



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY  
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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## **VUSAC MEETING MINUTES**

October 6th, at 3PM in the Goldring Student Center  
MINUTES

### **In Attendance**

#### **Judiciary**

PRESIDENT: Zahavah Kay  
VP STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS: N/A  
VP INTERNAL: Artimes Ghahremani  
VP EXTERNAL: Katie Cohen

#### **Assessor Members**

CHAIR: Sayeh Yousefi  
CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER: Stephanie Xu  
SECRETARY: Emma Lailey  
COMMUNICATIONS: Jade Koh  
FINANCE: Graham Allison

#### **Commissioners**

SCARLET AND GOLD: Stephanie Spagnuolo  
SUSTAINABILITY: Jared Connoy  
COMMUTER: Gabriel Calderon  
ARTS AND CULTURE: Blanaid McNally  
EQUITY: Shailee Koranne

#### **Councillors**

Haleema Khan  
Alexa Ballis  
Vibhuti Kacholia  
Cameron Davies  
Devon Wilton  
James Hannay  
Cynthia Wong

#### **Guests**

UTSU VICTORIA COLLEGE DIRECTOR: Hambo Moyo  
ASSOCIATE DEAN: Krista Steeves

VICXPOSURE CO-PRESIDENT: Lucy Fang  
VICXPOSURE CO-PRESIDENT: Hana Nikcevic  
VOCA CO-CHAIR: Emilia De Fabritis  
VARSITY: Aidan Currie  
EQUITY COMMISSION: Charlotte Stewart  
EQUITY COMMISSION: David Allens

### **Regrets**

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Zoe Ritchie (Skyping in)  
Ally Johnston

### Land Recognition: Sayeh (1 minute)

I would like to acknowledge this sacred land on which the University of Toronto operates. It has been a site of human activity for 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Confederacy of the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in the community, on this territory.

Motion: Shailee moves to approve the minutes from the Budget Meeting on September 22nd, 2017 as it stands. Katie seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

### Additions to the Agenda (maximum 3 minutes per addition)

- Stephanie adds three minute for pub night and corn coming.
- Katie takes two minutes for signing authority and VP event.
- Hamob adds three minutes to update on the UTSU meeting.

Motion: Katie moves to approve the agenda as it stands. Shailee seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

### Pressing Items:

- Ratification of Election votes - Zahavah (2 minutes)

Motion: Stephanie moves to approve the election members for the 2017-2018 year. Shailee seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None
  
- Approve Simon Lam as Student Projects Chair - Zahavah (2 minutes)

Motion: Zahavah moves to approve Simon Lam as the Student Projects Chair for the 2017-2018 year. Cameron seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

- Potential vote for an Arts and Culture Commission - Blanaid (5 minutes)

[Summary] I want to step up an Arts and Culture commission, but it's not in the constitution. So, I wanted to call a vote to make it more official, and to get your approval. Is that okay; can I call a vote? Just to make it more official.

Sayeh: Phrase it more officially please.

Motion: Blanaid moves to establish an Arts and Culture Commission for the 2017-2018 year. Shailee seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

#### **Discussion Items:**

- Discussion and support for Trinity College - Zahavah (6 minutes)

[Summary] I wanted to open the floor for discussion about the situation at Trinity College. The way Trinity's student government works is there are six heads of college who are the entire student government, and there is a direct democracy, where everyone can vote. For their last TCM meeting, a vote of non-confidence in the administration, and particularly the office of the Dean was cast; a symbolic vote, that signified that Trin students would write a list of terms to action to be presented to their higher offices of administration. This was precipitated by two events. The first, a widely publicized sexual assault case in which the admin of Trin was accused to handling the situation improperly and without respect for the survivor. The second, an instance from just this past week regarding a residence party where one of the male heads of college was assaulted by campus police in the presence of two members of administration. I wanted to open this up as a discussion, about lines of communication with administration, and especially to show support for the daunting task the students at Trin are undertaking by going up against administration for the good of the students. What Trinity is doing right now is intimidating and scary, so I want to discuss how students can take a stand against administration, which is a daunting task, and the role of communication between student government and college admin.

Katie: Just so everyone knows, myself and the executive have called a meeting with the president and administration. We called that meeting because it's a good idea for communication.

Zahavah: Currently, Trinity is not allowed to host any events, a lockdown of sorts, until the issue is resolved. Some students feel this is an ultimatum to resolve the issue.

Devon: I was reading about the campus police assault, and they have identified the student who was assaulted and the admin. who were present when the student was arrested. The student refused to give his name because he wasn't liable.

Haleema: Was this brought up at the St. George Round Table?

Sayeh: Discussion time is about to run out. Does anyone wish to motion to extend the discussion period?

Motion: Zahavah moves to extend the discussion period for the support of Trinity College by five minutes. Devon seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

Zahavah: It has been a discussion between separate divisions. It has been discussed, and I have discussed this issue with people at Trinity. It will definitely be a discussion at the next St. George Round Table meeting.

Shailee: I believe a call to action is necessary, and I believe that VUSAC should put forward vocal support for the student who was assaulted, and to support to the student who was assaulted by campus police. For one thing, they are the ones who the spotlight is on right now, and they are certainly not the only people who feel their assault was not handled properly by the university.

Stephanie: In terms of tangible things, they can't host events there. But can they host events at other colleges? Maybe we could offer our events to Trinity so students have access to events. A message that Trinity students are welcome at Vic events.

Zahavah: I think that would be lovely of us to welcome Trin students. I had wanted to put forward a vote that Vic students and VUSAC supports Trinity College working to improve communication with their administrative. If Trinity would like, it would be great to communicate with them about our communication lines and offer advice. Saints is supposed to be happening very soon, which is why they feel kind of attacked.

Krista Steeves: It wasn't that long ago at another orientation when Trinity students were acting inappropriately towards our students, and if they can't participate without behaving then they are not welcome (at Victoria). There was some bad behaviour at the hands of students, and difficult things came out. It is complicated, so if they come here they need to behave in a way that we expect Vic students to behave.

Motion: Katie moves to extend the discussion period for the support of Trinity College by five minutes. Shailee seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

Devon: Inviting Trinity students to our event is great. I would suggest adding to that motion about supporting the students and opening communication lines.

Motion: Zahavah moves that the students of Victoria and VUSAC support Trinity College in its attempts to improve communication lines with the administrative offices and invite them to Vic events with the understanding that their behaviour must align with our codes of conduct, and we support students who specifically feel unsupported by the administration. Katie seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

Motion: Stephanie moves to end the discussion period for the support of Trinity College. Cameron seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None

- Opposed: None
- Ratification of new clubs - Zahavah (3 minutes)

Motion: Zahavah moves to ratify the Werewolf club for the 2017-2018 year. Stephanie seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

- Ratification of Board Games Club Budget - Graham (5 minutes)

[Summary] This budget was submitted after we ratified the budget last week, so the money will be coming out of the VPSO fund. I will go through the line items, because there are three. Eighty dollars for snacks, fifteen dollars for clubs fair materials, and two-hundred dollars for new board games. This would be from May till November 12th.

Motion: Stephanie moves to open discussion for the Board Games Club Budget for three minutes. Zahavah seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

Stephanie: Have they submitted receipts? Because if this is from May, how much money did they spend on clubs fair materials?

Emma: Sorry, [to Graham] was that fifty dollars on the clubs fair materials?

Graham: Sorry, *fifteen* dollars, not fifty.

Stephanie: Oh, okay! That's what I was asking. I was like: how much money are they spending on bristle board!

Zahavah: Two-hundred dollars seems like a lot of money for board games.

Graham: He (president who submitted the budget) didn't seem confident that they will use it all.

Zahavah: Is this for the year?

Graham: I doubt it.

Hambo: I've tried to purchase board games before, and they are like fifty to sixty dollars apiece. The price makes sense to me.

Motion: Shailee moves to approve the Board Games Club Budget for the 2017-2018 year. Devon seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

## LEVY UPDATES

- Constitutional Amendments: Cat's Eye (2 minutes)

Zahavah: They asked to move it to the next meeting

Sayeh: Oh, okay. No worries.

- Constitutional Amendments: VCDS (2 minutes)

Artimes: They asked me if they had to come yesterday, and I said no.

Katie: I am a member, do you want me to talk about it?

Sayeh: Yes, you can.

Katie: As we looked over the rules, we discovered honorariums have to be amended in the constitution—which makes sense. So they are just formally doing it now.

Sayeh: Most amendments are about transitional reports and training producers.

Shailee: Can I motion to have these amendments voted on over email? It would be better to look over them.

Motion: Shailee moves to vote for VCDS' constitutional amendments over email (in order to allow time for the council to look over them). Blanaid seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
  - Abstained: Katie
  - Opposed: None
- Constitutional Amendments: VicXposure - Hana Nikcevic (VicXposure Co- President) (5 minutes)

[Summary] I don't know if you've had a chance to go over the amendments, but they are minimal. The main one is the addition of co-president honoraria. Which was a budget line held over on the last budget meeting. It is a honorarium of \$500 per term for the president. There is also the addition of our FB page URL, annual levy receipts and addition responsibility for co-presidents. Taken out was a note about the dark room being open, and the fact that there will be a team of darkroom students. The hours won't be a google calendar, but a spreadsheet. As well that the most recent ratified motion of the constitution will be updated on the website. And that constitutions must be ratified at VUSAC meetings.

Krista: \$500 dollars per co-president per term. So 30% of your levy collective goes to the presidents. Can you name other levies that also allow their presidents such a large honorarium?

Hana: Caffieds, Cat's Eye, VCDS, Strand varies, Vic Pride is working on their honorarium...

Krista: Vic Athletics receives six dollars per year for full time students. So, I'm not saying no. I'm just raising it as something...(to consider)

Sayeh: The discussion time has ended. Does anyone wish to extend the discussion period?

Motion: Zahavah moves to extend the amendments for VicXposure for the 2017-2018 year discussion by five minutes. Stephanie seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

Graham: The levies for VCDS and VCAA are larger than other levy fees, So, in order for VCDS to operate, they spend thousands of dollars per show. This doesn't apply as much to the VCAA, but for VCDS to operate, they spend thousands of dollars per show. For VicXposure, the cost of running the levy is less than VCDS—but that shouldn't subtract from the work that the co-presidents are doing.

Zahavah: I agree with Graham. Looking at honorarium upper limits is a good idea.

Lucy (VicXposure Representative): We provide free photography for many, many events. Because our services are mostly labour, more of our budget goes to honorarium.

Hana: As well, most of our events have an educational focus where we teach students, so...

Devon: The levy is a new thing, so is it right that the fees just come out of tuition?

Zahavah: Club funding comes from the overall VUSAC fee, but now that it's a levy it is added as an additional part of the fee that VUSAC gives directly to the levy. The process of funding for levies is more permanent than with clubs (doesn't change much year to year) and council has less input because they are more autonomous.

Devon: An additional two dollars?

Zahavah: By becoming a levy we will be increasing the fee for full time/part time students.

Shailee: The fee increase was voted on priorly.

Motion: Stephanie moves to approve the amendments for VicXposure for the 2017-2018 year. Katie seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

Added:

Graham: One thing I want to point out about the VCDS constitutional amendments is in the honorarium portion: the budget will include a one thousand dollar honorarium for each co-producer and a five hundred honorarium for the technical director, (there will be a max of two). Raise to discuss; if there are two people doing the job, why are we raising the honorarium if they are dividing the work?

Katie: If I could speak on this please? These jobs are *huge*. For every show, if they are in tech week, the technical directors are dedicating sixty to eighty hours a week buildings sets, etc. The meetings, rehearsals, collaborative discussions, etc...It was felt amongst council (VCDS) that the technical directors put in countless hours and deserved an honorarium.

Zahavah: To what Graham said, when there were co-presidents on VUSAC the honorarium was divided. I think despite the hard work, if two people are doing one job when it could be done by one than it should be cost per job. Cost per job, divided in half.

Sayeh: Discussion time has been exhausted. Does anyone wish to motion to extend the discussion period?

## **STAFF MEMBER UPDATES**

Finance Chair - Graham A

- [No update]

Chief Returning Officer - Stephanie X

- [No update]

Communications Director - Jade C

- [No update]

## **COMMISSION UPDATES**

Academic & Professional Development - Zoe R

- [No update]

#### Arts and Culture - Blanaid M

- [No update]

#### Commuter Commissioner - Gabriel C

- VOCA/Commuter Commission Update (5 minutes)

[Summary] Emilia and I have some updates about VOCA: We took on three first year members—but we had an increase in demand so we felt it was necessary. Also, they are three really good people. The egg waffles were a success. There was a line out of the Cat’s Eye. I just wanted to reinforce that the waffle maker is a critical part of our success; and hopefully it doesn’t break down in the future. Our collaboration with the corn coming committee, that in making pumpkin spice pancakes, was a success. Our event which happened on Wednesday night, the Stress Ball and Sassy Samosas, was too much of a success as the samosas were gone in fifteen minutes. We will have to adjust how we organize things and consider the scale of our events more carefully in the future, in order to accommodate. Some upcoming things: our halloween event with the commuter dons, Pumpkin Carving. It’s going to be very spooky. Please come and get scared. Also, we have an Earnest Home for the Holidays (Dec. 1st); which will function as a wider celebration of holidays. We are currently thinking about more food, and activities details. We will keep you updated.

