



## **AGENDA**

### **Semi-Annual General Meeting**

Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 2:30pm PST

Zoom link: [to be added]

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORIES**
- 3. APPROVAL OF CHAIR**
- 4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
  - a. Agenda of 2022/02/17 SAGM
- 5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
  - a. Minutes of 2021/10/28 AGM
- 6. MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**
  - a. **Special Resolutions**

### **MOTION 2022/02/17: 01 - HOLLAND/**

**WHEREAS** Humanities Course Unions desire a higher degree of autonomy; and  
**WHEREAS** the establishment of a Humanities PDU will result in more opportunities and funding for Humanities students; and  
**WHEREAS** Humanities students require an organization to represent them at the faculty level, therefore  
**Be It Resolved That** the Bylaws be amended as follows (changes marked in underline):

#### **BYLAW 1 - DEFINITIONS**

In accordance with the Students' Society's usual practice, the pronoun "they" shall be used in place of he or she in these Bylaws.

- 1.1. **Chief Electoral Officer** shall refer to an individual, appointed by the UVSS Board of Directors, who is responsible for the conduct of UVSS elections and referenda.
- 1.2. **Club** shall be a group of members gathered in accordance with Board of Director policy and overseen by the Director of Student Affairs.
- 1.3. **Constituency Organisations** shall be those bodies that satisfy the requirements of Bylaw Seventeen, Articles One and Two [17.1, 17.2].
- 1.4. **Course Union** shall be a group of members enrolled in a particular department, as overseen by the Director of Student Affairs.
- 1.5. **Directors** shall be all those persons elected to direct the affairs of the Students' Society.
- 1.6. **Executive Director** shall be the excluded manager responsible for: legal, privacy, and financial compliance of the Students' Society; strategic planning; risk management; human resource management; and other duties established by the Board of Directors in policy.
- 1.7. **General Manager** shall be the excluded manager who is chief of staff and is responsible for: business management and planning; operational planning; labour relations; the operational management, renovations, and sustainability of the Student Union Building; and other duties established by the Board of Directors in policy.
- 1.8. **Member** shall mean those persons who satisfy the requirements of Bylaw Two, Article One [2.1], Clauses a b, c and d.
- 1.9. **Office of the Ombudsperson** shall be autonomous, independent and free of interference and shall be operated under the aegis of the Office of the Ombudsperson Advisory Committee. It shall serve all students at the University of Victoria, former students and persons who have applied to become students.
- 1.10. **Professional Degree Program** shall be leading to a degree for a particular profession, which is a self-regulating body to the extent that the provincial government has passed legislation to this end, and must be accredited as such.
- 1.11. **Professional Development Union** shall be a group of members enrolled in a particular professional program or faculty, as overseen by the Director of Student Affairs, known as a "PDU".
- 1.12. **Special Resolution** shall mean a resolution with voting and notice requirements as set out in the BC Societies Act.
- 1.13. **Students' Society** shall mean the University of Victoria Students' Society.
- 1.14. **UVic Pride** shall refer to the Pride Society of the University of Victoria Students' Society

#### **BYLAW 15 - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT UNIONS (PDUs)**

15.1. Professional Development Unions are subsidiary organizations as per Bylaw 14.

15.2. **Membership in a PDU**

Registration in any professional degree program or faculty shall constitute eligibility for membership in the appropriate PDU.

15.3. **Declaration of Active and Non-Active Status of a PDU:**

A PDU will be given either active or non-active status by the Director of Student Affairs of the Students' Society in accordance with Bylaw Fifteen, Article Two [15.2].

15.4. **Only the Following shall be considered PDUs:**

- a. The Law Students' Society
- b. The Engineering Students' Society
- c. The Education Students' Society
- d. The Commerce Students' Society
- e. **The Humanities Undergraduate Society**

**BIFRT** the Humanities Undergraduate Society shall not be considered a PDU for the purposes of UVSS policy until a membership fee is instituted for members of the Humanities Undergraduate Society. This is intended to guarantee a seamless transition for Humanities Course Unions.

**BIFRT** funds held Humanities Course Union Trust Accounts shall be transferred to the Humanities Undergraduate Society to be held in trust by that party, at the consent of the relevant Course Union.

