



April 3<sup>rd</sup> VUSAC Meeting Minutes

**Call to order: 5:30pm**

**Land Acknowledgement: Tran**

**Additions to the agenda: COVID-19 Discussion, Alexa update**

**Approval of the agenda: Vibhuti, Fatima seconds**

EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

**Campus Life Coordinator (Christina): 3 minutes**

Congratulations for getting to this point, you all have worked so hard, I'm happy all have created this virtual space to meet together. I want to echo my sentiments from my email, I want to recognize it's stressful for academics, figuring out plans for the summer, etc. I'm sure you're aware but please know we are all here for you virtually, many offices are offering their services virtually! And for incoming council, I can't wait to meet all of you and learn about your platforms, and to outgoing council, I look forward to working with you one on one, I'd love to just learn about your other goals and how I can best support you. Thank you for inviting me to all of your meetings, I look forward to hearing how I can best help.

**Dean of Students (Kelley Castle): 3 minutes**

Congratulations to new council, and I wanted to say that it's not been easy for administration during this time, but being a leader in this position I feel like I still have a lot of tools. Being a student leader is super difficult during this time, I know what you're doing through in terms of the complexity of the situation, I know it's particularly difficult when you're dealing with your own stuff like deadlines and work but also when you're supposed to be representing other people, it's hard to keep other's interests at the forefront when you don't know your own. I also wanted to talk about the residences, and every step of the way I want to make sure our students are given as much notice as we can give them, we are working with students and will be letting students who are in residences who can't go home stay for the summer, we haven't announced it yet but I just wanted to let you know. I also want to ask if students are interested of having a Deans Advisory Committee meeting with expanded membership where we have a conversation of what we can do for the Vic Community moving forward; in the past that committee had been nice because we have many people involved and also randomly selected members from the community as well and I'd love to have their voices heard. Please let me know if you are interested in getting involved with this, I'd love to hear about concrete things that we can do to help students right now, there may be things we can do collectively to give to people in meaningful ways within our community.



Lucy: When deciding which students could stay in residences and which ones had to go, what were the inter-college efforts to help students? Was it more localized within Victoria College?

Dean Castle: It was the entirety of U of T, we had hours of collective meetings, all the deans met, we have a standing meeting, we had subcommittees and groups... we were urging students to get home if they could, but we found that many students didn't want to go and needed to figure out how to keep students safe, a few days later we announced refunds, then decided that we couldn't handle that all the students were still there and we had to close the residences. We had many phone calls to students as well that were more personalized. The main message was that we were trying to get across was that we could not keep students in residences at that capacity, some students had parents at home that were immunocompromised, some students had financial struggles, tickets were cancelled, etc., so every situation was very different.

**President of Victoria University:**  
**Vic UTSU Directors (Aloysius & Angela):**

ACTION ITEMS:

- Motion by Nikki Pagaling to ratify Shannon Vincent as the Caffeinds Co-Manager for the 2020-2021 academic year. Spandan seconds. (5 minutes)

We are excited to announce that we have chosen Shannon Vincent as my successor. She is going into her third or fourth year, she is incredible, we're so excited to have her.

Motion: Nikki Pagaling motions to ratify Shannon Vincent as the Caffeinds Co-Manager for the 2020-2021 academic year. Spandan seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none
  
- Motion by Katie Marsland to release the staff honoraria of \$500 each to the Chair, Office Manager, CRO, Communications Coordinator, and \$250 for the Finance Chair, totaling \$2250. Fatima seconds. (5 minutes)

Motion: Katie Marsland motions to release the staff honoraria of \$500 each to the Chair, Office Manager, CRO, Communications Coordinator, and \$250 for the Finance Chair, totaling \$2250. Fatima seconds.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none



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- Motion by Rebecca Gao to ratify Ellen Grace Parsons and Hadiyyah Kuma as the 2020/2021 levy heads of The Strand. Tran seconds. (5 minutes)

Hi everyone, just as Gabby said, I'm ratifying next years co-editors in chief, we held an election two and a half weeks ago, and they won, and they will be taking over starting May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Vibhuti: I have a quick question out of curiosity, I know last year you were editor in chief and Leo had more of a manger role, is no one filling the role that Leo had?

