**VUSAC Meeting Minutes**

February 3 at 5:30 PM in the Goldring Student Center

MINUTES

**In Attendance**

**VUSAC**

**Judiciary**

PRESIDENTS: Stuart Norton and Rahul Christoffersen

VP STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS: Hannah Brennen

VP EXTERNAL: Stephen Warner

VP INTERNAL: Golda Greenspoon

**Assessor Members**

CHAIR: Saambavi Mano

CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER: Taylor Cenac

SECRETARY: Artimes Ghahremani

COMMUNICATIONS: Shailee Koranne

FINANCE: Peter Huycke

**Commissioners & Councillors**

SUSTAINABILITY : Jamil Fiorino-Habib

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT : Nina Christianson

COMMUTER: Commissionner Isaac Khouzam

ARTS AND CULTURE : Olivia Klasios

EQUITY : Commissionner Yasmine Hassen

**COUNCILLORS**

Tyler Biswurm

Alexa Breininger

Melinda Hector

Peter Huycke

Hamboluhle Moyo

Sharon Tan

**LEVIES**

**GUESTS**

Campus Life Coordinator Bergita Petro

**REGRETS**

Milliene Xu

Jayde Jones

SCARLET AND GOLD: Zahavah Kay

**ABSENT**

EQUITY : Co-Chair Zoe Kwan

COMMUTER: Co-Chair Karen Indraatmadja

Land Recognition: Golda

Motion: Olivia moves to approve the minutes from last meeting. Golda seconds. Motion passes.

* Favour: All
* Abstained:
* Opposed:

Motion: Jamil moves to approve the agenda as it stands. Stuart seconds. Motion passes.

* Favour: All
* Abstained:
* Opposed:
  + Peter absent

*\* Rahul extends his discussion item by 8 minutes*

*\* Olivia moves her update up before discussion items*

**EX-OFFICIO REPORTS AND UPDATES**

*Campus Life Coordinator – Bergita*

Bergita will be transitioning into the CLC (Campus Life Coordinator) position, and attending VUSAC meetings for the rest of the year. There will be overlap with Emily as they work on the CLC portfolio. She encourages people to reach out to her and talk about what has been going on in her absence. She says it is nice to be back, and she is looking forward to getting to know those who she hasn’t worked with before.

Bergita reminds the group that Don applications were due today. They are looking forward to meeting with applicants as they go through the submissions. There are only 2 months left of the academic term, but there is enough time to get a lot of things done.

*Arts and Culture - Olivia*

VCAA (Victoria College Athletic Association) wants to let everyone know their banquet will be on March 24.

Arts and Culture will be offering Winterlicious tickets, which will be on sale starting Monday during office hours. They are for lunch ($5) and dinner ($10) at Insomnia restaurant.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*Student Leader Day Feedback – Bergita*

The Dean’s Office is trying to book spaces for new leader day, which was in September, but used to be in April. Bergita asks for thoughts on what should happen this year. As a heads up, she notes that O-week will be shorter this year, as classes start on Thursday. This past year’s training was not well attended, so they are trying to plan better. She asks for general feedback, as well as specifics on the timing and content of the training.

Hannah says last year the problem was timing, but also the information for students in upper years was repetitive. There is redundancy in leadership positions. She suggests working on increasing efficiency.

Hambo suggests an introductory session in September for first years who don’t know the basics of leadership training yet, and a more complete one at the end of the year. Bergita says if that would work, they could easily have two.

Stuart likes the idea of hosting in April, as a lot of residence presidents and first year reps are more likely to be available. It would be more general and broad for those who are taking on senior leadership positions. Then, in September, a session could be hosted for new leaders.

Bergita asks if, in terms of timing, if Friday night is better than a Saturday morning. Stephen says he prefers weekdays over weekends. Several people nod in agreement.

Peter says if there are two different sessions, in April the point is to get people in leadership positions familiar with systems they’ll be working with next year. They potentially have never worked with administration before, so it makes sense to cover it in April. The emphasis should be on this.

Olivia says if moving back to April, to look at the study period. People will be around campus, and could do a late afternoon.

Bergita says if there is anyone coming back next year who is interested in helping organize it, the more people the better.

*Greenshift Order Sign-Out System for Clubs – Jamil*

Jamil posted a sample sign out sheet on the VUSAC group. He introduces a system that can be coordinated through VUSAC for clubs to get their supplies through Greenshift. Ultimately, his goal is to see all products on campus to be Greenshift. The form prioritizes frequently used products, and sustainability will order the items and hold them in storage and take them out as necessary. Clubs can fill out forms and have them by a certain date. You can order specialty items on Greenshift as well. He proposes a discussion on cost, because if we started giving them out we would go into deficit. He suggests subsidizing the cost.

