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## **STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES**

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Guests: Stuart Clarke (Student & more), Daniel Lam (SUS & AUS Speaker), Roshni Pendse (AVP Academic Affairs), Zak Vescera (Ubysey), Angela O'Donnell (Ubysey), Halla Bertrand (Elections Administrator), Emily Gubski (AMS staff), Julia Burnham (AMS staff), Dan Northgraves (Education), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (Admin Assistant)

### **A) Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

### **B) Territorial Acknowledgement:**

The Speaker:

- At this time we would like to acknowledge our presence on the unceded, traditional, and ancestral land of the hə́nqəmíñəm-speaking xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) people.
- The Chair would also like to acknowledge that learning happened here long before the University was established.
- We are privileged to be living, working, and learning here.
- We hope that this acknowledgement inspires us to reflect on the reconciliation still to be achieved between Canada and the First Nations peoples.

### **C) Adoption of the agenda:**

#### 1. MOVED JAKOB GATTINGER, SECONDED ARASH SHADKAM:

“That the agenda be adopted as presented.”

#### 2. MOVED KUOL AKUECHBENY, SECONDED YASH GURNANI:

“That the agenda be amended to remove the Showpass discussion.”

Kuol Akuechbeny:

- Still looking at the Showpass contract; checking out options.
- Will bring this back next Council.

#### 3. MOVED KUOL AKUECHBENY, SECONDED YASH GURNANI:

“That the agenda be amended to remove the Showpass discussion.”

... No objections

4. MOVED JAKOB GATTINGER, SECONDED ARASH SHADKAM:

“That the agenda be adopted as amended.”

... Carried

**For (25): Kuol Akuechbeny, Joella Allen, Andrew Au, Derek Bennett, Dylan Braam, Kate Burnham, Jennifer Cheng, Andria Coulbourn, Matthew Epstein, Cole Evans, Oliver Frayne, Jerome Goddard, Chris Gooding, Yash Gurnani, Marium Hamid, Max Holmes, Cristina Initchi, Arash Shadkam, Bryan Starick, Riley Ty, Andy Wu, Jacqueline Wu, Anican Yu, Kevin Zhang, Evan Zhou**

**D) Membership: Introductions, new members, declaration of vacancies:**

Welcome to our new Members: Matthew Epstein (Forestry), Tanner Gjosund (Nursing),

Vacancies on Council: Audiology, Dentistry, Journalism, Planning, Population & Public Health, Social Work, St. Mark's, VST

Goodbyes: Daniel Lee (Forestry)

**E) Speaker's Business (5 minutes):**

**F) Statements from Students at Large (3 minutes each):**

**G) Consent Agenda Items**

5. MOVED JAKOB GATTINGER, SECONDED DYLAN BRAAM

“That the following consent items be accepted as presented:

Executive Committee minutes dated November 21, 2018	[SCD186-19]
Executive Committee minutes dated November 28, 2018	[SCD187-19]
AMS Council minutes dated September 26, 2018	[SCD188-19]
AMS Council minutes dated October 10, 2018	[SCD189-19]
AMS Council minutes dated October 24, 2018	[SCD190-19]
AMS Council minutes dated November 7, 2018	[SCD191-19]
AMS Council minutes dated November 14, 2018	[SCD192-19]
In Camera Council minutes for October 10, 2018	[SCD193-19]
In Camera Council minutes for November 7, 2018	[SCD194-19]
In Camera Council minutes for November 14, 2018	[SCD195-19]
Advocacy Committee minutes dated October 29, 2018	[SCD196-19]

... Carried

**For (27): Kuol Akuechbeny, Joella Allen, Andrew Au, Derek Bennett, Dylan Braam, Kate Burnham, Jennifer Cheng, Andria Coulbourn, Matthew Epstein, Cole Evans, Oliver Frayne, Tanner Gjosund, Jerome Goddard, Chris Gooding, Yash Gurnani,**

**Chris Hakim, Marium Hamid, Max Holmes, Cristina Initchi, Arash Shadkam, Bryan Starick, Riley Ty, Andy Wu, Jacqueline Wu, Anican Yu, Kevin Zhang, Evan Zhou**

**H) Presentations to Council and Accompanying Motions (10 minutes for presentation, 5 minute ? period):**

***Fall Reading Break Consultation – Max Holmes and Roshni Pendse*** [SCD197-19]

Max Holmes:

- This is about introducing a Fall Reading Break and also an extended holiday break.
- We got back this year on January 2, and no one wants to do that again.
- The Fall Reading Break sounds like a great idea, but it is far more complicated than you might think.
- Introducing a break will affect the exam schedule and create exam hardship.
- Once people understand the possibilities, do they still want a Fall Reading Break and/or an extended holiday break?
- We've collected data on three options that could lead to a 4-day Fall Reading Break and an extended holiday break.

Roshni Pendse:

- Note that the proposed break would not be for students in Law or Medicine.
- We're consulting students from tomorrow through January 31.
- Doing a survey.
- Not consulting Council today: that will be in two weeks.
- Collecting responses on the three options, including changes to the exam schedule, beginning the fall term before Labour Day, and shortening the break between classes and exams.
- The survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete.
- Also discussing with Constituency councils, Student Senate Caucus, VP Academic Caucus, and Council.

