

MINUTES

University of Victoria Students' Society Monday, February 1, 2021 – <u>Google Meet</u>, 6pm

Google Meet meeting link:

meet.google.com/ozz-idhj-tgr

(CA)+1 647-734-6740; PIN: 467 252 978#

Google Meet specific instructions:

- 1. Please mute your mic if you are not speaking.
- 2. Please type "x" into the chat if you'd like to be placed on the speakers' list.
- 3. You will be asked to vote yes or no in the chat during motions you can always abstain if you'd like.

Attendance : De Havelyn, Tubeishat, Burd, Lowan, Adachi, Nag, Dodds, Parent, Hernandez, Ritchie, Barkowsky, Guildford, Mittal, Blecha, Tran, Muir

Staff: Talman, Hardman, James, McFarlin, Robertson

1. CALL TO ORDER

De Havelyn called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

2. LIVESTREAM

MOTION 2021/02/01: 01 - ADACHI/RITCHIE

WHEREAS the UVSS Board of Directors values the comfort and privacy of all Board members, and will only proceed with live streaming Board meetings if they pass unanimously; therefore.

BIRT the Board approves the livestreaming of the February 1, 2021 Board meeting on the UVSS Facebook page; and,

BIFRT this video be kept on the UVSS Facebook page until the minutes from this meeting are ratified.

MOTION CARRIED

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Dodds acknowledged the land.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

a. Adoption of Agenda

i. 2021/02/01

MOTION TO ADOPT - ADACHI/BARKOWSKY

MOTION TO AMEND - LOWAN/BARKOWSKY

To add Lowan, Mittal, Ritchie and Adachi's board directors' reports.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION TO AMEND - NAG/BARKOWSKY

To add Nag's Motion.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION TO AMEND - ADACHI/TUBEISHAT

To postpone indefinitely MOTION 2021/02/01: 07 – ADACHI/

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION CARRIED

b. Adoption of Minutes

i. 2021/01/25

MOTION TO ADOPT - DODDS/NAG

MOTION CARRIED

5. PRESENTATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. PRESENTATIONS
- b. ANNOUNCEMENTS

6. REPORTS

a. **EXCLUDED MANAGERS**

b. PORTFOLIOS

- 1. Campaigns and Community Relations
- 2. Finance and Operations
- 3. Outreach and University Relations
- 4. Student Affairs
- 5. Events

6. International Student Relations

COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

- 1. Electoral
- 2. Executive Committee
- 3. Food Bank & Free Store
- 4. Peer Support Centre

ADVOCACY GROUPS

- 1. GEM
- 2. NSU
- 3. Pride
- 4. SOCC
- 5. SSD

WORKING GROUPS

- 1. PIRG
- 7. QUESTION PERIOD (15 mins)
- 8. MAIN MOTIONS
- a. PRIORITY BUSINESS

MOTION 2021/02/01: 02 - LOWAN/GUILDFORD

BIRT the Board of Directors accepts the resignation of Sebastian Franco-Monroy as Director of Events, effective Friday, February 5th, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION 2021/02/01: 03 - LOWAN/BARKOWSKY

BIRT the Board elects, by resolution of the Board of Directors, a director to fill the Lead Director position of Director of Events as per UVSS Bylaw 9.5 b(ii.) effective February 5th, 2021; and

BIFRT the rules and regulations laid out in Board of Directors Policy Section 1, Part 1.d: Lead Director Vacancy are used to govern the election of a director to the role of Director of Events.

Nominees:

- Izzy Adachi
- Marran Dodds

MOTION TO RECESS - BARKOWSKY/ADACHI

Recess for 10 minutes.

MOTION CARRIED

VOTING BY SECRET BALLOT

Dodds elected via Slido secret ballot.

MOTION TO RATIFY RESULTS MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

MOTION 2021/02/01: 04 - BURD/ADACHI

WHEREAS many Annual Survey respondents indicated their interest in having more study space; and.

WHEREAS COVID-19 presents challenges to an extensive project like a used clothing store; therefore.

BIRT the Board approves temporarily designating A104 as a student study space.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION TO OMNIBUS MOTIONS 05 and 06 - BURD/TUBEISHAT

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

MOTION 2021/02/01: 05 - BURD/

WHEREAS the Munchie Bar would like to replace its old sound system with a higher quality, more robust system that will help create an even more welcoming and comfortable space; therefore.

