

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA GRADUATE STUDENTS' SOCIETY

Semi-Annual General Meeting (Hybrid)

March 21, 2023

MEETING MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS Present:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Chair: vacant | 19. Earth and Ocean Science: Moronke Harris |
| 1. Director of Communications: Greg GAUBE | 20. Earth and Ocean Science: Katie Jamson |
| 2. Director of Finance: Bobby BICKLEY | 21. Environmental Studies: Lauren Burton |
| 3. Director of Services: Wyatt MADDOX | 22. Geography: Kali McDougall |
| 4. Director of Student Affairs: Nahid SAFARI | 23. Greek and Roman Studies: Alix Galumbeck |
| 5. Art History and Visual Studies: Sarah Roberts | 24. Health Information Science: Dee Dee Wong |
| 6. Biochemistry & Microbiology: Ladan Kalani
(GSS Electoral Officer) | 25. Human & Social Development: Daniel Gudino |
| 7. Biology: Talen Rimmer | 26. Linguistics: Rosemary Webb |
| 8. Biology: Sarah Lane | 27. Linguistics: Anna Moffat |
| 9. Business: Ethan Sun | 28. Physics and Astronomy: Samuel Fielder |
| 10. Chemistry: Harvey Mackenzie | 29. Physics and Astronomy: Scott Wilkinson |
| 11. Chemistry: Grace Tieman | 30. Political Science: Katy Rosnau |
| 12. Chemistry: Ben Godwin | 31. Psychology: Cian Dabrowski |
| 13. Chemistry: Nick Dyck | 32. Sociology: Abby Fleck |
| 14. Chemistry: Sean Dab | 33. Theatre: Barbara Clerihue |
| 15. Chemistry: Algadho Tain | |
| 16. Curriculum and Instruction: Lindsay Beal | Staff, Non-voting attendees: |
| 17. Curriculum and Instruction: Yi Qian | Executive Director: Kyla TURNER (Recorder) |
| 18. Curriculum and Instruction: Denneisha
Griffin-Pinnock | Office Coordinator, Governance: Irfan Tanveer |
| | Operations and Services Manager: Neil Barney |

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 pm, with an online option for participation on the Zoom videoconferencing platform, with GAUBE in the Chair.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MADDOX provided a land acknowledgement. GAUBE asked everyone to take a moment to personally acknowledge the traditional territories where people live, work and play.

3. SAGM ATTENDANCE AND QUORUM REPORT

TURNER reported that there were 30 members in good standing registered as of 5:08 pm. GSS bylaws stipulate quorum for a general membership meeting is a minimum of 25 members present, therefore the meeting was declared quorate.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: RESOLVED that the Agenda of the March 21, 2023 GSS Semi-Annual General Meeting is approved as presented.

*M/S Executive Board / BURTON
CARRIED.*

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2022 Semi-Annual General Meeting as presented.

*M/S Executive Board / BEAL
CARRIED.*

6. EXECUTIVE STIPENDS – ALIX GALUMBECK, CHAIR OF STIPEND REVIEW COMMITTEE

Motion: RESOLVED THAT the stipends for the GSS Executive Board in 2023-24 are set to be as follows:

Chair:	\$ 940.10 /month
Director of Finance:	\$ 940.10 /month
Director of Student Affairs:	\$ 940.10 /month
Director of Communications:	\$ 940.10 /month
Director of Services:	\$ 940.10 /month

Moved: Alix GALUMBECK, Stipend Review Committee Chair Seconded: KALANI

Discussion:

GALUMBECK provided an overview of how SRC arrived at these stipend amounts: SRC decided to increase all positions to the same stipended rate to denote a change in work loads between board positions over the last few years. While board stipends are not paid out at an hourly rate, these stipend amounts were calculated at the current TA pay rate X 34 hrs/month, as per the 2020 AGM motion on board stipends.

CARRIED.

7. PRESENTATION OF 2023-24 BUDGET– BOBBY BICKLEY, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

REF DOC: 2023-24 Budget also see Appendix B.

Motion: RESOLVED the 2023-24 Budget is approved as presented.

M/S: Executive Board / FIELDER

Discussion:

BICKLEY, Director of Finance, introduced himself and highlighted main points from the Budget and the budget development process.

DABROWSKI asked for clarity around the Department Grants. TURNER provided clarity on new procedures for those grants next year as these will no longer have multiple streams.

