Attendance

Present: Cameron England (Chair), Jakob Gattinger (Acting VP Academic and University Affairs), Sally Lin (VP External Affairs), Jamiu Abdsalami (Member-at-large)

Guests: Isabella Picui (AVP External Affairs), Marium Hamid (Student Services Manager), Max Holmes (AVP Academic and University Affairs), Kelsi Wall (Policy Advisor)

Regrets: Antony Tsui (Councillor), Christopher Hakim (Councillor), Jeanie Malone (BoG representative)

Recording Secretary: Jamiu Abdsalami

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:08pm.

Introductions

Approval of Agenda

Moved: Sally Seconded: Jamiu
That the agenda be adopted.

[The motion carries unanimously.]

Approval of Minutes

Moved: Cameron Seconded: Sally
That the minutes of July 10th, 2017 be approved.

[The motion carries unanimously.]
VP AUA Updates (Jakob Gattinger)

First AdvoComm as interim VP academic, thank Daniel for his service and Max for the help transitioning.

Meeting with Andrew Szeri, new Provost and VP Academic, UBC-V to discuss funding for Old Sub, tuition consultation and Excellence Fund.

Next Steps: Follow up with Andrew Szeri to get actionable items from promises made. Hopefully monthly meetings to be scheduled in the future.

Finalizing HR issues with the new interim VP position.

VP External Updates (Sally Lin)

Rent with Rights work underway with University of Victoria.

Setting up appointments/meeting requests with new BC provincial leadership.

UBC-M (Municipalities) conference going to be happening soon, expecting Green Party leaders to be present at the conference.

Exploring the possibility of a UBC bike share on-campus still underway.

U-Pass: VP ex office are in the process of working and completing the extended agreement with Translink hopefully by mid-august.

Maria in the VPX office has been working on looking at customer service feedback possibilities on fresh-desk: intended to be a platform to directly ask questions about Upass and transit.

UBC-SUDS: Inviting President, David Eby and other quests will be at the SUDs final banquet. Workshops decisions are underway and delegates are now over 100. Planning still underway for the conference.

AdvoCan: The VPX office called last week to coordinate priorities; work permit for international students, funding for indigenous students, Canadian student loans and other relevant student issues.

Consultation Period
Tuition Consultation Draft (Jakob Gattinger)

This consultation draft covers internal policy for Tuition and Mandatory Fees ONLY. It does not cover or is not intended for co-op and other academic changes.

It outlines a process to ensure the relevant bodies are notified before any tuition consultation process is concluded.

The document includes an overview of the expected process.

This document highly considers history and precedence for the creation of this policy including the EUS report that was submitted regarding the tuition proposal for the proposed Biomedical Engineering program.

Will eventually go to GovComm for approval.

If you would like to provide feedback on the document, send an email to Jakob.

Updated ToR for the Student Issues and Equity Caucus

Sally: Goricomm ex-member invited to provide some insight as to reasoning for the current structure of the Advocacy caucuses.

Marium: in the description, don’t think of these selected individuals as representative of the group they are selected for, but rather as liaisons.

Retention is important, so having members of a caucus who are constantly sitting on a committee makes them more likely to continually interact with the AMS. Rather than members who are invited on an “as-needed” basis, which would not always be good for retention efforts.

We owe it to the resource groups and other networks to reach out to interest groups and see who is interested in these positions.
Jakob: Other institutions are different from the AMS in that they take so long to decide things like these, due to perception issues. We owe it to ourselves to at least let it develop.

Jakob: Implementation is key and so we should make sure it exists and then iron out major kinks as it progresses.

Marium: Other schools systems in the CFS have a VP Equity which has not always worked out for those institutions. We don’t have an AMS VP Equity and so this is our way of ensuring we are engaging all networks. A caucus instead of a VP solves some issues like having difficulties hiring a VP equity.

Sally: Clarification, this is just a guiding principle and allows for a review and is not a policy. It is not binding and can be adapted as we explore better ways of managing/filling the caucus seats over the next year.

Cam: Wondering about the process of how this new proposal was reached as it seems most of the positions were mostly unchanged from the last draft in AdvoComm 2 meetings ago.

Sally: How did Goricomm choose the selected position?

Marium: Based on comparison from McGill, U of T, Queens etc different grouped that needed to be represented were identified. Positions were picked also based on whether a sector is covered in advocacy side at the AMS or not.

Sally: Some minor changes were made, e.g. changed the title for greek life etc

Sally: No new major positions had been added yet, because we were waiting to see what AdvoComm has to say. Stuck with these positions initially because these don’t have representations and were also suggested by Goricomm

Isabella: Tried to keep the ToR relatively vague and once implementation has occurred it can be modified in future versions to see how the caucus has changed.
Sally: We should not get too caught up in the details and try to allow the structure to potentially kick off and see how a full caucus works out. Before modifications are made.

Marium: We should encourage the caucuses to provide ongoing for next year.

Jamui: What about lived experiences and how that can play into conversation of hiring a person.

Marium: We should have a courageous conversation training in the beginning to ensure with a group full of people with differing interests, discussions are still being had fairly.

Sally: It can be included in the ongoing processes of the caucus concerning a respectful environment.

Sally: Next step... Brooklyn work with HR just before September to make a call for interested individuals to fill this caucus. AdvoComm will be deciding, so suggest creating a working group of AdvoComm to discuss rubric on selection process and how the individuals will be chosen.

Isabella: Rubrics were created to simplify the process.

Sally: There was not a lot of interest in the past year. So during the selection, there was a ranking process of 3 choices and people were informally chosen by fitting them in where they there was no one taking the position. We should try actually hiring for a liaison or individual who would actually be good for the position.

Discussion Period

UBC Good Samaritan Policy (Max Holmes)

You can get punished by the University for being caught for doing any sort of drugs and so this has prevented people in the past from seeking help even in cases of emergency.

Most schools in North America, have adopted a good Samaritan law that allows people to call security during a health risk situation without penalties or risks.
It has been in effect at UBC, but without formalization. UBC-O, and have written a letter of support for the good Samaritan law. Taking it to the UBC BoG, so that they can take it as a priority to re-direct it to the relevant body.

AMS will be writing a letter of support to a formalization of the good Samaritan document.

**Sexual Assault Prevention Initiative (Sally Lin)**

Two initiatives are asking us to sign on and join their campaigns.

**UVSS - Let’s Get Consensual in conjunction with UVic**

Difficult to sign on because SASC is already a part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) and the Sexual Assault Prevention Team (SAPT) but we will definitely be incorporating improvements to some current UBC systems based on what we felt needed to be addressed. Otherwise our bases are covered here.

**Our Turn National Movement - Carleton University Students’ Association (CUSA)**

Not requiring cost for sign on, only for cost of working with civil societies. But between 30 student unions, the cost will be minimal.

SASC has been consulted for amendments to the documents. Amendments were clarification of language and definitions used etc and will get back to us by end of week.

Would involve a task force and relevant individuals will be chosen to fill the task force.

Cam: Are there any strong commitments cost-wise in the future, and is there a mechanism to exit if the cost becomes too high?

Sally: No, it is more of a campaign than a coalition. So that should not be an issue.

Sally: Another thing to highlight is there will be a requirement for schools to survey their campuses. AMS VPX office asked for a
standardized survey to ensure that the data can be widely used across campuses in Canada, which will provide a stronger advocative data-set.

It will involve a few elements like a sexual assault misconduct sheet and scorecard to see how good your University Sexual Assault policy is. Either an A, B or C standing to improve and compare with other institutions across Canada. It will also help advocate to Universities how resource sharing can occur.

Cam: Are we looking to take it to Council?

Sally: Wait for amendments and take to SASC again before taking to council for a motion to sign-on and commit us to action at UBC.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is August 14th 2017.

Adjourn

Moved: Sally Seconded: Jamiu

The meeting was adjourned at 5:09pm