Attendance

Present: Robin Asgari (Chair), Dario Franco Garousian (Vice-Chair, Student-At-Large), Jenna Omassi (VP Academic & University Affairs), Jude Crasta (VP External Affairs), Angela Tien (AMS Councilor), Liam Reeve (AMS Councilor), Jamiu Abdsalami (AMS Councilor), Jon Parnell (Student-At-Large), María De Fátima Lazo (Student-At-Large).

Guests: Kathleen Simpson (Associate VP External Affairs), Daniel Munro (Associate VP Academic & University Affairs), Pierre Cenerelli (University & Government Relations Advisor)

Regrets: Cassandra Cummings (AMS Councilor), Ian Sapollnik (AMS Councilor)

Recording Secretary: Dario Franco Garousian (Vice-Chair, Student-at-Large)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:10PM.

Approval of Agenda

Moved: Jude Crasta Seconded: Liam Reeve

That the agenda be adopted, with the amendment to elect a Vice-Chair for the AMS University and External Relations Committee.

[The motion carries. The motion carries unanimously. The motion fails. The motion fails unanimously.]

Election of Vice-Chair

Moved: Jenna Omassi Seconded: Robin Asgari

That Dario Franco Garousian be appointed the Vice-Chair of the AMS University and External Relations Committee.

Direction for the summer

The AMS University and External Relations Committee (UNECORN) will host meetings every couple weeks. AMS VP Academic & University Affairs and VP External Affairs have focused on
planning and strategizing over the last month. UNECORN will have focus of consultation and act as a sober second thought to be able to create more solid policies to be put forth to the AMS council.

**VP External and VP Academic Updates**

VP External Affairs – Focus is on federal election is approaching in October and Student Union Development Summit (used to showcase AMS facilities and services to other student unions). External Policy reviews focused on tuition and housing legislation.

VP Academic & University Affairs – Accessibility and affordability to focus on open educational resources. Mental Health & Well receiving 2.5 million over a set period of time, there will be focus on spending well and proper policy review. Campus development is reviewing residence contracts and community planning. Tuition increases need proper assessments, and AMS should look at consultation policy and how to best consult students. Also reviewing sexual assault policy.

**Affordability Policy**

The AMS University and External Relations Committee reviewed two policies focused on accessibility and affordability. These two policies are designed to function together, one falling under University Affairs, and External Affairs.

Topics discussed – 2% tuition increase cap, housing, open educational resources, financial aid, student loans, interest rates, and a needs based grant program.

External policy topics - 2% cap for domestic students, lack of maintenance funding at universities. AMS should make it very clear about our 2% cap stance and we need to work with UBC to lobby BC government. Many faculties are hurt due to cuts, particularly Arts. International student tuition cap was discussed, but extremely hard to touch on due to fact of where the government gets their votes (possibility of lobbying UBC Board of Governors or Senate, but unlikely to get results).

Academic policy topics - Policy 71 discussed, based on consulting students on tuition that allows students to contribute to problem solving. UBC is starting the conversations on program-by-program tuition increases. Lobby UBC about open textbooks and other open educational resources. Another topic discussed was lobbying for allocation of funds raised by increases in tuition, and how it is problematic on allocation of funds in within facilities,
Academic Policy Approval

Moved: Jenna Omassi  
Seconded: Angela Tien

That AMS University and External Relations Committee approve the academic policy to be presented to AMS Council.

External Policy Approval

Moved: Liam Reeve  
Seconded: Jenna Omassi

That AMS University and External Relations Committee approve the academic policy to be presented to AMS Council, pending the amendment by AMS VP External Affairs.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is 5:00PM – 6:30PM on June 15th, 2015.

Adjourn

Moved: Jenna Omassi  
Seconded: Jude Crasta

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20PM.