Rebecca: The reason I hired Leo last year is because I needed help with the managerial side of things, but since there are now two editors in chief that role is no longer necessary.

Rebecca Gao motions to ratify Ellen Grace Parsons and Hadiyyah Kuma as the 2020/2021 levy heads of The Strand. Tran seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

- Motion by Michelle Zhao to ratify the proposed amendments to the Council Policies, as presented in Appendix A. Aminah seconds. (10 minutes)

Council amendment policies can be found in Appendix A.

Gabby: For context this was presented last week, if anyone has any questions please indicate it in the chat.

Motion: Michelle Zhao motions to ratify the proposed amendments to the Council Policies, as presented in Appendix A. Aminah seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

- Motion by Gavin Li to ratify a Student Projects application for VUSAC Tech Upgrade submitted by Alexa Ballis asking for \$350. Aminah seconds. (10 minutes) [Appendix B]

So we have an application from our president asking for \$350, the money will be used to purchase two HDMI cables, which is for orientation execs since we currently don't have any and we need them for mass presentations. We're also trying to expand the charging stations as well to include laptop chargers as well.

Alexa: Thank you so much Gavin, I just wanted to clarify that the tools would be available at VUSAC for logistical reasons like setting up presentations and will be available for other students as well.



Vibhuti: I was wondering if maybe in the future, there would be an inclusion of laptop chargers that are not for apple laptops?

Alexa: Yes, absolutely. This was more of a pilot project and seeing how things go, and I hope that if it is working for council next year they will expand this.

Vibhuti: in terms of security and access will it be locked out?

Alexa: Yes, definitely, because of me not being able to be present in the office for the next month we will have to figure out moving forward the logistics.

William: I was just saying that it is a bit ambitious to try to have non-apple device chargers on a technical side as they tend to have very unique dongles and voltages.

Alexa: Thank you for that point, that is good to note!

Motion: Gavin Li motions to ratify a Student Projects application for VUSAC Tech Upgrade submitted by Alexa Ballis asking for \$350. Aminah seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none
  
- Motion by Gavin Li to ratify a SPF application for MCAT books and iClickers submitted by VUSAC Academic Commission asking for \$4,000. Aminah seconds. (10 minutes) [Appendix B]

All these materials will be free to lend out to students at Vic and aid them in their academic endeavors.

Hannah: I was just wondering, for when it came to providing textbooks and loaning it out, what was the decision in making it only MCAT books?

Gavin: For the LSAT books, I was told by the academic commissioner, I was told they have already received funding from VUSAC.

Lucy: I just wanted to say thank you for this funding and for council support on this project, and I wanted to add that as you know, when we discussed this and voted on it, it was originally designed for our books to be purchased in late March which is no longer possible since we can't deliver them now. The idea of having iClickers available for summer classes also won't work anymore since classes will be online but we will be continuing with the project later on.

Motion: Gavin Li motions to ratify a SPF application for MCAT books and iClickers submitted by VUSAC Academic Commission asking for \$4,000. Aminah seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none



- Motion by Gavin Li to ratify a SPF application for Screenwriter's Perspective Magazine submitted by Screenwriting at Vic asking for \$800. Aminah seconds. (10 minutes) [Appendix B]

So this project application, they are trying to publish their first issue, they have received \$800 to print 200 copies from VUSAC, but since it's their first issue they wanted an extra 200 copies to distribute it to more places around Vic and to reach more people and raise more awareness about their existence. They have also attached their digital version on the application.

Vibhuti: I would be more comfortable for this grant to be tabled for next year just because of the current situation.

Gavin: The committee has decided to extend the deadline until the end of December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020 to use the funding, if council approved this they do have until the end of this year to make it happen.

Vibhuti: In that case, if they are looking for funding for the fall can't they just get that funding from VUSAC?

Katherine: Screenwriter's perspective has no money from VUSAC to print currently, they can only use funding from Student Project's.

Vibhuti: Just to clarify Katherine's point, VUSAC does have a summer budgeting period, they won't be a club since they won't be ratified so I'm not sure.

Alexa: Just to clarify, the summer budgeting period has not been formalized, moving forward I hope it will be, but since they aren't a club now they aren't able to. Given the climate I am unsure of how they are doing in terms of this project and what their plans are, if things have changed because of COVID-19, if we have reached out to them since then.

Gavin: I have not reached out yet.

Tran: I just wanted to know if they had printed copies with the money VUSAC has given them yet.

Katherine: I don't believe they have printed anything.

Cameron: Yes they have printed!

Michelle: To clarify, Katherine you mentioned they don't have funding, is it because they used the money to print the copies?

Katherine: I was unaware they actually printed, when did they print these copies?

Cameron: They printed in late February, but they haven't filed a cheque req yet.

Katherine: I got an email asking if they could print in September but I'll follow up, the reason why they don't have funding is because VUSAC funding expires at the end of the year.

Alexa: It sounds like we should follow up with them on a couple of things, we can table this it can be voted on with new council.

Vibhuti: I will be voting opposed to this because there are so many things on the table and it is our last meeting, by September the club can readjust their funding.



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Lucy: I don't understand why we're tabling this if it's a request made by a club, in my understanding they would have to apply in the fall budgeting period and that money wouldn't come out until October; if we tabled this, what other ways would they have to reach out to get money before October? Is the summer budgeting period a way they can actually get money? If we table this do they have to wait until October?

Alexa: I think we want to figure the printing of the magazines that were approved with VUSAC money, because it's a Student Projects motion it's not necessarily money from VUSAC, it can be ratified at a summer meeting.

Vibhuti: I will be opposed to striking the motion, Lucy said that this club brought their motion to Student Projects, we should vote on it as it has been brought up.

Lucy: I do want to reiterate that I think its an outreach of our power to table this, we shouldn't table this just because we didn't reach out to them properly. VUSAC meetings wouldn't start until August, so they'd have to wait until September for the first VUSAC meeting in order to get that money ratified, is that correct? That seems like an awful long time to make a club wait for funding just because we didn't do our due diligence or because we decided to strike it. What other options do they have?

Michelle: I think we should just vote on the motion as presented, I will also be opposing it because I'd feel more comfortable knowing what their plans are, moving forward that would probably be our best plan because we have new council coming in, old council going out, and there is a lot of shifting gears here.

Katie: Given what we do know about COVID-19, printers are not going to be open for a number of months anyways, even if you can print them, there are significantly fewer students on campus, it's an inappropriate use of funds if it won't have a maximum reach for students, it would be a better use of money to wait until the fall and it will reach more students that way.

Motion: Jay motions to strike the motion to ratify a SPF application for Screenwriter's Perspective Magazine submitted by Screenwriting at Vic asking for \$800. Alexa seconds. Jay withdraws his motion.

Massoma: I am agreeing with Lucy because there is a lot of uncertainty in general, we don't know when we can go back on campus, there is a period where this club just won't be able to operate, no one has answered Lucy's question on how else they can get funding? We just ratified funding for VUSAC to get chargers even though we don't know when we will get back into the office, so I don't see a reason why we could fund other Student Projects projects and not this one, I don't see what the difference is.

Katie: The difference is that they have to re-apply for club status in the fall, we know that when things reopen in the summer at that point they can make purchases again, if they're not a club it's



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iffy what they can do, it's different because there's not as much consistent institutional memory as VUSAC.

Lucy: I don't want to monopolize the conversation, I don't want to be in a position where VUSAC is making decisions for clubs, we are here to review decisions and make sure everything is in order, everything is operating properly but I think we shouldn't get in the nitty gritty of when they should print, they've generally been doing work for a semester and I don't see a good enough reason to deny them money.

Aminah: I'll be voting in favor for this motion, because the money will just be available in case things work out, addressing whether campus will be open, if it doesn't work out they won't be printing because they won't have access to it, if things are still variable it's okay to give them that and it goes along with the chargers, we don't know when the VUSAC office will be re-opened, if they aren't ratified as a club they can't have access.

Motion: Gavin Li motions to ratify a SPF application for Screenwriter's Perspective Magazine submitted by Screenwriting at Vic asking for \$800. Aminah seconds. Motion fails.

- Favour: all (9)
- Opposed: Katie, Jenny, Tran, Michelle, Vibhuti, Mehr
- Abstained: none
  
- Motion by Gavin Li to ratify a Student Projects Fund Operating Policy Amendments. Mehr seconds. [Appendix C]

I already presented my amendments at the last meeting.

Vibhuti: Gavin I really liked the amendments you put forward and it increases accessibility of Student Projects, you put it on paper in a tangible way, congratulations!

Motion: Gavin Li motions to ratify a Student Projects Fund Operating Policy Amendments. Mehr seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none
  
- Motion by Sonny Nightingale to ratify Alexa Ballis and Diana Gil Hamel as 2020/2021 VCDS co-producers. Cameron seconds. (5 minutes)

Katie: VCDS elections took place over the past couple of weeks, it is voted on by general members.

Motion: Sonny Nightingale motions to ratify Alexa Ballis and Diana Gil Hamel as 2020/2021 VCDS co-producers. Cameron seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all



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- Opposed: none
- Abstained: Alexa
  
- Motion by Alexa Ballis to ratify the proposed amendment to the Constitution as outlined in Appendix D (5 minutes)

Thank you for that, we spoke about this two meetings ago, this is about introducing an honorarium of \$1000 to each of the VPs on VUSAC, they do a tremendous amount of work I am afraid that has contributed to the inaccessibility of those leadership positions.

Katie: It's a vote on whether you think this position deserves to have the honorarium, it's not whether or not you get paid but do you think this position does the amount of work that warrants this money.

Aminah: I think this is something that will have to go to next year because there are incoming council members here.

Alexa: The reason we are voting on it next year is because it's not the VPs in their position right now but as Katie said, it's about the role itself in that it deserves that compensation.

Lucy: In constitutional terms, I don't think it's okay for people who will be getting this money next year to vote on it, I think saying that they will be in different positions, just putting a cherry on a cake, this is trying to mold the fact that these people are voting on this motion this year and then next year they will get a significant amount of money. My personal issue is not that people who will be in these positions next year are able to vote this year but it's that they already know. I think future council should vote on this next year before election results come out, we should have voted on this back in February.

Hannah: Hi friends, my hot take on this, I don't think it matters whether the people voting are going to be VPs later on, they are on VUSAC for a particular reason, saying that it's a conflict of interest I don't think will necessarily make a difference. As someone who doesn't have voting power on VUSAC, we should discuss the principles of being a VP, and why that warrants \$1000 rather than deciding whether these people should be able to vote on it. It's not just a decision for next year, it will impact VUSAC down the road as well.

Dorian: I think it's the fact that people who are on council right now, if we moved the vote to next year they wouldn't be receiving the money, another point I wanted to highlight is the fact that I don't think putting an honorarium on VP positions is something that will make people run for VP positions. It's essentially you know who will be a VP the year before, you know it will be a VUSAC member since they're the only people who have a chance. You're about to ratify the election results, it's a rubber stamp, you shouldn't be ratifying your own elections.

Vibhuti: So while I am in favour of this motion, as a VP this year, I will say I think it would be inappropriate if the VPs coming into next year would not abstain for this vote.

Michael: I think it's worth noting that it's more like what the position deserves, not looking at who is coming into the position next year but whether the position itself deserves to have an honorarium.

Fatima: If we do wait until next year, we are letting a whole year pass by for people to not have their work compensated, the people who ran for VP I think they did it not knowing that they were going to be compensated.





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Alexa: Thank you for all of this discussion, at the end of it and at the core of this it is because the positions deserve to be compensated, time and time this has been brought up and nothing has been done about it. In order for it to be in place and established it has to be voted on now. In terms of the lateness of this proposal, that is on me...At the last VUSAC meeting and everyone knew the results, there was no opposition to it and everyone knew what would happen.

Jay: The Vice President should not be voting in that position, the issue is that we only have 15 voting members...

Gabby: There was only one official regret, we have 15 people here who can vote.

Jay: Would VPs still abstain next year and receive the money? I think that would be the best way to go about this. While \$1000 could make a big difference, for me, I almost didn't run for VP because I couldn't feasibly see myself doing that and that would make a difference for me.

Lucy: I think everyone agrees that VPs deserve to get this money, that's not an issue, I think everyone is in favour of this motion, everyone understands that these positions deserve this money, it's not a discussion of whether this position deserves this because it does. Are we following our constitutional guidelines as elected officials? I think the rules should be followed, those with a conflict of interest should abstain. Could we pass this in August once we have the numbers necessary? Would that be an option?

Dorian: I agree with Lucy that the fact that there are 15 does not beat out equitable decision making in this case, no reason why we should say that we only have 15, we have to vote for this, we need to have this go through. I agree that this is a motion that is good and should happen, I agree Jay that \$1000 will do a lot, I didn't mean that the money won't attract people, I meant that the VP position in VUSAC is somewhat elitist that the positions are spoken for. Using the VCU voting for VP positions doesn't justify that they are voting in favour for this motion.

Aloysius: I just wanted to ask a question of clarification, is this the last possible VUSAC meeting that this particular motion can pass?

Gabby: I think the point was just so it passed for this council so that the next council could benefit.

Aloysius: I ran for VPSO back in first year, the reason why I haven't ran since then is mainly because of the time commitment, I think personally, despite the principle of looking bad on paper, I think ideally the VP positions would abstain for the motion, but with the entire situation and looking at it in terms of considerations for incoming VP members I think it would be a step in the right direction to work towards this now. At any point in which VCU members will look at this, they will see this entire discussion in terms of what we are saying. Personally I think given all the work these roles have put in, and how the people ahead of me are working towards it I think the motion should pass. Granted there is absolutely a conflict of interest, but given the number of people we have here I think there should be some exceptions.

Vibhuti: The one thing I'll say is that if next council wants this to a vote, I hope they would look into this, they would have to do it in October once full council is elected. I'd like to call the question because I think our conversation is becoming very circular.

Aminah: Would abstaining members leave the room in an actual real setting for a VUSAC meeting?

Gabby: It would be as we normally vote.

Motion: Alexa Ballis motions to ratify the proposed amendment to the Constitution as outlined in Appendix D. Fatima seconds.



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- Favour: all (11)
- Opposed: Aminah
- Abstained: Jay, Tran, Mehr
  
- Motion by Alexa Ballis to ratify the proposed amendment to the Council Policies as outlined in Appendix D. Alexa withdraws motion. (5 minutes)
  
- Motion by Katie Marsland to ratify the results of the VUSAC 2020 Spring Elections. Aminah seconds. (5 minutes)

As was discussed, we are ratifying the election in that we know the election was run fairly, we are acknowledging that this election was run fairly.

Vibhuti: Can you talk about what happens if it passes in terms of voting?

Gabby: New voting members would acquire their voting rights.

Vibhuti: If you are old council and on new council you get two votes.

Motion: Katie Marsland motions to ratify the results of the VUSAC 2020 Spring Elections. Aminah seconds.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Motion: Aminah motions for a 5-minute recess. Michelle seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

### DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- COVID-19 Discussion (10 minutes)

Alexa: I think Kelley touched on some stuff, things are changing every single day, one thing that we are working on is sharing resources, moving forward I have been in contact with President Robins and Kelley regarding COVID-19, one thing I discovered was that there was misinformation spread out to students, I am excited that we will have the potential DAC meeting and figure out all the pillars that are affecting students, figuring out their needs and connecting students to financial resources, etc. If you have more thoughts or questions on this moving forward, I will do my best to answer them. At the end of the day we are trying our best to make decisions and take action while also taking care of ourselves.



