This report provides a summary of my activities over the last 6 months and provides an update on goals and projects for the year.

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1 Introduction
As usual, time has flown by but this time we’re at the end of the Executive Term for 2012/13. I am very excited that I have been re-elected to this position and will be continuing in this role for another year. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to my fellow executives and thank them for all their support, encouragement, and random bursts of improv comedy in the halls of the AMS Offices. Matt, Tristan, Kyle and Caroline – it has been an absolute pleasure working with all of you and I have learned so much for each of you. It is very rare to end up with a group of 5 students individually elected who mesh so well together. I think this is a testament to the hard working and adaptive nature of my colleagues. I could not have asked for a better team to work with, and I wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavours!

The last 6 months of my term have been extremely productive and I am pleased to report that my Office has made a significant amount of progress on a number of initiatives that were mentioned in my last two reports. In addition to this, we also found ourselves in the midst of an unexpected tuition consultation and a large community based project that will be carried over into my next term.

This report will provide an update on the work that the committee I sit on have done as well as provide an update on the work of my Office over the past 6 months. This will include a report on the progress of goals I set at the beginning of my term in office and other projects and initiatives I have been working on. For more context on some of the items discussed in this report, please refer to my first executive report and second executive report which cover the first 6 months of my term. This report also includes brief updates on the work of my staff.

It has been a phenomenal year working at the AMS, I have personally learned a lot and I am very proud of what the AMS Executive, staff, council, and committee members have accomplished this past year. Congratulations to the newly elected 2013/14 Executive – I am looking forward to another great year! Enjoy this report, and for the avid readers, look out for 3 more next year...these always turn out longer than I intended.

2 Office Organization
At the end of September, my Associate VP resigned from his position after a 2 year tenure. Sean graduated from UBC in May and agreed to continue the position over the summer and until the completion of the Housing Sustainability Report he was working on with Brittany Jang for the office. Sean moved on to a non-student role in the AMS in Communications. I want to take this opportunity to thank Sean for the amazing contributions he has made to this office, the AMS and the university. He was instrumental in leading AMS efforts with the Land Use Plan changes, most specifically with Gage South, and has worked on countless other projects behind the scenes. I cannot thank him enough for all he has done for the AMS and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavours!
3  Committee Updates and Work

3.1  AMS Committees

3.1.1 Education Committee
This committee has discussed a number of topics from my office over the past 6 months including midterm evaluations of teaching, exam database, exam date release, and tuition consultation. The committee has also been working with the AMS Sustainability Office on drafting a motion of support for the UBC Sustainability Learning Pathways.

3.1.2 University and External Relations Committee
This committee has been kept in the loop with the work my office is doing on Acadia Park, tuition consultation and affordable housing. Discussion about the Bachelor of International Economics tuition also took place in this committee.

3.1.3 Budget Committee
Following the creation of the new AMS Business and Administration Governance Board by AMS Council, Budget Committee was tasked with the appointment of student and alumni members to the Board. As Chair of Budget Committee, I took the lead role in working with the Restructuring Coordinator, Eric Gauf, to develop the recruitment, interview, and appointment process. In addition to this, I also found myself stewarding the implementation of the new Board into operation. More information on this can be found in section 9. The process for appointing students went quite smoothly as there was a high level of interest within the student body. We received many qualified applicants, and after conducting interviews, we appointed 4 very impressive students to the Board. We did not receive as many alumni applications as we expected however, we quickly identified that the more suitable course of action for appointing alumni would be to approach individuals who we felt would be a good fit for the position and invite them to sit on the Board. Through this process, we were able to confirm 3 outstanding UBC Alumni with diverse skills sets to the inaugural Board. More details on the implementation of the Board and recommendations for future are included in section 9.

3.2  University Committees

3.2.1 LMS Implementation Committee
As mentioned in my last report, there was a mid-point project review underway. The mid-point review resulted in some administrative changes with the committee and project charter to enhance communication between the project team and stakeholders. The Committee has been working on the wider roll out of Connect for the next academic year.

With the implementation of the LMS has also been a research study underway since May 2012 being led by staff members at the CTLT to collect data on the experience of user groups with the new LMS, evaluate the support structure in place to assist users, and to make recommendations for the broader roll out of Connect. I took part in a session that had a preliminary look at the data and provided advice to the researchers on developing a plan for how best to leverage and disseminate the data collected in the study. In this session, I was part of a subgroup that focused specifically on communication and engagement. Other topics covered included support and professional development and system...
performance. The recommendations from that session will be used by the researchers and CTLT to develop initiatives to improve the implementation of the LMS.