BIRT the UVSS allocates up to \$4500 from the Major Capital Fund for this initiative that has been on the Munchie Bar Business Plan.

RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

MOTION 2021/02/01: 06 - BURD/

WHEREAS SUBtext is one of the only operations that currently does not have a Onecard terminal but testing one over the last couple months has proved beneficial; therefore, **BIRT** The UVSS allocates up to \$2600 from the Major Capital Fund to purchase an additional terminal for SUBtext.

MOTION 05 and 06 CARRIED AS OMNIBUS

MOTION 2021/02/01: 07 - ADACHI/

BIRT the following Special Resolution is added to the February 25th, 2021 UVSS Semi-Annual General Meeting agenda:

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS - GENERAL MEETING BY-ELECTIONS

BIRT Bylaw 9 is amended as follows:

9.5 Vacancies Established on the Board of Directors

- a. When a vacancy on the Board of Directors has been definitely established for a Director at Large position or the Director of International Student Relations, the Directors Board may decide to:
 - i. hold a by-election at the discretion of the Board of Directors, or
 - ii. hold nominations and elections at a Special or General Meeting subject to Bylaw 6.
- b. When a vacancy on the Board of Directors has been definitely established for an executive a Lead Director position, the Directors may decide to either:
 - i. hold a by-election at the discretion of the Board of Directors, or
 - ii. elect, by resolution of the Board of Directors, a director to fill the Lead Director position, thus creating a vacancy on the Board of Directors.

BIFRT Bylaw 6 - ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS is amended as follows:

6.0 By-Elections at a General Meeting

- a) Notice of an Election of Officers, and all available positions, must be included on the agenda.
- b) The Election of Officers shall be conducted as the first order of business.
- c) Nominations for these positions may be done from the floor, and the nominee must accept their nomination.
- d) Nominees shall provide a motivation demonstrating their suitability for the role.
- e) If there are multiple nominations, the Chair will take a vote on each nomination in the order they were made.
- f) The Chair will announce the nominee that received the majority of the votes, or, if only one person is nominated, they are acclaimed.
- g) Members shall use a majority vote to ratify the results of the by-election.

BIFRT BYLAW 4 - GENERAL MEETINGS AND REFERENDA is amended as follows, and the sections are renumbered accordingly:

- 4.8 Quorum for General Meetings and Referenda
- a. Quorum for general meetings shall be six tenths of one percent [0.6 %] of the membership subject to the Societies Act.
- b. In the event that attendance at an Annual General Meeting is more than twenty [20] but less than six tenths of one percent, the meeting will continue for the purposes of fulfilling the Societies Act of British Columbia, but shall be limited to the following items of business:
 - i. The election of officers
 - ii. report of the activities of the Board of Directors
 - ii. members' questions on the activities of the Board of Directors
 - iii. adoption of the budget and the approval of the audited financial statements
 - iv. adoption of the previous general meeting's minutes

MOTION INDEFINITELY POSTPONED

MOTION 2021/02/01: 08 - HERNANDEZ/DODDS

BIRT the following Special Resolution is added to the February 25th, 2021 UVSS Semi-Annual General Meeting agenda:

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 16 - THE GRADUATING CLASS

WHEREAS the 2021 Graduating Class voted to terminate the Graduating Class and the Board of Directors voted to approve this decision; therefore,

BIRT Bylaw 16 is struck as follows:

16.1 The name of the organization is the Graduating Class of the University of Victoria, which is a subsidiary organization, hereafter referred to as the "Graduating Class."

16.2 Membership in the Graduating Class Graduating Class active membership shall be comprised of all registered undergraduate students who have applied to graduate in the year of the Graduating Class.

BIFRT all references to the Graduating Class are struck from UVSS Policy and Bylaws.

MOTION TO AMEND MOTION - HERNANDEZ/DODDS

Friendly amendment to remove "BIFRT all references to the Graduating Class are struck from UVSS Policy and Bylaws."

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION 2021/02/01: 09 - TUBEISHAT/ADACHI

BIRT the following Special Resolution is added to the February 25th, 2021 UVSS Semi-Annual General Meeting agenda:

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 4 - GENERAL MEETINGS AND REFERENDA

BIRT Bylaws 4.5 and 4.8 are amended as follows, and the sections are renumbered accordingly:

4.5 Special General Meetings

Special General Meetings may be called at any time between the months of September and April inclusive by:

- a. A majority vote of a quorate meeting of the Board of Directors, or
- b. A requisite of five percent [5%] of the membership, or
- c. As otherwise required by the Societies Act of British Columbia.