Max Holmes:

- End game: Hopefully the AMS will endorse a Fall Reading Break and extended holiday break option.
- Will share our report with the Advocacy Committee.
- Ultimately, the Senate Academic Policy Committee will decide: in February if it's going to be in time for 2019-20.
- It's their decision.
- How to help:
  - Share the survey on social media.
  - Engage in conversations with students: we want people to think about this and take an informed stance.
- We don't want organizations to pressure students: we want each student to decide for themselves.
- Avoid endorsements and telling them how to fill out the survey.

*Questions*

Chris Gooding:

- Will the AMS be sending an email blast to students?

Max Holmes:

- I don't think we should.
- We've already sent out our newsletter for this month.
- Can add something to the clubs newsletter.
- Don't want to go beyond what our policy allows.

Bryan Starick:

- Was at an Engineering conference last week discussing scheduling.
- Concerns about pushing things through.
- Why all the rush to do this for next year rather than doing due diligence?

Max Holmes:

- Council approved this as one of my goals, and it has been in discussion for years.
- The Senate Academic Policy Committee has been looking at this, discussing teaching days and Sunday exams.
- I don't think this is a rushed consultation. It's the culmination of years of work.
- The reason we're consulting is to create awareness about consequences.
- But if people feel rushed, then we won't make a decision now.

Kuol Akuechbeny:

- What number of students do you hope to hear from: 100, 500, 1,000?
- How many will be enough to base a decision on?

Max Holmes:

- Not going to set a goal, but I'd hope 500 to 1,000 take the survey.
- If not, maybe that tells us about the interest, or lack of interest, and we don't need to be doing this for next year.

6. MOVED JAKOB GATTINGER, SECONDED DYLAN BRAAM:

"That the question period be extended by 10 minutes."

... No objections

Jakob Gattinger:

- We have hired a firm in the past for the Academic Experience Survey.
- Then the results are considered reputable.
- Are you planning to hire a consultant?

Max Holmes:

- No, I don't think that's the right way to spend student dollars.
- This is a pretty basic survey.
- We don't need a market research firm.

Jakob Gattinger:

- This is a big thing.
- We should be sending an email blast to everyone.
- And for the survey, I'd be willing to spend the money on a market research firm.
- Will you reconsider?

Max Holmes:

- If Council wants to send an email blast, we can do that.
- As to the survey, we don't need a firm, and hiring one would mean we couldn't make the deadline.

Kate Burnham:

- Three weeks is a pretty tight timeline.
- What's the rationale behind a shorter consultation?
- Will you host a Town Hall or other events on this?
- Will you produce a summary of consultation meetings with stakeholders?

Max Holmes:

- We will provide logistical information, but not a summary of positions.
- We are meeting with some campus stakeholders to make sure the potential changes would work with the University.
- Student stakeholders will be consulted.
- We'll be talking to the VP Academic Caucus.
- If we go into February, we would overlap with other issues, like the Academic Experience Survey.
- We feel three weeks is enough time.
- We do have a time booked for a Town Hall if necessary; we did already have one.
- We are doing more consultation on this issue than we usually do.

Dylan Braam:

- The Law School does have the ability to schedule differently from UBC at large, but the plan for next year is to follow UBC's lead.
- So can the consultation be extended to Law students? We'll be affected.
- And will any options that will de-accredit programs be removed?

Max Holmes:

- We can include Law in the consultation.
- We did not include options that would de-accredit programs: we made sure to ensure the necessary number of teaching days.

Andy Wu:

- If there's no email blast, there could be sampling error.
- What official channels are we using to push this consultation?

Max Holmes:

- It seems people want an email blast, so it will be done.
- We are consulting the Student Senate Caucus and the VP Academic Caucus.
- Hopefully, we'll be getting the University to promote the survey.
- Also using social media and our clubs newsletter.
- It's important to get this spread organically.
- The Ubyyssey will tweet about this.
- We will use the digital media wall.

7. MOVED KEVIN ZHANG, SECONDED YASH GURNANI:

"That the question period be extended by 5 minutes."

Kevin Zhang:

- There are still questions that haven't been asked.

8. MOVED KEVIN ZHANG, SECONDED YASH GURNANI:

"That the question period be extended by 5 minutes."

... No objections

Kevin Zhang:

- What is the rationale behind the AMS endorsing a position if other organizations are being told not to?

Max Holmes:

- The AMS will only endorse *after* the consultation.
- We want organizations to refrain *during* the consultation to avoid pressure.
- We're waiting to take a position till after.
- After that, organizations can endorse too.
- I want a consultation among students, not student leaders.

Cole Evans:

- What is the course of action if the consultation does not give a clear picture of what students want?
- Who would then decide?

Max Holmes:

- However the survey turns out, if it seems very unclear, maybe we'll need to discuss it further.
- That could be a conversation with the Advocacy Committee.
- No matter what the survey says, a report on it will be presented to the Senate.
- It's the University's governance structure that will decide.
- The decision on a Fall Reading Break is not ours to make; all we can decide is what the AMS will endorse.

Kate Burnham:

- How will you use the demographic data?
- If it's disproportionate by faculty, what will you do?
- The Advocacy Committee is mostly made up of Arts students: will this cause bias?

Max Holmes

- Council appointed the people to the Advocacy Committee.
- As to the demographics, we will break down the results by faculty: we won't make a decision if it's against a faculty's wishes.
- In the end the opinion of Student Senate Caucus matters more than the opinion of the Advocacy Committee, because the student senators will have votes when UBC decides.

9. MOVED YASH GURNANI, SECONDED KATE BURNHAM:

"That the question period be extended by five minutes."

Yash Gurnani:

- This consultation is really important.
- If questions need to be asked, we should let them be asked.

Cole Evans:

- We have talked enough about this. We've gotten lots of answers.

10. MOVED YASH GURNANI, SECONDED KATE BURNHAM:

"That the question period be extended by five minutes."

... Defeated

**For (8): Joella Allen, Dylan Braam, Kate Burnham, Yash Gurnani, Marium Hamid, Bryan Starick, Riley Ty, Andy Wu**

**Against (14): Andrew Au, Derek Bennett, Jennifer Cheng, Andria Coulbourn, Cole Evans, Oliver Frayne, Tanner Gjosund, Jerome Goddard, Chris Gooding, Cristina Ilnitich, Arash Shadkam, Gurshabad Singhera, Anican Yu, Evan Zhou**

**Abstained: Kuol Akuechbeny, Matthew Epstein, Max Holmes, Kevin Zhang**

***Ottawa Lobby Trip – Cristina Ilnitich***

[SCD198-19]

- Marium and I went to Ottawa in the fall with UCRU (Undergraduates at Canadian Research-intensive Universities), an informal group the AMS has signed on with.
- UCRU currently represents 9 of the 15 U-15 schools, or 240,000 students.
- This is following up on advocacy done last year and keeping in mind that this is the year before a federal election, a time when parties are getting their platforms ready.

- We made five recommendations concerning affordability, accessibility, and opportunities:
  - 1) Reallocating the Tuition Tax Credit:
    - Families from the highest income quintile take the most advantage of the tax credit.
    - Those in a lower quintile often don't make enough to take advantage.
    - Or it gets passed on to later years.
    - Students are not getting funds when they need them most.
    - We want to shift to upfront grants that give money to students who need it when they need it.
  - 2) Increasing funding for undergraduate research to expand it into new areas:
    - We need these to be higher paid opportunities, so students can afford to take them.
    - Increase funding to include health science, social science and humanities.
    - Increase funding by \$67 million.
    - Make it a program that more students can take advantage of.
    - Create more diversity in programs.
  - 3) Supporting Indigenous students:
    - We want the Liberal government to follow through on the funding they promised.
    - We want Indigenous students to be included as part of the consultation process.
  - 4) Supporting International students:
    - Continuing from last year's e-petition.
    - Fast-tracking international students into the Canadian workforce.
    - Want to change the law to allow students who take on skilled work during their degree (co-op etc.) to count that experience towards permanent residency.
  - 5) Retaining fair dealing under the Canadian Copyright Act:
    - Publishers have lobbied on this too, saying the opposite of us.
    - Opportunity for us to engage in dialogue.
    - We want to retain education as an exception under the Act, to have educational use of copyrighted material continue to be regarded as fair dealing.
    - Publishers are saying this has caused their revenues to go down.
    - Our studies show this is not true.
    - The exception is important to keep education costs low.
- Outcomes:
  - Met over 52 MP's; also their staffers.
  - Met parties across the board.
  - Excited to follow up.

#### *Questions*

Andy Wu:

- Will the proposal on the tuition tax credit also be brought to the provincial level?



- Was there any discussion of expanding grant access to students who do not apply for loans?

Cristina Initchi:

- This did translate into provincial lobbying.
- We are also trying to get provincial funding transferred to upfront grants.
- Students who work and don't apply for loans may not get upfront grants: a valid point.
- But our proposal would still divert funding to upfront grants for those who need it most.
- There's further exploration to be had of how to improve student aid, including the issue of students with high income parents who are not supporting them.

Bryan Starick:

- Can you compare federal and provincial advocacy?
- Is provincial advocacy more valuable?

Cristina Initchi:

- Great question.
- People ask what's going on with federal advocacy?
- There's a more direct response or impact at the provincial level.
- But federal advocacy is important, especially this year because of the federal election: we can get asks, which is not always possible at other times.
- Accessibility and affordability are often not talked about at the federal level.
- There is no education minister at the federal level.
- But student loans are at the federal level.
- There needs to be conversation at the federal level.

11. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED MARIUM HAMID:

"That the agenda be amended to consider the Elections Committee motions now."

... No objections

12. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED YASH GURNANI:

[SCD199-19]

**From the Elections Committee**

"That Council adopt the report of the Elections Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2019: Polling Officers' and thus amend the Code as recommended."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Halla Bertrand:

- We will now have Polling Officers on the Elections Committee instead of poll clerks.
- Our poll clerks do the actual polling station work.
- Polling Officers will be poll clerks who also sit on the Elections Committee.

- They will be paid (poll clerks are paid too).
- The amendment also says that poll clerks will clean up after candidates (removing their campaign posters) at the cost of the candidates.

Max Holmes:

- Would it be the poll clerks or the Polling Officers be the ones to clean up posters?

Halla Bertrand:

- Poll clerks.

Abdul Alnaar:

- Have you run the numbers through the Finance Committee?

Halla Bertrand:

- We've done a budget calculation, and by eliminating one poll clerk, we can pay for the Polling Officers.

Bryan Starick:

- How will you collect money from candidates?

Halla Bertrand:

- Under the current Code, I could deny up to 100% of a candidate's reimbursement if they fail to take down their posters after the election.
- That seemed draconian.
- Now we would dock the actual cost.

