



2025 Special General Meeting Minutes

Friday November 28th 2025 at 5:00pm – 6:30pm PST

Zoom link: <https://uvic.zoom.us/j/87071777913>

In attendance: Bella Jacobs, Kai Punt, Hannah Brown, Acorn Wasserman, Jitendra Palaparty, Valentine Anderson, Lucy Griffiths, Margot Wehrle, Carolyn Walker, Lauren Wyler, Amelia Haque, Dacian Filipescu

1. Call to Order/Welcome 5:09pm

2. Land Acknowledgement

The chair gives land acknowledgement. The chair offers folks to add to the acknowledgement.

3. Access Needs Check-In

a. Break halfway at 45 minutes

Chair asks if more access needs are needed.

4. Ratification of SGM Minutes

a. Ratification of [2025 AGM February 28th](#)

Acorn: Move

Valentine: Second



Passes by consensus

5. Adoption of 2025 SGM Agenda

Acorn: Move

Valentine: Second

Passes by consensus

6. General Overview and Intro to the SSD

a. [Instagram](#)

b. [Linktree](#)

c. [Website](#)

Chair introduces the SSD and asks for questions from attendees.

7. Exiting Office and Elections

a. Motion to appoint Scrutineer and Electoral Officer

Move: Valentine

Second: Acorn

Passes by consensus

Bella is Electoral Officer

Kai is Scrutineer

b. Vote of Removal

According to Article 38 of our Constitution, “Council members who do not attend three consecutive SSD Council meetings without sending prior regrets may lose their Council membership and Council status.” Several Council members have been inactive for three months or longer. Each was contacted to confirm whether they wished to continue in their



role. Most responded, either stepping down or expressing their intention to remain on Council.

However, we did not receive any response from the following two Council members. In accordance with Article 38, we must therefore proceed with a vote to remove them from Council before we re-elect individuals to their roles.

These students can still come back to be council members, we just need communication from them.

Move: Valentine

Second: Acorn

Passes by consensus

i. Treasurer (1 position)

7 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes abstain

Passes

ii. International Student Representative (1 position)

6 votes yes, 0 votes no, 1 vote abstain

Passes

c. Nominations for available Interim Council positions 1 by 1 (Held until Feb AGM)

Chair offers descriptions of the positions for the students who have attended the meeting.

i. Treasurer (1 position)

No nominations, position remains vacant until the next General Meeting.

ii. International Student Representative (1 position)

Kai nominates Lauren Wyler

Lauren motivates

7 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes abstain

iii. General Members at Large (7 positions available)

Margot Wehrle nominates herself

Margot motivates

7 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes abstain

Carolyn Walker nominates herself

Carolyn motivates

6 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes abstain

Bella nominates Christina Flores

Bella motivates

7 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes abstain

Bella nominates Nicole Smith-Payne

Bella motivates

7 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes abstain

8. Business

Motions

MOTION 2025-11-28: 01

WHEREAS Student Senator Evan Maher has submitted a Freedom of Information (FOI) Request to the University of Victoria seeking data related to the 2023 Universally Extended Time (UET) pilot program, as detailed in [Follow Up FOI Request.pdf](#); and

WHEREAS many members of the disability community, have expressed concern regarding the University's implementation of UET and its potential impacts on disabled students; and



WHEREAS the SSD is committed to supporting the academic success and equitable treatment of disabled students at UVic; and

WHEREAS access to the data from the UET pilot would assist the SSD in assessing the effectiveness of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and UET initiatives, and in developing informed advocacy strategies for disabled students;

BIRT the SSD formally sign on in support of Evan Maher's FOI Request to the University of Victoria.

Move: Dacian

Second: Jitendra

Vote by proxy: 1

Votes: 7 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes no

Passes

Chair motions as a point of order to have a break.

Yes, by consensus.

Back at 6:02pm

MOTION 2025-11-28: 02

WHEREAS the SSD, in collaboration with the GSS, UVSS, NSU, CCG, GEM, PRIDE, the Faculty Association, CUPE, and PEA, released a petition in September 2025 calling for a review of and immediate action on the inadequacy of OREM; and

WHEREAS the petition has now closed, and the collaborating groups wish to use the collected information to advocate for change at the University of Victoria;

BIRT the SSD approves the formal release and submission of the petition and its findings to the UVic Board of Governors.

Move: Acorn

Second: Valentine



Vote by proxy: 1

Votes: 6 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes no

Passes

MOTION 2025/11/28: 3

WHEREAS the SSD, provides free snacks and meals in our space to support all disabled students; and,

WHEREAS promoting food security is a key priority of the SSD;

BIRT the SSD approve up to \$1,200 for snacks and meals in the SSD space for the Spring 2026 semester; this amount has already been allocated in the approved Space Snacks budget line.

Move: Acorn

Second: Valentine

Vote by proxy: 1

Votes: 6 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes no

Passes

MOTION 2025/11/28: 4

WHEREAS the SSD must update its Constitution to better reflect community needs and ensure alignment with UVSS Advocacy Group policies; and

WHEREAS the SSD seeks to revise its Council structure to reduce hierarchy and foster greater student participation;

BIRT the SSD approve all amendments outlined in [DRAFT - SSD Constitution 2025.docx](#) with the proviso that changes to Council roles will take effect at the upcoming February AGM.

Move: Dacian

Second: Acorn



Vote by proxy: 1

Votes: 6 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes no

Passes

MOTION 2025/11/28: 5

WHEREAS the SSD needs to update its Rules of Order, which have not been revised since 2021; and

WHEREAS the SSD seeks to remain current and up to date;

BIRT the SSD approve the new Rules of Order as outlined in the document [DRAFT - SSD Rules of Order.docx](#)

Move: Acorn

Second: Valentine

Vote by proxy: 1

Votes: 6 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes no

Passes

MOTION 2025/11/28: 6

WHEREAS the SSD purchases SWAG and marketing goods in the fall for January tabling to spread awareness about our community and invite students in; and,

WHEREAS the SSD would like to purchase items from ZAP COPY, AMAZON, and SWAG PRINT FACTORY (etc); and,

BIRT the SSD approves up to \$500 for the purchase of SWAG for January 2026 campus kick-off. This budget will come from multiple left-over budget lines we did not use in the Fall semester.

Move: Valentine

Second: Acorn

Vote by proxy: 1

Votes: 6 votes yes, 0 votes no, 0 votes no

Passes

9. Council Reports

a. Co-Chairpersons

1. Julia
 - a. Absent
2. Hannah
 - a. Passes

b. Treasurer

1. [Vacant]

c. Student Liaison

1. Valentine
 - a. Also is a work study, has been doing our social media and tabling lots. Just working away on various small projects. Valentine has done some significant work on the website please make sure your links are up to date.

d. UVSS' SSD Representative

1. Dacian
 - a. Went to ABCS and lobbied, talking to MLA's about what students need. Attending lots of UVSS meetings.

e. International Student Representative

1. Lauren (new)
 - a. Has loved the last hour! Is excited.

f. Secretary

1. Zoe
 - a. absent

g. General Members at Large



1. Acorn
 - a. Happy to have members at large to be friends with!
2. Margot (new)
 - a. Is excited to add a new perspective to add as a blind student, blindify it!
3. Nicole (new)
 - a. absent
4. Carolyn (new)
 - a. absent

10. Staff Reports

a. Office Coordinator

1. Bella Jacobs
 - a. Bella discusses the annual report details can be found here: https://www.canva.com/design/DAGvhON8FDY/ieEsMgHZmDjkNTbs83zSDQ/edit?utm_content=DAGvhON8FDY&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton

b. Education & Administration Coordinator

1. Kai Punt
 - a. Started in August, first almost first semester here! Has loved working here and has loved the community. Planning workshops has been hard, but burnout has been hard. Hannah and Kai did a disability and neurodiversity awareness program, delivered at 5 days of action. Kai is planning on updating the workshop page on the website. Got alot of good feedback, wants to use it as a training tool to present to more faculty. Has had requests to present in the new year.
 - b. Working on a template so future people can know how to create workshops.
 - c. Planning the workshops for the second semester 😊 Let Kai know about any ideas you have.

- d. Going to do some arts programming to build to have an exhibition.
- e. #A4A we have been tabling and campaigning, testing out some tabling.

c. Workstudy

- 1. Valentine
 - a. Reference previous report
- 2. Lucy
 - a. Workshop on December 4th, fidget making and working on things for the spring semester.
- 3. Mia
 - a. absent

11. Prize Draw!

- a. Any student can enter by emailing Bella (uicssd@uvic.ca)

12. Future Meeting Times

a. #Access4All Committee Meetings

- i. Next meeting is December 2nd at 11:30 am – 12:30 pm
- ii. Email Bella (uicssd@uvic.ca) for the meeting invite

b. Council Meetings

- i. Please fill out the following poll for our December Council Meeting; we will have food! <https://lettucemeet.com/l/vRAeY>

c. Council Training

- i. For new council members email Bella (uicssd@uvic.ca) with your preferred email for the link to our council training and

d. Thrive Meetings

- i. Next meeting is December 9th at 11:30 am – 12:30 pm



ii. Email Bella (uvicssd@uvic.ca) for the meeting invite

13. Adjournment **6:59pm**

Thank you for coming!