4.8 Quorum for **Special or** General Meetings and Referenda

- a. Quorum for **Special or G**general meetings shall be six tenths of one percent [0.6 %] of the membership subject to the Societies Act.-
- b. In the event that attendance at **a Special** or Annual General Meeting is more than twenty [20] but less than six tenths of one percent, the meeting will continue for the purposes of fulfilling the Societies Act of British Columbia, but shall be limited to the following items of business:
 - i. The election of officers

- li. report of the activities of the Board of Directors
- ii. members' questions on the activities of the Board of Directors
- iii. adoption of the budget and the approval of the audited financial statements iv. adoption of the previous general meeting's minutes

MOTION TO AMEND MOTION - TUBEISHAT/ADACHI

Friendly amendment to not strike 4.5b: "A requisite of five percent [5%] of the membership." and to remove in BIRT "and the sections are renumbered accordingly."

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION 2021/02/01: 10 -TUBEISHAT/HERNANDEZ

BIRT the following Special Resolution is added to the February 25th, 2021 UVSS Semi-Annual General Meeting agenda:

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 12 - FINANCES OF THE STUDENTS' SOCIETY BIRT Bylaw 12.7 is amended as follows, and the section is renumbered accordingly:

- 12.7 Salary and Honoraria of Lead Directors
- a. Lead Directors shall be paid for services rendered during their term of office.
- b. The salary paid to each Lead Director shall be established at a rate \$18.50 per hour and increase by 1% annually.
- C. Lead Directors are required to work a minimum of 20 paid hours and may work up to 35 paid hours a week, and are entitled to paid leave and sick time as per Board of Directors policy.
- D. Lead Directors are required to submit detailed directors' reports to the Board of Directors to be included during verbal reports and in the minutes for each Board Meeting.

equivalent to the monthly rate of pay earned by student staff supervisors working a thirty-five [35] hour week.

- c. Lead Directors shall receive Health and Dental coverage during their term of office.
- d. Lead Directors who are parents shall receive monthly payments equal to fifty per cent of the cost of their childcare.

BIFRT this bylaw takes effect May 1, 2021.

MOTION TO AMEND - BURD/DODDS

Motion to have those who are likely running next year to abstain from voting. **MOTION DEFEATED**

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION TO RECESS - BARKOWSKY/BURD

Recess until 8pm.

MOTION CARRIED

RECOMMENDED BY POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MOTION 2021/02/01: 11 - LOWAN/MUIR

BIRT the following Special Resolution is added to the February 25th, 2021 UVSS Semi-Annual General Meeting agenda:

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 8 - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS

8.1 Director of Outreach & University Relations

The Director of Outreach & University Relations shall:

- Uphold and execute the values of the UVSS to the best of their abilities, as outlined in Board of Directors policy, Section 1, Part 1,
- Chair meetings of the Board of Directors, or delegate this duty to an external third party as approved by the Board of Directors with a 2/3 majority vote,
- Oversee member outreach projects and programs, including volunteer coordination, with communications and marketing staff,
- Liaise with and lobby the administration of the University of Victoria as outlined in the Constitution.
- Be the Students' Society's spokesperson and respond to media requests,
- Oversee the development and implementation of the Students' Society's bylaws and policies,
- Liaise with legal counsel and the Executive Director on legal matters affecting the Society,
- Coordinate with student representatives to the Senate and Board of Governors to advance student interests,
- Act as the Students' Society's liaison with the Ombudsperson's office, and be chairperson of the Ombudsperson Advisory Committee,
- Assist the Director of Campaigns & Community Relations in coordinating the member outreach for campaigns of the Society,
- Assist other directors in their duties as needed,
- Perform other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, policy or as assigned by the Board of Directors.

8.2 Director of Finance and Operations

The Director of Finance and Operations shall:

- Uphold and execute the values of the UVSS to the best of their abilities, as outlined in Board of Directors policy, Section 1, Part 1,
- Oversee the administration of all aspects of the Students' Society's finances, operations, services, marketing, and strategic planning,
- Raise staff issues at Board meetings, in collaboration with Excluded Managers as appropriate, Function as the chief liaison between staff and the Board of Directors, through the General Manager,

- Prepare the Students' Society's budget for approval by the Board of Directors, and adoption at a General Meeting,
- Develop all financial policies and practices necessary to effect the responsible control of the funds of the Students' Society and to comply with all applicable legislation.
- Proactively communicate relevant financial information to members,
- Manage the UVSS Health and Dental plan,
- Examine all contracts to be signed by representatives of the Students' Society,
- Work to improve the environmental sustainability of UVSS operations,
- Maintain a current inventory of all Students' Society assets,
- Work with managers to address common issues for all SUB occupants.
- Regularly review and update policies relevant to their position,
- Assist other directors in their duties as needed,
- Perform other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, policy or as assigned by the Board of Directors.

8.3 Director of Events

The Director of Events shall:

- Uphold and execute the values of the UVSS to the best of their abilities, as outlined in Board of Directors policy, Section 1, Part 1,
- Plan, deliver, advertise, and evaluate the success of UVSS events related to the Constitution, values, and purposes of the Society, Coordinate all events of the Students' Society,
- Collaborate with diverse on-campus partners, and relevant UVSS departments, to reach diverse audiences,
- Proactively collaborate with UVSS communications and graphics staff on events advertising and other outreach,
- Plan, deliver, advertise, and evaluate the success of member welcome events, consulting with relevant UVic departments as needed,
- Assist the Director of Outreach and University Relations in member outreach projects and programs, including volunteer coordination,
- Be the Students' Society's representative in all matters relating to the University of Victoria residence and athletics **and** & recreation programs,
- Assist the Director of Finance & Operations in coordinating the marketing and communications of the Students' Society,
- Regularly review and update policies relevant to their position,
- Assist other directors in their duties as needed,
- Perform other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, policy, or as assigned by the Board of Directors.

8.4 Director of Student Affairs

The Director of Student Affairs shall:

 Uphold and execute the values of the UVSS to the best of their abilities, as outlined in Board of Directors policy, Section 1, Part 1,

- Be chairperson of Chair Clubs and Course Union Councils and help facilitate new and established clubs and course unions,
- Regularly review and update policies relevant to their position, including clubs and course union policies,
- Be chairperson of Clubs' Council and help facilitate new and established clubs,
- Chair Advocacy Relations Committee and assist and support advocacy groups,
- Offer support and advice to affiliated groups,
- Act as the primarily liaison between advocacy and affiliated groups and the Board,
- Assist other directors in their duties as needed.
- Perform other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, policy or as assigned by the Board of Directors.

8.5 Director of Campaigns & Community Relations

The Director of Campaigns & Community Relations shall:

- Uphold and execute the values of the UVSS to the best of their abilities, as outlined in Board of Directors policy, Section 1, Part 1,
- Coordinate the campaigns and related media relations of the Society,
- Communicate regularly with all levels of government in order to advocate for student issues, using a variety of communication methods,
- Be the Students' Society's spokesperson on all campaigns organized by Campaigns Committee, or as assigned by the Board of Directors,
- Keep the Board of Directors informed of all government policy on post-secondary education and other issues relevant to members of the Students' Society.
- Liaise with provincial and national student organizations, with priority given to organizations that the Students' Society is a member of,
- Liaise with, and represent the Society on, external organizations, committees and coalitions, unless such duties have been otherwise assigned in the Bylaws, policies or by the Board of Directors,
- Regularly review and update policies relevant to their position,
- Assist other directors in their duties as needed,
- Perform other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, policy or as assigned by the Board of Directors.

MOTION TO AMEND MOTION 11 - LOWAN

Friendly amendment to amend motion 11 to be reflective of the following:

BYLAW 8 - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS

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The Director of Outreach & University Relations shall:

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- Chair meetings of the Board of Directors, or delegate this duty to an external third party as approved by the Board of Directors with a 2/3 majority vote,
- Oversee member outreach projects and programs, including volunteer coordination, with communications and marketing staff,
- Liaise with and lobby the administration of the University of Victoria-as outlined in the Constitution.
- Be the Students' Society's spokesperson-and respond to media requests,
- Oversee the development and implementation of the Students' Society's bylaws and policies,
- Liaise with legal counsel and the Executive Director on legal matters affecting the Society,
- Coordinate with student representatives to the Senate and Board of Governors to advance student interests.
- Act as the Students' Society's liaison with the Ombudsperson's office, and be chairperson of the Ombudsperson Advisory Committee,
- Assist the Director of Campaigns & Community Relations in coordinating the member outreach for campaigns of the Society,
- Regularly review and propose updates to policies relevant to their position,
- Assist other directors in their duties as needed.
- Perform other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, policy or as assigned by the Board of Directors.

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The Director of Finance and Operations shall:

- Uphold and execute the values of the UVSS to the best of their abilities, as outlined in Board of Directors policy, Section 1, Part 1,
- Oversee the administration of all aspects of the Students' Society's finances, operations, services, marketing, and strategic planning,
- Raise staff issues at Board meetings, in collaboration with Excluded
 Managers as appropriate, Function as the chief liaison between staff and the
 Board of Directors, through the General Manager, Function as the primary
 liaison between staff and the Board of Directors, in collaboration with
 Excluded Managers, as appropriate,
- Prepare the Students' Society's budget for **approval by** the Board of Directors, and adoption at a **General Meeting**,
- Develop all financial policies and practices necessary to effect the responsible control of the funds of the Students' Society and to comply with all applicable legislation,
- Proactively communicate relevant financial information to members,
- Coordinate Manage the UVSS Health and Dental plan and U-Pass program, including related appeals committees,
- Examine all contracts to be signed by representatives of the Students' Society,
- Work to improve the environmental sustainability of UVSS operations,
- Maintain a current inventory of all Students' Society assets.

- Work with managers to address common issues for all SUB occupants,
- Regularly review and update policies relevant to their position, Regularly review and propose updates to policies relevant to their position,
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- Perform other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, policy or as assigned by the Board of Directors.

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- Collaborate with diverse on-campus partners, and relevant UVSS departments, to reach diverse audiences,
- Proactively collaborate with UVSS communications and graphics staff on events advertising and other outreach,
- Plan, deliver, advertise, and evaluate the success of member welcome events, consulting with relevant UVic departments as needed,
- Assist the Director of Outreach and University Relations in member outreach projects and programs, including volunteer coordination,
- Be the Students' Society's representative in all matters relating to the University of Victoria residence and athletics **and** & recreation programs,
- Assist the Director of Finance & Operations in coordinating the marketing and communications of the Students' Society,
- Regularly review and update policies relevant to their position, Regularly review and propose updates to policies relevant to their position,
- Assist other directors in their duties as needed,
- Perform other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, policy, or as assigned by the Board of Directors.

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- Regularly review and propose updates to policies relevant to their position, including clubs and course union policies,
- Be chairperson of Clubs' Council and help facilitate new and established clubs,
- Chair Advocacy Relations Committee and assist and support advocacy groups,
- Offer support and advice to affiliated groups,

- Act as the primarily liaison between advocacy and affiliated groups and the Board,
- Assist other directors in their duties as needed.
- Perform other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, policy or as assigned by the Board of Directors.

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- Communicate regularly with all levels of government in order to advocate for student issues, using a variety of communication methods,
- Be the Students' Society's spokesperson on all campaigns organized by Campaigns Committee, or as assigned by the Board of Directors,
- Keep the Board of Directors informed of all government policy on post-secondary education and other issues relevant to members of the Students' Society,
- Liaise with provincial and national student organizations, with priority given to organizations that the Students' Society is a member of,
- Liaise with, and represent the Society on, external organizations, committees and coalitions, unless such duties have been otherwise assigned in the Bylaws, policies or by the Board of Directors,
- Regularly review and update policies relevant to their position, Regularly review and propose updates to policies relevant to their position,
- Assist other directors in their duties as needed.
- Perform other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, policy or as assigned by the Board of Directors.

MOTION TO AMEND - BLECHA/BURD

To strike the word "primarily" from "Act as the primarily liaison between advocacy and affiliated groups and the Board"

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION 2021/02/01: 12 - NAG/BURD

WHEREAS international tuition has been a long concern UVSS has advocated for; and, **WHEREAS** keeping with the established precedence, a letter from the UVSS Director of International Student Relations was submitted on January 21, 2021 to the UVic Board of Governors (Appendix A); therefore,

BIRT the UVSS Board retroactively approve and support the letter sent to UVic BOG.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA - DODDS/NAG MOTION CARRIED

The meeting moved in camera at 8:15pm.

10. IN-CAMERA

- a. Legal
- b. Personnel Committee Report

MOTION TO MOVE OUT OF CAMERA - LOWAN/NAG MOTION CARRIED

The meeting moved out of camera at 8:20pm.

