



UVic ESS Council Weekly Meeting
 Nov. 4th, 2021
 ESS Office and Google Hangouts

Council Members not in attendance:
 ● VP Internal, VP Finance

Territory Acknowledgment

We acknowledge and respect the lək'wəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

FINGER RULES



New Topic



Direct Response



Point of Clarification



Hangloose

1. Call to order

This meeting was called to order at 6:10pm, with Jessica Hubbbbbbbs as the chair and Sam Morrow as the secretary.

2. Adoption of the agenda and approval of previous minutes

BIRT the agenda be approved for the Nov. 4th meeting, as shown.
 BIFRT the minutes be approved for the Oct. 21st meeting, as circulated.
 Mover: Jessica Secunder: Abdul Result: Passed Unanimously

3. Presentations & Private Members' Business (Secretary's note - new section in the agenda!)

Note on notation - red means text was added by the secretary before the meeting, blue means text was added during the meeting

Samuel Holland

- Senate representative, rep on the senate committee for libraries, which consults the university librarian
- The library doesnt like contacting/engaging with students, so we are trying to get course unions to facilitate reaching out to students
- Unsure as to how eng students communicate with libraries
- They are removing function summon in around june
- Asking for a liaison to read library newsletters, contact, etc. to ensure the students know about relevant library business
 - What kind of workload? The workload is fairly small.
 - Are they replacing summon? They are replacing it, but unknown as to what is being replaced.
 - Also replacing voyager (1996 program to search books)
 - [Jessica opens discord for questions and a picture of Barry from the bee movie shows up]
- Added by the secretary pre-meeting: A presentation/word from Samuel Holland about communication with the Library, alongside two possible motions. Since he cannot move them as

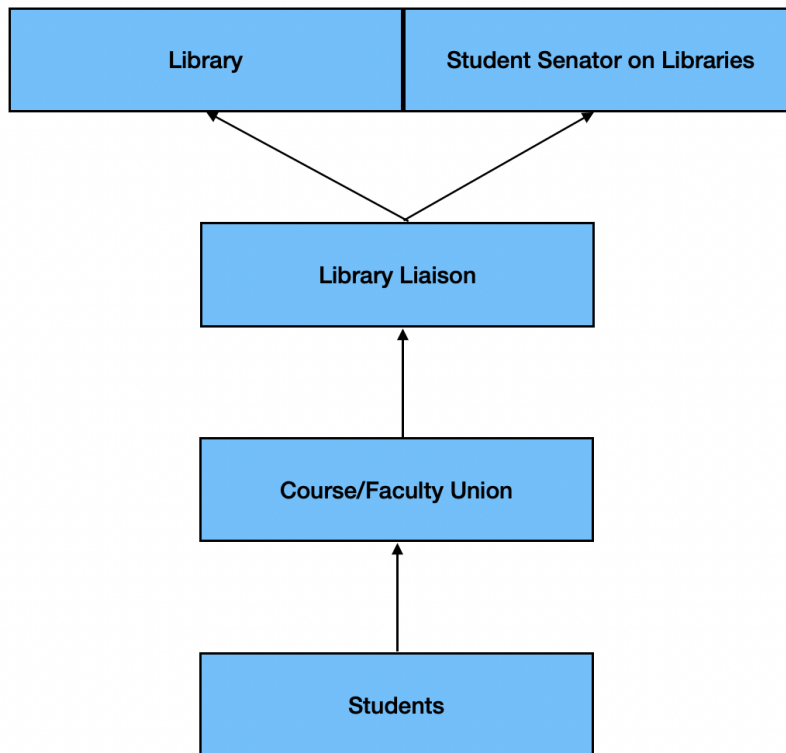


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someone not part of council, the draft motions are posted below this paragraph, taken from the original letter sent to me ([Untitled document](#)).

- BIRT the Course Union shall choose a Director to add “Library Liaison” as part of their portfolio. The Liaison will be a point of contact for library staff, as well as students seeking help with navigating the library. The Liaison shall be responsible for communicating relevant information from the libraries to the Course Union and student body. The Liaison shall subscribe to The Amperstand, the Library newsletter (<https://www.uvic.ca/library/about/home/newsletter>).
- BIRT the Course Union edit as relevant, endorse, and sign the attached letter, and send it to the University Secretary and the University Librarian, as well as the student representatives on the Senate Committee on Libraries. The official contact information of the relevant director shall be added.



- Discussion Points

-



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Michael John Lo (MJ)

- On the board of the poli sci course union
- Here b/c hes chairing a subcommittee that has been established to facilitate a public response to what happened at the AGM in support of including all faculties on the board.
- At the moment, no public response, but recommending it is postponed to november 3rd either to continue next week to determine the public response.
- Bring it back to the board at tomorrow's meeting
- Events at the AGM were heavily influenced by ECS students and the ESS, so providing the minutes to that subcommittee in the spirit of transparency is good, so if folks want to read through it, go ahead! Also ask questions! He is here to consult (he founded the subcommittee). Also he has a sick man bun.
 - Abdul thinks we should try and get something like this; while the situation is kind of up in the air waiting for the UVSS's response, we should try to get as many students involved and invested as possible, since there has been some chatter from the UVSS board members about this not happening.
 - Jessica asks where the landed - in favour of doing a response or not?
 - In favour of an open letter as a public response, unable to perform a public response *right now*. Looking for response from the ESS and feedback (more drama? Useful? Helpful? etc.).
 - Is this about the motion that passed or the motion that failed at the AGM?
 - This is about the motion that was passed (the one to put representative directors from each faculty).
 - As the poli sci course union, they are interested in responding.
 - Jessica feels like (her opinion): [proceeds to forget what she was going to say]
 - She remembers! She thinks we should not blow this out of proportion and not make this a huge deal. It did pass, and we want to see their response, but also as abdul said, we want to voice our support that this is beneficial
 - Further agreement from Kali, in favour of facilitating a response
 - MJ wants to clear it up to see what the ESS's response should be, to bring back to the poli sci board to see what they think
 - Abdul thinks it's complex and he def thinks that a lot of other course unions support this. He agrees that private responses are very good for "us", but he also doesnt know how the UVSS will respond. We have to hit that balance between not blowing it out of proportion and having a unified student response in favour of this.
 - Russell is confused as to what the goal is. Is this for an open letter, or something private, or take any action at all?



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- We just need a response to say “we want the uvss to rep all faculties”.
 - And he wants to know from us what we think of that?
 - MJ wants to know if we are in favour of putting an open letter about our opinion on this, in response to the AGM.
- Russell wants to abstain because he has no say on poli sci students.
 - This is just a request to know what the gut feeling is on this. This is them asking us what we think.
- Jessica thinks, like russell said, it is up to the poli sci students to determine what they think, not the engineering student society. As for the open letter vs. private response, the only hesitation for an open letter is making it a big deal and making it seem like we are “ganging up” on the UVSS, which isn’t necessarily what we want to do. While we have differing opinions, we want to be unified in this, not “you need to change this because everything is horrible”. We want to convey support, not hostility.
 - To clarify: the content of the letter has been written with care, spent 2h talking abt it until we realized that we don thave enough info
- Kali agrees with what Jessica said and that we want a unified campus. Personal opinion is that it might be best to figure out what their response is before we take action. (they being the UVSS)
- Abdul thinks the consensus is “we dont want to be combative unless they give us a reason, so let’s wait for their response and see if they will carry out the motion”. If they are just going to do it, we shouldn’t try and preemptively gang up on them.
- Jeremy asks why it has to be antagonistic? We could congratulate them if they actually go through with it.
- Sam asks what if we dont know when they respond?
 - Kali thinks we should proactively ask them what they plan on doing.
 - Abdul knows the martlet asked them what they are doing and the UVSS said they still havent discussed it and they will get back to them. They havent brought it up in the policy writing committee and havent put it in any public minutes. Abdul doesnt think they will be public with their response anytime soon. We should put a time limit for them to give us a response.
 - MJ understands the UVSS is planning to put something out by the end of friday, but that is just a rumours. Mere hearsay!
 - Abdul says maybe he can brainstorm a quick motion saying our official stance is to wait until a week from now or so, see what they say, and if they dont talk about it at all, or they say they wont do it, then open letter. If they confirm they will do it, then we send a supportive open letter. Everybody hangs loose at this idea.
 - No unofficial opposition in the ESS to this.



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- UPS open letter
 - We should send a letter of support or something
 - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rtB7IS_dEHMyf1tINGpdkCX8QWB5PC7nQBcnQ_bJbjA/edit
 - Seems like it would help
- Move to deal with Associate Member motion
 - Passed without dissent?
- Thanks for being here!

4. Updates from the Council Members

President

- Updates from Blake (Mech Student Rep)
 - We have a new section for a reason smh jessica
 - Mech is moving to a flexible core that will start in fall 2022, basically certain courses only offered in spring/fall will be switched around to diff semesters, so students will be able to pick 2 out of 6 courses offered in order to move towards more of a specialization earlier.
 - That will be published may 2022 for fall 2022, and for people who are in mech, this change does not really apply. This is more for newer mech students. You can appeal to it if you want to go into the newer courses, but it will probably be a difficult process, so it likely wont happen for them.
 - Another thing mentioned is that the eng faculty wants a peer tutor system to support first year students. He doesnt want to pursue grad student TAs, due to a conflict of interest, so what Brad mentioned was to see if the ESS thinks this is a good idea to set up a peer tutoring system, or maybe the ESS students can write down their names and contact info, so first years can reach out directly
 - Russell says this exists already
 - Abdul says we can take the existing tutor thing and apply it to more of a mentorship program. We still expect students to get some sort of compensation, so we gotta determine if it will be subsidized by the ess. Seems like a cool thing!
 - Maybe the eng faculty doesnt know?
 - Hidden deep within the website. They probably dont.
 - Jessica says it was going on during first sem covid, but it waned out, because nobody updated it. Now it's basically dead, so it's worth updating.\
 - Thought about ESS subsidizing, but no consensus.
 - Would def be looking for ideas from Blake or Brad
 - Blake will follow up with Brad and come back



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- Possibly the faculty is doing this because they dont want to do it themselves?
Maybe we should reach out to the faculty for aid in this
 - Consensus via hanging loose to this
- Abdul remembers it being a success when people actually used it.
- Let him know we liked the idea and that we are willing to do it! (Help is welcomed)
- Another thing - mech is doing accreditation with their courses, and they are looking to hire someone to keep track of this via excel. It would be paid, and a formal part time job, so brad has sent blake the job description. Permission to print and post across the ELW/ESS lounge/etc.?
 - Permission granted. We can put things up anywhere we damn want in the ELW, by decree of Madam President of the ESS. (just ELW). You need a stamp from the UVSS info booth to do it anywhere else.
 - Doesnt necessarily have to be an eng student! Just someone with excel skills!
- Thanks so much for coming!!!!!!
 - Prepare for a long meeting...
- Things to do this semester
 - UVEC: 4 volunteers
 - If interested in being a project lead, please tell us!
 - Biarki on the slack wants to
 - Fundraiser: smash bros tournament, planning team
 - If we do, this *needs* to be planned
 - Can we somehow make the bob ross paint night fundraiser a thing?
 - Russell hangs loose, and jessica agrees
 - Make it a contest maybe? Admission fees go to charity?
 - Likely admission fees go to charity. Jessica thinks this is a good idea, and a separate meeting for planning could be useful at the start of next week.
 - Jacket order + advertising
 - Russell says jacket order is gonna get printed and here in time for this semester, so Russell will do it next semester.
 - Plan first year exam cram (Sarah)
 - Giving people cake, snacks, etc in study areas, when they come out of their final exams, etc.
- Cinkant: meeting sunday
 - Will discuss who gets what money
 - Jessica got money from a grad from last spring who was pretty upset that the november iron ring was cancelled. He was saying that we should... [jessica trails off]



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- He is upset we were not as vocal as we should have been about this cancellation. Jessica is unsure as to whether or not an email should be sent out to the students, or whether or not it should be left. Is there anything she can do? She doesn't think so. He did kinda make it seem like it was our fault, when we have 0 say in this.
 - She will answer him nicely, but she wanted to tell us.
- Voiced concerns about cancellation of Iron Ring
- Tim as social media coordinator setup!
 - He leaves, and betrays his discord name by not wearing cat ears.
 - No questions or comments for Jessica.
- Discussion Points
 -