3.2.2 Student Evaluation of Teaching Implementation Committee
The SEoT committee discussed the results of the midterm evaluations of teaching pilot project covered in section 5.2. The committee has been very supportive of this initiative and discussions were had about utilizing Connect to enable instructors to conduct midterm evaluations electronically. The committee also discussed the need to create consistency in proving feedback to TAs from students; this will be a topic of further discussion in future meetings. Dr. Kenneth Baimbridge of the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee attended a meeting to discuss potential strategies to encourage faculty members to release their results publicly.

3.2.3 ASIST Steering Committee
The ASIST Steering Committee did not formally meet.

3.2.4 University Health and Safety Committee
This committee meets monthly and much of the focus of the committee has remained on occupational hazards and workplace safety. There is still a need for the committee to assess whether the mandate and future activities will be shifting towards more holistic health and safety on campus. The committee felt that there may be some links between this goal and the reimaging of the athletics department and new wellbeing department being led by the Vice President Students, Louise Cowin.

3.2.5 Ponderosa Commons Working Committee
Phase 1 of Ponderosa Commons which includes 513 student beds and teaching and administrative space for the Faculty of Education, is slated to open in September 2013. Designs for Phase 2 underwent Public Consultation in late November. Phase 2 is projected for occupancy in September 2015 and will also include 513 student beds. The project is being funded through an internal loan to SHHS from the Student Housing Financing Endowment and from Faculty and UBC cash and fundraising contributions.

3.2.6 Bookstore Advisory Committee
The Bookstore Advisory Committee is a body made up of staff, faculty, and students that provides feedback and advice to the UBC Bookstore on its product and service offerings to the UBC community. At the past few meetings the main topics of discussion have been the new Bookstore Expansion project, book rental options for students, the new BC Open Textbook Initiative, and the opportunity for fair dealing exemption to be applied on course packs to reduce the price for students. The Bookstore has actively approach the AMS to share some ways that faculty members textbook selections and order time can help reduce the cost of textbooks for students. My office along with AMS Communications has been engaging in developing joint messaging around these points and we will be leveraging the undergraduate societies to assist in spreading these strategies for reducing textbook costs through departments.
3.2.7 Bridge to UBC Program Target Committee
This committee is the steering committee for the development of the new International Students Program (pending formal naming, placeholder names have been *Pathways, Bridge to UBC, or ABC College*). The committee is led by the Provost’s Office. The development of the program has progressed significantly over the past 6 months and the creation of the college was recently approved by the Senate Academic Policy Committee and the admissions process is in discussion in the Senate Admissions Committee. The committee has been discussing the building needs for the new program, development of curriculum and pedagogy, as well as student service provisions for the students enrolled in the program. At this stage, the focus has been on the academic pieces. Over the next year more time and resources will need to be put towards enhancing the student experience and providing necessary student services to the students through advice and consultation with the AMS and the VP Students Office.

3.2.8 Property and Planning Advisory Committee
PPAC met, approved and recommended the following projects to the UBC Board of Governors over the last term:
- Vancouver Whitecaps – UBC Soccer Training Facility (for recommendation)
- Campus Energy Centre and Hot Water Conversion (for information)
- Malcolm Knapp Research Forest New Dining Hall (for recommendation)
- Brimacombe Expansion for Quantum Matter Institution (for recommendation)

3.2.9 RCMP Community Police Advisory Committee
This committee is hosted by the RCMP University Detachment with representatives from the AMS, Metro Van Parks Board, Campus Security, UNA, UEL and the VP Students Office. Discussions included funding for a victim services staff member, expansion plans for the University Detachment, and a review of statistics relating to crimes in the detachment area.

3.2.10 Aquatic Centre Advisory Committee and Aquatic Centre Working Committee
UBC is currently in planning stages for the new aquatic centre with a goal to begin construction this summer. This is a $37 million project to build a new LEED Gold 79,000 square foot facility to replace the current aquatic centre. The facility is being designed to include a 50m competition pool, 25m recreational lap pool, leisure pool, hot tub, sauna, and multi-purpose rooms. I have been serving as the AMS rep on the working committee for the new facility which has been discussing design options for the facility. All decisions made in the working committee are then passed on to the Aquatic Centre Advisory Committee for consultation and discussion. The Advisory Committee has a number of student representatives appointed by the AMS as well as many user groups including student athletic clubs.

3.2.11 TLEF Adjudication Committee
A percentage of all student tuition is placed into the *Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund* annually to support initiatives across campus that support “innovative and effective educational enhancements”. All Faculties and Colleges are invited to submit applications that are reviewed and adjudicated by a committee comprised of faculty, staff and students. Conny Lin, GSS President, and I were the two student reps on the committee. It was a very interesting experience reviewing over 50 applications and learning about the many exciting initiatives being planned across campus. The committee jointly discussed all applications and agreed on the funded proposals for 2013/14. As mentioned later in this report, I submitted a TLEF through the VP Students Office, during the adjudication process for this application I
declared a conflict of interest and did not take part in the discussion or decision making. A full list of funded proposals will be made available on the website by the end of this academic year.

3.2.12 Respectful Environment Working Group
I have been working with UBC Access and Diversity to set up a Respectful Environment Working Group comprised on key student leaders from all areas of campus. The purpose of this group will be to advise Access and Diversity on strategic implementation of the new respectful environment strategy which includes active witnessing/bystander awareness approach being developed through a train the trainer model. The goal of the project is to take a multi-stage approach to fostering a campus environment that embodies the spirit of the University's Respectful Environment Statement.

3.2.13 Religious and Cultural Events Task Force
I have been serving as a student representative on a task force commissioned by the UBC President's Office to review and advise on policy surrounding religious and cultural events/celebrations on campus. The committee has met a number of times over the past few months and is currently working on a draft statement.

3.2.14 Mental Health and Wellbeing Steering Committee
The university Mental Health and Wellbeing Steering Committee is a cross campus committee comprised on students, faculty, staff and administrators. This committee discusses and strategies on initiatives relating to student mental health and wellbeing on campus from a diverse range of perspectives. At the last meeting we discussed a discussion paper prepared by the VP Students Office for the Board of Governors. We also discussed two items that I have been working on, the syllabus insert proposal and the healthful academic environment review. More information on these projects can be found further in this report in section 5.5.

3.2.15 Strike Operations Committee
During the weeks in October/November that job action that took place on campus, I attended daily Strike Operations Committee Meetings organized by the Provosts Office. This committee was not involved with negotiations or collective bargaining, rather its mandate is to work on ensuring clear communication to the campus community during job action as well as ensuring that any disruptions to service on campus were handled promptly to continue university operations.

3.3 University Search Committees

3.3.1 AVP International Search Committees
A decision was made by the UBC Executive to delay this search pending internal discussions and clarification of the scope of the role.

3.3.2 Academic Director of Learning Exchange Search Committee
The committee completed the search and recommended Dr. Angela Towle for appointment. The appointment was approved by the Board of Governors. The full announcement is available online.
3.3.3 Principal of New Bridge to UBC Program Search Committee
The committee completed the search and recommended James Ridge for appointment. The appointment was approved by the Board of Governors. The full announcement is available online.

4 UNA
In September, annual UNA elections took place and 3 new resident directors were elected. The newly elected resident directors started their terms off with a new community engagement initiative called the “Listen In” series to gather resident input/feedback/ideas on a variety of topics that impact the UNA community. The UNA has been working on developing a new emergency plan for their area. The UNA also drafted and passed a budget for the next year after consultation with residents. The Board of Directors also approved funding requests for a playground in the Acadia area and a research project on leasehold property values. Detailed information can be found on the UNA Website.

5 Goals and Projects Update

5.1 AMS Academic Experience Survey 2013
As highlighted in my last executive report, the AMS Academic Experience Survey was a very successful initiative that my office led this past year. The data that was gathered through the survey helped to inform the projects and direction of my office this year. We will be running this survey again in mid-March and will incorporate the feedback received from AMS council, committees, constituencies and university stakeholders. The university runs a number of surveys such as the NSSE, Undergraduate Experience Survey, New to UBC Survey and National College Health Assessment, that cover a range of topics, many of which were covered in the last Academic Experience Survey. I have been compiling a summary of the questions asked in these surveys in order to identify gaps in data and find topics to delve further into. This will enable us to supplement already existing data and ensure that we are using the limited space in our survey in the most efficient way.

The survey will be released in mid-March and the data will be compiled and analyzed over the summer months similar to the timeline followed with last year’s survey. The survey report took a significant amount of staff time and resources to prepare last year with my former Associate Vice President taking the leadership role. This year, we are exploring the option of hiring a short term position or contacted position to prepare the report in order to free up AVP time to focus on other portfolio projects.

5.2 Midterm Evaluations of Teaching Pilot Project
Over the first winter term, my office in partnership with the UBC Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology developed and conducted a pilot project of midterm evaluations of teaching in the Faculty of Science, Arts, Applied Science and Kinesiology. This project was made possible through the hard work of the VPs Academic of the Science Undergraduate Society, Arts Undergraduate Society, Engineering Undergraduate Society and Kinesiology Undergraduate Society who led the projects in their individual faculties. We were able to conduct a fairly large pilot project with 32 faculty members, 22 courses, reaching over 3500 students.

In order to assess the success and impacts of the pilot, a follow up survey was administered to faculty and students from the participating courses. The survey results showed that both students and faculty members found the midterm evaluations to be beneficial and effective in creating a dialogue in the classroom. Over
70% of the student respondents indicated that their professor had summarized the results of the feedback in class and had responded to the feedback received. Many others indicated that positive changes were made a results and that their understanding of the course increased.

The preliminary results were compiled into a report that was shared with the UBC Student Evaluation of Teaching Implementation Committee, VP Academic Caucus, Education Committee and a Steering Committee of Associate Deans in the participating faculties. Overall, we received positive feedback from all stakeholders and there is a keen interest among students, faculty and Faculty leadership to see wider adoption of midterm evaluations. We will be continuing the pilot on a smaller scale this term and a final report will be made available at the end of this academic term. Based on initial feedback from the Associate Deans and VPs Academic, we will be developing online resources and videos to share with all UBC faculty members who many wish to implement midterm evaluations in their courses.

5.3 Exam Database
For the last 6 months, the revised Exam Database proposal drafted by my office has been discussed by the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee. After the result of many conversations online and in committee, we have refined the proposal and a motion of support for the project was pass unanimously by the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee at the February meeting. The item has been referred to the Senate Agenda Committee for the March Senate Agenda. I will be making a presentation to the Senate to motivate the motion of support.

Given the interpretation of Policy 88, it is impossible for the Senate or any other body within the university to compel faculty members to make their exams available on the database. While this has a significant impact on the potential scope and scale of the project, we still feel that this is a worthwhile initiative to pursue. If we are able to gain the support of Senate and leverage this support effectively, we may be able to get more faculty members on board. We have already begun discussions to start the development of the database and I am putting together a steering committee from relevant campus units to help advise on the development and help design metrics for monitoring student use of the database for assessing success.

5.3.1 Assessment Office TLEF
The development of the exam database in one facet of a wider conversation that needs to happen at UBC around exams and assessing student learning. Recognizing this, I put together a TLEF application to fund the establishment of an assessment office at UBC to:

1) To establish, develop and maintain a centralized examination database on campus
2) To develop and administer resources to faculty members on student assessment tools
3) To be a hub for innovation in examination and assessment best practices, through establishing partnerships with Faculties and faculty members to conduct pilot projects and studies on innovative methods to assess student learning
4) To highlight work being done at UBC by faculty members to the broader UBC community and beyond in the area of innovative student assessment practices.

I developed this proposal in consultation with the VP Students Office and the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology. The proposal was submitted through the VP Students Office for consideration and I am happy to say that the project received a significant amount of funding for the 2013/14 year! I will be working with a number of key stakeholders in the university to develop a plan for implementing this project and look forward to providing more updates on the progress.
5.4 Early Release of Exam Dates
A draft report has been completed on assessing the feasibility and need for an earlier release of exam dates at UBC. The report is based on research that I have done on systems employed by other institutions and has been centred around a presentation made to the AMS Executives by Enrolment Services on the constraints associated with exam scheduling. The report is currently making its way through the AMS committee system and includes recommendations for future student consultation and policy development for the AMS and also includes recommendation for more in depth analysis by Enrolment Services on possibilities for exam scheduling.

