

VUSAC MEETING
November 9, 2012
BC20

-Meeting officially called to order at 5:25 PM

IN ATTENDANCE
VUSAC

CHAIR	Rajesh Sankat
PRESIDENT	Shoaib Alli
VP EXTERNAL	Zenia Turkewych-Miner
VP EXTERNAL MAL	Brianna Mick
VP INTERNAL	Angela Sun
VP INTERNAL MAL	Komal Minhas
ARTS & CULTURE	Carrie Proctor
ARTS & CULTURE MAL	Rowan DeBues
COMMUTER	Christian Julien
COMMUTER MAL	Christine De La Cruz
COMMUNICATIONS	Ruta Rudminaite
SUSTAINABILITY	Tegan Hansen-Hoedeman
SUSTAINABILITY MAL	Gabrielle Blais Jones
CLUBS	Sarah Corrine Berger
CLUBS MAL	Jacob Blackwell
EDUCATION & EQUITY	Jade Huguenin
EDUCATION & EQUITY MAL	Sebastien Hart
SCARLET & GOLD	Kathleen Walsh
SCARLET & GOLD MAL	Jelena
FINANCE CHAIR	Jelena Savic

ASSESSOR AND EX-EFFICIO MEMBERS

CLC	Samantha Hartlen
STUDENT PROJECTS	Kevin Hempstead
CAFFEINDS	Leah Moncada
CAT'S EYE	Naomi Lam & Megan Tee

Jade moves to approve last meetings minutes, Rowan seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

3 additions to the agenda

Jelena D motions to approve the agenda. Christian seconds. Motion passes unanimously

EX-OFFICIO REPORT

• CLC: SAMANTHA HARTLEN

- Life after Vic: International addition this year for people studying or living abroad – on Nov.22. - EM119
- Everyone is invited
- Dean's office is working hard to some more concrete leadership opportunities around Vic
- Offering a program called Learning to Lead

Student Projects [Kevin Hempstead]

- Three projects doing ratification
 - One for \$800 towards to independence for semiotics
 - \$1500 for fashion show for sewing machine
 - \$500 to fencing club
- Discussion
- Sarah: How did you decide that this was a UTU?
 - Christian: Actually wanted 2500, then requested 600 before, we figured we wouldn't give them the full round of money just a little so they can try it out. We don't expect to spend the whole 800. We rather give them extra and under spend than give them less
 - Rowan: Vic students are getting involved and are doing something positive with Vic colleges name so there is nothing wrong with it so why not?
 - Kevin: the idea is that semiotics is housed in vic college not associated with vic college. This money is just a fraction of what they want.
 - Jade: The idea of the most of publication is that most students would have the the opportunity to publish but in this case the publication is just for students who want to publish in semiotics
 - Kevin: Semiotics also branches into philosophy and other fields and wouldn't be as narrow
- Jade: Because it has a visual aspect would publication be more expensive?
Shoaib: that's why we gave them 800

Tegan moves to approve. Jacob seconds. 14 in favor, 2 abstain. Motion passes.

COMMISSION REPORTS

• President [Shoaib Alli]

o PRESIDENT ELIGIBILITY DISCUSSION (10 MINUTES)

- I made the mistake as framing it as an amendment as opposed to a discussion which is what I wanted to do. Having said that the issue, everyone had valid issues. Like I mentioned to some of you guys that transitional report etc there's nothing like having experience. Perhaps the president thing is something we can discuss. I have spoken to the SGRT which I will discuss later. Other college councils have different ways of doing this. For ex. New College – have to be on council. Kin/Phys.Ed – nothing specific. We can have our own. Wanna talk about certain ways that might prevent what would happen if someone was new. I encourage you guys to talk and think about it today.
- Christian: Thank you for clearing this up. I apologize to all of you, I was rash as I was misunderstood last meeting.
- Jade: I wasn't at the last meeting but I understand the intensity of it. If anyone wants to talk about exclusivity, I would appreciate if people came and talked to me about it.
- Samantha: Thank you Jade, I agree with everyone. I brought it up at the Dean's office meeting – Consensus – The amendment wasn't something people were comfortable with. But this concerns with what happens if the council was new. If people are really interested in we

