



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS' ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
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VUSAC MEETING MINUTES

March 2nd, 2018 at 3PM in the Goldring Student Center

In Attendance

Judiciary

PRESIDENT: Zahavah Kay
VP STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS: Nickolas Shyshkin
VP EXTERNAL: Katie Cohen
VP INTERNAL: Artimes Ghahremani

Assessor Members

SECRETARY: Emma Lailey
CHAIR: Sayeh Yousefi
COMMUNICATIONS: Jade Koh
FINANCE: Graham Allison
CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER: Stephanie Xu

Commissioners

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Zoe Ritchie
EQUITY: Shailee Koranne (late)
COMMUTER: Gabriel Calderon
SUSTAINABILITY: Jared Connoy
ARTS AND CULTURE: Blanaid McNally (will leave at 4)

Councillors

James Hannay
Alexa Ballis
Haleema Khan
Devon Wilton
Cynthia Wong (late)
Cameron Davies (late)

Guests

VOCA CO-CHAIR: Emilia De Fabritiis
CAT'S EYE CO-MANAGER: Berenice Alvarez

ORIENTATION CO-CHAIR: Ali Kehl
CAT'S EYE CO-MANAGER: Maxwell Nisbeth
VICTORIA ATHLETICS CO-PRESIDENT: Adele
VICTORIA ATHLETICS CO-PRESIDENT: Ashley
Elsa Bornhoft
Julia DaSilva

Regrets

COUNCILLOR: Vibhuti Kacholia (proxy to Shailee)
COUNCILLOR: Ally Johnston
COMMUTER: Gabriel Calderon (proxy to Emilia)
SCARLET AND GOLD: Stephanie Spagnuolo (proxy to Alexa)

Land Recognition: Jared (1 minute)

I would like to acknowledge this sacred land on which the University of Toronto operates. It has been a site of human activity for 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Confederacy of the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in the community, on this territory.

Motion: Zahavah moves to approve the minutes from the VUSAC Meeting on February 9th, 2018 as it stands. Zoe seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

Additions to the Agenda (maximum 3 minutes per addition)

- Zahavah to add 3 minutes for an update

Motion: Jared moves to approve the agenda as it stands. Devon seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

Pressing Items:

- Announcements re: Email Votes - Sayeh

[Summary] One of the email votes we have to re-vote on because there has been a change of the numbers.

- Next meeting - Sayeh

[Summary] It looks like our next meeting date lands on Highball. I just wanted to know if we should move the day? A quick strawpoll? I will do a proper doodle poll.

- Student Projects Ratifications (Motioned by Jared)
 - Farcity funding (applicants = Edward Fraser and Sayeh Yousefi)

- Funding to secure the domain of a student-run satirical publication focused on Victoria College news - The Farcity) = \$148.95 + tax for a Wix domain, 3GB of storage, and 2GB of bandwidth
 - Student Projects passes to grant a funding total of \$148.95 + tax.
- Cat's Eye new computer (applicant = Berenice Alvarez, Cat's Eye Co-manager)
 - funding for a new iMac computer for the sound booth because the current system is 5 years old, slow, and unreliable (i.e. shutting off issues) = \$1,299 + tax
 - Student Projects passes an amended grant of up to \$1,500.
- Victoria College Minister's Conference Stimulation Club (applicant = David de Paiva)
 - funding for A/V equipment, country flags, and food for the conference = \$1,055 + \$126 + \$464, respectively.
 - Amendments: Old Vic should have most, if not all, the necessary equipment
 - Student Projects passes an amended grant of up to \$1,000 for flags and food.
- From the last email vote, there is an update to the grant amount for "Square reader + iPad + Printer driven Cash box (applicant - Katie + Graham from VUSAC)". It was initially \$900.68 but I would like to update it to \$1070, due to a miscalculation in pricing. Motion to amend the initial grant amount.

Motion: Zahavah moves to ombius all student project motions. Cameron seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: Zahavah, Katie
- Opposed: None

Motion: Jared moves to approve all student project motions. Cameron seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: Zahavah, Katie
- Opposed: None

Discussion Items:

- Discussion on Leap UofT (20 minutes) - Jared

[Summary] So I guess that I'll just say the motion before we go into details on the basis for the motion. So the motion reads for: "VUSAC to call on the Board of Regents, via a letter to the incoming chair Lisa Khoo, to divest its holdings from the 200 companies with the largest fossil fuel Reserves." So today we have Leap UofT with us, and Julia can give you a run down on their position.

