



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of June 5, 2018

Attendance

Present: Marium Hamid (President), Chris Hakim (VP Administration), Max Holmes (VP Academic & University Affairs), Cristina Initchi (VP External), Piers Fleming (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Jason Tockman (Policy Advisor), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Kuol Akuechbeny (VP Finance),

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm.

Agenda

- The agenda was approved (Cristina, Chris).

Minutes

- The minutes of May 22 and May 29 were approved (Chris, Cristina).

Gallery Lounge

- Marium:
 - The 50% staff discount is cutting into revenue.
- Keith:
 - The manager has suggested reducing the discount to 25%.
 - Another option would be to restrict the times it can be used, so not at peak meal time when full paying customers are there. We did this at the Old Gallery.
- Chris asked to see the numbers.
- Keith said he would talk to the manager.

Budget

- Keith:
 - The Finance Committee can meet Thursday and next Tuesday.
 - Thursday to go over the Events budget; Tuesday for final touches.
 - Hoping to get through department by department approvals by June 16.

[Jason arrived]

- Cristina: I need to submit some updates.
- Chris asked about the \$50,000 increase in the Events budget.
- Keith: More costs: increase in minimum wage, cost of talent, production costs.
- Cristina: Do we recoup costs?
- Keith:
 - No, Events is considered a cost centre.
 - If Block Party and Welcome Back Barbecue break even or make a bit, we use that to offset other events.
 - Last year they both made money, for the first time ever:
 - Block Party \$4,000
 - Welcome Back \$27,000
- Piers: What do we pay external vendors?
- Keith: No, they pay us.
- Marium:
 - We should look at the smaller events and maybe cut some.
 - Asad (the Events Manager) is preparing the Events budget.
 - There will be no FarmAde this year.
- **Action Item: Budgets to Keith as soon as possible.**

[Max arrived]

Hiring Timeline

- Marium:
 - Receiving applications for Senior HR Manager.
 - Recruitment firm (Boyden) assisting in the search for our new Senior Student Services Manager.
 - Interviews second week of July.
 - Should confirm by July 15.
 - August start.
 - Once this is done, we'll start the search for a senior Finance manager in October; they will start in January.
 - Can't onboard multiple senior managers at the same time.
 - Ombudsperson:
 - Shortlisted four people, all law students.
 - Arranging interviews.
 - Going to HR Committee sometime next week.
 - Communications Manager:
 - Interviewing an internal candidate.

- Advisory Board:
 - This was the body that was originally meant to oversee the businesses.
 - We later broadened its scope to cover the whole Society.
 - Last year it was on sabbatical.
 - This year we want to convene it.
 - Good to have external people provide their perspective.
 - Peter Guo of MNP (the company that did our governance review consultation) has said yes to sitting on it.
 - So has Ron Gorodetsky, the Ubysey business manager and former AMS Student Services Manager.
 - Also looking at two professors and at Louis Retief as a student member.
 - Aiming at meeting in July.
- Max: A long time to wait for a Finance person.
- Marium: There are budgetary reasons.
- Keith: Also it's not reasonable to onboard two senior managers at the same time.

Website Timeline

- Marium:
 - Keith and I, along with Sarah and Priscilla from Communications, met with the Studiothink website design firm and were impressed.
 - Sarah will be the point person.
 - Completion of the website revamp is scheduled for August 27, in time for First Week.
 - The launch will be geared to First Week, Services, and the Nest. Also Clubs Days.
 - In three weeks they will give us first design concepts, options.
 - The objective: to have the best website of any student union.
 - We've looked at McGill's and like its simplicity.
 - Every page will be mobile compatible.
 - Aiming to be user friendly.
 - We'll be asking you and your teams for content.
- Piers: How fast can changes be made once the new site is put in place?
- Marium: Sarah will be able to make changes the same day.
- Cristina: Will we be getting rid of external websites?
- Marium:
 - Mostly consolidating, or there will be a seamless connection even if there is a separate website.
 - Also we will be looking at our social media

Nest Anniversary

- Sheldon: This is our third anniversary, though there are several dates you can choose from:

- June 1, when we opened the doors of the Nest to the public
- July, when we got almost complete occupancy
- Late September, when we got final complete occupancy
- September 9, when we had the ribbon-cutting ceremony
- Keith:
 - Maybe we can have a celebration coinciding with the opening of the basement of the Old SUB.
- Chris: Maybe at the end of August.

Subcommittees and Committees

- Chris: Working on Terms of Reference for the Sustainability Subcommittee (under the Operations Committee).
- Marium: Conor (the President's assistant) has reminded committees to submit their goals.

Executive Goals/Strategic Plan

- Marium:
 - Try to follow Cristina's models in drafting your goals.
 - We'll have to reference the current Strategic Plan until we get a new one.
 - Mention deliverables and KPI's.
 - It would be amazing if you could all finish by Friday.
- Keith: New strategic plan?
- Marium: We will get on it soon, next week.

UBC VP Students

- Marium: I've put my name forward to be on the search committee.
- Max:
 - I can talk to President Ono about perhaps having more students on the search committee. There may be some discretionary seats.
 - Maybe someone from the Student Senate Caucus.
- Marium:
 - Maybe a seat for a grad student.
 - We do also have another student on it, one of the student reps from the Board of Governors: Jakob Gattinger.
- Keith: That's for the new VP Students. What about an interim VP Students?
- Marium: They haven't announced an interim. Probably someone internal.

GSS Referendum

- Marium: The GSS President wants to engage in further discussion.
- Sheldon: This is the referendum about whether they remain part of the AMS.
- Max: The question will be just an exploratory one.

- Marium: We would have to run one too if they want to leave. It could be messy, long, and expensive.
- Chris: If they leave, do they lose their space in the Nest?
- The answer was Yes.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.