

Executive Board

(ONLINE VIA ZOOM) MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 7, 2021

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)

GUESTS: Alva HO and Harrison REDPATH, Aon Health and Dental Insurance Broker Representatives

STANDING ITEMS

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:34PM with FOSTER in the chair.

B. TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Land acknowledgement offered by KHAN.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: RESOLVED the agenda is approved as presented.

M/S: FOSTER/SAFARI

APPROVED by Consent

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: RESOLVED the minutes from the October 12 and November 8, 2021 Executive Board Meetings are approved as presented.

M/S: FOSTER/KHAN

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 Appointment Committee, Associate VP Research – 1 Executive Board member**

Tabled – referred to GRC

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

Tabled – referred to GRC

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

Tabled – referred to GRC

***Note:** Committee meetings will not be accessible to attend online.

M/S: FOSTER/NG

APPROVED by Consent

G. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

REF DOCS: UVic Bookstore Advisory Committee; Course Delivery Mode Consultation; Coastal GasLink Pipeline*

***Note:** Discussion of the Coastal GasLink Pipeline will be postponed to New Business.

Motion: RESOLVED the correspondence is received.

M/S: FOSTER/NG

APPROVED by Consent

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

1. AGM NOVEMBER 23, 2021

FOSTER felt the AGM was well run and well received. FOSTER especially highlighted KHAN's presentation as being informative and accessible and KENT for her chairing. Thank you, Ryan and Nicole. And thanks to NG and KENT for assisting with registration.

KHAN offered thanks to FOSTER for his guidance and work and TURNER for hers.

I. LOBBYING REPORTS

Strategic planning meeting with President Hall.

TASK: TURNER to submit lobbying report on Dec 7, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

1. IN-CAMERA SESSION

- a) Contracts re: AON Insurance – Guest: Alva HO and Harrison REDPATH, AON

Motion: RESOLVED to go in-camera at 2:00pm.

M/S: FOSTER/SAFARI

APPROVED by Consent

Motion: RESOLVED to go out of camera at 2:32pm.

M/S: FOSTER/SAFARI

APPROVED by Consent

Recommendation: the board does not recommend taking the GSS member Extended Health and Dental insurance plans to market for the 2022-23 academic year.

Task: TURNER to alert REDPATH of intention to renew with PBC and request quotes for renewal.

2. SCHEDULING

Motion: RESOLVED the following motion passed by the Board of Directors on July 7, 2021 is rescinded:

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, and FURTHER RESOLVED the following motion passed by the Board of Directors on October 12, 2021 is rescinded:

RESOLVED that the following training sessions are scheduled: Indigenous Cultural Acumen Training for GRC and Society members – December 1, 2021, 1pm-3pm, and

FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Directors shall reschedule the Indigenous Cultural Acumen Training session for GRC and Society members to a date and time to be decided in January 2022.

M/S: FOSTER/KENT

APPROVED by Consent

3. GRC AND SOCIETY MEMBERS' MEETING WITH UVIC AVP INDIGENOUS

For discussion

The GSS invited UVic's inaugural AVP Indigenous, Robina THOMAS, to be the special guest speaker at the November 23 AGM. Unfortunately, THOMAS was unable to speak due to technical difficulties.

The Board is asked to provide feedback on the following options:

- Inviting Robina THOMAS to the GRC meeting on January 25, 2022
- Scheduling a stand-alone discussion for GSS members with Robina THOMAS in February 2022

TURNER stated that the number of townhalls scheduled next semester is already quite high with three for Food and Bev and one for GRC composition. She recommends inviting THOMAS to GRC.

FOSTER agreed so long as the meeting and THOMAS's engagement was well advertised to all members.

TASK: TURNER to reschedule Robina THOMAS for the January 25, 2022 GRC meeting.

4. STAFF RATIFICATION

Motion: RESOLVED Daniel GUDINO is ratified to the position of Events Coordinator.

M/S: SAFARI/NG

APPROVED by Consent

Motion: RESOLVED Melissa WOTKYNS is ratified to the position of Office/Communications and Outreach Coordinator.

M/S: KHAN/SAFARI

APPROVED by Consent

5. COASTAL GASLINK PIPELINE

For discussion

FOSTER gave background on the Coastal GasLink project and Wet'suwe'ten band council and hereditary chiefs conflict regarding the project.