CARRIED

8. MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION REPORT

TURNER reported that as of January 30, 2023, the GSS had 3076 members.

In fulfilling its purpose to represent graduate student interests, TURNER also reported that as of January 30, 2023, the GSS has elected representatives to 49 decision-making committees at the University Of Victoria, and two external bodies. A full list of these committees with graduate student representation for 2022-23 is found as Appendix A.

9. PRESENTATION OF SOCIETY REPORTS TO THE MEMBERSHIP

8.1 REPORT OF THE 2022-23 EXECUTIVE BOARD – GREG GAUBE AND WYATT MADDOX

[REF DOC: [2022-23 Executive Board Report](#)]

8.2 MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION REPORT – KYLA TURNER

[REF DOC: [Membership and representation report](#)]

8.3 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – KYLA TURNER

[REF DOC: [Report on GSS Operations and Services](#)]

8.4 REPORTS OF THE GRC STANDING COMMITTEES

[REF DOCS: COMMITTEE REPORTS SUBMITTED BY DIRECTORS ARE HYPERLINKED BELOW]

- [Communications](#) – Greg GAUBE, GSS Chair
- [Appeals](#) – Wyatt MADDOX, Director of Services
- [Events](#) – Wyatt MADDOX, Director of Services
- [Finance](#) – Bobby BICKLEY, Director of Finance
- Stipend Review – Alix GALUMBECK, Chair, Stipend Review Committee
- [Student Affairs](#) – Nahid SAFARI, Director of Student Affairs

No report was submitted for Bylaw and Policy Committee due to OKIBE's resignation for under bylaw 12.2 on March 1, 2023.

GALUMBECK reported verbally that SRC had been approving reports and top-ups, as well as recommending new stipend amounts for the 2023-24 board.

8.5 SEMI-ANNUAL HEALTH AND DENTAL PLAN UPDATE - KYLA TURNER, GSS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

[REF DOC: [Health and dental plan update](#)]

Motion: RESOLVED THAT the GSS membership has received the Reports of the 2022-23 Executive Board report, reports from the committees of the society, and the semi-annual extended health and dental insurance plans update.

M/S: FIELDER/GODWIN

Discussion:

WEBB asked for more information about the graduate dorm building campaign. MADDOX provided clarity on how we will consult our members.

GUDINO asked about next steps for the International Student MSP campaign next steps. SAFARI recapped current work and noted that we will be addressed with further stakeholders in government

to represent our concerns to the floor of the legislative assembly. GAUBE also noted RA unionization may open additional doors to include MSP fees in RA job contracts. GRIFFIN-PINNOCK raised the issue of bringing back collaboration with other GSSes across BC.

CARRIED.

10. RATIFICATION OF ACCLAIMED EXECUTIVE BOARD CANDIDATES – LADAN KALANI, ELECTORAL OFFICER

[REF DOC: 2022-23 GSS Executive Board, Acclaimed]

GAUBE relinquished the chair to KALANI. All meeting attendees, with the exception of KALANI and TURNER, were removed as meeting hosts to ensure that all ballots for the GSS Executive Board elections and ratifications would only be submitted by eligible voting members and that members' votes would be confidential.

KALANI announced that at the end of this year's annual Executive Board nominations, four candidates had been acclaimed as Directors, and that no nominations for Director of Finance had been received. As per GSS Bylaw 4.11, a ratification vote is required for a sole, acclaimed, candidate to be considered duly elected.

Each acclaimed candidate was given one minute to address the meeting. MADDOX and KALANI provided an address for NASCIMENTO as he was unable to attend the meeting.

Four ratification votes were held. From the results, KALANI declared the following acclaimed candidates as duly elected for the 2023-24 GSS Executive Board:

- Chair – Wyatt Maddox
- Director of Communications – Greg Gaube
- Director of Student Affairs – Lindsay Beal
- Director of Services – Mitch Nascimento

11. ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE - LADAN KALANI, ELECTORAL OFFICER

As per GSS Bylaw 4.12, when no candidates for an Executive Board position were nominated during the nomination period, an election is held at the SAGM. A notice of the vacancy for Director of Finance and call for nominations was sent to all members prior to this meeting.

