PAGSA March 2023 Executive Council Meeting

Time: Thursday, March 23rd, 11:30AM - 13:00PM
Where: Elliott reading room (1st-floor meeting room), or on zoom:
https://uvic.zoom.us/j/85629949670

Order of the day:
1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Minutes:
    a. Agenda February 2023
3. Chair's Remarks   Alexandre Beaubien
    a. PAGSA Google Drive
    b. GSS academic unit grant
4. External Updates
    a. CUPE   Robert Gleisinger
    b. GSS   Samuel Fielder
5. Internal Updates
    a. Tech   Samuel Fielder
    b. Academic   Scott Wilkinson
        i. SPACE
    c. Social   Fletcher Waller
        i. March event
    d. Student Affairs   Aydan McKay
        i. EDI
    e. Sports   Max Kurzner
    f. Reps   Aviv, Jericho, Charlie, Annabelle
    g. (quick) WG update
        i. Constitution   Alexandre Beaubien
6. New Business   Alexandre Beaubien
    1. PAGSA Social Media

Minutes

Taker: Samuel Fielder

Executive Members:
- Alex Beaubien - <mark style="background:lime">Present - In Person</mark>
- Samuel Fielder - <mark style="background:lime">Present - In Person</mark>
- Scott Wilkinson - <mark style="background:lime">Present - In Person</mark> (Late)
- Aviv Padawer-Blatt - <mark style="background:red">Absent - No Regrets Sent</mark>
- Aydan McKay - <mark style="background:lime">Present - In Person</mark>
- Annabelle Czihaly - <mark style="background:lime">Present - Online</mark>
- Simon Smith - <mark style="background:red">Absent - No Regrets Sent</mark>
- Fletcher Waller - <mark style="background:red">Absent - No Regrets Sent</mark>
- Max Kurzner - <mark style="background:lime">Present - In Person</mark>
- Jericho O'Connell - <mark style="background:lime">Present - Online</mark>
- Robert Gleisinger - <mark style="background:red">Absent - No Regrets Sent</mark>

11:38 - Call to Order - Mover: Alex Beaubien

11:39 - Adoption of Minutes - Mover: Alex Beaubien

11:40 - Chair's Remarks - Mover: Alex Beaubien

PAGSA Google Drive:
Successfully setup, to hold our information. We can make some sub-directories read-only, for important things, like Finances for example. The working group documents will also be found in this repository.

Action Item: Alex Beaubien to make a sub-directory have restricted access, in order to hold confidential information, or need-to-know information. This will most likely refer to credentials, and other sensitive information. This will be accessible by the Chair, and potentially the Vice-Chair. Decisions will be made once the sub-directory has been made.

Departmental Email to New Students:
We should aim to have the information pages available and live for the first email that is sent out in April:
- International Students Information
- Housing
- Mentorship Information

Action Item: Samuel Fielder and Alex Beaubien to look into this for the April email.

GSS Academic Unit Grant:
Our Academic Unit Grant has been approved, and a check sent to Susan. This will be deposited as soon as Susan is back in office.

Action Item: Samuel Fielder to inquire about the details of the new GSS Funding Stream (only one), starting in April. Is it limited to academic units that are formally set up, or is this open to any graduate student on campus.

11:48 - CUPE - Mover: Robert Gleisinger

Comments from Samuel Fielder:
CUPE to focus on RA Unionization in the upcoming academic year. There will be a large push to get motivation for this effort over the summer, with the help of many communities on Campus including the GSS.

11:50 - GSS - Mover: Samuel Fielder

Topic 1: SAGM Board Ratification
The new Executive Board will come into effect on April 1st. This includes Samuel Fielder as the Director of Finance. This does mean that the department will be looking for a new GSS Representative to sit on the GRC, as representation is helpful. However, Samuel Fielder will still be a viable communication liaison between the GSS and PAGSA for the time being. This also brings to the table a clarification in the constitution regarding the ex-officio positions. See the Working Group notes for this.

Topic 2: GSS Involvement in CUPE RA Unionization
See the above comments in the CUPE section for information. Perhaps we should invite Ted to speak to the PAGSA Exec if he has any information regarding this, through his involvement with the new Ratification of Agreement for the TA side of things.

Action Item: Samuel Fielder to post to the Grad Email List, regarding the event coming up in April (STEM Social). This will also be cross-posted to the Discord for completeness.

