

SSD Annual General Meeting Minutes

**Date: February 29th, 2016
5:00pm**

Call to Order: Patrick at 5:17pm

Territorial Acknowledgement: Patrick acknowledged the territories.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Patrick and seconded.

- A member made the following request: “I would like to motion that the members of the SSD be allowed to sign out the keys for use after hours, to bring us up to par with the other advocacy groups.”
 - Seconded.
 - Patrick, for reasons of clarity, amended this motion as follows: “BIRT the agenda be amended to insert the following motion after elections: “BIRT members of the SSD be allowed to sign out office keys for use after hours, following the practice of other advocacy groups in the SUB.”
 - Seconded and carried.
 - Main motion carried.
- A member requested to amend the agenda and insert the following motion: “BIRT the SSD is a third-party endorser for Woke UVic.” Seconded and carried.
- A member requested to amend the agenda and insert the following motion: “BIRT the SSD is a third-party endorser for Unite UVic.” Seconded and carried.

Motion to approve the agenda carried.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Patrick, seconded, carried.

Reports

Chairperson/President

Treasurer/Finance Director (Acting)

UVSS Representative

GSS Representative

Member at Large

Member at Large

Finance Report

Question Period

Motions:

- I. BIRT that “A workstudy position is not considered a staff position” be struck from Article 3A of the Bylaws.
 - Seconded and carried.
- II. BIRT that “the affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of members of Council eligible to vote is required” be struck from Article 13 of the Constitution and “a special resolution of the Council is required” be inserted in its place.
 - Seconded and carried.
- III. BIRT that a new Article 35A of the Bylaws be inserted with the following wording: “Only members and associate members of the Society shall be included in SSD Board meetings, although adjunct meetings must be added before or after SSD Board meetings that include staff, guests, and speakers.”
 - Seconded.
 - BIRT “students with disabilities auditing UVic courses or enrolled in Uni 101, Continuing Studies” be inserted after “members and associate members of the Society.” In addition, “As similar groups are added, they will be reviewed by the SSD Council, which may add them to the list of groups whose members are eligible to attend meetings, notwithstanding the amending procedure in Articles 14 to 16 of the Constitution,” will be added after “speakers.”
 - Seconded.
 - BIRT “or Steps Forward” is inserted after “Continuing Studies”.
 - Amendment seconded and carried.
 - Amendment carried.
 - BIRT “members and associate members of the Society, students with disabilities auditing UVic courses or enrolled in Uni 101, Continuing Studies, Steps Forward” is struck and “persons with disabilities” is interested. BIFRT “As similar groups are added, they will be reviewed by the SSD Council, which may add them to the list of groups whose members are eligible to attend meetings, notwithstanding the amending procedure in Articles 14 to 16 of the Constitution” is struck.
 - Amendment seconded, but did not carry.
 - Main motion carried.
- IV. BIRT that Article 36C be struck and the following be substituted: “All committees, working groups, and advisory councils formed by the SSD Council must include at least one SSD Board Council member.”
 - Seconded.
 - BIRT “Board” is struck.
 - Amendment seconded and carried.
 - Main motion carried.
- V. BIRT that Article 18 be struck and the following be substituted: “BIRT Board members that do not attend three consecutive SSD Board meetings without medical documentation

or an excused absence approved by the Council shall lose their Board membership and Board status.”

- Seconded and carried.
- VI. BIRT that a new article be inserted with the following wording: “\$15,000 is set aside by the SSD annually to cover all translation services required by any student with a disability to access any SSD event or SSD Board meeting.”
- Seconded.
 - BIRT “\$15,000” be struck and “12% of the SSD budget” be inserted in its place.
 - Amendment seconded and carried.
 - Main motion carried.
- VII. BIRT that the following be inserted in Article 5:
- i. International Students Representative
 - ii. The International Students Representative will:
 - a. be enrolled at UVic as an international student;
 - b. be the liaison between international students with a disability and the Council; and
 - c. represent and promote the interests of international students with a disability
- Seconded and carried.
- VIII. BIRT that paragraph 9(b) be struck from the Constitution.
- Motion to table. Seconded and carried.

