

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 4:07 pm.

## 2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that the SFSS is located on the traditional, unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples, including the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Sel̓íl̓wítulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k<sup>w</sup>ik<sup>w</sup>əł̓əm (Kwkwetlem) and q̓ícəy̓ (Katzie) Nations. Unceded means that these territories have never been handed over, sold, or given up by these nations, and we are currently situated on occupied territories.

## 3. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

### 3.1 Governance Committee Composition

Ex-Officio (President) ..... Liam Feng  
Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development (Chair) ..... Ashley Flett  
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry Student Union (Vice Chair) ..... Sam Killawee  
VP External and Community Affairs..... Nancy Brar  
Philosophy Student Union ..... Nava Karimi  
Criminology Student Association ..... Henry Do

### 3.2 Society Staff

Policy, Research, Community Affairs Coordinator ..... Beaty Omboga

### 3.3 Regrets

VP External and Community Affairs..... Nancy Brar

### 3.4 Guests

Administrative Assistant ..... Hope Alica  
AVP Internal ..... Abhishek Parmar

### **3.5 Absents**

Philosophy Student Union ..... Nava Karimi

## **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **4.1 CONSENT AGENDA**

Be it resolved to adopt the consent agenda by unanimous consent.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **4.1.1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES- Governance Minutes- GOV 2023-12-11:01**

Be it resolved to receive and file the following Governance Committee minutes:

- GOV 2023-10-30

#### **4.1.2. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS-MOTION GOV 2023-12-11:02**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP External and Community Affairs

Be it resolved to ratify the regrets from VP External and Community Affairs from the December 11<sup>th</sup>, Governance meeting.

## **5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

### **5.1 MOTION GOV 2023-12-11:03**

**Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development / Criminology Student  
Association Councillor**

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

- AVPOID moved discussion items 11.1 and 11.2 to the top of the agenda and added two new discussion items to the agenda discussion: – Review of Policy Update & Referendum; CSA Councillor seconded this.

## 6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 6.1 Review of Policy Update- R.17

**SUBMITTED BY:** Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development

- This was brought to the attention of AVPOID by Temporary Operations Organizer, and this is a discussion of R17 for the committee to discuss the rules of what is acceptable or not concerning the role of the AVPs. The committee's feedback on what they would like to see regarding the AVP Policy will be required.
- AVPOID shared there isn't much, and VPs may appoint AVPs who are members in standing to assist them with their duties and portfolios, attend the meetings, and provide advice. AVP shall not give directions to staff, take, or speak on behalf of their VP, Executive committee or Council; they shall work no less than 15 hours per week and are eligible for CCR.
- AVP Internal corrected AVP by sharing the document on the website, which states zero to 10 hours a week.
- Policy and Research, Community Affairs Coordinator shared that the error on the document may have been an admin edit, and she could provide an updated copy of the document.
- AVPOID asked the committee for input on their thoughts on the policy.
- AVP Internal shared that AVPs are now required to sign NDAs, but having a general practice of whether AVPs can attend In-camera sessions in light of that would be great because, as of now, it is up to the Chair of the committee's discretion.
- AVPOID asked how many AVPs an executive can have; for example the president has 4 AVPs now and in their opinion, this is many.
- AVP Internal replied that AVPs can make zero to forty hours if there are four AVPs, and that seems like a lot. AVP Internal replied that AVPs should have the capacity to execute their roles therefore, two is the right number,

especially because new AVPs can easily be appointed, and old ones dismissed to the Executive committees. Four is a lot because of the privileges that come with that such as fobs and In-Camera

- MBBSU Councillor replied they agreed with two AVP's based on the points brought up by AVP Internal
- AVPOID asked about clarifying the duties; some parameters such as In-Camera, Chairing Committee on behalf of VPs, checking their emails, and what are some of the key areas AVPs can help in.
- MBBSU councillor replied AVPs should not have access to any confidential information that the VP has unless given to them by their VP since they are now signing NDA, especially since the Exec is their supervisor. MBBSU Councillor does not believe they should be able to chair meetings because this is a task for their VP. However, they should be able to attend meetings.
- AVP Internal agreed with everything that the MBBSU Councillor, especially because VPs are paid to carry out these tasks. Additionally, AVPs have no voting power and it would be odd to Chair when they cannot vote.
- AVPOID asked what the duties that AVPs can do are.
- MBBSU councillor clarified that in regard to the meeting, if a constituency group with SFSS Committee wanted to talk to a VP, sending an AVP in place of the VP could work, however sending AVP in place of VP at council would not make sense.
- AVPOID agreed with MBSSU Councillor. They added that VPs can delegate some of the labour tasks, such as responding to emails when they have permission and attending to questions from external groups on behalf of the VP. AVPOID asked if this is what the members were considering.
- AVP Internal agreed that if it is delegating casual and labour tasks to AVP could work for example addressing constituency questions would count as a casual task.