- UCommute rundown & information (10 minutes)

[Summary] Emilia, Zahavah and I had a meeting with the UTSU administrator Ann Boshe regarding her plan and the concept of student fees from the university. The plan is in collaboration with all the downtown schools; and they all have roughly the same amount of commuter students (as UofT). Ann Boshe sent out a survey asking about commuting habits and received roughly 16,000 responses (don’t know if that was just U of T, or everyone). We also met with the TTC (who are also interested in fixing the student metro pass, as they are currently losing money with their system). The price would be around \$240 per four months, which is actually pretty good—almost half the amount people are currently paying. The new plan would include an option to opt out of the Ucommute pass if you are within 0.5 kilometers, like you can opt out of the dental fees. There will be a campus wide vote around April-March, so the new plan can be implemented for the 2018-2019 school year. I believe the way it works is that it will be loaded onto your presto card, and therefore be digital. Oh, and it will not work over the summer.

Cameron: Was there any talk of getting Go Transit on board with the pass?

Zahavah: There is discussion happening, but they are less receptive than the TTC because they have better methods of ensuring people paid.

Gabriel: Go transit is implementing a fair-sharing scheme starting in December so you only have to pay half if you’ve taken the Go Train and have to take the TTC right after. The discussion is still in process.

Devon: So if a student is taking summer classes, the pass would work over the summer?

Gabriel: I will have to ask, but based on my intuition I don’t think it would work in the summer because your schedule is different.

Hambo: I know that in the summer you still get charged for gym memberships. It would make sense to just keep it.

Jared: You said, you’d be able to opt out—but not if you lived outside the range of 5km?

Gabriel: Correct.

Katie: From all sides of U of T, or from your college?

Gabriel: I’m going to guess around the border of St. George campus.



Zahavah: The TTC wants no opt out option; obviously to make more money. But I don't think students would respond as well to this...

Haleema: How would the presto card make the distinction from TTC and GO?

Gabriel: It'll know you're a student, and based on the pass it should decipher. But I really don't know the details.

Sayeh: Discussion time has been exhausted. Does anyone wish to motion to extend the discussion period?

Motion: Jared moves to extend the UCommute rundown & information discussion three minutes.

Cameron seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

Hambo: To respond to the question about distinction...whenever you tap, they'll know where you tap.

They would just take it out of whichever device you tap on, whether that be for the TTC or the GO.

Cameron: Would buildings like Chestnut, around the edges of campus, also have a 5 radius around them?

Gabriel: Just around the St. George Campus, period. On another note, when it comes around in April-March to vote for this pass, I would like to see the council support a "yes" for the vote. And maybe we can even advertise this to make people aware.

Haleema: I think that is this a great initiative!

[James Hannay leaves the room.]

Equity Commissioner - Shailee K

- Ratification of the Equity Commission for the 2017-2018 school year (2 minutes)

[Summary] We advertised that we would accept ten applicants, but we ended up accepting thirteen people because there were great applicants and more people wouldn't hurt. The twelve people I want to ratify are: Maral Attarzadeh, Savroop Shergill, Sasha Aristotle, Emma Boyes, Charlotte Stewart, Tania Kengatharan, David de Paiva, David Allens, Semi Ajayi, Georgia Lin, Maia Kachan, and Jenni Thompson; excluding Vibhuti Kacholia.

Sayel: You would still have to ratify Vibhuti.

Shailee: I was informed that she can be on the commission as a counselor without needing to be ratified.

Zahavah: Since the equity commission doesn't have such details in the constitution, she needs to be ratified.

Artimes: I will just assign her to the equity commission.

Motion: Shailee moves to ratify the thirteen Equity Commission councillors: Maral Attarzadeh, Savroop Shergill, Sasha Aristotle, Emma Boyes, Charlotte Stewart, Tania Kengatharan, David de Paiva, David Allens, Semi Ajayi, Georgia Lin, Maia Kachan, Vibhuti Kacholia, and Jenni Thompson for the 2017-2018 year. Cameron seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None
  
- Events update (2 minute)

[Summary] The Doc and Talk event we had on Tuesday went very well, and we are looking at making Doc and Talks a bi-weekly event. On Wednesday, we had the Moon Festival celebration. Approximately

fifty people came in and out of the office, which is awesome because one common complaint is that the VUSAC office is intimidating. And I feel that this event helped with that. We have partnered with the Black Students Association and will be screening the movie “Dear White People” and “Get Out” in order to talk about cultural appropriation.

- General Equity Update (5 minutes)

[Summary] I am meeting with the person facilitating equity training for the council very soon, so if there is anything you want me to pass on please let me know. This is finalized for the council, all clubs, and all levies. I expect it will happen in early November. Also, some of you may have noticed that there are now gender neutral washrooms and Vic. This is a big deal! I will finalize soon where all these spaces are located.

