



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

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## VUSAC Meeting Minutes

Friday, March 13, 2015 at 5:18 PM in the Goldring Student Center

### MINUTES

#### In Attendance

#### VUSAC

##### **Judiciary**

PRESIDENT  
VP EXTERNAL  
VP OPERATIONS

Rowan DeBues  
Kareem Jarrah  
Enxhi Kondi

##### **Assessor Members**

CHAIR  
FINANCE  
SECRETARY

Gabriel Zoltan-Johan  
Ben Atkins  
Ally Scandolo

##### **Commissioners & Councilors**

EDUCATION & EQUITY  
SCARLET & GOLD

Claire Wilkins  
Olivia Klasios

##### COUNCILORS

Auni Ahsan  
Rahul Christofferson  
William Cuddy  
Golda Greenspoon  
Alex Martinborough  
Simona Messina  
Stuart Norton  
L-P Veilleux

##### **LEVIES**

CAT'S EYE  
STUDENT PROJECTS  
VCDS

Sabina Freiman  
Arlette Bax  
Olivia Long

##### **GUESTS**

ORIENTATION CO-CHAIR  
UTSU DIRECTORS

Apurva Kilambi  
Zach Morgenstern  
Victor Lee

BURWASH CO-PRESIDENTS  
STUDENT

Brennan Jackson  
Thomas Lynch  
Anna Pozdniakova  
Benjamin Farmer Lacombe  
Lavi Balachandran

Jordan Lomonaco

## **Not In Attendance**

### **OFFICIAL REGRETS**

COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMUTER  
SUSTAINABILITY  
COUNCILORS

Sumeeta Farrukh  
SaraLi Forouzanfar  
Alice Zhu  
Rahul Christofferson

Motion [ ]: Stuart moves to approve minutes from last meeting. L-P seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion [ ]: Olivia moves to approve agenda. L-P seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

*Rowan is proxying for SaraLi.*

### **EX-OFFICIO REPORTS**

- *UTSU Directors –*

- Update

- Zach: I wanted to speak specifically about drop fees – the most basic campaigns the UTSU engages in. We held a march a few years ago and the campaign has receded since then. We're bringing it back in an unspecified event on April 1st. We've been only coalition meetings in Sid Smith on Thursdays. In the lead up to the event, we have been hosting coalition meetings in Sid Smith. We want to have as many people there as possible so we've delayed the decision on what kind of event we'll hold. We had a fairly interesting meeting yesterday talking about a U of T document called Wars 2030 – call for moving undergrad away from downtown campus, substantial increase in funding from international tuition fees and privatizing the school. A lot of these types of issues are discussed and we encourage students to attend.

On my UTSU consultation page, a council member asking why there is not equivalent action at Victoria like at Ryerson with their drop fees campaigns contacted me. We'd like to encourage people to come out, but also to suggest there being a VUSAC contingent to April 1<sup>st</sup> event or maybe have members of VUSAC host something similar.

- Rowan: What time on April 1<sup>st</sup>?
- Zach: I don't think that's been established yet, there will be a Facebook event.
- Auni: The campaign to decrease tuition fees?
- Zach: UTSU has used 'the hike stops here' but it's about lowering fees and not objecting to just raises. It actively uses the language – not just objecting to new raises. One thing that's been emphasized is not just campaigning at Simcoe Hall, but also in Queen's Park and off campus. It's a political issue not just within the university.
- Rowan: Who has been organizing this?

- Zach: Grayce Slobodian, the VP External, who has been running it. Riley McCulloch has filled in and some ASSU members.

## ASSESSOR MEMBER REPORTS

- Student Projects – Arlette
  - Announcements & Project Ratification
    - Arlette: I have a few announcements, three projects to present and updates on status of student projects account. Our income for this year is \$31,000.00. Including the projects presented today, we have allocated \$42,160.00 this semester and we have one more deadline left with applications still open. We've spent our income and more. The deadline for applications is March 22<sup>nd</sup> at midnight. I know it is the end of year, but the project money is available to be used for a year after ratification. Chair applications are open if you are interested in doing my job. That deadline has been extended to be after the VUSAC elections for those who want to consider it after; no exact date has been set yet.
 