KALANI announced that two declarations of candidacy was received prior to the SAGM. Samuel FIELDER, GRC rep from Physics and Astronomy, provided a statement of candidacy. David Serrano-Suarez, GRC rep for Civil Engineering did not provide a statement of candidacy.

KALANI made a second call and third call for nominations from the floor. No additional nominations were received. JONES declared nominations closed.

FIELDER made one minute statements to the members present. SERRANO-SUAREZ did not provide a statement and was not present to make their own statement. Members were given two minutes to vote.

KALANI declared Samuel FIELDER as elected by the SAGM members present as the 2022-23 GSS Director of Finance.

12. ELECTION OF THE ELECTORAL OFFICER – GREG GAUBE, VICE CHAIR

KALANI returned the chair of the meeting to GAUBE who opened nominations for the 2023-24 GSS Electoral Officer.

Lauren BURTON nominated himself.

GAUBE declared nominations closed. GAUBE reminded the nominees that should they be successful, under GSS Bylaws they would be ineligible to run for GSS Executive office for 2024-25.

Members present voted and GAUBE declared BURTON as the 2023-24 GSS Electoral Officer.

GAUBE and TURNER thanked KALANI for her service as Electoral Officer for 2022-23.

13. INTRODUCTION OF THE 2023-24 GSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GAUBE introduced and congratulated the incoming GSS Board for 2023-24, who will officially begin their term on April 1, 2023:

- Chair: Wyatt MADDOX
- Director of Communications: Greg GAUBE
- Director of Finance: Samuel FIELDER
- Director of Student Affairs: Lindsay BEAL
- Director of Services: Mitch NASCIMENTO

14. OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GAUBE announced the two year end parties on April 5 and 6 in Grad House (with free food!). TURNER announced the Department Grants. WEBB asked for application procedures for the Department Grants, which BARNEY answered. BARNEY advertised the year end events.

15. ADJOURNMENT

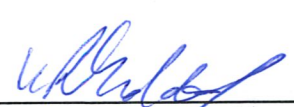
Motion: RESOLVED that the 2023 GSS SAGM is adjourned.

M/S: Executive Board/BEAL


The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

KT

X


Greg GAUBE
GSS Vice Chair, 2023-24

X


Kyla Turner
GSS Executive Director

APPENDIX A: MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION REPORT

MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW: OCTOBER 2022 TO FEBRUARY 2023

The GSS's 2022-23 membership breakdown by registration type includes:

Semester	On-Campus	Distance	Co-op
May-Aug 2022	1550	1004	100
Sept-Dec 2022*	1944	1047	106
Jan-Apr 2023**	1772	1060	130

*Preliminary data reported at the 2022 AGM has been updated with final enrolment numbers

**Data current to January 30, 2023

REPRESENTATION REPORT

The GSS has a mandate to increase graduate student representation on all decision making and advisory bodies around the University Of Victoria. As of January 30, 2023, the GSS has elected representatives to 49 committees around the UVic. A full list of these committees appears below to document the breadth of work conducted by GSS representatives around our University community and on issues relevant to graduate students. This list represents countless of hours of volunteer time put in by our members to ensure graduate student interests are being represented wherever important decisions are being made.

DECISION MAKING AND ADVISORY BODIES WITH GSS REPRESENTATION IN 2022

UVic Committees with GSS Executive Board Representatives:

- UVic/GSS Operations Committee
- AVP Student Affairs and GSS Chair
- FGS Council Executive Committee
- FGS Council
- UVSS Liaison
- Clubs Council
- Ombudsperson
- Orientation Advisory Committee
- Graduate Fee Reductions Appeals
- VP Research Advisory Committee
- Campus Planning
- UVSS University Representative Committee
- Mandatory Temporary Medical Insurance Opt Out Appeal Committee
- UVic Integrated Steering Committee for UVic's Climate Sustainability Action Plan
- Graduate Student Recruitment, Retention and Success Implementation Committee (GRR IC)

External Committees with GSS Executive Board Representatives:

- GSSBC Provincial Executive Committee

- Victoria Regional Transit Commission's Student Transit Advisory Committee

UVic Hiring or Appointment Review Committees with GSS Member representation:

- Appointment Committee for the Associate Vice-President Research:
- Appointment Committee for the Re-Appointment of the University Librarian
- SOSC Search Committee Associate Dean Research and Graduate Studies
- Faculty of Human and Social Development Associate Dean – Research Selection Comm.
- Appointment Committee for Deputy Provost

UVic Committees with GSS Member Representation:

- BC Campus Suicide Prevention Initiative Project Steering Committee
- Sexualized Violence Education and Awareness Advisory Committee
- Convocation Committee
- Student Life Grants Committee
- SupportConnect Advisory Group
- Multifaith Chaplaincy Advisory Committee
- EQHR policy advisory committee
- STUA Student Advisory Committee
- Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching
- Digital Learning Committee
- EQHR Policy Advisory Committee
- EQHR Learning and Advisory Committee
- Accessibility Committee
- Bookstore Advisory

Award Committees with GSS Member Representation:

- Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Supervision and Mentorship
- Andy Farquharson Teaching Excellence Award for Graduate Students
- Award for Excellence in Teaching for Experiential Learning Adjudication Committee
- Harry Hickman Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching and Educational Leadership
- Gilian Sherwin Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching Adjudication Committee
- REACH Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Supervision and Mentorship Adjudication Comm.

UVic Faculty Councils and Committees with GSS Member Representation:

- Faculty of Science Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion committee
- Faculty of Humanities Council
- Faculty of Social Sciences, Awards and Recognition Committee
- Faculty of Social Sciences, Graduate Curriculum Committee
- Faculty of Social Sciences, Dean's Advisory Forum on Indigenization
- Faculty of Social Sciences, Community-Engaged Learning (CEL) Working Group
- Faculty of Science EDI Committee

Please consider stepping up to ensure graduate student interests are represented!
<https://gss.uvic.ca/about-gss/get-involved/committees/grad-representation-at-uvic/>

APPENDIX B: 2023-24 BUDGET

University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society 2023-24 Budget									
		Operating fund	Student Advocate Fund	Food and Beverage Fund	Health and Dental Fund	Capital Fund	Building Fund	Total	% Total Budget
REVENUES	Membership fees	\$469,323	\$8,665	\$60,433		\$95,787		\$634,209	29.23%
	Room rentals			\$500				\$500	0.02%
	Handbook revenues	\$2,400						\$2,400	0.11%
	Health & dental premiums	\$0			\$1,383,065			\$1,383,065	63.75%
	Adjustment to next fiscal	\$0						\$0	0.00%
	Interest	\$0						\$0	0.00%
	Revenues	\$471,723	\$8,665	\$60,933	\$1,383,065	\$95,787	\$0	\$2,020,174	93.12%
RESTAURANT	Restaurant revenue			\$282,973				\$282,973	
	Cost of goods sold			\$133,604				-\$133,604	
	Gross Profit	\$0		\$149,369	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$149,369	6.88%
EXPENSES	Advertising	\$11,809		\$1,000	\$2,084			\$14,893	0.69%
	Memberships (etc.)	\$561		\$1,050	\$99			\$1,710	0.08%
	Staff/Board Training	\$3,783		\$0	\$668			\$4,450	0.01%
	Loan repayments	\$4,000				\$58,185		\$62,185	2.87%
	Department Grants	\$17,500						\$17,500	0.81%
	Equipment, software & IT	\$4,891		\$2,271	\$4,392	\$20,000		\$31,555	1.45%
	Handbook expenses	\$2,400						\$2,400	0.11%
	Insurance	\$10,426			\$1,840			\$12,266	0.57%
	Health & dental premiums	\$0			\$1,280,877			\$1,280,877	59.04%
	Entertainment and Music	\$6,400						\$6,400	0.29%
	Events and Meetings	\$19,200						\$19,200	0.88%
	Office & administration	\$5,440		\$8,441	\$960			\$14,840	0.68%
	Bookkeeping and Audit	\$40,066		\$0	\$7,070			\$47,136	2.17%

GSS 2023 Semi-Annual General Meeting – Minutes

	Student Advocacy	\$0	\$8,665							\$8,665	0.40%
	Utilities, repairs & maintenance	\$50,857		\$8,130		\$8,975				\$67,962	3.13%
	Board Stipends	\$61,980								\$61,980	2.86%
	Wages & benefits	\$231,697		\$210,556		\$73,269				\$515,522	23.76%
	Expenses	\$471,009	\$8,665	\$231,448	\$1,380,234	\$78,185	\$0	\$2,169,541			
Surplus/Deficit		\$714	\$0	-\$21,146	\$2,831	\$17,602	\$0	\$1			

