AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of November 7, 2018

Attendance
Present: Marium Hamid (President), Max Holmes (VP Academic & University Affairs), Chris Hakim (VP Administration), Kuol Akuechbeny (VP Finance), Cristina Ilnitchi (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Piers Fleming (Student Services Manager), Jason Tockman (Policy Advisor)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 11:22 am in Nest Room 3529.

Agenda
- The agenda was approved (Max, Chris).

Minutes
- The minutes of October 31 were approved as amended (Max, Chris).

Climate Hub
- Chris:
  - The Climate Hub group is focused on sustainability and climate change.
  - It has funding and a commitment from UBC.
  - It is professionally structured, with paid staff, but is primarily a student organization.
  - They would like an MoU with us in which, like clubs, they would get free bookings, office space, and equipment rentals.
  - There’s a concern about how we would exercise oversight over them.
  - We can exercise oversight with our clubs, but they’re not a club.
  - They have offered us a seat on their advisory board to give us some oversight.
- Kuol:
  - They could be funded from the Sustainability Projects Fund (SPF), but they would prefer a more efficient model providing them $10,000 to $15,000 a year.
- Keith:
  - The Sustainability Projects Fund was running out of money just a couple of years ago, and we stopped giving out money from it.
o Before committing to anything else, we should determine how much we have.
- Chris: We usually fund projects, not groups.
- Max: How much are they getting from UBC? Why should students pay if UBC is making a commitment?
- Chris: They’re getting $50,000 to $60,000.
- Cristina: But that covers only half their costs.
- Marium: We run our services for much less. They’re paying UBC wages, not student wages.
- Max:
  o If our money is going to pay staff members, is that what the SPF is for?
  o Isn’t it supposed to be for projects?
  o Can’t they apply for specific projects as others do?
  o Why should one group be guaranteed funding?
- Marium:
  o They’re trying to consolidate various efforts.
  o This would decrease the amount of paperwork and processing.
  o I’m not against it. It would make our job easier.
  o We can add reporting mechanisms.
- Kuol:
  o We need a report on past spending from the fund.
  o We need to know how much money we have.
- Marium: We want caveats on who is getting the money.

Club Expulsions Policy
- Chris:
  o Circulated a draft for consultation.
  o The Operations Committee will look at the feedback.

Tuition Consultation
- Max:
  o Tuition is increasing:
    ▪ 2% for continuing and new domestic students (the provincial cap).
    ▪ 3% for continuing international students.
    ▪ 4% for new international students.
    ▪ The 4% is significantly less than new international students paid before (it was 13%, 13%, and 10% in the last three years), but it is still more than the other groups, and it compounds.
  o Meeting with the VP Students and the Provost.
  o Raised issues of financial insecurity, inflation, financial support, all part of the larger issue of affordability.
Some students, e.g., grad students, have grants that are not increasing even though their costs are.

We’re finalizing our submission to the University:

- Looking for their long-term enrolment plan (it’s hard to understand their revenues without that).
- Highlighting affordability in general.
- Speaking about how the consultation process can be improved.

For the first time they’re going to respond.

We’ve told them that in the past students have submitted feedback, and the University didn’t respond.

- Marium:
  - We’re looking for UBC to explain how the tuition increase is impacting each department.
  - The general student body does not get to know what their money is going for.

- Max:
  - They do highlight some things, but we want to see details on individual faculties and also on the central budget.
  - We’d like to set up meetings between our Constituencies and UBC Finance to see how the increases will affect their faculties.
  - We want to be part of these conversations.
  - There’s a lot of pressure on the central budget costwise; that’s a different conversation than about the faculty budgets. Want to separate those two.

- Marium:
  - Students don’t know how the University is run.
  - Faculties don’t know how the University is run.
  - Students should get to see how their money is used.
  - We are working with the UBCO SUO and the GSS.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:08 pm.