

Spring

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# Second Ternary Report

Chris Scott, Vice President Administration

Dear AMS Community,

This report will outline what I have been up to for the past couple of months. I'll start with an executive summary followed by an update on the projects my portfolio is currently undertaking. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions at [vpadmin@ams.ubc.ca](mailto:vpadmin@ams.ubc.ca)!

Regards,  
Chris Scott

## Executive Summary

My time is currently split between a number of larger picture goals and area-specific goals. The larger goals I've been working on include phase four of the New SUB Project and the Nest Animation Project. The more area-specific goals include the launching of the AMS Love Your Mug Program, finding a replacement software for OrgSync, creating performance metrics for the Lighter Footprint Strategy, refining the Student Life and Sustainability Centre, and more.

In addition to these projects, my team has been taking care of our clubs, the Hatch Art Gallery, and the many sustainability projects students have started.

## Goals

### "Student Nest"

- **Nest Review** – Meeting with UBC SEEDS and a professor from SCARP to craft a course for about 30 students to come into the Nest and quantify students' feelings about the building over February and March. We will then use that data to make a few adjustments (and possibly purchase some fun games!) through the months of March and April
- **Bookings Review** – Currently waiting on the next Operations Committee meeting that will finalize our new bookings policy which reserves the academic terms almost exclusively for our clubs and constituencies. The summer will be primarily for commercial clients, and the rest of the time we will focus on off-site catering deals instead of selling space in the Nest.
- **Phase 4 of New SUB** – As presented in Council, one of the first projects I took on for the New SUB committee was the redesigning of SUB basement plans, as the original ones were out of date. We were able to add a new party room, movement studio, and music studio with the second round of designs.

Also worth noting, we are currently working with a bit of a tight budget. The SUB basement was intended to be an \$8 million project, but given the budget overage on the Nest, we decided to cut that down to \$4 million. You can imagine that might be a bit of a challenge. The most obvious way to save some cash seems to be the end of trip facilities, but our LEED Platinum certification relies on it. We will be sending other, less costly proposals to our LEED rep for approval, so expect updates over the next couple of months!

### Better Supporting Student Groups

- **SLSC** – The space has been formally launched and is actually doing quite well. Since its launch in September we've assisted clubs in putting on 49 events and garnered

membership of approximately 10% of clubs. We are currently considering a renovation to close the space off from the rest of the Nest eating area. However, given our original plan would have been quite costly, we have gone back to the drawing board for a less expensive option.

- **Improved Structure** – With the elimination of SAC, we have done quite a number to improve efficiency. Clubs will no longer have to wait weeks to hear back on bookings or other club questions. Most directions are delivered to our well-trained staff that can make a decision or refer it to a higher authority if they are in doubt. We have also begun a bi-weekly club newsletter to make sure clubs are always in the loop and give constant reminders about matters that need attention.
- **Conflict Management** – I have spoken with the Matt (AMS Ombuds) regarding conflict management within clubs and how appeals or inter-club conflicts should be handled. A councilor on the Operations Committee is currently writing policy to make interactions with our clubs as fair as possible!

#### Creating Community

- **Nest Animation** – We have tried several tactics to get in touch with student organizations and bring them into the Nest, and we are learning with each one. I am primarily waiting on data from the Nest Animation Project study before acting on this, but I've got a couple of ideas up my sleeve! We are investigating bringing fun and interactive games to the Nest like an Xbox Kinect, fooseball, etc.
- **Increasing Student Presence** – Community Engagement Coordinator Sara Mack has been hard at working inviting clubs to increase presence in the Nest. What we have learned is that letting clubs do their own thing and providing all the resources they need is the best route to go for this. We do not want to overwhelm them with all the things they already have going on; besides, when things grow organically, that's what they turn out best!
- **Arts and Culture** – The Art Gallery is well-underway. Once our arts and culture clubs find their bearings with all the new funding they have available, we will begin working with them second semester to bring Art throughout the Nest.

#### Art Rental Program

- **Creating Rental Program** – Our first rental client came to us in August asking to rent three pieces, and we successfully negotiated a deal that brought the AMS over \$2,000 for the year. Unfortunately, other art galleries (who tend to be clients for these types of things) tend to plan their exhibition a year or two in advance, so we won't have much of an update on this for the next year.
- **Repairing the Collection** – We sent some of our most expensive pieces off to be repaired at the end of the fall. Art Gallery Manager Micaela Kwiatkowski also had the entire collection appraised for restoring and repairing (for free!).

#### Decreasing Waste

- **Coffee Cup Discount & Mugshare Program** – We are currently exploring ways to better market the mugshare program, which launched in September. We currently have a group of students looking at marketing techniques to help us get the word out during the spring semester. There is also a group of engineering students helping us create a mug dispensing machine, which will link mugs to student cards. We’re also exploring ways to bring the mugshare directly to Uppercase so students are more inclined to use it.
- **AMS Business Foodware** – Haven’t you seen those new compostable food containers at AMS food outlets? You have Kasha to thank. She performed an audit of ordered materials through the summer and we made some common sense changes to make things that much more sustainable. The audit is not yet complete, however, so lookout for more changes to come!
- **Increasing AMS Accountability** – We are currently in the planning phase to create a working group on performance metrics for the AMS Lighter Footprint Strategy. Be ready at the next council meeting to elect a councilor to sit on that working group! Our heart is in the right place with the Lighter Footprint Strategy, but my goal is to be sure measurable goals are in place to achieve what it is set out to do.

### Other Major Undertakings:

- **OrgSync Replacement** – Currently awaiting competing offers to replace our contract with OrgSync. Currently between CampusVibe and a custom built software. Waiting on the price tags of both before making a decision. Consultations with CampusVibe will begin midway through November.
- **Operations Policy Handbook** – Working hard with Operations Committee to create a new and improved version of the SAC Policy Handbook. This includes rewriting SUB security policy, bookings policy, alcohol policy, clubs policy, etc., etc. Shout out to Ops for doing such a great job and taking interest!
- **Constituency Club Support** – Met this week with VPs administration/internal of constituencies to discuss constituency clubs, their relationship with the AMS, and how we can better support them. We discovered quite a few discrepancies, so I will be looking after those over the next couple of months.

**Xoxo Gossip Girl  
(aka Chris)**