Krista: All stand alone bathrooms have been changed over.

Shailee: We will publicize where these bathrooms are located. [Open floor for discussion.]

Cameron: Are the washrooms at Pratt gender neutral?

Krista: The changes in this building I can comment on, but nothing else.

Shailee: There is a lot that goes into de-gendering washrooms, it’s not just putting on a sign. Privacy is a concern. There is a lot that needs to be done, which is why the single user ones were the first to change.

#### Scarlet & Gold - Stephanie S

- [No update]

#### Sustainability Commissioner (N/A)

### **JUDICIARY UPDATES**

#### VPSO (N/A)

#### VP Internal - Artimes G

- General welcome to new members and updates on retreat (5 minutes)

[Summary] Hello and welcome, and congratulations to our newly commissioned members! Every year we have a training retreat, and the date I’m looking at is on October 14th; a Saturday. We will try to arrange equity training on that day. At the retreat we will discuss more about Vic and office structure, plus it’s just a good chance to meet everyone on council.

Devon: What time is the event?

Artimes: It’s an all day event.

Stephanie: The Bob retreat is that day!

Artimes: The date will be revisited then, likely on the Sunday.

Blanaid: I’m also away.

#### VP External - Katie C

- Infographics (5 minutes)

[Summary] Welcome to new members! So Jade has created lovely infographics; and we have one that explains how to make general claims and access coverage. I will contact the Strand to write an article about it; why students should use it and why they haven’t. The coverage should be much more accessible. We want students to take advantage of this!

As well, there has been confirmation from Dean Council, that VUSAC Executive can sign off on all VUSAC events, and clubs and levies. This does not apply to alcohol related events. We will go through more formal training with Krista.

- Caucus (5 minutes)

[Summary] I want to have it the week after reading week, open for discussion if this interferes. Shailee and I have been discussing having an equity section in caucus. I think it will be more productive to dedicate time to discuss equity. If anyone has strong date-related opinions let me know. I know I've mentioned that Lstat day a few times and I'm really looking for contacts with people who have taken the Lstat, so if you know anyone put them in contact with me.

Haleema: If you want to get into contact with Lstat, have you looked at Princeton review?

Katie: I was looking more into personal experiences than representatives.

Hambo: Can we do a google form or straw poll for the date?

Sayeh: How does a straw poll work?

Hambo: Raise your hand, close your eyes...

Artimes: You don't have to close your eyes.

Katie: Hands up for November 1st? (8) Hands up for 15th of November? I'm going to aim for November 1st.

Cameron: What is caucus?

Katie: Caucus is a big forum for people at Vic to discuss everything. We have levies and clubs come, and people can bring up new ideas or talk about ones they don't think are working.

#### Added:

- Added time for signing authority and VP event - Katie (2 minutes)

[Summary] I want to give my time to a member of the \_\_\_\_\_.

Taylor: Hello everyone! I work at Burwash, and in my experience working at Ned's I've noticed that when we close *a lot* of food goes to waste. I wanted to suggest that maybe someone can talk to food services, and offer a solution where students can be offered half priced food to reduce waste.

- Added time for pub night and corn coming - Stephanie (3 minutes)

[Summary] Corn Coming was a big success (Shoutout to Cameron, Alexa, and James for helping out). Could everyone who purchased things for the event forward me their receipts, for cheque recs? Can I also have four volunteers to help us move tables back? Zahavah and I tried moving a table before and nearly died. Also, we now have a corn costume and ninety corns...like corn on the cobs...and we somehow have to pick up this corn. It's in UC. How are we going to pick up the corn? What are we going to use the corn for? These are some questions I have. Yah...like, should we sell the corn? Please help me. Volunteers to help? (volunteers: Cameron, Blanaid, Haleema, Alexa)

Zahavah: How big is ninety corn?

- Added time for UTSU meeting update - Hambo (3 minutes)

[Summary] We have monthly board meetings; and the situation is that the VP of university affairs resigned earlier in the year (than expected), so we struck a committee. Now, we are a non-profit

organization and we can put everything into one vote. Those are the two main things that I wanted to point out.

Graham: How is the VP position filled?

Hambo: We voted her in in May, but now we have a hiring committee and are currently in the short listing phase.

[Katie requests to add one last quick note about her VP event. Sayeh approves. Katie makes announcement:]

Katie: The VP team is now fully formed, so on October 16th come meet your VP!

President - Zahavah K

- [No update]

Motion: Zahavah moves to adjourn meeting. Shailee seconds. Motion passes.