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Vibhuti: I want to give a special shoutout to Aminah, Mehr and Cedric, I've never see someone command a Zoom meeting quite like Aminah, it's good stuff. I just wanted to commend those three council members for really getting involved.

Lucy: I think one of the things we should try to look at moving forward is how the university or Victoria College tried to accommodate for individual needs, one thing that was disappointing was that there were students that actively told the Dean's Office that their parents were immunocompromised and were still asked to leave. I do understand that it is a difficult situation and they were handling thousands of emails and calls, moving forward if this does happen again, or any similar situation, it's important for VUSAC to make sure that these kinds of extenuating circumstances are accommodated for.

Aminah: Something tangible that we want to come out is an actual plan or a consultation with students, but that is hard to navigate because of how the Dean's Office, or what I've noticed is that there are so many different contexts to navigate, it's hard to come out with something tangible.

- 2019/2020 Council (15 minutes)

Katie: We as a team have had an insane year, no structure for how to go through these things, the fact that we did this as a team is incredible. I want to take a time to as a team reflect on the things we accomplished this year and any advice we have for moving forward.

Hannah: I'm really grateful for the opportunity to work with everyone this year, it was definitely a learning experience, I gained a lot of insight into community outreach and team building, I'm really grateful for that, it was super cool working with different commissions. I think being Equity co-chair has made me realize I'm really passionate about the topic, my passion for the issue has become even stronger. Going forward I guess there's no one really to talk to about this since we don't have a equity commissioner, that's really concerning because I don't know where it goes to from here, I think people have insights about how we can make this an accessible space until that time because we don't have anything at the moment, but I think it's important that we all need to tie together and try our hardest and make sure we are being accessible.

Tran: Just to refer to Hannah's point, I know Michelle and I have talked that we are going to try to be held accountable for equity, we will do our best to make sure that that moves forward, it's an important issue for all of us. Even though we don't have an equity commissioner we will do our best to maintain equity. As for my other comment, as for S&G I had to deal with the Student Choice Initiative and with COVID-19, I think what has helped me is the team that's been built on VUSAC, I think this year's council has been so supportive and good about lending a helping hand and reaching out a hand when it's needed. I think that's something to think about when moving forward and something for next year's council.

Aminah: The immense amount of positivity has been incredible, I've learned how to be more positive, I've appreciated that so much because I remember during winter break I thought



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everything was normal, I came back and I realized I was missing out on a lot of active support, I hope that continues forever and I hope that next year's incoming council looks forward to it.

Ellenoor: I was going to say that on my first year on council it was really nice to be able to have office hours and as being part of an optimistic and passionate active team inspired me to want to do more and all these amazing projects that people are pushing for. There's so much drive in this team and I appreciate that, and being able to as part of being councilor you go to these events, etc., and being able to see these events that we put on and these projects we participated in was really nice to be forced to go to them and all of them were really valuable experiences, especially the equity-seeking career events, that was one of my favorites. Thank you everyone!

Cameron: It feels weird to not be on VUSAC next year, I've seen so many of you grow which has been amazing to see and to watch, each and every one of the members of new council I have faith that you will fill these big shoes and for the members of outgoing council, never has any council encountered as many challenges as we have and never has any council overcome these challenges as well as this one has. For advice, VUSAC is incredibly important work but it isn't everything, make sure to take care of yourselves, make sure you keep engage with the community at large, that's how your council is going to grow and do amazing work that I am entirely confident that you will all do.

Michelle: First off, I want to say damn, this year happened, I'm still reeling with that, I saw the email from Dean Woodin saying that this was the last day of the semester. This was a massive whirlwind, I can 100% say I wouldn't have wanted to do it with anyone else. I think not having an equity commissioner will be an interesting opportunity for new council to reflect on how to make their own roles equitable without having that commission. Also I wanted to say, last year Cameron Davies said, the work we do in council is not sexy, but it's good and it's important. For those who won't be on council next year I'm excited to see the impact you will make at U of T and any community you find.

