

Board of Directors

Date | Time March 30th | 4:30 PM | Location Online

Estimated Duration: 2 hours

Members

Executive Council:

J. Surdi (President) | Z. Hasan (VPI) | A. Jogoo (VPFA) | C. Benson (VPA) |

Executive Coordinators:

K. Shaban (Speaker) | T. Sharma (Administrative Coordinator) | K. Karim and V. Tang (Financial Associates) |

Departmental Clubs and Societies:

Biochemistry Student Association (BSA) | Biology Undergraduate Society (BUGS) | Chemistry Club (ChemClub) | Materials and Nanoscience Society (MNS) | Physics Club (PhysClub) | Science and Business Students' Association (SBSA) | Earth and Environmental Undergraduate club (WATROX) |

University Wide Committees:

Aviation Society | Biomedical Student Association (BMSA) | Psychology Society (Psychsoc) | WUSA Science Councillors | WUSA Science Senators | Women in Science (WIS) |

Announcements & Updates

- There were no updates presented by any executive members, departmental clubs or societies.
- The Speaker of the Board was granted permission to record the meeting prior to moving forward to New Business.

New Business

1. Motion to Approve Julian Surdi for SciSoc President Fall 2020 & Winter 2021
 - Moved by: SciSoc VPF
 - Seconded: PhysClub
 - 7 in favour
 - 0 opposed
 - 0 abstained
 - The motion has passed

2. Motion to Approve Tarun Sharma for SciSoc Vice President Internal for Fall 2020 & Winter 2021
 - Moved by: SciSoc VPF
 - Seconded: PhysClub
 - 7 in favour*
 - 0 opposed*
 - 0 abstained*
 - The motion has passed**

3. Motion to Approve Carly Benson for SciSoc Vice President Communications for Fall 2020 & Winter 2021
 - Moved by: SciSoc VPF
 - Seconded: PhysClub
 - 7 in favour*
 - 0 opposed*
 - 0 abstained*
 - The motion has passed**

4. Motion to Approve Amanda Kwan for SciSoc Vice President Retail for Fall 2020 & Winter 2021
 - Moved by: SciSoc VPF
 - Seconded: PhysClub
 - 7 in favour*
 - 0 opposed*
 - 0 abstained*
 - The motion has passed**

5. Motion to Approve Melinda Bai for SciSoc Vice President Student Life for Fall 2021
 - Moved by: SciSoc VPF
 - Seconded: PhysClub
 - 7 in favour*
 - 0 opposed*
 - 0 abstained*
 - The motion has passed**

6. Motion to Approve Vaishavi Sathyamoorthi for Vice President Student Life for Winter 2021

- Moved by: SciSoc VPF
- Seconded: PhysClub
- 7 in favour*
- 0 opposed*
- 0 abstained*
- The motion has passed**

7. Approve a Vice President Academic for the Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 terms
- ❑ Speaker: We must approve a VPA for Fall 2020 and Winter 2021. All of their platforms have been posted on the Facebook group. Floor is opened to those wanting to discuss who they would like to nominate.
 - ❑ CRO: Sumaya was the only one running for Fall and Winter, Reggie and Matthew ran for Fall and Noor ran for Winter alone. As you can see, the platforms are in the agenda, and you can ask any questions of clarification as well to help determine who you would like to vote for.
 - ❑ BUGS: Really liked Reginald's presentation for Fall 2020, based on the way they presented.
 - ❑ VPF: He had great points on expanding the First Year Rep portfolio, and [Reginald] would be able to make it a much better role for first years by hearing it by the [First Year representatives].
 - ❑ Speaker: Just to clarify [CRO], Reggie is only running for Fall?
 - ❑ CRO: Correct, due to his co-op sequence.
 - ❑ Speaker: Does that only leave the Board with 2 candidates for the Winter term?
 - ❑ CRO: Yes, it would be either Noor or Summaya.
 - ❑ VPF: Would you like to discuss pro's and con's of the candidates?
 - ❑ MNS: I really appreciate [Matthew] because of his new ideas, for example with the Newsletter, which is something SciSoc has not previously done. His prior experience with VPI is also an asset. He would also be a great voice from SciSoc from a physical science rather than a life science.
 - ❑ VPF: Matthew was an exec back in Fall 2019 and does have prior experience with SciSoc.
 - ❑ CRO: Having been a prior VPA, sure you might want to accomplish something, but there is no guarantee you can do it. I do think [Reginald] presented a much more feasible goal, trying to fix the whole concept of how events from VPA are run. I've never heard anyone trying to fix this issue before. Also he is in Environmental Sciences,
 - ❑ MNS: Where are all their platforms again?
 - ❑ CRO: They are on the agenda and facebook groups.

- ❑ Speaker: All their platforms were linked to the chat by [PhysClub], thank you PhysClub... In terms of continuity, it appears that Summaya is the only candidate running for both terms. To bring everyone up to date, the WUSA hiring committee and Board have indicated that despite being lovely, was red flagged by WUSA, due to involvement for the wrong reason and introduction to conflicts among teams. She has never been involved with SciSoc, and this information comes purely and unbiasedly from WUSA. To confirm, [CRO], none of the other candidates would be able to run both terms?
- ❑ CRO: Yes, Noor only ran for one term as it best fits her schedule, and Reggie is also unable to because of co-op. However, VPA is a role that is less crucial in terms of continuity.
- ❑ VPF: I believe Summaya could do well, however in terms of commitment, I am not sure that she can fully commit to the role, and I personally know it is a lot of work, I wish we had asked her what else she has on her plate for that term.
- ❑ Speaker: She mentioned she would sit on the Student Council for next term. Would the Board like to discuss candidates for each term separately?
- ❑ VPF: Should we discuss Fall first?
- ❑ Speaker: Sure! Does anyone want to bring forward who they recommend or nominate?
- ❑ CRO: I think Reggie would be an excellent candidate for the role, he has been involved a lot in SciSoc. Also, Matthew still handed in his form late, despite having an extension. Matthew also didn't know BUGS gave out lab coats and goggles, despite having been an exec for SciSoc.
- ❑ MNS brings up a mistake in Matthew's platform regarding the formatting of which term he is running for, which was readdressed to confirm he is running for Fall 2020.
- ❑ PhysClub: The only impression I have of her is based on what Zahra said from the Board, can anyone discuss their impression?
- ❑ VPF: She did discuss a lot of experience with the Student Council, and many other student initiatives. She had a lot of ideas on students studying in groups, but we were unsure of how this would work.
- ❑ Speaker: She was very well spoken. A potential conflict was that she sits on other Boards, which is a conflict of interest for our Board.
- ❑ BUGS: She did mention she wants to bring together students in programs. However, I find that this isn't a common issue among our

programs in Science. This is the exact reason we have these clubs, and I didn't understand the incentive of this.

- ❑ BSA: We have a lot of programs and even Science Cluster programs, and hence we do have support for these possibilities.
- ❑ MNS: To be honest, her platform is all 3 points, but this is all really just one point about engaging students, which isn't really even the VPA role, so I don't know how I feel about her platform.
- ❑ CRO: I think this is just because she doesn't have prior experience with SciSoc and what VPA does.
- ❑ BUGS: I am reading on Reggie, and I really like his point on initiating events for co-op students in Fall, to help them find resources. Planning beforehand would be a great idea and less a lot of stress.
- ❑ At this point, 29 minutes had passed in the ZOOM meeting, and because of limited time, the Speaker restarted the meeting in order to let Vanessa present her running for VPF for Fall 2020.

8. Vanessa Presents for the Role of Finance Fall 2020.

- ❑ Has done SciSoc 3 terms, and has worked under the current VPF, and has done accountant meetings, as well as cheque assigning, and working with mailing cheques as well. Also oversees the external accounts as well.
- ❑ With her previous experience, she would be a great candidate.
- ❑ Wants to discuss a new Public concept for Budgets, so students can access them as well, in order to allow students to determine what students are funding with their Science Society fee. This template would be available in the office and online.
- ❑ Also is interesting in digitizing the records for SciSoc in order to have less clutter and overall easier access to these records.
- ❑ Finding a way to digitize records and the way cheque requests are submitted.
- ❑ Also, to adjust departmental clubs' feedback systems in order to ensure that students are able to provide valuable feedback to make sure we are catering to the student body and accepting those requests. We can store this feedback to make all of our events better within SciSoc and the departmental clubs as well.
- ❑ The Board applauds Vanessa and begins the question period.
- ❑ VPF: For digitizing records, do you have plans for digitizing cheque requests as well?
- ❑ Vanessa: We have been doing this slightly due to COVID-19, and we are looking at ways to have the execs signatures to do this faster in a digital format.
- ❑ Speaker: Question of clarification , why are you only running for Fall, would you be interested in running for Winter 2021?
- ❑ Vanessa: I already have a commitment for Winter 2021, and feel it is unfair to sign up to run as an exec during a term I already have plans for. I will be on campus, and can definitely make transition purposes easier for whoever is running for Winter 2021.
- ❑ Speaker: That is very respectable thank you. Here is my fun question, what's been a memorable experience or something you've learned because of SciSoc?
- ❑ Vanessa: It's really great how we've been able to put people together, see people try for Medical School, Robotics and more.
- ❑ VPF: In terms of the special budget report itself, who would you want to work on that?

- ❑ Vanessa: I want to work with the Finance associates and execs of SciSoc so we all know where the money is going so we can better address it.
- ❑ Speaker asks if there are any questions and wishes Vanessa a great day.
- ❑ Speaker: Does anyone want to discuss who they would wish to nominate?
- ❑ CRO: Osanda has also expressed that she can also run for Fall 2020 as well.
- ❑ Speaker: In terms of Winter, we only have one candidate, but we must discuss for Fall?
- ❑ VPF: Vanessa had a lot of work on Science initiatives, and can focus on communication, and Osanda wants a more sustainable initiative. Hence, if we had both candidates we would be able to benefit from both these plans.
- ❑ Speaker: Anyone else have anything to add?
- ❑ VPF: We shouldn't just have a fourth year student every time, because we need to be able to train someone else on the role as well.
- ❑ PhysClub: Is it possible to train the Financial Associates during the term?
- ❑ VPF: It is a large role, and hence it would be hard at all at once.
- ❑ CRO: Osanda is a fourth year student, and hence her being VPF in Finance would result in another fourth year student passing it off.
- ❑ MNS: Would Vanessa be able to transition well?
- ❑ VPF: They are both very quick learners and great and fast.
- ❑ BUGS: Would people even do the feedback form? BUGS was unable to advertise that successfully. That might not be able to implement that. I really like Osanda's points a lot more. I don't see the feedback form having the effect [Vanessa] would like.
- ❑ VPF: I still think it's valuable feedback, because of the fact that it provides feedback.
- ❑ PhysClub: If there isn't a new method of feedback, the point isn't really valuable due to the new nature.
- ❑ Speaker: Would anyone like to put forward a motion?
- ❑ BUGS: I put forward Osanda for Fall 2020 and Winter 2021.
- ❑ VPF: I want to suggest the fact that it is a big role, and it is quite possible for one person to get tired out after a term. I don't want to let that happen.
- ❑ BUGS: I retract my motion, maybe it would be nice to be able to benefit from both candidates and both their unique ideas.

- VPF: I can see them working very well together, and would help the team aspect between different terms.
- PhysClub: Vanessa said that she would be able to transition as well, which would also make the transition from Fall 2020 to Winter 2021.
- VPF: I am ready to make a motion.

9. Approve Vanessa Tang for Vice President Finance for the Fall 2020 term

- Moved by: SciSoc VPF
- Seconded by: BUGS
- 7 in favour*
- 0 opposed*
- 0 abstained*
- The motion has passed**

10. Approve Osanda Lee for Vice President Finance for the Winter 2021 term

- Moved by: SciSoc VPF
- Seconded by: MNS
- 7 in favour*
- 0 opposed*
- 0 abstained*
- The motion has passed**

11. Discussion on VPA for Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 terms.

- MNS: I really like Noor's points. My only issue with Reggie is the fact that all of our exec's are non-physical science students, there is a lack of representation.
- VPF: We have never had an environmental student as an exec, that would also be a great lead for representation as well.
- MNS: We can't ignore there is still a lack of representation, and we can't ignore that [Matthew] is trained for the role.
- CRO: We cannot vote for someone based on their program, that is unfair.
- MNS: Yes, but we have never had VPA events for students in Physical Sciences.
- Speaker: Consider MathSoc and their representation for each program, that would possibly be a better solution for your concerns.
- MNS: Yes, but we should ensure we have communication with students not in Life Sciences.
- VPF: Our coordinators are also able to contribute, it doesn't just have to be the exec members, who are controlling this.
- Speaker has to reconnect for a new meeting due to the Zoom meeting being over.
- Speaker: Are we ready to vote on this matter?
- MNS: We are ready to pass a motion.

12. Approve Reginald Somera for Vice President Academic for the Fall 2020 term

- Moved by: MNS
- Seconded by: VPF
- 7 in favour*
- 0 opposed*
- 0 abstained*
- The motion has passed**

13. Approve Noor Parray for Vice President Finance for the Winter 2021 term

- Moved by: SciSoc VPF
- Seconded by: BSA
- 7 in favour*
- 0 opposed*
- 0 abstained*
- The motion has passed**

- ❑ Speaker: We are now done elections, and can invite back the current SciSoc executive members that are running again.
 - ❑ Tarun Sharma and Carly Bensen return, Julian Surdi **was** unable to attend.
12. Discussion of Departmental Club Budgets Remainder and [Charity Donations](#) (file submitted by MNS)
- ❑ Speaker: We can now discuss the Departmental Club Budget Remainder, if MNS would like to present their update.
 - ❑ MNS: Our leftover funding could be used to donate at least some of it towards fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, and the only thing we can do right now is to be able to fund this goal.
 - ❑ VPF: And I have talked to the accountant about this donation.
 - ❑ MNS: I have worked on this document for a while, in order to make it easy to understand. Before I begin, please know that your club does not have to participate. The donation plan has 5 points, it donates to the 3 local hospitals. When a doctor changes rooms from a COVID-19 patient, they have to change PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) twice! Region-Ready is a new initiative in order to make funding for the 3 local hospitals to support their COVID-19 patients. We can direct what we want them to purchase with the money, and furthermore, we can use this as a one time payment. Doing a direct deposit results in no percentage loss for the transaction fee, so it is important that we try to maximize our donation. There are many students living in Waterloo, and it is important to give back to the community, and help prevent the spread of this virus. There are many tools our University has to be able to give back to the community as well, such as 3D printing to help as well.
 - ❑ Speaker: I believe we have to obtain approval from WUSA and from the general Student population to inform them we are donating the money.
 - ❑ VPF: We do not have to do this, but it would be a kind initiative.
 - ❑ VPA: Yes, we could create a feedback form in order to do this effectively (VPA and Speaker nod).
 - ❑ Speaker: The President would be able to obtain more information from WUSA regarding what is possible and what is not possible from the WUSA council.
 - ❑ MNS: We need each club to go back and discuss what each club wants to donate, if at all, can I see a visual perspective as to what each club wants to donate?
 - ❑ VPF: Would you want clubs to donate from carry over?

- ❑ MNS: I do not want clubs to touch their carry over, please do not do this, only donate anything remaining from COVID-19 cancellations.
- ❑ WatRox: I think that's a great idea, and I'll let you guys know from my Club's execs.
- ❑ PsychSoc: I will discuss with my club as well and let you all know.
- ❑ MNS: I would like to move a motion for the execs of SciSoc to determine what is possible from WUSA, and to get back to us all.
- ❑ The board discusses this, and rather formulates a request instead, agreeing to meet at the next BOD instead on April 7th.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting Date