11. MEETING TIMES

The next meeting scheduled by the Board of Directors is: Monday, February 22, 2021 via Google Meet (online).

12. ADJOURNMENT

13. BOARD DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Caleb Burd (35 hours)

- Worked on Sustainability Plan 3 hours
- Reviewed sustainability reports 1 hour
- Policy development committee 1 hour
- Correspondence with UVic library .5 hours
- Leads meetings 2 hours
- Exec 2 hours
- Finance and Operations committee 1.5 hour
- Plant based seminar 1 hour
- Operational relations 1 hour
- Member outreach 1 hour
- Classroom talks .5 hours
- Board meeting 3 hours
- Meeting with graphics 1 hour
- Meeting with MLA 1 hour
- Met with excluded management 1 hour
- Health and Dental 4 hours
- U-Pass 3 hours
- Check reqs .5 hours
- Sub Survey outreach .5 hours
- Various other emails and meetings 6.5 hours

Dalal Tubeishat (39 hours)

- Answered emails
- Held in-person and online office hours
- Had internal meetings with other directors, advocacy group coordinators, excluded managers, accounting, and graphics
- · Had external meetings with UVic administrators, faculty, and staff
- Planned for ratification and funding for clubs and course unions
- Signed cheques
- Updated and reviewed policy
- Attended Member Outreach Committee, Finance and Operations Committee, Policy Development Committee, and Executive Committee
- Responded to members' questions on social media
- Did website edits
- Planned for and attended Game Night
- Created website accounts for clubs and course unions
- Updated online balances
- Updated signing authorities list
- Conducted outreach to encourage and support candidates to the UVSS
- Did classroom talks

Sarina de Havelyn (41.5 hours)

- Chaired Executive Committee, Board meeting, Leads meeting, Electoral Committee, Policy Development Committee, Operational Relations Committee
- Worked on internal governance
- Worked with Dalal and Mariel on Equity Survey to students
- Created work orders and planned for the UVSS Game Night, Electoral Event, and the SAGM
- Prepared SAGM motions
- Responded to student questions and concerns
- Met with UVic regarding increased bursaries for international students
- Completed several zoom classroom talks
- Met with graphics on outreach strategies
- Completed actions items relating to lobbying UVic on accessibility, affordability, and equity

Emily Lowan (42.5 hours)

General

- Meeting with volunteers (1 hour)
- Operational relations committee (0.5 hour)
- Member outreach committee (0.5 hour)
- Office of Student Life meeting (1 hour)
- Exec meeting (1 hour)
- Policy development committee (1 hour)
- GVAT strategy meeting (1.5 hours)
- Preparation and meeting with Minister Rankin (3 hours)

ReThink Mental Health

Coordinate focus group (1 hour)

Rent with Rights

- Meeting with Aryze developers, advocated for student safety and affordability Divest UVic
 - Media relations (2 hours)
 - Advocacy at the Climate Sustainability Action Plan Integrated Steering Committee (2 hours)
 - Wrote a climate emergency declaration and recommendations for UVic (2 hours)
 - Committee feedback on declaration (1 hour)

Let's Get Consensual

- Meeting with all BC coalition partners (1.5 hours)
- Planning for graphics and social media campaigns (1 hour)

Dipayan Nag (32 hours)

- Meeting with UVic regarding international tuition
- Letter and testimonial for UVic BOG
- Meeting ARYZ Developers
- Meeting with other organisations
- Admin and other tasks

Marran Dodds (6.5 hours)

- Board Meeting (3.5 hrs)
- Portfolio Meeting (0.25 hrs)
- Book Club Prep (0.5 hrs)
- Meeting w/ Sarina (0.25 hrs)
- UVSS Games Night (1.5 hrs)
- UVSS Games Night Prep & Promotion (0.5 hrs)

Jana Barkowsky (8.25 hours)

- Assembled mental health baskets (5 hours)
- Attended Board of Directors meeting (3 hours)
- Attended finance meeting (.25)

Mariel Hernandez (7h 15 mins total)

- Board Meeting (3h 30mins)
- Meeting with Aryze developers (1h)
- Meeting with EQHR on EDI survey (30 mins)
- PD Meeting (1 h)
- Finance Meeting (15 mins)
- Elections: wrote outreach strategies for referendum questions (1 h)

Jocelynne Parent (3.3 hours)

Attended board meeting

Evan Guildford (3.3 hours)

Board Meeting

Izzy Adachi (2.5 hours)

- MO Committee Games Night
- Call W Sarina

Outreach Portfolio meeting

Victoria Ritchie (2 hours)

- Campaigns Meeting (.5 hour)
- Portfolio Work (1.5 hour)

Paarth Mittal (5.5 hours)

- Campaigns Committee (0.5 h)
- Anti-Racism Solidarity Letter Drafting (2 h)
- Board Meeting (3 h)

Kit Muir (4.25 hours)

- GEM AGM 2 Hours
- Meetings for Advocacy Group Policy Review and Discussion 2 Hours
- Weekly meetings with coordinator .25 hours

Jenna Lancaster (8hrs)

- Wellness Booklet Prep (2hrs)
- Planning Meeting with NSU's Office Coordinator (1hr)
- MLA Renkin Meeting Prep with UVSS & NSU (1hr)
- Meeting Prep for MLA MR with Boston (1hr).
- UVSS Board Meeting (3hrs)

Natalie Blecha (12.5 hours)

- Advo Group Policy review, editing, meetings (8 hours)
- SSD AGM prep (1 hour)
- UVSS UPASS Appeals (30 mins)
- SSD staff meetings (2 hours)
- SSD/UVSS emails and communication (1 hour)

Gina Tran, SOCC (2 hours)

- Host UVSS Game Night (1hr)
- Interview work study (1hr)

Appendix A



International Student Relations

21 January 2021

Re: International Student Tuition Increase 2021

To the Chair and Members of UVic's Board of Governors,

I am writing to you on behalf of more than 2,000 international undergraduate students who have chosen to enrol at UVic. The realities of COVID-19 (lost jobs, reduced hours and cut wages) have put immense strain on the economy both globally and at home.

We ask that you (1) freeze international tuition for the upcoming year, and (2) limit the annual tuition increase to 2% for international students for at least the next two years.

Freezing tuition this year will send a message to students that our voices have not been ignored. It will reinforce the familial bond of the UVic community while providing much needed relief for students. The reduced increases thereafter is compatible with the economic recovery rate projected by leading global organizations, enabling students to better afford their education in future years.

Over the last 10 years, international tuition at UVic has increased by 151%¹. This is much higher than the rate of inflation and coping with another tuition increase this year is simply not possible for many.

International students are not always wealthy and this perception is harmful. An example of this is how international students continue to be much more likely to use the UVSS' Food Bank and Free Store than domestic students. This has only been exaggerated by the pandemic and exposed the economic strain felt by the community.

Included are testimonials from students who have written about their struggles. They describe how difficult it will be for them to continue their education at UVic due to financial insecurity. The Board of Governors is invested in the stewardship of UVic. We have invested our faith in you and it is based on that trust that we urge you to consider the asks highlighted in front of you today.

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¹ "Tuition Fee Estimate - Undergrad - University of Victoria." UVic.ca. Accessed January 22, 2021. https://www.uvic.ca/undergraduate/finances/tuition-costs/tuition-fee-estimate.php?residency=l&level=UG&program=36

Dipayan Nag

Director of International Student Relations | University of Victoria Students' Society Unceded, unsurrendered territories of the Lekwungen and WSÁNEĆ peoples UVSS - Run by students, for students.

"As an international student, the high tuition fees have put a great financial strain on me and my family. Outside of tuition fees, international students also have to spend a large sum on settling in a completely new environment, making the high tuition much more difficult to manage. High tuition is also more punishing for struggling students. If an international student fails a course, the financial penalty on them is severe and can damage their well-being. I hope the UVic Board of Directors would consider stopping increasing fees for international students."

- Victor Vu, Economics

"2020 has been really tough on me and my family. My dad, the sole bread earner of the family is immunocompromised and had to start working from home in a limited capacity. Most of his income was through commissions and there is only so much you can sell at home. It got a lot worse when he tested positive for covid and due to his compromised immune system, he had to be admitted to a hospital and was kept in isolation. We knew international tuition was high when we decided to come to Uvic but we also expected business as usual. With businesses down, we are struggling to pay this semester's tuition. My father's health is strongly related to his stress levels and right now, it's at an all time high. My sister and I are both working 3 jobs with full course loads to make our ends meet, send some back home to our parents and pay our tuition bit by bit. Any reduction made to the tuition will be helpful and a huge relief."

Priyancy Raichada, Psychology

"My dad and siblings have reduced hours/pay right now; thus an increase in tuition isn't ideal. Additionally, if tuition is increased, I will have to stop living in Canada and go back home. Last but not least, some of the courses I have taken used old prerecorded recordings from past semesters, so we would literally be paying for old material. This is not necessarily bad, but it's not worth the increase in tuition. Also, some courses are using other universities' recorded material"

- Nabil Nazri, Computer Science

"Hello. I am Dhruvi Raichada and I am from India. I'm currently in my second year of the business program. Paying international student fees has been super stressful on my family and I. I am currently working various jobs (keeping in mind that I can only work for 20hrs off campus) along with my full course load. My father is a jeweller and due to the current situation in India, his business isn't working well. He recently had gotten sick due to Covid along with my mother. This caused him to stay home more. A reduction in fee would be a great help (even if it's for a temporary period of time)."

- Dhruvi Raichada, Economics & Business

"Hello! My name is Shilpa Parveen and I'm from Saudi Arabia. I'm currently in my second year doing bsc psychology. Being an international student myself, it's understandable as to why we pay way more than the domestic students. Whatsoever, what I think is really unfair is to increase the tuition fee during a pandemic. Most of our families back home struggle to earn. Unfortunately, due to Covid the job situation is extremely unstable in Saudi Arabia. My mom runs a salon to pay for my education, but due to the current situation, it's hard to keep it going. Currently, I have three part time jobs just so I could afford my housing & other expenses. I cannot fathom the struggle international students might go through due to Covid. Therefore, on behalf of every international student, I humbly request you to consider not increasing the tuition fee this year."

- Shilpa Parveen, Psychology

"My name is Daniel Lee and I am an international (Korean) student completing my bachelor's degree in Psychology with a minor in Business. My main financial supporters are my parents who are both Christian missionaries stationed in Egypt. My parents are having financial difficulty in funding both me and my brother's (who is also a UVIC student) education as Egyptian financial infrastructure and services are still closed due to the COVID-19 outbreak as well as support donations have significantly decreased. My parents have forfeited their savings to fund my education and be the first in my family to receive a North American degree. I wish to alleviate their financial stress by requesting that international student fees not be increased this year. We pray you and your families are healthy and safe during these times."

Daniel Lee, Psychology

"One of the biggest reasons for reducing international students' tuition fees is to help our sponsors and ourselves make ends meet. The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unequal impact on different countries around the world. It is often the case that the countries with less effective governments have the less effective measures to protect the lives of their population and also their incomes from the side effects of the pandemic. Quarantine measures, although very necessary, have put out of work not only workers that make their living out of their jobs, but also plenty of business owners. Small businesses have been specially affected in developing countries, as they often do not count with the very useful stimulus packages that other countries do. Having to manage a small business in this economic climate is certainly hard, but having to do so while paying international tuition 2-3 times per year, plus life expenses for students at UVic makes it all so much more difficult to do. In addition, the pandemic has had real effect in Canada too, many international students who had part-time jobs to help their sponsors make ends meet have found themselves out of employment. No stimulus package can make for the loss of a steady job, what we want is support from the University we have been supporting for all of our higher education. As one of the major sources for income of the University of Victoria, it would be an extremely human and sensible decision to reduce the international students' tuition fees. We are here because we want to study and become a better version of ourselves, please help us achieve that commitment."

Mario Acosta Valdez, Student

"Having studied at UVic for just under 4 years as an international student, I have faced an array of challenges in all walks of life. I can attest that it is a great place to learn and grow, however, not all challenges are surmountable and the one in particular I faced here is a financial crisis. Being a second child, my parents have to pay off several educational loans to put us through university. With the steady hike in international students tuition fee, it is becoming harder for them to financially support us. And the ongoing pandemic does a lot more harm to us that we realize, as we have been furloughed from our jobs and my parents have faced grave financial difficulties. I am sure that I speak for not just myself but a large majority of the international student community, some of whom may have been affected far worse than we care to imagine. Hence, a reduction in international student

tuition fee, regardless of the amount, would be very helpful for us and provide us with some much needed respite."

- Vineet Vaz, Psychology

"As an international student it is a dream to pursue an education in Canada however, it isn't feasible financially during a pandemic. If the university chooses to not have a tuition hike, then I'd save about \$320-\$500 per term equivalent to at least Rs.20,000. That money can be used towards medical expenses that my family is facing right now. Safe to say, I won't have to work 30hrs and stress about academics or give up sleep."

- Siddharth Pathak, Computer Science