



UVic ESS Council Weekly Meeting  
 September 23rd, 2021  
 ESS Office and Google Hangouts

Council Members not in attendance:

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**todoC Territory Acknowledgment**

We acknowledge with respect the Lekwungen-speaking 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.

**1. Call to order**

This meeting was called to order at 6:07pm, with Jessica Hubbs 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 Sep. 23rd meeting, as shown.

BIFRT the minutes be approved for the Sep. 13th meeting, as circulated.

Mover: Jessica Hubbs

Secunder: Jeremy Guydo

Result: Passed unanimously

**3. Updates from the Council Members**

President

- Mask Wearing in classes
  - A student in a mech class was not wearing a mask, concerning other students
  - Email coming out, do we wanna respond to it
    - What would an email response look like?
      - Undecided at the moment, the idea is that if it comes from their peers then it will come across better
    - Why not just have the email itself include the ESS logo and say “the ESS approves?”
      - Sending out an email may be wholly unnecessary. Perhaps we could screenshot it and put it on our instagram story? Nothing further
    - Perhaps we could put out a reminder on the discord? As a friendly reminder from a student rather than a figure of authority
  - About code of ethics and safety of public = #1
- Update director roles on website
  - Website has already been updated (thanks max) (Nice job jessica forgetting smh)
- Email keeps pinging Sarah?
  - There is a [esspresident@gmail.com](mailto:esspresident@gmail.com) email that has the phone attached to Sarah
    - Max will try to transfer it (Abdul can get him onto “the thing” [the gmail account])
- Office hours: lemme know if problems
  - Still some people I gotta add in

FINGER RULES



New Topic



Direct Response



Point of Clarification



Hangloose



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- Discussion Points
  -

#### Equity Officer

- Emailed ltd about EDI training/presentation
  - Anyone know more about this?
    - We used to do this every semester. There used to be a basic introduction to EDI training ~1h long, and we required all execs to do it each semester
    - Does anybody know when it was held?
      - Usually on training day or right after the ESS meetings (not this time tho)
    - When is a good time?
    - How long it usually take?
    - Should I let them know of anything specific we want to get out of this presentation?
- Emailed person interested/recommended by LTD for EDI committee
- Emailed WECS about them appointing one of their interested members
- Am I the member from ESS on the committee, or do we appoint someone else?
  - You are the chair of the committee, so you are the person heading the committee. However, if you don't want to, you dont have to. But you are usually the one that does it.
- Do you think IRC and EDI Committee something students actually know about?
  - The EDI community didn't really have it fully set up before - this is the first time it has been set up. Maybe we should do some advertising for it? We used to have a form on our website (possibly still there)
  - As a first year, [Sam] didn't know what these were
  - For the EDI committee, we should probably give some advertising or give out an email (i.e. if there are any concerns)
    - Just an email?
      - Put it everywhere
    - We would not want to allude to *the incident* in an email
- Discussion Points
  -

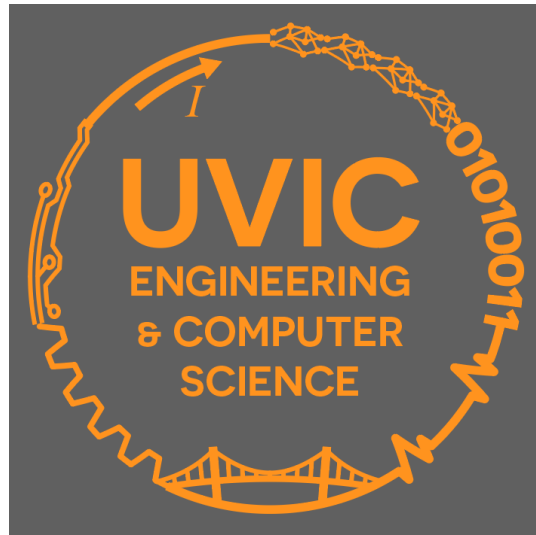
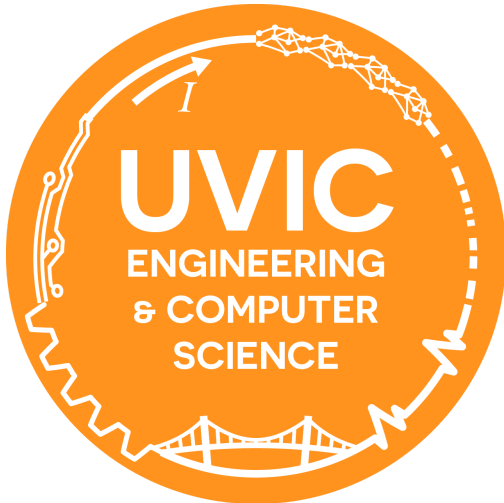
#### VP Communication

- Experimenting with our new logo:



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- Considering simplifying and generalizing the design
- Considering abandoning the ring entirely and embracing the chaos
  - Abdul would very very veyr very veyreyveyv very strongly discourage people from getting rid of the logo. We've had it for like two years; changing it in this short amount of time is a bad idea. It would abandon all the branding we have built up.
    - These prototypes are super busy
    - Maybe not one per discipline? It will just get busyer and busyer
  - Alex doesn't think we should change it entirely. Electrical also reps computer eng, and seng represents csc
  - Jessica agrees since we literally just changed it and rebranding every two years is a lot. If were gonna start getting more disciplines, then it would be nice if all we needed to change was the letters rather than just the logo. Plus it looks good! Ring is analogous to ring road.
  - Russel thinks it should be updated a little bit { wrap the binary in curly brackets and call it a day }
  - Jordan disagrees with changing it entirely. Rebranding sucks. (other than adding in CS)
  - $\frac{2}{3}$  of comp sci students are here. Do they have any input?
    - One person says it is not necessary because they are very similar to seng anyways. Other disciplines could be an issue, but we can kick the can down the road. Maybe put trees by the bridge for environmental.
    - Joban thinks it's unnecessary to rebrand 2 years later. Current logo looks clean, all we should do is change the acronym in the middle.



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#### VP Events

- Making an outline/calendar for events
- Contacting ess friends about event ideas
- Add some fun stuff to the bulletin board outside
- Contact the faculty about helping out with furniture and couches (Lawko mentioned something about it at SGM)
- Discussion Points
  - Sending bug push money to united way
    - Jessica has it.
    - We need to talk to the branch manager about how they are treating us.
      - Jessica proceeds to rant about how unacceptable they have been.
      - A meeting will be set up with them.
    - We should set up a meeting with UVEC with some uvic people
    - "We have money" -Abdul
      - Something about hiding money in the walls???

#### VP Internal

- First year rep elections happening now!
  - Have 1 nomination
  - Lots of ppl interested in FYC
    - Expect some nominations at 11:59pm.
    - People are hyped!
    - Hopefully will be more diverse than just one friend group.
- Discussion Points
  - Council Retreat
  - What do we want to do for this? We used the budget on an airbnb and provided food for ourselves last time. Anybody got a place we can mooch? Mostly just council people so only like 10-15 people coming by
    - Abdul can host (cuddling is complementary (and required))
    - Budget can be spent on food (actually)!
    - A poll will be put out
  - Cleaning schedule?
    - We said last time that the last person who has office hours is responsible for cleaning surfaces.
    - Perhaps it should be a paper or rule or regular thing so it happens a lot.
    - If it is a very simple rule (i.e. if you have an office hour at 9, noon, and 4, then you have to wipe everything down.)



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- If it is on paper, it may be a better reminder. Or, someone comes in and exclaims they will do the cleaning.
- We need a twitter
  - Many people have something to say about this. (We have one)
  - VP Internal is very surprised at this
  - Abdul has login info for both the twitter and snapchat (russel does not)
  - Being active on twitter may result in more activity
    - Only 3 out of ~10 have a twitter in the room
      - However, it is mainly for getting sponsorships and business, not students.
    - Also a lot of our parents may have twitter???
      - Jessica's mom has twitter
    - We need a social media coordinator who is SUPER ACTIVE (proactive about posting things every day and not just when they are told)
  - Maybe we should be more focused on industry
  - Jeremy thinks we could look into investing in one of those services that does schedule releases. Once a week, set up seven posts for example
    - Big brain idea
      - We already have one once again (but it's free)
  - Above all, they need to be all organized
    - Maybe make a social media post about making social media posts/getting a director
  - Eila would be ok with taking this on while we look
    - Status quo is someone randomly sometimes posts something on social media. Hence the need for a coordinator
  - Abdul thinks we should advertise by making a meme about social media
    - This comment was followed by silence.