Olivia says if there is an ordering system, it should be factored into the club’s budget and ordered at cost.

Taylor says considering that while it is an amazing initiative, most clubs are tight for budgeting on events. Ordering through Greenshift but having to spend more would be a negative. VUSAC should subsidize as best as possible. Jamil says if they are going through with this, it would be deterring. It is about twice as expensive, and that is why he is making it as easy as possible for them to order.

Golda says if we can make it easier to use eco products, it is our responsibility to advocate for that.

Hannah asks if there is a middle point where we can subsidize a portion for clubs, then get them to pay for the rest – smaller groups have it taken care of, while bigger groups are covered to a point.

Hambo asks if this is mandatory for each Vic club to go through. Jamil says ideally yes, the idea is to ensure people are doing it. He is not sure what the best way to do that would be. It could be a strong recommendation instead.

Stuart says in the past there has been discussion of some groups using the products and some not. It is a good step forward, but it would be important that at the outset of April or summer it is advertised to everyone. No matter what we decide, it should be advertised. Even with a great system, we need to synergize everything about today. He suggests promoting the decision at new leader day in April.

Olivia says clubs won’t understand if we are asking them to pay or for it to come from their budget- ultimately, it will be coming from the same place.

Rahul says we are spending the same money regardless, either from allocation or subsidization. Realistically, we are paying for them buying Greenshift.

Sharon wonders if it is possible for us to have half the supplies covered, and the rest paid for as needed. She is not sure if everyone would have money to purchase all Greenshift products. Jamil asks for clarification. Sharon says half of products being sustainable, and the rest being from somewhere else. Jamil responds that he would prefer an all or noth ing approach because with recycling and disposal, it can be complicated to sort. People will get confused and start throwing things in the wrong place, which defeats the purpose.

Motion: Rahul moves to extend by seven minutes. Hannah seconds. Motion passes.

* Favour: All others
* Abstained:
* Opposed: Stuart

Tyler asks how often they would have to replenish the inventory in storage. He is concerned that if it is done in periods, may be ballooning funds to sustainability, and is not sure if this is more difficult to manage. Jamil responds that it depends on storage. If there is only enough room to have one box of each item, they may have to refresh it more often. The sustainability budget has a substantial amount budgeted for Greenshift – when they are revisiting the budget, they may consider increasing this.

Stephen asks if it is possible to save money by ordering in bulk – Jamil says yes, you can order larger quantities and cut delivery costs. Stephen says the easiest way would be to bulk order an estimated amount by VUSAC, have us pay for it, then have clubs take it as necessary free of charge. Stephen says as a club head, it would be annoying if he had to purchase a specific item, not get an increased budget for it, and do extra paperwork. Otherwise it would be more work for the finance chair, and it makes more sense to run though sustainability.

Hannah asks if for events like the VISA potluck, if there is a possibility to talk to food services and use their reusable plates. Jamil says yes.

Olivia was going to bring up the same thing – if sustainability were to put forth a budget line for plastic reusable plates. Jamil says there is nowhere to wash them. It is also not a good use of water. He prefers promoting a sustainable mentality. We should ensure we start with every commission on VUSAC, orientation, and other ‘big ones’. If clubs see the supplies are accessible, they will be more keen to use them as well.

*Caucus Changes Approval – Stephen*

Motion: Be it resolved that the changes to Bylaw 7 - Caucus, be approved as presented. Hannah seconds. Motion passes.

* Favour: All
* Abstained:
* Opposed:

*Ticket Sales Policy Changes – Stephen*

Stephen apologizes for not sending out with Tuesday’s agenda, but it is in the Friday agenda package. He will walk people through the ticket sale document. This is not a constitutional change; it is a policy. He recommends council vote to endorse it for a formal seal of approval. He suggests that the chair incorporate this into the forthcoming policy and bylaw document, which is part of the plan of the constitutional review. This is recommended for folks on next year’s council.

The document broadly covers three main things – record keeping, storage of cash during sales, and dealing with cash after the event. There is to be a 48 hour notice to the finance chair for cash boxes. The second item is recording on a single device, the VUSAC iPad. Third, customers must provide information for ticket purchases, including f/l name, student number, and email. This has been kept open ended for additions. The fourth item deals with deposits, so that no money is left in the office overnight. The cash box is to be held at the front desk with a float, any revenue should be counted and put in an envelope, as the closing person signs it and leaves it under the presidents’ door. For door sales, the document must still be recorded with the same information. Finally, it addresses how cashboxes should be dealt with at the end of the event in different scenarios – first, the cashbox should be left in the presidents’ office. If this is not possible, it should be done the same as a nightly deposit. If this is not possible, the cashbox should be locked, and the key slipped under the door. This is a thorough policy to make sure we are not leaving money around the office, and prevents issues.

Stuart says it is fantastic, and going to be helpful. He suggests that for number two, that sales be potentially recorded on a single platform made available to all members. Stephen asks if this is ok, Peter says in theory that is good, but that is what happened with Code Red. Stuart responds that with code red people did not put in the information properly.

Hannah says changing to one device wouldn’t change the input issue. As long as the doc is the same and people are documenting properly, there shouldn’t be issues. Isaac agrees, says the iPad can be used for those who don’t have their computer out. The end result is the same.

Peter says to use google forms. He asks Stephen if that is what he recommended. Stephen says this was an idea to bring up informally – rather than a spreadsheet, a form that the customer can self-enter and submit. This limits access of members to the final spreadsheet, and the person controlling the form can export the results to a spreadsheet.

Golda says it doesn’t make a difference to use multiple devices.

Olivia says as someone who has done socials, Gardiner Gala was fine with google docs. There is always room for human error, they should just be more cognisant of handling money.

Bergita says it is a good idea to revisit this, and track the money safely. She suggests the idea of putting money under the door more frequently to make everyone accountable, perhaps at the end of every two-hour shift. Stephen says he looked at balancing a thorough policy with something not overly onerous, such that people wouldn’t follow it due to exhaustion. Two hour deposits seem excessive, though she makes a good point about the responsibility of one day falling on the closing shift.

Stephen asks for a straw poll on Stuart’s recommendation.

*A straw poll is taken. 13 for - 1 against.*

Stephen moves to vote on this.

Motion: Be it resolved that Council adopt the policy regarding ticket sales as presented. Peter seconds. Motion passes.

* Favour: All
* Abstained:
* Opposed:
  + Jamil absent

*Racialized Student Collective Meeting – Rahul*

Rahul says Zoe reached out about having a second meeting, but also making a format that would be reflective of the state of racial politics and bigotry in the US and Canada around the world. He asks for ideas.

Hambo asks what the purpose of the collective would be. Rahul says it was formed out of an ad hoc committee struck in the summer in response to racist violence in the US and Canada, creating a community space at Vic for self-identifying racialized students to talk and have a space in the community to speak.

Hambo suggests introducing different topics, such as the new policies in America, for general discussion like a media class.

*Constitutional Review – Saambavi*

Saambavi asks for a decision to be made today so it can be finalized for next meeting. The decision last meeting was for clubs to be added to the VPE portfolio, with the help of one or two councillors.

Stephen says that is the direction council wants to go in, so it should be fine to move on.

Olivia says to look at how many responsibilities of president are moving to the VPE, and to keep this in mind. Saambavi says there is a sentiment that much responsibility has been shifted to the VPE – this is not true, only interactions with the Dean’s Office.

Olivia asks how many VP positions are being looked at now. Saambavi says three - President, VPE, VPI.

Bergita says when changing positions, we should keep in mind the decisions are not to be based on individual years or people.

Stuart says we should be mindful of the current changes to the presidential portfolio. We should not immediately revert to where we were before co-presidency two years ago. Things like that should be looked at. He says clubs should not go to the VPE. It would overwhelm that individual. It is also not for a single president to be in the same position they were a week ago. There is basic admin work for VPSO, maybe think of another option, like reinstating the clubs commissioner.

Hannah says clubs can be a lot of work, but clubs and levies should stay with the same person. Clubs get upset when there is no direct link with the judiciary, feel a lack of support. The administrative stuff is what gets taxing and can pile up. The VPE would be fine to have clubs as long as they had help.

Stuart responds that he agrees, and understands the need for a direct link between clubs and judiciary, but with this decision, they are going back to reallocating jobs of the presidential portfolio to the VPE. If this is done, he is not in favour of returning to a single president. They should look at a broader perspective. There is so much in the presidential portfolio, so they should not resort back.

Hannah says that for the individual running as a single president, the co-presidents will have an advantage. One running against two, the two will win.

Stephen says Stuart brought up further changes to be made. He understood that the committee was done. Saambavi says they were hoping to approve it as it is, then go back and split up the roles.

Yasmine responds that concern about clubs to SG would be the amount of work, but if we are amending it to all commissions with committee members, putting clubs in SG portfolio for community commissioner might be the best option.

Hambo says last time regarding the clubs commissioner, the main argument was we had one and they barely did anything – all the positions currently existing are overwhelmed, so it would be good to have a person who can live their academic life without feeling overwhelmed.

Hannah reminds everyone we are making changes - if it doesn’t work, new council can make changes. Its ok to make a mistake.

Olivia says our constitution has been changed every year, it is not binding. As a former S&G, grouping clubs with S&G would not beneficial to council or clubs themselves. With that much responsibility, it should be a VP position. This reverts back to a 4 person judiciary, which lacks a tiebreaker.

Rahul responds that they have in the year made maybe one vote, don’t need even or odd numbers in the judiciary.

Stuart says though they have not presented a thorough commission structure, everyone needs to open their perspectives and see it as it is. There is a need for overhaul. As a former S&G, he wants people to move past the current context of operation. It doesn’t work.

Olivia doesn’t think we can move forward with a ‘blind yes’, all we can look at is what we have. The commission style will change every year, but that will depend on the commissioner of the year, delegating how much to take on themselves. There would be a disconnect, the commissioner would work all summer, then shift responsibility around for the year. This is not a concrete way to look at things.

Golda says it is scary to dive into this without a plan. There is a way to make it more straightforward. Stuart makes it clear that last week, council decided it wasn’t a good idea. If no one wants clubs to go to S&G, then it won’t.

Bergita says sometimes there is merit to a title being clear. Also, this could create an opportunity for someone else to join, with more people on VUSAC. In connection to the judiciary, all the commissioners would be looking at regular meetings, keeping in touch with portfolios on a regular basis.

Isaac asks if there are going to be changes to the way commissions work, why are we making this decision without first discussing in detail what that would look like. Saambavi says we are retracting the S&G option.

Motion: Jamil moves to extend by 10 minutes. Hambo seconds. Motion passes.

* Favour: All others
* Abstained:
* Opposed: Hannah, Stephen, Sharon

Isaac says not to retract it if it is possibly the best option. If giving these duties to some S&G that is different is the best option, do it.

Alexa says there is no way to restructure in a way that would be less work. Unless they are taking away events, which doesn’t make sense. Discussion of getting clubs to S&G should be retracted.

Saambavi asks for it to be taken out.

Hambo says to vote.

Two options seem to be VPE or Clubs Commissioner. Olivia says based on Hannah’s interactions with VPSO, clubs and levies want interaction with the judiciary. If president roles are delegated to the VPE and VPI, levies could be left to one and clubs to the other. Hannah says often issues are of the same nature, and treated the same, so it doesn’t make sense to have two people on one job.

Jamil proposes the idea that because we have the idea to change, doesn’t mean we should. It is reasonable to leave the VPSO as it is.

Hannah says the VPSO can do more than their current portfolio. There is room for the VPSO to have more.

Hambo says to reinforce the idea he gave before, the VPSO could be keeping the same responsibilities, but with a commissioner that works with them.

Golda says that would be two of the same role, one who has a judiciary vote.

Olivia says going through all this, calling a question as to what is going in the amendment. Puts forward VPE or keeping VPSO.

*A Straw Poll is taken. VPSO as is: Majority. VPE: 2*

Melinda asks why we were thinking of changing. Saambavi says it was a recommendation.

**ASSESSOR MEMBER REPORTS AND UPDATES**

*Victoriad – Update*

Saambavi reads the following update from the Victoriad:

The Vic yearbook is hard at work putting together a beautiful yearbook for you all! So far, we've recruited a couple of new associate editors, have made progress on pages, and have been prepping for a small event and a couple of contests we're having. By the time you're reading this update, we would have had our "We love Vic because..." photoshoot earlier today in the Cat's Eye, where students came together and reminisced about what it is they love about Vic. Photos from this event will be published in the yearbook. Also, we'll be having two contests. They will both be photo contests where the winners and runners-up will get their photos published in the yearbook, plus the winners will receive a gift card of their choosing. One of the contests poses the question "What Makes Vic Home to You?" and the other "What Makes Vic Beautiful?" Visit our website or Facebook page for more details. Lastly, if you'd like to have a copy of the 2016-2017 yearbook that we're working on, please fill out the form found on our website to reserve your copy!

**JUDICIARY REPORTS AND UPDATES**

*VPSO – Student Projects Ratification*

Motion: Isaac moves to approve $482.50 for VicXposure to purchase a scanner for scanning negatives and prints to improve their darkroom. Alexa seconds. Motion passes.

* Favour: All others
* Abstained: Hannah, Stuart, Isaac
* Opposed:
  + Olivia, Yasmine absent

*Co-Presidents – 2 on 1 Meetings Update*

Rahul says the meetings have been great so far, with good feedback. There are 5 meetings left, and they are hoping to have those wrapped up by the beginning of next week.

Motion: Golda moves to adjourn the meeting. Sharon seconds. Motion passes.

Meeting is adjourned.

* Favour: All
* Abstained:
* Opposed:
  + Absent: Olivia, Yasmine