- can come together and articulate some of the new challenges that could happen if the president was new.
- Brianna: Thank you for taking both sides into consideration [Shoaib and Samantha]. Appreciate the way this is being handled.
 - Rowan: What's the problem posting it as a referendum question for the students
 - Shoaib: Nothing wrong with it we just have to wait until the end of the year.
 - Sarah: Doesn't relate to this. Chris and I talked about this – the media policy and how it works. Christian talked about it in the interview in Varsity. When we were emailed to NOT to do it, I wanted to do it even more. I am not going to trash VUSAC to the varsity but if the council is divided on something like this. We are entitled to give a view and tell students about it. Way it seemed to us...
 - Rowan: Issue why I didn't give the interview, even if we disagree as a group. If we publicly talk about our disagreements, it publicly screws our view of... I don't think it helps to talk about our disagreements in public.
 - Sebastian: We should have communications commissioner like Ruta to talk on behalf of us after having a small meeting about what to talk. That way we have middle ground as to what is being saying.
 - Shoaib: I didn't know that Varsity was interviewing. I didn't know. We weren't censoring anyone. Everyone is allowed to have their own opinions, but it is important to come to a consensus as to what we can say to outside parties. It is better to sit down with me and Ruta and that way see what we want to say in public.
 - Angela: I want to add that the judiciary we are not trying to censor you, it would be great if you had a talk with Shoaib or Ruta and no one will shut you up, it would just be considerate and great if a meeting was held before
 - Jade: For clarification, we should be following our media policy until it is changed.

o EXAM JAM (5 MINUTES)

- Danna Kim, dean of students at Woodsworth is doing an exam jam thing. He asked for us to book a space where he and his team and other admin can lead workshops on healthy active etc. Wanted to know if VUSAC would be interested in working with them. Names for people interested:

o MEETINGS (5 MINUTES)

- I've had a lot of meetings this week. Met with Samantha. While UTSU is willing to help us, by the time the ball gets rolling, its election season already. We are going to see if we can get someone like a prof or someone that can help students learn about how to fill out Income Tax Form.
- Gabriel comes in at 5:55pm

o SGRT MEETING (5 MINUTES)

- Athletics are changing at UofT. Basically they are being shifted into, there are different models being proposed. Dept of Kin/Phys.Ed they have proposed this model, that a lot of varsity sports are being demoted to intermediate level and some clubs are being demoted completely. Seven sports: Football, Basketball, Track and Field etc will stay. Rugby is getting cut. Even if the varsity teams are being successful but there is financial problem as there are only about 15 people in stands (eg from a game). Now that clubs are being cut, they might come to Vic for funding. Turf is going to put on the back campus.
- Laidlaw's is going to be closed next year in UC – for renovation.

- Nov22 6pm to 9 pm annual agenda meeting for students. I am going, other presidents are going.
- Komal: How many proxies can someone have?
- Shoaib: A lot. Reps from UTSC and UTM have about 500 proxies

o UTSU ELECTORAL REFORM DOCUMENT (10 MINUTES)

- Gist of the document: essentially, UTSU elections are always surrounded in grey areas. All over the place. Effort to officially try and change the SGRT has adopted the document I sent to you guys. The SGRT was looking for every college council to adopt or declare this policy. The gist of it was there are some parts of the elections committee that are staffed by the UTSU members. They say in the document that they want UTSU members by that they mean UofT students not other university students

Sebastian leaves 6:02pm

- Angela: liked that they put the word in quotes that candidates have been done wrong by the elections committee by the whim of CRO and it was unfair to some people. It's important that this is being stated to the students. WE are aware that certain candidates weren't treated equally
- Gabriel: something else written – reducing signatures for candidates to run – made it easier for people who don't have access to listserv to run
- Sarah: my one thing was that the finance of the whole election needs to be reformed and there wasn't too much of it. All of this is great, I agree but UTSU doesn't accurately say how much money they spend. The way it functions, that the people don't reimbursed for everything they spend.
- Sebastian comes back at 6:04pm
- Jelena: Last point – making campaigning more financially accessible
- Shoaib: point was to telling UTSU that this is a problem and that you need to fix. New College have endorsed this.
- Gabriel: because of the ambiguity of UTSU, potentially extending it to students of student union. They will take advantage of the ambiguity.
- Christian: Need to check the legal name

Shoaib moves to approve, Sarah seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

o TRAVEL AND CONFERENCE FUND (10 MINUTES)

