

Board of Governors Regular Meeting, 2022-12-11

1. **Attendance:** Kells, Ian, Walid, Yassi, Ali, Tuhin

2. **Absence:** Flo, Zaina, David, Saman

3. **Opening of the meeting**

Meeting opened at 10:20 AM.

4. **Adoption of the agenda**

5. **Announcements**

5.1. BoG quorum [Kells]

Kells: First thing, we talked about it a bit during IH, but basically we are not operating strictly legally right now, which is something I realized about a week ago. Per constitution, no less than 6 and no more than 10 MaL. We currently have five. To fix that, we will reopen applications. I wanted to ask everyone's opinion, but we can take another person from council, which would solve our problem. Legally, everything we decide on now, at the next meeting, we could vote retroactively to ratify every decision we make before that point. Any thoughts?

Owen: The board still has voting power, but not 6 MaL.

Yassi: I am such a big fan of following constitution, policies, etc, but I think the purpose is to guide us in a convenient direction. Since this was something out of our control, we can just not vote on the one motion today, and move on next meeting. Not sure about everything that happened in the last 2 meetings.

Kells: Technically Graham did not resign from board until last week, so we were fine. We can not vote on the motion. We should still discuss the SEAM policy, and maybe get back with some feedback, but we'll officially vote on it later.

Owen: So notice of motion, not motion.

6. **Approval of the [minutes](#) of the last meeting**

Kells: I don't think Tuhin was there.

Minutes approved.

7. **Presentation**

7.1. Discussion RE: Board Restructuring [Kells]

Kells: This is something that has also been talked about at IH, basically I have been noticing that the subcoms haven't really been meeting, and the whole purpose of getting rid of the mandates and going to tri-weekly meetings was that there would be subcom meetings in that interim. I don't think we've been seeing that, so I wanted to open the discussion about maybe bringing back some kind of mandate structure in light of the past few weeks, and obviously

we haven't been as active as we could have. I wanted to open that discussion, see if anyone has any opinions/thoughts.

Walid: In the last meeting, you said it was structured differently in the past?

Kells: In the past, Board operated on mandates--every new member would have a meeting with the chair, they'd talk about what they want to accomplish on Board, and they would sign up for that project and would be committed to finishing that project during their term. It was almost like a contract you signed. Basically, they got rid of them since the subcoms encourage more collaboration. It did hold people to account.

Yassi: One of the things with the mandates was that they were not finished. A lot of good projects would not be passed on well. However, we saw that the subcoms don't work as well. We need to make sure that the good projects get finished--I think bringing back mandates in some shape or form, maybe this year we can focus on smaller mandates, with e.g. 2 members on bigger projects.

Owen: I think the nice thing about mandates is that they gave clear direct goals. When we first formed the subcom structure, part of that was Brenda. I think the accountability is really important, if you can assign a mandate at the start of the year to each subcom, but we can ask to provide updates--that was one nice thing about mandates. If you had a whole subcom to hold accountable that provides value.

Yassi: We can do like a frosh/e-week in that the person in charge of the mandate can gather troops, but I think having someone has a head is important, someone who will lead it.

Kells: Also, I am going to meet with Ali next weekend cause he is my only chair currently. We will discuss the role of subcoms, I'll put the details in the slack if anyone wants to join.

Yassi: I think another thing is duration, how long the board meetings are. Something I've heard again and again is that board meetings are so long. The way we are portraying our meetings outside is that they are so long, everyone's so board, and we need to fix it. We can get a vibe check from everyone in the room to determine whether it's worth it to revisit that. We do want engagement from everyone on and outside of board.

Kells: I think definitely bi-weekly going forward. The whole point of pushing it to 3 weeks is that there will be subcom meetings in the middle, so probably bi-weekly makes more sense. So--the Sunday before council, or the Sunday after council?

Owen: Since Board has more consequential decisions, it's nice to have it before council.

Kells: That is how I'll schedule them.

Owen: We tried this and got low interaction, but having more EUS council participation on subcoms would be very beneficial.

Kells: Even the projects form, getting people to submit ideas.

Yassi: I really liked your email Kells this week about an eus.all email. We have been talking about making the agenda public earlier. It's surprising the amount of people who go over Board meeting minutes.

Thomas: I think the board minutes should be linked on the wiki page.

Owen: It looks good to me.

Kells: Hoping to do a brainstorming session this weekend if anyone is free and wants to hop in.

7.2. Notice of [Motion RE: Amendments to SEAM Policy \[Yassi\]](#)

Yassi: Basically, SEAM has updated their policy that hasn't been amended since 2019. They have given us reasoning for every change on a document. This is it. The first thing is changing the policy from having 1 co-chair to 2, which is what they have been doing. After, they seem to add a couple positions. I am personally a bit worried about the addition of 3 new exec positions regarding problems with recruitment. It would be nice to suggest to them to have a VP section and a coordinator/director section, so they can at least have their exec comm filled.

Kells: I think what JC does is that they have VPs and just call it portfolio, and there's no practical difference between them other than that VPs need to be filled. It does not necessarily need to be a hierarchy thing, you could just change the name to something not VP.

Yassi: Next, they updated the responsibilities of each of the VPs. There's a typo in VP Comms. It's a very well done document. Now I'm a little worried that they don't have any execs on their advisory chair. I do feel like it is very important to have an exec invited to meetings with faculty as we are the official connection.

Kells: When was the last meeting?

Yassi: I don't think there have been many advisory meetings recently. I will relay this to them, and potentially ask them to attend the next board meeting so we can go through the updated updated version when we have quorum.

Kells: Was VP projects a position before?

Yassi: I do not know. I know VP consulting was under the internal portfolio.

Kells: Do we know the status of Bridge?

Yassi: They are completely separate, they reached out to Saman and Isabella a month and a half ago. We can also ask Bridge to come in and present their policy to us.

8. New Business/Discussion Topics

9. Reports

9.1. BoG Committees

9.1.1. Chair Report [Kells]

Kells: I've said most of what I need to say--I haven't done my one-on-ones yet. In January, I'll sit down with everyone on board, we'll be going over mandates with everybody just so everyone is pretty clear on their objectives going into their terms. Next, recruitment is a priority there. I'll also release applications for "November" term (hired in Jan, 9 month term).

9.1.2. IH [Kells]

Kells: I think that the main topic with IH was what we just talked about. We talked about the risk ledger--that's a document/form where we keep track of any outstanding liabilities in different EUS groups. Before, it was the execs who filled it out. We also sent it out to EUS groups to take notice of anything that's going on, see how we can mitigate/manage that risk from an IH perspective.

9.1.3. Finance [Ali]

Ali: To be honest, I haven't done anything. Just reading the previous minutes on the Drive.

9.1.4. Special Projects [Ali]

Ali: It's just me and Zaina, we are working on it. I've been trying to reach out to Salesforce again to meet for the customer relationship management. Hopefully I'll do that December or early January.

Kells: Have you made any inroads on Slack replacement? It's been an issue not accessing messages older than 90 days.

Ali: Yes, it was something we were trying to do with OAP as well. Once everyone feels comfortable (after my exam), I can try to get us a MatterMost instance and we could try it out for a week or two. I did some work, and I know that Dina is trying it out right now. The other good thing with MatterMost is that it comes built in with an issue tracker that is pretty capable. I'll deploy one instance after the 20th and let everybody know.

Yassi: The exec committee would also be interested if there's a tryout period.

Ali: This is practically self-hosted, I'll let you know.

Walid: What's the problem with MS Teams?

Ali: First of all, it's attached to McGill emails--I remember we had a discussion on it, but you want stuff to be attached to EUS emails (separating personal from work). Also, I think MS Teams is terrible UI, it

has very bad performance issues, and is annoying to work with. I think we have way better options for now.

Kells: I feel like we should really try to make sure that there's a concentrated effort on this--we don't want different EUS groups doing different things.

Ali: I agree, and I think that's where I will look at EUS-wide Slack or MatterMost--we have one instance for everyone at EUS to use, if you want your messages to stay and stuff like that, just use the EUS MatterMost or Slack.

Kells: Is it like a Discord where you can set up different types of roles?

Ali: I'm actually not sure if it's as intended, but it's pretty much like Slack. I feel like you could make people have visibility. I will look into it.

9.1.5.E-Week [Efe]

Owen: E-Week's happening Jan 4th to 8th. Getting events planning together, all the big contracts are basically signed. We have some venues we're still chasing down. Final registration number is 696 currently, that is full week + day event tickets combined, but there will be some more tickets given to bursary people. We will be selling tickets to the people who apply to the bursary. The total number of tickets will be just over 700. Max capacity will be around 750. Clothing drive results are in. Everyone's on exam season right now. Preweek starts on the 30th, we'll be inhabiting McConnell.

Kells: Budget, what's up?

Owen: Budget's looking very good. No huge unexpected costs, here's our current master budget. Looking like a ~7k deficit, which is a smaller deficit from the start. Things like pub crawl, night events have the increased cost with extra capacity, but extra ticket revenue offsets that.

9.2. Senator Report [David]

No updates.

9.3. Council [Yassi]

Yassi: We had our last council meeting of the semester on Nov 30th. The only motion on the table was formation of the ad-hoc EUS exec selcom, where council must ratify that execs can form selcom to choose other execs.

9.4. Executive Committee & President & Finance [Yassi]

Yassi: I'll put finance, exec comm, and pres all together. VP Academic, Luis got all the EUS proposals in. EPTS has their final review sessions scheduled. Luis is preparing to transition the next VP Acad. VP Comms, PSD finished their Wong mural. Also, we were approached by EMF who wants to take ownership of TENS screens--we did not like that, but we will try to have them up by

January and collaborate with EMF. Then, in terms of VP Events, world cup watch party was organized by Michael in common room, PNU's ordered. VPX, we have selected the CELC delegation. We have 4 delegates including Emile, the head delegate. Big thing is CELC that's happening the first week of January. VP Internal, E-Week is happening. New Blues head manager, JC had power hour, banquet happened. VP Finance, Isabella has been on vacation, but is back now. Her last day this semester is Wednesday. I don't have updates on OAP finances, we can ping them for the next meeting. VPSL, we currently have no eng local wellness advisor. Hopefully wellness hub will figure that out. There was an MEDN cleanup party, and a dungeon policy is being written. MEDN policy is being updated. For VPSL, SEAM had their policy update. President, we will most likely reopen exec applications for a bit more, and then do interviews in holiday season, early January. There are a few meetings happening, fac council, ssmu presidents'. Dispatch reached out to us to ask us for space to store a fridge, and they'd pay a portion of our rent, but it didn't really make sense as we already have a lot of space, and we don't pay rent for common room.

Motion to confidential.

Ian: When does the VP Acad term end?

Yassi: He's done in December. When the semester ends.

Ian: The support fund committee, I don't think we've met yet.

Yassi: He will definitely get that done before his term ends.

Kells: I know Luis was talking about overhauling EUSF, will that project be passed in the next VP Acad?

Yassi: I think that's a project for the board, as we are potentially creating a new fund. Even maybe Luis can sit on it.

Kells: I don't know if Luis wants to come to a board meeting before he leaves.

Yassi: I will invite him to the next meeting, not sure how it'll be but I do know he's planning on writing a very detailed exit report. I've been taking a lot of notes from what he's been saying.

9.5. VP Finance [Saman]

9.5.1. OAP [Saman]

No updates.

10. Set the time and date of the next meeting

They will be on the Sundays before council.

Yassi: I think it's fine to have the first one be on the 15th, but we can do shorter back-to-back meetings.

Kells: We'll say Sunday the 15th.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM.