



## Victoria University Students' Administrative Council

Regular Council Meeting | 23 June 2018 | VUSAC Board Room

**Called to Order:** 16:07    **Adjourned:** 19:12

### **In Attendance**

#### **Executive**

Jayde Jones, *President*

Nickolas Shyshkin, *Vice-President Internal*

Devon Wilton, *Vice-President External*

Zoe Ritchie, *Vice-President Student Organizations*

#### **Commissioners**

Cameron Davies, *Academic Commissioner (via proxy)*

Carleigh Campbell, *Arts and Culture Commissioner*

Emilia De Fabritiis, *Commuter Commissioner (via proxy)*

Georgia Lin, *Equity Commissioner*

Alexa Ballis, *Scarlet and Gold Commissioner*

Jared Connoy, *Sustainability Commissioner*

#### **Councillors**

N/A

#### **Staff**

Alexa Breininger, *Chair*

Molly Simpson, *Chief Returning Officer*

Tiger Fu, *Finance Chair*

Office Manager, *Karen Mao*

#### **Ex-Officio Members**

Zavhary Spataro, *Cat's Eye Co-Manager*

Ali Kehl, *Orientation Co-Chair*

Leora Nash, *Student Projects Chairperson*

Aloysius Wong, *VicXposure Co-President*

Kevin Yue, *VicXposure Co-President*

#### **Guests**

Kelley Castle, *Dean of Students*

Gulsum Salimova, *VCU Member*

#### **Regrets**

Rehan Vishwanath, *Communications Coordinator*



## Opening Business

### Land Recognition

Jayde explains her relationship to the land while reflecting on the fact that it is land which belongs to indigenous people. They invite everyone in the room to reflect similarly.

### Additions to the Agenda

Jayde asks to move the ratification of VUSAC's Summer Budget to occur after discussion items.

MOTION: Jayde moves to re-order the agenda so that the Summer Budget ratification occurs after discussion items.

SECONDED: Carleigh

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

Carleigh mentions that the Bob Revue directors have been hired and asks to ratify them.

MOTION: Carleigh moves to add ratification of the Bob Revue directors to the agenda.

SECONDED: Jayde

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

### Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: Alexa Ballis moves to approve the agenda as it stands.

SECONDED: Zoe

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:



## Reports and Updates

### Orientation Co-Chair, Ali Kehl (3 minutes)

Ali states that planning for Orientation is going well and thanks all those involved for their work. Some of the work done includes theme, schedule, the first leader social, updating the website, venue visits for Scarlet and Gold, club and levy involvement invitations, equity training for the Executive by both the Sexual and Gender Diversity Office and VUSAC's Equity Commissioner, ongoing work on the info booklet and postcards.

Ali invites people to direct any questions to herself or Christina Alcena.

## Pressing Items

Jared explains that there are two main roles of the Sustainability portfolio: events and advocacy. He states that the workload of doing both well requires a Co-Chair to take the lead on one role.

MOTION: Jayde moves to amend Chapter VIII, Article 16, Section 6 of the Constitution to read as presented in Appendix A.

SECONDED: Devon

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

Jayde explains that the term is "Secretary" is a gendered, classed, raced term associated with the function of minute-taking. She states that on top of this, the portfolio of VUSAC's Secretary has grown to include office management as a duty and their title should reflect this.

MOTION: Jayde moves to amend Chapter X, Article 18, Section 6 of the Constitution to read as presented in Appendix A.1

SECONDED: Devon

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

Jayde provides a summary of the Staff hiring procedures. Positions were advertised for 14 days, a Hiring Committee of 6-8 people evaluated written applications, 3-4 Committee members were present for each interview. There were 18 interviews and 26 applicants. For the Equity Co-Chair position, there were 4 applicants and 4 interviews. For Commuter Co-Chair, 6 applicants and 3 interviews.



MOTION: Jayde moves to omnibus the Staff ratification motions.

MOTION: Jayde moves to ratify Tabina Ahmed as the 2018-19 Commuter Co-Chair.

SECONDED: Devon

MOTION: Jayde moves to ratify Vibhuti Kacholia as the 2018-19 Equity Co-Chair.

SECONDED: Devon

MOTION: Jayde moves to ratify Alexa Breininger as the 2018-19 Chair.

SECONDED: Devon

MOTION: Jayde moves to ratify Molly Simpson as the 2018-19 Chief Returning Officer..

SECONDED: Devon

MOTION: Jayde moves to ratify Tiger Fu as the 2018-19 Finance Chair.