12:03 - Tech - Mover: Samuel Fielder

The website is now live, with enough information to get the main page populated with all the relevant information, along with a couple sections of the Graduate Student Manual.

Work still needs to be completed by the Website Committee to get the rest of the pages active and live.

Action Item: Samuel Fielder to make Header Pages for the current ones that are broken. Or alternatively, to make them non-clickable, if that is at all possible.

Action Item: Scott Wilkinson to move the Website Committee Spreadsheet to the PAGSA Google Drive.

12:15 - Academic - Mover: Scott Wilkinson

Scott Wilkinson is actively collecting abstracts and names, to run SPACE through the summer. Scheduling will depend on how many students would like to present. This could be from Monthly to Weekly depending.

Comments from the Executive Board: Another email to be added, as a final round call for abstracts. Agreement from the group to include the following information at the top of the email in regards to this event series:
- Any topic of your choice, science, non-science, anything!
- Presentations can be from 10 minutes to 30 minutes, up to the presenter!
- Presentations are not open to any faculty or professors! These are meant to be for students only, and this includes undergraduate students that may be doing a Summer RA Term.

Action Item: Scott Wilkinson to distribute email (with a one week notice) to the grad email list, with the items focused above.

Action Item: Alex Beaubien to seek departmental funding for coffee and snacks, since this is going to be a cross-population series of events (graduate/undergraduate).

12:18 - Social - Mover: Fletcher Waller

No regrets sent. Tabling.

Comments from the Exec Board: To extend the Cherry Blossom contest submission deadline into April.

12:19 - Student Affairs - Mover: Aydan McKay

EDI committee has taken names, including that of Aydan McKay. There has been no follow-up on this item since.

12:21 - Sports - Mover: Max Kurzner

Discord channel revived for March Madness pool. Ideas circulating to make blog-posts or the general building of the Sports page for the PAGSA website.

12:25 - Reps - Mover: Alex Beaubien

Annabelle:
A meeting has been scheduled for next week involving the department, and students to talk about funding issues. This meeting has yet to have a scheduled meeting time. Annabelle, as our Graduate Student Representative for this committee, will be attending.

Action Item: Annabelle to post the meeting time and date, when that information becomes distributed.

Jericho:
No updates.

12:30 - Constitution Working Group Updates - Mover: Alex Beaubien

No updates.

12:37 - New Business - Mover: Alex Beaubien

PAGSA Social Media:
The main conversation is to see whether we would like to have dead communication channels still exist, or to only keep alive the ones that are actively being used.

Have a vote to see whether or not to axe these communication channels. Main consensus from the attendees is to rid Twitter, and Instagram, as well as the "official" PAGSA Facebook Page. It is still up in the air whether to remove the Social Facebook Group, as there still seems to be posts on that platform.

Action Item: Alex Beaubien to perform a poll on the Exec Channel, to see what the Exec Board would like to do with these communication channels.

12:52 - Adjournment - Mover: Alex Beaubien

Task List / Discussion List

Task Name	Person(s) Tasked	Introduction Date	Notes	Completion?
File Storage System	Alex Beaubien	Jan 30th		Yes
Credentials Storage	Alex Beaubien	Jan 30th		In Progress
Inquiry for Department Rep Positions	Alex Beaubien	Mar 2nd	Reached out. The department is agnostic in anything related to this position.	Yes, the Working Group will take this task.
Constitutional Changes	Alex, Sam, Aydan, Max	Mar 2nd	Formal Committee Created	In Progress
Post EDI Workshop Slides to Discord	Aydan	Mar 2nd	DO NOT DISTRIBUTE SLIDES	Yes
Rental Price Inquiry SUB	Fletcher Waller	Mar 2nd		Not Started
Technical Info bring Special Projects Grant Top-Up	Sam Fielder	Mar 2nd	Specifics brought up in the Funding Channel	Yes
Student Hand-Out Information Review	Sam Fielder	Mar 2nd		Not Started

Task Name	Person(s) Tasked	Introduction Date	Notes	Completion?
Poster Template Creation	Scott Wilkinson	Jan 30th		Not Started
SPACE Program Topics and Presenters	Scott Wilkinson	Jan 30th		In Progress
Post Cherry Blossom Photo Contest to Discord	Fletcher Waller	Mar 2nd	Email sent!	Yes
Discussions around Spring Event in Discord (Pizza Party)	Events Committee	Mar 2nd	Decided to forgo the spring event.	Yes