- AVPOID asked if AVP's can take on multiple AVP roles for example AVP for both Equity and External Executives or should AVP's be confined to one VP.
- MBSSU councillor replied that he would suggest one AVP per VP; however, there can be an exception or an additional role, not an AVP but an advisor to the VP, so that they can have more advice for the president.
- AVPOID replied that advisors would be a different issue since it is a very specific request.
- AVP Internal shared that they would like to declare a conflict of interest and agree with MBBSU Councillors points, and there may not be a formal role for that. He would not suggest duplication of the roles, for example, AVP for Equity and External.
- AVPOID asked for clarity on whose role it would be to send the Policy, Research, and Community Affairs Coordinator an email to look into the eligibility of the AVP before them getting an appointment and at what point it should be done. AVP's sign confidentiality agreements. Unionized work needs to be completed by Unionized staff and what meeting can they attend. And can AVP's request for volunteers for Outreach events signed up for by their VP.
- AVP Internal shared that AVP having access to emails, there are liability issues from having access to private information.
- AVPOID suggested AVP having access to the VP's email for example if it is forwarded to them as a task and should only be within the parameters of their duties.
- MBBSU disagreed that AVPs should not have access to VPs' emails at all; however, they can have their own email addresses.
- AVPOID agreed that AVPs would not have access to the password, for example, but would have access to a forwarded email or show them the email by having them see it in the same room.

- AVP Internal shared an AVP's should.
- AVPOID shared that they believe an AVP can reply to VPs' emails on their behalf provided consent has been provided, not staff or liaison email, and it should only be an anonymous email. For example, to respond to constituencies.
- CSA Counsellor agreed that forwarding emails gives consent to AVP's receiving and replying to an email.
- AVPOID asked what the committee thought of AVPs having access to In-camera discussions.
- MBBSU counsellor believes that it would be acceptable if it falls under the portfolio relating to their assigned VP. He added that AVPs should receive permission by unanimous consent to access fobs that access the VPs' offices.
- AVP Internal shared the only issue with Unanimous consent would lead to petty politics if a certain portion of the executive does not vote in favour of an AVP having access to the VP's offices. VPs could deny each other AVPs to slow things down by making a bureaucratic process out of receiving help.
- AVPOID agreed and shared that this can be two-thirds majority, especially because they understand the need to have consent from VPs about who is accessing their space. Therefore, this should be considered when the words are placed into the policy.
- The CSA Councillor shared that their issue was about AVP and camera. He added that if the discussion In-camera is related to their VP, that would be acceptable, and if the In-camera discussion has nothing to do with the AVP's expertise, then their attendance would not be required. Additionally, AVPs attending In-Camera should be at the Chair's discretion.
- AVPOID shared that for clarity, they will not be bringing AVP Internal into In camera discussions as this is a potential policy. They will create these policies with the Vice-Chair of the committee. This policy will have drafts for

Temporary Operations Organizer and Policy, Research, and Community Affairs Coordinator for review and then to Council.

- MBBSU Councillor stated they would like to clarify the proper procedure for when an AVP Violates rule five because, as he is the chair of OCEO, he would like that to be clarified, especially right now it is assumed the responsibility falls on the VP to assume responsibility of their AVP. Since he has had issues with this. He would like to know what is to be done when a VP cannot discipline their AVP.
- AVPOID shared that it will be made clear in relation to R5 policy, that proper steps are in place when Councillors and other members are not following guidelines.
- Policy, Research, and Community Affairs Coordinator responded that the committee could review responses that can be used to help draft the policy that can be uploaded into the drive. This can be used to start the committee off. It is the same document, but the highlighted ones are policy recommendations based on the questions.
- AVPOID shared they appreciated that there was something the committee could start off with.

## **6.2 Review of OTP 2.4**

### **SUBMITTED BY: Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development**

*\*MBBSU exited briefly.*

- Policy, Research, and Community Affairs Coordinator shared there was a motion submitted for the committee to add 2.4 and 2.4 C by adding a sentence. She added she could not see 2.4 in the last and current documents. The motion cannot be implemented because she cannot find the 2.4 referred to.

