

## **PAGSA February 2025 Executive Council Meeting**

Time: Friday, February 7th, 12:00

Location: Elliott 105 or on Zoom (<https://uvic.zoom.us/j/89355758676>)

### **Order of the day:**

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Minutes
3. Chair's Remarks
  - a. Email
  - b. Social media
  - c. Departmental review
4. External Updates
  - a. CUPE
  - b. GSS
5. New Business
6. Old Business
  - a. Supervision WG updates
7. Internal Updates
  - a. Academic
  - b. Social
  - c. Student Affairs
  - d. Sports
  - e. Reps

### **Attendance:**

Jade Fischer - in person

Ted Grosson - in person

Ben Rasmussen - in person

Adrienne Scott - in person

Bryn Lonsbrough - in person

Ruxin Barre - in person

Anya Dovgal - in person

Olivia Masella - in person

Omar Hassan - online

Olivia Moluchi - in person

Nathan Clements - in person

Simon Smith - in person

### **Call to Order**

Time: 12:04

Mover: Jade Fischer

### **Adoption of Minutes**

Time: 12:04

Mover: Jade Fischer

Second: Olivia

Notes: [January Meeting Minutes](#)

### **Chair's remarks**

Time: 12:05

Mover: Jade Fischer

Notes:

- PAGSA Email - The [pagsa@uvic.ca](mailto:pagsa@uvic.ca) email is a role based email account, that will soon be deprecated. We will be moving to a Microsoft 365 group account
  - Will have a shared folder associated with the account
  - Will have to re-subscribe to the account?
- Social media representative - the physics department is looking to expand their social media presence and content. They are looking for a student representative, ideally a student from PAGSA.
  - Ruxin interested, will check on commitment
  - Instagram: @phys.astro.uvic
- Departmental Review - Every 5-7 years the Physics and astronomy department is reviewed. The review team would like to meet with graduate students on **Monday April 7th 3:30 – 4:00pm**. Volunteers (up to 8)?
  - Olivia, Ben, Ted, Adrienne, Simon volunteered
  - Will ask for additional volunteers from PAGSA on discord - looking for 3 first come first served
  - No clue what happens in the review
  - Bryn - accreditation experience - broad overview of thoughts on program

### **External updates**

Time: 12:14

Mover: Jade Fischer

### **CUPE**

Time: 12:14

Mover: Ted Grosson

Notes:

- Tri-union meeting for upcoming bargaining period
  - improving hiring practices
  - UBC and SFU are aiming to include protection for RAs

- Aiming for better classroom conditions - better working conditions promotes better education
- CUPE stewards meeting
  - Survey planned to determine how to define TA hiring practices

## **GSS**

Time: 12:18

Mover(s): Olivia Moluchi, Nathan Clements

Notes:

- Housing expansion - 2 large buildings - ask for rooms for grad students! Liv will circulate link
- Nominations for GSS board are open Feb 10-24, voting Mar 5-7
- Society for Students with Disabilities (SSD) - requested a GSS referendum on funding amounts - will wait until next year
  - If we approve, will have to look into how funding weighting happens
- Looking for rep on search committee for Associate Dean Research Science
- Valentine's Day pub crawl - GH, Swan's, Drake, Lucky's
  - sign up for free drink from GH
- Mug painting Mar 5
- GSS went to market for lower cost for health insurance - found Student Care broker which can decrease cost 5-10%
  - vote in March

## **EDI**

Time: 12:26

Mover: Simon Smith

Notes:

- 2-hour workshop planning for early 2025 - awareness & understanding of EDI, interactive entry point for resources and support (<https://www.uvic.ca/equity/education/workshops/index.php>)
  - Wednesday Mar 19 3-5pm!
  - Looking for 10 people to confirm in-person attendance and book a room
- Last EDI survey 1.5-2 years ago
  - Propose having TAs(?) inform locations of gender-neutral washrooms - 60% undergrads don't know locations
  - Olivia suggested signs on gendered washrooms
  - More events designed as explicitly inclusive spaces - resurrect PARSEC? Look for interest in helping run

## **New Business updates**

Time: 12:34

Mover: Jade Fischer

Notes:

## **Internal updates**

Time: 12:34

Mover: Jade Fischer

## **Social**

Time: 12:34

Mover: Adrienne Scott

Notes:

- Spring semester events:
  - Spring skating event done!
  - Potential curling event
  - Potential ice rink rental
- Merch - [Merch Poll Results](#)
  - Strong interest in tshirt and mug, also hoodie/crewneck and stickers
  - Dept has stickers now though
  - Thanks Adrienne and Ruxin for submitting designs!
  - Costing:
    - Rain Coast Print Shop (local Vic) best prices
    - for groups of 10: \$26/tshirt, \$46/hoodie, \$39/crewneck
    - no minima
  - acknowledge in order forms that this is conditional on getting enough orders - refund if not enough
  - pick either crewneck or hoodie? Hoodie more popular
  - Round up price for flexibility on numbers
  - Mugs from Staples \$15 each
  - Order form by end of month?

## **Academic**

Time: 12:49

Mover: Bryn Lonsbrough

Notes:

- Research Night
  - Tonight!
  - \$108 for pizzas
- SPACE
  - call for talks next month

## **Unit Representatives**

Time: 12:55

Mover(s): Olivia Masella, Omar Hassan, Anya Dovgal

Notes:

- Updated funding table on website - increase of \$600
- Int'l student minimum support increased by gov't - there is allocated funding to meet this requirement if necessary
- UVic no longer checks thesis formatting
- Omar checking in with GAPS (TRIUMF grad student assoc.) - see if PAGSA can be affiliated

## **Student Affairs**

Time: 12:59

Mover: Ruxin Barre

Notes:

- no notes

### **Sports**

Time: 12:59

Mover: Ben Rasmussen

Notes:

- softball and volleyball both had Ws

### **Adjournment**

Time: 1:00

Mover: Jade Fischer

Second: Nathan