

**VUSAC Meeting Minutes**

Friday October 16th at 6PM in the Goldring Student Center

MINUTES

**In Attendance**

**VUSAC**

**Judiciary**

CO-PRESIDENT Benjamin Atkins

VP EXTERNAL Alex Martinborough

VP STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS Lucinda Qu

**Assessor Members**

CAMPUS LIFE COORDINATOR Bergita Petro

CHAIR Emily Dyer

COMMUNICATIONS Alice Sluchenkov

CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER Saambavi Mano

FINANCE Shannon Brown

SECRETARY Golda Greenspoon

UTSU DIRECTORS Auni Ahsan

Stephen Warner

**Commissioners**

COMMUTER Anna Pozdniakova

EQUITY Claire Wilkins

SCARLET & GOLD Stuart Norton

SUSTAINABILITY Leila Atri

**Councillors**

Cricket Cheng

Peter Huycke

George Wilson

Hannah Brennen

Miranda Alksnis

Carl Abrahamsen

Seraphina Vasilodimitrakis-Hart

William Cuddy

**LEVIES**

VOCA Elaine Tio

**Official Regrets**

CO-PRESIDENT Gabriel Zoltan-Johan

VP INTERNAL Rahul Christofferson

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL Michelle Vacarciuc

Call to order – October 16, 2015, 6:02 pm

Stuart moves to *approve minutes from the last meeting*. Lucinda seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Leila moves to *approve agenda*. Stuart seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Claire moves to *add two minutes to the end of the agenda*. Lucinda seconds. Motion passes, one abstaining.

**EX-OFFICIO REPORTS**

* *CLC* - Bergita
  + Bergita: Hi everyone. I hope you’re all doing well. I’m here with a couple announcements. There are Wellness Wednesdays sessions happening every Wednesday, with various different things each week. On Thursdays we have soup, from 12-2. With our onsite counsellors we have learning strategists, personal counsellors, and career counsellors, here is there schedule.
  + Miranda: They’re not drop in?
  + Bergita: No, but a lot of times there are spots that are open on the day of. Another thing coming up is Minding our Minds, a conference on mental health in university. It’s free on October 29th. We also need students to help with the conference, please let me know if you’re interested.
  + Leila: Is this on the website?
  + Bergita: Yes it is.
* *UTSU* - Stephen & Auni
  + Stephen: I get the honour to thank everyone at Vic for coming to the AGM, or proxying. Vic brought out over a third of the people to the AGM. I am really proud of that. We really sent a message that Vic students are engaged and want to be heard. Only UTM got more people out. The proposal did not pass, for a number of reasons. We had been assured that UTM would vote in favour, but that did not happen. Tentatively another vote is going to happen on the 18th of November. We are going to do our best to make this a bit calmer and slower. We want you all to come out to do this a third time.
  + Auni: I just wanted to update you all. Happy lights have been approved for the UTSU. We are working on developing a bursary to reimburse students for fees they have to pay to miss an exam due to illness and other causes. UTSU elections open up again next week, there is a referendum on fall reading week. Admin wants to see a referendum that shows that students want a fall reading week. Go and express that you want a fall reading week.

**FINANCE REPORTS**

* *FINANCE -* Shannon
  + Shannon: Hi everyone. So the year budget drafts are completed. The total combined internal and clubs is 71 000, 15 000 larger than last year, due to larger funding. Clubs and internal are about 20 percent bigger than last year. We have a projected surplus of just under 600 dollars, at bare minimum. We are in a good position for next year. It is very important that you all read through the budget before the budget meeting, and that you ask me any questions you may have.

**COMMISSION REPORTS**

* *SCARLET & GOLD* - Stuart
  + Stuart: The chair and co chair apps are still open, due on the 19th. If you know anyone who might be interested in this, please encourage them to apply, it is a great opportunity. George has been appointed as the assistant Winterfest chair. The main job is to help select the Winterfest committee, and aid in the management. I will be releasing apps to the committee next Friday the 23rd, and they will remain open for two weeks. Highballs committee applications are going out on the 26th, and will be open for two weeks. There are members of the VCU who are constitutionally mandated to be on it and also spaces for general Vic students, based on the applications. If you know anyone looking to get involved, please encourage them to apply. The committee will meet twice this semester. I am looking to book the Highball venue before winter break.
* *ARTS & CULTURE* - Sumeeta
  + Sumeeta: On October 30th I am holding a halloween open mic night in Alumni Hall. I will send you an email about that soon. For The Bob, they are still accepting submissions for sketches. They will soon be planning for it, and beginning with advertising.
* *COMMUTER* - Anna
  + Anna: We are very excited to announce that the VOCA team is now fully assembled! We are welcoming to the team Samantha Greco, Marjan Mahmoudian, and Jinisha Panjwani as our first year exec! They have all shown a great enthusiasm towards VOCA and a great potential for growth within the position. We also welcome to the team our VUSAC councillor, Hannah! May we flip many a pancake! The commuter festive dinner will be happening on November 18th, from 6-10pm in Alumni Hall. We are playing with the format to make it more commuter friendly, with more of a finger food type thing rather than a sit down dinner where it is hard to leave when you need to.
* *SUSTAINABILITY* - Leila
  + Leila: Last week we had our first documentary screening and by the end we had a good turn out. We watched a film by 350, outlining what the divestment movement is all about. We will probably do another screening of it soon. We had a capture your vote last Friday, it was a lot of fun, and we did some Voteposals. When I had that doc screening I expected a certain number of people to go, and I just wanted to understand how that works. Do we say that we will attend Facebook regardless of whether or not we plan on going?
  + Claire: I think the general thing is clicking attending even if you’re not going to actually go.
  + Leila: I think it would be good to let them know that you can’t actually come. The commission had it’s first meeting last Tuesday, about 13 people were there. I think it’s going to be a really great year.

**ASSESSOR MEMBER REPORTS**

* *STUDENT PROJECTS* - Zayneb
  + Zayneb: This round of applications closed on Wednesday at midnight and we received one application, which the Committee passed unanimously. The project was by Auni requesting $1,750 for the purchase of 3 charging stations, one of each to be put in the Cat's Eye, Caffiends, and the Wendy Cecil Atrium. The applicant has ensured that the charging stations will be looked after by the Cat's Eye staff, Caffiends staff, and VUSAC, in their respective areas. As Auni stated in his application, "People need phones to communicate with others. Phone often run out of charge, and commuter students could be left going home late at night with no way to contact other people. This would alleviate that issue." The project was supported by 4 endorsements. Can I get a member of VUSAC to move to approve this project?
  + Auni: They are similar to the charging stations at Sid Smith.
  + Emily: Is there something attaching them?
  + Auni: The station isn’t really that portable.
  + Bergita: This would also be a project that would have to be in collaboration with physical plant.
  + Stephen: What if constituent groups decide that they no longer want to maintain them?
  + Auni: First of all, I have contacted all of these groups and they are cool with it. If not, student projects would figure out something to do with it.
  + Thomas: It’s in our best interest to maintain them, I don’t expect that anyone would stop doing that.

William moves to *approve the Student Projects funding of charging stations*. Hannah seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

William moves to *extend discussion time by 2 minutes*. Seconded by peter. Motion passes unanimously.

* + Zayneb: A few more updates on the Student Projects levy are, firstly, I have a figure for the amount that is in the account for this year. This is one of few times I will say I am happy to have been wrong when I earlier unofficially reported a much smaller figure, because our current figure is about $63,000. Additionally, Student Project applications are open now and will close again on Oct. 28 in time for the next Committee meeting. We will also be the guest at VOCA pancakes this Wednesday, so if anyone needs consultation on their project, please tell them to see us there!Finally, the stickers for branding have been ordered and should arrive by the end of the month. When they do arrive, VUSAC members please put them in the Student Projects mailbox.

JUDICIARY REPORTS

* *VP STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS* - Lucinda
  + Lucinda: There is the scholarship and grant writing club that is looking for status right now. The rest are re applying Vic Records, Vic Life Drawing, the Goose: An Annual Review of Short Fiction, Victoria College Fencing Club, Vic iTeach, Hey Teach!, Victoria College Badminton Club, VicXposure, Victoria College Arts and Crafts, and Vic Werewolf Club. These clubs are up for re-ratification, I have yet to have any issues with their re-application materials.
  + Stuart: Has the new club spoken to Michelle?
  + Lucinda: They have not, to my knowledge they do not overlap but if they do then they can work together.
  + Miranda: iTeach and Hey Teach are not in fact the same thing right?
  + Lucinda: Yes, they are different.
  + Alex: For the clubs you have contacted about missing parts of their materials, is there anything that would make it un-ideal?
  + Lucinda: Werewolf is a role playing game, much like the game Mafia. Vic iTeach’s mission statement states that “Vic iTeach is a social club designed to create a welcoming community among Victoria College students who are interested in education and teaching, allowing conversation about different aspects of education to occur, as well as networking and most importantly, building strong friendships among Victoria College students”. Conversely, Hey, Teach!’s constitution states that “the purpose of this club is to allow Victoria College students and the entire U of T community share their thoughts, opinions, and philosophies about education through a student-run publication”. So essentially Vic iTeach is a social club, while Hey, Teach! is a writing and publication club.
  + Bergita: For the scholarship club, when you say that they will relay on student projects what do you mean?
  + Lucinda: They would like to offer honorariums for their workshops. I have recommended that they don’t request too much. They also want money for coffee, etc., from Caffiends.
  + Bergita: Who are the speakers going to be?
  + Lucinda: They are going to be people who don’t work at U of T. The person who started this club basically learned at another University how to write scholarships, grants, etc. They will be using contacts from that program, and tother parts of their life as speakers. People who are specialists in writing grants and applications in many fields.

Lucinda moves to *omnibus the ratification of The Scholarship and Grant Writing Club, Vic Records, Victoria College Life Drawing, the Goose Fiction, iTeach, Hey Teach, Victoria College Badminton, Aesthevics, VicXposure, Victoria College Arts and Crafts, and Victoria College Werewolf.* Hannah seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Lucinda moves to rattify *The Scholarship and Grant Writing Club, Vic Records, Victoria College Life Drawing, the Goose Fiction, iTeach, Hey Teach, Victoria College Badminton, Aesthevics, VicXposure, Victoria College Arts and Crafts, and Victoria College Werewolf.* William seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

* *VP EXTERNAL* - Alex
  + Alex: I am sure that you have all read the constitutional amendments. The first is an amendment to the preamble, we are fixing some grammatical things that made it a little confusing. The new preamble reads “We, the students of Victoria College, having associated as the Victoria College Union (VCU) in the hope of bettering our student experience, hereby adopt this constitution. In so doing, we create a representative body which shall advocate for and advance the interests of the Union, and which shall operate openly and democratically to ensure that our needs are met”.

Alex moves to *implement the new preamble to the VUSAC constitution*. George seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

* + Alex: The first change is to bylaw 117, to replace MAL with councillor.

Alex moves to *replace MAL with councillor in bylaw 117*. Peter seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

* + The next two are to the constitution itself. The first is a change to article 5, the changes have nothing to do with the nature of impeachment. It had MALs instead of councillors, and expulsion has ⅔ majority mentioned twice, it is now mentioned once, it is more clear.

Alex moves to *approve the changes to article 5*. Carl seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Hannah moves *to change the wording to ‘or’ in all of the versions*. Seraphina seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

* + Alex: I would like to have a further conversation about this article at some point. We need to acct for co presidents, and VPSO.
  + Alex: The last is article 8. We changed things about how meetings are run, we are changing 35-36 to 33 and 34 and adding By-Law #39, In Camera Meetings.

Alex moves to change the By-Law references in Article 8 Cricket seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

* + Alex: Up coming things to consider are having Co Presidents and VPSO the composition of committees and other parts of the constitution were not changed to reflect their implementation. I want to look at Article One, the definition of what our organization is and hopes to achieve. This is important for future VUSAC years. Thank you all for being so patient with all these constitutional updates. I have an immense feeling of pride in regards to Vic’s presence at the AGM. We made sure that Vic was represented. We have to work hard to get people to come to the next one. The first residence meeting was today, they’ve got some really fun stuff coming up. A lip sync battle is coming up next week in the cat’s eye.
  + Leila: Do they meet once a week?
  + Alex: Don meetings are every two weeks.

Claire moves to *add two minutes to end of agenda*. Lucinda seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

* *CO-PRESIDENTS -* Benjamin and Gabriel
  + Benjamin: Two nights ago was President Robins’ official installation, and our charter day. We have set up photos for graduating students, with Gary Lassman studios. Gabe and I sat on budget steering, it went very very well. I have gone to a couple BOR meetings, I gave them an update about VUSAC, I spoke broadly about what we’ve been doing, our successes, initiatives, etc. Thank you to all the students who came to the AGM, or proxied their votes out. It was very great to see. Gabe and I worked in the lead up to that. WE are now determining what to do next. As you all likely know, Vic graduate Ken Taylor died yesterday, Gabe and I will be writing something for the strand for that.
  + Stuart: In relation to grad photos, is the company you’re using the same as the composites?
  + Benjamin: They are coming in soon with the more recent composites.

Benjamin moves to *go in camera*. Stuart seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Alex moves to *leave the in camera session*. William seconds. Motion passes all in favour

* + Claire: I just wanted to thanks all of you for responding to my email about the art battle, please advertise it a lot. I just sent you an email for shifts.
  + Lucinda: The clubs for ratification are Vic Urban Dance, Vic Ventures, PlenTea and Vic Board Games.

Lucinda moves to ratify Vic Urban Dance, Vic Ventures, PlenTea and Vic Board Games. seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

* + Lucinda: Vic ventures uses the infrastructure of previous years and would like to go out into the world and have a healthy time.

Stuart moves to *adjourn*, Anna seconds, motion passes unanimously.