TURNER stated that the political and legal realities of the Coastal GasLink project can be considered separately from the removal of land defenders by RCMP. The multiple, violent removals of land defenders continues a long history of the Canadian government utilizing RCMP to remove Indigenous peoples from their land for the benefit of industry.

FOSTER stated that the reason for the most recent removal was due to safety and security concerns.

TASK: FOSTER to respond to member email regarding GSS's position on the ongoing protests on Wet'suwe'ten land stating that the GSS refers governance of this land back to the Wet'suwe'ten and does not have an official position on this conflict.

6. UVIC FOOD SERVICES IMPROVEMENT

REF DOC: [Food Services Letter](#)

Motion: RESOLVED the Board of Directors endorses the attached letter to UVic VP Academic Valerie Kuehne and AVP Student Affairs Jim Dunsdon regarding the need for improved supper time food services on campus.

M/S: SAFARI/FOSTER

APPROVED by Consent

7. UNIVERSITY AND EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION POLICY

REF DOCS: [University and External Committee Representation Policy](#); [Interim Governance Manual](#), Policy 6 – Procedures for Seeking Graduate Student Representatives for (UVic) Committees (pages 9-10)

Motion: RESOLVED the revised University and External Committee Representation Policy is approved, as recommended by the Bylaw and Policy Committee, with an effective date of December 15, 2021, and

FURTHER RESOLVED Policy 6 – Procedures for Seeking Graduate Student Representatives for (UVic) Committees is rescinded, as recommended by the Bylaw and Policy Committee.

M/S: FOSTER/SAFARI

APPROVED by Consent

8. GRC AGENDA

REF DOC: [December 14, 2021 GRC Agenda DRAFT](#)

Motion: RESOLVED the December 14, 2021 GRC Agenda is approved as presented.

M/S: FOSTER/NG

APPROVED by Consent

9. GRC LOGISTICS

For discussion

Breakout Rooms: turn out likely to be low therefore the breakout rooms may be a full-GRC discussion.

Chat Monitor – mover/seconder: SAFARI

Chat Monitor – questions and comments: NG

***NOTE: Add correct Zoom link prior to sending Agenda out**

10. ICE BREAKER

Completed.

CLOSING ITEMS

EXECUTIVE INFORMAL DISCUSSION/UPDATES/QUESTIONS

Chair: FOSTER reported the success of the BPC and AGM. BPC policies are now up for GRC approval and BPC working groups are preparing more policy and bylaw changes for next semester. The FGS Council is exploring non-hierarchical options for thesis supervision teams. FOSTER and KHAN have also been meeting to improve HR systems around ED supervision and review. FOSTER is also working to ensure GSS consultation around course delivery.

Director of Communications: KENT: The VPAC ratification vote is forthcoming. The Communications Committee is meeting this Friday.

Director of Finance: KHAN is working on setting up the Student Advocate Fund in our accounts. Neil and Kyla are working on the restaurant fund and he will meet with them this week for pre-approval before the plans go to the board in January.

Director of Services: NG no report.

Director of Student Affairs: SAFARI helped organize and host the National Day against Violence Against Women events at UVic and represented grad students in that work. Also attended the Bookstore Advisory Committee to discuss pricing and a meeting with SWC regarding recruitment for student consultations.

Executive Director: TURNER reported that she and Neil Barney are working on the Food and Bev. Referendum this week and will submit a survey, town hall schedule, and preliminary budgets to the board for consideration at the January 4, 2022 board meeting by EOD December 17. Also, next week we will be onboarding Daniel and Melissa.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING

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: January 4, 2021

GRC Meetings: December 14, 2021

SAGM: March 22, 2021

Office, Staff Scheduling Notes: Karen is on vacation until the end of December. Daniel and Melissa start Monday, December 17.

GSS Office closed from December 18, 2021 to January 2, 2022, inclusive.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: RESOLVED the meeting is adjourned.

M/S: FOSTER/KHAN

APPROVED by Consent

KT/kt/klp

X

David Foster
GSS Chair 2021-22

X

Kyla Turner
GSS Executive Director