Minutes of the Postgraduate Students’ Association Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 6 October 2020 at 12noon in SUB 217/218, Student Union Building and via Zoom

PRESENT: Elizabeth Olsen (President), (President), Sam Crawley (Vice President Community), Miru Samarakoon (Vice President Advocacy), Sraddha Venkataraman (Communication officer), Deanna Ayupova, Nancy Marquez, Cody Rei-Anderson, Christiana Torricelli,

APOLOGIES: Glen Askey, Bernard Tawiah (Treasurer), Greg Williams, Michaela Harris

IN ATTENDANCE: 4 other postgrad students (in person and via Zoom)

MINUTES: Erella Sonnino

# Welcome and apologies

EO welcomed everyone and noted apologies.

As no quorum has been met at this meeting, a count of the proxy vote has been finalised October 2020 (including votes during the meeting).

# miNUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

EO passed a motion to accept the minutes from the previous IGM held on 31 March 2020. 12 voted (in person and via Zoom). Quorum not met. Minutes to be posted on the PGSA website for approval. All agreed. Minutes were approved by proxy vote October 2020.

# Annual report

EO gave a verbal summary of the annual report.

* Organisation and Management: data review of the PGSA membership according to the numbers’ breakdown per faculty, level of study and domestic/international and noted increase in numbers of members. Review of the executive, the recent restructuring, and the current and new positions. EO used this opportunity to acknowledge and to thank the current executive for their hard and dedicated work, building a strong, easy and flowing communication (using Teams and Zoom) improving the process of decision making and for their energy and input.

Introduction of an honorarium for Executive Members – still in a proposal stage and needed to decide how to allocate the funding.

EO noted resignations of the following executive members: EO (President); SC (VP Community); BT (Treasurer); GW (Outreach Taught); GA (Outreach Te Aro)

* Grants and Awards: a quick review of the changed done to the Academic Conference Grand and to the PG Excellence Award.
* Representation and Advocacy: EO highlights the importance of students’ representation as an essential part of the PGSA work and encouraged members to become representers and to check the PGSA web site for vacancies. EO also provided a brief update on the Victoria Doctoral Scholarship, Postgraduate Research Resource Agreement, and the Postgraduate Student Allowances and on advocacy issues such students’ accommodation and Tutoring Network.
* Community and Events: EO gave a quick review on the main PGSA events done this year, new and currents, the affect of COVID-19 and adjustments done trying to keep the events going as planned. A summary on the 3MT Competition, the success of the on-going events (such as Breakfast Social) and the upcoming ones Researchers’ Ball and Victorias Awards.

# ELECTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Nominations were opened for the following positions:

* President
* Vice President - Community
* Vice President –Advocacy
* Treasurer
* Communications Officer
* Union Liaison Officer (new position)
* Representation Officer (new position)
* Outreach (Pipitea)
* Outreach Te Aro
* Outreach Maori
* Outreach Taught
* Executive Member

Online voting to be closed 12:40.

EO, as a retiring president, announced the results at 12:50

**Co-President**

Miniruwani Samarakoon

**Co-President**

Christiana Torricelli

**Vice President Community**

Déanna Ayupova

**Vice President** **Advocacy**

None nominated/put forwarded

**Communications Officer**

Sraddha Venkataraman (continue)

**Treasurer**

None nominated/put forwarded

**Union Liaison Officer**

Cody Rei-Anderson

**Representation Officer**

Nancy Marquez

**Outreach (Pipitea)**

None nominated/put forwarded

**Outreach Te Aro**

None nominated/put forwarded

**Outreach Maori**

None nominated/put forwarded

**Executive Member**

* Angela Natali
* NathanHobrough - put forward. Voted. approved by proxy vote October 2020
* Maryam Ghorbanpour - put forward. Voted. (nomination withdrawn by MG after the meeting)
* Lizzie McLean (not present) - put forward. Voted. approved by proxy vote October 2020

EO thanked PGSA executive members who were leaving and welcomed the current members in their new positions as well as the new members to the executive.

# ANY OTHER BUSINESS

EO opened the floor for any other business. None raised.

# Close of meeting

Meeting closed 1:00 pm.