



## THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

Minutes of the AMS Steering Committee, February 14 2019

### **Attendance**

Present: Marium (President), Jerome (Student Life Chair), Jon (AVP Finance, designate for VP Finance), Dylan (Governance Chair), Chris Hakim (Governance Chair), Max Holmes (Advocacy Chair)

Regrets: Nick Peng, Cole Evans, Kuol Akuechbeny

Recording Secretary:

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:14 pm.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Chris, Seconded by Jon.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Dylan, Seconded by Jerome.

### **Agenda Items**

#### **1. Goal Setting for Committees**

- Marium: it has been an ongoing struggle since the process we follow is convoluted. There is no requirement in Code, but we do like to do it. It gives committees direction and aspirations, which is important. We still need to rethink it. Right now, the Goal Template is sent out in the summer, and after a few months we get some sort of document from the Chairs.
- Chris: we should codify it since it is important.
- Dylan: there are too many steps, and instead of being sent to Steering, they should instead be included in your first report to Council.
- Marium: should we amend code to include that in their first report?
- Dylan: Yes, and make sure people are aware that they are due. Include it in the June Report.

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- Marium: the goals should be updated in September with the new appointments and included in the September report. Should we have some form of check-in? Council can have a built-in mechanism to point out not adhering to their own goals.
- Dylan: your goals have to appear in every report to Council, along with an update on their status, and a timeline for their completion.
  - o Would include a heading, i.e. “Works in Progress” and each item would follow detailing where it was mandated (Council or internally), the timeline/expected completion date.
  - o Work Completed would be another
- Marium: we can include different examples in the template for each type of item.
- Dylan: it could also include the deadlines imposed on a committee by Code.
- Marium: current committees should be making their fixed work timelines (including all of their fixed dates that recur yearly) by the end of the year. We can instruct them now through email. It should be ready for Orientations.
- Jerome: Steering’s first meeting can also be a transition/orientations meeting for chairs
- Jerome: should we make Chair appointments last the whole year?
  - o Marium: it is good for those who don’t get a chance to be chairs in summer, and those who want to remain on will often get appointed for winter.
- Marium: should we return to the voting in of committee appointments? It saves time using a ranked ballot.
  - o Jerome: It should be in council because it lets student at larges get involved.
  - o Marium: the voting would only be for the Council appointments.
- **Action Item: reviewing the new template and timelines at the next Steering meeting.**

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### 2. AMS Guiding Principles

- What are the Principles and what will the process be?
  - Structure, timeline, content, stakeholders, length
- Length:
  - Chris: 3 pages, to best hold the attention of students.
  - Marium: no less than 2, but no more than 4
  - There is a consensus on 3 pages
  - No longer than five in total
- Stakeholders: who should be writing this, where does the content come from, where does it go to?
  - Dylan: Council should approve it
  - Jerome: have the two weeks between councils after Steering presents the draft be a consultation period
  - Marium: should be consulting resource groups, etc?
  - Jon: people may feel their values aren't included and not be happy, despite the fact that the document doesn't explicitly exclude them but are there to guide.
  - Dylan: should be consensus driven and not specific demands. Should be prescriptive that all work is done considering.
  - Marium: Steering should write it, and we could have a Council workshop perhaps.
  - Dylan: we can source ideas from the people, clubs, etc.
  - Marium: they should be the same grammatical type. They should all end in y.
  - Dylan: they should also be high level.
  - Marium: feedback from committees?
- Content:
  - Jon: we are definitely hung up on one-word principles, its restrictive
  - Community, Students, Caring, Engagement, Students, Affordability, Equity, University and Governmental Accountability,

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Accessibility, Advocacy, Meaningful Consultation, Sustainability,  
Data Driven,

- Jon: we should structure it as its application to work, not predictive but a checklist to ensure everything is done according to them, i.e. if you set a goal, you must consult
  - What do we want people to think of the AMS?
    - Supportive, Transparent, Awesome, Accessible, Resourceful, Belonging
    - Jerome: we should differentiate the perception of the AMS from that of UBC
    - Marium: we will aide you in feeling like you belong at UBC
    - Jon: we bring the communities together
    - Marium: we are facilitators
    - Accessible Advocacy, Meaningful Engagement, Supportive Communities: AMS
    - Max: Transparency is an embedded value
- Action Item: vote on the “AMS” Principles next meeting

### Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is February 28th.

### Adjourn

1. Moved by Jerome, Seconded by Jon

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:36pm