Julia: Hi, I'm Julia, and this is Elsa. We are a UofT organization that has picked up on a divestment from fuel fuels campaign, which has existed at UofT previously. For those of you who aren't familiar with it, fossil fuel divestment is a global movement to break the power of the fossil fuel industry by encouraging large institutions which invest a lot of money to pull their investments out of fossil fuel corporations. There was a previous fossil fuel divestment campaign at U of T, and we could talk a lot about the link between fossil fuels and climate change, but essentially, the idea is that by removing the social licence of these corporations to operation, we will facilitate the movement, a political movement, will, to enable us to to transition away from fossil fuels. In April 2016, President Gertler and Government Council rejected the previous

position, and we are here because, strategy for re-launching the campaign. We are looking at individual collages, and a really important one that is Vic, to pull their investments in the fossil fuel industry to create pressure on the UofT administration as a whole. Victoria College has a lot of money invested in marketable securities, most funds which will invest in fossil fuels, one way or another. So there is definitely a basis for this motion.

Jared: If you have questions, maybe hold them to the end, just because I have a couple things to say. Thanks. The value of divestment is rather clear, and at the end of the day is it the Board of Regents that decides whether or not Victoria divests. As for our role, The Vic administration has clearly ignored sustainability as a priority, and it is very visible. There are no environmental initiatives going on within the admin. There is no composting, very few strategies for waste reduction, there are no education events going on about sustainability, no plenaries or Vic One streams dedicated to sustainability. Every environmental activity happening on Vic is entirely independent from the administration, as you can see, it is run more so by groups for example, the sustainability commission, Caffiends, and the environmental fashion show. These initiatives are very different from what's happening at U of T, on campus and I think it goes to show that students at Vic are interested in sustainability and that is not reflected at all within the administration. It is not an accurate reflection of us and our values, as a student body because students here are concerned about the environment and want to see change at Victoria. While it is convenient for the admin to ignore these things, and both the letter to president Robins and this motion, is to show that we as a our council are not okay with the admin not prioritizing the environment but also we are not okay with the admin not accurately representing our students.

Katie: Can I just ask how did you come up with the number 200 companies? Are those companies people who have invested in fossil fuels or have direct contact?

Julia: The "200 largest fossil fuel companies" is a number and a list used by the previous fossil fuel divestment campaign. I sent to Jared the original petition brief, from the old campaign, And it is literally just the number of the largest fossil fuel companies in the world. Most campus investments, including Vic's and U of T's, don't release lists of the exact companies they are invested in, especially if they are invested in mutual funds, so we don't know how many of those companies Vic is actually invested in, but it is more of a call to look at what companies, what all of the funds are invested in are invested in. It is a two step thing.

Cameron: To touch on the neutral funds point, I spoke with Robins on this point at a meeting about a month ago and he said that most of the investments are in mutual funds. So, it makes it tricky but it still makes it the right thing to do. As well, Dean Castle, who was also at the meeting, said that she would also be interested in discussing this more. I'm wondering, I'm going to email her back and set up a meeting, if you would like to join in as a representative of Leap U of T?

Julia: We would love that. We know there are large institutions that are invested in mutual funds, and we know that that requires financial overhaul, but it a feasible thing that has happened at other campuses.

Zahavah: I think that in the long run obviously Vic divesting from fossil fuels is something that I would love to see happen, but I think that looking realistically, everything that Jared mentioned about how low Vic's commitment to the environment is, I wonder if we might be able to see more progress with a wider-scale letter that includes things like, "we would like to see more composting, and we would like to see more sustainable sources." Making a list of things that includes some things that they might be able to do in the near future, we might be able to get further, because right now there are no Canadian universities that have completely divested from fossil fuels and there are only two that have partially done it, the truth is that for universities a big

part of the funding comes from these divestments. So I wonder if, maybe counterintuitively asking for more things that can be done right now will be taking steps in that direction.

Jared: I see what you're saying, but I think that given that Leap UofT is working not only with Vic, but everywhere else, I think it is valuable for this motion in particular to go through. Just because it is part of Leap's greater mission. I would be thrilled to compile a document with everything we want to see. But I think that I would like to start out, to see it in addition to this, just because it is a Leap U of T thing happening and then a Sustainability at VUSAC thing happening. But I would also be happy to make a more comprehensive list of what we would like to see, which is sort of reflected in the letter to President Robins, but is kind of a different matter on its own.

Shailee: Zahavah's ideas could be up in the larger letter to the Presidential Priorities document. I do have a question for Leap: How long is the petition open and what channels are you distributing it through?

Julia: So yes, we haven't actually launched the petition yet, so, we are planning on launching it once we've opened channels of communication with the administration. So, we will be doing things like canvassing and tabling at Sid Smith. We will also have volunteer meetings, one this gets going, and will then pick up more campaign work here at Vic. And then, looking at potentially putting it online? We are making a website.