For the three projects: \$15,000.00 for new club storage which has been discussed at VUSAC, \$1000.00 for the Highball performance which has already happened, \$5,421.61 for new tables in the Cat's Eye.

Motion: Kareem moves to omnibus the Club Storage project, the Highball performance project and the Cat's Eye Tables project. Enxhi seconds.

Motion: Kareem moves to ratify all projects. L-P seconds.

- Auni: I know we have the remodelling for club storage going on, but are there any additional details?
- Enxhi: The money is going towards new storage furniture for clubs. New shelving and storage cabinets.
- Stuart: We did get a really good deal, Phys. Plant helped us a lot and we have been tried to be as reasonable as possible and even sacrificed quality.

Motion: Motion passes with three abstaining.

## JUDICIARY REPORTS

- *President* – Rowan
  - General Update
    - Rowan: A lot of people have been asking about the strike and a lot of people have asked if I could contact higher ups about the situation. I have talked to the Provost office and people from CUPE. Basically, from talking to both, they're stuck between a rock and hard place.
 

For the TA's, the most compelling argument is that if you look at the Times standing of the other top 20 schools in the world, U of T pays their TA's far less than other schools. If U of T wants to attract the top graduate students, they need to be paying them more.

The university is having a war about where their funding is going to right now. There's the constant question of infrastructure, like asbestos in some buildings, maintenance of older spaces. We've

allocated millions of dollars to redo infrastructure at Victoria for Birge and Old Vic – Vic spends millions on fixing the windows of Old Vic. Just apply that on the macro scale to U of T, it's hundreds of millions of dollars in deficits. When added to the U of T debt, it's hard to say where the money would come out of for TA's though I'm not saying they don't have the means.

There is a level of indecision whether to have functional infrastructure or functional teaching staff. When you do compare U of T to other schools, the others do have a greater degree of private funding. You won't have a drastic change at U of T unless there's more public funding to make up for the deficit. My stance is that TA's should be paid more but the fundamental problem that should be fixed is. Job fees are a wider political problem in Canada. I don't suggest VUSAC takes an official stance on this issue, but if anyone has further questions, let me know.

- Auni: Do you have any idea when U of T will go back to the bargaining table?
  - Rowan: That is an area of contention. CUPE is saying U of T does not want to come to the bargaining table. U of T is saying they're working with a provincial mediator to meet in the middle, have them lower their expectations of the deal. When the provincial mediator says they're closer to a deal, they will go back to bargaining table. Unless I can find this mediator, it'll be hard to verify.
  - Arlette: Did the Vice Provost mention how it affects the academic side for us?
  - Rowan: Tina Saban, from Trinity, asked if there would be a reimbursement of fees, the Provost kind of dodged that question quite well. There is no definitive answer on that. Either side does not want this to drag on, but there are a lot of non-answers on that front.
  - Kareem: There's a good FAQ on the drop date for courses, Registrar's will take it into consideration but it's in their discretion. Some courses haven't gotten 10% of their grade in.
  - Rowan: If you are in a class that has been cancelled that has no marks submitted, there is a possibility to have the course dropped with no penalties.
  - Steve: Would it be possible, and would you recommend it, to have VUSAC add the information you just said on your page or the Listserv? In case some Vic students haven't seen information from CUPE or U of T?
  - Rowan: I can post something online.
- *Vice President Operations* – Enxhi
- Enxhi: For clubs, the semi-annual report is up on the website and I hope it's a practice that continues, I think it's good to have the reports so people know what's happening. The clubs head meetings happened, transitions were discussed. So everyone is prepared, over the last week of March and first two weeks of April is when transitions will be occurring for elections and hiring. Expect an onslaught of advertisements for that.

The clubs storage project was passed earlier. The order will be put in soon. We're hoping to finish it in the next week.

Community garden has a poster up for hiring the gardener position for the summer. We have a list of tasks from previous community gardeners for the next person hired. There is a \$500 honorarium, \$100 for new equipment and \$400 for all four months of work.

Hired positions on VUSAC will be up soon: Chair, Finance Chair, Secretary and Communications Coordinator. Applications are due April 20<sup>th</sup> and hiring will be by May 1st. The CRO will be hired after April 10<sup>th</sup> to and the elections are done.

We're getting a new office table. We've been working on getting new table and chairs for the boardroom – diamond shaped, easier to communicate across.

I also just wanted to make a comment about elections and the fact there is only one unopposed position. There is more competition than last year and congratulations to everyone putting effort in.

- Kareem: Do you know where the gardening equipment is currently?
- Enxhi: No, I'll ask about that.
- Kareem: You'll need more than \$100 for all new equipment if there is none from previous years.

- *Vice President External* – Kareem Jarrah

- Levy Updates

- Kareem: WUSC: Not many events this semester, most events completed in first semester. Levy heads will be selected at the beginning of next month.

- Acta Victoriana: Their launch party went well, there was an altercation and security was called but that was dealt with and Cat's Eye management handled it well. They will be selecting new editors-in-chief towards the end of the month.

- The Strand: Their magazine just came out called *The Wild*. They will be choosing editors at the end of the month on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

- Cat's Eye: Throwback Thursday pub night just happened, it went very well. They also have a Latin dancing pub night that will be hosted alongside the Organization of Latin American Students. The Dance Dance Revolution machine has been fixed and it's up and running again, as well as pinball and foosball machines. New tables from Student Projects passed and will be added soon. Co-manager applications of the Cat's Eye will be up on the website soon, they will be available on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- VicPride: Just hosted their Orange is the New Black movie night, which went well. They were added to the Co-Curricular Record, as well as other levies. High turn over this year, 2/3 of membership is graduating and will be looking for new members.

- Caffiends: Everything is running smoothly. They're currently trying to get student art in the café, they have chosen most of the pieces and will put them up soon. They're planning on having another clothing swap towards end of month. Co-manager applications will go out this Sunday and are due on the 31<sup>st</sup>. We will have to ratify new co-manager through email vote.

- VCAA: Had their Victoria College dodgeball event with Vic for a Cure. They had 8 teams and 40 people there. The athletic banquet will be at the end of the month, the same day as the town hall. Elections on

the 24<sup>th</sup>, only members' a part of a VCAA team can run. They're looking for a President, a Vice President, a Treasurer and a Secretary.

Victoriad: They're having their Yearbook will be printed and will be sold initially at Lawn Party on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Also holding a Cringefest with the Spectatorial, a literary journal based towards fantasy writings. They will be holding selections for editors-in-chief towards end of the month.

VCDS: Our printer was broken, so they were unable to market as much as they would've liked but Company still went really well.

- Sabina: When will the results for the VUSAC elections go up?
- Ben: March 27<sup>th</sup> is official results.

○ Goldring Centre Committee Update

- Kareem: Another meeting of the Goldring Centre improvement committee, let me know if there is anything in terms of improving the Goldring including adding fixtures, space changes etc.

There is one more thing I'd like to get everyone's opinion on in terms of Goldring space that is being pitched by the Dean's Office. There is a patio area outside the Wendy Cecil Atrium – they would like to add a removable tent fixture to improve the amount of space.

- Auni: It would be nice to have some tables out there under that to have students use the space.
- L-P: Some Adirondack chairs would be nice!
- Rowan: I was talking to Phys. Plant about this last year and they said it's a fire hazard.
- Kareem: We were talking about how for events; tents need to be rented every time and they cost a lot of money. They may be temporary and removable. We will talk about it since Phys Plant will be there.
- Rowan: When we were discussing putting Caffiends in Wymilwood, we suggested a patio area there and they said it would be fire hazard – but maybe that has changed.

○ Crescam Awards

- Kareem: Just a reminder to those invited to Crescams to RSVP. Food is made for everyone invited if you don't RSVP, so it's a waste to see all the food go to waste – please RSVP! Also, there will be a surprise this year
- Olivia [Long]: I was wondering if you could go over the decision process for the invite list? There have been concerns about this for years.
- Kareem: The list is the caucus list and senior administration.
- Olivia: So, the event is to celebrate student involvement? What will you be doing in the future to encourage student involvement, I think it's a little ridiculous that a lot of levy heads and caucus members get paid and most Victoria College students who are very involved and doing a lot of work for free do not get invited to these events.
- Kareem: That is a good point. It's a dinner event, there's cost associated with attendance numbers.
- Olivia: I know that in past years it used to be a much larger invite list. How has the budget changed since then?
- Kareem: I will take it into consideration. It's not just the budget but also the space. It's in Alumni Hall and can only sit so many people.