Bryan Starick:

- What if the amount is above the candidate's reimbursement?

Halla Bertrand:

- That is unlikely.
- There's \$750 for reimbursement.
- At \$12.65 per hour for the poll clerks, it's unlikely there'd be enough hours to go over \$750.

Andy Wu:

- So we would be charging candidates an hourly rate to clean up their posters?

Halla Bertrand:

- Candidates have one week after the end of the election to clean up.
- After that, the poll clerks will do the job at \$12.65 an hour, and we would pass that cost along.

13. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED YASH GURNANI:

**From the Elections Committee**

“That Council adopt the report of the Elections Committee entitled ‘Code Changes 2019: Polling Officers’ and thus amend the Code as recommended.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

**For (25): Kuol Akuechbeny, Joella Allen, Andrew Au, Derek Bennett, Dylan Braam, Kate Burnham, Jennifer Cheng, Andria Coulbourn, Matthew Epstein, Cole Evans, Oliver Frayne, Tanner Gjosund, Jerome Goddard, Chris Gooding, Yash Gurnani, Chris Hakim, Marium Hamid, Arash Shadkam, Gurshabad Singhera, Bryan Starick, Riley Ty, Andy Wu, Anican Yu, Kevin Zhang, Evan Zhou**

**Abstained: Max Holmes**

14. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED BRYAN STARICK: [SCD200-19]

**From the HR Committee**

“That on the recommendation of the HR Committee the following job description be accepted as presented: Polling Officer.”

Cole Evans:

- This is just the JD to fit the tweaks to the Elections Committee.
- Prior to these changes, there were poll clerks, and two of them were chosen to sit on the Elections Committee.
- Now we’ll have a bit of hierarchy between Polling Officers and poll clerks.
- Also, by calling them officers, it means all the members of the Elections Committee (except the Elections Administrator) will be called Officers.

Andy Wu:

- Does this really need to go to Council?

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- This is a new position and Code says Council approves new positions.

Yash Gurnani:

- If the Officers open and close polling stations, does that overlap with the work of the poll clerks?

Cole Evans:

- The Polling Officers and poll clerks are very similar.
- Just the Polling Officers are the two poll clerks that sit on the Elections Committee and have an elevated position.

15. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED BRYAN STARICK:

**From the HR Committee**

“That on the recommendation of the HR Committee the following job description be accepted as presented: Polling Officer.”

... Carried

**For (27): Kuol Akuechbeny, Joella Allen, Andrew Au, Derek Bennett, Dylan Braam, Kate Burnham, Jennifer Cheng, Andria Coulbourn, Matthew Epstein, Cole Evans, Oliver Frayne, Tanner Gjosund, Jerome Goddard, Chris Gooding, Yash Gurnani, Chris Hakim, Marium Hamid, Max Holmes, Cristina Initchi, Arash Shadkam, Gurshabad Singhera, Bryan Starick, Riley Ty, Andy Wu, Anican Yu, Kevin Zhang, Evan Zhou**

16. MOVED DYLAN BRAAM, SECONDED BRYAN STARICK:

“That the agenda be amended to add the following motion at the end of the agenda:

Whereas concerns have arisen regarding the timeline of the Fall Reading Break consultation; and

Whereas the establishment of a Fall Reading Break for the next academic year is one of the KPI's for the VPAUA's goals,

Be It Resolved That the Executive Goals Report 2018-2019 be amended to remove the bulleted item 'A fall reading break for Academic Year 2019/20' from the VPAUA's goals.”

Dylan Braam:

- During the presentation, the VPAUA said he felt his hands were tied by his goals.

Max Holmes:

- Point of personal privilege:
- I never said my hands were tied.

Dylan Braam:

- Let me rephrase:
- This was in the VPAUA's goals.
- If we no longer think the goal is mandatory, we should have a discussion on it.

Cole Evans:

- I don't think we need to do this.
- It's just a goal.

Bryan Starick:

- KPI's are a way to measure if Executives achieve their goals.
- This deserves discussion.

Marium Hamid:

- A goal of having a fall reading break is not the same as saying we will have one.
- Changing the goals now will not change the amount of work done already.

Max Holmes:

- Generally, I speak against adding motions to the agenda without enough time to consider them.
- It may be more appropriate next time.
- This would change my goals in a significant way.

Cole Evans:

- To generate a conversation, it would be more relevant to add this as a Discussion Period topic.
- This is a KPI, yes, but it's still not binding.

Dylan Braam:

- I agree that things should not be added to the agenda without notice.
- I put this last on the agenda so people could consider it.
- This arose from something in Question Period:
  - There's a pressing need to address it now because consultation is going ahead before the next Council meeting.
  - We need it now before consultation.

Andy Wu:

- This might be misconstrued as a retreat from our commitment to the Fall Reading Break.
- We should not eliminate the goal.
- A substitute line of language should be prepared before we strike words.

Joella Allen:

- A lot of this discussion is on the merits of the motion, not on amending the agenda.

17. MOVED DYLAN BRAAM, SECONDED BRYAN STARICK:

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Be It Resolved That the Executive Goals Report 2018-2019 be amended to remove the bulleted item 'A fall reading break for Academic Year 2019/20' from the VPAUA's goals."