5.5 Mental Health and Wellness

5.5.1 Syllabus Proposal
As previously mentioned, this project is aimed at developing a short syllabus insert for each undergraduate course syllabus that provides information and resources for students on mental health and wellness. Since the last report, I wrote a proposal document to justify the need and rationale for the insert. This proposal was presented to the UBC Mental Health and Wellbeing Steering Committee. The text of the syllabus insert was revised after a discussion in the Mental Health and Wellbeing Steering Committee. It will be taken back to the committee at the next meeting for further discussion and approval. Once the text and initiative is approved by the committee, my office and the VP Students Office will jointly present the initiative to the necessary Senate Committees to encourage faculty members to add the text to their syllabus for the next academic year.

5.5.2 Academic Policy Audit
Over the past few months I have finalized the terms of reference for the committee and the scope of the review. The timeline for this project was delayed as a result of other unplanned projects that came up during the term. We have, however, picked up where we left off and have begun to finalize the membership of the review committee. I am hoping to get the committee together to conduct the review in May and compile the results and recommendations for September.

5.5.3 UBC Mental Health Network
I am pleased to report that the AMS and the UBC Mental Health Network have finalized a 3 year Memorandum of Understanding approved by AMS Council. The results of this MOU will provide the MHN with funding and resources to be sustainable and achieve its stated goals. I worked closely with the MHN Chair over the past few months to finalize this MOU as well as draft the accompanying 3 year Strategic Plan for the Mental Health Network. This plan was developed collaboratively with the members of the network and will set the direction, goals and vision for the MHN and the AMS to help address the issue of student mental health and wellbeing at UBC.

5.5.4 UBC Mental Health Symposium
This year marked the 3rd annual UBC Mental Health Symposium bringing together students, staff and faculty from across campus to participate in an action planning focused dialogue. Since its inception, the attendance at the symposium has been growing and this year was no exception. This year, the AMS was a co-organizer of the symposium along with UBC Healthy Minds, the Mental Health Awareness Club and the Mental Health Network and I had the privilege of representing the AMS on the steering committee.
The event followed a world cafe and open spaces model. There were 3 catalyst speakers and the preliminary results of the Mental Health Needs Assessment were also presented. I had the privilege of presenting on the current initiatives on campus and future directions as a catalyst speaker. The lead role was taken by Gurkirat from UBC Healthy Minds and Alex from the MHN as co-chairs. Their hard work resulted in a successful day of networking, idea sharing, and action planning.

5.5.5 UBC Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy Check-In
I took part in two meetings with the VP Students portfolio to review the progress on the UBC Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy, identify success, gaps and areas of focus for the next year. It was great to see how much progress has been made through the leadership of the VP Students Office and I truly believe that the strategy is headed in the right direction for the next year. I had the privilege of taking part in an update to the UBC Board of Governors on the student mental health initiatives taking place on campus along with Janet Teasdale. It was wonderful to see the Board provide ongoing support and encouragement for the work being done on campus.

5.5.6 Healthy Minds/Healthy Campuses
In September I attended the BC Healthy Minds/Healthy Campuses Summit where I had the opportunity to meet and engage with students, faculty and staff members from across BC who are leading initiatives on their campuses to improve student health and wellbeing. I also had the opportunity to sit on a student panel to share my thoughts on building a healthy campus community and the challenges and opportunities that accompany making health and wellbeing a campus priority. Since the summit, I have been involved in follow up meetings and online forums with other student leaders organized by the BC Healthy Minds/Healthy Campuses initiative led by the Canadian Mental Health Association. This has allowed me to share projects and initiatives from UBC with other students from across Canada and also bring back ideas from other campuses.

6 VP Academic Caucus
The VP Academic Caucus has been meeting regularly over the course of this academic year and has continued to provide a valuable channel of communication between constituencies and the AMS. Topics of discussion have included the midterm midterm evaluations pilot project, exam database, exam date release and undergraduate research. The VP Academic Caucus will be working actively over the next few months as we begin to develop the exam database.

7 Other Projects and Areas of Work

7.1 Lecture Capture
As mentioned in my last report, I wrote a report outlining the benefits and common concerns surrounding lecture capture in higher education. This report is available online on the AMS website. I submitted this report to the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee for discussion during this academic year. We spoke briefly about it in the January meeting and there are plans to use the report as a basis for further discussion in the next academic year.

The topic of lecture capture fits into a broader conversation that is being had on campus around the flexible delivery of learning. In response to recent developments in the world of online courses and MOOC’s, UBC is
developing a strategy for flexible learning that focuses on providing more blended learning opportunities to undergraduate students and expanding continuing education and online course offerings to support lifelong learning. I took part in focus group last term led by Dr. Hugh Brock from the Provosts Office along with other student senators to provide feedback on insight on what UBC students are looking for from this initiative and to highlight the areas that should be focused on.

7.2 Recognizing Student Involvement

Through the process of writing this report and doing research into the co-curricular record, I became convinced that this may not be the best direction for UBC to go. CCRs do not have a proven track record of success or of adding value at all institutions. While some institutions have managed to set up very successful programs, they require a significant amount of funding, resources and time to develop and get right. I think an innovative institution like UBC can find more meaningful and beneficial ways of recognizing student involvement and leadership. In my report, I also discussed the current environment where there is little overlap between curricular and co-curricular activities and suggested exploring the possibility of providing course credit for higher level leadership and involvement activities where students can demonstrate the acquisition of unique skills and personal development.

The report provided a good starting place for conversation with the VP Students Office. It was interesting to hear that UBC had investigated the idea of a CCR in the past and had come to a similar conclusion – it was not the right fit for UBC. What did come out of our conversation was to look a bit further into the potential of a credit based program and the development of a leadership course. Since that meeting in October, I have been working with the VP Students to explore the potential of creating a leadership course that would provide senior student leaders with the opportunity to engage in better understanding leadership theory and also utilize their involvements as practicum in this course. The idea would be that this course would be offered for credit and would thus provide skill development and meaningful recognition to students through course credit. The VP Students Office is further exploring the feasibility of this by hiring two student researchers to look into best practices from other institutions and to begin to bring together concepts that may provide the basis for a course curriculum. I am excited to see what this research brings and to further explore the potential of this idea at UBC.

7.3 Housing Report

Following the release if the AMS Student Housing and Sustainability Report, the AMS executives met with the UBC VP Students, VP Finance and Managing Director of Student Housing and Hospitality Services to discuss the financial recommendations of the report. The university provided their rationale for the interest rate and dividend. The AMS will continue to advocate for changes to the internal loan process for SHHS through the UBC Board of Governors but we will also work with SHHS and other experts in the university to develop strategies to address affordable housing for students on campus beyond the financing change recommendations made in the report through a student version of the Housing Action Plan. This will be a main focus for the office and the AMS over the next year.

7.4 Student Financial Support Project

The university has taken on an ambitious project to restructure and revision the student financial support offered at UBC. The goal of this project is to provide financial support to UBC students who need it and when they need it. Currently, bursary funding is only available to students who are on provincial student loans. This is because the student loan system is the only assessment tool the university has to identify student need.
This project will aim to delink bursaries from student loans by developing an internal UBC assessment tool to assess student need based on a financial profile that students complete and the costs associated with attending UBC Vancouver specifically.

I have been involved in a number of meetings along with the GSS to provide student input on the direction of the project and the key considerations from the student perspective. The project is very much in early stages and most of the work thus far has been around visioning and determining the scope of the project. The project recently received budget approval and the next stages will involve working through details and engaging with student broadly to better define the new process. The university will also be hiring on a technical team to develop the systems behind the new process.

### 7.5 Bridge to UBC

Also referred to as the Pathways Program, International Students Program or ABC College, the Bridge to UBC is a proposed college aimed to provide international students, from non-international secondary school curricula, a more coordinated and tailored first year program at UBC. Currently, UBC only recruits from international school that teach in English in the IB, American or British system. This means that there are a number of students from domestic school systems who are not being actively recruited to UBC. The goal of the Bridge Program is to diversify the population of international students, provide a financial contribution back to UBC and to serve as a living lab for innovative pedagogy. The students will enrol in a 1st year through the college and upon successful competition of the requirements will enter year 2 in a UBC degree program.

Representatives from the program attend AMS council in first term to provide a general overview of the goals of the college, who the target student demographic will be, and how the college fits into the university. At the last council meeting, another presentation was made providing more detail on the college and the proposed tuition. We are currently having discussion with the VP Students Office to set out the full tuition consultation process. The creation of the college, admissions processes and curriculum are currently being discussed in Senate. The Academic Policy Committee approved the creation of the college and the associated governance structure and the Senate Admissions Committee approved the requirement for admission into the college.

