

## Gateway Student Journalism Society

Meeting Minutes  
February 24 2022

### Opening

The regular meeting of the Gateway Student Journalism Society was called to order at 6:48 p.m. on February 24 via Google Meets by Mitchell Pawluk.

### **Present:**

PAWLUK, Mitchell  
BEASLEY, Chris  
HE, Jin  
KIMANI, Emily  
MACATANGAY, Arthur  
CRAIG, Lee  
NARVEY, Rachel  
JONES, Emma (joined)

### **Absent:**

MAHAL, Areeha  
BROOKS, SAM  
BOLINA, Gurpreet  
SAGGU, Sukhmani

PAWLUK is serving as interim Board Chair for the first two motions.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by BEASLEY

Seconded by CRAIG

### **Special Order**

PAWLUK announces that there is a vacancy, and though the vacancy is usually posted on the website, because we wouldn't be able to approve a new representative until next meeting, very close to the end of the term, PAWLUK reached out to JONES. JONES has shown interest in being the new continuity representative, and JONES has served as Executive Director, Marketing and Outreach Coordinator, and Opinion Editor, as well as Board Chair.

Moved by NARVEY

Seconded by BEASLEY

The motion carries and JONES is acclaimed by the Board.

PAWLUK explains that there is a need for a Board Chair for the rest of the term until May. PAWLUK says he would have offered, but he shouldn't because he's also Editor-in-Chief.

NARVEY motions to acclaim JONES as Board Chair.

BEASLEY seconds this motion.

JONES is acclaimed as Board Chair.

### **Approval of Minutes**

PAWLUK explains that MAHAL, secretary, is out of the country and minutes will be sent out via email.

### **Reports to the Board**

PAWLUK presents the Editor-in-Chief report.

PAWLUK explains that annual elections training has started. Opinion will have seven volunteers, News will have six, and there will be several photo volunteers. Both Opinion and News have received training to be ready for Friday. PAWLUK mentions that KERR, Outreach and Marketing Coordinator, was able to distribute and receive responses for the Readership Survey, garnering about 330 responses from readers. The responses are being put together by KERR to be presented to staff at a later date. Editor-in-Chief hiring will still be going ahead, and members of the hiring committee will be contacted at a later date. Finally, PAWLUK mentions that at the end of February, the University is returning back to campus on February 28, and The Gateway staff will be doing the same. Protocols from prior to the switch online will be in place, but vaccines will no longer be checked because of changing campus requirements. Combined pitch meetings will be held in a hybrid format after elections. PAWLUK mentions that the Finance Committee has submitted the audit, submitted to the Board last meeting. PAWLUK will be able to receive the DFU cheque soon. SAGGU is looking into different grants, including one whose deadline is March 21.

BEASLEY explains though The Gateway usually publishes a Board of Governors representative report card, but doesn't want any staff member to interview the individual.

PAWLUK explains that because the individual has uncertain circumstances around his resignation, the staff have decided not to report on the report card.

KIMANI asks if there has been any follow-up on the conversations mentioned in the statement made by The Gateway regarding the Aboriginal Student Council's (ASC) Open Letter.

PAWLUK explains that ASC posted an Open Letter on social media channels last week in response to a posted article on the "No More Cuts" rally. Following this statement being posted, around 1.5 hours later, PAWLUK reached out to ASC to offer an apology that extended an invitation to meet up with PAWLUK and HE. ASC responded the next day saying that they would be open to the idea, but would like to take reading week to relax. The conversation would happen in the coming weeks. ASC also asked that The Gateway release a public statement, which is published on The Gateway's social media and website. CRAIG was reached out to about the statement in lieu of going to the entire Board. PAWLUK mentioned that one of the best ways to start to rebuild trust was to platform Indigenous voices, but understands if they don't want to meet. He mentions that he would like all staff to receive EDI training. PAWLUK and MAHAL have EDI training, but PAWLUK would like the entire staff to receive training.

BEASLEY suggests that there be more relationship building between The Gateway and ASC, as it would allow for more tools in their disposal. BEASLEY suggests that The Gateway staff go to ASC meetings.

PAWLUK mentions that he had assumed The Gateway had a collegial relationship with ASC, and the Opinion Editor had been in contact in the past about Indigenous Celebration Week. PAWLUK is hopeful that he will be able to help future Gateway staff build relationships with outgoing and incoming ASC executive team. PAWLUK mentions that there had previously been an article published about Indigenous classes that did not feature Indigenous students, and staff did not handle the issue appropriately. However, staff following that year did their best to remedy the resulting situation.

PAWLUK presents the Executive report.

SAGGU did not hand in a report, but ad prices have been set and grants are still the biggest issue for the Executive Director currently. Once PAWLUK has the Executive report, he will ensure the Board receives it

PAWLUK presents the Outreach report.

