# UBC Student Senate Caucus

## Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Location & Time:** UBC SUB 266J  
Meeting Started: 6:00 P.M.  
Meeting Ended: 7:45 P.M.

**Date:** Thursday, July 4, 2013

**Prepared by:** Anne Kessler

**Chair of meeting:** Anne Kessler

**Senators Present:**  
Anne Kessler (at-large), Julienne Jagdeo (Graduate Studies), Kiran Mahal (at-large; Vice-President Academic & University Affairs, AMS), Graham Beales (APSC), Tom MacLachlan (Law), Cole Leonoff (Commerce), Natalie Marshall (at-large), Philip Edgcumbe (at-large)

**Invited:** Umang Khandelawl (Associate Vice-President Academic & University Affairs, AMS) (present)

**Regrets:** Veni, Barak, Mark

**Recording Secretary:** Philip Edgcumbe

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| **1.** Welcome/Introductions | Anne  
6:00pm  
(2 mins)  
I/D/A |
| **2.** Approval of the Agenda  
**Motion:** That the Agenda be approved as circulated.  
Moved by Thom, seconded by Kiran, unanimously approved. | Anne  
6:02pm  
(2 mins)  
I/D/A |
| **3.** Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting – May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
**Motion:** That the SSC approve the Minutes of the SSC meeting held on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Moved to approve by Kiran, seconded by Cole, motion carried unanimously except for abstention by Natalie | Anne  
6:04pm  
(3 mins)  
I/D/A |
| **4.** Proposal for Mental Health Research on Campus  
Discussion of an idea to do research on Mental Health on campus, and to see whether there is interest in such a project.  
Feedback from SSC:  
- Need to define scope of project and the resources required.  
- It would be a good idea to partner with Secretariat do a similar review to the one that is been done for engineering. The goal is to expand the scope of what they are able to do.  
- Start by talking to undergrad societies about what they are doing  
- AMS has pinpointed what is causing student stress over the past few years. | Anne  
6:07pm  
(10 mins)  
I/D |
Finances, relationship between faculty and students, competitive academic environment.

- If a specific program is selected it is important to determine if that program is receptive to change. Maybe look at UBC programs that are already in the midst of doing a review.
- Generally, the SSC is supportive of the idea, but would like to see more details.

### 5. UBC Presidential Committee search SSC Submission

Update from whomever attend the town hall meeting and creation of SSC Submission

The SSC brainstormed key attributes they would like to see considered in the selection of the UBC President. Shortly after the July 4th, 2013 meeting a submission to the UBC Presidential Search Committee was made on behalf of the SSC. The full document is in the appendix below.

### 6. Attendance at AVP Enrolment Services confidential briefing

Update from whomever attended

### 7. Review of minutes of June 11th, 2013 EDUCOM meeting

EDUCOM discussed exam hardship policy

SSC discussion about EDUCOM meeting was:

- EDUCOM is reviewing AMS academic policies
- EDUCOM wanted to know if Senate could change exam hardship. Answer is yes.
  - Need to motivate change for exam hardship
- Could we get information about exam hardship?
  - What percentage of students have to write exams 3 in 24 hours?
  - Can we look at correlation between number exams at the same time and how they do?
  - Can we look at percentage of students that fial because exams are close together?
  - Look into scheduling core courses in exams
  - Need to take pedagogical argument to the Senate that people can’t go against it.
  - Need external expert to support your arguments.

### 8. Review of SSC 2013/2014 Strategic plan

Set intermediate goals and timelines for our priority goals

SSC discussion about strategic plan was:

- Action item: Figure out when curriculum committee is meeting.
### Exam schedules are released after the withdrawal date
- Partly solve exam hardship problem
- Law has exam schedule posted before registration
- Committee specific goals need to be set by the students on that committee.
- Action item: Remind people of whose on committee.
- Action item: Contact list for SSC is important with committee specific membership

#### 9. Mobile solutions for the learning management system
Kiran asked for feedback from the SSC about the features that would ideally be included in a mobile learning management system. The response from the SSC was as follows:

- Mobile solutions
  - Check reading materials
  - Checking marks
  - Built-in document support
  - Access to online forums for discussion
  - Is two-way engagement important enough to have this?

Better to have something now instead of waiting for a perfect mobile solution.

#### 10. Any Other Business

#### 11. Adjournment
The next meeting of the SSC will be on Wednesday September 18, 2013 at 5pm. Schedule permitting, there will also be a SSC goal setting meeting scheduled for the end of August or early September.