Katie: Just because there is no specific timeline attached to this, what is the follow-up process? Is there a timeline Leap is working with for a goal like, 2020, or like 2022, to have all the colleges on board by? You know, I just don't want this motion to go forward without accountability.

Julia: Right, so we don't have a date attached to it currently, but our follow-up process is that once we have the support we will launch the petition, as well as, beginning to discuss with the favourable or moveable members on the Board of Regents about setting up personal meetings. And then at that point, then we would start laying in our next steps in terms of our actions, canvassing and campaigning.

Cameron: I was wondering: currently VUSAC is taking petitions for the YouDecide petition, and if you do decide to do a physical copy of your petition it might be possible for us to motion to have your petition at our front desk. With this kind of thing, to use the analogy of going to the gym, you know, I don't always feel like going to the gym. But it is good for me. So I feel like that is where the administration is standing on this. They recognize the importance of this, but it's kind of like when you know you want to go to the gym, but you don't actually want to be bothered to go to the gym.

Devon: Just to clarify the language of the motion. Is this basically making VUSAC a signatory to the petition or is this just a motion of support for the campaign and we are encouraged to sign it of our own partition?

Julia: Currently, the petition envisages individual signatories. We envisioned this as a motion of support, in general.

Jared: It basically is stating that the letter has been seen by VUSAC, and we think that the Board of Regents should divest. It would just be a direct letter to Lisa Koo saying that VUSAC thinks they should divest.

Devon: I understand, so the letter will be written by Jared, and then shown to VUSAC. I was mistaken, I thought they were one in the same.

Motion: Jared moves that "VUSAC call on the Board of Regents, via a letter to the incoming chair Lisa Khoo, to divest its holdings from the 200 companies with the largest fossil fuel reserves." Cameron seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL

- Abstained: Jared
- Opposed: None

- VCAA Constitutional Amendments (5 minutes)

Adele: [As read from Document] “Changes to Victoria College Athletic Association Constitution (ratified by VCAA February 2, 2017 –submitted for ratification by VUSAC on March 3, 2018)

First: given that VCAA is one of Victoria College’s only levies without an honorarium for their presidents, it was proposed and unanimously passed by the VCAA that a single president receive an honorarium of \$1000 and that two co-presidents receive an honorarium of \$750 each, to a total of \$1500. So, VCAA is requesting that subsection k (ssk) be added to section 2 (S2 The President/Co-Presidents) of the Victoria College Athletic Association Constitution, as follows ssk) Shall receive an honorarium of \$1000 for a single president and \$750 for each co- president (to a total of \$1500) from the budget of the Victoria College Athletic Association. Second: the gender biases and sexism of section XI: Annual Awards were brought to the council’s attention. Amongst the complaints were: more awards available to male-identifying athletes, sportsmanship awards only for female-identifying athletes and skill awards only for male identifying athletes and people who identified as neither male nor female had difficulty finding awards that they were eligible for. The proposed new version of section XI uses the categories set out by intramurals (women’s league, men’s league and coed league) and makes all athletes, no matter their gender eligible for the same awards. In addition, it attempts to subvert overt biases within the athletic community when choosing recipients of coed awards (see ssb). Appendix 1 has the current version of section XI and Appendix 2 has the proposed updated version of section XI: Annual Awards of the VCAA constitution based on these changes. Appendix 2 has been unanimously passed by the VCAA council on Feb 2, 2017.”

Zoe: I took quite a while to go through this because it is an issue that is important to me. And I have a question for you guys. As you said, you’ve identified four complaints and these are to remedy them. I was kind of interested in the fourth one, looking at people who don’t identify as male or female, somewhere in the middle, and the difficulty of finding an award. From my understanding, you changed it to Women’s, Men’s and Co-ed league, is the idea that you play on the team to what you identify for?

Ashley: Yes, so it was setup by the intramurals of UofT. We’re catering the awards to each separate league.

Zoe: One thing I might propose, just to make it clearer, and to make sure people understand, I couldn’t find anywhere on your website where it said that you can play for the league you identify with. I think that that might be an issue you want to look at in order to truly address that complaint and make sure it’s understood. Because for me, the premise of changing those that you can play on the team that you identify with, I just didn’t find that anywhere in language. So if it is the spirit that the VCAA operates under than it should be codified somewhere. Because if I were a student that didn’t know about the VCAA and was just looking, I might think that I would want that in writing somewhere.

Adele: The reason that that information is not on our website is because we don’t have anyone to update it. We did propose these changes last year, but even last year no one had the chance to update it on the website. So that is an issue that we have, even without these concerns.

Zoe: Can I ask though, is that your current policy? That when someone comes to you and says “I want to play on this team?”

