THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Minutes of the AMS Legislative Procedures Committee
February 12, 2015

Attendance

Present: Jenna, Lauren, Mateusz, Delaney, Angela, Sheldon, Veronica (late)


Regrets:

Recording Secretary: Jenna Omassi

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm

Agenda Items

1. Approval of Agenda
   Jenna: Motion to amend to include ‘committee appointments’
   Move: Angela, Second: Delaney

2. Policy Review Update
   Lauren: Ready for next meeting
   Delaney: Jenna to send
   Angela: Sending to Daniel and Abby this week for feedback
   Mateusz: Jenna to send Mat policy (something applicable)

3. Build AMS Update
   Jenna: The changes that LPC asked to be made have been incorporated and the proposal for the two-step internal review and the external review will be sent for Council for approval before moving on.
4. VSEUS Organizing Committee Update & Constitution Approval
Jenna: The Vancouver School of Economics Undergraduate Society (VSEUS) Organizing Committee has met twice to discuss the Constitution and Code of Procedures, and myself, Sheldon, Tanner, Anne and Daniel have helped them to ensure that all necessary components are in, and all those that will not be beneficial have been removed. This process may look slightly different than the one outlined in Code because VSEUS already ran a referendum with Economics students last March to recognize them.
Sheldon: The process is that a referendum has to pass and LPC doesn’t send the constitution. After a successful referendum, successful constituency submits constitution to LPC. LPC can then suggest changes to be made to Council.
Jenna: They have had a referendum already.
Sheldon: If the constitution is fine, we don’t have to do anything about it.
Jenna: Should we just send a motion to council to suspend code so that VSEUS doesn’t need to run another referendum.
Sheldon: You must suspend code to have another referendum for next council, we are trying to recognize that the referendum that was held earlier counts. We can put forward a motion to count that referendum. Then, a motion to council that Council recognizes VSEUS and LPC can report, and submit for information the constitution.
Jenna: That sounds good. Does anyone have any issues with the constitution?
Angela: It is simple and straightforward.
Jenna: The major issue was honorary members and that has been removed.
Veronica: I did not like that they can remove members (Code Section II, Article 4).
Jenna: They had that because they had honorary members, but shouldn’t be able to because they no longer have those.
Veronica: I don’t think that this is appropriate for Council to allow for expulsion. Also the liability section is not needed.
Mateusz: The AMS is responsible though, all their events are their events, but ultimately the liability comes back to the AMS.
Sheldon: The other constituencies don’t have this?
Veronica: No. They don’t have a repugnancy clause.
Jenna: They don’t have to have a repugnancy clause in the constitution though, only in Code or Constitution.
Veronica: Now amendments can only be made at referendums. It would be easier to have AGMs where the majority of membership can make changes to their constitution. And removal of executives is missing, there is no mention as
to their recall.
Jenna: Points taken. Since these are all Code changes though, this can be a conversation after we send the motion to suspend Code to Council and to recognize VSEUS. They have agreed to have LPC help them with any appropriate Code changes.

(Ava arrived)
Jenna: As for steps forward, I have a motion to suspend code to allow for the referendum last spring to count, a motion to recognize VSEUS, an appendix constitution to supplement the motion to recognize and to work with VSEUS on Code.
Ava: Why are there two election cycles in their Code?
Jenna: This is put in because they would like to elect executives and an AMS representative in the spring and then their year and degree representatives in the fall, like the AUS does.
To send to Council for meeting on February 25th: motion to suspend Code & motion to recognize VSEUS
Move: Veronica, Second: Mateusz
Action: Jenna to send motions and constitution to Joanne

5. Sexual Assault Support Centre
Jenna: The SASC currently sits in Code right under AMS Services, but actually functions differently than the other services, with permanent staff and a specific mandate. As such, I have been working with Daniel (Executive Director), Ron (Student Services Manager) and Ashley (SASC Manager) to accurately depict SASC in Code. The changes that they would like to see include including the reporting structure of the SASC Manager (to the ED, rather than the SSM) and the mandate of the office, ensuring that exclusions are made to reflect the normative practice of the SASC.
Sheldon: Article 3 mentions operations manual for each of the services. We can put an exception in Article 3?
Jenna: That would work, though it would be more appropriate to include exclusions in Code.
Action: Jenna to ask Ashley to send SASC mandate to Sheldon to include.
Jenna: Except for including mandate, is there anything else that should be included in the SASC Code?
Mateusz: Article 2, Section 2. The budget does not involve President and should be sent to the VP Finance - that is how it is in practice.
Action: Sheldon to make exclusions and change to Article 2, Section 2.
6. Committee Appointment Timeline
   Jenna: We realized that in changing Code to reflect the new executive timelines we did not include committee appointments. Most constituencies have changed their turnover to May 1st to reflect the change made by the AMS and having committee appointments at the first meeting in April would not work with this new timeline.
   Sheldon: Right now winter session appointments September-April, Summer is April-September, also for committee chairs.
   Veronica: We should move everything from April to May.
   Sheldon: You will have to contact HR as well (Jenna action).
   **Action:** Sheldon to make April-May, for committee appointments and chairs.
   *Jenna in conflict of interest as committee chair.*
   **Mat chair during the rest of discussion.**
   Mat: Any more discussion?
   With no more discussion, Jenna resumes chairing meeting.

7. Executive Director
   Jenna: Currently the Executive Director is mentioned in Code, but with the size of his role, should the position have it’s own section in Code? Like the General Manager.
   Ava: I think yes?
   Veronica: Executive Director should have a section.
   Ava: It should be made general, because each executive will have a different way they interact with this position.
   Jenna: Yes, it would just be a consolidation of all the disparate Code related to the Executive Director.
   Mateusz: Isn’t that a case for each executive as well?
   **Action:** Mat to send VP Finance changes
   **Action:** Jenna and Daniel to work on these Code changes

8. In Camera Code
   Jenna: A few months ago, Council asked LPC to review in camera Code to allow for specific votes to happen in camera (proxies and people to stay…). However, after seeing this new code in practice, it is obvious that it is not working. We need to look over it again and make sure that the changes sent this time will work in practice.
   Ava: How is it handled by the chair though? If you motion to go in camera.
   Sheldon: Maybe discussing proxies and guests to stay in camera should happen before, they shouldn’t vote, but be there for quorum. Vote on proxies and
other before, instead of going immediately into camera. However, then the issue is that the proxies will know the subject matter.
Jenna: Has there been a case when we have not included proxies?
Sheldon: We used to always include and then a few years ago we included this Code.
Ava: Anyone motioning to go into camera will include or not include proxies.
Sheldon: This could be part of the motion, clause about proxies and staff/non-council members.
Jenna: Should I speak to Abdul about this?
Sheldon: Proxies included unless Council votes in the in-camera code to exclude to include.
Action: Jenna to speak with Abdul (Speaker)

9. President’s Commission

10. Council Agenda (Statement of Students At Large, Policy Consultation, Questions during Executive Update)

Jenna: There has an issue been raised that the Statement of Student at Large is after Presentations, meaning that these students sometimes have to wait hours before they can address council for 3 minutes. Would we consider putting their statements before presentations?
Lauren: Exact timing?
Jenna: There are only allowed to be a maximum of 3 statements at 3 minutes each. That is already in Code.
Veronica: The reason we initially put statements after presentations is that we wanted to give those who were coming to visit council some importance in having them first. However, thinking about it now and length of presentations it would make sense to put statements before.
Ava: I agree with what you are saying.
Action: Sheldon to change, moving statements before presentations

Jenna: A councillor has asked that LPC consider putting in a section in the agenda called ‘Policy Consultations’ after presentations, which would allow committees to come forward with policies in a quick presentation and then have a discussion. Putting policies in the discussion section has proven difficult to solicit proper feedback.
Veronica: It would decrease future discussions when the policy comes to council, adding something in like this could address key concerns before the policy is presented.
Ava: Thinking about future discussions, I would be on board, but this consultation would have to be very structured.
Jenna: It would be a presentation and discussion, not asking them to come to another committee meeting, but allowing them to discuss the policy in Council.

Ava: If we will do that, it would be good to look at the agenda as a whole.

*Continue discussion next time*

11. **Conflict of Interest Beyond Motions**

12. **Agenda Committee**

**Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting is 12:30pm February 26, 2015 in SUB 266J

**Adjourn**

1. Moved Veronica, Seconded Lauren

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:02 pm