Lucy: Hi everyone, I wanted to thank everyone for all the work you have done, we finished all the assignments, and we managed to get through these weird and tough times, it has not been easy for any of us, I think VUSAC is amazing because it lets you have a space to do what you believe in and what drives you, and we all believe in different things and all have our own passions and our own drives, and we have this space and this atmosphere to help each other with our own endeavors, throughout this year we have molded our roles into what we believed was best, I think more than just a commission or a council or a VP or President or Chair, we were a team, which sounds cliché but what's beautiful about VUSAC is how we can be so different and still coalesce together. Council was very beautiful this year and it made me very happy to see everyone striving for these great things even through these really bumpy roads, I hope we have all learned amazing lessons from it. Thank you all for everything, it's been an amazing experience, it's a wonderful atmosphere that we've built, I hope that next year's council has that as well. I wanted to reiterate the message of please take care of yourself as well, do what you believe in.



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Alexa: So I'm tearing up, this has been my third and final year on VUSAC, I'm going to say that you have all been so incredible, all of you, I admire all of you for all the work that you do and the passion you put in and for challenging each other and I just wanted to speak to both incoming and outgoing council, you learn so much on council that you can take with you for the rest of your life, and those skills are very important, I hope you can take what you've learned this past year and apply it and continue to grow and do amazing things, I know each and every one of you is amazing and incredible. I know you can be pressured to be a certain type of leader but what's amazing about VUSAC is that there are so many different styles of leadership that come together.

Vibhuti: Okay so what I wanted to say is that VUSAC has given me so much in terms of skills, friends, what I consider a family of sorts, I think it's important that old council reflects on their time on council, what they did and how they felt while doing those things, how you felt throughout the entire process, one, it will help you uncover what you've done on VUSAC and what it means to you, and I think it's important to reflect and to take that in whatever you do, and new council, I'm so excited for you, this has been the best council I've been a part of and I can't wait for next year. Michelle was my first friend at U of T, I'm so excited for her, I think Michelle's passion alone will take VUSAC so far, I'm excited to watch that. Three things I've been excited about is that we had lots of spicy meetings, I have not been a part of organized council that have spoken their minds the way you have, and I'm happy that you felt safe to speak your mind, I went from saying two things minuted in VUSAC in my first year, to being that b\*tch, I think it gives you a space to grow and give you that nervousness and try to put it in other places. Number two, the document reviews happened, I cannot believe that it happened, and it's wild, and I'm just happy that they look nice, everyone who contributed to it did a great job, I'm happy that something we talked about for such a long time actually happened. I will speak on behalf of Alexa, Katie, and Cam that please reach out if you have any questions, we will always be here, we will always have this very sad bond because we've been through some shit but we also had a good time, and I think that's really important. Thank you all for the work that you put in, I'm so grateful.

Rena: Thank you all for inspiring me this past year – your dedication and passion for helping others and making change has always amazed me, and I know that you have all helped each other to grow into the beautiful people I am speaking to today. One piece of advice I have for new council coming in, is that I know that one of the biggest struggles I've experienced being on VUSAC is the feeling that I was always disappointing someone, or what I was doing wasn't enough. I think we all know that we're our own harshest critics, so please, please, reach out to someone if you feel this way – VUSAC can be an incredible place of support and comfort if you let it.

Alexa: I just wanted to quote Glee, it's one of my favorite quotes, **“being part of something special does not make you special; something is special because you are a part of it.”**

Jay: Hi, I just wanted to say I love you all, I'm really going to miss you all.

Tran: Something quick I'll add was that coming into VUSAC is very scary and very AH, who do you know, it was very nerve-wracking, I think this team has really created that safe and inclusive



space, for new council, balancing those balls and juggling them, I think that was the first thing Katie said to me in our on-boarding meeting and I will take that.

