THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS Advocacy Committee

Minutes of October 18, 2017

Attendance

Present: Sally Lin (Chair and VP External), Max Holmes (VP AUA), Daniel Lam (Vice-Chair and Student At Large), Wendy Guo (Councillor), Chris Hakim (Councillor), Jeanie Malone (BOG), Kelsi Wall (Policy Advisor)

Guests: Albert Tung (Councillor)

Regrets: Kevin Doering (BOG)

Recording Secretary: Daniel Lam (Vice-Chair)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 15:05.

Introductions

Approval of Agenda

Moved: Max Holmes Seconded: Wendy Guo

That the agenda be adopted.

[The motion carries unanimously.]

Land Acknowledgement

The chair acknowledged the meeting’s presence on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Musqueam peoples.

Approval of Minutes

Moved: Max Holmes Seconded: Jeanie Malone

That the minutes of October 4, 2017 be approved.

[The motion carries unanimously.]

VP AUA Updates
AMS Advocacy Committee
Minutes of October 18, 2017

- Hired Cody, working on Stadium Neighbourhood Plan submission and timeline for UBC strategic plan
- Execs have workshop on UBC strategic plan this week
- AMS nominated working group members for strategic plan
- Talked about housing with Louise Cowin and Andrew Parr, particularly the Housing Action Plan, and accessibility and affordability. Looking at formula to decide the price of different rooms.
- HAP goals to look at new goals for beds on campus and also restricted housing rentals.
- Chris: Committee planning for Senate meeting tonight?
- Max: They will not be approved tonight. The committee proposals will come to different standing committees (Diversity to Agenda, and Research for T&L)
- Jeanie: Transition of Cody?
- Max: He’s doing great. It’s a bit difficult to be transitioning while also being VP AUA. We have a Research Master List that Cody is working on. He’s also turning my platform into goals.

VP External Updates

- Centred around planning lobby trip for the end of the month. Created contact list for those we want to talk to in Victoria. 2-3 meetings secured.
- Finalizing submission. Two asks for rent with rights and needs based grants. Funding for student health programs in post-secondary institutions. Using AES statistics to create a fact-sharing appendix. Asked for data from AMS Vice as well to work on the harm-reduction aspect of lobbying.
- UCRU is at the beginning of the next month.
- On the People and Places Working Group for the University Strategic Plan, an opportunity to discuss physical connectivity to the rest of the region.
- Bike Share motion.
- Albert asked about transportation advocacy.
- Sally: I do lobbying to federal and provincial groups, including Translink, to fight for students in that way. We work on lobbying for things like the Broadway Subway and the SWATP.

Bike Share External Policy

Moved: Sally Lin, Seconded: Max Holmes
That Advocacy Committee move to send the document titled “Policy E-9: Bike Share on Campus” to Council for approval.

- Sally: UBC has had talks on bike share for a while already, and this policy signifies our stance on it. In the Appendix, you will see UBC’s stance on public bike share. The policy talks about what the AMS wants in a bike share program.
- Jeanie: Did we have a similar policy for car co-op consultations?
- Sally: No.
- Kelsi: When that was put forward, the University likely did not involve the AMS in that conversation.
- Jeanie brings up question regarding Veemo, which is neither a bike nor considered a car, asked whether if the AMS should look at a car-share/other mode-share policy.

[The motion carries unanimously.]

Discussion

- Caucuses and working groups of Advocom
  - Sally: We are not getting the turnout we want. Brooklyn and Isabella have promoted it like no tomorrow. But we only have 4 applicants. Cristina and Brooklyn are working together as well. But it’s time to revisit this.
  - Max: This was supposed to be Councillors first, not the way we have it now. We should discuss with Council on this further.
  - Chris: Brooklyn said she sent an email out to the executive on this as well.
  - Wendy: Reaching out to Councillors is important. But there isn’t enough manpower I think.
  - Chris: We are hitting our ends. Thus, we should have a conversation about what we do if Councillors don’t want to do this.
  - Jeanie: The general student body is not interested. And I’m worried about that.
  - Max: We can’t get rid of this without a viable alternative. I think the issue is that those groups don’t feel connected, and so they don’t want to apply to us.
  - Kelsi: If it fails this year, it will likely fail in years to come. It’s better to save staff hours and recruit a person for consultation.
  - Wendy: If we target people, it might be effective.
  - Sally: We told the Mature Students Association to elect a member to apply.
  - Jeanie: Can we talk with MNP on this?
  - Max: The MNP did a survey with all members of the AMS who told us that they didn’t feel represented. Let’s just add a discussion to next Council.
Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is November 1, 2017.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 15:53.