...Defeated

**For (9):** Kuol Akuechbeny, Joella Allen, Dylan Braam, Kate Burnham, Oliver Frayne, Yash Gurnani, Gurshabad Singhera, Bryan Starick, Riley Ty

**Against (17):** Andrew Au, Derek Bennett, Jennifer Cheng, Andria Coulbourn, Matthew Epstein, Cole Evans, Tanner Gjosund, Jerome Goddard, Chris Gooding, Chris Hakim, Marium Hamid, Max Holmes, Cristina Initchi, Arash Shadkam, Andy Wu, Anican Yu, Evan Zhou

**Abstained:** Jacqueline Wu, Kevin Zhang

*Dylan Braam asked that "Fall Reading Break Consultation Timeline" be added as a discussion item.*

**I) Consultation Period**

**J) Appointments**

**K) President's Remarks (5 minutes):**

Marium Hamid:

- Happy New Year: Hope you had a great break.
- The Pit's 50th anniversary was late last year:
  - We were not able to celebrate it then, but we will celebrate it January 23.
  - David Suzuki will be there because he was instrumental in creating the Pit.
  - We'll be unveiling a mural.
- Referendum questions for SASC coming next time so people can have more time to look at them than just in February.
- Max, Chris, Cristina, and I had the UBC Athletics & Recreation budget presented to us:
  - Discussion of achieving equity between sports, especially men's and women's sports.
- Everyone will be receiving invitations to the All-Presidents Dinner.
  - Nominations will be sought for clubs and Constituencies of the year.
- Linked-In Learning at UBC:
  - A tool for ongoing professional development.
  - An accessible platform.
  - UBC can use it to get data on how students want to be prepared.

Arash Shadkam:

- The Vancouver Public Library already gives you access to Linked-In Learning.

Marium Hamid:

- But there will be additional content under the UBC program.
- It creates an online community.
- Helps profs with classroom curriculum.
- Helps UBC with learning outcomes.

**L) Executive Remarks (3 minutes each):**

**VP Admin – Chris Hakim**

- Clubs Days next week.
- New club applications are open.
- Scheduling Constituency socials.
- Anti-discrimination and Equity education at club orientations.
- Campus Vibe contract coming next time.
- A marketing prof wants to work with the AMS on sustainability.
- SEEDS project about Constituency sustainability:
  - Affordable vegan/vegetarian options in our Conferences and Catering department.
- Partnering with Chop Value on a chopstick recycling bin.
- Phasing out plastic bottles in Conferences and Catering.
- Climate Art Competition: 500 entries. Being adjudicated.
- Hatch Art Gallery:
  - New exhibition on child safety.
  - Volunteer program survey.
  - Preparing a show for the 70th anniversary of the permanent collection:
    - From White Males to Indigeneity.

**Student Services Manager – Piers Fleming**

- Working on budgets.
- Tutoring:
  - New housing contract.
  - New Tutoring software: looking at three options.
- Safewalk: \$25,000 subsidy from VP Students confirmed, which is great.
- Foodbank:
  - MoU for the contribution from Santa Ono.
  - Donate a Dollar Drive will run till the end of January.
  - Lots of donations, including from the University Administration.
  - Successful Holiday Hamper Drive.
- Vice: Joint rolling class to learn about legalization of marijuana.

**VP External – Cristina Ilnitich**

- Ottawa lobby trip follow-up with MP's.
- Provincial advocacy:
  - Sexual violence policy review: talking to the ministry.
  - Great to see the government taking steps forward.
- Meeting with student housing working group about next steps in student housing rental rights campaign.
- Finalizing student financial assistance reform document: looking to do joint advocacy with UBC.
- Consultation about Equity Caucus: Finalizing ToR soon.
- Discussing UBC's strategic plan.

- New five-year U-Pass agreement. Details at the next meeting.

Kuol Akuechbeny :

- Does this mean we won't be holding a U-Pass referendum question every year anymore?

Cristina Initchi:

- We'll have to do one this year.
- In about four years we'll begin negotiations again, and that will lead to a new referendum.
- It's been every three years up till now.

#### **VP Academic & University Affairs – Max Holmes**

- Big goal: undergraduate research.
  - UBC has launched a program for undergraduate research experience.
  - Happy about this.
- Excellence Fund budget:
  - Almost definitely will see Integrated Health Centre (one of our asks), with more resources for mental health on campus.
- First-year programming expansion (Jump Start); hoping to include domestic students next year.
- OER funding.
- Academic Experience Survey questions. Come to the Advocacy Committee next week to offer your thoughts.

Jeanie Malone:

- Is the Integrated Health Centre a long or short-term plan?

Max Holmes:

- The short-term plan is basically funded.
- There are employee costs.
- Should be permanent at either Vantage or Brock.

#### **VP Finance – Kuol Akuechbeny**

- Fee referendum on SASC.
- Reviewing Grad Class Council fee.
- Treasurer orientations this week.
- Financial report.
- Opt-out deadline goes to February 11.
- Removed opt-in deadline
- Reforecast for this year's budget, coming in February.
- Working on the preliminary budget for next year.

#### **Managing Director – Keith Hester**

- CCTV closed circuit television upgrade done.



- Air conditioning upgrade still in progress.
- Frostfest starts tonight.
- Coffee with commuters tomorrow.
- Working on replacement for payroll and HR software systems.
- Working on new employee orientations.
- Sadly, our policy advisor left us yesterday; we're looking for a new one.
- Knee deep in budgets.
- New employer health tax an issue: we're being double taxed.

**M) Committee Reports (5 minutes each):**

**Advocacy – Max Holmes**

- Indigenous Committee.
- Equity Caucus.
- Fall Reading Break.

**HR – Cole Evans**

- Elections Committee.
- Wage increases due to minimum wage increases.

**Steering Committee – Marium Hamid**

- Arranging first meeting.

**Governance – Dylan Braam**

- Finalizing meeting time.
- Looking at bylaw changes.

**Student Life – Jerome Goddard**

- Nothing to report.

**Operations – Chris Hakim**

- Policy on club expulsions.
- Reviewing/revising policy manual.

**Finance – Kuol Akuechbeny**

- Fee structure.
- Approving funding.

**Brewery – Chris Hakim**

- Talking with Land & Food.
- SFU is interested in the project.

**New SUB – Chris Hakim**

- Largest part done: clubs have all moved in to the Life Building.
- Norm Theatre the only part still to be done:
  - Locks, sound system, new air handling unit.

- ETA about two months.

Dylan Braam:

- On December 3 the Ubysey reported that the delay was caused by theft.

Chris Hakim:

- No, that was an old incident.

**SHAPE – Marium Hamid**

- Have already informed Council that we sold a painting for over \$300,000.
- At the next meeting we will discuss whether that's the only painting we want to sell.
- Also we will discuss how to use the money.
- The referendum has finally been fulfilled.

**N) Report from Presidents Council (2 minutes):**

Marium Hamid:

- Doodle will be sent for next meeting.

**O) Board of Governors, Senate, Ombudsperson & Historical Update Reports (2 minutes each):**

**BoG – Jakob Gattinger**

- Working groups, subcommittees, main committees, and then the full Board meeting this month and next.

**Senate – Priscilla Chan**

- There will be an external review of the Peter Wall Institute situation.

**Historical Update – Sheldon Goldfarb**

- I have been able to locate the original of the Sherwood Lett photo that went missing from the wall of the Council Chambers.
- It is at the City of Vancouver Archives, and I was able to get an electronic copy from them which I have passed along to the Artona photography studio (they do our Council composite photos).
- Artona is going to print and frame a new copy of the Sherwood Lett photo, and we will be able to restore it to its proper place.
- In the meantime we have removed the two other portraits (of Evelyn Lett and Norman MacKenzie): Artona is going to make digital copies of them for back-up.

**P) Minutes of Council and Committees of Council:**

**Q) Executive Committee Motions:**

18. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED MARIUM HAMID:

“That on the recommendation of the VP Academic and University Affairs office, Council approve the use of Qualtrics as the only platform for the collection of electronic signatures for referendum petitions for the year 2019.”

Note: Due to privacy reasons, all online referendum petitions will still need to be held in the VP Academic & University Affairs Office to be considered valid.

Max Holmes:

- Our bylaws give me some very odd powers, one of which is receiving referendum petitions.
- My office over the years has been tasked with validating the names of students on the paper petitions.
- Nowadays there is this new thing called the Internet, which allows you to do petitions online.
- We’ve added Code to allow these, and Code says the VP Academic will ask Council to approve a platform for doing so.
- Last year we used Formstack, which we had to pay for.
- Now I’m proposing Qualtrics, a UBC service.
- We won’t have to pay.
- We will still collect and validate the information in my office, and then for privacy reasons destroy it.
- An information page will go up soon about how to run a referendum.
- There can still be paper petitions.

Bryan Starick:

- Why Qualtrics?
- Did we do analyses of other options?
- Is there a contract?
- Is it a free service?
- If it’s collecting sensitive information, is there the possibility of a breach?
- What sort of security is there?

Max Holmes:

- It’s free through UBC.
- I sit on the committee that looks into these things for UBC.
- We went through several options.
- This was the only one we were sure would protect privacy.
- Using UBC’s account is the safest method for us to use.
- It’s good enough for UBC.
- It will be safer than before.
- This is only for AMS referendums.

Abdul Alnaar:

- You're collecting names and student numbers?
- Signatures?
- Email addresses?

Max Holmes:

- We don't collect email addresses.
- We ask for their name, signature, and student number.

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- This is required by our Bylaws, which require a petition "duly signed."
- Our Code defines "duly signed" to mean something including name, student number, and signature, either handwritten on paper or in electronic form produced by means of a system approved by Council.
- We added the electronic option a couple of years ago.

Jakob Gattinger:

- I hope this platform can confirm student numbers automatically.

Max Holmes:

- We automated the system last year.

Arash Shadkam:

- Why mandate a particular platform?
- What if the system goes down? Is there a back-up?

Max Holmes:

- Paper is the back-up.
- If this system went down, there'd be a lot more problems than just for our referendums: this is the system for all of UBC.
- I'm confident that UBC has chosen a secure and trustworthy platform.

Kevin Zhang:

- Code isn't clear that we can only approve one system.

Max Holmes:

- Maybe we could use more than one system.
- We use one system because it's easier.

19. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED MARIUM HAMID:

"That on the recommendation of the VP Academic and University Affairs office, Council approve the use of Qualtrics as the only platform for the collection of electronic signatures for referendum petitions for the year 2019."

Note: Due to privacy reasons, all online referendum petitions will still need to be held in the VP Academic & University Affairs Office to be considered valid.

... Carried

**For (24): Kuol Akuechbeny, Joella Allen, Andrew Au, Derek Bennett, Dylan Braam, Jennifer Cheng, Andria Coulbourn, Matthew Epstein, Cole Evans, Oliver Frayne, Tanner Gjosund, Jerome Goddard, Chris Gooding, Yash Gurnani, Marium Hamid, Max Holmes, Arash Shadkam, Gurshabad Singhera, Bryan Starick, Riley Ty, Christina Wiesmann, Anican Yu, Kevin Zhang, Evan Zhou**

**R) Constituency and Affiliate Motions:**

**S) Committee Motions:**

**T) Other Business and Notice of Motions:**

**U) Discussion Period**

***Fall Reading Break Consultation Timeline***

Dylan Braam:

- Some concerns were brought up by members of Council about the timeline on consultation.
- I'm a little disappointed about the motion I proposed not being added.
- The Executive goals presume a result.
- The suggestion is that Max will not be successful in his goals if he doesn't get a Fall Reading Break.
- Now I have a number of questions.
- Running a survey is not easy.
- I'd like to know there is a lack of bias.
- I think we on Council should be seeing the questions.
- Are we still working on the questions?
- Will there be assistance from staff with expertise in market research?
- Is anyone in the VPAUA office qualified in data analysis?
- Did the Policy Advisor assist with the questions?
- Did you consider using a public polling firm?
- Was not using a firm influenced by the timeline?
- If there were no external constraints, what would be your ideal length of time for the survey?

Max Holmes:

- No one in my office has a professional background in market research.
- The survey was not created just by ourselves, but with the chair of the Senate's Academic Policy Committee and the Senate office.
- They've done countless consultations.
- They had no concerns about the timeline.

- Our Policy Advisor did review the questions before he left and he approved.
- I would hope there would be a little more trust in our office: we've been working on this for a while; it hasn't been rushed.
- We have never used a public polling firm for consultations.
- We used one for the Academic Experience Survey, which is a survey of the entire campus on many questions.
- UBC does not use polling firms for consultation, and we don't have a budget for that. And it's not necessary. This process is good enough.
- If there were no external constraints, I'd probably follow the same timeline.
- If we want to extend to four or four and a half weeks, we could do that.
- If in two weeks we don't get many responses, we can look into extending.
- If we have thousands, there's no need.
- If we extend the timeline, we won't be able to come back to Council or the Advocacy Committee.
- If it's seen to be that important, I can look into it. I'd like to consult the Student Senate Caucus: if they're looking for an extended timeline, then I'll look more at it.
- On my Executive goal: I was elected on this.
- To remove this goal would be spitting in the face of democracy, disrespecting the choice the voters made.
- Even if the KPI is there, if consultation doesn't support a Fall Reading Break, then in the end I want to do what students want.
- Students do expect us to get things done.

*Daniel Lam took over as a proxy for Jerome Goddard.*

Cole Evans:

- I don't think we should over formalize this process.
- We're not the body that makes the decision.
- If we were, then we'd want to be more formalized.
- We are engaging and gathering a sentiment.
- We should judge based on the amount of engagement, not the timeline.

Joella Allen:

- Even though some disagree with the timeline, that is not saying we don't have faith in your office to do your job.
- We should be careful about saying the consultation is "good enough."
- We complain when others do that; we complain about UBC consultation.
- We should strive for something good, not just good enough.

20. MOVED BRYAN STARICK, SECONDED KATE BURNHAM

"That this discussion topic be limited to 30 minutes."

... No objections

Bryan Starick:

- Engineering students had concerns that there was not enough information about the options.
- Max has said he wants students to be well informed.
- How will that be done?

Dylan Braam:

- Thanks, Max, for all the answers.
- They definitely did reassure me.
- The presentation made it sound like the timeline was making us do this.
- I'm reassured to hear that a lot of work went into this.
- Council is supposed to ask questions.
- We trust your staff, but it's our job to ask questions. That's the purpose of this body. I'd appreciate it if in future that was treated less like a personal attack.

Kuol Akuechbeny:

- As to the question of how we determine if enough students are engaged, could we use referendum quorum?
- This would help us feel comfortable taking a stance.
- We could set a certain number and say that for the AMS to support something, there should be this number of students in support of it.

Marium Hamid:

- The survey is one of many factors.
- It is not a standalone thing.
- The result could be ambivalent, or the demographic might not be reflective.
- Designating a number does not guarantee robust engagement.
- That's why Max's office is also engaging in conversations with stakeholders.
- People from the University are asking for our input now. This is the time for us to present.

Jakob Gattinger:

- What is the Senate timeline on this?
- When are the calendar discussions?

Max Holmes:

- It's usually done after February Academic Policy Committee meeting: February 25.

Jakob Gattinger:

- The February Senate meeting is often cancelled.
- We could work with that to give more opportunity for Council and its committees to be involved.

Arash Shadkam:

- What are the plans to engage grad students?

Max Holmes:

- Re engaging with grad students:
  - It's a very difficult demographic.
  - Some grad programs don't follow the same schedule, but many grad students are TA's and are affected that way.
  - So the survey is open to all grad students, and I'm going to talk to the grad student Senators.
  - When we did the Academic Experience Survey, we actually engaged the exact proportion of grad students.
  - Hope to do the same thing here.
  - May look at weighting results too.
- If the Senate meeting is cancelled, there is more of an opening, but I'm working with the schedule I've been given.
- Using the quorum number for referendums:
  - It's not a necessity. It doesn't have a lot behind it.
  - We got 3,000 students for the Academic Experience Survey: that was enough for statistical reliability. We don't need more.
  - But we need to look to make sure we have enough from all faculties.
- Re informing students:
  - The information is in the survey.
  - That's why it takes 10-15 minutes to fill out: not because there are a lot of questions, but because of all the information.
  - The end of the survey allows students to reach out to us.
  - May make models public of what each option would entail and also do comparisons with other universities.
  - We'll look at the possibility of a Town Hall.
  - Also the office is open to all to come and get information.
  - We want to make sure this is a good consultation.
  - This is one of the better consultations we've done.
  - Surveys haven't been done for consultations.
  - I think this is great from a consultation perspective.
- I'm a little feisty sometimes: don't take it as me taking things personally.
- It's good for people to scrutinize.
- And this will inform future VPAUA's on the conduct of consultations.
- The way questions are asked sometimes: there are better ways to do it.
- My job is to be the political insider for students at UBC and to understand how to get things done for students.

Bryan Starick:

- Thanks for building the information into the survey.
- Do students have to complete the survey all at once, or can they jump in and out?
- If not, can we publish all that information separately?

Max Holmes:

- That's something we could do (publish separately).
- Students can leave the survey, and then it's not counted.
- The information you need is before the questions to answer.



- We might look at linking one or two of the resources.

**V) Submissions:**

Conflict Engagement Framework	[SCD201-19]
HR Committee memo	[SCD202-19]
Ottawa Lobby trip	[SCD203-19]

**W) Next Meeting:**

Next Meeting: January 23, 2019

**X) Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

**Y) Social Activity: Pit Night**

### January 9, 2019 Roster

#### The Alma Mater Society of U.B.C. Vancouver – Student Council Attendance

Name	Constituency	Present	Proxy
Kareem Ibrahim	Speaker of Council	X	
Marium Hamid	President	X	
Max Holmes	VP Academic	X	
Chris Hakim	VP Administration	X	
Cristina Ilnitchi	VP External Affairs	X	
Kuol Akuechbeny	VP Finance	X	
Piers Fleming	Student Services Mgr	X	
Oliver Frayne	Architecture	X	
Yash Gurnani	Arts	X	
Andy Wu	Arts	X	
Cole Evans	Arts	X	
Jerome Goddard	Arts	X	Daniel Lam late in the meeting
Kevin Zhang	Arts	X	
	Audiology		
Jeanie Malone	BoG	X	
Jakob Gattinger	BoG	X	
Evan Zhou	Commerce	X	
Jacqueline Wu	Commerce	X	
	Dentistry		
Chris Gooding	Economics	X	
Derek Bennett	Education	X	
Kate Burnham	Engineering	X	
Bryan Starick	Engineering	X	
Matthew Epstein	Forestry	X	
Arash Shadkam	Graduate Studies	X	
Darren Touch	Graduate Studies		
Alexa Tanner	Graduate Studies		
Christina Wiesmann	Graduate Studies		
	Journalism		
Andrew Au	Kinesiology	X	
Andria Coulbourn	Land & Food Systems	X	
Dylan Braam	Law	X	
Joella Allen	Library/Archival	X	
Jennifer Ling	Medicine		
Anican Yu	Music	X	
Tanner Gjosund	Nursing	X	
Frank Ju	Ombudsperson		
	Planning		
Amy Kwan	Pharmacy		
	Population & Public Health		
Gareth Clegg	Regent College		
Jennifer Cheng	Science	X	
Gurshabad Singhera	Science	X	
Riley Ty	Science	X	

Priscilla Chan	Senate	X	
Hannah Xiao	Senate		
	St. Mark's		
	Social Work		
	VST		

V1: Test your clickers!

V2: Motion to approve the agenda as amended

V3: Consent items

V4: Extend time for the question period by 5 min

V5: That Council adopt the report of the Elections Committee entitled Code Changes 2019: Polling Officers and thus amend the Code as recommended.

V6: BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the recommendation of the HR Committee the following job description be accepted as presented: Polling Officer.

V7: Motion to amend the agenda to add the motion on the screen to Section (R)

V8: BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the recommendation of the VP Academic & University

Name	V1	V2	V3	V4	V5	V6	V7	V8
Marium Hamid	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Chris Hakim	A		Y		Y	Y	N	
Kuol Akuechbeny	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y
Cristina Ilnitchi	Y	Y	Y	N		Y	N	
Max Holmes	N	Y	Y	A	A	Y	N	Y
Yash Gurnani	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Andy Wu	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
Cole Evans	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Jerome Goddard	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Kevin Zhang	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	A	Y
Evan Zhou	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Jacqueline Wu	Y	Y	Y				A	
Chris Gooding	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Derek Bennett	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Kate Burnham	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Bryan Starick	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Christina Wiesmann								Y
Alexa Tanner								
Arash Shadkam	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Darren Touch								
Matthew Epstein	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	N	Y
Andrew Au	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Andria								
Coulbourn	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y

Dylan Braam	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Joella Allen	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jennifer Ling								
Tanner Gjosund	Y		Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Planning Vacant								
Amy Kwan								
Gareth Clegg								
Oliver Frayne	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jennifer Cheng	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Gurshabad Singhera				N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Riley Ty	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
VST Vacant								
Anican Yu	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y