

Date: January 30th, 2024

Time: 12:30pm

Location: Zoom/LSS Room



Executive Council Meeting Agenda & Minutes

UBC Law Students' Society is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Exec Meeting

Time: Jan 30, 2024 12:30 PM Vancouver

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ubc.zoom.us/j/65527468224?pwd=NGhleCtUODZOSlladHQwbXVGRDRxZz09>

Meeting ID: 655 2746 8224

Passcode: 503320

Attendees: Ryan Sissons, Isaac Sahota, Vaughn Beaulieu-Mercredi, Jameelah Ali, Calvin Speedie, Ashley Cruickshank, Vaughn Beaulieu-Mercredi, James Atkinson, Aki Kamoshida, Shanice Harris, Kai Rogers

Regrets: Tinashe Muzah, Abi Robillard

Agenda:

Item	Details	Action, Who and When	Vote
1 Call to Order			
1.1 Approval of Agenda		Moved: Jameelah Seconded: James Time: 12:40	Yes: No:
1.2 Approval of Minutes	LSS Exec Meeting Agenda: Janu...	Moved: Kai Seconded: Jameelah	Yes: No:

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Item	Details	Action, Who, When	Vote
2 Open Business			
Transparency Initiative	Abi Update Not discussed.		
Office Inventory	Ashley and Shanice Update Not discussed.		
Regulation Adoption	BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LSS Executive adopts the internal regulations entitled "LSS Equity Committee Regulations" <input type="checkbox"/> LSS Equity Committee Regulations Not discussed.		
Regulation Discussion	For Discussion: <input type="checkbox"/> LSS Finance Regulations Not discussed.		
Coffee Chat with the Dean	10:30-11:30 February 6th 2024. Please come prepared to discuss your roles. Not discussed.		
Careers Committee Discussions	Ryan to update Not discussed.		
3 New Business			
Isaac Sahota Conflict of Interest Discussion	Ryan: Aim is to examine the role of an active member of the LSS and the potential conflict of interest in involvement with another organization. Background - Boat cruise situation - ULDA asked Ryan about conflict of interest with Issac writing a letter about accessibility at Allard. Ryan responded with the appropriate procedures to		Yes: No:

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	<p>go through the equity committee, then AMS Ombuds, and ultimately to also bring it up with the LSS Exec.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instead, ULDA has written an open letter to the public without engaging in any formal process.- Conflict of Interest as Isaac is VP on LSS and President of ULDA. Need to discuss apparent conflict of interest as the open letter is antagonistic to LSS and specifically the Fall Gala which Isaac took part in planning. <p>Questions for Isaac</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Do you recognize there is a conflict of interest?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- They are not trying to portray LSS as a bad party. But rather than a protest, it is a request. Being ULDA president, attempted to make sure the letter did not attack anybody, but highlight a problem. As things were happening inside LSS, things were happening inside ULDA.- You do understand the letter is directed at an LSS event?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Yes.- You do understand that the letter could have been directed generally, but was directed at a specific event.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Yes. Concern was not		
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	<p>at accessibility of the school, but at the event that was brought to LSS attention. Not about accessibility at Allard, but about the event.</p> <p>Procedural questions as to why these appropriate steps were not taken by ULDA and why ULDA did not go to Equity Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: This was not under his control. It was decided based on how students reached out to ULDA. Claims a good number reached out, mentioning that they reached out to LSS.- Aki: Ryan is not asking why Isaac made these procedural decisions, rather if the exec of ULDA did.- Isaac: ULDA decided to not take any steps initially, when students reached out. Did not want students to be judged. Trying to give students a voice. Easier for LSS that this is a letter, and this is the support behind it.- Ryan: If the concern was to give it to LSS, why did ULDA not bring the concerns to LSS?- Isaac: This was not ULDA's opinion. Wanted students to		
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	<p>have a platform to say what they wanted to say.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Shanice: That is the purpose of the EDI committee: to give a platform for students. ULDA has not been to a single meeting.- Isaac: The issue is not about why this way was chosen. When ULDA takes any step, everyone is making sure that they are heard. This is decided because ULDA wanted to make sure the students that were reaching out could have their concerns heard, as well as show that there are a certain amount of students behind them. ULDA is trying to be a tool for them. This step was taken after lots of discussion. The aim was to not only bring this to the attention to LSS, but also to Allard, student body, and admin.- Ryan: This is why it is important to bring it up to LSS and Equity in particular, as they are all seeking the same thing. It is not okay for a club to bypass reasonable appropriate		
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	<p>procedures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ashley: When it comes to respective duties as execs, LSS has a duty to students at large, which includes students with disabilities. Concern that this is not about why they chose the steps that they did. Does "they" (meaning ULDA) include Isaac?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Yes. As part of the exec, wants to be involved, but there are voices. Here representing ULDA collectively. Does not want to discuss who is involved.- Ashley: If you are involved in the "they", are you not involved in that choice? Earlier discussion involved how being able to control who shows up to Equity Committee. Ryan's concern is that people need to go to the meetings they are assigned to, meaning the representative for ULDA goes to Equity meetings, which they have not. Should Isaac not ensure that people		
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	<p>who are obligated to go, actually go?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: The person in question had personal issues, and let Isaac know.- Ashley: Did Isaac let Shanice know?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: This is between Shanice and Isaac. How does Shanice know that Isaac knows that the individual didn't attend the meeting?- Ryan: As president of a club, it is Isaac's responsibility to be aware of the activities that the club is undergoing.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Wants to highlight ULDA's policy that they don't ask students for commitment, aware how it can be difficult to manage with disabilities.- Ryan: Responsibility is to know that somebody is not going to meetings,		
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	<p>and find somebody else to go, not to force somebody to go to meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Agrees. This was addressed at a recent ULDA meeting.- Ryan: Step in writing a letter has gone over Equity Committee, and now going back to Equity? Intent of Equity is to have a platform for these discussions.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: You cannot narrow their focus to this one thing.- Ryan: How can you raise a complaint that hasn't been raised in Equity, and LSS at large? <p>Kai: Return to main issue. Isaac is president of ULDA, and VP Social of LSS. Do you recognize that there is a material conflict of interest in being part of the signatory parties that are antagonistic to the LSS?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Yes. <p>Calvin: Do you think that you can perform your role in an adequate manner given this conflict? Do you think that sidestepping the Equity Committee and writing an open letter undermines the Equity Committee,</p>		
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	<p>given that it is meant to deal with these conflicts? Does this impact the dynamics with other execs who support Equity Committee, and does this undermining of fellow execs affect your relationships with the execs in the future?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: This is a conflict of interest. This is why Isaac made sure to come. This is not about trying to antagonize or target anyone. The issue on the ULDA side is that students reached out to different execs with different issues. Some people wanted to do a protest. Made sure nothing heated happened at that time, so that students wouldn't feel judged to pick one option over the other. The idea of the letter was so that the governing body of the LSS, knowing that there are a big number of students signing, is how a part of the student body feels. It was not about writing a letter to put out there. Being exec, made sure that the letter was not targeting.- Ryan: Clarifies that in Social Council, it was agreed that it would not happen next year. Cannot bind next year, but made the decision that the boat cruise should not happen next year. This event was off the table before this open letter. Ryan prepared a joint letter and proposed		
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	<p>that LSS and ULDA contribute and sign off on it. The letter says that the event was not okay, and the next year going forward should develop an idea that is inclusive of everyone, and that these ideas should be going to Equity. In addition to this, the very day before the open letter by ULDA was sent, it was proposed to Equity Committee that we address accessible events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Because of the awareness of how this would create an awkwardness for his position, there was no discussion between Isaac and Ryan.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ryan: suggested that Isaac talk to Equity, because these steps have already started to be taken. It is important to go through official channels, because going past them ignores the ideas that are already present and harms clubs that go through the proper process. This is what Equity's role in LSS is.- Isaac: Perhaps this should have been brought up to Equity Committee, but his role		
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	<p>has many things to do and it was not a priority. Was unaware of the events taking place between Ryan and Equity.</p> <p>Kai: Do you recognize that you are possibly undermining the EDI committee, and potentially stifling other equity seeking voices by undermining the power and force of the Committee?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: No. <p>Jameelah: Appears that there was a lot of miscommunication that happened, in terms of Isaac not being aware that boat cruise will not happen, especially because we cannot bind next year's decisions. For a lot of students, the route of going through LSS or admin can be very tiring a taxing, especially for the people affected by it the most. In the future, needs to be more communication within the organization and need to have oversight of events happening within equity seeking groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Went through a lot. Disconnected himself from this topic. Question is about equity. Believes that when students are reaching out to ULDA, they are thinking that Equity Committee is not doing their job. In ULDA, the atmosphere became one that was focused on writing an open letter in November. Did not think of another option. Thinks that he made Ryan aware of the letter. Because of many things happening as VP		
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	<p>Social, did not connect with Equity or anyone personally regarding this issue. People were under the impression that the boat cruise may keep going. Difficult for each years' students to bring an issue up, so thought this was how it should go. Stated there was no purpose in writing this letter after knowing what Isaac now knows about boat cruise being essentially cancelled for next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ryan: Read the drafted letter to gauge if it is representative of ULDA's concerns, about an evolution to a boat cruise by hosting a Fall Gala. Commitment to foster an inclusive community. LSS and ULDA will be taking steps to make sure the concerning events going forward will be more inclusive, and will encourage successors to develop a new tradition to replace the boat cruise. This letter discusses not only the one event, but discusses amendments to the constitution of the LSS that were already being developed in response to conflicts with the Ombuds role and the desire to improve EDI at Allard. This amendment was to add an additional EDI role on the LSS.- Isaac: This was what ULDA was trying to do. Has no issue with the letter. The		
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	<p>conclusion is the same. Would like Ryan to attend an ULDA meeting. Will let ULDA know the content of the letter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ryan: Are you in favour of eliminating the open letter, and instead publishing the joint letter that was just read?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Yes.- Ryan: You will bring this up to ULDA, and promote them going to Equity Committee? Especially the next one, as it is where we are addressing accessibility concerns?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Yes. Hopes that they will be there.- Ryan: You cannot speak on behalf of the ULDA exec at this time?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Yes.- Ryan: You personally are in agreement that this open letter will be on hold until ULDA and LSS can agree on the letter going forward?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Yes. Thought that this was communicated with Ryan in November, then was hands-off. Does not think the open letter holds any value when ULDA and LSS can write one together.- Ryan: If ULDA does not agree to do the joint letter, and instead agrees to do the open letter still, what is your intended action at that point?		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Instead of thinking about that, thinks that ULDA has reasonable people. Because this is the same letter, but by two groups, doesn't think that people will be opposed to it. But will be talking to Ryan.- Ryan: Needs to see if this discussion needs to enter in camera. Is your intent to stick with ULDA's decision, or will you step down from ULDA and advocate for LSS's position?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: This will be a decision that will need to be made. It is a conflict of interest, and will make sure that he is not involved with the ULDA letter or ULDA.- Ryan: So, you would step down from ULDA?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Yes.- Aki: Point of clarification: you are resigning as president of the ULDA if the open letter by the ULDA goes forward?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Yes. <p>Calvin: Request that the EDI Committee and Shanice be involved in the discussion between LSS and the ULDA. Best thing to do going forward is to strengthen the process, and make changes if it is discovered they are needed. No discussion should be held</p>		
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	<p>without Shanice, as it is her role.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: Seconds the idea. Agreement that he should have first gone to Shanice.- Ryan: For next steps, Equity meets on Feb. 7 at 12:30. For that meeting, if possible, it would be beneficial for Ryan and Shanice at the minimum, to have a meeting with all of ULDA exec to discuss this letter, the content of it, and its delivery. Preference is to do this before the next Equity meeting. Is this something that can be accomplished?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: After this meeting, will propose the idea to ULDA. Hopes to make this meeting happen.- Ashley: Based on the conversation, Isaac seems to intend to fix any shortcomings in the process that happened. The representative of ULDA is in the Equity Committee messaging platform. Suggests open and clear communication lines with the individual representing ULDA. If it is not by that individual, it needs to be by somebody else representing ULDA to ensure Equity Committee is attended or at least interacted with.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Isaac: This is telling ULDA how to work. ULDA is a different group. ULDA does not go into the procedural work (making sure people go to meetings		
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	<p>or doing certain tasks). Once you become a member, there is no time commitment. ULDA does not allow Isaac to reach out to an individual.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ashley: Does not want to state how ULDA works, but ULDA should be encouraged to keep clear and open communication lines. <p>-- In camera discussion --</p> <p>Ryan: if joint letter does not go through, will discuss further steps with Isaac. Cannot ask Isaac to step down from ULDA president, but will make request for him to step down from VP Social role if he stays with ULDA and they choose to do the open letter and not the joint letter. This is something Isaac should give thought to. Hope is that joint letter option will be pursued though and that the conflict of interest can be avoided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Isaac: Agrees. This is a decision he will have to make. Will inform ULDA exec about this meeting and open letter. - Ryan: Any communication going forward should include Shanice, as ombudsperson. 		
In Camera Discussion	Entry into in camera discussion. Isaac leaves meeting.	Moved: Seconded:	
LSS Finance Update	Calvin to update	Not discussed.	Yes: No:

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4 Updates			
Student Fee Review Ad Hoc Committee	Not discussed.	Lead: Ryan	
Constitutional Reform Ad Hoc Committee	Not discussed.	Lead: Aki Secondary: Kai	
Grad Committee	Not discussed.	Lead: Sarah and Brittney	
Academic Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Working on getting student satisfaction survey out so we can prep for upcoming town halls- Meeting with the Dean to talk about EDI and steps that Allard can take to address anti-Black racism as well as issues surrounding race in general in Allard- Talking to CSO (upcoming meeting) to talk about the ways in which OCI's are conducted as well as how students are not really consulted when they make their decisions- ILSA Seat: looking towards next steps for how to address the overall importance of student advocacy on committees (the impression that I got was that most staff don't think students need to have advocacy roles on committees and that there is nothing for students to do on committees.- Reaching out to Kaila to get a more specific survey out to get	Lead: Jameelah Secondary: Ryan	

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	feedback for ISLR due to students concerns and complaints that we had received this year		
Careers Committee	Not discussed.	Lead: Tinashe	
ILSA Update	Not discussed.	Lead: Vaughn	
Social Update	Not discussed.	Lead: Isaac Secondary: Ryan	
Equity Update	Not discussed.	Lead: Shanice and Vaughn	
Wellness Update	Not discussed.	Lead: Ashley	
Senate	Not discussed.	Lead: Kai	
AMS	Not discussed.	Lead: Aki	
5 Adjournment			
5.1 Meeting adjourned		Moved: Jameelah Seconded: Kai Time: 13:59	
5.2 Minutes		Hugo	

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