

# UBC Student Senate Caucus

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## Meeting Minutes for Sept 18, 2013

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<b>Meeting Location &amp; Time:</b>	<b>UBC SUB 266J, 4:45 – 6:00pm</b> <b>Meeting Started:</b> <b>Meeting Ended:</b>	<b>Date: Wednesday, September 18, 2013</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Graham Beales (Vice-Chair)</b>	
<b>Formatted and Initial Edits by:</b>	<b>Graham Beales (Vice-Chair)</b>	
<b>Present:</b>	<b>Philip Edgecumbe, Graham Beales, Barak Caracheo, Natalie Marshall, Nina Karimi, Jared Lee, Julienne Jagdeo, Tanya Shum, Veni Goyal, Anne Kessler, Tom MacLachlan, Kiran Mahal, Casey Chan, Mona Maleki, Curtis Tse (by phone)</b>	
<b>Invited:</b>	<b>Umang Khandelawi (Associate VP Academic &amp; University Affairs, AMS) Curtis Tse (Student senator and UBC Board Member from UBC-O)</b>	
<b>Regrets:</b>	<b>Cole Leonoff, Melanie McKenna, Mark Prescott, Melissa Patton</b>	

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### 1. Welcome/Introductions

Motion: That Curtis Tse, student senator at UBC-O, be invited to attend all SSC meetings effective from now to May 15, 2014.  
Moved to approve by Veni, seconded by Anne.

**Approved.**

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: That the Agenda be approved as circulated.  
Moved to approve by Anne, seconded by Tom.

**Approved.**

### 3. Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting – SSC Goals – July 4, 2013

Motion: That the SSC approve the Minutes of the SSC meeting held on July 4, 2013.  
Moved to approve by Jared, seconded by Casey.

**Approved.**

### 4. Discussion about SSC web presence

The contact information of the Student Senate Caucus is now posted on the AMS Website at the address below. As well, minutes of meetings are to be posted on the web at a page to be completed by the SSC Vice-Chair once they have been approved.

Graham is to edit the reply habits of the SSC mailing list, to place a prompt for feedback on the AMS Senate page, and to include the SSC members' committee assignments on the AMS Senate page. Nina is to check the AMS Senate email once access to it has been obtained.

<http://www.ams.ubc.ca/studentsociety/representation/ubc-van-bog-senate/>

## 5. Senate committee assignment changes for October meeting

Philip stated that if anyone knows that they will not be able to attend at least half of the meetings of a committee they are assigned to due to course conflict, etc, they need to vacate that committee and take on another committee.

The planned changes for October Senate agenda are: to remove Mark from the library committee and place him into the vacant position on the budget committee, to remove Casey from the admissions committee, and to add Cole to the admissions committee. This leaves a vacancy on the library committee.

At Senate Proper on September 18, Casey was removed from the Curriculum committee and Anne was placed onto the Curriculum committee.

Casey asked when the Library committee meets. Philip replied with the third Thursday of the month from 13:00-14:30. Casey said that he will take the position on the Library committee if no other SSC member can. Mona stated that she will get back with whether she will take the position by Wednesday September 25.

Kiran stated that she is unlikely to attend as many appeals on the Academic Standing committee as in the past due to new commitments, and asked if anyone would like to take her place. Nina asked how often the appeals are. Tom commented that the appeals take place on an ad-hoc basis; however they are time consuming and may take a whole day. Philip told everyone that if a member would like to take Kiran's position, the deadline to let him know would be Wednesday October 2.

## 6. Senate task force membership reminder – no applicants so far (to our knowledge)

There are three active task forces, they are under the auspices of existing Committees so it is most appropriate to have students from the respective Committees on the Task Force.

- 1) Curriculum Committee – Learning Outcomes Task Force
- 2) Curriculum Committee – Certificates, Diplomas and Short-Run programs Task Force
- 3) Policy Committee – Dual Degrees Task Force

A 4<sup>th</sup> task force which is soon to be convened and could have student representatives from the Teaching & Learning, Curriculum, or Academic Building Needs Committees is:

- 1) Policy Committee – Teaching days, Credit Hours and Flexible Learning Task Force

**People who decide to volunteer to serve on the task force after the SSC meeting should contact Stephanie Oldford at [oldfords@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:oldfords@mail.ubc.ca). Please cc Philip in that email.**

## 7. Review of Sep 18th, 2013 Senate Agenda

Faculty of Pharmaceutical Science Code of Conduct – Philip Presented

Philip commented that there did not seem to be a method to hold one accountable to the code and asked Jared and Casey what is done in Dentistry and Medicine. They replied that one has to sign their respective codes upon entering the faculty. Kiran commented that

compliance with UBC's code of conduct is implied by accepting ones offer to the university.

Jared asked for confirmation that the code was looking to be approved at Senate Proper on September 18, and received a reply in the affirmative.

Tom mentioned that the Code of Conduct states that it is not intended to include consequences, and that although he may not agree with the wording of the document, it was created with consultation with students and staff in the faculty. Philip mentioned that he spoke with Eric McKinnon from Pharmacy who confirmed that the code went through proper student consultation.

Kiran asked the students in Dentistry and Medicine to what extent their respective codes are enforced, and what the measures are to do so because as it stands only UBC's Student Code of Conduct may be used to punish students. She asked if UBC's Student Code of Conduct supersedes the document being questioned. Philip replied that yes UBC's Student Code of Conduct does, and that he received that information from Stephanie Oldford. He recommended confirming this during Senate Proper.

