pm]

4. GSS ANNUAL PLAN

REF DOC: GSS Draft Annual Plan 2021-22

Motion: RESOLVED the following board members shall complete and upload first

drafts of the following sections of the Annual Plan: Introduction, Background, Contexts – FOSTER Advocacy Campaigns: RA legal status – FOSTER

Advocacy Campaigns: Compensation for UVic committees – KHAN Advocacy Campaigns: International Student MSP fees – SAFARI

Governance: Policy and Governance Improvements – FOSTER (first draft

complete)

Governance: GRC elections – FOSTER (first draft complete)

Community Engagement: Student Wellness - NG

Community Engagement: University and Community Engagement – CUT

Community Engagement: Fair Pharmacare and MSP Supplemental Benefits – NG

Visibility and Communications: Increase direct member contacts – KENT

Visibility and Communications: Orientation Content – NG

Resource Development: HR Development – KHAN

Resource Development: Graduate Student Advocate – FOSTER Resource Development: Revenue Strategic Plan – KHAN

COVID-19 Business Recovery - KHAN

First drafts to be complete and uploaded to Connect no later than July 12. Final draft of the Annual Plan to be approved at the July 28, 2021 Executive Board

meeting.

M/S: FOSTER/KHAN APPROVED by Consent TASK: KHAN to inform LMC that the July 15, 2021 deadline will not be met.

TASK: TURNER to circulate training options for business recovery planning for board members.

NEW BUSINESS

1. IN-CAMERA SESSION: RE-BOOKKEEPER AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The meeting went in-camera at 2:52pm.

Motion: RESOLVED to move to in-camera for discussion of a contract.

M/S: FOSTER/KENT APPROVED by Consent

The meeting rose from in-camera at 3:19pm.

2. BOOKKEEPER AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Motion: RESOLVED the Board of Directors move to contract another bookkeeper in order to complete current and future financial statements, organize and manage payroll, as well as other responsibilities.

FURTHER RESOLVED the Board establish a short term working group consisting of the D. Finance. Chair, and Executive Director to support the contracting of a bookkeeper.

M/S: KHAN/KENT

CARRIED

TASK: TURNER to upload draft interview questions, ranking systems, reference check questions by 10:00am July 8, 2021.

TASK: TURNER, KHAN and FOSTER to meet July 9, 2021 at for the working group.

3. MANAGEMENT HIRING COMMITTEE

REF DOCS: Management Hiring Policy, Management Hiring Committee Terms of Reference

Motion: RESOLVED the Board of Directors strikes a Management Hiring Committee in accordance with the Management Hiring Committee Terms of Reference in order to conduct a hiring competition for the position of Operations and Services Manager.

M/S: KHAN/KENT

CARRIED

Motion: RESOLVED the Board of Directors elects one additional Board member to

the Management Hiring Committee.

M/S: FOSTER/KHAN

Nominations: Adair NG Member(s) elected: Adair NG

APPROVED by Consent

TASK: TURNER to alert BCUWU that they should elect a rep from the Union for the Management Hiring Committee.

4. INDIGENOUS CULTURAL ACUMEN TRAINING

Motion: RESOLVED the Board of Directors shall arrange to hold an Indigenous Cultural Acumen Training session in the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 semesters, to be open to all Society members, as recommended by the Student Affairs Committee.

M/S: SAFARI/FOSTER APPROVED by Consent

5. PAYMENT OF THE ELECTORAL OFFICER

Motion: RESOLVED the Society pays Tiffany Kuo \$100 for serving as Electoral

Officer for the referendum held on June 9 to 11, 2021.

M/S: FOSTER/KENT

CARRIED

TASK: TURNER to initiate e-transfers for all payments to Tiffany Kuo in her role as Electoral Officer.

CLOSING ITEMS

EXECUTIVE INFORMAL DISCUSSION/UPDATES/QUESTIONS

<u>Chair</u>: FOSTER reported on GSSBC meeting, BPC met yesterday and approved online voting bylaw changes that will go to the AGM in October for approval.

Director of Communications: KENT reported that the handbook is in development and going well.

<u>Director of Finance</u>: KHAN is dealing with bookkeeping and hiring concerns.

<u>Director of Services</u>: NG reported we have a speed friending event next week and encouraged board members to attend.

<u>Director of Student Affairs</u>: SAFARI is spending time on awards committees work to ensure fairness. She is trying to develop self-isolation funds from UVic for incoming international students by lobbying directly to ISS.

<u>Executive Director</u>: K. TURNER please see <u>written June report</u>. Also reported on the progress of the hiring committee for the Health and Dental Coordinator.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING

GRC Recruitment and Orientation Planning

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT DATES

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

Next Executive Meetings: July 13, 2021, 1:30pm

GRC Meetings: July 20, 2021

AGM: October 26, 2021

Office, Staff Scheduling Notes: Halpern Centre staffed only when needed. Office is closed on Fridays until

August

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: RESOLVED the meeting is adjourned at 3:30pm.

M/S: FOSTER/SAFARI APPROVED by Consent

KT/klp/KT/kt/KLP

X	X
David Foster	Kyla Turner
GSS Chair 2021-22	Executive Director