AMS Education Committee Report

Procedures Governing Tuition Consultations

- Supporting the work of the VP Academic & University Affairs, the Committee consulted regarding best practices with respect to consultations around tuition vis-à-vis current practices and directed the VP Academic & University Affairs to continue to lobby for these changes with University administrators.

Changes to Procedures Governing Senate Appeals

- The Committee consulted on recent proposed changes to the Senate procedures governing appeals, with particular critical attention devoted to the rights of the appellant and procedural fairness. The Committee conveyed these remarks to the appropriate Committee of Senate.

Admissions – V-52 and Course Specific Minima

- The Student Senate Caucus Chair consulted the committee with regards to the continuation and changes to accepting grade 11 grades for those following the BC/Yukon curriculum who do not have the required grade 12 grades by January and the proposed implementation of course-specific minima among faculties for direct entry. The Committee largely supported both of these changes.

Graduate Student Funding Advocacy

- In response to changes from the Tri-Councils and shepherded by the Policy & Government Advisor, the Committee has remarked upon the need for greater advocacy with respect to graduate student funding.

International College Program

- The Committee consulted in the proposed “international college” program, resulting in a number of follow-up items which were given to the Student Senate Caucus representatives to convey to faculty members, administrators, and other staff as deemed appropriate.

Examination Database

- Education Committee has been supporting the work of Kiran Mahal in implementing the examination database by consulting and supporting its establishment through a council
The Committee has enlisted the support of the Student Senate Caucus in passing a motion supporting the project in principle at the next meeting of Senate. The policy motion originally passed by this Committee was subsequently passed by AMS Council as well.

**Sustainability Pathways**

- In partnership with the AMS Sustainability Coordinator, the Committee has passed a policy motion supporting the University Sustainability Initiative's Sustainability Pathways program outlined in the report entitled *Transforming Sustainability Education at UBC.* This motion was subsequently adopted by AMS Council.

**Academic Experience Survey 2013**

- The Committee reviewed the proposed questions for the Academic Experience Survey for 2013-14, noting a number of areas of improvement, but broadly supported the survey and thanked the VP Academic & University Affairs for her assiduous work.

**Chair's Remarks:** Policies regarding education continue to be influenced by *UBC Policy 88* which limits the degree to which the Committee may realistically seek to effect changes in a number of arenas, including the lecture capture project, the examination database project, and any projects involving teaching materials. Consequently, the Committee has focused its efforts on other areas of advocacy rather than focusing on a confrontational, potentially antagonistic, approach with the University. The Committee continues to be impressed by the thoroughness and diligence of the VP Academic & University Affairs and has benefitted greatly from her expertise.

Discussions in the future are likely to be guided by ongoing work with respect to the international college, the nature of intellectual property on campus, and the needs of graduate students, particularly regarding funding. The Committee is recommended to continue closely working with the Student Senate Caucus and the VP Academics’ Caucus through the Student Senate Caucus Chair and the VP Academic & University Affairs respectively.