Adele: Pretty much. I don’t think it’s ever actually happened, from our experience. But we basically follow the rules of intramurals at U of T. These are Vic awards. So, we are just basing the Vic awards on how intramurals function. But we’ve never had any issues.

James: I just had a question about the honorarium: you said that you'd be giving \$1000 for a single president and \$750 for two co-presidents. Why is it that the VCAA believes that having two co-presidents would have an honorarium adding up to more than a single president?

Adele: So, as co-presidents we are doing more of a job than a single president can. And that is one of the pros that we decided, in order to have two co-presidents this year. Ashley can offer so much more than I can, and I can offer more than Ashley can [without the other]. Together, we can we cover more bases.

James: So, in the case where you would elect a single president, would you expect them to do less?

Adele: Well, there is only so much a single person can do.

James: Thank you.

Motion: Zahavah moves to extend discussion time by four minutes. Devon seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

Devon: Looking at Appendix Two, there are two athletic sticks awards, one for the women's league and one for the men's league, but why isn't there one for the co-ed league? Not to be so direct, but can you explain that please?

Adele: That would be the next step, now that we have had the chance to discuss this. It has been tradition that there are two sticks, for one woman and one man, but that can definitely be open for discussion. Last year was the first year that we just considered changing anything to do with the awards, so that would definitely be a step forward. But we are trying to just go one step at a time, because in athletics this is a big thing.

Ashley: As well, awards are created by alumni, so to create another award involves more budgeting logistics which makes the situation more tricky.

Devon: Is there a monetary value that comes along with the athletics recipient award?

Ashley: Oh no, we are just talking about for the trophy award. The recipient keeps a plaque, but the award is donated to the council which costs a lot of money.

Devon: So the money that you'd need for funding to start for a co-ed trophy is not something you think you can do in this term?

Ashley: Not in this term, because we have our banquet coming up and that is where our attention is focused as of now.

Zoe: I was just wondering, to me this is made to address these complaints--and I wouldn't even call them complaints I'd call them suggestions, because I don't think that it is ever a complaint to say that "I don't think I can be apart of your organization because it doesn't feel inclusive to me." I would say that that might be something you want to think about, how it feels to someone who has put forth this suggestion and having a specific complaint with rather negative connotation. And the question I wonder is why it is not in your constitution to talk more about allowing people to play for those teams. Do you know what I mean? Which is why I might feel uncomfortable voting in favour because I don't feel like your constitution really addresses these suggestions.

Adele: That is intramurals from U of T, these are just the awards that we can give out to people.

Ashley: Yes, so these kinds of concerns are made on the intramural council. They are really incontrol and in the know on the policy on this. Clare (the external representative on this council) would definitely have more knowledge on this.

Devon: Just another question about the athletic sticks: are sticks, for example, in the women's league, only available for identifying women or only for people playing in the women's league?

Adele: So, for the athletic sticks it is strictly by league. For other awards we are working to do that, but we are working on improving this.

Motion: Zahavah moves to approve the changes to the Victoria Athletic Association constitution. Shailee seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: Katie, Zahavah, Shailee, Nick, James, Cameron, Cynthia, Alexa, Haleema, Blanaid, Vibhuti, Gabe, Stephanie
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: Zoe, Devon, Artimes

EX-OFFICIO UPDATES

- Orientation Update (5 minutes) - Ali and Christina

[Summary] Ali: Can I speak whenever? It is so nice to be back speaking to you guys. My name is Ali, incase you didn't know. Right now, we are in the process of hiring the exec team--really exciting--not sure if Gabe is here, but Zahavah is here, and they have been amazing helping Christina and I. We've had a lot of fun. At least, I've had a lot of fun. But we are all really excited. We've have a lot of amazing applications. Leader applications and transition mentor applications are open and those carousels are coming up the 24th and 25th of March. Shoutout, Christina is so cool. We're like long-lost soul sisters. We are really happy together. (This is the second time I've done something like this!) Okay. We'll be back. Lovely update. Thanks.

[applause]

- Dean's Office Updates (3 minutes) - Christina
 - Post-Offer Receptions - March 8th (5-7) and April 9 (5-7) - Alumni Hall (Christina, CLC)"

[Summary] Thank you, I think that Ali likes me so much because I live above a Jack Astors. Just a couple of updates, I am sending out emails thanking everyone for attending the post offer receptions, so thank you if you came out to that. For anyone else thinking about coming, the dates are in the agenda, it is March 8th and April 9th. It is a great event for folks who have gotten an offer but not yet said yes. Transition mentors, we are hiring! We had a great meeting with Nick and Zahavah where we solidified Student Leader Day which is going to be on April 6th from 10:30am-3:30pm. If you're thinking about running, feel free to reach out at that event. Those are all of my updates. Alexa here, has a couple of announcements.