SECONDED: Devon

MOTION: Jayde moves to ratify Karen Mao as the 2018-19 Office Manager.

SECONDED: Devon

MOTION: Jayde moves to ratify Rehan Vishwanath as the 2018-19 Communications Coordinator.

SECONDED: Devon

SECONDED: Devon

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

MOTION: Jayde moves to ratify all Staff members as per the omnibussed motion.

SECONDED: Devon

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:



## **Discussion Items**

### **Goldring Student Centre improvements, Devon Wilton (15 minutes)**

Pursuant to a meeting with Jayde and Scott, Devon asks for feedback on the Goldring Student Centre. Suggestions have included permanent student spaces, a student pub, and 24/7 T-Card access to the building for Vic students.

Tabina notes that the Commute Lounger could better utilized and more accessible.

Alexa Ballis suggests decorating to make it more attractive.

Gulsum mentions that the washrooms by the Cat's Eye don't have accessible entrances but are labelled as accessible.

Ali suggests having mac n cheese more frequently available neds or at least more low-cost pasta options.

Zoe notes that the exercise room in the basement is under-utilized and says she will reach out to the Dean's Office to see about making it a meeting room for student groups.

Tabina notes that the automatic lock on a gender-neutral washroom is currently out of order.

Jayde mentions that small maintenance requests can be filed through the online form or directed to the Marg Ad front desk at any time.

### **Potential VOCA name change, Emilia Di Fabritiis and Tabina Ahmed (10 minutes)**

Emilia states that even though VOCA is the official VUSAC Commuter Commission, many people don't know that it is affiliated with VUSAC at all. She will mention a potential name change at the next VOCA Executive meeting but is seeking feedback on how to market VOCA better in a way that clarifies its relationship to VUSAC.

Aloysius asks the purpose of a name change.

Tabina replies that it is to establish VOCA as part of VUSAC, as people currently see it as a club that makes pancakes and are not aware that there exists a committee for commuters focused on programming and advocacy.

Jayde says the decision is ultimately up to VOCA but that they could consider VUSAC Off-Campus Association if they wish to keep the acronym while making a distinction.

### **Printer and printing costs, Nick Shyshkin (20 minutes)**

Nick outlines the features of the new printer and provides an overview of some printing statistics. i.e., in the last quarter there were 13,600 pages printed in black and white and 17,200 in colour. The cost of printing in colour are significantly higher and Nick suggests council discuss the possibility of increasing the pricing for colour printing to 10 cents per side. He states that council currently loses money on the printing service.



Leora notes that printing is heavily used by clubs and levies who print for free anyhow, so the cost should not be changed for students who do the minority of printing.

Tiger mentions that last year's budget ran a surplus so VUSAC doesn't need to raise prices from a financial perspective. He states that the reason people opt for colour could be because there's not price difference deterring them and suggests lowering the cost of black and white printing to 3 cents instead of raising the price of colour.

Devon states that printing is the most important VUSAC service and suggest we instead tell people directly to print in black and white whenever possible.

Emilia comments on Tiger's suggestion by noting the penny has been discontinued and that could complicate a 3 cent price point.

Jayde seconds Emilia's comment. She states that she doesn't want to charge more for colour printing as the price drives people into the office and connects them with other VUSAC services. She wonders whether providing clubs with a specific list of how many posters are needed for advertising at Vic so they stop over-printing colour posters.

Jared adds that from a sustainability perspective, seeing a decrease in printing in colour would be beneficial. He suggests regulating levy printing – for example, through a quota or a request system.

Devon mentions that he would love to know more specifically where the over-printing comes from.

Tiger returns to his earlier point, stating that 3 cents could round to 5 cents because people usually don't print one page. For a levy quota, he suggests that they email Nick for approval if they need to print over 20 pages.

Leora cautions against quotas because email is complicated and friendly relationships that respect levy autonomy are important. She suggests encouraging social media advertising instead.

Zoe states that printing is a valuable service to clubs and levies, that a quota is worrying, and that tracking usage through email isn't feasible.

Devon asks if levies could reasonably be asked to self-report their printing stats.

Zoe expresses support for Jayde's idea of providing groups with poster numbers.

Jayde agrees with Devon that knowing the source of over-printing would be useful.

Tiger agrees as well and states that it would be useful to incentivize clubs with access to free printing to choose black and white printing.