- Policy, Research, and Community Affairs Coordinator requested AVPOID to share the information so that the committee can compare.
- The Policy, Research, and Community Affairs Coordinator stated the last time a 2.4 c was in 2022, and their analysis of the situation referred to this policy's 2.4 c. Her suggestion is that if both 2.4c's can be reviewed and a suggestion streamlined to make it 2.4 but there is no 2.4c to implement the motion that was passed.
- AVPOID asked if the committee was in agreement.
- MBBSU Councillor replied they were all in alignment.
- AVPOID shared that this would bring them back to the original policy ABC and D, and C, they would be adding more events. The only difference is it clarifies for the board organizer and the incoming president who would be doing the work.

**6.2.1. Motion to suspend the rules and adding a motion to recommend a Council to adapt this change - GOV 2023-12-11:04**

**Mover/Seconder**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- AVPOID asked if the Policy, Research, and Community Affairs Coordinator could write a motion to discuss this at the next Council meeting.
- Policy, Research, and Community Affairs Coordinator asked how soon the motion would be needed since they will be on vacation.
- AVPOID replied they hoped to pass the motion now, although it can also be prepared for the next Governance meeting.

**6.3 Staff Review on Policy Referendum**



**SUBMITTED BY: Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development.**

- AVPOID stated that a call-out has been made to staff regarding their review of policies, for example, the finance team, etc. This is in relation to language and their use of pronouns because our pronouns have his or her, and it is clunky and destructive through SFSS policies. It would be easier to move towards more gender-neutral pronouns. When they review the policy, staff can provide recommendations, the committee will review them, and changes to the policy will be made.

#### **6.4 Referendum**

**SUBMITTED BY: Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development**

- AVPOID suggested that it is an Update to the Committee on how they would like to approach a referendum. This will be a discussion item at the next Governance meeting. With the upcoming election, it is possible to put forward referenda not passed in previous AGM's such as E-voting, student care etc. Committee members can consider additional referenda that may need to be passed.

*\*Break till 5:05pm, meeting resumed.*

**6.4.1. Motion to suspend the rules and adding a motion to add the motion to Recommend a Council to adapt this change - GOV**

**2023-12-11: 05**

**Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development /Criminology  
Student Association**

Whereas OTP-2 2.4(c) no longer exists;

Be it resolved to recommend that council amend OTP-2 2.4 to be the following:

2.4 A senior designated liaison will:

- a) meet with the new Board of Directors, and
- b) with the direction of the incoming President, provide an overview of the SFSS structure, mission, values, services, and strategic plan.
- c) ensure that presentations take place during orientation with direction from the incoming President on the history of the student movement and the SFSS, the Director liability and insurance, HR training, Budget overview and training on budgeting and financial statements. Other Orientation sessions must include a workshop on 'Past and Continuing SFSS Advocacy and campaigns ', 'Upholding Indigenous Inclusion and Reconciliation ', 'Intersectional climate justice and activism', and 'Racial justice, and centering Black, Indigenous and People of Colour' workshops.
  - i) Additionally, the Board Organizer is designated to in collaboration with the VP Equity, President and Executives to ensure a presentation on the historical context and continuity of the SFSS Issues Policies with an summary and context of each is held during orientation.
  - ii) Follow up development sessions on each of the SFSS issues policies must be held (including bringing in student and community groups and organizations related to them who are aligned with them as written) throughout the year on each of the previously passed SFSS Issues policies as coordinated by the VP Internal and the VP Equity and Sustainability with the support of the Board Organizer

- d) assist in setting up logistics for the Board retreat by working with the outgoing Board to approve funding for team building and annual planning.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **2NEW BUSINESS**

### **2.4 Recommendation of Adoption of Members Services Group Policies –**

**MOTION GOV 2023-12-11:06**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Acting VP Internal Organizational Development

**VPOID/ MBBSU Councillor**

Whereas Member Services Committee reviewed the Member Services Group policy and recommended that a Governance Committee review the policy;

Whereas the Governance Committee reviewed, revised and edited the Member Services Group policy on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023;

Be it resolved to recommend that Council adopt the changes as outlined in the attachment revised SFSS Member Services Group Policies 2023-04-04.

**POSTPONED**

- AVPOID stated they believe this document was shared with everyone before the meeting. They began to make changes to the policy based on comments on the document, removing policies that were not required anymore.
- MBBSU asked about good standing; is that related to being censured or impeached from the SFSS.
- AVPOID replied that it was not related.
- MBBSU wanted to find out what it means for some small clubs with twenty members.
- Policy and Research, Community Affairs Coordinator mentioned that if a member has been impeached, they are still a member in good standing because they have paid their membership fees.

- AVPOID pointed out that clubs are expected to follow the SFSS issues policy. And asked about 2.12, they wanted clarity on if it was a subsection.
- Policy and Research, Community Affairs Coordinator replied it is indeed a subsection.
- MBBSU requested for feedback form staff on whether a Member Services Coordinator on this because there are likely going to be situations where a club goes inactive and then the club funds are no longer accessible.
- AVPOID shared that the committee will likely not be able to pass this motion since there are so many questions about it.
- AVPOID asked Policy and Research, Community Affairs Coordinator about if any policies determine if a CG has a council seat or not.
- AVPOID suggested Postponing this motion to the next meeting.
- AVPOID asked about 3.3, for the Women's Centre Collective to clarify the portion or specific amount and the line items suggested. AVPOID suggested a percentage for money to go toward this policy for the Women's Centre.
- MBBSU would like to know what the current proportion or percentage is now for the Women's Centre
- Policy and Research, Community Affairs Coordinator asked about a budget being presented so committee members can review it.
- 3.4 Constituency Groups grant funding- AVPOID would like to know if the CG membership or the SFSS Membership. They pointed out that they believe it should be the CG's membership.
- Policy and Research Community Affairs Coordinator shared she will check in with Member Services staff or student Union staff to clarify the term "hired center staff."
- For 3.8, AVPOID asked about a constituency group being active; they needed clarity on what it means to be active and whether this policy was current.
- Policy and Research, Community Affairs Coordinator replied that the same staff would know, although they were unsure.
- MBBSU shared that by Quorate meeting, they can also add the number of EXECs they have to encourage the recruitment of execs by the membership who use spaces.

- AVP Internal shared regarding 3.18 that in their experience, they have approved events at under 3000, although they believe it was 5000 dollars.
- AVPOID checked if the committee was in support of 3.22 and 3.3, they then asked about 4.1.
- Under MSGP 4, DSU were allowed to spend money during crisis such as during the floods.
- MBBSU Councilor mentioned that the policy covers events not donations stated they were a little weary of donations here.
- AVPOID added that the funding is related to supporting students in other student groups who might be affected by a crisis.
- MBBSU asked a question regarding a section for donations to student groups.
- Policy and Research, Community Affairs Coordinator asked MBBSU Councillor if they would like to be tagged when an answer to his question is found and he agreed.
- MBBSU asked about eligibility for society finding, a constitution must be filed and approved. They asked if language requiring 50% of executive positions to be filled.
- AVPOID added that they believe this is already present.
- Policy and Research, Community Affairs Coordinator replied that sometimes it is hard to reconcile SFSS Policies with the Student Union constitution.
- AVPOID replied that they suggest the policies states Council and Society policies supersede Student Union Constitutions.
- AVPOID asked about the Grant funding.
- MBBSU asked that the policy be updated to include banning drugs and alcohol or marijuana and alcohol from being used from grant funding.
- AVPOID agreed.
- AVPOID asked why grants do not allow expenditure on alcohol
- Policy and Research, Community Affairs Coordinator replied that they were not sure of the mindset behind grant funding.
- AVPOID shared they will ask questions about this.
- AVP Internal shared it has been changed to a certain portion can be spent

and 10 percent of the grant can be used towards core funding and any excess grant money can be used towards other things.

- Policy and Research, Community Affairs Coordinator shared that in 2011 some groups were having challenges behind being recognized and this is the reason they believe the Group Recognition policy came up as a result.
- AVPOID stated that everything in section 7 is new and recommended that the committee reads all of this, and the committee is tasked with reading MSGP -7 and this can be reviewed at the next meeting.
- AVPOID moved to postpone this motion MBBSU Councilor seconded this.

### **3 IN-CAMERA**

#### **3.4 MOTION GOV 2023-12-11:07**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Acting VP Internal Organizational Development

**AVPOID / MBBSU Councillor**

Be it resolved to go in camera for the remainder of the meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **4 EX CAMERA**

#### **4.4 MOTION GOV 2023-12-11:08**

**AVPOID / MBBSU Councillor**

Be it resolved to go in camera for the remainder of the meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **5 ADJOURNMENT**

#### **5.4 MOTION GOV 2023-12-11:09**

**AVPOID/ CSA Councillor**

Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 6:05pm

**CARRIED /NOT CARRIED/CARRIED AS AMENDED**