Kiran asked how the Pharmacy students will know this document exists if they do not have to sign it but did not receive an answer.

Tom asked what the discussion surrounding this document was at the Academic Policy committee and received the reply that the discussion at that level was just a formality, as many other schools have a similar document.

#### Dual Degree Program Option in the Bachelor of Commerce

Casey asked whether students' selection of major for their B.Comm. is restricted, and which type of B.A. they may receive. Kiran replied that a B.A. is awarded differently at Sciences Po, (SP), where they do not have a major, and remarked that the Sciences Po degree is a three year degree squished into two for the purpose of this program.

Kiran asked whether UBC policies, eg BoG Policy 69: Student Safety Abroad, apply to students at SP and commented that a reply to this question was not received when the dual-degree program in Arts between UBC and SP was passed through Senate.

Tanya asked whether students were required to take summer courses to fit the program into its 4-year time frame and received the answer that at least one summer term was dedicated to schooling at SP.

#### Certificates in Adult Learning and Education and Orientation and Mobility

This item was passed over due to time constraints. However, Barak commented that it is currently difficult to sort out the difference between a certificate, diploma, etc, and that is why there is currently a Senate task force working on more strictly classifying these programs.

#### Changes to Composition of Senate – Barak Presented

The Student Senator from the College for Disciplinary Studies has been replaced with a second

Student Senator from the Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies. Philip commented on the precedent set by this, as in UBC's past history student senators have been set to one per faculty, with the rest of the eighteen filled by senators-at-large.

Kiran mentioned that the SSC should bring up the issue of the voting procedure to elect faculty student senators as the results are skewed due to undergraduate societies running the election.

Tom asked why the joint Senate and Board Policy #21 – Appointment of Deans and Principals was being amended to change term lengths and received the reply that it was because of a new government of British Columbia policy mandating it.

Philip was concerned about the Student Award up for approval that was offered by Mastercard, and how it required a student to return to Africa, and how that may be enforced. Kiran noted that the spirit of this scholarship is to bring leaders back to Africa. Barak commented that to apply for a Canadian Permanent Residency you must not have received a scholarship of this type.

Changes of the voting and non-voting membership for the Faculty of Forestry – Presented by Veni

This is an internal change. The Faculty Forestry Council is only for the Graduate Student List and changes to curriculum. This motion only changes who is on the council.

VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation Chair in Breast Reconstruction Surgery – Presented by Casey

An important note is that Patricia Clugston is not going to be the chair; rather the position is just named after her. As well, starting in year six of the position UBC will grant \$65,000 to the position a year. This will not be done until year six because the first of the position's five-year reviews will be completed by then. The rest of the funding comes from the foundation.

#### **8. Policies for UBC Student Senate Caucus (SSC) Minutes, Emails and Attendance Policy**

The following is a set of policies for consideration of the 2013/2014 UBC Student Senate Caucus (SSC). These policies were adopted by the 2012/2013 SSC in September, 2012 and the SSC is being asked to consider and adopt these policies for the 2013/2014 Senate term. The goal of these policies is to make the UBC SSC more transparent and accessible to the UBC constituents that the SSC serves. See appendix of agenda for details.

**Approved.**

Student Senator attendance on committees: Student senators must send regrets to both the SSC Co-Chairs and the respective committee if they know they cannot attend a committee meeting. If a student senator cannot attend greater than fifty percent of a committee's meetings, he or she will withdraw from the committee. (See appendix). The SSC will post these attendance records on the web. Question posed to the SSC, is it with adopting this policy again?

Barak asked whether a student senator can just send regrets to every meeting as he was worried that the policy may be abused. He received the reply that you cannot as each absence counts against a student senator's attendance records.

The motion was put forward that the SSC adopts the policies as attached.  
Moved to approve by Veni, seconded by Mona.  
Abstentions: Jared.

As an aside, student senators should check their regrets for the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate Proper. Multiple senators reported that they were listed as missing even though they attended the meeting. If this is the case, student senators should email the senate secretariat to rectify the mistake.

**9. Discussion of SSC budget – What are our spending priorities?**

This item was skipped due to time constraints.

**10. SSC submission of item of broad academic interest**

Discussion of submission of item of broad academic interest to Senate with reference to SSC goals document that was drafted at April 25, 2013 meeting and discussion about

Kiran stated that this is a way to cause ideas to percolate, that such a submission was how the exam database initiative was started, and that it should probably be done with the SSC's goals for the year as well.

**11. New Agenda Items**

Mona and Natalie had a meeting with the director of the Community Learning Initiative, (CLI), which is responsible for such things as partner interactions. She was asking the SSC how she and the CLI can help the SSC to help students, make CLI's programs more accessible, and if we could bring information about the CLI to students. Mona and Natalie replied with the ideas of better recognition of transfer students and more support for undergraduate research opportunities. If any student has any feedback or questions, contact Mona or Natalie. They will be receiving data on the Teaching and Learning committee as well, and can ask.

Kiran met with the Ombudsperson for Students. She would like to meet with the SSC about student disputes with UBC and appeals committees. She will be attending an SSC meeting in October or November once the current student senators have been through a few appeal processes.

**12. Adjournment**

The next meeting of the SSC will be on Wednesday October 16, 2013 at 4:45pm.

Moved to adjourn by Tom, seconded by Jared.

**Meeting  
adjourned at  
5:53pm.**