- Olivia: I would suggest that maybe people who are paid do not need to receive these things, some students who do need this thanks go completely unnoticed.
- Kareem: That being said, the nominees and nominators of Crescams are invited regardless of whether they are on the caucus list.
- Olivia: I just strongly suggest the list be expanded.
- Rowan: How many people were nominated who were not on the caucus list?
- Kareem: 6 or 7 depending on your definition – there is one person who was added to the caucus list. 17 to 18, again depending on your definition, were on the caucus list. Like I said, there was a surprise.
- Building Presidents Update
  - Kareem: The Burwash Presidents discussed having a banner in Burwash advertising the dates of all the elections going on: VUSAC, UTSU and Burwash president. They would not endorse any candidates. We would like to give them some money since there is a \$30,000 expected surplus.
  - Ben: I should discuss this, Ill explain in my section that there is money to give.
  - Kareem: An extreme amount of funding is just building residence fees and since it's open to all students, VUSAC should contribute to the event. It would be a sign of good faith and fair since it's open to all.
- Levy Increase Referenda
  - Kareem: We did get a request from a levy to increase funding. The Strand requested 57 cents to be added to their levy funding, it has been forwarded to Kathleen and she will be taking a look at it. A referendum would go through the judiciary, then the council and then a vote in the elections.
  - Rowan: I don't like that aspect of the constitution. I don't like the three of us, myself, Enxhi and Kareem, have a right to block a whole referenda. For now, I'd like to say that I'm cool with it. I would like to have the referenda and if you feel passionately one way or another, you can campaign for or against it once it goes to a vote.
  - Brennan: Is that the only item up for a referendum? Is it usually just a fee increase or decrease?
  - Gabe: Referenda can be basically anything but you would need either the consent of council or at least 15% of the VCU to have a referendum.
  - Auni: Just for referenda, the deadline is...?
  - Gabe: There is none.
  - Kareem: The constitution is very vague. When I spoke to Kathleen about this since she oversees it, it doesn't specify. It says that it doesn't have to necessarily be with the VUSAC elections.
  - Gabe: Best practice is that there is a referenda question in the summer or in between elections, it would go to the next election. The CRO could hold the referenda at any time; it's just common practice to have it at elections.
  - Alex: All we would have to do is move to approve to have a referenda question?
  - Gabe: Yes, it would have to be a 2/3 majority.

- Rowan: It's one of the by-laws I removed from the agenda for this meeting, but we will fix that once the elections are done. If no one has further questions, I would like approving the levy increase.

Motion: Rowan moves to approve the referenda question to increase The Strand's levy by 57 cents.

- Kareem: Point of clarification. There is no explanation as to why they need the amount; I would hesitate to put forward the referenda question without further information.
- Rowan: I think if there's no explanation, I think it's the prerogative of the Vic body to vote on it. If they continue to not provide more info or run a campaign, they're going to shoot themselves in the foot.

Motion: Alex seconds.

- Alex: I agree with Rowan, I think it should be up to the discretion of the students.
- Auni: We could run a no campaign, but it may make people hesitant to do so. It could there be a yes and no campaign description on the referenda so students could be informed?
- Gabe: I'm unsure if that's possible
- Rowan: For fee diversion, there was a yes and a no campaign. Zach, you were on the no campaign...
- Zach: I don't think there was information directly on the ballots.
- Rowan: There were no descriptions but there were people assigned as head of the yes or no campaigns.
- Kareem: Number one, they have not given a breakdown and it makes me weary that this number was just made up out of thin air. Number two, as it stands, there is a couple hundred stacks of newspapers that have not been delivered by their door. This is a common trend between every issue, I have pictures of the papers. Correct me if I'm wrong, it seems that they're printing more than they need. It's up to them how much they print, but there is a lack of responsibility in distributing papers and lack of sending a breakdown in their levy increase.
- Ben: Quick question: I am the news editor at The Strand, I know we just released an issue. Did you check the date? They could be awaiting distribution.
- Kareem: I did not yet, I will check.
- Rowan: That would be a good reason to campaign no. You can discuss referenda at the Town Hall. I still think we should put it in a vote; I think discussion of reasoning should be discussed in an electoral format.
- Brennan: I just want to say that we may be setting a precedent for how easy it is to get a referendum to a vote.
- Rowan: We know this is not us being tricked, this is a serious levy asking for an increase. I do see merit in delaying and having them explain, but it'll be March 22<sup>nd</sup>. They would have to wait the whole summer, if you want it in this election period, it would have to be now.
- Kareem: It would be relatively difficult to run a no campaign, anyone who may speak out against it may be seen as trying to silence the press.
- Steve: If this gets approved today and it's on the ballot and The Strand doesn't give any justification – would there be some indication that The Strand did not give any information? As opposed to the question just being there without information on the ballot?



- Gabe: That hasn't been done before but there could be a candidate statement under yes or no but you could have that in those statements. It's more under the discretion of the CRO.
- Kareem: The CRO would have to decide that. You can't run an effective 'No' campaign on a hundred words.
- L-P: They want to increase student funding to .57 cents, what is it currently?
- Thomas: It's currently \$6.
- Enxhi: We're missing the information and we're unsure if a 'Yes' or 'No' statement can be included. I think we should wait and do the vote via email once we get a breakdown from the levy and approve it inside VUSAC to go forward. Shouldn't rush into voting into this now, we can do it in the next couple days.
- Alex: It's a service and fees that directly affect them, should be posed to the students. I don't view VUSAC's rule as not allowing people to do constitution thing.
- Kareem: My job sees to Vic students' money and seeing what they get but what I see is you.
- Golda: I disagree with the labelling, there is other ways to approaching that and there are legitimate reasons. It's prematurely negative; we need to give them that opportunity.
- Thomas: It's disingenuous to say the Strand will say VUSAC is against free press.
- Ben: I could have my co-new editor and partner call in and explain.
- Claire: Wouldn't it be better to talk to the EIC instead?
- Kareem: I'm not implying the Strand would say that about someone running a no campaign – I was just saying that the person could be viewed like that.
- Rowan: We have been holding levies a lot more accountable this year. What's invaluable is healthy democracy. I've never heard of people give a levy such a hard time in increasing fees. In my first year, three levies asked for fee raises and they all received the funding. I don't think it warrants going from willing to being super picky. In my second year, there was a referendum regarding HUMANITAS had no campaign and lost easily on there referenda. I have faith in the electorate of Victoria College that they would run a clean campaign, we are dealing with intelligent university students
- Ben: I'm going to get a call from our Editor in Chief, if that is alright? I can secede some of my own time to have her speak.
- Gabe: I'm unsure if the speakerphone function will work well.
- Kareem: Have her email me.

Motion: L-P calls the question. Auni seconds. Two opposed, motion passes.

Motion: Ten in favour, one opposed, one abstaining.

## **FINANCE REPORTS**

### ○ *Finance* - Ben

- Ben: Just some updates on levy budget line augmentation, our surplus and other financial initiatives in the last month.

Firstly, after auditing levies with Kareem, though meeting with me for budgets - a lot still had a lot of money left to spend. One of the ways we thought we could preserve autonomy while giving financial flexibility to improve initiatives and facilities, we could actually allow

for a policy to add budget lines throughout the year. This is not something for commissions and clubs, something we'll keep within our selves. We do not have direct financial control of levies, there is enough separation to have levies add budget lines to their budgets since we have enough separation. The policy as it goes is that we have a levy budget augmentation form on the website. The levies would have to submit proposal to add budget lines and must detail: the additional expenditure, describe and provide documentation like quotes or invoices, and a short statement as to why it's necessary and prove efficient resources. We have one request with that. Since we they are additional budget lines, we thought it was best to vote on it in meetings instead of budget steering. First request from the Cat's Eye for \$62.55 – for bank fees April 2014-2015 for a monthly rate of \$5 and check deposit fees of \$2.50. Sabina stated the financial status with a spreadsheet; they do have more than enough in their bank account and haven't spent their total yet.

Motion: Enxhi moves to pass budget line. L-P seconds.

- L-P: Is there any way to change bank account types to not incur these fees?
- Sabina: We're a small business so these are the fees we have to deal with. We could look into switching it with the new co-managers.

Motion passes with one abstaining.

- Rowan: This is a policy and something we've talked about on VUSAC is having policies next to the constitution. This way we do not have to continue to add more to our constitution and we can vote to officially ratify the Levy Budget Change Policy.

Motion: Rowan moves to recognize Levy Budget Change Policy. Alex seconds.

- Kareem: Where will it be kept or stated or written down? How will we deal with making sure policies are passed down?
- Ben: Well, we're hoping it's dealt with by passing it on through transition reports.
- Kareem: It seems like we're coming up with a lot of policy and suggestion. Transitions are not necessarily consistent; we could have a document alongside the constitution since we've suggested that. Who would maintain it?
- Rowan: Again this is one thing that's going to start giving policies weight and hopefully will be passed on because it's voted on.
- Gabe: It's a new thing; it's whomever you want it to be assigned to.
- Alex: It seems to fall under VPI, we could have Chair also assigned to it and editing the constitution.

Motion passes with one abstaining.

- Sabina: For future Finance Chair's and VPSO's, make it clear that the budget in September isn't limited to the money we get that year but can encompass the surplus – what we have in our bank account. We felt the budget had to be the confines.
- Ben: We want to make sure you're spending as much of the money in the year as the students have given to you.

Structure of VUSAC's Finances. I ran a very comprehensive overview of VUSAC's finances update. The principle ones, basically, I'll go over revenue. We've had all our income incurring initiatives set in place for this year, like all major events that give us money, it's safe

to the balance is \$12,392.00 in terms of income. In terms of direct levy support, we will receive \$63,599.56. In terms of our budgeted expenditure that we've allocated for a combined budget is \$95,000 – that's a \$5,000.00 increase from last year. Now in terms of projections in surplus and future spending, there was a small accounting error that I saw running it the second time which was a decimal point – it's a \$3,124.95 surplus which is modest instead of egregious than what I initially stated as a \$30,000.00. In terms of \$30,000 surplus, there are other projections if we don't max out our budget lines. If we include inactive budget lines and this projection was before building presidents asked for some money. The surplus would be increased to \$8000,00 including the Commuter Festive Dinner or Arts & Culture Commission budget.

- Kareem: There is a plan to have a party for President Gooch in his honour at the beginning of April. Would it be possible to dedicate some funds to that as well?
- Ben: Most likely from inactive budget lines. Assuming a constant rate of expenditure for the last two months, seeing as 39.7% of the budget has been spent, if it goes at this rate, it'll be a \$59,000.00 surplus. That's down to clubs or commissions under spending. Assuming a doubled rate of expenditure, which I expect, our surplus will be about 40,000.00 that are still very high. I met with Krista Steeves today and something should be done to make clubs and commissions spend to their fullest potential of budgets. If you're a club head, spend to the fullest extent.

Finance initiatives for the year. There is a finance tab on the website and there is all the budget augmentation forms, finance reports and other forms. Secondly, there was discussion in late November of increased activity in establishing in the long term a credit union. Instead of investigating this semester, I've decided to form a committee with Enxhi, L-P and Golda to look into the Credit Union. Correct government documentation, places to register, build a framework and timeline of a credit union if feasible.

- Auni: Will the additional \$40,000.00 be added to next year's budget?
- Ben: If it's not spent to fullest extent, it will be added to next year. Last year, they underspent but the surplus initially was \$20,000. I hope this isn't the case.
- Emily: I was told five minutes that they were going to talk about the Strand levy increase in the meeting but I do have a general talking point about it. Our aim last year was to purchase Adobe CS 6 for our computers from Student Projects for our new computers. Since Student Projects was delayed, we had to buy a Creative Cloud license instead. Unfortunately, you have to rebuy it every year. Our levy increased in order to every year gets InDesign, Photoshop, and Illustrator that allow us to make the paper. Does anyone have questions or does it seem clear?
- Apurva: Would it be possible to get CS6, so you don't have to repurchase it.
- Emily: We had to switch all of our services to a cloud service.
- Apurva: I asked because one of the people I work with, received CS6 as a part of his tuition since he's in architecture but it seems purchasable.

- William I was looking at the Adobe website, it has changed to a Cloud model. Unless you would go through a third party, it would be impossible to purchase CS6 in an official capacity. It becomes more expensive every year than purchasing CS6 once.
- Emily: We could pirate it, but I'd rather not on our new computers.
- Alex: All students have access to these tools during The Strand office hours?
- Emily: Yes, of course! We asked the Arts & Culture commissioner to promote it before the turn over so unfortunately there was not enough exposure. The member of the Strand are there all the time, there is a possibility of anyone from Vic using it at any time. If no one was there at a certain, you can shoot an email to any of the masthead members to set up a time. That's what Acta has been doing since their computer crashed. Anyone on Vic can use them.
- Kareem: How many students would you guess have come in to use the computers?
- Emily: That would be hard to say, there are a lot of us that hold office hours and I'm not the only one. I'd say I've probably let in about 6 people.
- Kareem: One of the conditions for receiving Student Projects money, there is a stipulation to advertise. Due to the changeover with Conor, was there no effort to advertise it after that?
- Emily: We made efforts after that online, our Strand page is not looked at as often but we spread it to our official channels.

## COMMISSION REPORTS

- *Scarlet & Gold* – Olivia
  - Olivia: Highball was last week and I want to thank everyone on the committee, the building presidents and Vic representatives. I wanted to thank Student Projects for funding the performance. Thank you to you guys for help with tickets and promotion. Special thanks to Golda and Stu as my councilors. We came in on budget or may have made a small profit. Ticket prices went up due to an invoice received later on due to catering and venue being higher than expected. Tickets were a little messy, but I will detail that in handling that in my transition report and how to deal with it. I think we received a good response and I hope everyone had a good time. If anyone has an comments, you can email me at [scarletandgold@vusac.ca](mailto:scarletandgold@vusac.ca)

## COUNCILOR REPORTS

- Alex
  - Alex: There will be lots of food, lots of inflatables and it'll be fun. We're hoping VUSAC will pitch in with money or volunteers. Preferably before Monday.
  - Gabe: Rowan, dunk tank or no?
  - Alex: I would like to see that but we do not have a dunk tank planned.
    - We discussed our reform of how councillors are used but I think we should plan to discuss it at the next meeting.
  - Auni: We need to pay attention correcting the spelling of councilor.
- L-P

- L-P: Ben spoke to this earlier, I just thought earlier, in regard to Credit Union planning committee, I think it would be good to establish the committee instead of unilaterally have it happening.

L-P moves to establish the Future Planning of the Credit Union Committee. Auni seconds.

- Kareem: Who would be on it?
- Ben: It's a policy committee, it's more bureaucratic so we may be able to keep the set up as it is now.
- Enxhi: It's a discussion, research committee.

Motion passes unanimously.

## **GUEST REPORTS**

- Orientation Update
  - Apurva: Bergita is on vacation, she'll return in April. We hired our executives: Alisa, Madison, Darren, Michelle, Nicole, Diana, Weitang, Jahnavi, Shirquille, Julianna and three VUSAC members: Sumeeta, Auni and Stuart. We're looking forward to working together.  
Leaders applications are open until the 27<sup>th</sup> of March, and the carousels are scheduled for the April 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. We have a 100 spots available for both days, 25 completed applications so far. Orientation email is up now, people can send us questions there.

Motion: Enxhi moves to approve Apurva as Orientation Co-Chair and the Orientation Executive committee 2015. L-P seconds. Motion passes with three abstaining.

- L-P: Encourage everyone thinking about applying for leader to apply.

Motion [ ]: Kareem moves to adjourn meeting. Stuart seconds.

- Claire: I just wanted to ask Emily what happened after you sent your email?
- Emily: Unless I checked my email in the last half hour and didn't receive anything, I didn't receive a response.
- Kareem: The ratification wasn't in the plan, but sprang up – Rowan do you want to elaborate.
- Rowan: In the constitution it goes through the judiciary first, but my opinion is that the judiciary should not have a full say over whether the student body votes on the referendum. I said that to the council and I moved to pass it forwards.
- Emily: I totally agree that's a fair and democratic way to think, I just feel a bit caught off guard and I wished I had known that I should've been at this meeting before halfway through it. I got a notification saying I needed to be here to defend The Strand.

Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting is adjourned at 6:40 pm.