Patrick read the following statement from an anonymous member:

Recently I have discovered that the SSD is the only advocacy/peer support society which does not allow its members to sign out keys from the uvss office for after hours usage. when I asked about it, I was told that there was a safety concern -- that people using the SSD are vulnerable individuals, and it is best to have a staff member here at all times.

I think that this is a very offensive statement. in *all* the support societies there are vulnerable individuals. it defines the very nature of a support society. it is offensive to think that individuals who use the SSD space somehow can't handle themselves unsupervised, any more than the average uvic student could. As a quiet workspace, the SSD is a valuable place for students, and 4pm is very early to close down for many students who work until 7 or 8 due to work or other scheduling issues. It is a great place to study.

if the concern is for the technology, I'd like to point out that there are simple ways to protect computers, etc from being stolen. for example, libraries often tether the equipment with steel cabling. It is an easy fix.

I would like to motion that the members of the SSD be allowed to sign out the keys for use after hours, to bring us up to par with the other advocacy groups. It is frustrating and unfair that we are the only society who doesn't trust our members, and it greatly impedes the accessibility of the space.

- IX. BIRT members of the SSD be allowed to sign out office keys for use after hours, following the practice of other advocacy groups in the SUB.
 - Moved by Patrick and seconded.
 - Motion to table. Seconded. Motion failed.
 - BIRT “members of the SSD be allowed to sign out office keys for use after hours” be struck and “a lockbox be added to the SSD door and the keycode be given be given to Council members as needed.” No seconder.
 - Main motion failed.
- X. BIRT the SSD is a third-party endorser for Woke UVic.
 - Motion to table. Secunder. Carried.
- XI. BIRT the SSD is a third-party endorser for Unite UVic.
 - Motion to table. Secunder. Carried.
- XII. BIRT the SSD is a third-party endorser for both Woke UVic and Unite UVic.
 - Seconded and carried.

Elections

- XIII. BIRT nominations be opened to elect one member to the position of Chairperson/President.
 - Patrick nominated Heather Mitchell. Seconded. Heather accepted the nomination.
 - Heather was elected by acclamation and ratified by a vote of hands.
 - Patrick asked Heather to begin chairing the meeting.
- XIV. BIRT nominations be opened to elect one member to the position of Finance Director/Treasurer.
 - Joseph nominated Patrick Dwyer. Seconded. Patrick accepted the nomination.
 - Patrick was elected by acclamation and ratified by a vote of hands.
- XV. BIRT nominations be opened to elect one member to the position of Member of Council at Large.
 - Guthrie Prentice nominated herself. Seconded.
 - BIRT “one member” is struck and “four members” is inserted. Seconded.
 - Bernadette Petersen; nominated herself. Seconded.
 - Nathan Bodie nominated himself. Seconded.
 - Morgii Bear nominated herself. Seconded.
 - Terry Macdonald nominated himself. Seconded.
 - Guthrie, Bernadette, Morgii, and Terry were elected by secret ballot.
- XVI. BIRT nominations be opened to elect one member to the position of Member of Council at Large. (Tabled.)
- XVII. BIRT nominations be opened to elect one member to the position of Member of Council at Large. (Tabled.)
- XVIII. BIRT nominations be opened to elect one member to the position of Member of Council at Large. (Tabled.)
- XIX. BIRT nominations be opened to elect one member to the position of UVSS Constituency Representative.
 - Guthrie nominated Mishi Sillars. Seconded. Mishi accepted the nomination.
 - Joseph nominated Heather Mitchell. Seconded. Heather accepted the nomination.
 - Heather was elected by secret ballot.

- XX. BIRT nominations be opened to elect one member to the position of Graduate Students' Society Representative.
- Ravi nominated Joseph Sheppard. Seconded. Joseph accepted the nomination.
 - Joseph was elected by acclamation and ratified by a vote of hands.
- XXI. BIRT nominations are opened to elect one member to the position of Student Liaison/Resource Person.
- Ravi Coughlan nominated himself. Seconded.
 - Ocean Grant nominated herself. Seconded.
 - Ravi was elected by secret ballot.
- XXII. (Pending outcome of Motion VII) BIRT nominations are opened to elect one member to the position of International Students Representative.

Discussions:

Adjournment: Heather adjourned the meeting.