**VUSAC Meeting Minutes**

November 11 at 5 PM in the Goldring Student Center

MINUTES

**In Attendance**

**Judiciary**

PRESIDENTS: Stuart Norton and Rahul Christoffersen

VP EXTERNAL: Stephen Warner

VP INTERNAL: Golda Greenspoon

**Assessor Members**

CHAIR: Saambavi Mano

CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER: Taylor Cenac

SECRETARY: Artimes Ghahremani

COMMUNICATIONS: Shailee Koranne

FINANCE: Nicole Gumapac

**Commissioners & Councillors**

SCARLET AND GOLD: Zahavah Kay

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT : Nina Christianson

COMMUTER: Co-Chair Karen Indraatmadja/ Commissionner Isaac Khouzam

EQUITY : Co-Chair Zoe Kwan / Commissionner Yasmine Hassan

**COUNCILLORS**

Tyler Biswurm

Alexa Breininger

Milliene Xu

Melinda Hector

Peter Huycke

Hamboluhle Moyo

Sharon Tan

Jayde Jones

**GUESTS**

Student Projects Chair: Apurva Kilambi

Caffeinds and VicXposure: Hana Nikčević

Vic Records: Charlene Hanania

VicXposure: Julian Moran

CLC: Emily Gilbert

BSC: Divna Stojanovic

**REGRETS**

SUSTAINABILITY : Jamil Fiorino-Habib

ARTS AND CULTURE : Olivia Klasios

**ABSENT**

VP STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS: Hannah Brennen

Land Recognition: Saambavi

Motion: Zahavah moves to approve the agenda as it stands. Melinda seconds. Motion passes.

* Favour: ALL
* Abstained:
* Opposed:
  + Except: new councillors to be ratified

*\* Emily adds 1 minute for the CCR*

*\* Yasmine removes equity update*

Motion: Isaac moves to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Yasmine seconds. Motion passes.

* Favour: ALL
* Abstained:
* Opposed:
  + Except: new councillors to be ratified

**PRESSING ITEMS**

*Ratifications - Stuart*

Motion: Stuart moves to ratify the three remaining councillors, Sharon Tan, Hamboluhle Moyo, and Jayde Jones. Isaac seconds.

* Favour: ALL
* Abstained:
* Opposed:
  + Except: new councillors to be ratified

*CCR - Emily*

Emily says that Ketri is in the process of organizing the training session for those who want to be recognized on the Co-Curricular Record for their VUSAC position. Not all VUSAC positions are already on the CCR, so if you’d like to be recognized, you must come. Ketri asked for email confirmation by today, so if you are interested you must email Emily or Ketri. This is your last opportunity to do so.

*Collaboration with UC Against Hatred - Yasmine*

Yasmine says that the official name of the week will be “Existence is Resistance.” It was originally intended to be from the 14th to the 18th, but as they are now combining with the BSA, they will be moving to the 28th.

**BUDGET MEETING**

Nicole sent out a guide to the meeting which highlights the main points. They will be following Roberts rules, which are meant to facilitate progress and make things as efficient as possible. As they have stated multiple times, the budget should have been read beforehand. It has been compiled over the past few weeks, and the goal is to approve and ratify the budget. While attendees are welcome to ask questions, Nicole asks that they stick to substance questions, and do not take up space asking unnecessary questions.

The main budget motions are to pull, and to cut budget line items. Nicole reminds the room that all VCU members have speaking rights. Those who are not VUSAC members are asked to state their name, speak clearly, state the organization they represent, and specifically reference the budget line. As mentioned earlier, anything on the document in grey is from last term, anything in black is from this term. Nicole asks that all comments are addressed to the chair. This is to make the meeting as efficient as possible. Saambavi adds that voting members who don’t understand what they are voting for cannot abstain – that is only to be used if there is a conflict of interest. Voters are encouraged to ask if they are confused.

Nicole adds that attendees are not obligated to stay the entire time, may leave when they see fit.

**REVIEW AND RATIFICATION OF TERM TWO LEVIES BUDGET**

Nicole says Acta Victoriana and Vic Pride weren’t able to submit on time, so in order to ensure there is a fair review, their budgets will be tabled to the next meeting.

A link to the budget is posted on the meeting event Facebook page. Nicole goes through the budget categories.

Zahavah moves to ratify the levies budget. Nina seconds.

* Favour: ALL
* Abstained:
* Opposed:

**REVIEW AND RATIFICATION OF TERM TWO CLUBS BUDGET**

Motion: Rahul moves to ratify the term two clubs budget. Yasmine seconds.

**Hey Teach**

Peter asks what happened to the mailing list, as it is not there anymore. Nicole says it was cut and they are ok with the change, looking for alternatives.

**Scarlet Dragons**

Stephen asks to go back to scarlet dragons, as in the overview they did submit an amount - the same as the summer request. Nicole will go back to fix the typo afterwards.

**Victoria College Environmental Fashion Show**

Peter says that with the fashion show being held at the Great Hall, they are not eligible for funding from the Performing Arts Endowment. He asks if they have they thought about what to do instead. Nicole says they haven’t gotten back to them about the Great Hall.

Stuart says in response, VEFS was originally a part of the sustainability commission, but this year they have branched out to be their own club. He points out that as they are a new club, they have requested a large amount of money, seeing it as it is the first year and it is disproportionate. If they are hosting at the Great Hall, VUSAC does not have the means to financially support that.

