



THE AMS OF UBC VANCOUVER

Agenda of the AMS Finance Committee 24 January 2018

Attendance

Present: Linda, Rick, Lorenzo, Alan, Alim, Pooja (guest), Keith, Jakob, Jeanie

Regrets: Adam

Recording Secretary: Jeanie

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:09pm.

Agenda Items

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved: Jeanie, seconded: Linda. Passes unanimously.

2. New Budgeting Process

[Alim]: Old budgeting process was short, minimal consultation of council and departments, mistakes made by incoming people not fully understanding implications of each line item in the budget. Proposal - instead of having incoming, have the outgoing finance budget through term. This allows for longer (month) of consultation, less time crunch, and is at the same time in which we are doing the reforecast of the budget. This plan would mean we secure ~80% of the budget for the next year, but incoming team has 20% to play with for their priorities.

[Jakob]: Concerned about the zero-base strategy - events budget for example has been used... creatively. Ticket sales projections have been getting more and more aggressive for example. Zero-base is good in this future framework, but we need to have fincomm understand what is important to question and what is a pillar program of the society (ex. AES).

[Alim]: Yes, I think we are struggling with that in the current system. It would be more helpful in the proposed model. Especially having ability to have fincomm meet with each department, etc.

[Jakob]: Key is having outgoing council approve the budget - so new council is making amendments to the budget if they want to change it.

[Alim]: We can discuss where we want floats and where we want to lock it in. Probably we will need to look at it line by line.

[Alan]: Exciting - new timeline, incoming VP Finance has two months to learn from outgoing. Also, prelim budget is due end of May - could extend on presentation past May 14.

[Alim]: General feeling of the committee?

[Jakob]: It is what needs to happen.

[Jeanie]: Definitely worth it.

3. Fee Restructure

[Alim]: First consideration by committee - won't be at council yet. This has been under consideration for several years. Document compiles this all together.

-LORENZO LEAVES-

[Alim]: Bundle internal fees; everything else is in the renewal category. Three year roll-over phases so services can be phased out if needed (or referenda can be run).

[Jakob]: SASC increase?

[Alim]: Needed to operate at much higher level this year; dip into reserves. This is likely to continue, expenses go up, need to extend opening hours because of hospital accompaniments. Vital, especially with UBC SVPRO.

[Jakob]: Ombuds - should be permanent. SUO has had problems, and we pay only 50% (UBC covers half) - would be bad.

[Alan]: What about internal AMS ombuds?

[Jakob]: Probably better to have more staff under Shirley? Don't know if we have the capacity, student ombuds are hard to find good ones...

[Alim]: Are these all pegged to CPI?

[Keith]: All except health & dental, u-pass, and SUB renewal.

[Alim]: Worth considering bundle would be pegged to CPI, not individual ones.

[Alim]: We excluded Ubysey.

[Alan]: If we do that, should exclude CiTR.

[Jakob]: Should not exclude Ubysey!

[Alim]: We collect on their behalf, never passes into our bank accounts.

[Alan]: Should still be accountable to students though

[Alim]: Okay, we can exclude.

[Alan]: Grad class fee - \$7 - why. Doesn't have to be \$7. I would bundle it, but make it smaller... it's a staple of what AMS provides, has been given since 1926.

[Alim]: Transparency has to be on a whole nother level with this...

[Jakob]: If we discontinued it, UBC may introduce a new fee.

[Alan]: Could we increase SASC/decrease grad fee then bundle.

[Jeanie]: Generally in favour of the process - more accountability.

[Jakob]: Every student will have the opportunity to vote on all the non-bundled fee throughout their time at UBC. Accountability.

[Alim]: Roll-over allows people to re-run referenda. May increase number of referenda. Loophole.

[Jakob]: Add if question is repetitive council can reject it?

[Alim]: I will provide more numbers, flesh out what discretionary will look like.

4. Councillor & Student at Large for Impact Grant

[Alim]: Who wants to?

[Alan]: Nominate Jeanie.

[Alim]: Second

[Jeanie]: No

[Rick]: Nominate me!

[Alim]: Seconded. Accepted

[Alan]: Fine I'll do it...

BIRT that Rick is the student at large on the Impact Grant.

Moved by Alan, seconded by Linda. Motion passes unanimously.

BIRT that Alan is the councillor on the Impact Grant.

Moved by Jeanie, seconded by Alim. motion passes unanimously.

5. File Management software for Advocacy Office

[Alim]: ITC will also be reviewing. They want a file management software, \$636 USD. It's super encrypted. Better than drive, more accessible for future years. Only one user, ~\$700CAD, could incrementally approve it.

[Alan]: Has Hong seen/liked this?

[Alim]: Yes

[Jakob]: There is a reason why we go to ITC first.... there have been some GARBAGE purchases in the past. Absolute garbage.

[Alim]: Very small price amount. Hong has seen it, just not full ITC.

[Jakob]: Where in budget?

[Alim]: CPF

[Alan]: Why buy now?

[Alim]: Jade knows how to use it, she's leaving now, this is how the billing cycle is.

Fincomm agrees that we should pursue moving forward with this software.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting time will be scheduled by email.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm.