



**THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER**

**AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Minutes of February 28, 2017

**Attendance**

Present: Ava Nasiri (President), Samantha So (VP Academic), Louis Retief (VP Finance), Chris Scott (VP Administration), Kathleen Simpson (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Kelsi Wall (Policy Advisor), Hussam Zbeeb (Student Services Manager, arrived 12:50), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets:

Guests: Hong-Lok Li (IT Manager & Infrastructure Architect)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 12:45 pm.

**Agenda**

- The agenda was approved by consensus.

**Minutes**

- The minutes of February 14 were deferred.

**IT**

Hong:

- Data tracking system to bring in data and do analysis concerning the students.
  - Cost: \$300 a year.
  - Public cloud.
  - Unlimited number of records supported.
  - IT Department will provide support.
  - Should say yes.
  - One year at a time.
  - Not sure whether data stored in Canada, but it's purely for analysis and can be destroyed once a report is done.

[Hussam arrives.]

Hong:

- Xerox printer for clubs

- Currently no policy requiring clubs to purchase through AMS IT, but for big things like this we should encourage it: it will give them professional selection and support and save them money.
  - Louis: WUSC got an awesome deal through us.
- **Action Item: Chris and Louis to take this to the IT Committee.**
  - Chris: We wouldn't make it a policy; it's more an orientation issue.
- Working with Louis on terms of reference of IT Committee.
- Communications Department seeking data storage for video files. Gave them a cost-effective quote based on using USB's rather than the network.
- Compiling list of approved software: if software not on the list, user will have to get approval from the IT Committee to use it. This is for cost-saving and security.

[Hong leaves.]

### Partnerships

- Ava: For groups your departments work with, consider three-year agreements. May make sense with the Strategic Plan.

### Website

- Keith: Need the core group to get together.
- Ava: Will call a second Executive meeting on this.

### Referenda

- Ava:
  - Marium, Aaron, and Ella working on this.
  - Producing 3000 flyers: 1000 for the Blue and Gold Society, 1000 for Constituencies, 1000 for us internally. Idea is to reach students not usually involved in the AMS.
  - Campaign rally Sunday evening.
  - Emailing the undergraduate societies.
  - Referendum video.
  - Yoga event.
  - Facebook posting.
- Louis: Can have staff in the businesses ask customers if they've voted in the referendum.
- Keith: It might slow down the lines. Could have till toppers instead.
- Discussion of involving the Services. Council has to give authorization to allow the Services to take part in a referendum campaign.

MOVED AVA:

“BIRT the Executive recommend Council authorize the use of the Student Services in the campaign for the referendums being held March 6-10, 2017.”

... Carried

### Archives access

- Sheldon: Have spoken to Laserfiche to get a quote to extend access to our digitized documents. Was thinking that the Executive might be interested in direct access instead of going through Archives staff.
- Louis: Not unless the Archives staff is overburdened. When I ask for something, I get it back less than 24 hours later.
- The Executive agreed that the system was fine the way it is now, going through the Archivist and the assistants.

### Arts and Culture

- Ava: The group CREATE: Arts and Culture is holding an event in the Nest with the AMS as co-host.
- Discussion of where the money should come from. Exec Special Projects? The Clubs Benefit Fund?

MOVED SAMANTHA, SECONDED KATHLEEN:

“That the Executive ask the Budget Committee to approve \$3,000 from Exec Special Projects for the Arts and Culture event.”

... Carried

### UBC Counselling Services

- Hussam:
  - Concern about waiting times of two-three weeks.
  - Students are also frustrated about quality of care.
  - These are two things we should tackle.
  - Mental health is not being addressed head on; even adding some more counsellors would just be a band-aid solution.
  - Hoping there can be:
    - Streamlining of referrals
    - Advertising of the wait times
    - A focus on non-traditional services.
    - Facilitation of connections to outside counsellors students may use.
  - May ask for an external review.
- Chris: Do we know what people are being seen for? It's important to know.
- Discussion of connections between services. Sometimes someone goes to Counselling who needs Academic Advising and vice versa.

- Kelsi: We need to look deeper. There was an impact grant study focusing on the value of exercise for improving mental health.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 pm.