Equity Officer

- EDI Committee
 - Had meeting with member from Ltd
 - Discussed the thing Jeremy mentioned at previous meeting, LTD said that reaching out to the global community for an event encouraging people to get to know other cultures that relate to groups of people affected by discrimination would be one of the better things to do.
 - It is an events thing - is that for me or for events people?
 - Abdul thinks that might fall under an internal thing, since there is an office of student life. Reaching out to them might be a great thing.
 - To clarify - it would be an event co-hosted by global community aimed at eng students
 - Abdul thinks we could reach out to them and tell them we are interested, but we have to have people from our side working on it. Anyone can run an event
 - In regards to the comment/concern about discrimination against new immigrants: Kath has suggested reaching out to the global community to plan some sort of cultural sharing event
 - EDI info on contact page
 - It might be good to revamp the contacts page on the ESS website.
 - Sent out application for remaining 2 members - has 4 responses so far
 - At least a week left to apply - still trying to get it on the discord so as many people go on the discord.
 - Abdul thinks it's worth noting that a lot of apps will come in on the last day. (eng student moment)



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- Keep forgetting to write a blurb and ask someone to post it on the discord, will do by EOD tomorrow
- EDI Training
 - Still waiting on reply
 - Dont want to overwhelm people
- SENG Rep notes on coops not being applied to
 - Need to figure out what will be said by the end of the day tomorrow.
 - Russell wants clarification - SENG roles are not being applied to? [deviously twiddles fingers]
 - Yes - Lots of discussion about why this might be, not sure entirely clear what the takeaway was after discussing. Unsure what kind of/if action will be taken. Gotta make sure we arent just finding explanations, but being proactive in making sure LIM is an appealing place for students to apply to, and that the positions are actually good to apply to.
 - Jessica notes we did say something on how Victoria might just have a lot of software positions but not a lot of people applying to them.
 - [redacted]
- Discussion Points
 -

VP Communication

- No updates
 - Nobody yells at him for forgetting anything
 - Russell gives kudos for a sick instagram post
- Discussion Points
 -

VP Events

- Trying to make Bob Ross paint night happen, tentatively November 24th
 - Could be a good idea to make this the fundraiser (as discussed before)
- Discussion Points
 -

VP Internal

- Sorry I couldn't make it, too too too many assignments due
- Faculty meeting this week



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- Presentation from Equity and Diversity office at uvic -> faculty working towards EDi initiatives
- Some academic calendar changes : Mostly updating cross-listed courses, removing some prerequisites to allow for more students to take upper year electives, and renewing some electives (Sorry i didn't have a list given to me and it was too many to write down)
- Meeting with Dr.Gupta, Abdul, and some CSC students next week regarding the CSCU and ESS merger
- Discussion Points
 - Was hard to find a weekend that worked for everyone for the council retreat, do we still want me to try for something or perhaps we could do it in the new year?
 - Also happy to help organize a volunteer thank you instead :)
 - Abdul gives a +1 to this one over the council retreat. We have had a lot of baller volunteers this sem.
 - Nobody else speaks; jeremy hangs loose.
 - General agreement.

VP External

- CFES & WESST
 - Oh boy, abdul's minutes
 - Been rethinking letter for the CFES
 - They have been getting their stuff together, so we shouldnt be aggressive.
 - I think we should hold of until CELC
 - CELC Applications opening Monday
 - Need 2 other students to join the selection committee.
 - We want to book flights ASAP because flights will be ridonkulously expensive
 - Jessics says we cant book flights before we know who's going, right?
 - This is gonna be during winter break, so family stuff will complicate things
 - Three layovers, everybody groans
 - Other unis are opening up their apps already, so it aint that busy
 - Great conference, week long shin dig in St. John's, fun time, please apply!
 - ANYONE in Eng can apply!!!
 - Jeremy asks which days?
 - Jan 2nd to Jan 8th
 - Flying Jan 1st and getting back the 9th.
 - Selection Committee Time
- UVSS
 - AGM was great but what next



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- Students have been reaching out nonstop with ideas and I have been slowly coming up with plans
 - People are super content that their voices are being heard
 - Suggestions range from voices of support to paragraph long policy suggestions
- Main thing: Should we reach out to other CU's and PDU's and work with them to spread the word about Faculty Directors?
 - Abdul thinks we should figure out *our* plan first and foremost before we move forward.
 - Motion to talk about this next meeting? Russell seconds
 - Jessica agrees so we can wait to see the UVSS's response.
 - Sarah remembers we wont have a meeting next week
 - We could also just have a meeting next week, or talk about it in the slack, and have an informal vote there
 - Russell is happy with either of those
 - We will talk abt what we did at the next meeting
- Getting interviewed by the Martlet. Any Objections?
 - Going in with a unity first message, dont want to start any fights. Students made their voices heard, and we want to see more of that.
 - Jessica thinks we should ensure that we emphasize that this is the outcome we wanted, students got what they wanted, and that we are excited to see the UVSS go on this
 - Kali agrees, and wants to add to specify that we should talk about the new motion and wanting to get everyone involved, but maybe not answer questions even about some of the more speculative things that came up at the AGM, or the failed motion.
- CSC Students
 - Meeting with Rishi on Tuesday
- UVEC
 - We need volunteers
- SSC Meme Competition
 - \$100 Prize?
 - Looking for prize funding and help from us
 - Viktor is currently helping with advertising
 - Abdul thinks we could donate 100 bucks from our events budget, we have the money to spare because no EEE
 - (there will unlikely be a EEE)
 - Jeremy says giving 100 bucks is an easy sweep
- Discussion Points



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- Formal Night? I can contact Peacock's if someone wants to deal with advertising?
 - He (abdul)'s just gonna run it. Gonna get in contact asap, want to do it weekend after uvec, so Friday the 26th. Any difference between a friday and a saturday?
 - Jessica can come on saturdays and stay up late, but whatever is best for the most people
 - Kali doesnt know if this has been a problem ever, but saturday nights might be easier for the companies
 - Sarah asks if this is a bar?
 - No, a billiards hole, there is not all drinking. Ie, you can get in when under 19.
 - Block off drinking area from billiards area. We usually go with peacocks because theyre nice about that. Dressing up in formal clothes and playing billiards is fun.
 - Students will be more likely to attend if there is a ticket
 - Jessica asks if we should combine this with a volunteer thank you?
 - Aila says we may be running out of weekends
 - Abdul mentions the volunteer thing is usually around then, and usually a smaller group of people
 - Abdul's problem is he doesnt want to detract from an "actual" volunteer thank you.
 - Jessica disagreed with what she was saying it, everyone finds this funny
 - Abdul will talk to the billiards place and try to book it

VP Corporate

- UVEC
 - Sponsors were found, and want to know how to contribute
 - Polar Engineering and Green light energy, wants to give 500 bucks
 - Anything to do beforehand? Are we gonna make a presentation? If we want them to make talks we need to tell them
 - Abdul asks if they want to give a talk?
 - Jeremy will ask.
 - Ian asked jeremy what he needs to do. Lots of planning needs to be done for UVec. Jessica is stressed :(
- Work has been rough
 - Major project is done so I won't be as much of a ghost
- Discussion Points



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VP Finance

- Can't make it to the meeting this week :(
- Paid Mark's Invoice , CFES, WESST Invoices
- Sent required documents to UVSS to get student fees
- UVEC Shirts ordered
 - We just gotta plan the event
- Finally paid summer Cinkant funding, will write next cheque when we get student fees for this semester
- Discussion Points
 - Expense Review
 - Sweaters - \$971.97
 - Costco Run - \$356.49
 - Formal Night @ Peacock?
 - I was thinking week after UVEC
 - I'm willing to plan it (which is awesome)

VP Student-Life

- Updates
 - Scanned and uploaded more exams
 - Ordered sweaters
 - Slushie syrup is on order (everyone thank Kyle)
 - Russell forgot when that was going to show up
 - Nobody thanks Kyle
- Goals
 - Get locker signup on computer
 - Get on it russell
 - Scan more exams
 - Setup system for AV key
 - What do we need it for?
 - They key gets in the box to the AV thing
 - Aila thinks russell should do the "take a belonging" thing
 - Jeremy asks how easy it is to scan their ID
 - It has always come back, and he always knows by name this is coming to. The problem is on thursday there is 4 club meetings on thursday, and clubs break the 10 minute rule, screwing over the other 3 club meetings.
 - Kali says using a onecard as collateral could be useful
 - Jessica says we could maybe do a punishment?
 - Russell does not want to immediately resort to "the stick"



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- Aila feels like most eng students are fine with dealing with consequences later, but immediate needs are immediate
- Sarah asks if we can make more keys?
 - No, and uvic might not even know the ess has that key
- Kali seconds what Aila says, and also that a penalty crossed her mind, but she couldn't think of a reasonable one. ALSO saying a new system is in place could convey seriousness and that other clubs need it. Basically just guilt trip them
 - Until 2 months ago, no problems, so punishments were doling themselves out
- Jessica suggests take a piece of ID and lock it in the lock box and they have to know the 10 minute rule, and that they have to unlock what they need and take it back immediately
- Kali stands by that having this chat will refresh people's knowledge of the importance of this.
- Discussion Points
 - Does anyone know who runs the lockers in the ECS?
 - People think it is us because the CSCU is dead, and someone important told people it was us apparently
 - I have been informed by someone in the civil engineering department (through a proxy) that it's us.
 - Dryden thought it was the CSCU
 - It is.
 - Does anyone know how the keycard access for ELW/ECS got started? A representative of the science students reached out to me and asked
 - A bio student wants to use this info to pressure people into having the same keycard access as the ECS does for science buildings
 - Abdul says eng students have specific ones, so they have to tell the faculty they want this, and the faculty has to do it themselves. Or, university systems does it, and they use the onecard rather than keycards. Might be others.
 - Nobody knows exactly who we talked to. The lore is lost.

First-Year Representative

- Skating rink won't work, they are all booked up :(
 - Nobody wants to go at 6am somehow [russell says it is fun (he is crazy)]
 - Midnight could be fun tho, jessica agrees
 - It is also a weekend midnight. Maybe sarah will send an email asking first years if they will come on friday
 - Abdul suggests to talk to wayzar's the arcade downtown to book an event



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- Nevermind they only do 20 people. Cmon abdul.
- Brainstorming new ideas - maybe can rent the carsa gymnasium and do something there?
- People also really like idea of movie in lecture hall with snacks
- Some questions about why comp sci students aren't included in ess (why are eng and comp sci still somewhat separate? - I know comp sci students don't pay same fees but there is confusion among students)
 - Russell mentions abdul
 - MANY good answers. Abdul says basically the faculty is now called eng and computer science, a name change that happened september 1st. They were treated separately previously by faculty and students, and there became an eng and comp sci group. CSC students got the CSCU, which has been dying out over the past few years, and the faculty has been trying to merge CSC and eng. ESS has been working to annex the CSCU, and it's kinda getting done. BASically it's just a holdover from when they were separate. There will be a transition period that takes time, so we want to be there for csc students, but we just gotta go across the finish line.
 - Do you think first year csc students are invited to first year events?
 - Abdul doesnt see much harm in it, and that we should, BUT there is limiting factors such as space, so he leaves it to the rest of council.
 - Jessica feels like it's ok, since we want to have this happen by the end of the year, so we gotta mix the cohort.
 - Abdul will get an email for eng students and also an email for csc students. Sent via slack. The one with the tree profile picture is the real sarah, the other is an imposter (very sus)
- Discussion Points
 -

5. New Business

6. Other Business

BIRT Michael John Lo becomes an associate member of the ESS.

- What is the technical definition?
 - A member without rights, but with privileges such as attending ESS events, but not allowed voting rights or the ability to run for positions. If someone seconds, Abdul can give motivations for why MJ deserves it.



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- Abdul's justification: He has been a great support in the VP external side of things for a lot of time, helping with dealing w/ martlet, general outside of ecs consensus, and overall getting a deeper perspective in dealing with things outside of the ECS buildings. He has contributed to the eng community, and there is no reason to not let him come to our events, enjoy freebies, and be part of the ecs community.
- MJ also can wear catboy ears on request.
- Russell asks if he has speaking or voting rights at SGMs?
 - No.

Mover: Abdul Abuelazm

Secunder: Russell Waterhouse

Result: **Passed!**

BIRT the position "library liaison" will be added to the duties of the Vice President of Communications. The director shall be the Vice President of Communications. The Liaison will be a point of contact for library staff, as well as students seeking help with navigating the library. The Liaison shall be responsible for communicating relevant information from the libraries to the Course Union and student body. The Liaison shall subscribe to The Ampersand, the Library newsletter. (<https://www.uvic.ca/library/about/home/newsletter>).

- Jessica asks if we should postpone
 - No
- Viktor gives a soft yes to this position
 - IT IS EITHER HARD OR SOFT
 - He says yes

Mover: Abdul

Secunder: Jeremy

Result: **Passed Unanimously!**

BIRT the Course Union edit as relevant, endorse, and sign the attached letter, and send it to the University Secretary and the University Librarian, as well as the student representatives on the Senate Committee on Libraries. The official contact information of the relevant director shall be added.

Mover: Russell

Secunder: Abdool

Result: **Passed Unanimously!**

7. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42pm. (jeez)

Next Meeting

The next ESS Council Meeting will take place on a date to be determined, but also a date not later than the 18th.