



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of May 22, 2018

Attendance

Present: Marium Hamid (President), Chris Hakim (VP Administration), Max Holmes (VP Academic), Cristina Initchi (VP External), Kuol Akuechbeny (VP Finance), Piers Fleming (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Keith Hester (Managing Director)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 pm.

Agenda

- The agenda was approved (Max, Kuol).

Minutes

- The minutes of May 15 were approved (Max, Cristina).

Goals

- Marium:
 - Received some but not all goals.
 - Great if can receive them all by tomorrow so we can look at them and send them to the senior manager, which will be Keith.
 - Finish by this Wednesday so they can go on the Council agenda.
 - Get presentation done on weekend.
- Kuol: Someone will have to present on my behalf, since I won't be at Council.
- Marium: Let's meet an hour before Council to go over the presentation and the agenda.

Budget

- Kuol: Expenses increasing, revenues the same, so our net is lower.
- Chris: Why? Wage increases?
- Kuol: Adding two senior managers. Or we could just hire one now and the other later.
- Max: Not sure it would be good to hire one halfway through the year if we need them now, and it would only be a temporary solution, putting off the problem till next year.

- Marium:
 - Looking at hiring in September, so it will be nine months, not a full year.
 - It may take that long anyway because we're going through a recruitment agency.
 - September is when Services pick up; can't hire a Services Manager later.
- Kuol: We need to have a discussion and look at the finances.

Credit cards

- Kuol:
 - Setting up training for the Executives for the new credit card.
 - Also for club treasurers, but first we want to get feedback from the Execs.
- Marium: Ready for September?
- Kuol: This summer.
- Chris:
 - We're creating club statuses:
 - Probationary (for clubs on probation for committing violations)
 - New (for clubs in their first six months)
 - Good standing.
 - Credit cards should only go to clubs in good standing.
- Piers: What are the criteria for clubs to be in good standing.
- Chris: We're building a system for things like missing deadlines.

Committees

- Steering:
 - Marium:
 - Waiting for committees to meet to choose their vice-chairs.
 - Asking committees to send their goals for Steering to review.
 - Many committees have not met yet.
- HR and Finance:
 - Motions from both on the Council agenda, pending approval by the committees.
- HR:
 - Marium:
 - Please send JD's to HR.
 - Appointment of Speaker.
 - Ombuds JD approval.
 - Other JD's from the Executive.
 - Wage changes.
- Finance:
 - CPF funding for the new Point of Sale software system.
 - Budget.
- Health and Dental:
 - Marium: Kuol and I will meet with the GSS.

Constituencies

- Chris:
 - Looking at the ad hoc committee report on AMS-Constituency relations.
 - Want to figure out what they will look like: governance issues.
 - We don't have much in the way of binding documents or policies.
 - Governance Committee was supposed to take it on last year.
 - Do we want to be more hands on or hands off?
 - Want to make sure the Constituencies feel the AMS is useful to them.
 - They're event-based; we're operational.
 - Do we want to change governance?
- Marium: Weren't the report's recommendations carried out?
- Chris:
 - Yes, the only one left is Constituency metrics.
 - And the Elections Administrator recommended we be more hands-on in Constituency elections.
- Marium:
 - Presidents Council will meet on this.
 - Some Constituencies are happy the way things are; some want more.
- Sheldon: There is Code on the Constituency metrics. I can send it.
- Chris: What do we feel are the important issues?
- Max:
 - Making sure they're involved in advocacy: campaigns reaching out to them.
 - Even last year I think we did a pretty good job.
 - On the governance side, I'd disagree with some things: for elections, I think we should let them do their own thing. Independence should be treasured.
 - As Marium said, every Constituency is different: some would say we're telling them what to do. Some want more.
 - The Constituency Handbook was good.
- Marium: Could send a survey to Constituencies: see if there are any patterns.
- Kuol: I want to meet the VP Finances of the Constituencies and the treasurers of the big clubs about credit cards, transition, policy.
- Piers: Good idea to meet the relevant VP's in the Constituencies.
- Chris: For some of us, it's better to meet the Constituency presidents.
- Marium: What is the function of the Constituency Handbook?
- Chris:
 - Just information, not rules. How elections run, how to do finances, an information directory.
 - Not saying this is how we govern you; it's how we support you.
 - Guidelines.
 - What are the bigger issues?

- Marium: Financial oversight is a big one; there's financial liability for the AMS.

Policies

- Max:
 - Musqueam Communication Policy: not sure who should be consulted when communicating with Musqueam.
 - Now it says just the Policy Advisor, but want to change it to say it can be either the Policy Advisor or the Executive Committee. (There's no Policy Advisor now.)
 - Lots of policies are up for review.
 - Do we want more policies? Less?
 - On Indigenous advocacy? Campus Plan?
 - Do we want to say more or leave flexibility for future Executives?
- Marium: Don't need one for every issue, but for certain things.
- **Action Item: Sheldon to send the Internal Policies to the Executive. Max to send the External Policies.**

Updates

- Piers:
 - All Services are moving well.
 - Budget going up \$40,000, so cutting costs.
 - Seeking new partnerships, e.g. Food Bank partnerships.
 - Producing a package for potential sponsors.
 - Concerned about social media presence: individual groups are promoting themselves (e.g., the Pit and other outlets), but we need an overall AMS presence: we need to get people to our page; we shouldn't be competing with our own outlets. We should be telling the outlets what they can do.
- Marium:
 - Cristina and Max are looking at the Policy Advisor applicants.
 - For Communications Manager, Keith and I have met a lot of agencies.
 - A lot of hiring is happening.
- Cristina:
 - Sent submission on the Millennium Line/Broadway extension.
 - Brief on review of the Copyright Act in relation to Open Access.
 - Prepping for municipal elections in October: get out the vote campaign.
 - SEEDS projects on transit and mental health.
- Piers:
 - T-shirts for Orientation:
 - New AMS logo?
 - Navy instead of blue?
 - Pocket?

- Marium: Need to see mock-ups.
- Cristina: “We Got Your Back”: I like that slogan.
- Marium: We should have one slogan, not several.
- Piers: Need to clarify what each of our Services does, and also clarify all mental health services on campus, ours and UBC’s.
- Kuol:
 - For club transactions, want clubs to be able to see more than just their balances; they should be able to see the transactions.
- Chris:
 - Met Campus Vibe, who host the Clubhouse website.
 - Making feature updates; one about club elections. By December.
 - Do we want to change the url to include “ams”? [The Executive said yes.]
 - Sustainability:
 - SEEDS projects about clubs being more sustainable in the new UBC Life building.
 - Mug Share in our outlets.
 - Reshaping the Lighter Footprint working group into a subcommittee.
 - Art Gallery/Nest animation: \$3,000 to play with.
 - UBC Life Building: completion date now will be July 17 (not July 15).
- Max:
 - Interview requests about UBC’s Policy 131 on sexual violence: article coming out soon in the Ubyyssey.
 - Sexual Violence Prevention and Respectful Environment Policy working group (SVPREP) is going to meet.
 - Getting my committees to meet.
 - Did cost of learning materials presentation to Senate.
 - UBC’s Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office (SVPRO): communications for them: pins and wrist bands saying “I believe you.”
 - Met the new Board of Governors secretary, who’s amazing.
 - Involved in interviews for hiring new UBC VP’s.
- Marium: Media requests, but we haven’t done our media training yet.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:04 pm.