**Vic Trivia – Did Not Submit**

Stephen says it looks like there is money allocated anyway, about $120.

**Vic Ventures**

Peter says that the cost for toboggans was cut by $250, and they also have money for Gatorade and hot chocolate. He suggests maybe they reallocate that money to toboggans and have water instead. Nicole says it was cut because they were requesting five $70 toboggans, but the general outline followed is approximately $100-$150 for clubs. Peter says this is fair, it was just something he came across. He thanks Nicole for taking the question.

Stephen in general, with clubs, he has noticed that there are about 7-8 clubs who submitted no requests. He asks Nicole if they think VUSAC would have the ability to fund all the clubs it has if all the clubs had submitted. Nicole doesn’t think so, because the budget steering policy doesn’t have a minimum ormaximum cap per year for clubs. While they have been encouraging the growth of clubs, there are many that are made for one year, and once the participants graduate they aren’t picked up again. There are a lot of clubs, and if they all were to submit, VUSAC would not be able to fund every single one. This is why they had to cut some of the requests.

* Favour: ALL
* Abstained:
* Opposed:
  + Rahul out of room

**REVIEWING AND RATIFYING THE TERM TWO INTERNAL BUDGET**

Motion: Isaac moves to ratify the term to internal budget. Melinda seconds.

**Academic and Professional Development – not included in this budget**

Motion: Golda moves to table the APD budget. Stuart seconds.

* Favour: All
* Abstained:
* Opposed:
  + Rahul out of room

**Scarlet and Gold**

Zahavah wants to discuss something that was just brought to her attention, which is Winterfest. Last year, there was roughly the same amount allocated. The co-chairs ended up having to apply to Student Projects, for more money. Because of that, they are ineligible this year. Zahavah is looking for room within her own budget.

Apurva says that she went through the email, and Winterfest got $620 last year, which is almost all of line SS&G-012. They are not allowed to be refunded based on Student Projects’ operating policy.

Peter asks for elaboration on the long term feasibility of Highball. Zahavah says basically, highball is currently not sustainable due to the expectations of the event in comparison to the realistic funds they have for it. There are high expectations on ticket subsidies, the venue, and food. The only way to make those concessions is if the venue is smaller. In comparison to the size of Vic, this is not inclusive. The only other thing would be a bigger venue, but the cost is bigger. If you compare Highball to UC’s fireball, theirs is $40 000 and they have no venue costs. It’s not that feasible. She asked for more money than was allocated last year, and put out a survey. She is trying to implement changes. If Vic is going to grow, it’s not sustainable with the budget we have.

Hambo asks about the results of the survey, and how big an issue inclusivity was. Zahavah says the results were amusing, as everything dead even. What people want is for Highball not to change. That is the one thing that isn’t possible. The only things that ranked higher were an increase in size and a lower ticket cost. The survey told her what she feared it would.

Stephen asks how much money she needs for the Winterfest budget. Zahavah would like to have $700-$800. She asked for 1000, and with what she has now she thinks the co-chairs would only be able to host one or two events. Stephen was going to reallocate leverage in the VPE budget regarding Crescams. The Dean’s Office has offered to pay for a significant portion of the awards.

Stephen moves to reallocate $500 from SVPE-007 to SS&G-012. Peter seconds.

* Favour: ALL
* Abstained:
* Opposed:

Stuart echoes what Zahavah said. She notes that Highball tickets were subsidized last year around 70%. In terms of financial stability, this is not an option moving forward. There were cuts, and he encouraged her to ask for higher amounts expecting the budget steering to cut that. It is a feasible budget, and we shouldn’t be concerned about Highball too much. SS&G-011 will be getting revenue for that.

Stuart moves to reallocate from $200 from SPRE-004 to SS&G-012. Rahul seconds.

* Favour: ALL
* Abstained:
* Opposed:

Peter asks if they were not going to spend extra money on tickets anyway. Stuart says because it’s a pilot project, if it is not successful, they would reallocate anyway. They were hoping to make everything they spent on tickets back. At this point, they don’t need $400 especially with the need that has been expressed in other places.

Stephen wonders what the Lassman Studios Rebate is. Nicole says last year for every graduation photo taken, VUSAC got a rebate of $10. This carried over from last year. Last year, there were 539 students who took grad photos.

Zoe asks why they did that. Nicole says they do not know, but can look into it.

Stuart says he recalls hearing from Olivia that the Arts and Culture budget is from first term, SAC-006, and wanted to confirm if they still have Bader Fees in the VUSAC budget. The Performing Arts Endowment only agreed to fund them $600. Nicole responds that parts were cut. In order to pay off the balance of $1900, they can make allocations from the VPSO or contingency line.

Stephen goes back to the tabled APD budget. Assuming there is a budget for this commission that will happen, he asks where it would be coming from. Nicole replies they will reconvene the steering committee to make cuts to the APD budget, because right now in its entirety it wouldn’t be financially feasible. They will be drawing from SVPSO – 003, and the contingency fund.

* Favour: ALL
* Abstained:
* Opposed:
  + Nina out of room

Motion: Zahavah moves to adjourn the meeting. Nina seconds.

* Favour: ALL
* Abstained:
* Opposed: