



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

150 CHARLES ST WEST  
TORONTO, ON M5S 1K9  
CANADA  
T 416-585-4473  
F 416-585-4462  
WWW.VUSAC.CA

## **VUSAC Meeting Minutes**

Friday, February 6, 2015 at 5:15 PM in the Goldring Student Center

### **MINUTES**

#### **In Attendance**

#### **VUSAC**

##### **Judiciary**

PRESIDENT

Rowan DeBues

VP EXTERNAL

Kareem Jarrah

VP OPERATIONS

Enxhi Kondi

##### **Assessor Members**

BOARD OF REGENTS

David Kitai

CAMPUS LIFE COORDINATOR

Bergita Petro

CHAIR

Gabriel Zoltan-Johan

COMMUNICATIONS

Sumeeta Farrukh

FINANCE

Ben Atkins

SECRETARY

Ally Scandolo

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

COMMUTER

SaraLi Forouzanfar

EDUCATION & EQUITY

Claire Wilkins

SCARLET & GOLD

Olivia Klasios

##### **COUNCILLORS**

Auni Ahsan

Rahul Christofferson

William Cuddy

Golda Greenspoon

Alex Martinborough

Simona Messina

Stuart Norton

L-P Veilleux

##### **LEVIES**

CAT'S EYE

Sabina Freiman

STUDENT PROJECTS

Arlette Bax

##### **GUESTS**

BURWASH CO-PRESIDENTS

Brennan Jackson

WINTERFEST

Emily Ernzt

Aimee Huntington

#### **Not In Attendance**

## OFFICIAL REGRETS

ABSENT  
SUSTAINABILITY

Alice Zhu

Motion 118: Rowan moves to approve minutes from last meeting. L-P seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion 119: L-P moves to approve agenda. Rahul seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

## GUESTS REPORTS

○ *Winterfest* – Aimee & Emily

○ Update

- Aimee: We're here to talk about Winterfest and a few errors that were made. Under by-law #21 in the constitution, a few rules were broken. Essentially, at the U of T wide meetings, they never presented a contract we were supposed to sign that has. The chair of the U of T wide Winterfest did not do the best job in bringing that up, I did speak to him afterwards. Only three colleges signed a contract in section 4, it says: "The contract shall stipulate the spending ceilings for each college." We had a budget of \$700.00 and then \$500.00 is returned from revenue each year. It was not made clear to us that we would receive our \$500.00 back – we were given \$218.00. We are over budget by \$500.00 for our own events. Since we didn't sign the contract, our budget was not ratified by VUSAC and the budget cannot be released if it is not ratified first.
- Rowan: The contract that U of T Winterfest gave you after did not have a profit breakdown – did the other three colleges have something in their contract initially?
- Aimee: "Should the U of T Winterfest create revenue, then payment will be redistributed to colleges". They voted to put \$1000.00 of the profits into the bank for next year.
- Rowan: They voted to decide what to do with Victoria funds without asking VUSAC?
- Aimee: We were there as representatives, but no, they did not ask VUSAC.
- Enxhi: They're assessor members, so they can represent us.
- Rowan: But budget steering did not approve to put money into the fund for next year yet.
- Stuart: I went to the meeting with Aimee, but there were only 7 other people there and everyone else voted in favour – we did not have a chance.
- Rahul: How did we give you the budget if it was never ratified?
- Rowan: When the budget was under the Scarlet & Gold budget lines, and by extension, we ratified the Winterfest budget.
- Bergita: VUSAC has paid Winterfest, then by this point isn't it a moment to write down in a transition report to avoid the lack of contract next year?
- Aimee: My money was put into it, and I would like to get that back.
- Rowan: In the summer budget, we had \$1000.00 allocated for legal fees and I will put a form into budget steering to reallocate \$500.00

since circumstances have changed. I will go to the SGRT and explain the situation, I'm sure they would be interested in having a discussion about what happened. Presidents of other colleges will also be concerned to find out someone has been making decisions for their college's budgets.

- Enxhi: I think what the reasoning behind the contract is so that the money is in the jurisdiction of Winterfest when you sign the contract.
- Rowan: We didn't sign the contract, though.
- Enxhi: I understand that but we should pass that on to next year to make sure the co-chairs are aware they have control of our funds.
- Rowan: We want to make sure we have our bases covered; it puts me in a dodgy legal situation because finances are being dealt with without any contract.
- Enxhi: That reminded me about what SaraLi was going to mention. When the co-chairs do your transition, make sure you explain to them they have to coordinate with VUSAC about the contract and budgeting before making decisions.
- Auni: Just to note as someone who was a member of the committee, it would be helpful next year to pick the Winterfest chairs earlier. It was hard to meet during the exam season and we should possibly move the hiring to September.
- Aimee: I didn't think it was a fundamental issue, but it could be done earlier – it's always good to have more time
- Olivia: If you advertise it too early, it may be hard for people to apply.
- Aimee: Timing of advertising – our event pages came out a day or two later than we initially wanted. Though, we planned to have it come out much later since we didn't want to have it come out during the break.
- Emily: If SaraLi has any questions, she can come talk to us directly since she isn't present currently.
- Aimee: I'm sorry for the blunders that happened with the contract.
- L-P: How does reallocating the money to cover the costs work?
- Rowan: Ben is in the Student Projects meeting currently, but he can explain it further later in his section; but we can vote to reallocate funds over an email vote.

## **ASSESSOR MEMBER REPORTS**

- *Board of Regents* – David
- Update

- David: There was a meeting this morning of the Nominating Appointments and Governance committee. There was a proposal knocked around last year to create a two-year term for one of the four student members of the Board. It would be renewed every second election and make the position more permanent and effective. They've already determined who will be on the board next year except for the students, but I will speak to the CRO about elections and making this possible.

The board has typically 3 meetings every year, they're considering pushing the April board meeting to June to fit other colleges and other board members schedules – but that would make it less accessible to the student representatives. We wanted to ask VUSAC for their opinions on both the two-year term and meeting date. For instance,

Orientation Execs live out of town and commute to attend planning meetings weekly; this would be one meeting in June.

- Auni: I don't know what the board's policy for Skyping into a meeting would be, but if you're travelling or away from Toronto, that could be a possible way to have the student connect for the meeting.
- David: I know that some people can call in, but I can look into that.
- Brennan: For the two terms setup, would you be locking yourself in initially or run for one term then decide?
- David: You would be locking yourself in. For the one year, you sign a contract for your term and we would do the same for the two-term position. We would want to keep some sort of democratic legitimacy, so those people can be removed if they are not fulfilling their fiduciary duty. It's not so massive of a role that it would scare anyone off.

## JUDICIARY REPORTS

### ○ *President* – Rowan

#### ○ General Update

- Rowan: I met with the administration today. As most of you know, we have a listserv at Vic that sends out all of our news. We have convinced the Provost to create a Vic-wide listserv and it would be a way to get the message out to everyone automatically without having them sign up. The meeting was mixed, admin still saying the same thing about the UTSU. They are still frustrated. Thank you to William for going to the UTSU Townhall and making sure there was a VUSAC rep there. As for the Board of Regents, I can't say anything about the search committee, but it is going well and will find a good candidate by the end of President Gooch's term.
- Auni: We should hold off on sending out the campus-wide listserv until we format the Listserv so it's easy on the eyes and accessible to people.
- Rowan: I would suggest we at least release something for elections. You can discuss otherwise what you want to do with design.

Additionally, there are Caffeinds updates. We are going to be setting up working groups to discuss Caffeinds and we will need some VUSAC people to sit on them. The discussions will be February 12<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm. Discussions have just been going around in circles, but Old Vic has not been taken off the table. The only place off the table is the Wymilwood Lounge – I'll have more for that after.

### ○ *Vice President Operations* – Enxhi

#### ○ Council Restructuring

- Enxhi: We discussed the proposal two weeks ago then broke into focus groups to discuss models and propositions. People in the public don't know, we will discuss what we all came up with now.

Most people seem to agree on the idea of co-presidents. They would have separate votes on council, but a single vote at Judiciary Meeting. Can run together or separately. A con is that two people elected separately and potentially not work well together. All models suggest co-presidents; it seems to be a unanimous decision that co-presidents are a good idea. There was the idea of having 7 councilors instead of 8 to keep the tiebreaker number on council. Clubs and levies

member of council and would allow more delegations of duties. Switching the Vice President Operations portfolio to also include VCU, AGMs and the office – all internal matters with clubs moved.

Another model suggested moving clubs to Academic and Professional Development. Another suggested once elected, there should be interviews for councillors and have them organized into a tier system. Essentially everyone agreed to removing clubs and making a clubs commissioner and better defining VPO.

One group also said if we remove levies from VPE, there is not enough and VPE needs to be in the loop and be in contact with Dean's Office about goings on at Vic. There was the idea that 4 councillors as levy councillors and each is dedicated to two levies – VPE would oversee the councillors.

As for Scarlet & Gold, many said we wouldn't want to mandate collaboration with other colleges and having another semi-formal in the fall. Shifting Gardiner Gala to S&G since it's run mostly by the Dean's Office – it allows S&G to do other events. Another thing for S&G, some would like a joint event with building presidents – entrenching something like Harry Potter pub night in the constitution. There was also the idea the S&G commissioner should maintain a social calendar. Highball, Winterfest and Grad Banquet – does this suggestion mean that Winterfest is S&G's job?

A&P development should be facilitating events to decide what people want to do after college – there are resources but inaccessible as could be, this could bridge the two.

There was the idea of the addition of a Student Life Vice President. They would run events, Dean's Office programming and clubs. Education and Equity: change to Equity and Accessibility, more events outside college. Potentially remove A&C, research other events they could be doing before removing. Sustainability: green week participation and other events. Councillors need better definition in the constitution. Someone introduced the concept of a two-tier system for councillors. Tiers one are exec members for certain initiatives and assigned to one exec; tier two members are sorted into initiatives to help out on each events. This sounds similar to how orientation is structured with spearheads and vices. This is basically what the three focus groups came out with after meeting.

- Rahul: I don't see how you can have 7 councillors when you don't know if there are one or two presidents.
- Rowan: We would know how many to have because councilor elections are in the fall.
- Auni: Two presidential candidates could take in more votes than one person running who may be a better candidate.
- Ben: The basis of our system is that we owe our jobs to our peers, there is a possibility of two mediocre candidates getting in but it's the rule of the voters.
- Rowan: Echoing Ben's vote: if someone votes for someone and they're not as good as someone else, then that's the nature of democracy. We have to have faith that people will elect whom they think is best.
- William: One person who runs a great campaign should be able to beat a lesser two-person ballot.

- Auni: I could curb my probability of losing by picking a certain person to run with.
- Rahul: Generally, I think a co-president has a better chance due to more outreach.
- Kareem: If we talked about it being a 4-member judiciary, the presidents would have one vote on committees.
- William: I defend the co-presidents thing because there is no disadvantage. The whole discussion about the president's workload and have people to share that load is important to remember.
- Rahul: I don't want to say I don't support it or think it won't work, I think it may create an unfair election.
- Bergita: I think when you're thinking about restructuring, you have to see what is a structural issue to begin with. The clubs commissioner and VPO combination, it's added workload and did not work. For co-presidents, you have to think about issues like honorariums. Heads of government do have a huge workload, but they do have people in other positions helping. Communication can become a challenge and add layers in co-presidents and co-chair positions.
- Enxhi: About the honorarium and workload: I was going to ask if people would want to define what each person should get?
- L-P: I just wanted to bring up the highly unlikely scenario: but co-presidents are elected, how would impeachment work? Would we continue with one president or impeach both? Just to think about.
- Rowan: Most head of states are a single person. Firstly, I've invited Trin co-heads to give feedback about their structure as well as the Music faculty at our AGM. I was in Boston over the weekend and talked to former president Brandon Bailey and former council member Ashley Quan; they did try to make a co-presidency in 2008 and got shot down. We have done something since then that can make it work; we changed the VUSAC portfolio and added external advocacy. Brandon said his point of view then was to focus externally. We seem to have decided that we have been more outward looking this year. I see it as only increasing as time goes on. What do you guys see as what the president's jobs are? The question was could you reasonably think you can do that job, schoolwork and have a social life? We seemingly have decided two people would have a better stab at it. My working group said part-time course load emphasis for those applying, but it's not to say you cannot as a full time student.
- Ben: To answer L-P: I don't think both should be impeached, if one person is impeached by their council or deemed unfit, the other shouldn't have to be removed. We did impeach a member this year and last year; we diffused their roles well. The fact that you would have three vice presidents, there is a way to pad the landing. To answer Enxhi, I don't think there should be a formal splitting of roles and I think the constitution has redundant specifications of the presidents roles; create more efficient council.
- Rahul: What would be the advantage of having two co-presidents while adding a third Vice President?
- Rowan: The president is meant to be the chief executive of VUSAC and Victoria; the ability to have someone sit down and have equal power. This is not to say there's a problem with the Dean's Office, but there is an aspect of authority and then it's not all focused on one

individual. It means being able to be in two places at once. There was an SGRT meeting that almost ran into the Board of Regents meeting. It's mean full empowerment in two places and equal time-share of the work.

- William: With the division of labour of co-presidents and it would be unconstitutional to do so. They can decide what roles they want, what works with schedules. The vice president title is that sense of lesser but the addition of the role creates a clear division of labour.
- Enxhi: About people saying about the idea of bad co-presidents, the supervisor of the president is the dean's office and if there were to be issues, the Dean's Office do supervise our activity.
- Rowan: People can file complaints to the Dean's Office about the President and they will deal with the situation by bringing up any issues to VUSAC.
- L-P: I agree we shouldn't entrench responsibilities in the co-presidency, there would need to be formalization of roles once elected and it can't be a verbal agreement – some sort of contract laid out by co-presidents at the start of the term.
- Stuart: Response to co-presidency and conflicting meetings: as it stands right now, there is a VPE and the presidents should be centered on Vic. The VPE has responsibility to be engaged in those politics.
- Golda: In response to L-P, I agree before an election and there shouldn't be constitutional binding but I think it's hard to have something decided in writing what they will do. The idea of having co-presidents is so that things can be figured out together and passed on if you are not able to handle certain things.
- L-P: I agree but if there is a he said/she said and there is a situation where no one claims responsibility.
- Golda: I would hope that wouldn't happen because if you are running together, you should be able to figure it out.
- Rowan: To make life easier for administration, a general idea of the area of specialization can be made clear to the admin and council. To his point, I think the idea from the working group would be to increase the use of the VPE. I used the Board of Regents and SGRT as an example, the SGRT's activity is increasing and the Board will not get less busy – but it would be good to have a two-headed dragon. For example, if you need a contract signed, then it is good to have a president present at those meetings. It allows the presidents to have lives not defined by their VUSAC experiences and can also focus on being a students.
- Enxhi: The least contentious is the S&G and we can decide what we want to add and remove – then create an amendment for the next meeting. What does everyone think of mandating an event in the fall semester?
- Stuart: Everyone is enthusiastic about another fall event. I think S&G can definitely assist with Gardiner Gala, but the event suits the mandate of A&C and should not be moved.
- Alex: I think we should be careful about mandating more events for S&G because they cost a lot of money. We can suggest and have general guidelines rather than mandate.
- Olivia: On the same tangent, it has the largest budget of any commissioner. It puts more strain on the finance chair and council.

Look to VOCA, building presidents for additional events. I think partnering with A&C for Gardiner Gala is a better idea and it gives S&G something to work on at the end of the semester. Highball is a huge expense already.

- David: We are putting the cart before the horse. The events at Vic happen so that they become a tradition. We are constructing something to add to the constitution that hasn't been developed yet. If there is a large gala style anniversary event, like Centennial, that can happen in the first semester. It forces us into the idea of the "VUSAC mandated party of the semester" each semester.
- Simona: I think it is a good idea to have A&C and S&G do Gardiner together; less strain on each person and may be able to do more trip events for Arts & Culture. A semi-formal could happen, but not on the same scale as Highball.
- Olivia: Gardiner Gala has always been in Winterfest, but there is no stipulation that it has to be then and could be moved to the first semester.
- Rowan: A way we could have a cut to the S&G budget and allow for permit other events but hold Highball at Vic.
- Ben: That would cut \$15,000.00 from the budget.
- Rowan: To discuss with successor but it would give more wiggle room.
- Enxhi: Basically, we are saying put suggestions than mandates. We can mandate a partnership for Gala.
- Alex: It makes sense to mandate it because they're both internal.
- Gabe: I would make a point of not putting suggestions in a document that shouldn't be suggestive.
- Olivia: Can you put a list for first term events and for the commissioner to contact building presidents, A&C to collaborate on events? There is no suggestion of A&C being a part of Mike the Change, but it happens anyways.
- Claire: It's in my transition to ask Arts & Culture.
- Rahul: A transition report seems like a better for this than the constitution.
- Kareem: Most people on council did not get a transition report, so it may not functionally be the best place.
- Rowan: Transitions can work in the short term, but not in the long term sometimes – they often get lost throughout the years.
- Claire: It's in my section of the constitution that transitions are mandated.
- Gabe: They are in everyone's.
- Enxhi: We need time outside of the meeting to discuss this. As a reminder – the AGM is Friday after reading week and that only leaves two weeks.
- Kareem: Just a note – it'll be the AGM/caucus
- Ben: How long will it be and why are we combining it?
- Kareem: There is no real reason to have just a caucus if there is nothing to talk about and we can utilize the caucus to bring people to the AGM.
- Alex: Instead of saying the same thing, we can establish everything and move on.

- Enxhi: For S&G, we established it. For co-presidents, there is hesitation but people generally agree we go for it.
- Alex: We can do quick straw polls for each.
- L-P: Is the goal to agree to the idea in broad terms?
- Enxhi: I was going to draft amendments then later amend those amendments.
- William: There was a suggestion to have councilors meet with the president and chair, then have that draft amendments.
- Rowan: We were thinking to the spread workload of drafting amendments across the councilors.

*Straw Poll: In favour of co-presidency model in new council? All in favour, four abstaining.*

*Straw Poll: Removing clubs portfolio from VPO? All in favour, six abstaining.*

*Straw Poll: Removing levies from VPE portfolio? 7 opposed, 3 abstaining*

- Gabe: Their inclusion in the judiciary will allow them to have representations within the judiciary.
- Enxhi: Four or five members in the judiciary aside from co-presidents

*Straw Poll: Creation of a Vice President of Student Life? Fourteen in favour, three opposed, eight abstaining.*

- Enxhi: Can members stay back to figure out the next meeting?
- Rowan: This is the pre-proposal stage?

- *Vice President External – Kareem*

- Constitutional Amendments

- Kareem: One is to put VPE on budget steering and the other is to attend building presidents meeting than council meetings. I took the recommendations from the meeting and added the two Vic students on the budget steering committee. For the other amendment, I made the changes people asked for in terms of meeting choice.
    - Alex: The only one for budget steering is that we are going through what it will look like next year. If the levies are removed, it may be redundant to make the change.
    - Kareem: I think everything is still very much in the talks, the straw poll was pretty much fifty/fifty. I think we should go ahead with this.
    - Enxhi: It seems like budget steering is a hugely important committee, it is supposed to be people who are unbiased but VUSAC passes it ultimately. I see no problems in adding the Vice President External.
    - Ben: I think the VPE is fine though I also reiterate that what gets put in front of you to vote is the decision of the committee, and also me. They decide what you get to look and put in front of you. It's widdled down from tens of thousands of dollars to what is in front of you on a spreadsheet. I think having the VPE on it is fine; it's not about who is impartial, but who is best fit.

Motion 120: Kareem moves to pass VPE budget steering amendment. Enxhi seconds. Motion fails with six in favour, eight opposed, two abstaining.

- Brennan: I support it; it's been good having him there.
    - Alex: It's a good way to have quick communication and also the VPE can choose to attend council meetings instead of mandatory attendance.
    - Rowan: I don't think they'll make any unilateral decisions against VUSAC.

Motion 121: Kareem moves to pass amendment to by-law #1 S3. Alex seconds. Motion passes with one abstaining.

- Cat's Eye
  - Kareem: The Cat's Eye has a lot of money in reserve, approximately \$15,000.00. In the Birge-Carnegie building, didn't make any changes and were on probation last year in the first year.
  - Sabina: The building was new and couldn't make any changes. We're not in trouble!
  - Kareem: They would like to start using their surplus.
  - Sabina: We'd like to reallocate \$2000.00 for repairs in the games rooms like our DDR machine and other equipment. Budget lines from our summer budget that haven't been used. I would like to move unused money to make up for the modernization fund. Sub-committee interview snacks budget was not used and I'd like to use it to cover the overage on sweaters. We were \$9,000 under on computer. \$197.00 under on the launch party. I'd like to move it into modernization and get the spreadsheet from out of the red.
  - Kareem: As for the section on budget steering, we can submit additional budget reallocations.

Motion 122: Kareem moves to omnibus reallocations in The Cat's Eye yearly budget. William seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion 123: Kareem moves to reallocate funds. SaraLi seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

- Sabina: The way it was phrased to me you can only move budget lines, but I would like to use the surplus, as well.
- Ben: There is a mechanism in the constitution to allow levies to spend on new budget lines as long as it's ratified by VUSAC. It's not from the pool that was factored in initially – it's what we'll be doing in the future.
- Auni: What other modernization that you want to do? And repairs if there is no surplus?
- Kareem: Cat's Eye is a sizeable levy and they shouldn't run out of money, but the advisory board can make the decision to purchase new games in the future.
- Sabina: We have new space and have been using our budget to buy newer things as well. All our games are pretty old and may decide to replace in a future instead of repairing.
- Goldring Student Centre Committee
  - Kareem: The Goldring Student Centre Committee has been meeting. If anyone has noticed the sulphur-y smell in the building, call Phys. Plant and let them know because they can deal with it in the moment. The weekends may have it occasionally open if there is a booking, 7 am - 11 pm on weekdays
  - Auni: Is there any way to have the building open every weekend? (I think Auni asked if we could have the building open later instead of earlier, because students aren't around at 8 but they are at midnight)
  - Kareem: The reason it's open so early is because there are also offices in here but we can see.
  - Bergita: It's for the café and preparation time.
  - Auni: Why do we need to close building in the first place? If there is security.

- Bergita: There is no one person for the building though it is 24 hours across all of Vic campus. Buildings do have to close.
- Rowan: There is a brand new student centre that opened at Harvard that has key card access for all students.
- Bergita: That's a great point but it is something that needs to be worked through in terms of security.
- William: I was talking to Phys. Plant about later hours in a Sustainability meeting, there was a point raised that even if it is open you have to heat the building fully.
- Auni: On the note of specialized access, it could be like the Bahen in which students can use their T-Card to access the building. I don't know what happens after the building closes in terms of electricity, but VUSAC members can be here anyways.
- Kareem: This can be brought to the committee and discussed. The music room upstairs should be open all the time to all Vic students. There is a piano and dance bars. Available from when the building open until 2 or 3 pm, unless there are other bookings.
- SaraLi: Have you discussed the lights in the commuter lounge?
- Kareem: I think Alice meant to mention it but we will discuss it at the next meeting.
- Bergita: We did discuss signage for it.
- Enxhi: If we had the VPO position allocated to this, they could attend – this seems more in the portfolio.
- Bergita: Both can attend – levies have office space, which is why VPE is in attendance.
- William: Any more on signage?
- Bergita: There is a major plan for the idea that new building has room for improvement on signage. The commuter lounge is high priority, signs for VUSAC office and the accessible signage. It's supposed to be unified. As you can see, they're testing out colours for the sign on the front of the building – they want to make sure it all is cohesive.
- Kareem: We were leaning towards having a LED fixed fixture like a mall map to direct people in the building.
- Crescam Awards
  - Kareem: Applications are out and advertising will go up soon. Applications are due March 2<sup>nd</sup>, for both Vic staff and Vic students. You can nominate professors or faculty members; it is mostly student awards, though. The process is on the application sheet and will be posted on the door. Dinner will be on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March and is the day of the lawn party from the building presidents.
- Bader Hours
  - Kareem: There were free student hours. Alex and I did some digging in the Vic archives. They were given before under loose circumstances, groups got together and the dean's office subsidized it. When I met with Tom, he told me that when the Baders gave the funding, it wasn't substantial enough for free student hours to stick. But we found out that they actually contributed enough money to cover 80% of the costs if construction. I spoke with President Gooch and they had tried to pass the deficit by the Board of Regents; he said he would work his sources to give us more hours. He did also tell us that there was a lawsuit in process with the stores on Bloor Street – there is money that's tied up there.

- Rowan: We are running a deficit that went through finance fine. Things are improving; our biggest money loser was Burwash but is now turning a profit. Huge turnaround in span of a couple months. In terms of a lawsuit and money, we won the first one.
- Ben: Is this confidential?
- Rowan: When the provincial court makes a decision, there are public records. The judge ruled it in our favour and we will probably receive money.
- David: The money isn't being rolled immediately into the budget. The land has gone up in the last 20 years, fills gaps and the rest is being put away in case arbitration doesn't go our way.
- Rowan: We are spending millions on renovating our properties.
- William: How much was the deficit from Burwash?
- Rowan: Lost half a million last year, profit is \$350,000 this year.
- Kareem: Just on that note, will follow up with Gooch where he is on the hours before he leaves.
- Victorian of the Month
  - Kareem: Last month's winner was Jacob Blackwell. He won \$25.00 to Tim Hortons.

## **ASSESSOR MEMBER REPORTS**

- *Student Projects* – Arlette
  - *Meeting*

- Arlette: Just a brief update on Student Projects! We will start a focus group with mainly committee members. We can discuss how it is not working as efficiently as possible due to possibilities. The problem is that we only accept new ideas, but I would like to include also “new improvements”. We are looking for big ideas right now to use up large chunks of money, like equipment or things for the Goldring Centre. Big projects are welcome. There are four projects that I'm presenting at this meeting.

Vic Records: They have recording equipment right now, but JJ and other students are reigniting it and it's for new equipment and a computer, which will be \$5000.00. A separate project for Austin Leggett, start a DJ service with Vic records: producer, records, software - opportunity for students to learn to use equipment. It will be \$2700.00 for the DJ equipment. Plentea's teapot broke, applied to Student Projects for it. Alice's compositing initiative, she applied and we gave her our concerns and she reapplied after fixing it. \$300.00 for composts and stipends for students removing it, which will be monitored.

Motion 124: Enxhi moves to amalgamate ratification of projects.

- Auni: Austin wanted to start a DJ club, but realized Vic Records exists. T's a lot of money but it is two initiatives in one.

Motion 124: L-P seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion 125: Enxhi moves to pass all four projects. Kareem seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

- Gabe: Would you be able to update how much is remaining?
- Arlette: I will next week, in the process of updating it all right now. Just received a statement.

- *Finance* – Ben
  - Update

- Ben: In terms of our financial status, we are in good standing. There was the slight crisis with going over budget on Winterfest by \$500.00. Over budget with photocopy lease, I cannot give a definitive amount at the moment and I'm still looking over invoices.
- Rowan: How, on a set contract, are we over budget?
- Ben: It was a one-time payment and we didn't pay it. Our usage is up. We recently paid Betty and Dash insurance and we submitted a claim form to insurance brokers; since there were no claims, it was fine.
- SaraLi: I talked to Chris Knipe and he hasn't done much yet with the club. Is that why there are no papers?
- Ben: Well, it's because there were no injuries or claims filed against us. It's not unusual there isn't.
- Rowan: We haven't yet.
- Ben: I wasn't here for the briefing with the Winterfest co-chairs. Firstly, were the cost overruns on pub night discussed? There were some. The agreement with Brownstone's was that there needed to be a minimum of \$700.00 sold at the bar. The float in the moneybox was given, \$200 damage fee and additional money. It was a poor contract and lack of turn out. Aimee Huntington had to cover \$500.00 and this is a cautionary tale for getting into agreements. Thankfully we took from president's line to cover it.
- Rahul: What did we break?
- Stuart: Nothing. The bar took it because we didn't make enough.
- Auni: In terms of the turn out?
- Ben: It wasn't advertised well, and 60 people clicked they were going and 63 people of age had to buy drinks to make that profit.

In our constitution, which has been violated numerous times this year to say the least, it says that Winterfest signs a contract with U of T Winterfest and has to be ratified by VUSAC. If not signed, we are not allowed to spend money. The issue was initially though there was no contract, then found out on Tuesday there was and that means VUSAC violated it's own constitution. The biggest issue is that since the contract wasn't signed, we spent \$1200.00 on an event we were banned from spending money on. It was Victor's fault admittedly with not following up with us; according to him only 3 colleges signed and ratified their contract. This is a judicial issue in terms of what we do and if we pursue Winterfest and Victor?

- Rowan: We broke the constitution, but we also followed another portion. We approved a ratified Winterfest budget; it's like having a contradicting law.
- Gabe: It's an issue of timing that makes it contradictory.
- Rowan: I'm not concerned as a whole that VUSAC did not spend unintended money, but we did budget it. I personally didn't know about this one, it is technically on me – had I known, I wouldn't have signed if we had known it would've taken Vic money. I see us in apposition where we can escape this in a better position. I apologize for the mistake and we can clean this up.
- Ben: It would have relied on the co-chairs more than anything. You were saying that you would not have signed it had you known. What would you have signed?

- Rowan: One where we receive our profits back. What I'm proposing is that we take this to the SGRT and figure out the problem at that table. I want to talk it through with the SGRT.
- Enxhi: The full thousand-something we spent, we weren't supposed to spend?
- Ben: Yes.
- Enxhi: When we passed the Winterfest budget that was spent on Vic, the \$200 is fine but the \$500 spent on Winterfest U of T is unconstitutional?
- Ben: We should've not spent the \$1200.00 under Winterfest but we have a better chance of getting \$500.00 back.
- Stuart: We didn't agree to give \$1000.00 to Winterfest from Vic. In order to be apart of U of T Winterfest, you have to put in \$500. They chose to lower prices for events and expected to make less so everyone knows.
- Enxhi: I think the big issue is that Winterfest is not supposed to budget with the assumption of making profits and of saving for the next year. Last year, we budgeted based on breaking even, but we ended up with a surplus. Victor clearly didn't streamline the budget process this year.

## COMMISSION REPORTS

- *Commuter* – SaraLi
  - SaraLi: OCSA was formed this year on campus. We came together to brainstorm and we got Commuter Week to happen. It happened relatively last minute, but it happened and worked out well. We had an event per day. Mostly well attended except workshops and movie screening. We didn't have a budget for this and I didn't foresee it. It did come up as an issue for other college – but Vic hosted the pancake brunch from out budget lines. Hopefully it becomes a thing that happens every year.
  - Stuart: VOCA pancakes were a part of OCSA that week?
  - SaraLi: The Monday one was for the U of T wide event, Thursday was the regular pancake breakfast.
  - Stuart: For Frost Week, you were hesitant to provide a pancake day for all of campus.
  - SaraLi: I was under the impression it was the Vic Winterfest event not U of T wide, but they last minute wanted me to change the time and the amount of people we were serving. We ended up using some of our funding since they gave us enough for 40 people.
  - William: When was OCSA formed?
  - SaraLi: I contacted everyone over August and I had to find the different commuter representatives. At first it was only 4 colleges, then 6, then 7, then Kin entered and left – then all of a sudden, it was January. It happened at a slow pace, but now there is an actual name and we found out the name two weeks before.
  - Just some VOCA updates. Continuing brunches on Thursdays, Caffiends is there some weeks and sometimes it will be waffles. We had crepes for International week. We are thinking of doing dinners with karaoke, skating events and a comedy night at Second City. That was supposed to be with Arts & Culture but I will be hosting it alone. It can be free or \$5.00 if we sell more tickets. We're planning a party in Cat's Eye at the end of March or early April.

- Winterlicious update: the tickets were sold out in 15 minutes and there were some contentious issues with it – got 41 tickets for 18 dollars each and there was \$10 paid by students at the restaurants. Essentially a \$10 meal! My suggestion for next year is to put the dinner tickets at \$15 each and make the subsidy lower and purchase more.
- Enxhi: For Winterlicious, just a suggestion to stagger the ticket sales because they sell out quickly.
- L-P: For example, I was in class and did have a chance to get them - I think staggering it was a good idea.
- SaraLi: I kept pushing for this to be used as it was allocated. Ben was insisting movement into Winterfest and it didn't make sense to me.
- Ben: The reason I pushed to move it into Winterfest due to us being over budget \$500.00.
- SaraLi: I don't think you reached out to everyone about where to get money and see if anyone has extra budget lines.

## COUNCILOR REPORTS

- Simona & Rahul
  - Vic Variety Show
    - Simona: Vic Variety Show will be Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> and have it in Old Vic and the Chapel. There is a complication with Bader and the fees. We are going to do it for free in the chapel; we will ask the Cat's Eye if we can use their sound equipment. We will be working with VicXpsoure and have the photography displayed out the chapel. Vic for a Cure will help run the show because they did not have a chance to hold theirs for Sick Kids. We have chosen to go ahead alone, but we are still willing to support Sick Kids. Too many cooks. We want to have two days of auditions and there can be as many as possible. The show will start at 8, doors at 7:15, dress the day of the show. We have quite a bit of money and use from extra money for food.
 

The building presidents were wondering if we could collaborate using leftover money for lawn party.
    - Ben: If you give me until the end of February and beginning of March for a clear answer on our budget.
    - Simona: Thomas Lynch will be our director and decide who the acts will be and the set up.
    - Rowan: For the lawn party- there was a VUSAC dunk tank a few years, that's something to look into with the surplus.
    - Kareem: Were you ever given more information on Bader fees?
    - Simona: Other than it being \$1500.00, but we haven't received emails from them.
    - SaraLi: Our page says Elections Townhall on the 20<sup>th</sup>.
    - Rowan: We'll move it.
    - Brennan: Do you know what week for auditions so I can let people know?
    - Simona: We wanted to have it the week after reading week initially, but the AGM is there, but we'll move it.
- William
  - William: Went to the UTSU Townhall for "What's Missing?" Consisted around mundane things around the university as a whole, my impression of the event was poor advertising and had poor attendance. The board structure and TA Strike was not discussed. Pierre brought up the election structure and

slates. In conclusion there wasn't any structural issue discussed. Can I speak as a student of U of T rather than a Councilor? It was restrictive in how it was framed.

The Sustainability handbook is on the webpage and heavy promotion will start next week. We will be releasing advertising about networking session updates a week before. I will be helping with auditions for Vic Variety Show, too.

- Golda
  - Golda: First of all, we should try and have a staff meeting. I know it's difficult to find the time and there are internal issues we need to discuss – I think everyone should think about making time for this. First Year event is coming up, iffy because don't know how much putting forward, won't be crazy. Finance stuff going on. YouTube video coming up with William and Sumeeta. Last video did not come out because it was really funny but not great. I'm working on Highball stuff but it's a secret at the moment.
  - Rahul: How can we see the old video?
  - Golda: It needs edited but it will be added eventually.
    - I will be applying to student projects for YouTube equipment – like a camera and tripod.
- Stuart
  - Stuart: Last Friday, went to the performing arts endowment meeting on behalf of Olivia. We've been told that the endowment is available if you are part of a club or group to put on something in the Bader, can be found online. They are trying to make application more straightforward.
  - Rowan: I wanted to thank the council for sinking their teeth in this term, it may have been a bruising first term but everyone is doing amazing work.
  - Kareem: Did they actually discuss the 500 hours at the Bader?
  - Stuart: He wanted me to emphasize the endowment and 500 hours are two different things.

Motion 126: L-P moves to adjourn meeting. Enxhi seconds. Motion passes unanimously. Meeting is adjourned.