PAWLUK mentions that it's similar to the EIC report, with 330 respondents to the Readership Survey that are very diverse and representative of campus communities. KERR noticed that last year, the winter 2021 data was not handed in. Most of KERR's new work is going to be handling the data from the readership survey. KERR had been contemplating holding an in-person event due to cancelling winter club fair, but the staff decided against it. He has also been stepping up and providing guidance for photo volunteers, seeing the return of the first team photo pitch. KERR was able to recruit several volunteers to cover the upcoming elections.

HE presents the Production Editor Report

The Top 10 articles of the month are:

1. Homepage, 4220
2. Top 5 Taylor Swift songs to cry to, 3101
3. Budget 2022, 2799
4. James Webb Telescope U of A space historian, 1611
5. U of A diabetes researcher shows promising results, 1254
6. Students' Union election candidates announced, 925
7. Students and staff protest cuts to post-secondary, 869
8. Swoop airlines: A cautionary tale, 822
9. Last year BTS snubbed Grammy, this year no different, 633
10. Vice-president (external) report card, 613

He is doing elections dissection panel, prepared production job postings.

CRAIG presents the Finance Committee report.

CRAIG mentions that Finance Committee hasn't met yet but she and PAWLUK are planning to meet next week; at which time a report can be handed it later or at the next Board meeting.

PAWLUK presents the Human Resources Committee report.

PAWLUK mentions that HR Committee has not met as there were no formal complaints.

PAWLUK presents the Governance Committee report.

PAWLUK had sat down with CO prior to the Board meeting, but CO resigned shortly after and no Governance Committee meeting has been made. PAWLUK mentions that this is the same issue for the Sexual Assault Task Force, as CO was also the chair of that committee. PAWLUK looks forward to doing more with the task force after SU elections, and inviting all those on the

Board to join. PAWLUK would like The Gateway staff to head action, and would like another Board member to take over Chair position.

CRAIG mentions that next year, she may be able to chair the Sexual Assault Task Force, but is too busy in the next two months.

PAWLUK says that if no one takes the role, he will take the chairship, but would look very favorably upon someone else being chair.

JONES mentions that she would be happy to set up meetings and work on the administrative side if PAWLUK would like to provide context to what staff has been doing.

PAWLUK says that would be a good arrangement, and would like to meet with JONES to discuss the logistics of such an arrangement.

PAWLUK motions to have JONES as Sexual Assault Task Force Chair.

CRAIG seconds this motion.

JONES is acclaimed as Sexual Assault Task Force Chair.

### **New Business**

JONES mentions that the first topic here is the statement and response to ASC Open Letter, but this topic was discussed in detail earlier. She asks if anyone has any further questions to ask.

PAWLUK brings up the Production Editor job posting. PAWLUK mentions that the job postings are reflective of the new close dates per the already-approved timeline. The Production Editor timeline will close on March 21 along with the Executive Director posting. The Opinion and News Editor job postings will close April 4.

JONES asks the Board to review the postings. JONES would look favourably upon the Board approving the postings.

PAWLUK motions to approve the Production Editor job posting.

NARVEY seconds this motion.

Votes:

In favour: PAWLUK, NARVEY, MACATANGAY, CRAIG, BEASLEY

The motion carries unanimously and the Production Editor job posting is approved.

PAWLUK mentions that a hiring committee for a Production Editor includes the current EIC, incoming EIC, current management role, and a volunteer. PAWLUK mentions that because NAIDOO is not in attendance, it may be best to go forward and not put together the hiring committee in this meeting.

PAWLUK asks the Board to read over the Executive Director job posting.

PAWLUK motions to approve the Executive Director job posting.

NARVEY seconds this motion.

Votes:

In favour: PAWLUK, NARVEY, MACATANGAY, CRAIG, BEASLEY

The motion carries unanimously and the Executive Director job posting is approved.

PAWLUK motions to approve the News Editor job posting.

MACATANGAY seconds this motion.

Votes:

In favour: PAWLUK, NARVEY, MACATANGAY, CRAIG, BEASLEY

The motion carries unanimously and the News Editor job posting is approved.

PAWLUK motions to approve the Opinion Editor job posting.

CRAIG seconds this motion.

Votes:

In favour: PAWLUK, NARVEY, MACATANGAY, CRAIG, BEASLEY

The motion carries unanimously and the Opinion Editor job posting is approved.

PAWLUK mentions that the next Board meeting will be March 17. He will send out a Google Calendar invite. PAWLUK also mentions that if any member of the Board plans to run for

elections, members recuse themselves from the Board as they may be impacted by The Gateway's news coverage.

MACATANGAY asks why the Arts & Culture Deputy Editor postings are not up.

PAWLUK mentions that job postings that are not paid are not brought to the Board. After The Gateway lost their DFU, The Gateway could only afford to hire News and Opinion Editors.

PAWLUK motions to adjourn.

MACATANGAY seconds this motion.

The Board adjourns at 8:04 p.m..