Alexa: I'm here to promote an event in partnership with the Dean's Office, Sexual Health and Wellness next week. It is a Town Hall on alcohol health promotion. A lot of the effort by U of T regarding health promotion, other offices do their own efforts. We want to bring as many people together into one room to talk about continuing that effort and how to collaborate more between other bodies and offices. As well, collaborate more between other universities and institutions, like a national collaboration. I have been working to create that collaboration between other universities and institutions and we will be talking about alcohol and health promotion and how that can positively benefit students. I sent the link to the event page, if you're able to circulation that somehow. We are looking to get as much student involvement as we can and we are looking to create a community to join that and be in charge of organizing that. Which would be a good opportunity, if that is something you are interested in. Any questions?

Devon: Date and time?

Alexa: March 9th, Friday in the afternoon. Lunch is provided.

Christina: It is also in the lounge.

Haleema: Will the discussion just be on alcohol?

Alexa: Mainly, but we will be discussing how that affects other kinds of health.

- UTSU Update - Jayde
 - [No Update]

[Summary] Hi VUSAC! Thanks for hearing this update! I have two major things and I'll send some other info via email later on. First, you can now be paid for collecting signatures for YouDecide - you'll get \$14 an hour plus commission for each signature collected. If you or anyone you know is looking for flexible, part time work and/or supports a referendum on CFS membership, direct them to https://utsu.formstack.com/workflows/outreach_associate to apply. The second thing is that voting in The Varsity's levy referendum closes today - they're seeking an \$0.80 increase per student in order to pay their staff the new minimum wage and to institute a deputy news director at UTM and UTSC. If you believe in accountable student politics, I would hope you'd also support a strong campus media; for more info, see The Varsity's Facebook page or the UTSU's for our official statement of support. You can vote at voting.utoronto.ca. That's all, thank you!"

LEVY UPDATES

- Cat's Eye: Booking Policy (3 minutes) -

[Summary] This is an update on our other update from last meeting. Basically, forget everything we said. After consultation with the Dean's office, the Cat's Eye is no longer going to be available for booking for outside Vic groups. It is better because it is a space that caters to Vic students specifically, so we are respecting the way that it has been designed. . If an outside groups wants to book the space, they have to collab with one of you guys. Plug for event next week, our first and only pub night. The Lindsay Country Bash, Ali, your fav blond will be there. Come for a little taste of Lindsay.

STAFF MEMBER UPDATES

Chief Returning Officer - Stephanie Xu

- Elections Update (5 minutes)

[Summary] Zahavah and I have been talking about the spring elections. There has been a lot of back and forth, because there are just so many things going on in March. And our main concern is about town hall, wit Highball on the 16th, the Athletic Council banquet on the 23rd...there are a lot of dates that have been hard to work around with. But, I think we've settled on having town hall on the 23rd, before the Athletic Banquet, which is a Friday and which may be a bit scattered. So, we just want to ensure that the council is able to please push a lot for town hall, as it is very busy during this time. James is going to be my Vice CRO during this time. Nomination packages will come out on the 5th, due on the 12th. We will have an all candidates and campaigning starts that evening. The plan is the 23rd.

Nick: What time?

Stephanie X: 4-7pm, but that time is still in the works. It is currently the best option.

Katie: I just want to confirm that for voting, it will take place on the 23rd and will be the tradition four days? From the 23rd to the 26th? Can I request...because silent period is usually three days...if we're having Caucus on the 29th. The plan was that Caucus would happen during the silent period so that it would be about this year, that we're reflecting on, and not an opportunity

for people to start discussing next year, so I would just request that the 29th remain a silent period, like that the results come out after Caucus is done? To ensure the 29th remains a silent day.

Stephanie X: Yes!

Blanaid: When do nomination packages go out?

Stephanie X: March 5th.

Blanaid: Oh wow.

Shailee: What are the rules about current VUSAC members giving VCU members advice about the elections? Like if someone on my own commission? (pre-campaigning vs. advice)

Stephanie X: Okay, so don't endorse them because you are still currently in your position and you haven't transitioned. You are also to give them the description of what your role entails, but if they have more questions that you're not sure if you're allowed to answer than you can send them to me or Zahavah.

Katie: How are we treating Highball, because then that will be during the campaigning period? Like, we have VUSAC events going on, so will it be treated like Burwash? Can't talk about it, because Highball, Crescam dinner, lots of programming... There are a lot of events going on. How should they be treated?

Stephanie X: So, nomination packages will be [...]

Zahavah: We have tried so many different combinations of this. March is impossible. Basically, Highball, Crescam dinner, whether or not nomination packages have gone out at this point, no discussion. That is not allowed. At all. That is completely unfair for those who already sit on council or who are already in a position. Those will be strictly: no election spaces. The dates, as they are right now, are still being set in stone. But regardless of which stage, there will be no election discussion at those events.

Communications Director - Jade Koh

- VUSAC logo (10 minutes)

[Summary] After reading the minutes from last week, it is important to hear about what VCU thinks about the logo. I will create a doc. Based on that feedback I will make changes that people want to see. The voting will come down to...

Haleema: Does any other club get their logo approved by the VCU?

Zahavah: Nope. also VUSAC doesn't really have a logo. I think it's very kind hearted of you to reach out to the VCU for pointers. It is not necessary. If you want to do this, do it! But you've put so much work into this and I would be comfortable for having VUSAC vote on it. So thank you.

[applause]

Jade: So, should we do a straw poll to vote on it today for just VUSAC? ... Okay then.

Motion: Zoe moves to approve the logo, presented by Jade, as the new VUSAC logo. Haleema seconds.

Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

[applause]

Finance Chair - Graham Allison

- [No Update]

COMMISSION UPDATES

Academic & Professional Development - Zoe Ritchie

- Debrief on Dinner

[Summary] Hi everyone. I will do a little update: The dinner went well!

[applause]

About fifteen alumni from different sectors came. I took special attention to see who was registered. We had about 70 students registered and 35 came, which was a little disappointing, but the students who did come had a good time. A lot have even emailed me to say so. I want you to know that people had a good time. A special thank you to the councillors who helped out: Cynthia, James, and Cameron--thank you! And Jade for the graphics! It was exciting and went well! We downgraded the food to allow for more people to come.

- Upcoming Initiatives

[Summary] Moving on, my commission is gearing down this month with more collaborative events. We are working on upper year programming. An event with career strategist. Date TBD for that. Vic commuter dons, distressing events. Suggestions? Let me know. I've chatted with the Equity Commission about collabing on a Doc and Talk. Also, the dinner was quite under budget, which I'm happy about honesty. I'm very happy and thankful!

[applause]

James: Congratulations Zoe on running an excellent dinner.

Zoe: Thank you James for your help.

Arts & Culture -Blanaid McNally

- General Update (5 minutes)

[Summary] I would encourage you all to come out if you can. We have comedians who have volunteered to come out. It is tonight at 7pm in the Cat's Eye. Also, more details on Sharks after Dark--which I'm sure you've heard a lot about. We are selling discounted tickets next week starting on Monday, there are 20 tickets, and they will be sold for \$10. Our Pottery event at the Gardiner on Wednesday, we really fun, although there was not a huge turnout. I am working on getting the pieces glazed and fired.

Nick: You're doing amazing Blanaid.

Sayeh: That was cute.

Commuter Commissioner - Gabriel Calderon (10 minutes)

- Sustainability event next Tuesday

[Summary] We're planning a sustainable commuting workshop on next Tuesday, in collaboration with Sustainability. There will be DIY trail mix, discussion on how to commute sustainability, and we will be playing some documentaries on how to be sustainable when commuting.

- Pancake Collaboration with Dean's Office next Thursday

[Summary] Our collab with APD went really well. Next week we're collaborating with the Dean's office, and then Vic for Cure and Equity.

- Assassins sign-ups beginning

[Summary] Gabe said, the sign-up will be up on March 5th. The game will run from the 12th to 30th. If you have questions, contact Gabe, as I have not had the opportunity to play Assassins.

- Cupcake event at the end of March

[Summary] We are planning a cupcake Decorating event at the end of the month, date and time TBA.

- Rush Hour event in April

[Summary] We are planning for a Jackie Chan Movie Night, called "Rush Hour" (both because of the movie and because it will happen during rush hour!) It will be a de-stressor before exam season.

- UPass updates - pricing & potential referendum dates

[Summary] The UPass, which we've been working on, will cost \$80.60 per month, or \$322.50 per semester. Which is more affordable than the current pass. There will be no opt out fee, and the UTSU will begin advertising next week. VOCA will also bring out awareness about this, likely during pancakes.

Zoe: I'm on the committee helping getting the Upass out, if you have any questions I can help or get you in touch with Anne.

Jared: It is scheduled to happen next year?

Zoe: Yes.

Katie: UTSU ballot or separate thing?

Zoe: To my understanding, it is not like the referendum questions in the past that we have seen. We just need more yes than no, no quorum to reach. To my understanding, are still being worked out. Anne is happy to come to council to explain all of this with more detail as well. As a student government I don't think that we can endorse, but we can bring Anne or a rep to collab on our events. We should keep in mind when we talk to students about it that it is being run as a UTSU's current campaign. We inform students, if we want it there is a voting period.

Zahavah: In terms of whether it will be alongside UTSU elections or not, that depends on timing. The ideal is concurrently, but the main goal is to have it happening as soon as possible.

Equity Commissioner - Shailee Koranne

- Update (5 minutes)

[Summary] Jared and I are collabing on a week's worth of events to discuss how Sustainability and Equity events intertwined. From March 12 to the Thursday of that week we have a ton of events happening. We've applied to Student Projects and are just waiting to hear back so we can start ordering supplies. This is such a quick thing. We have community members coming in to do workshops, which is really cool. Including a pancakes collab! We want to introduce Vic students to the idea of reusable menstrual products and sell them at lower prices. More Doc and Talks. A full schedule will be coming in the next couple of days. Please drop by!

Also, we rescheduled our last movie screening, Girl's Trip, which a lot of people are excited about seeing, it will be happening next Wednesday. If you're around, come out. We are also looking forward to the cultural celebration for the Persian New Year, on March 21st.

And also a collab with VicPride! to have a representative come in and talk about by-standing intervention training. That will be helpful. More details to come.

One of my commission members named David has organized a panel of provincial candidates to come and discuss issues pertaining to youth and equity. It will be in the chapel in Old Vic. And we are only inviting Vic press. It's a super big deal. It will be student card entry and will be super interesting!

I will be meeting with Katie to come up with an updated caucus version, I did make a note of everything said at the last meeting and hopefully you will be happy with the way that the new form looks like. I will run the anonymous form section.

Katie: Black History Month was done so well, all month. Thank you for all your work.

[applause]

Scarlet & Gold - Stephanie Spagnuolo

- Highball Update by Alexa (10 minutes)

[Summary] For tickets, 482 assigned for people. Then, first come first serve. I encourage VUSAC to fill out the volunteer work page. The volunteer meeting will be a few days before Highball. Opinions on buses? We've ordered two buses to pick up students. We will need two volunteers on each. The plan is for one to pick up at 6:30pm and leave at 11pm. The second one will pick up at 7pm and leave at 12:15am. We were wondering if buses should be first come first serve or via sign-up sheet?

Jared: The bus system should definitely be a sign-up. People need to know how to get there.

Shailee: Maybe you should make most of the spots sign-up base. We want to be prepared for an emergency scenario. I'm happy to look into my budget for TTC tokens. I would encourage other commissioners as well.

Zoe: Are the buses accessible?

Alexa: I will check.

Katie: Do we have the uber budget that was discussed?

Artimes: Yes!

Alexa: She also wanted to go over decor and food. We have a decor schedule, it will be happening this week. Additionally, we will be getting light-up cherry trees from my old high school (they are gorgeous.)

Haleema: For food, there will be three stations at various places in the room. There is a Mediterranean station, and a pasta station and a third station (which I can't remember at this moment). For dessert, we were thinking of s'mores, but are now convinced on brownies or cookies. We are having another meeting next week, but we've planned for the food to open at 7:30 till 9pm. It will be fresh from the restaurant.

Katie: We've been taking people's dietary restrictions. When do we tell them?

Haleema: It will be labelled on the food.

Zoe: Feedback to Katie's comment, the line-ups get long. If they went into the wrong line that could be really frustrating. I think it would be a good idea to let people know when they register where the food they can eat is located.

Haleema: I will pass that on.

Sustainability Commissioner - Jared Conroy

- Update (5 minutes)

[Summary] More on the Burwash food waste campaign which I've been working with for a long time: I talked with the Burwash rep yesterday about designing material to encourage people to reduce food

waste. He sent me sizes, and within the next few days hopefully we can get those printed and placed on all napkin dispensers and above the conveyor belt. As for our progress on composting, I just want to shout out Mihal, who has been working so hard on helping make this happen. As for the letter draft emailed out to everyone, intended for President Robins, does anyone have any comments?

Zahavah: I think it's amazing. Will you accompany it with a list of action items?

Jared: I guess that is along the lines of the document discussed before. I'm not sure who to address that to?

Zahavah: It could be addressed to anyone. The Board of Regents...Director of Physical Plant...

Katie: The letter is really good! I do think that a list of suggestions would be good after the letter. The letter should be a priority. But as a resource for the future a list of suggestions would be good.

Zoe: The letter is great. If he takes up your offer to come to the meeting, we should definitely point out how we are behind in comparison to other colleges and universities.

Jared: I know Devon brought up co-signing. Should individual members co-sign, or VUSAC as a council? People's thoughts? A straw poll?

