

Executive Board

(ONLINE VIA ZOOM) MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED

APRIL 26, 2022

EXECUTIVE INVITED: Summer OKIBE, Chair; Nicole KENT, Director of Communications; Nahid Pourdolat SAFARI, Director of Student Affairs; Wyatt MADDOX, Director of Services; Robert BICKLEY, Director of Finance; Kyla TURNER, Executive Director (non-voting)

GUEST: Karen POTTS, Governance Coordinator

STANDING ITEMS PART 1

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 with OKIBE in the chair.

B. TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Land acknowledgement offered by BICKLEY. OKIBE invited all board members to take a moment of silence to reflect on their own connection to colonized lands.

C. ICE BREAKER

What about your work makes you jump out of bed in the morning? What parts of your work do you dread?

Board members brought up direct member/student supports as what got them out of bed. Whereas administrative work like grading were areas of dread. Board members were making good research progress which brought joy but operating in an additional language or public speaking is challenging and makes member/student engagement harder.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: RESOLVED the agenda is approved with an amendment to the correspondence received to include Jim Dunsdon's memo regarding Operational Relations meeting conflicting with the next Board meeting.

*M/S: MADDOX/KENT
CARRIED*

NEW BUSINESS

1. GRC DEBRIEF

REF DOC: [Meeting debrief template](#)

For Discussion

Objectives:

Introduce the board, pass BPC Policies, elect committee reps, solicit feedback on member needs for annual planning purposes, and soliciting feedback on COVID safety and current comfort levels.

Did we meet objectives?

Board introduced, reps elected to committees, feedback from members received. Not all due to the meeting not being quorate and an individual member speaking against revoking the 2021 COVID safety motion.

What worked well?

Giving GRC reps more time to speak to issues occurring within their department worked well. It fosters solidarity among our members and keeps engagement high among our reps. Less formal meeting facilitates community building.

What issues arose? Were they resolved during the meeting? How could they be avoided?

BICKLEY looking for more opportunities to form board solidarity on the COVID safety motion. MADDOX recommended having the board speak to a motion before opening the discussion up to the floor.

SAFARI recommended sending reminders ahead of GRC to ensure quorum. MADDOX recommended including a brief overview of the agenda in the invite emails.

What were your responsibilities?

MADDOX recommended supporting committee members in making the committee reports. MADDOX recognized OKIBE for doing an excellent job in Chairing. POTTS noted that board member engagement in the chat and keeping cameras on increased engagement.

2. COVID SAFETY TOWN HALL

Lead: Wyatt MADDOX

For Discussion

MADDOX brought up the option of hosting a town hall meeting on COVID safety ahead of the next GRC meeting to foster member engagement and providing space to discuss our COVID safety plans.

MADDOX wanted plain text versions of policies. TURNER walked the board briefly through a rough draft of a town hall powerpoint.

TASK: TURNER to circulate an email to all board members to schedule a town hall planning meeting.

BOARD TRAINING

3. TRAINING – GOVERNANCE ANNUAL CALENDAR AND GSS SERVICES 101

For discussion: What are some of the main governance events that are all-hands-on-deck for the board each year? What services does the GSS offer and how are they administered?

GUEST: Karen POTTS to present a high-level overview of major, time-intensive annual governance activities.

STANDING ITEMS PART 2

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: RESOLVED the minutes from the April 19, 2022 Executive Board Meeting are approved as presented.

M/S: SAFARI/MADDOX
CARRIED

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

Follow-up TASKS assigned:

G. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Motion: RESOLVED to ratify the following representatives to the below committees:

- 2022-23 Award for Excellence in Teaching for Experiential Learning - Lauren Burton
- 2022-23 The Harry Hickman Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching and Educational Leadership and the Gilian Sherwin Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching - Matthew Somerville
- Senate Committee on Academic Standards (May 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) - Kayleigh Francis

M/S: MADDOX/BICKLEY
CARRIED

[POTTS left at 2:57pm]

H. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Item 1: VP Finance and Operations interviewee meetings with GSS Chair invite

Item 2: Operational Relations Meeting Invite from Jim Dunsdon

REF DOC: VP Finance website, Organizational Chart, Departments under VP Finance Office

For Discussion: What key questions should Summer ask on members' behalf in assessing the qualifications, values, and beliefs of candidates for UVic's VP Finance and Operations. These could include:

1. **Very briefly, tell me 3 initiatives you took in your last position that improved the financial wellbeing of graduate students.**
2. **Name an imitative you took that benefited international students specifically.**
3. **What are your intentions around stakeholder consultation or availability for standing meetings for consultation with student leadership?**
4. **What commitments are you willing to make to improve graduate student access to dedicated workspace on campus?**
5. **Campus has seen several horrific instances of racist, transphobic, and homophobic violence in the last year. What do you believe would improve campus safety and how would you support students who are at risk of violence?**

TASKS: TURNER to send agreed upon questions for VP Finance and Operations interviews to OKIBE. TURNER to communicate with Jim Dunsdon's office regarding Operational Relations meeting on May 10, 2022.

Motion: RESOLVED the correspondence is received.
M/S: BICKLEY/MADDOX
CARRIED

I. AGENDA PLANNING, OR MEETING DEBRIEF

Moved to new Business

CLOSING ITEMS

EXECUTIVE INFORMAL DISCUSSION/UPDATES/QUESTIONS

Chair: OKIBE

Director of Communications: KENT

Director of Finance: BICKLEY

Director of Services: MADDOX

Director of Student Affairs: SAFARI

Executive Director: TURNER sent around the draft staff summer work plan to board and staff, previous annual plans to board, and collective bargaining prep to OKIBE and BICKLEY for review. Remainder of the week will focus on prep for the board/staff annual planning day.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING

Motion: BIRT to approve the in-camera minutes from XYZ dates.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT DATES

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

Volunteer Chairs: May 10 – BICKLEY, May 24 – MADDOX

Land acknowledgement: May 10 – KENT, May 24 - SAFARI

Next Executive Meetings: May 10, 2022

Next GRC Meeting: June 21, 2022

AGM: October 25, 2022

Office, Staff Scheduling Notes: Halpern Centre will close Monday, May 3 at 1:30 pm as both staff (Neil and Kyla) on site will be attending UVic Emergency Preparedness training required to be building supervisors on campus.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: RESOLVED the meeting is adjourned at 3:32pm.

M/S: MADDOX/KENT

CARRIED

X



Summer Okibe
GSS Chair 2022-23

X



Kyla Turner
Executive Director