Nerjia: This one time, a week after I was ratified, Alexa asked me to get my composite photo, and I couldn't do up my necklace, and I asked Tran to help me and she did it and since then we've been friends and I feel like that set the tone for everything that happened to me in VUSAC, everyone has been so kind and supportive.

Hannah: Gabby, sorry to talk twice. I know that everyone's probably stressed out because of COVID-19, there are a couple of things you can do to not be stressed, for anyone who is looking for a job for the summer, right now SmartServe is doing free certification, if you want to do that, you want to be a chef or barista, you can go on there and get it for free, I just wanted to let everyone know. Also, Skill Share, they are doing a full two months for free so you have access to all these cool videos. If anyone is interested, let me know, I'll send you the links! If anyone ever needs someone to talk to we can drink Nestea and eat cheese and watch Ratatouille, please reach out to me. I can give you a foot massage through my heart.

Gabby: Two quick shout-outs, one, to Holly, I have been consistently blown away by the content that you produce for this council, it is ridiculous, you are a star, I don't think I have said that in many months, my second shout-out is to Katie, I have had a difficult year personally, and I have never felt as supported as Katie makes me feel as a part of this council, thank you, you are a fantastic VPI, thank you for everything you have done to everyone. My third thing, you have all made my job difficult because you're all so nice that it's hard to tell you to shut up.

Katie: I don't want to be done for the year, it's been fantastic working with you all, there have been meetings I've walked out of and thought okay, that was really hard. I know that when I look back on my time on VUSAC, those will be some of the things I remember, and remembering this incredible team and how you've been so impactful with all the work you've done, you've made a difference in so many people's lives. **AlSo BaG oF sNaKes.**

#### STAFF REPORTS:

##### **Finance (Katherine): 5 minutes**

After this meeting today, certain members with signing authority for the VUSAC bank account are meeting to discuss our financial situation and contingency plans. To let you in on what's happening: 1. I am currently processing all credit card refunds for High Ball. Debit cards and cash payments will need to be issued by cheque. Details TBD. 2. VUSAC does all payments by physical cheque. We have this thing called signing authority where a cheque can't be completed or processed unless 2 people sign it. We can't do physical cheques anymore or e-transfers due to this signing authority. We're discussing contingencies and such tonight. 3. Looking over the finances these past few weeks have highlighted a lot of issues we have with our accounts. We will be conducting an accounts clean up this summer. 4. For specific matters – I'm working on getting remote access for the Finance Chair computer at VUSAC. A few people have reached out to me



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for information only available on this computer. I am in contact with IT. 5. For large payments, we have reached out to the Dean's Office if they could process it for us for the time being, and they are. This is on specific case by case. 6. Several clubs have identified wanting to continue their programming into September. We don't do budget carry-overs year by year, but they have been notified that council is aware of how coronavirus has disrupted plans that were officially approved for the year prior, and while I can't guarantee what council will vote on next year, there doesn't stand to be any huge barriers to these clubs.

### EXECUTIVE REPORTS:

#### **President (Alexa): 3 minutes**

As a last goodbye, seriously, despite everything we've faced this year to the SCI to COVID-19, this has not been easy, hearing from admin, this has been one of the hardest years for students and student groups in a very long time, and the way you all handled these situations speaks to who you are and how hard you've worked, I am constantly blown away with the initiatives brought forward, tangible ideas to help students, and how you've all worked together as a team and how we can have difficult conversations and at the end of the day we still love each other. Congratulations, and thank you so much for all of the work you've done, you really should be proud, and to new council, you are going to do a great job, it's going to be hard sometimes but it's worth it and I'm so excited, I'll still be a student here and I can't wait to watch you thrive from afar. Huge shout-out to our three vice presidents, I don't think I could have done this year without them, Cam, for keeping the clubs and levies with every decision, Vibhuti, for being so strong with your beliefs and for always speaking your mind, and Katie, you have an ability to make people feel so welcomed and cared for, you're one of the most empathetic people I have ever met.

Motion: Katie motions to adjourn the meeting. Aminah seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none