Society for Students with a Disability

Council Meeting Minutes

MAY 19th, 2026, 1:00pm PST

Zoom: https://uvic.zoom.us/j/83481679844
In attendance: *Bella, Kai, Acorn, Valentine, Carolyn, Nicole, Arjun, Lauren*

1. Call to Order/Welcome 1:05pm

2. Land Acknowledgement

Chair offers acknowledgement.

3. Check-In Question

a. What's your favourite highlighter colour?

Hannah: Pastel and Lilac

Valentine: enjoys pastel colour sets (multiple colours to differentiate)

Bella: Grey

Acorn: All greens, should use pastels more because they are nice

Nicole: agrees with Acorn

Lauren: blue. Will steal from Bellas

Carolyn: blue because it's her fav colour

Arjun: green might be his favourite

Kai: pink because no one else picked it (except Valentine)

4. Access Needs Check-In

a. Break at 45 minutes

5. Adoption of Agenda/Minutes

a. Adoption of today's agenda

Acorn: Moves

Valentine: Seconds

Vote to approve amendments to agenda

Approved by consensus

b. Ratification of 2026-04-22.docx

Valentine: Moves

Nicole: Seconds

Approved by consensus

6. Reports

a. Council

i. Operations Director

1. Hannah

Working with staff and supporting where they can. Working on A4A and Accessibility committee, Disability and Neurodiversity Awareness Training with Kai.

ii. Finance Director

1. Nicole

Nothing to report .

iii. Communications Director

1. Vacant

iv. UVSS SSD Representative

1. Acorn

New proposed Academic Integrity Policy being put forth by UVic Senate, very complicated background. TL;DR: UVSS put out a letter to BoG, if you want to read it talk to Bella (get from Dale). Advo groups may be putting out a letter to the BoG but TBD.

v. International Student Representative

1. Lauren

Met with Bella and went through some ideas for upcoming school year. Plans to get in touch with Cherop (UVSS International Student rep), meeting with ICS and tabling at their events in September.

vi. Graduate Student Representative

1. Vacant

vii. Outreach Director

1. Julia

Absent.

viii. Directors of Council at Large:

1. Carolyn

Nothing to report.

2. Eve

Absent.

3. Valentine

Working on Disability Pride events, specifically Disability Rage and Movie Night. Out of office and unreachable in personal life over the next couple of weeks due to TOP SURGERY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Meeting with ASN yesterday. ASN (American) microgrants are opening up, but must be affiliated with ASN... something for us to consider? Waiting on an email from ASN providing more info. See Canadian Affiliated groups (is NEADS affiliated? Autism Alliance of Canada?)

b. Staff

i. Office Coordinator

1. Bella Jacobs

Last week was a fun time. All training documents are completed, will be sent today with minutes from 1:1 meetings. Disability Pride, week of July 6th. Working on Night Market rifght now, tattoo artists, food trucks, artist call out; ice cream funday on July 8th, no need for catering (yay), getting UVSS leads and volunteers involved. First joint potluck with A&A groups on May 29th at Campus Garden 12-2, potluck style. Working on letter for BoG, but everything is kind of up in the air right now; getting something going to have something there. Big A4A updates coming this Wednesday (tomorrow) at 1:00pm, updates on A4A's placement as a UVSS campaign.

ii. Education & Administration Coordinator

1. Kai Punt

First full week back since my trip, they say that may is supposed to be quiet it hasn't been. Working with Graphics to do some outreach for the Advo and Afill groups. Getting together a video for each group to be posted but the SUB and UVSS. Kai will send our script to council, something general that will stand for many years. Has been the liaison between graphics. Working on the disability rage event, the room has been approved and we will be using Degrees Catering. Has emailed Cinecenta about the films. Will be running the autism peer support group over the summer per request. Is working on the library for cataloguing since we are doing advo groups book club where we rotate between the groups. Working with Hannah about the disability and neurodiversity awareness training. They want to clean up the space as well.

7. Discussion

a. Campaigns

#A4A hasn't met since our last council meeting, no imminent updates. The President's email has been sent.

Meeting tomorrow at 1:00

b. Committees

- Pride Events Committee Meeting

Met Last week

Bella update: sending out document with all the details with pride week events, what's going on. Disability rage on Monday: posters expressing rage against systems that create barriers to accessibility. Wednesday: Ice cream fun day, ice cream, lawn games, CFUV DJ (?). Thursday: Night market, artist, food, tattoos. Film fest: films throughout week, waiting to hear back from Cinecenta. Sending out details on how folks can support after this meeting.

- AIR Updates

Had a meeting last Monday, over the summer we will be doing group walks. The walks will be close to UVic and it'll be the third week of each month. We will be posting a interest poll, so folks can indicate their availability and when they prefer these walks should be. Its nice to give folks options. We have not talked about fall programming. We are wanting to hybridize our yoga, but we ant to set this up for the new school year.

- Accessibility Committee

Next meeting on Friday. Hannah presenting on A4A.

8. Business

a. Motions

MOTION 2026/19/28: 1

WHEREAS the Outreach Director position has the option to ratify that individual into the Administrative Council, and;

WHEREAS our Outreach Director, Julia Denley, has expressed interested in being ratified;

BIRT the SSD approves the ratification of Julia Denley as a member of the Administrative Council.

Acorn: Moves

Carolyn: Seconds

Bella motivates: met with Julia in our one-on-one and she expressed interest in this.

5 votes yes.

PASSED

MOTION 2026/19/28: 2

WHEREAS the SSD is planning a week of events for Disability Pride Month in July, and;

WHEREAS we would like to set aside our budget in advance in preparation (we will also be asking ARC for funding),

BIRT the SSD approve up to $650 in funding from the events and programs budget.

Valentine: Moves

Acorn: Seconds

5 votes yes.

PASSED

MOTION 2026/19/28: 3

WHEREAS the SSD promotes the filling of empty council positions, and;

WHEREAS a student has expressed interest in joining the council after a general meeting;

BIRT the council vote in Arjun VedBrat into an interim Director at Large position until the Semi-Annual General Meeting in October 2026.

Nicole: Moves

Valentine: Seconds

Arjun motivates: interested in joining the SSD, helping with events. Primarily interested in working on the priority consideration for residence. Residence is making changes that will make it significantly more difficult to get accommodations. Wants to do advocacy related to this!

5 votes yes.

PASSED

b. Email Motions

MOTION 2026/04/28: 1

WHEREAS the SSD seeks to enhance the accessibility of its Accessible Events workshop and its accompanying recording; and

WHEREAS the updated pricing for ASL interpretation requires Council approval;

BIRT the SSD approve up to $600 for ASL interpretation services for the Accessible Events workshop.

PASSED

MOTION 2026/05/07: 2

WHEREAS Access BC is circulating an open letter calling on the federal government to expand national pharmacare, make funding permanent, and implement the recommendations of the National Pharmacare Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS signatures on the open letter must come from organizations;

BIRT the Society for Students with a Disability sign on to and support this open letter.

PASSED

MOTION 2026/05/07: 3

WHEREAS the SSD seeks to enhance the accessibility of its Accessible Events workshop and its accompanying recording; and

WHEREAS the change in pricing for ASL interpretation, due to original miscommunications of price, requires Council approval;

BIRT the SSD approves exactly $670 for ASL interpretation services for the Accessible Events workshop.

PASSED

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9. Future Meeting Times

a. Council Meetings

- Let's plan our June council meeting, please fill out the poll below.
  - https://crab.fit/ssd-june-council-meeting-597555

b. Bi-Weekly Staff/Admin (Thrive) Meetings

- Meetings throughout the summer are held bi-weekly on Mondays.
- Next Meeting: May 25th at 12:00pm
- All are welcome, mandatory(ish) for Administrative Council.

c. #Access4All Meetings

- Meetings throughout the summer are held bi-weekly on Wednesdays.
- Next Meeting: May 20th at 1:00pm
- Email Bella if you would like to be involved.

10. In-Camera (If needed)

11. Adjournment 1:50pm

Thank you for coming!