### 7.6 Killam Professors

I made a submission on behalf of the AMS in the call for comments on the proposed amendments to university Policy 57 – University Killam Professors. The designation of Killam Professor is the highest level of recognition in the university academic community for faculty members. The amended policy was approved by the Board of Governors and the suggestion put forward by the AMS to include a student representative on the selection committee was incorporated.

### 8 Bachelor of International Economics Tuition

In October, we found ourselves in an unexpected tuition consultation for the new Bachelor of International Economics. The proposed tuition as initially submitted to the Board of Governors for approval without student consultation. After writing to the Provost and VP Students, we were able to get the item pulled from the Board agenda pending student consultation. My office then worked with the Department of Economics to organize a student Town Hall and a formal tuition consultation submission process. There was widespread opposition of the proposed fee by students and student groups include the Economics Students Association, International Students Association and Arts Undergraduate Society. Including the AMS, 5 formal submissions
were made to the Board at the end of the tuition consultation process expressing opposition to the proposed tuition and expressing concern over the consultation process.

At the November 30th Board Finance Committee meeting, I made a presentation to the Board summarizing the concerns outlined in the AMS submission. The ESA President and ISA President also addressed the Board. Following our presentation, the BoG decided to refer the item back to the administration for further consultation with students. A request was made by the administration to engage in discussion immediately to address the student concerns. They hoped to engage with us as soon as possible in order to prepare for the 2013/14 intake.

Following the Board meeting, I met with Dr. Louise Cowin, the VP Students, Mike Silley Student Rep on BoG, and Dr. Anji Redish to discuss the issues in more details and work through a revised tuition proposal the VSE brought forward. The revised proposal was presented and discussed; further talks took place throughout the day on a few points relating to the numbers. I worked with the ISA President and ISA VP External to review the numbers and the needs of international students and with the ESA President to review the needs of Economics Students. After extensive discussion with the ISA and ESA, the AMS and these two student groups reached a consensus on the proposed tuition. The AMS executive all agreed with the consensus that had been reached and voted in favour of making a submission to the Board acknowledging this. The tuition agreed upon was 7% above Sauder and the 2013/14 Sauder tuition rate (ie $7672 for domestic and $27,731 for international, a change from $10,000 for domestic and $29,000 for international). In addition to achieving the lowered tuition, we also received written assurance from the VP Students that additional concerns regarding student financial aid, and allocation of the net revenue from the VSE would be addressed.

The AMS, the ISA and the ESA were pleased with the results and the precedent that this issue has set for future consultations with students. The Board and university heard us and the outcome is in the best interest of students. Not only is the tuition lowered saving students a total of over $550,000 a year at steady state, but we also have strong assurance that financial aid will be well communicated and readily available.

8.1 Tuition Consultation
The Bachelor of International Economics Process pointed to a need to improve the tuition consultation process at UBC. In order to address the gaps in the process I wrote a report making policy change suggestions and suggestions for improving the administration of the policy in a consistent manner. The report and accompanying recommendations have been shared with the VP Students Office for consideration and are currently being reviewed by AMS Committees.

9 AMS Business and Administration Governance Board
Beyond my role in appointing BAGB student and alumni members as AMS Budget Committee Chair, I also took the lead in implementing and day long orienting the new Board. I organized an orientation for the student Board members in early February that introduced the Board members to their role, the AMS finances, operations and businesses. I also worked with Tristan, the VP Finance, to compile the necessary background documents and policy documents for the Board. I will be setting up the first meeting on the Board in March where the Board will elect its Chair who will then assume the responsibilities for organizing meetings.

Setting up the Board, while unexpected, has been a great learning experience for me however this case points to a gap in the policy to implementation process with AMS Council. A motion and a number of code changes
were passed by council to reorganization business oversight however no accompanying plan of implementation of change management was developed beyond tasking Budget Committee to oversee the appointment process. This issue has come up in many other instances with AMS Council policies and internal strategic documents. In order to ensure that when AMS Council passes a motion, there is clear implementation plan I would like to work with the incoming executives to develop an internal procedure that would accompany all motions that have associated actions and organizational implications.

10 Acadia Park
The AMS, in collaboration with Student Housing and Hospitality Services, organized a Town Hall session for residents to express their concerns about the decommissioning and redevelopment of the area. This meeting took place on May 30th at the Acadia Park Commons Block. The Town Hall involved a presentation by SHHS on the decommissioning and relocation of residents being moved from the courts and a presentation by C+CP on the future of the area and the planning process. Residents then had the ability to ask questions and engage in a dialogue with the representatives present. Residents felt that this forum was insufficient on the side of the redevelopment as they felt questions were not directly addressed and the representatives at the forum did not have the ability to make high level decisions.

At the May 30th Town Hall the residents were informed that they would be included from the early phases in the redevelopment process and that the planning process and engagement would start in fall of 2012. In October 2012, the AMS and residents were informed that the university had decided to delay the planning process by a minimum of one year to the fall of 2013 at the earliest. A second Town Hall session was planned by SHHS for January 16th 2012. At the January 16th Town Hall, the residents communicated concern over the delay in planning and lack of transparency.

10.1 Acadia Park Community Needs Assessment
In response to the university’s decision to delay the planning process by a minimum of one year, my office is conducting a community based needs assessment project to document and understand the unique needs of the community for future planning. Given the regular turnover of leadership within the AMS and among student residents, it is important to have a mechanism in place to capture the stories, spirit and needs of Acadia Park residents while we are very much in the heart of the issue.

This needs assessment will involve a series of community based data collection activities over the next two months that will be conducted in partnership with two faculty members and their undergraduate courses. The data collected by the students in the courses will be transcribed and provided to the AMS for use in the needs assessment reporting and will also be used by the students for course based projects and assignments. The data will also be analysed by my office and a final report with recommendations will be drafted and circulated to stakeholders.

11 Staff Portfolio Updates
Below are updates on the work of the commissioners who work in my portfolio.

11.1 Campus Development Commissioner – Brittany Jang
Since September, the Student Housing and Sustainability Report has been approved by council. Following the publication of the report I have focused my attention on the decommissioning and redevelopment of Acadia
Park. I am currently assisting Kiran with the Acadia Park Needs Assessment. I have been attending meetings with resident and concerned faculty, as well as doing limited archival and literature research.

11.2 International and Intercultural Commissioner – Joaquin Acevedo
Since September, I worked on obtaining updates from several University departments including the VP-Research and International and Bridge to UBC, and International Student Development. Additionally, I’ve engaged the First Nations Longhouse to connect with students and staff in order to identify concrete issues and challenges faced by Aboriginal and First Nations students at UBC, as well as initiated a partnership for AMS involvement and support of the Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Along with the Equity Commissioner, I have been working on developing the Courageous Dialogues program (formerly known as the Intercultural Dialogue Support Network) and finalizing a partnership with the Access and Diversity Office on intercultural understanding. On the international aspect of the portfolio, I have been working on evaluating the current representation of international students and developing a way to improve it in consolation with the International Students Association and Inter-Faculty International Student Initiative. Complimentary to this work, I have researched the history of UBC and AMS on this topic as well as representation structures in other institutions throughout the world. Finally, I worked on a submission to Citizenship and Immigration Canada regarding changes to regulation of student permits after consultation with ISD, ISA, and a detailed survey on the issues. A full report will be released soon.

11.3 Equity Commissioner – Brett Sinclair
Over this past year the Equity Commissioner has been working on various projects concerning discrimination & harassment, intercultural understanding, and equity connected to both the AMS and the University. Internally, the position reviewed the AMS’ current discrimination & harassment practices resulting in a new Discrimination & Harassment Policy with a list of resources that students can connect with if they wish for support in this area. He has also created programs and has pushed for better training for AMS club leadership around discrimination/ harassment and intercultural understanding skill training. Part of this was done in connection with the Centre for Student Involvement. In conjunction with the university the Equity Commissioner has proposed a series of amendments to the Respectful Environment Statement that would make it directly relevant to students outside of the classroom as well as helping to lead a combined project with the GSS around providing students tools for understanding what Intercultural Understanding is and how to apply it. All of which is involved in the draft multi-year agreement between the University and AMS around how Equity should be addressed and shared between us. He has also been engaged in the ongoing process of reviewing the development of the draft Intercultural Understanding Strategic Plan in addition to providing feedback to the University in their Equity Consultation

Respectfully submitted February 25th 2013,

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1 NOTE – The Equity Commissioner position is a joint position between the VP Academic Office and the VP Administration Office. For updates on Brett’s work with the Admin side of the portfolio (relating to internal AMS policy and work with clubs) please contact Caroline Wong vpadmin@ams.ubc.ca