Jayde mentions that it's important to keep in mind that while VUSAC may have the money to absorb the losses it incurs from running low-cost printing services, the money that it has is all student fees. The goal isn't to earn money back, but we are making a conscious decision to spend student fees on printing services when we have these conversations; even if it is a valuable choice.

MOTION: Nick moves to extend discussion by 3 minutes.



SECONDED: Jayde

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

Kevin asks if clubs can have their own accounts on the computers, so we can collect printing statistics.

Jayde replies that technically they can but realistically it over-complicates the printing process for the general public.

### **Dean's update (10 minutes)**

Kelley describes changes to the structure of the Board of Regents Committees and describes the dissolution of the Campus Life Committee. To serve the Campus Life Committee's intended function, the Dean's Office is introducing the Dean's Advisory Committee (DAC). It will meet three times a year and have a student-driven agenda. Topics such as the Goldring Student Centre, how to welcome indigenous students to Vic, and what postering policies should be like are all welcome. There will be a Steering Committee for the DAC which will meet this summer to set agenda topics for the year.

Kelley lists the topics of four conferences to be hosted by the Dean's Office this year: racism in higher education, indigenous issues and reconciliation, loneliness in the university, and mental health.

MOTION: Jayde moves to extend discussion by 5 minutes.

SECONDED: Devon

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

Devon asks what the membership for the DAC will be.

Kelley replies that it will be set at the beginning of the year and will be mostly students as well as some residence life and registrarial staff.

Aloysius asks if the DAC members will be elected or appointed.

Kelley replies that it will be appointed and expresses a desire to see all demographics represented in its membership.

MOTION: Jayde moves for a 10 minute recess.

SECONDED: Devon



In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

## **Ex-Officio & Staff Reports**

### **Changes to Student Projects Operating Policy, Leora Nash (10 minutes)**

Leora mentions the referenda which passed to decrease the Student Projects Levy fee but notes that there is still a large surplus in fund. She is forming a Student Projects Operating Policy Review Committee and will email all interested to join.

Leora hopes to remove the cap on funding grants to levy groups, which wasn't followed last year, and to re-brand student projects. She will be making infographics on how to apply and is hoping to fund more long-term projects this year. The Operating Policy is expected to be finished by October.

Aloysius expresses support for eliminating the cap on levy requests.

Tiger mentions that groups should also apply for more funding from VUSAC, which also has a sizeable surplus

### **Elections procedures update, Molly Simpson (5 minutes)**

Molly states that the Elections Reform Committee has met and has identified the following as priorities at the moment. First, that the Elections and Appeals Committee be less biased toward the CRO and have a more relevant membership. Second, that the online campaigning playing field be levelled through the use of public Facebook pages and she hopes to find an alternative to the Facebook forum. Third, candidates should be allowed to print posters in the VUSAC Office as a form of reimbursement and postering in residence should be done by VUSAC alone to increase fairness. Fourth, policy should exist for students to run in the Spring Elections even if they've taken a year off.

Molly encourages everyone to share the Elections Feedback Survey she developed and attend the next Elections Reform Committee meeting on Thursday, June 28th.

### **Chair, Alexa Breininger (5 minutes)**

Alexa notes that the meeting packages are now available via Google Drive and linked to Facebook and the website. She asks everyone to read the enclosed Meeting Procedures document in full and draws attention to proper meeting conduct. She reminds everyone that elected members should pay close attention and be present during meetings.



## Commission Reports

### Exec hiring update, Emilia Di Fabritiis and Tabina Ahmed (5 minutes)

Emilia and Tabina share that they have hired their Upper Year Executives and their first meeting is later this week. They have restructured the Commuter Commission to have 2 Communications Reps, 2 Special Projects reps, 1 Administrative Rep, 2 Events Directors, and 1 Advocacy Director. They will hire two first year Executives in September.

### Self-defense workshop, Vibhuti Kacholia (3 minutes)

Vibhuti states that the Equity Commission will be hosting self-defense workshops three weeks into the school year. They are looking for venues, will distribute sign-up sheets at Orientation, and are advertising the event specifically to women.

Emilia asks if they'd like to collaborate with VOCA.

Vibhuti replies that this event will cater to first-years but they hope to collaborate with VOCA on another event during Commuter Safety Week.

Molly suggests advertising to people who don't identify as a cis man, rather than those who do identify as a woman to be more inclusive.

Vibhuti says they will look into that.

### The Bob Director selection, Carleigh Campbell (3 minutes)

Carleigh states that Leora and Devon applied separately but were hired as Co-Directors.

