Agenda of the AMS Oversight Committee  
July 10th, 2015

Attendance

Present: Alan Ehrenholz, Ian Sapollnik, Samantha So, Viet Vu, Benj Israel (arrived 5:43 PM)
Invited: 
Regrets: Robin Asgari

Recording Secretary: Ian Sapollnik

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 PM

BIRT that the agenda be accepted as amended.

- Viet to add a motion regarding the VP Admin’s goals. (Item 6)

Moved: Alan                  Seconded: Samantha

The motion is carried unanimously.

Benj arrives. (5:43)

Agenda Items

1. Approval of Minutes

   BIRT Minutes from June 4th, 2015 to be approved and sent to AMS Council after correcting grammatical mistakes.

   Moved: Ian                  Seconded: Samantha

   BIRT that the approval of the minutes dated June 4, 2015 be postponed for approval by e-mail vote as soon as practicable.

   Moved: Benj                  Seconded: Alan

   The motion carries unanimously.
2. Goal Setting Updates

a. Final date for Goal Submission (definite)
   i. Goals must be sent to Agenda Committee by July 24th at 10 am.

b. Feedback from goal setting exercise
   i. Alan: Was pain free. There was good discussion. No real changes.
      Samantha: Difficulty with the measurable goal.
      Benj: There was active participation at the meeting, but the follow up did not happen. The process was fine, but it was not followed.
      Ian: The meeting went well.
      Viet (for Robin’s meeting): Spent time explaining PAI process. The meeting went well.

c. Aaron’s case (see attached document)
   i. We met up with Aaron: President has to choose 2 standing committees for PAI as a non-voting member.
   ii. We got to end of meeting, Aaron didn’t feel comfortable doing that. Different committees have different importance at different times. Staying in 2 committees would be limiting.
   iii. Aaron’s ask: Can I attend all standing committees and be evaluated that way. Ian and Viet met, came up with 4 different ways to do this and bring it to Oversight.

**BIRT** Oversight Committee accepts the report on Presidential Standing Committee meeting framework and implement the second option presented in the report.

Moved: Ian  Seconded: Benj

- Ian: Limitation of what he wanted to do: discussed. 3 metrics we wanted to evaluate it by: Aaron’s wishes, How easy it is to administrate and how accountable that system can be. Option 1: No, you’re not allowed to do that. Option 2: Pick 2 standing committees - we will excuse any absences for attending other standing committee meetings. Can miss SLCC by going to Unercom. Option
3: The banking system Option 4: Meet half of all standing committee meetings that happen. We scored it according to the three criteria, from the results, Option 2 is the recommended option. Option 4 prevents the President from choosing any two that allows him for.

- Alan: I’m personally fine with Option 2
- Sam: We’re trying to change it to work with Aaron so Aaron’s wishes should take lower precedence (we’re already taking that into account)
- Alan: we’re making a precedence of the President.
- Ian: Option 3 and 4 will be an administrative nightmare.
- Benj: We’re in pretty much agreement in Option 2.

The motion carries unanimously.

d. Jenna’s case (see attached document)

**BIRT** Oversight Committee accepts the report on the Goal Framework for VP Academics and University Affairs and implement the recommendation presented in the report.

Moved: Alan Seconded: Ian

- Alan: The VP AUA wants to do a lot this year. The theme of all of it is engagement: reaching as many of the 50 000 as possible. There are certain goals that can be reached this year, and others that will take more time.
- Viet: The VPAUA cannot properly identify short term goals outside of that theme, so we can allow her to not have short term goals and have more long term projects.

The motion carries unanimously.

3. **Ombudsperson Review**

- Viet has been unsuccessful in getting in touch with the new ombudsperson.

  a. How we want to review their performance?

    - Viet: Code doesn’t really explain how to review the ombudsperson’s performance.

  b. What is “success” for an Ombudsperson?

    - Benj: Being fair.
    - Alan: What does fair mean?
o Benj: Filling the role responsibly, respectfully and following due process. Making the students feel respected.

o Ian: The only way to fully evaluate fairness is to go over the decisions that the ombudsperson and re-evaluate all their cases, which is inefficient and not our job.

o Viet: The accountability criteria should be based on overall performance rather than specific cases.

o Alan: There was a dancing VP External that was distracting me.

o Benj: We can disagree with ombud’s decisions as long as they are not substantially unfair. The ombudsperson should send reports to the Oversight Chair to keep the committee up to date, listing whether cases are resolved or unresolved.

o Viet: We need to meet with the ombudsperson in July, October and February.

o Benj: How does someone file a complaint against the ombudsperson.

o Viet: There have been complaints before. It’s not our place to create the channels.

o Benj: Code gives us authority to request the details of all cases.

o Alan: I wouldn’t want to request ongoing cases.

o Viet: We are only following up with complaints.

o Alan: We can’t be looking for mistakes before they even happen. It would be nice to do that, but it’s intruding.

o Benj: Code doesn’t say reviewing only complaints, it says review performance. As a committee we shouldn’t limit ourselves to viewing only completed cases.

o Alan: That’s true, but it shouldn’t be included in the definition of success/accountability.

c. How can we make sure the position is accountable?

o Viet: The ombudsperson is usually reviewed on their overall performance, and they keep us up to date. We can follow what is in code and in the job description.

Action Item: Viet to talk with Abby to clarify ombudsperson complaints.

4. Criteria for missed meetings

   a. Is the attached document appropriate for level of details needed for documentation?
o Benj: It’s nice to show that we are being accountable.

o Alan: It sets good precedent.

b. Anything we missed?

o Benj: I’m concerned about exemption being automatic. It removes our discretion.

o Ian: My interpretation is that automatic is just the Chair’s exemption because it’s so straightforward that it needs no discussion.

o Viet: That is correct.

o Benj: Then we should change the title to reflect that it’s not automatic, it’s the Chair’s discretion.

o Many changes were made to the document regarding what is automatic and what should be done case by case.

BIRT the AMS Oversight Committee accepts the Missed Meeting Criteria Report as presented and adopt the framework in assessing the validity of missed meeting by Executive for PAI purposes.

Moved: Alan Seconded: Sam

BIRT the approval of the REPORT dated June 4, 2015 be postponed for approval by e-mail vote as soon as practicable.

Moved: Benj Seconded: Ian

The motion carries unanimously.

BIRT that Item 5 be struck from the agenda, in the interest of time.

Moved: Alan Seconded: Benj

The motion carries unanimously.

5. Gift Receipt Criteria

a. What is an acceptable gift?

b. What criteria can we set forth?

At Benj’s request the committee moved in camera at 6:57 PM.
... 

The committee moved out of camera at 7:07 PM.

BIRT that the agenda be amended to remove Item 6.

Moved: Ian Seconded: Sam

- Ian: It is too early to make this decision without the final goal deadline being met.

The motion carries unanimously.

6. VP Admin

Whereas Ava Nasiri has not submitted her executive goals by the specific deadline:

BIRT Ava Nasiri’s PAI portion regarding initial goal making of the participation in goal making process to be reduced by _______%

Moved: Seconded:

Adjournment

Since there are no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.