VP External

- CFES

- This weekend was the CFES presidents' meeting where all the prez and VPs meet up and discuss policy and plans pertaining to advocacy on behalf of all eng students for the year. Abdul came out of it with lots of concerns, which he wants to share and determine a plan of action for relating to the CFES.
- CSC Wins
  - CSC students who are part of the ESS will be able to participate in all CFES conferences except one.
  - They updated their website (it was trash) this is the third time he put a motion and it will now be updated after every general assembly



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- Another big motion abt advocacy and how little advocacy the CFES actually does
- Some L's
  - Trying to get CSC students as full members (many other students didn't like CSC students being leaders of engineering students (like running the cfes))
    - A fair concern (they don't have the same atmosphere as eng students)
- Finance Stuff
  - They passed a motion allowing their VP finance to take an unlimited amount of money in 1000 dollar increments without any oversight whatsoever
    - This announcement was followed by shock in the room.
      - They can basically take money, leave the country, and do whatever before they get caught.
    - Abdul argued against this bc it's insecure and vulnerable to embezzlement
      - They responded with "we are trustworthy"
    - Motion passed and many people left
      - CFES "held people hostage" by saying nothing would get done without this motion getting passed.
    - Many other unis advocated against this.
  - WTF was their justification???
    - "That is how we have been doing it for a bit and we wanted to change policy based on the de facto status quo"
    - Their signing team is only 9 authorities. They can't sign stuff since people live across canada. If they have to do it the proper way, they will have to go through a whole cheque mailing fiasco
      - There is also other solutions such as having multiple authentication etransfers (mentioned in the meeting)
        - They responded to this with "we can't function without this motion"
  - Jessica: they were very not understanding over this motion. They said it would take like 3 months to reimburse people, EVEN THOUGH they could use things like e-transfer.
    - They got very defensive when criticized and ignored other ideas
  - Russell does not feel comfortable being part of this org if this is their monetary policy.
  - Kali agrees with the general consensus (thank you anonymous wombat)
  - What is the consequence of pulling out?
    - Means we cant go to the canadian engineering competition
- Advocacy Rant
- CSC Students



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- Long story short: CFES has never done advocacy until this year. Apparently they have been too scared to do this for a bunch of reasons.
- Abdul found out by giving a presentation abt the advo portfolio by them saying engineers did nothing wrong (we used to be shitty now we are good)
  - He had to explain that engineering is still very toxic to certain groups of people.
  - He has had racist, misogynistic experiences in engineering within the past 2 years. This has not been solved it.
    - This was just *the beginning*.
- Second part started by saying the CFES has never engaged in advocacy because it would cause the CFES cannot be partisan, which is banned by their policy. They cannot be affiliated with political parties. However, they interpreted that as that they cannot be political whatsoever.
  - It was changed to “political parties” rather than “partisan movement”
    - It is concerning that the main group responsible for advocating for ALL engineers has not done any advocating at all.
- At least youre advocating to engineering deans canada and the accreditation board? Right???
  - No. They have not been advocating to either of them even though they meet with them 3 times a year. They have only been giving rubber stamps and saying they have been doing something.
  - During an earlier presentation they said that the accreditation board does not take them seriously and that they refused to answer questions.
  - Two options: Approve their doc and give recommendations, or give them conditional approval based on conditional recommendations.
    - What if we dont approve it because they dont approve it?
      - Everyone stopped talking because nobody thought of that. [Everyone laughed]
      - Abdul thinks that was the wrong answer.
- For as long as they have running, they have NEVER advocated for eng students. However, that may change this year.
- [redacted]
- **Abdul is disappointed.**
- Any questions about advocacy stuff?
  - Russel: What do we give to the CFES and what do they do for us?
    - Jordan: We give them ~1200 per year
    - Abdul: CFES does services and advocacy. 5 conferences per year (1 being a competition). Half of the things they havent been doing at all, the other



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half is various conferences. There is merit in these, and there is probably stuff to be gained, which is why abdul is not saying to just leave now. However, they have done no advocacy.

- Jessica: Did anyone in west say they are disappointed and threaten to pull?
  - Most people were with abdul (“I need to bring this back to my council and discuss”)
- Can abdul reach out to more VPXs? Possible collective pulling threats
  - Western schools will meet up to discuss this. Abdul can reach out to some of the other unis that were not super jazzed and discuss.
- Jessica: conferences are super beneficial, but if they know we are considering it, and that lots are considering it, they may do something.
- Abdul’s second plan of action is to wait until january conference and see if the things they said they would change actually come up and change at CELC. A lot of policy changes happen there because there are multiple general assembly sessions ~6h each, so there are more opportunities for discussions and reaching consensus.
  - Official recommendation: wait until CELC and see if they change the budget bylaws again, if they change their advocacy tone, and if they continue to work with us to see if CSC students will be able to join and partake in the CFES. If things are still worrisome, we pull out in the spring meeting, and we are done. We have paid for this year already, so it would not be beneficial to pull out early.
- Quick point: write them an official letter and if they do not change we are intending to leave.
- UVEC
  - UVEC is being worked on in the background. Abdul will have more updates w/ jessica and jeremy in the next week or 2.
- Discussion Points

#### VP Corporate

- Tom is here he will talk
  - Tom is one of the campus leads for tech. They want to expand their presence on campus, get more people who are interested in applying. They hire every discipline we have except biomed (they could probs take some people but not related to biomed). Also csc students and seng is quickly growing, so is environmental stuff.
  - Any other opinions on spreading the word?





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- Jeremy would be happy if they were willing to get an event in the ELW lobby. He is ok for companies to put themselves out to students.
- Career fair?
  - There is not a career fair in person this year according to tom.
  - In 2018 it was in one of the top floors of the ESS, during career fair time. During covid they can't do much abt that though.
- If he can, jeremy would love to do something.
- They hire around 120 students a semester [the group proceeds to gasp in disbelief]
- UVEC, I have a sponsor. Can we do it next weekend?
  - Time is not an issue for him. It can be whenever. Maybe be pushed until after midterms?
    - Jeremy knows people have been wanting to help out but people are apprehensive due to being busy.
    - Jessica thinks pushing it back and making sure it is being done right rather than rushed is good.
    - Change "director of" to "VP of" in the mailbox
      - New point: can we get a labelmaker???
        - Russell says we already have one (for the third time).
    - Anything else for jeremy?
      - If there is anything else we need, we probably have it... thanks abdul
- Discussion Points

#### VP Finance

- CIBC is incompetent
  - "I have called the back office to check the status of the business account. There is sort of system error due to which they haven't received the docs yet. I have escalated it and send the documents again. I hope this will be resolved by tomorrow."
  - Cheques will bounce until this is resolved :(
    - Do not deposit!
      - Jordan lost 8 bucks (possibly reimbursed by the ESS?)
- Discussion Points
  - Abdul: we should look into getting a new bank. Anecdote about good customer service being correlated with RBC.
    - We also JUST switched to CIBC like 2 years ago.
  - Jordan likes online only banks for personal banking, but not applicable for this context.
    - Also RBC's downtown bank is open on weekends.
  - Purchase Review:
    - SGM Pizza - \$208.13



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- Stamps (Orientation) - \$135.24
- Coffee/tea/redbull - \$105.29

#### VP Student-Life

- Updates
  - Ran clubs day
    - Tables are a mess
      - Has jessica been checking her email?
        - Yes
      - [redacted]
      - **UVSS [mega] bad**
    - Ran locker cleanout
      - Smashing success.
      - Theres a lot of [good] stuff down there.
    - Did costco run w/Kyle
    - Setup locker signup sheet
  - Goals for the week
    - Redo locker signup sheet (on excel on the computer)
    - Do a merch order for new sweaters
      - Any DALs that want to do this would be fantastic.
    - Club funding
    - Talk to faculty about new chairs
    - Kyle to get new slush pup syrup
    - Call Facilities to get light fixed
      - [gestures to flickering light]
  - Discussion Points
    - Round of applause to Sam for some STELLAR meeting minutes
      - Thanks guys :))))
    - Why not use the quest board for DALs?
      - Needs to be cleared off
      - Maybe put it back online?

#### 4. New Business

- Advertise jacket sales
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	<p><a href="#">Sub-Section 4.2.6: Director of Outreach</a></p> <p>The Director of Outreach shall be responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Organize events aimed to instill an interest in Engineering in K-12 and continuing education students;</li><li>b) Informing future students about opportunities and supports available to assist them academically, financially and otherwise; and,</li><li>c) Promote EDI in Engineering to prospective students.</li></ul>
<b>Result</b>	Passed
<b>Discussion</b>	<a href="#">Everybody just wanted to vote</a>

## 6. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm.

## Next Meeting

The next ESS Council Meeting will take place on Oct. 7th.