- This used to be method for people to apply for money to use this money to go to conferences around the world. You have to bring something back to Vic whatever you are doing with the money. No one was using this because people would go to these conferences in the summer so the council was around to vote if it's a good idea or bad idea and this wasn't being used. So Sam approached me to tell me that students are important, now that Dean's experience fund is closed, we are thinking of opening THIS fund. I would invite Jade to speak next
- Jade: From a personal experience, I have had this difficult, i have been trying to approach every tier of UofT to try and figure out if there is a fund that students can use to experience something is not academics or studying abroad. What would benefit from this type of fund? Students who are interested in travelling for academic or for personal enhancement, an international student may not have the opportunity to travel outside of the city and that's part of the reason they come here and I would like to emphasize that I m looking forward to see how this fund would explore.
- Shoaib: One thing to consider if we do this, we should talk about how the money is dealt with, one way is to create a committee that would comprise of myself, Katrina, Sam, Tegan

- etc we can discuss who, I do think that it would be more efficient to do it on a committee level versus bringing to Vusac meeting. It would be a VUSAC committee
- Tegan: So this would be a fund like student projects?
 - Shoaib: E&E would budget for it and it would just come out of the budget?
 - Tegan: would this be accessible for during the year for the summer thing?
 - Brianna: What does it specifically apply to? What makes this different from like a student abroad
 - Rajesh: This wouldn't apply to exchanges?
 - Shoaib: No, not to study abroad and exchanges, in the past there was a conference in Calgary and so it covers cost of travel and registration
 - Sarah: Definitely, I think this is a within Canada thing, as Jade mentioned it that you can scour the university, people can spend money to travel the world but not to go explore Canada. Especially now the Dean's Experience Fund no longer exists, even Model UN conferences, a lot of students do this and we definitely have the money. This is more accessible to more students
 - Gabriel: It is a wonderful opportunity, but the problem we found time and time that people weren't bringing it back to vic. People got vusac money on a condition but never met the condition
 - Angela: I agree with Gabriel. Wanted to tell Brianna – if you say it's for non-academic purposes, not for marks. Its different than other funds that are around Vic. People applied to special projects to go on conferences but this is more like benefit yourself internally
 - Jade: this fund would help students in at least two ways. First, International students would have a greater incentive to come to Vic with more incentives in place. This fund would create opportunities for international students to travel outside U of T and experience more of Canada during their time here. Secondly, this fund would fill the gap of other funds offered by U of T. Currently, students can travel for academic research and for experiential learning abroad. However, there are no funds at U of T or Vic, that I am aware of (and I have looked), that provide funding opportunities for students interested in experiential learning that would benefit their academic career but to not be research based. Also, there are no domestic fund opportunities.
 - Jelena: Would this apply to internships? Could they get money from this fund?
 - Shoaib: Yes it would cover travel bucks. Good to see there is support for this. I am going to meet with Jade, Samantha and Katrina and discuss this more on an intimate basis and come back with something more concrete.

VP External [Zenia Turkewych-Miner]

- Zenia: Reminder about Sweater money. And at the VUSAC retreat few people paid for pizza, you need to pay \$4 if you had any pizza.

Adding two minutes to Angela's updates. 1 abstains. Motion passes.

VP Internal [Angela Sun]

o GENERAL UPDATE (5 MINUTES)

- Wasted so much paper before I could print something properly because someone did not take out Goose Paper. Please take it out after you're done using it
- Please do you doodling on your personal paper or Goose Paper not on sticky or fresh paper
- Finally – Trash in the office – A. I don't think people are leaving trash intentionally. It's from carelessly. If the office is already messy, you can't see the mess you have contributed to. So if you see a mess, please if you have 5 mins at the beginning or end of your shift, just look around and clean up a little bit.

