



March 6th VUSAC Meeting Minutes

Call to order: 5:30

Land Acknowledgement : Mehr

Official Regrets: Jay (Proxy: Vibhuti)

Approval of minutes:

Motion: Tran motions to approve the February 14th minutes. Michelle seconds. Motion passes.

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

Additions to the agenda: Move UTSU director update to the end of the meeting. Lucy adds 2 minute update.

Approval of the agenda:

Motion: Katie motions to approve the agenda. Fatima seconds. Motion passes.

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

EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

Vic UTSU Directors (Aloysius & Angela): 10 minutes

DISCUSSION ITEM:

- Proposed VCDS Constitutional Amendments (10 minutes)
Everything we are adding is in red, these are items that have been voted on and discussed by voting executive, was majority vote, everyone has agreed to include these items in our new constitution. Possible that there could be two artistic directors if they run together; making it mandatory that monthly meetings in summer happen, in line with what past exec have been doing for the past few years, just adding it to the constitution; changing language to include transgender; also adding position of equity director, work in communication w producers to provide any sort of resources and information on any equity concerns that arise during the season; as shows are being pitched, as well as throughout season, meeting before and after casting decisions to ensure equitable casting and make sure that rehearsals involving intimacy or sexual...(have to attend 20% of rehearsals and tech rehearsals)...



also have contingency plan if certain positions are not elected to make sure that there always is an equity director even if one is not elected during the elections.

Vibhuti: This is a very well outlined piece of policy, I'd like to congratulate vcds on this
Alexa: on the equity director, why did you keep the steward as a position that would assume the role?

Tia: I thought it was important that they could hold the producers responsible, and could act as an external viewpoint, a very neutral party so it would work best

Alexa: to clarify, about adding a potential artistic director, would the honorarium be split? Or would it be \$500 each

Tia: I think we decided it would be \$500 each, in line with the technical directors as well as producers

ACTION ITEMS:

- Motion by Gavin Li to ratify a grant of \$8000 for Caffeinds. Mehr seconds. (10 minutes) [Appendix B]

We're here to ratify a purchase of a new espresso machine for Caffeinds, we got a co-manager Nikki to join us today. The espresso machine we currently have is broken, and it's the point where the cost of repair is higher than just purchasing a new machine which is why we submitted an application. We wanted to support the most expensive one, because it is built for commercial grade and has more advanced features, also because since it's made for commercial purchases it is made to last, it's been shown that the machine can last around 5 years

Nikki: the machine broke only lasted us 2 years, we had the same model 2 years ago, so this new machine like Gavin said, is a commercial grade so it can handle increasing volume and growth we've been seeing, Caffeinds will only grow from here on out; because we make our own profit, the cost is almost \$9000, we would be at an operating loss for the next 2 years if we paid it ourselves. The machine would provide us the opportunity to continue growing and let us continue to grow.

Motion: Motion by Gavin Li to ratify a grant of \$8000 for Caffeinds. Mehr seconds. Motion passes.

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

- Motion by Cameron Davies to reallocate \$300 from the Club Contingency Fund to a new budget line in the Ember Island Players' budget. Michelle seconds. (5 minutes) [Appendix C]



EIP, one of our clubs put on Sweeney Todd, wanted some money to be able to rent some wireless mics from Long and McQuade and the clubs contingency fund is a significant amount of money, if you have any questions feel free to ask myself or Alexa.

Aminah: I know the UTSU offers rental mics for free, but I'm not sure if it's a wireless mic

Cam: I think with this particular club, the club heads have had a myriad experience in theatre, I would assume there is a reason they don't use the UTSU's rental equipment.

Motion by Cameron Davies to reallocate \$300 from the Club Contingency Fund to a new budget line in the Ember Island Players' budget. Michelle seconds.

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

- Motion by Cameron Davies to reallocate \$700 from the Club Contingency Fund to the budget of Motion Victures for a phone lens adapter. Vibhuti seconds. (5 minutes) [Appendix D]

At the previous meeting this money was not budgeted for last semester but was requested for this semester retroactively, so we decided to strike the budget line from the regular budget and draw the money out of the contingency fund

Gabby: What's the ballpark of the contingency fund?

Cam: A few thousand dollars

Motion by Cameron Davies to reallocate \$700 from the Club Contingency Fund to the budget of Motion Victures for a phone lens adapter. Vibhuti seconds.