## **MOTION 2022/02/17: 02 - ABUELAZM/**

**WHEREAS** over time, the majority of members elected to the UVSS Board of Directors have been from the Faculty of Social Science; and

**WHEREAS** diversity at the Board level ensures accountable governance, a range of voices and experiences, and a plurality of values is represented; and

**WHEREAS** reaching traditionally neglected areas of the campus is a critical component of member engagement; and

**WHEREAS** students deserve comprehensive representation for their student fees; and

**WHEREAS** the creation of the Faculty Director position would increase the inclusion of faculty perspectives in the activities of the Students' Society; therefore

**BIRT** the Bylaws be amended as follows:

### **5.1 Composition of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors shall be comprised of:

- a. The following directors elected by the membership:
  - i. One Lead Director as Director of Outreach & University Relations,
  - ii. One Lead Director as Director of Student Affairs,

- iii. One Lead Director as Director of Events,
    - iv. One Lead Director as Director of Finance and Operations,
    - v. One Lead Director as Director of Campaigns & Community Relations, and
    - vi. ~~Eleven [11]~~ **Two [2]** At-Large Directors.
  - b. The following directors elected by their respective constituency organisations:
    - i. Gender Empowerment Centre Representative
    - ii. UVic Pride Representative
    - iii. Society for Students with a Disability Representative
    - iv. Students of Colour Collective Representative
  - c. The Native Students' Union Representative elected by the Native Students' Union.
  - d. The Director of International Student Relations elected by international students.
  - e. **The following directors elected by membership from their respective faculties:**
    - i. **Director of Business Student Relations,**
    - ii. **Director of Education Student Relations,**
    - iii. **Director of Engineering and Computer Science Student Relations,**
    - iv. **Director of Fine Arts Student Relations,**
    - v. **Director of Human & Social Development Student Relations,**
    - vi. **Director of Humanities Student Relations,**
    - vii. **Director of Law Student Relations,**
    - viii. **Director of Science Student Relations, and**
    - ix. **Director of Social Sciences Student Relations.**
  - f. ~~e.~~ The majority of directors must be at least 18-years-old. 16-or 17-year-old directors are permitted to sit on the Board of Directors
- 5.2 Term of Office of Members of the Board of Directors**
- a. Lead Directors, At-Large Directors, **Faculty Directors**, and the Director of International Student Relations elected during the month of March shall be elected for one year terms, to take office on May 1st.
- 6.5 Election of Faculty Directors to the Board of Directors**
- Faculty Directors shall be elected by members of the Students' Society that are officially declared in the faculty that the Director would be representing.**
- 6.6 Eligibility**
- a. Nominees for any position on the Board of Directors must be members of the Students' Society.
  - b. In order to seek election to the Board of Directors, members must be nominated by not less than fifteen [15] other members of the Students' Society.
  - c. Nominees shall run for only one position on the Board of Directors.

- d. Members of the Students' Society shall not be Lead Directors for more than two years.
- e. **Faculty Director candidates must be officially declared in the faculty they seek to represent.**

#### **8.6 At-Large Directors**

The At-Large Directors shall:

- a. Actively work to assist the Lead Directors in the performance of their duties,
- b. Assist in the coordination and implementation of local, provincial and national campaigns relating to education defense,
- c. Scrutinize the activities of the Lead Directors, and
- d. Participate on at least two [2] committees of the Students' Society.

#### **8.9 Faculty Directors**

The Faculty Directors shall:

- a. **Actively assist the Board in the performance of its duties,**
- b. **Scrutinize the activities of the Lead Directors,**
- c. **Participate on at least two [2] committees of the Student's Society, and**
- d. **Represent the students in their faculty to the best of their abilities.**

#### **9.5 Vacancies Established on the Board of Directors**

- c. **When a vacancy on the Board of Directors has been definitely established for a Faculty Director position, the Directors may decide to:**
  - i. **hold a by-election at the discretion of the Board of Directors for a Director at Large that holds the position in lieu of a Faculty Director.**

**BIFRT** bylaw 1 be amended to include a definition of "Faculty Director".

**BIFRT** bylaw 6 be renumbered accordingly.

**BIFRT** these changes come into effect starting May 1st, 2023

### **MOTION 2022/02/17: 03 - ABUELAZM/**

**WHEREAS** The PIRG (Public Interest Research Group) Trust Fund has been accumulating money for three years and the UVSS needs to do something with it; and

**WHEREAS** Two searches for a new PIRG by the UVSS have failed; and

**WHEREAS** UVic Undergraduates do not have a space designed to support them in terms of hands-on learning and research; and

**WHEREAS** Access to tools and research instruments can be prohibitively expensive to students from low income backgrounds who are seeking self-guided research and learning opportunities; and

**WHEREAS** The UVSS values Social Justice, Excellence, Service, and Fun;

**BIRT** The following question be added to the next UVSS referendum with Samuel Holland as the proponent:

"Would you be in favour of repurposing the PIRG fee (\$3.00 for full-time students and \$1.50 for part-time) and the PIRG funds held in trust for the creation and continued maintenance of a

UVSS Makerspace: a workshop accessible to all UVic undergraduates that provides access to a metalshop, a woodshop, and an Equipment Library, complete with electronics tools, which lets students borrow research and safety equipment for off-site and hands-on learning experiences?”

**7. BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ REPORTS**

**8. QUESTION PERIOD (30 minutes)**

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**