- If you see other people do it, please talk to them and ask them to throw it out. [levies, club heads etc]
- Jelena D and Kevin leave at 6:27pm
- Eval meetings: will be available to have 30 min slot meeting sign up
- Jelena D comes back at 6:28pm
- If you are leaving the office at any point, please close the door. I don't want anyone's things go missing
- Naomi and Megan leaves at 6:28 pm
- Apologize for not remaining that neutral on the amendment issue. I hope I haven't closed you guys off of coming to me. Feel free to relay your views to anyone you like. If you are referring to anyone else's views please ask them to refer to the minutes.
- I again want to emphasize that I know there has been sometimes that the judiciary has been distant with you, if you feel that way and you would like to improve on anything, please feel free to come talk to us.

o CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS (30 MINUTES)

Zenia leaves at 6:32pm

Christian motions to take a 5min break and read through the amendment. Sebastian seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Tegan and Jelena leave at 6:40pm

- Anyone have any amendments?
- Amendment changes for Christian
 - o Christian's amendment
 - o Jade: Christian amendment 1 and 6 needs to be grammatically fixed

Angela moves to pass constitutional amendment 1-7 except 1 and 6. 1 abstention. Motion passes.

- o Amendment 1 and 6:
 - Jade: grammatical changes
 - Christian make it shall serve and add B
 - Gabriel: would like to like dots between VICTORIA
 - Retracted
 - Jade: wondering if there is mutual language being used in the constitution. Let's use if applicable. Second thing; Kathleen put the same thing
 - Angela: would like to add 'or appropriate proxies'. I think this should be up for discussion, as this is the one and only chance people can make changes to the executive amendment.
 - Christian: we removed 'resident students'
 - Brianna: "resident student - if appropriate proxy"
 - Gabriel: I remember having a resident student was an absolute necessary because not all chefs are as accommodating. I would not remove the 'resident student'
 - Christian: there is lots of room to be flexible
 - Angela: did we want to cap of how many people are on the exec team.
 - Brianna: No, because not ALL the exec member shows up
 - Christian: For the past few weeks, I have not had to do anything because my exec team is so awesome. Our size lets us be flexible and distribute the

workload. Martin is planning next Friday's social, Chelsea and Ashley did the last dinner, and Zack and Sadia did the last social.

The amendment text will now read: This executive team shall consist of the following or appropriate proxies as determined by Commuter Commissioner and Campus Life Coordinator for members III,IV and V

Angela moves to approve amendment 6 and 1, Jade seconds. 16 in favor, 1 abstain. Motion passes.

- Ammendment changes for Kathleen: 1

Angela motions to pass amendments from S&G numbering 6,7,8 and 9. Komal seconds. 16 in favor. 1 abstain. Motion passes

- o Ammendment 1:

- Jade: small 'm' instead of capital M
- Zenia: says VOCA coordinator, should that be campus life coordinator or VOCA Co-Chair
- Decided on VOCA Co-Chair
- Angela: Kathleen wanted to put that we are including two general highball committee members
- Kathleen: I found that last year, a lot of the members were supposed to be participants on the highball committee didn't show up to meeting and it ended up being just me and Anastasia planning the event together. So for that reason, I want to propose that students that are passionate about HighBall be allowed to event-plan
- Kathleen: Yes
- Shoab: People won't care about highball, people don't appreciate it so it's a good chance to allow people who care about it to be on it

Angela motions to pass the new amended text. Jacob seconds. Motion passes

- Angela: wanted to also pull it out to make sure people were good for how people are elected.

Angela motions to pass highball etc and the grammer changing of 'm'. Jacob seconds. Motion passes. 1 abstain

Angela motions to change the s at the end of students. Christian seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

- o Amendment 4:

- Sarah: I don't think that leftover money from other events should be used for Highball budget because Highball already has a lot
- Kathleen: I thought about it. Thing is, the way that the budget works, we do have a budget deciding committee
- Sarah: so we choose how much VUSAC money goes to HighBall?
- Kathleen: this isn't going to HighBall directly, it's for the student ticket subsidizing
- Jade: I don't know what exactly do you want it to be said?
- Kathleen: Its going towards to HighBall tickets so to the HighBall EVENT

- Ruta: So the money that usually earned from pub night goes back to VUSAC pot and it can be used for anything right? Right, I think that money could be going to something else benefitting the Vic committee because not everyone goes to HighBall
- Shoab: Its revenue generated, after a lot of time, we don't recoup losses from pub nights, so subsidising it like this would allow us to get a larger venue and potentially getting more students
- Kathleen: theoretically it is said to be profit, we don't really get profit. Example of Green Room pub night, \$10 from every ticket went back to the club, any tickets sold to UC or Vic students, we didn't really make any money. The students who go to previous S&G events are likely to go to HighBall
- Shoab: In budget steering, when we say yes to anything, because if we don't make money, we get fees but it's not income, we're not a business so with budget steering we come up with a budget where money is spent and we don't get anything back. Agree with Kathleen about making a revenue and not profits. I don't think you can say though that people who go to pub nights go to HighBall. Revenue that goes back to VUSAC goes to the pod

Sarah motions to extending this discussion, Gabriel seconds. 11 in favor and 5 against and 1 abstain. Motion passes.

- Samantha: You're not asking for the budget to exceed you're just asking to use the exact same budget. Seems like there is a lot of discussion about the 2nd line.
- Gabriel: My problem is that HighBall is already got a high budget, its a commission that has a limited base. S&G commission is a commission that throws parties, that are attending by second and third year students. I don't agree with it.
- Angela: I fully agree with what Samantha said, that I agree with the revenue generated part but I really strike the second part from unused funds
- Brianna: I just think the wording is weird; she didn't have any bad intentions. Its just the wording, can we just change it?
- Sarah: There is a way to draw the difference, word it properly.
- Shoab: Basically do what Angela and Sarah are saying. If we deconstruct the second part, would that satisfy the needs?
- Kathleen: my concerns with just doing that, Gabriel said that it doesn't apply to THAT many people but it is a SOCIAL event, true I don't know if the people from pub nights and highball are the same, so as much interest as there was in previous pub nights. Having only revenue generated from previous events would be difficult. If we also included funds that were previously budgets and I would happily ...
- Angela: This is really important, the second part. It was brought to my attention that we can only subsidise ticket by maximum 50%

Jade motions to table this issue. Jacob seconds. Motion passes unanimously

- Amendment 5:
 - Retracted.

Angela motions to pass this amendment. Rowan seconds. Motion passes.

• **Arts & Culture [Carrie Proctor]**

o **GENERAL UPDATE (3 MINUTES)**

- The BOB is happening this weekend only \$10 for 2 tickets so promote it to people. Also we are selling tickets. I am going, come with me!
- Having our first Ultra Now in January

[Rowan]

- Victoria University Act: anyone have a problem with me talking to Gooch about this. The issue was clause 5 and several other.
- Angela: Should people from VVC and Senate be playing a role in this?
- Shoab: they have the chance, they are invited to the meetings.
- Rowan: As a Vic Senator, I can report it to them whenever we do decide to have a meeting

• **Scarlet & Gold [Kathleen Walsh]**

o **DEVILS NIGHT OUT UPDATE (2 MINUTES)**

- Halloween Pub Night went really well. Line-up around the block and apparently, everybody got in so thank you so much for coming out and doing the commuter storage.

o **WINTERFEST UPDATE & CHAIR RATIFICATION (4 MINUTES)**

- Chair: Ratify Kaylin Livshin

Motion to ratify Kaylin Livshin as the Winterfest Chair. Zenia seconds. 1 abstains. Motion passes

o **GRADUATION BANQUET CHAIR RATIFICATION (2 MINUTES)**

- We would like to ratify Savannah Sloat as Grad Banquet Chair

Kathleen motions to ratify Savannah Sloat, Christian seconds. Motion passes.

o **HIGHBALL COMMITTEE MEMBER RATIFICATION (2 MINUTES)**

- We need two MALs to be on board
- Ratify: Chelsea Spagnolo and Samia Ferdous

Kathleen motions to pass Chelsea Spagnolo and Samia Ferdous. Motion passes.

OTHER

Jade: I went door-to-door and spoke to people about VUSAC. Most of the people know that VUSAC exists; I want to raise some points for several commissioners and MALs. No one knew what exactly VUSAC in terms of events it holds. People asked me why I was going door-to-door and they thought it was really cool. Maybe we can start thinking about talking to students and collecting opinions.

Shoab: In mid-February, looking to changing the functioning of CRO and election policy. I have gotten several complaints about how elections function in general

Angela: There will be a VUSAC holiday party, Komal will talk to you about it

Sebastian: Supposedly they get paid, why that happens? If CRO gets paid, they might just do it for the money. Just wondering.

Shoab: If they are getting paid, I can with good reason tell them that they NEED to do a good job as opposed to voluntary

Gabriel motions to end the adjourn the meeting. Ruta seconds. Motion passes