MOTION: Carleigh moves to ratify Leora Nash and Devon Wilton as 2018 Co-Directors of The Bob Comedy Revue.

SECONDED: Jayde

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

## Executive Reports

### Pride programming update, Jayde Jones (5 minutes)

Jayde mentions that VUSAC has hosted two events and will host a third. Rainbow Families with Asian Community AIDS Service was a small, well-attended event in the Cat's Eye and the



Queer and Trans Quad Social and T-Shirt Painting Party had around 40 people in attendance. The next event will be the Pride Parade and she invites everyone to come.

### **President's update, Jayde Jones (10 minutes)**

Jayde states that she works 55 hours a week on average, has had 71 meetings since entering office, excluding Orientation Exec and Orientation related meetings. She mentions the following areas of work completed: council onboarding meetings are complete, the Elections Reform Committee has met, full council met informally, two Equity Training sessions have been held, meetings have been held with all of Vic's Senior Administrators.

Jayde notes that the website information has been updated herself, online room booking is now live, maintenance requests for the office have been completed, including chalkboard pillar paint, the VUSAC garden will be up and running shortly, pending budget, she has met with Krista Steeves, President Robins, the SGDO, and Scott Johnston regarding de-gendering washrooms, specifically the third floor Goldring washroom, introduced a bursary for Commuter Orientation, negotiated the new printer contract, spoke and staffed the booth at Open Vic, have been responding formally and informally to the University's Proposed Mandated Leave of Absence Policy, and working with the UTSU for a campus-wide free menstrual product push.

Jayde's smaller projects included updated office signage, unlocking the VUSAC iPads that have been locked for three years, introducing clothing donation, e-waste, and battery recycling bins, organizing the front and board rooms, and arranging for the broken board room chairs to be fixed under their warranty.

Nick and Emilia thank Jayde for her work.

### **Action Items**

#### **Summer budget ratification, Jayde Jones (15 minutes)**

Jayde notes that the only person requesting a summer budget is herself, but that the Equity Commission has folded a line item for a self-defense workshop within it. She walked through the reasoning stated for each expense: staff hiring, office supplies and décor, and orientation.

MOTION: Jayde moves to extend discussion by 10 minutes.

SECONDED: Emilia

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

Jayde mentions the following as items of note financially: a whiteboard that would replace the Appreciation Board to hopefully make the space more welcoming to non-VUSAC members, the Orientation budget which will go toward VUSAC-branded merchandise and not pizza this year, the balcony garden start-up costs. Lastly, she draws attention to the \$1,100 cost of the self-defense workshop that will only serve 30 students.



Tiger notes that the expenses for summer printing will be included in the all budget.

Devon states the workshop costs comes to about \$73 per student. He asks if it is possible to consider using a different facilitate or asking for partnership from the Dean's Office?

Vibhuti agrees and says they will look for an approach to accommodate more people.

Tiger reminds council that VUSAC's surplus from last year is nearly \$18,000.

MOTION: Zoe moves to extend discussion by 10 minutes.

SECONDED: Jayde

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

Devon asks when the confirmed expense of the workshop can be expected.

Vibhuti says one to two weeks.

Zoe expresses agreement with Devon's concern. She asks if we can look for alternative facilitators?

Vibhuti says we can wait until after confirmed quotes to vote on this line item.

Jayde says that if not voted on today, she would be uncomfortable voting on it by email and would advise waiting until the next in-person meeting. She expresses support for not passing the line item but notes that the reason it has been proposed today is to confirm the facilitator's participation.

Vibhuti suggests leaving the budget request until more facilitators have been sourced.

MOTION: Jayde moves to decrease line item 6 from \$1,100 to \$0.

SECONDED: Zoe

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

Tiger asks for more detail on the Orientation budget line.

Jayde states that every year, VUSAC spends between \$1,500 - \$1,800 buying pizza for an Orientation event called "Lunch with VUSAC". This year, the event is not happening but VUSAC will still get to interact with students at an event called "Dinner with VUSAC and Levies". VUSAC will not be paying for dinner, though, so the \$2,000 budgeted here would be put toward merchandise for Orientation Kits with some VUSAC branding.

Aloysius asks how big the whiteboard will be.



Jayde states that it will be the same height of the appreciation wall, but wider.

MOTION: Devon moves to ratify the Summer Budget, as presented in Appendix B and amended on the floor.

SECONDED: Alexa Ballis

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions:

MOTION: Nick moves to adjourn the meeting.

SECONDED: Emilia

In Favor: All

Opposed:

Abstentions: