Agenda of the AMS University and External Relations Committee
Sunday 11th of May 2014

Attendance [quorum not met]

Present: Mohamed Shaaban, Ji Youn Kim, Casey Chen (proxy Juan), Natalie Marshall

Regrets: Bahareh Jokar, Anne Kesseler, Vyas Saran, Rozhin Kamyab

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 pm

Approval of Agenda [no quorum]

Agenda Items

1) Breaking the ice (introductions)
   a. Introductions Name, Faculty, something weird and something interesting

2) Introduction to UNECORN and summary of 2013/2014 UNECORN

External:

- Provincial lobbying: (e.g. student loans) involves representing the AMS on a provincial level e.g. with the ABCS for example with lobbying days

- Federal lobbying: Unfortunately UNECORN has not done much work on federal lobbying for a while with the exception of discussing the formation of an informative presentation to council

- Translink: U-Pass, Compass card and the transition to compass cards

- BikeShare Program: card & membership to rent a bike

- ABCS (Alliance of British Colombia Students: UNBC, UVic, etc.) UNECORN provides AMS representation
AMS Legislative Procedures Committee
Minutes of May 11, 2014

- Get On Board (Broadway Skytrain): nothing yet

University:

- Tuition cap (2% for domestic by government, we make sure to lower this cap, 3% for international by UBC): reviewed & modified the policy
- Survey (looked at annually)

University & External: Acadia Park (policy is already put out and in action so we don’t have to do much to do with it? May come up), External Policies

3) External Relations and Goal Setting [mainly for the summer with a few ideas that will be carried on to winter] winter

a. With Regards to Get On Board Group

i. Need more information regarding the new group

ii. Perform research regarding the group and where the AMS stands with regards to the group

iii. Act as a liaison between the group and the AMS if necessary

b. With Regards to The ABCS

i. Get UBC student feedback on Provincial and federal lobbying

ii. Attend the ABCS’ Annual general meeting

iii. Appoint an ABCS replacement for Paul

iv. Increase awareness of AMS’s lobbying efforts around campus possibly through advertisement (link in with point i)

c. Provincial government lobbying

i. Talk to ABCS regarding undergraduate entrance scholarships as currently BC government provides limited awards at undergraduate level

ii. Research into Provincial policies regarding education e.g. undergraduate entrance scholarships

iii. Talk to GSS regarding graduate funding from the province
d. Federal government lobbying
   i. Plan presentation to council that would inform council about the nature of federal lobbying and present them with viable options
   ii. Research into Federal policies regarding education
   iii. Touch base with GSS regarding graduate funding

e. Translink and the upcoming referendum
   i. Research into the compass card dates and transition and effects it will have on UBC e.g. the rumors around the cancellation of the U-Pass
   ii. Create some form of FAQ regarding compass card transition (already exists)
   iii. Figure out subsidy qualification policies as they currently are not up to date

4) University Relations and Goal Setting
   a. Acadia Park apparently UNECORN no longer has involvement with the Acadia park policies (must look further into it)
   b. Tuition cap policies have been figured out by previous UNECORN for now
   c. AMS Student Survey would not need to be discussed until late in the winter session

5) AMS External Policy Review
   a. Arrange 3 meetings to review external code and policy
   b. First meeting would be relatively brief with the aim of analyzing the section in code referring to the definition of External policy followed by a familiarization process with the formal values of the AMS
   c. Second meeting would be a long meeting which would involve reviewing the external policies of the AMS according to the review rubric
   d. The third meeting will involve coming up with recommendations to council regarding the policies and code and formalizing them in a presentation
6) UNECORN Moving Forward and General Goal for the Summer
   
   a. Conduct all relevant research e.g. government policies
   b. Introduction of Federal lobbying into the AMS
   c. Completion of The External Policy Evaluation Process

Tasks Assigned

All Members – Familiarize with code sections concerning UNECORN and External policies – Next Meeting

Adjourn 7:07 PM
Agenda of the AMS __University and External Relations Committee  
2014-07-25

Attendance
Present: Mohamed Shaaban, Pierre, Kasey Chan, Anne, Evelyn, Bahareh, Graham, Sheldon, Ji Youn, Tanner, Daniel, Rozhin, Vyas, Colum

Regrets: Natalie, Maria

Recording Secretary: Rozhin

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 4:33 pm

Agenda Items

1) Mr. Beales presentation on External Policy

- Restructure of policy – separation of external and internal
- “policy on policies” take out instructions and separate the two
- current: internal all in LPC and external all in UNECORN; external policies expire every 3 years this changes it each committee has a policy assigned to it; suggestion: annual review better than review when about to expire
- removes the requirement to read policies every year: within the policies it is set within a timeline of 1-5 years. Can choose how long you want policies to be in effect.
- Changes to the references of “internal policies” and change it to internal. Some may be combined policies.
- Keeping history of policies
- Note: combined policies also expire every 3 years
AMS University & External Relations Minutes of July, 25 2014

- Plan: external policies will no longer expire with time, but reviewed and updated
- Pierre responsible for sending external to council, Sheldon for internal – policy reviews
- Code says there has to be a checklist for reviews of policy, but the checklist can be revised to conform to the policy on policies
- Goal is to minimize the differences of the policies and their reviews between the internal and external committees
- What’s the difference between just a motion and endorsing something: (endorsements usually end up as policies?)

2) Tuition Policy Discussion

- Reviews will be sent out – do research and will be discussed next week

3) The Engagement Charter

- Campus Planning – charter perfect, but does not address that they are still the only ones reporting to the board of governors (?) – board of governors necessarily not the most democratic
- Plan is to re-endorse the charter
- Acadia park issue – guideline formed due to those issues specifically
- Additions to the charter to make points that maybe required by the policy on policy

4) Divestment Policy Discussion
AMS University & External Relations Minutes of July, 25 2014

- Moved to next week

5) Goals Discussion
   - Moved to next week

6) Meeting time
   - Doodle will be sent by Monday to set a new meeting time that is suitable for everyone

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is (date & Location)

Adjourn

1. Moved G-Anne Seconded Evelyn

   There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 pm
A House Keeping Business

1 Call to Order and Introductions

The chair establishes that quorum has been met and the meeting is called to order at 16:35.

**Attending**  
Anne (VPA), Bahareh (VPX),  
Colúm (Councillor), Gabriel (MaL), Tobias (Chair)

**Regrets**  
Jiyoun (MaL), Kerim (MaL), Vyas (Councillor)

**Absent**  
Nina (Councillor)

2 Adopt the Agenda

BIRT the agenda be adopted as amended.  

Motion carries

B Regular Committee Business

3 Report of the Vice-President Academic

**BoG:** In a previous meeting a discussion over the use of the term "rape culture" came up in relation to the safety report.

**BoG:** The Engagement Charter which has been passed by BoG.

**Conference:** on academic freedom in Saskatchewan.

**First Nation:** continued efforts to build a good relationship with the Musqueam people.

**Life Building:** While present in the capital plan it appears to be a "dialed down" version compared to earlier plans. We need to get more involved to ensure awareness of the importance of this issue so the project will not be put on hold. Get an official meeting with the UBC president as soon as possible to address this and collaborate with other allies on the subject.

"Tall Wood Building": Plans to create a 17 floor wooden building between Gage Residences and the parkade have passed the first development stage.

**Policy 34:** The university is reluctant to implement changes at this point to avoid confusion during the current hiring process.
University and External Relations Committee

Minutes, 03/Oct/2014

4 Report of the Vice-President External

ABCS: Bahareh has been elected Vice-Chair, congratulations!

ABCS: the alliance is working on a multi-campus campaign on civic engagement to get out the vote in this years municipal elections.

GSS: Meeting with the GSS Vice-President Academic and External Affairs to coordinate advocacy efforts.

Conference: presented at the Union of BC Municipalities’ (UBCM) convention in Whistler on youth civic engagement

Transit: Continued advocacy for a Mar/Apr date for the referendum to enable student participation seems to be well-received, however, no definitive date has been set.

5 Committee Activity in the Previous Year

Over the summer the committee finished the review of the current policies. Only a few action items remain from this process, namely a replacement for the expired policy on tuition as well as a policy on UBC policy 69. During this process a report structure has been established to provide context and institutional memory for each policy as a well-researched foundation for future policy reviews.

A discussion about a different form of official statements on matters of short-term impact that do not require 3-year policies was brought up. Such position statements could be passed on specific issues. This way the AMS is still able to react to immediate concerns without infringing on the policy book with matters that, foreseeably, do not have a long enough lasting impact to warrant such a policy. However, careful consideration is necessary to ensure relevance for the society as to not repeat questionable processes from the past.

6 Pine Free Clinic

WHEREAS the Pine Free Clinic has provided services to the Point Grey community, especially targeted at youth for over 40 years.
WHEREAS the clinic serves as a valuable supplementary support to health care for students.
WHEREAS the government has decided to close the clinic effective 31/Oct/2014.

BIRT the University and External Relations Committee recommends AMS Council to voice support for the continued operations of the Pine Free Clinic

BIFRT the Vice-President External Relations will support the community’s efforts to keep the clinic open.

Motion carries

The Member of the Legislative Assembly for Point Grey, David Eby, has contacted the office of the Vice-President External Relations to seek student support in stopping the closure of the clinic. Several similar clinics face the same fate of closure in favour of a health centre in east side of downtown Vancouver, disregarding the needs of small communities those clinics serve.
University and External Relations Committee

Minutes, 03/Oct/2014

7 Society Act White Paper

WHEREAS A detailed report regarding the Society Act White Paper has been presented.

BIRT the University and External Relations Committee recommends AMS Council to adopt the presented policy, including the attached letter

Motion carries

8 AMS Policy on Tuition

Postponed.

C Discussion

9 Regular Meeting Time

The chair agrees to send out a doodle poll to find a suitable meeting time during regular business hours.

D Adjournment

The meeting is adjourned at 18:07. The next meeting time will be determined via doodle poll.
A House Keeping Business

1 Call to Order and Introductions

Attending  Anne (VPA), Colúm (Councillor, from 14:23), Daniel (Guest) Gabriel (MaL), Jenna (Guest), Joshua (Councillor), JiYoun (MaL), Kerim (MaL, from 15:07), Pierre (Guest), Tobias (Chair), Saniel (Councillor)

Regrets  Bahareh (VPX), Vyas (Councillor)

Absent  Nina (Councillor)

The chair establishes that quorum has been met and the meeting is called to order at 14:06.

2 Adopt the Agenda

BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Motion carries

3 Approval of Minutes

BIRT the committee minutes Unecorn_Minutes_2014Oct03 be adopted as presented.

Motion carries

B Regular Committee Business

4 Policy on Policies

The LPC chair reports about the upcoming policy on policies and the implications for external policies recommended by Unecorn. Two main issues were discussed.

As a default new policies no longer come with an expiry date but rather with a review date no later than 5 years after the previous review. Therefore future external policies will require careful consideration on whether to attach expiry dates or not, and which types of policies would benefit from such.

Regarding the change of procedures for a policy which is enacted by the responsible body itself additional oversight may be necessary to avoid potential abuse. This will be further considered at LPC before the policy will be brought to Council.
5 Statements vs. Policies

To further address the issue of duration of policies it was suggested earlier to introduce an additional notion of a "(Position) Statement" [Working Title] as a way to take positions on specific one-time events, like the submission on the Society Act White Paper, or issues with a limited life span, e.g., submissions on the provincial budget.

With several recent instances of such statements being presented to Council it seems prudent to create a proper framework for them as an alternative to longstanding policies. To that end the VP Academic and University Affairs and the VP External Affairs will, in conjunction with the University and Government Relations Advisor, compile a list of issues potentially warranting such statements. Unecorn will then lay out a framework for position statements for submission to LPC for the creation of respective code by January.

6 Life Building

Original plans for the "old SUB" to be renovated and house a wide range of student services, including athletics, International House, collegia, food services, the Centre for Student Involvement and Careers as well as the VP Student’s office have been put on hold. Partly to await a decision on a larger scale capital development plan and in part due to deliberations regarding prioritising student service and academic needs.

What position will the AMS take on this topic? We will discuss more details at the meeting on 03/Nov/2014.

7 "Tall Wood Building"

While there are still minor doubts regarding the feasibility of a 16 storey wooden building the main issue with the building itself revolves around building permissions for such buildings. The lack of a responsible municipality granting necessary exceptions would lead to UBC granting that exception to itself unless persuaded to seek permission from the province instead, as has been done for similar projects elsewhere in British Columbia.

Another concern is the SHHS growth plan that mentions 400 beds for student housing in that building which means an average of 25 beds per storey on a fairly small overall area.

After collecting some more data revolving around the permissions necessary and comparisons with similar projects in the province the topic will come back for discussion on 03/Nov/2014.

8 Divest

The office of the VP Academic and University Affairs presents a report on divesting from fossil fuel sources, following suggestions from UBCC350. BoG requires petitions from at least two out of four stakeholder groups (students, faculty, staff, alumni) to consider such requests. Faculty has been identified as the most likely partner for such an endeavour, as the staff organisation is somewhat more fragmented in terms of decision-making bodies.
The AMS is currently not investing in fossil fuels itself but has no standing policy regarding the issue. It is recommended to pass such a policy as well to avoid accusations of hypocrisy.

A first reading of the potential divest policy will be part of the meeting on 27/Oct/2014.

9 Policy 69

The office of the VP Academic and University Affairs presents a report on UBC Policy 69 on student safety abroad. While enacting of the policy has not caused any problems in the past the policy includes some problematic language. The AMS policy on the matter expired earlier this year. A review of the policy has shown flaws and therefore a rephrasing of the policy has been recommended.

A first reading of the potential divest policy will be part of the meeting on 27/Oct/2014

10 Consultation on Tuition Increases

During the emergency meeting attending students brought up the need for an AMS policy on the consultation process for fee increases, outlining the expectations for necessary steps taken by UBC Administration during such procedures. It is generally felt that UBC policy 71 is insufficient.

C Notices

A discussion on a potential tuition policy will be included in the meeting on 27/Oct/2014.

D Adjournment

The next meeting will be on 27/Oct/2014 at 14:00. The meeting is adjourned at 15:47.
A House Keeping Business

1 Call to Order and Introductions

Attending Colún (Councillor), Daniel (Guest/AVPA), Gabriel (MaL), Ji Youn (MaL), Jude (Guest/AVPX), Kerim (MaL, from 14:54), Natalya (Guest/CDC), Pierre (Guest), Tobias (Chair), Saniel (Councillor)

Regrets Anne (VPA), Bahareh (VPX), Joshua (Councillor), Vyas (Councillor)

Absent Nina (Councillor)

The chair establishes that quorum has not been met and the meeting is called to order at 14:05.

2 Adopt the Agenda

BIRT the agenda be adopted as amended.

Motion carries

3 Approval of Minutes

BIRT the committee minutes Unicorn_Minutes_2014Jul25 be adopted as amended.

Motion carries

B Regular Committee Business

4 Dual Degree Programs

The Board of Governors’ next agenda includes a decision on dual degree programs that would grant blanket approval for any such program as long as the tuition is not higher than the sum of the tuition amounts of the separate programs. This could lead to drastically increased per-credit cost of such programs. General consensus in the committee is that any such program that requires its curriculum being approved by senate should be approved separately by the Board.

BIRT Unicorn recommends to AMS Council to adopt the letter on dual degree programs as its official stance on the matter.

Motion carries
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5 Tall Wood Building

Natalya gives a short update on the status of TWB, however no new information in regards to the approval process is available at this point

C Discussion

6 GSS Participation in Advisory Group

Since representatives of the Graduate Student Society will be at the table during discussions with the university administration it was brought up that it would be reasonable to include them on the advisory group for the strategy planning for the ongoing consultations. A motion will be brought from the floor at AMS Council to make an amendment to that effect.

D Adjournment

The next meeting will be on 17/Nov/2014 at 14:00. The meeting is adjourned.
University and External Relations Committee

Minutes, 24/Nov/2014

A House Keeping Business

1 Call to Order and Introductions

Attending  Anne (VPA), Bahareh (VPX), Colúm (Councillor), Daniel (Guest/AVPA), Gabriel (MaL), Ji Youn (MaL), Jude (Guest/AVPX), Pierre (Guest), Tobias (Chair), Saniel (Councillor)

Regrets  Kerim (MaL, from 14:54), Vyas (Councillor)

Absent  Joshua (Councillor)

The chair establishes that quorum has been met and the meeting is called to order at 14:03.

2 Adopt the Agenda

BIRT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Motion carries

B Regular Committee Business

3 Update of the VPA

Tuition: The AMS finished its submission on proposed tuition and housing fee increases to the Board of Governors. A reply from UBC president was promised. VP Academic will present to BoG together with the presidents of AMS and ISA.

Survey: Analysis is ongoing, some staffing issues caused delays, AVPA is currently working on it.

TLEF: Over 20 reviews of proposed projects upcoming.

Senate: MPPGA program was passed. It was decided that no new language test will be required of students at Vantage College after their first year.

BoG: Decision on dual degree programs (see 03/Nov/2014 minutes) has been pulled from the agenda.

4 Update of the VPX

Municipal Elections: A detailed report is forthcoming.

Civic Engagement: Currently preparations for a democracy talk training session are in progress.
University and External Relations Committee

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GOTV: VPX had meetings with cStreet and information sessions on NationBuilder for campaign support and a potential redesign of Outreach AMS interface.

CASA: VPX participated in the annual CASA Advocacy Week and met with several members of parliament. A more detailed report will follow soon.

Federal Elections: For next years elections UBC has been elected as one of several schools across the country to be equipped with an on-campus election office for accessible and easy registration and voting for students.

5 Updates on Tall Wood and Life Building

The BoG agenda for 02/Dec includes a decision on capital improvements. While the Life building is listed in category 1 of projects generally intended to move forward at this point it includes the remark “on hold pending program review”. The Tall Wood building is listed in category 2 “on hold until liquidity improves”.

6 Policy 69 (Final Reading)

BIRT Unecorn recommends to AMS Council to adopt the Policy on UBC Policy 69 as presented.

Motion carries

7 Divest (Final Reading)

A few minor changes to the language were suggested.

BIRT Unecorn recommends to AMS Council to adopt the Divest Policy as amended.

Motion carries

C Notice

Nina Karimi has resigned. We will be seeking a replacement at AMS Council on 03/Dec/2014.

D Adjournment

The next meeting is set for 01/Dec/2014 at 14:00 in the GSS Boardroom. The meeting is adjourned at 14:37.