

University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society

Executive Board

(ONLINE VIA ZOOM) MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 1, 2022

EXECUTIVE PRESENT: David FOSTER, Chair; Nicole KENT, Director of Communications; 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 1:33PM with FOSTER in the chair.

B. TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Land acknowledgement offered by KENT.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: RESOLVED the agenda is approved as presented.

M/S: FOSTER/NG

APPROVED by Consent

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: RESOLVED the minutes from the January 18, 2022 Executive Board Meeting is approved with minor corrections as provided.

M/S: FOSTER/KENT

APPROVED by Consent.

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

None.

F. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Motion: RESOLVED graduate student representatives are elected to the following UVic committees:

- *2021-22 Faculty of Social Sciences Awards and Recognition Committee – 1 member in Social Sciences*

Nominations: Member elected:

- *2021-22 Faculty of Social Sciences Dean's Advisory Forum on Indigenization – 1 member in Social Sciences*

Nominations: Member elected:

Tabled.

G. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

1. Housing Consultation with MLA Murray Rankin and Minister of Justice and Attorney General David Eby

TASK: TURNER, FOSTER, and SAFARI to attend the Housing Consultation with MLA Murray Rankin and Minister of Justice and Attorney General David Eby.

2. UVSS Board Resignations

DECISION: No action recommended at this time.

3. UVic Equity Action Plan Consultation

TASK: FOSTER to request a meeting on the UVic Equity Action Plan Consultation.

Motion: RESOLVED the correspondence is received.

M/S: FOSTER/NG

APPROVED by Consent

H. AGENDA PLANNING, OR MEETING DEBRIEF (GRC, OPERATIONAL RELATIONS, ETC.)

1. MEETING DEBRIEF GRC, JANUARY 25, 2022

Discussion: FOSTER recommended that break out rooms remain suspended.

2. AGENDA PLANNING OPERATIONAL RELATIONS, JANUARY 19, 2021

Potential items for Operational Relations agenda:

- Strike a subcommittee with representation from VPAC, VPFO, University Secretary, UVSS and GSS to develop the proposed policy on compensation for students on time-intensive University committees; the GSS Work Study student will be assigned as staff resource under direction of the GSS
- Request that FGS collect information from academic unit graduate secretaries on the amount of office space, lab space and practice space available in each academic unit, to be combined with data from a GSS survey of Grad Reps, in order to better understand the issues brought up by graduate students regarding space shortages

I. LOBBYING REPORTS - Reports due at the first meeting of every month.**J. ANNUAL PLAN CHECK-IN**

1. RESEARCH ASSISTANT STATUS

Decision: FOSTER to continue with task to set up meeting with additional stakeholders.

2. COMPENSATION FOR STUDENTS ON TIME-INTENSIVE UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

Decision: Send to Operational Relations to request a working group.

3. ELIMINATION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MSP

TASK: FOSTER to arrange meeting with SAFARI and UVSS personnel regarding signature collection on this petition.

4. INCREASE CONTACT BETWEEN BOARD AND SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Discussion:

FOSTER recommends one noon hour and one evening event to recruit candidates. FOSTER suggested February 14 12-1pm, February 18, 5-6pm. These Meet the Board events would be to recruit and inform

nominees of opportunities on the board and the work the current board is conducting.

TASKS: TURNER to arrange Meet the Board events for Monday, February 14 from 12-1pm and Friday, February 18, 5-6pm to support recruitment of nominees for the 2022-23 Board election. FOSTER to create a skeleton powerpoint presentation on the board work. KENT, KHAN, NG, and SAFARI to input their own job duties into said powerpoint. Presentations will be followed by a Q&A session for nominees. All board members to solicit participants by contacting previous candidates and active GRC reps to recommend the Meet the Board events. All elected board members to promote the Meet the Board events and the board elections to their committee members.

5. REPURPOSE STUDENT ADVOCATE FUND

Discussion:

FOSTER reminded the Board that the new TOR would need to be approved at the February 15 board meeting.

6. DETERMINE USE OF RESTAURANT SPACE

DISCUSSION:

TURNER provided an update on the Food and Beverage Survey and expected timeline to analyze said results.

NEW BUSINESS

1. SCHEDULING

For discussion

- a) ICAT Training for GRC and GSS members – never scheduled

Discussion:

FOSTER recommended scheduling this for the week of March 14, 2022. TURNER recommended sending planning and implementing this training to Events Committee.

TASK: FOSTER to follow up with ICAT trainers to determine availability the week of March 14.

- b) Robina Thomas discussion – intended to be rescheduled for January 25 GRC, this did not work out

Discussion:

TURNER recommended scheduling this for the SAGM.

TASK: TURNER to delegate scheduling Robina Thomas to speak at the SAGM to GSS staff.

2. FINANCE COMMITTEE QUORUM

Reference: [Legal and Policy Implications of the Finance Committee's Inability to Achieve Quorum](#)

DISCUSSION:

FOSTER recommends the board reviews the budget on February 28 as Finance Committee has not been quorate.

FOSTER recommends the board likewise review our financial statements until such time at the Finance Committee is quorate.

KHAN stated that most committee members have been non-responsive, but the majority accepted the Student Advocate Fund Terms of Reference.

DECISION: Board to approve Budget without Finance Committee recommendation if the Finance Committee is unable to meet before the submission deadline for the February 28, 2022 Executive Board Meeting.

3. LIBRARY CARRELS

Motion: RESOLVED the Executive Board writes to the UVic Library asking the current status of the availability of carrels for graduate student study and stating that since the University considers it safe for students to return to campus, the carrels for graduate students should be reopened.

M/S: FOSTER/NG

APPROVED by Consent

TASK: SAFARI and FOSTER to compose a letter to the UVic Library asking the current status of the availability of carrels for graduate student study and stating that since the University considers it safe for students to return to campus, the carrels for graduate students should be reopened.

[SAFARI dropped call from 2:30 to 2:40pm. KENT dropped the call from 3:10 to 3:25pm.]

4. CONDUCT POLICY CONSULTATION

Board members provided feedback on the Bylaw and Policy Committee's Board/GRC Conduct Policy Consultation.

CLOSING ITEMS

EXECUTIVE INFORMAL DISCUSSION/UPDATES/QUESTIONS

Chair: FOSTER worked a lot of hours in January due in part to a large number of external meetings and in part due to the volume of emails. The Access for All campaign is now looking to pivot back to supporting students with disabilities outside the context of the pandemic. UVic and the Access for All campaign are meeting about accommodations. FOSTER also working on the AVP Research committee which he anticipates will be time intensive.

Director of Communications: KENT reported that NG and KENT met with the new Events Coordinator and Office/Communications Coordinator to work on better collaboration for promoting our events and social media.

Director of Finance: KHAN no report.

Director of Services: NG shared a number of events forthcoming.

Director of Student Affairs: SAFARI no report.

Executive Director: TURNER please see monthly report on Connect. Election, referendum and SAGM prep with the staff are her key areas of focus for early February.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING

None.