Zahavah: If you get people to sign as individuals, is that open to VCU or just VUSAC? Because then we might as well sign as a whole?

Motion: Jared moves to extend discussion time by five minutes. Devon seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None

Motion: Jared moves that VUSAC co-signs the letter as a whole. Cameron seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: Jared
- Opposed: None

[applause]

Jared: On a final note, we also have another Doc and Talk on March 21st. The movie is Okja.

EXECUTIVE UPDATES

VPSO - Nickolas Shyshkin

- [No Update]

VP Internal - Artimes G

- [No Update]

VP External - Katie C

- Updates
 - Merch and prizes/gifts (5 minutes)

[Summary] Based on survey responses, most people want another opportunity. I will set up another pop-up shop style during the last week, during Caucus. In regard to the pennants, I've been approved by alumni affairs to buy them off of us. I have a budget for gifts (as I'm running the Crescam dinner) and I just wanted to confirm with Council that we be comfortable for me buying pennants of myself to have

them as gifts for Crescam. I would also be willing to open this up to the VCU for that price too. Just a reminder, that the goal was never the profit, so the matter wouldn't be about finances, but I just wanted to ensure that VUSAC was comfortable with that.

Zahavah: I'd sell the to alumni for more than five dollars. They have money.

Katie: What price?

Zahavah: Fifteen! Or ten. Alumni have more money than broke students, so if we're selling them to students for \$15, then it should be higher for alumni. If it's bigger sale, ten makes sense.

Alexa: Have you thought about doing an Instagram give-away?

Katie: That's a great idea! We could do a shirt and a sweater in an insta give away? I think we should do more with that, if any of the commissions want giveaways in their upcoming events?

- Crescam (1 minute)

[Summary] We had a bunch of nominations. Thank you to people who nominated people. It was a hard meeting to decide. If you nominated someone or were nominated you'll get an email. We also have a few extra spots, so if people want to come.

- Murder Mystery (2 minutes)

[Summary] The don of BG, Jacob and I, have had a weird Murder Mystery thing going on since first year. Last year, when I was Burwash President we hosted a Murder Mystery night, and we're doing it again this year. It is independent of my job as VPE, because it is just an event I love and I'm getting funding not from VUSAC, but I was wondering if VUSAC was comfortable with me labelling it as a VUSAC event? Jacob wrote the story it is called "King's Court Horror" and will happen on March 22nd, in Alumni Hall. It's a lot of fun, a lot of dons are involved, but it is kind of Jacob and mine project. It could just be "Dons and Katie Cohen," but I thought it'd be nicer to have VUSAC.

Cameron: Will our Texan uncle be back this year?

Artimes: Whaaaat?

Katie: No.

Zoe: Will VUSAC be funding?

Katie: No! We're requesting money from Student Projects, but VUSAC will be voting on the money.

Sayeh: Burwash council would be happy to contribute.

- Square system (2 minutes)

[Summary] So we just approved for the square system. When I went to order it Graham pointed out that I tried to--don't look so scared, you know what this is--when I tried to get the cheaper one there was a whole other step. Anyway, we will get the square system by next week. We will have a system, it will be directly connected to our bank account and it is an exciting innovation. We need a way to secure it. Questions, please email me.

About Caucus:

Caucus is 29th of March, Thursday, 7pm. It will be in Alumni Hall, lecture style. You are all required to be there. I'm requiring levies to each give an update on what they did this year with a one page or pie chart of their budget breakdown. I will be asking VUSAC to do something similar. I want students to have resources when they ask money based questions. After dinner break, it will be broken down equity and general. Caucus is a wrap-up event as a reflection of the whole year, but not too late because everything is jam-packed. Vibhuti will be helping me out.

President - Zahavah K

- Update (3 minutes)

[Summary] The director of Phys Plant passed away in September. One was recently hired, and I wanted to invite him to our next meeting in order to (specifically) get Jared in contact with him. Second thing: March is an unbelievably busy month. I want to make sure you are all taking full advantage, or rather, leaning on each other. Support one another's events! Even if you can't physically be there. Make sure you're supporting one another and you're taking breaks. And that you're reaching out to Artimes if you need help or want to talk. Also, as we're looking at elections, please remember that when you're here that you're in the job you're in right now. When you're here, you are focusing on the job you have now. Congrats also, to all of you! Make sure you continue to appreciate one another and yourself. I appreciate all of you.

Katie: Can we also shoutout Emma's decorations that she has changed over already? They are amazing!

[applause]

Sayeh: You're all so wholesome.

Additions:

Motion: Shailee moves to adjourn meeting. Cameron seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: ALL
- Abstained: None
- Opposed: None