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

- Motion by Vibhuti Kacholia to ratify the amendments to the Constitution in regard to the International Councillor position. Tran seconds. (5 minutes) [Appendix E]

So as we talked about in our last meeting, the language around international councilor as being a position being elected in the fall, I took most of the feedback and I changed subsection D, on the second amendment to say it's not only assigned to VPE but to other portfolios at the discretion of the exec and the international councilors, lets the position be more fluid. That's what I changed, everything else has stayed the same.



Motion: Motion by Vibhuti Kacholia to ratify the amendments to the Constitution in regard to the International Councillor position. Tran seconds. Motion passes.

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

- Motion by Cameron Davies to reallocate \$150 from the Club Contingency Fund to a new budget line in the Women of the World budget. Fatima seconds. (5 minutes)

Women of the world, they want to hold a few bake sales during the year, this is a club started by first years and I'm excited to see them hold bake sales for our community this year

Motion: Motion by Cameron Davies to reallocate \$150 from the Club Contingency Fund to a new budget line in the Women of the World budget. Fatima seconds. Motion passes.

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

- Motion by Lucy Faria to reallocate \$2500 from the Contingency Fund to a new budget line item in the Academic Commission's budget. Tran seconds. (10 minutes) [Appendix F]

This year for the academic commission we're putting forth a new project, looking to loan out textbooks for LSAT and MCAT students, VUSAC will buy these books, there's an outline of the quantity of the books we are buying and what they are and where the money is coming from, and we're also purchasing a number of iClickers, it will work in a loan system with a spreadsheet, they will be able to be in possession for up to 6 months but we can revisit that depending on the demand, they will be kept in the VP office. We want to advertise iClickers a lot to first and second years, and the LSAT and MCAT books will be targeted mostly to upper year students, the info for what books I chose was based on the internet and my own research, they're reasonably priced except for the MCAT which seems expensive, but it's the most comprehensive set and it comes with 7 full books, if we bought each book individually that would not make sense, and they come with online past tests and online resources where we created an account with log in information, and I was thinking of also having a course reserve system as well but that would also depend on demand. In terms of the books they may last 4-5 years, until newer editions come out, and other academic commissioners can use these as well. And iClickers don't have a depreciation rate which is great!

Cam: I wanted to thank you for having this amazing initiative, I think you're helping take down a barrier for people who want to take these tests.

Vibhuti: Is there a reason why you chose both student projects and VUSAC, why both?



Lucy: Equilibrium, I think, I have a large amount of money that was set aside in the contingency fund, but I didn't think I needed to reallocate \$4000 back into it; since they're only operational for a semester right now (student projects) I thought that would be a good resource, I thought \$4000 would be a lot for just student projects, so I divided it between LSAT and MCAT.

Vibhuti: Since SP has such a large pot to take from, maybe you could ask for more?

Lucy: I can include that in the application. My plan is to buy the LSAT books and the iClickers first, then leave the MCAT until after the student projects ratification happens.

Spandan: If someone were to rent out books, how would the process work?

Lucy: We will have a small deposit, but I don't want the deposit itself to be a barrier, for iClickers it could be \$3, then if it were a larger amount it would defeat the purchase of the project; two books may be lost in the timespan of 4-5 years, but since there is an expected depreciation, VUSAC won't have that much of a need for those books in 4-5 years, the books could be donated to the Vic book drive... in terms of how the books will be loaned, we will advertise them and they will be available in the VUSAC office, they will fill out a google form with their information, and then we can book a time that works for someone with access to the VP office, and we can keep their contact info in a spreadsheet to make sure we have everything

Spandan: Would it be worth having some kind of a contract, just to make sure it comes back?

Massoma: For something like the iClickers, I imagine many people will want them, do you have a plan to manage a large amount of people wanting a limited resource?

Lucy: For the iClickers I plan to test them out during the summer so we can gage what the demand is, in case we do need to buy them for September we can do that; my fear is that if we have too many iClickers they might not be used, but if we have large demand we can always buy more, and that's my reasoning.

Motion: Lucy motions to extend 10 minutes. Michelle seconds. Motion passes.

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

Massoma: My follow-up question is what would be the signup process to make sure there is relatively equal access for people who want the iClicker; the way google forms work, since all these loans are on a rolling basis it will just be first come first serve, in that case we can always buy more, we could also split up iClickers by months or semesters

Fatima: I know there are people who also take the PSATs even though they're not as popular, maybe you could include these as well? And the GRE?

Lucy: Yes absolutely, we could order more depending on demand.

Tran: A suggestion, would you get their student numbers verified to make sure they're Vic students?



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Michelle: I noticed the links are all US dollars, and they're quite expensive... also is there any plan to lend out the prep books for the summer since I know that's when students write the test?

Lucy: Yes the plan is to have this approved now so we can have it up and running before the summer.

Aminah: A comment on discussion, it's important to keep comments to the books and not how the process will be carried out, that could be another discussion.

Rheannon: One, I know the rental period would be semester basis, for the books will there be a time limit.

Lucy: It would be a full term, so the first term will be up until the summer, likely 3 or 4 months, if students don't give back their books within a few days that's fine, then for the school year it would be a full 3 months with a possibility of renewing it, though I imagine most students won't need to since a lot of people taking it in the fall they take it up until October/November since that's when application deadlines usually are.

Rheannon: If someone doesn't return the material, would you consider having it be so that the students could pay for the material if they don't return it?

Lucy: I could implement a system of late fees, but nothing that would be a burden for students because there becomes an issue... we could implement a late system, although just from my experience, with other equipment we've never had any late fee system.

Rheannon: I meant more like if it were never returned.

Lucy: We do have contact info of the people who will have them, in an extreme case we could have someone from deans office contacting them, we have their email and numbers, I imagine most Vic students will return them.

Hannah: Maybe including the GRE books on here since a large amount of the vic population takes the GRE.

Lucy: Yes absolutely we can include them, I was just thinking of this as a pilot program but id love to include GRE books.

Motion: Vibhuti motions to extend 5 minutes. Tran seconds. Motion passes.

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

Lucy: I would like to have the iClickers ordered if possible, and then also, because I did budget money from the VUSAC bursary fund, I don't know, to me it doesn't make sense to put all the money from this project, if we can have an equilibrium and have money from both Student Projects and VUSAC...

Alexa: I'm just worried because the price might be more than what you initially budgeted for so we'd be approving for less than you need.



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Lucy: If the cost ends up being more, then I'll apply to Student Projects with the remaining amount, doesn't make sense for me to just stall the process for longer.

Vibhuti: One, I think adjusting after you'll have a hard time justifying that to the committee; it may be harder to argue, if you go back tonight and look at the numbers, we can do an email vote and have it in by Tuesday or Wednesday, so it won't have to be 2 weeks, and it will be a set in stone amount laid out.

Katie: I think that I agree because not having an exact number will make things messy, it will be helpful to have exact numbers.

Alexa: We could see now if people are interested in the project.

Vibhuti: Since we've had this discussion now, and we understand why it's being put in the email vote.

Lucy withdraws the motion.

- Motion by Michelle Zhao to reallocate \$200 from the VUSAC Contingency Fund to budget line item 39 titled Commuter Appreciation Week within the Commuter Commission's budget, raising the total amount to \$500. Tran seconds. (5 minutes)

Commuter appreciation week planning has been going well, but since we have a packed week of events the amount is coming up to more than we thought, so we're asking for \$200 more to raise our funds.

Katie: What is it going towards?

Michelle: \$500 will go breakfast for dinner on the Tuesday evening, and we also have other funds we will be reallocating to other things, Friday night SMC does a night out at the Firkin and we will put money there.

Rheannon: We originally had \$650 that we put a lot towards commuter appreciation week, but we just decided to bring back the breakfast for dinner and wanted to get more food...

Motion: Motion by Michelle Zhao to reallocate \$200 from the VUSAC Contingency Fund to budget line item 39 titled Commuter Appreciation Week within the Commuter Commission's budget, raising the total amount to \$500. Tran seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
 - Opposed: none
 - Abstained: none
-
- Motion by Katie Marsland to reallocate \$32 from the Contingency Fund to a new line in the Equity Commission's budget entitled "Environmental Equity Week supplies". Mehr seconds. (3 minutes)



To offset a cost that came up during environmental equity week, its just the same thing as going through the process to retroactively reimburse something that wasn't budgeted for, same thing we did with Motion Victures just making sure it goes through

Motion: Motion by Katie Marsland to reallocate \$32 from the Contingency Fund to a new line in the Equity Commission's budget entitled "Environmental Equity Week supplies". Mehr seconds.

Motion passes.

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

- Motion by Katie Marsland to move \$250 from the Contingency Fund to a new line in the Vice-President Internal's budget entitled "Office Supplies". Tran seconds. (5 minutes)

This is to buy a new stand for the square system, just so we can have it working and charged and actually use it for our events.

Cameron: Quick question, do we get a warranty with the new stand?

Katie: No, but we put more wear and tear into the stand than was necessary by continuously putting it in and taking it out...

Rheannon: Do you know how many years we've had the previous stand for?

Katie: 1 year.

Lucy: I had the Caffeinds one for a number of years... what caused our stand to die so soon?

Katie: It was just we were taking it out multiple times a day and people were not treating it carefully.

Alexa: Is it the exact same one?

Katie: Yes.

Motion: Motion by Katie Marsland to move \$250 from the Contingency Fund to a new line in the Vice-President Internal's budget entitled "Office Supplies". Tran seconds. Motion passes.

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

- Motion by Katie Marsland to increase budget line item 87 in the Vice-President Internal's budget by \$200. Michelle seconds. (5 minutes)

Katie: We are getting pizza ☺



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Motion: Motion by Katie Marsland to increase budget line item 87 in the Vice-President Internal's budget by \$200. Michelle seconds. Motion passes.

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

Motion: Vibhuti motions for a 5 minute recess. Tran seconds. Motion passes.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Acta Victoriana Constitutional Amendments (5 minutes)

Cameron: Apologies for not having the appendix out sooner, there was a bit of a miscommunication who would share these, with that being said I think they are making three relatively small changes. I'm sure ACTA would love to hear some feedback and they are looking to bring this up as a vote next meeting.

- Associate Club Policy (5 minutes)

Cameron: Many of you I'm sure remember this conversation in November, taking into account everyone's feedback made this policy stronger, I'm including so it can be included in the council policies amendment that will be brought up at the next meeting; this would be sketchy to just slip it into CP since it is new, so with that being said, the policy has been revised. This is broadly similar to the other one I brought up in November; one of the amendments requires that associate clubs, 50% of their exec attend equity, additionally at the last meeting it was discussed that we previously had 50% Vic requirement, and last time we decided that we should amend it down to 25% to make it so that we can provide our support to these clubs, also ensures that they can benefit the Vic community through their status, should be recognizing clubs that may not meet requirements but still do a lot of important work for our community, if anyone has suggestions/questions/comments!

Tran: For the Scarlet and Gold part some of the parts aren't italicized.

Cam: This will come up for formal amendment alongside other Council Policy amendments, Michelle and her team have been doing an immense amount of work to make sure these are coherent and good, the idea is that this amendment is a discussion item so that we talk it all out and it can be raised as part of a suite of proposed amendments that will be brought up at the next meeting.

Michelle: I think this is a cool idea, though I am worried that granting associate club status will infringe on clubs that VUSAC already supports and levies, because at Caucus VCDS reported



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having trouble booking spaces... if they don't have priority for a space can we prioritize someone else who doesn't pay those fees? There should be a bigger conversation on how we will serve our clubs and levies better.

Cam: Yes that is a concern, what place was it?

Katie: I think it was during reading week... all the Vic spaces were booked out.

Cam: That is a problem we should raise with council next year.

Vibhuti: I know the CatsEye have been super busy this year... even our own student spaces with such limited eligibility to even book are so booked up... Michelles point has a valid concern behind it.

Lucy: I think this is a cost benefit analysis and this will do greater good than harm; it's important for VUSAC to have the ability to grant the status especially because I think it can be manageable from my understanding, regular clubs will be given preference when booking spaces, that's just how I feel.

Cam: With regards to space booking issue I have put together a potential fix in my head, include language that regular clubs will be prioritized, or to limit the spaces like associate clubs maybe can't book the CatsEye because it's very busy and booked often, or perhaps allowing them to book spaces administered by Vic spaces might be a little more reasonable.

Vibhuti: I think the biggest part of associate club status is the ability to book spaces for free, I think that's the biggest draw to even apply for that status, the whole prioritizing thing is putting work onto CatsEye and onto Vic spaces since it's then on them and not us.

Michael: The CatsEye has a very equitable booking status and associate club status is important... wouldn't feel comfortable denying someone ...

Lucy: Many external clubs not from Vic ask diff commissioners to be a collab and to hold collaborative events in order to have the CatsEye, that creates a problem where external groups with friends and connections or their event may be more flash worthy... and then other clubs don't get access to that, this policy also circumvents that.

Michael: I think that's a true event, but comanagers can – we book based on what you say, we trust in VUSAC, based on what the commissioners say, we're booking it based on what you say.

- Proposed VUSAC Constitutional Amendments (15 minutes) [Appendix A]

Katie: Read this and be critical, but also Gabby and her team put in an incredible amount of time so please be cognizant that the points you are bringing up I'm sure they have already thought about this.

Gabby: I will go over the big changes; we've discussed the difference between ex officio and assessor, assessor is going to refer to students that will have speaking rights at meetings but they can't be voting members; and ex officious will be all staff positions and students that represent Vic governing bodies. We also added co-chairs, you know have definitions! The next one is just



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all VUSAC members must be members of Vic and go to the St George campus. 8 adds notion that council won't be responsible for expenses incurred by the levies, we don't have anything to do with their funding... next is a change that will grant VPI signing authority. 11, one of the things I noted is that if the university closes we won't hold a VUSAC meeting, and clearly delineating that minutes will be posted and then will pend ratification at the next meeting, make sure that's in there. Next talks about open meetings, just change language to see external instead of open. 13, makes sure that transitions happen and that we write those transition reports. 14, this is new, this is adding in the section on meetings policies on budgets and on Caucus, those are clear I just wrote it as what we do, how we hold the two meetings... 15, council would include all council proper as well as assessor members and ex officio members, this separates that out, and adds co-chairs. That's pretty much it, under article 8 that outlines responsibilities of council members. A lot of these are what people in their specific positions have added, 23 – outlining who we elect, 4 members of the Board of Regents, one of these members serves a 2 year term, 24, how we do constitutional amendments, how its run before, this is just outlining the policy; proposed amendments have to be sent out 7 days prior to meeting. 25 looks like a big deal but we just took this from the cp document and put it in the constitution; it is something that has existed already but we just changed it up a bit.

Vibhuti: Proposed amendment number 9, I'm against this because I believe that signing authority should be within only the president and finance chair; I think that it's important we keep our finances and signing authority really tight, the larger you make the group of people who can give money from VUSAC's large bank account, it can make it easier and more susceptible to fraud, or other misuse of funds, even though we've had problems with checks, it's been a lot because of tumultuous nature of finance chair...

Alexa: I agree that VUSAC should be careful with our funds, but I did want to emphasize that it's not just the finance chair it's also the president, in terms of a situation where one of them is not available, then students cannot have their funds for months and that does create an issue in terms of their finances, if we can't get in contact with one of those positions for whatever reason, I don't want that to impact students as much.

Vibhuti: To ensure that doesn't happen I think we should give signing authority to someone in the finance office, that problem is quite a niche one, in normal course of VUSAC that's not too much of an issue.

Alexa: I like that.

Disha: I wanted to ask has there ever been a problem?

Motion: Vibhuti motions to extend 10 minutes. Fatima seconds. Motion passes.

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



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Vihbuti: It's just been tumultuous; I don't think the other member should be VUSAC.

Hannah: I agree with Vibhuti, I think it's important to have a third party.

Vibhuti: I think that is true, also Hannah is in the finance office who works with VUSAC and makes sure our finances are in check so she is a great person to have, also even Ray, since they write letters for us to even get signing authority in the first place.

Alexa: If we could switch VPI to Ray, or the bursar of Victoria and having that in the policy since you know what the position is...

Cameron: I think it might be useful to add clause re: whether it is Hannah or bursar, they are expected to use their powers of signing only in the case that the president or finance chair are unable to sign.

Katie: I think as long as the stipulation is included that this is only used in certain circumstances that finance chair and president are not available.

Lucy: I wanted to say that it would be nice if Hannah or ray were down for that, I agree, for the past few years it has been a tumultuous process we need to think of bigger pic here, it's not just a specific case of Tyler having business case competitions, maybe the finance chair position is too much of a burden at times, if the person who was hired can't do their work efficiently it backlogs everything, I don't think it's just one specific case but a larger issue of the job being robust and significant.

Vibhuti: And you're very right, Alexa is putting out contracts for staff members, and to mitigate that problem have it written in for the finance chair to be in the office weekly or biweekly to write checks.

Alexa: I'm having conversations with Katherine to better understand the role.

Disha: When we decided that the president and the finance chair to sign the checks, why was it the VPI?

Gabby: this is just something were proposing, whether it should be the VPI.

Disha: So before we didn't have the VPI?

Gabby: No.

Alexa: To sign any of our checks you need two signatures in the case that one of us is unavailable, that would mean that we have another person to sign the checks so that people can get their money faster.

Disha: And now the reason we want to have the VPI is so that we have an extra person?

Alexa: Yes.

Lucy: Just in how we're talking about turmoil re: finance chair responsibilities, one thing I've noticed is that finance chairs have made trade-offs in terms of hours, we can say that they don't have to attend town hall or as many VUSAC meetings, etc. so that they have less hours?

Katie: I think this is a bigger conversation not related to constitutional amendments.

Spandan: Could we externalize the previous amendments?

Gabby: We're not voting on it now.



Rheannon: In terms of meetings, you said it wouldn't be held if there was a university closure, what happens if there are people who can't come to the meeting because of weather and you can't reach quorum?

Katie: If we don't meet quorum the meeting is cancelled, at anyone's discretion to make that call.

Massoma: For amendment 13, I was wondering if it would be worth it to include something more concrete to make sure those transition meetings happen.

William: Just a suggestion, maybe we could include digital attendance at meetings.

Motion: Cam motions to extend 10 minutes. Rintaro seconds. Motion passes.

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

Lucy: For amendment 25, for resignation is it for members that were elected or hired as well? Is there another part that specifies what happens when execs resign? I assume councilors would not take over so section 3b would not apply.

Michelle: There is a section in the Council Policies document that outlines this.

Vibhuti: In terms of staff, could you also add co-chairs?

Gabby: Yes.

Michelle: Instead of saying dismissal we could say resignation for section 3b.

Lucy: I wanted to ask if anyone knows if that has been normal common procedure because it would seem more natural that if the commission resigned the co-chair would take on.

Katie: That's because they are not voting members.

Dorian: How would you choose which voting member would become that commissioner?

Katie: Whichever ones have been working on the portfolio.

Rheannon: About what we just mentioned again, might be stretch for councilor to assume the role of a commissioner, would it be possible to grant a hired member voting rights.

Katie: I don't think that's in our power to make that decision.

Fatima: Could we really enforce that the co-chairs and councilors work together ensuring that we all have the information available in the commission itself, so we could highlight those specific roles if that were to ever be the case?

Vibhuti: It's interesting that a few years ago when the finance chair resigned a councilor took that position but kept their voting rights – should a councilor keep their voting rights in a staff position?

Tran: For the co-chair language, not every commission has a co-chair, should be cognizant of that in the language.

Spandan: If a councilor does assume the role of a commissioner, do they work on the other portfolios?

Dorian: Would you just take the next councilor if you removed a councilor?

Katie: Not necessarily, I don't think.



Dorian: By that same logic I don't think we should be able to move a councilor to a cochair position.

Motion: Vibhuti motions to extend 15 minutes. Tran seconds. Motion passes.

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

Cam: You were talking about the councilor that moved into a staff position, it seems like this constitutional amendment leaves only the option of hiring a staff member if one resigned; we've had bi-elections in the past, does anyone have the policy at the tip of their tongue?

Vibhuti: That should be added to the ERC, more work that needs to happen for policy, discretion of CRO and exec; I think that in current culture of VUSAC we will not have a shortage of councilor positions in the near future.

Dorian: If you're going to move someone, you might want to run referendum, involves the community more.

Vibhuti: I think that is an ERC kind of thing.

Lucy: I did want to state that I don't think it's the purpose of the constitution to have everything.

Gabby: 15 notes that if there is a vacancy, bare responsibilities will be done by the exec.

Dorian: What happened when the sustainability cochair wasn't filled?

Vibhuti: The exec shared the burden, Katie put on the sustainability cochair hiring that the sustainability commissioner would usually do, etc.

Michael: Just to push back on point made earlier, I think it's a given that councilors come into position knowing that they will work on multiple portfolios, so it would make most sense for the councilor to fill the commissioner role.

Aminah: When Leila was co-chair and there wasn't another person it puts a lot of pressure on that person, I think it depends on the case, I don't think we need a procedure where the VCU is involved.

Dorian: We will end up going in a circle the whole night because there is logic that the cochair can't be in the position, but if that's the case then we're saying we also don't need the referenda... my issue still is what happens to the commissioner position and what happens to the fact that they weren't elected to that position... if you fill the commissioner role by a councilor you then need to replace the councilor as well.

Gabby: It's more like how can we salvage this role so that it continues to live, what can we do to make sure the council still survives?

Dorian: It still has to fall on the exec, it can't fall on councilor; if someone has that much amount of work...

Katie: We're not forcing anyone to do anything, no councilor is going to be made to do this, this is just to have a voting member elected by the VCU.



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Rheannon: They do have the cochair there, just to have someone with voting rights that can fill that role, the co-chair is to help in a large role.

Michelle: I think echoing what Rheannon said, policies are great, but you can't have a policy for everything and you need to leave it up to whoever is on council.

Dorian: In that case the wording should not include councilor or anyone who is available and willing to take over the position (any voting member).

Lucy: It would be either a councilor or an exec member, I don't foresee an exec filling the role of councilor and you need an exec for council to work, which means that the councilors are the only people who could fill that position.

Vibhuti: Exec members have filled in extensively for commissioners, they just do both jobs, they're not giving up their vote or anything but the work can be distributed in different ways, but I do agree that the language should be set in the way that it is right now.

Motion: Michelle motions to extend 5 minutes. Vibhuti seconds. Motion passes.

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

Disha: I just think that the idea behind amendment is that we have someone there, whoever it is, someone who can fill the role of commissioner, right now, it's important to have structure in place, what happens when there is no commissioner, our solution is that someone will do it, we have to remember that whoever fills in this role, as long as this person is elected into the council and into VUSAC it should be fine

Dorian: I think the problem I'm having with it is if it's just going to be something that results in any voting member, there's no point in qualifying who should do it, if you're saying councilors should do it, there's no point in saying any wording if it will just result in anyone who is willing to

Michelle: with my position specifically, commuter commissioner has to be a commuter student

Lucy: Section 2, we discussed what happens in procedure, what happens if the president is the one being impeached or dismissed and who presents the motion and who discusses that, mb should be a separate line saying in case the president is the one...

Motion: Vibhuti motions for 10 minute recess. Fatima seconds. Motion passes.

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

- VP Equity (10 minutes)



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Vibhuti: all of you had heard me talk about VP equity a lot, we're going to have a chat today, I want to hear your thoughts, you tell me what you think the role should be. If you have thoughts please share them with me

Spandan: If I were to have a vision for the position, someone who is not involved in programming but more with practices within committees and how they are hired, like equity training, etc.

Lucy: I agree, I wanted to make sure we don't have a buzz word scenario, equity needs to have some sort of meaning, we do need specific policy on what the role will mean, also so that the person who fills it will know, one concern I had is I wouldn't want the VP equity would be some of the equity commissioners responsibilities transitioning over; should come up with ways to add other duties so that it's not a transfer of portfolios.

Massoma: Sitting on committees and working on equity training is already under the equity commissioners portfolio, so making sure we know those definitions.

Dorian: moving beyond what the equity commission specifically talks about, vp equity can talk about equity surveys and data collection, different types of equity.

Cameron: I think one of the big things I see that is the club and levy equity training, from my end of things every time the training happens I feel guilty reaching out to Hannah and Massoma and I want to make sure they have time to run their own programming, so it could be someone who takes on more admin aspects.

Mehr: My concern is rooted in conflation of diff roles, VP equity and VPE roles may coincide a lot, VPE is does take on individual initiatives that are involved with equity, what would that mean moving forward, would they work together moving forward? Mb having a stream-lined delineation of what that means... may be problematic for someone already on council to decide how equity will happen on council.

Vibhuti: Something to log out there to the people, would there be an opportunity to put equity and external together? VPEE?

Disha: I like the idea that Dorian proposed, also important for VPE to know how the council really works so they can propose amendments, I'm also concerned that I don't know how much work the VPE will be having to do because I know that Massoma already does so much, is it worth having a whole different position just for the work of making sure VUSAC is more equitable?

Vibhuti: The equity commissioner has been well precedented as a role that burns people out, they have vowed to never come back to VUSAC because of that, it would be separating some of the things equity commissioner does to offload the emotional labor and tangible labor they do.

Disha: I think that would be a great idea, would you say that the role is working more with the equity commissioner?

Vibhuti: I think they are very separate roles, I envision the role as one not doing programming while the commissioner is.



Motion: Tran motions to extend 10 minutes. Spandan seconds. Motion passes.

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

Aminah: after the elections providing programs or things that the vpe can do so they can better provide service being part of the constitution...

Hannah: I'm just going to speak on this as someone who has done equity for the past 4 years, but I hope people can respect what I'm going to say. When we say equity I shard, we genuinely mean it, I've never done anything more draining in my entire life, the concept of VPE is very morally conflicting for me because there's another group on campus that does similar things that is incredibly corrupt. When you put guide of equity it seems like they will do nothing wrong and that is very controversial, as equity co-chair I do things often where I look back and realize I did something wrong. We need to recognize that that person who holds this position holds so much power just by having the title. Why do we need the VPE when we should be equitable in the first place? Maybe being on VUSAC means that you need to own up and be equitable in the first place, everyone should go to Mari, learn about equity, many people don't understand what equity means, everyone should know at the start of the year what standards they are held to.

If we're going to have someone having this position like this we need to think of the ramifications of how VUSAC works, if you have someone like VPE in a position of power, understand how it will change the relationships people have. I understand the goodness but I've also seen it play out in horrendous ways that are based on what your friend tells you or because there's this type of information, we tend to forget that there are problems with sexual harassment, racism, putting those issues into the hands of a student is a very tricky position to be doing, as we go forward, what do I know about equity, how have I gone out of my way to understand equity, we're talking about it as if it's only within the sphere of VUSAC everything will have a domino effect, I hope everything can take away from this how you perceive equity.

Cedric: That ties into this because I was thinking about my experience on VUSAC in terms of VUSAC and the Vic bubble, I've talked to upper years who have had negative experiences and who didn't want to return, equity should not be a designated role should be an all-encompassing role for everyone. There are more many services that we can offer at Vic, but especially with the students coming in they don't know about how VUSAC is. Since we have problems like this that are very circumstantial, there should be a whole other revitalization of the constitution in terms of equity and how we talk to the VCU, how we do outreach and all of that, with these surveys there are a lot of people who say that they have no motivation to come to VUSAC because they don't know who we are or they don't have anyone who can represent them, it deserves a larger conversation that has to be embedded in VUSAC culture.



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Aminah: speaking to what was brought up by Hannah, if we're talking about power dynamics, does that bring up question should we have an election to elect the co-chair or should we properly hire and give an honorarium to the co-chair?

Dorian: There's something to be said about disenfranchisement especially if you come to Vic and your first day goes badly, you won't want to interact with other people, to get that back is much more difficult than to get it in the first place, you make a good point that interaction, equitable interactions are a huge part of what VUSAC has to do, you can't expect people to care about your council if you're not talking to them about what you want to do.

Motion: Vibhuti motions to extend 5 minutes. Tran seconds. Motion passes.

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

Cedric: I talked specifically to Motion Victures because I know when we initially saw the request for Bader we were confused as to why they asked for it, I know we didn't even know they were inviting alumni, so I talked to them in the commuter lounge, and seeing how passionate they were, it is a power dynamic for us to think of what makes people think that they deserve this money, but how can we say those things then... council meetings being on Friday is already an issue of accessibility, if I commuted from Aurora I wouldn't be here. Especially when you're an exec of a club and so focused on these things and you see VUSAC as a means to get money and not a personal institution that is a problem re equity.

Michelle: I wanted to emphasize that everyone on council should be equitable, we are in these positions to help students, it's important to think of the people we're helping, with a position like VPE it can't just be something loaded onto one person. We could maybe have more workshops with Mari throughout the year instead of having just one at the beginning of the year.

Lucy: I've seen positions in the past that reflect the power dynamic that comes with being on VUSAC, I want to reiterate that the people on council aren't always great, we have had serious situations and instances where not everyone is the best, we need to create mechanisms where even within council everyone can serve Vic equitably, we should prepare for the worst, while that sounds grim that is a reality and our duty as council members because not everyone will be equitable.

Vibhuti: Thank you for all of your feedback, I can share a lot of your experiences, I think it's also important that this way of continuing equity training on council and changing that culture of being inaccessible needs someone who is dedicated to that and that being their fulltime job that's why the VPE can fill the positions, it's about putting continuous work into being equity.

STAFF REPORTS:

Finance (Katherine): 1 minute



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COMMISSION REPORTS:

Equity (Massoma & Hannah): 5 minutes

Scarlet & Gold (Tran): 5 minutes

Sustainability (Aminah & Leila): 5 minutes

EXECUTIVE REPORTS:

VP External (Vibhuti): 5 minutes

VP Internal (Katie): 3 minutes

VP Student Organizations (Cameron): 3 minutes

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

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