



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of January 9, 2019

Attendance

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

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm in Nest Room 3511.

Agenda

- The agenda was approved (Cristina, Chris).

Minutes

- The minutes of December 12 were approved (Kuol, Max).

Showpass Contract

- Marium:
 - We are going to take this off the Council agenda.
 - We are exploring a new option.
 - Kuol will update us.

U-Pass

- Cristina:
 - We have secured a five-year agreement, which is unprecedented.

SUDS

- Cristina will follow up on the sponsorship dollars we should have received.

Fee Referendum(s)

- Kuol:
 - Been working on the budget for SASC (the Sexual Assault Support Centre).
 - Have come up with some figures we can propose for the new sexual assault support services fee: \$8.46, which we would round up to \$8.50.

- Marium: Would like to be able to present two numbers, one operational and one more ideal.
- Kuol: We actually have three numbers.
- Abdul: The \$8.50 number is based on current benefits and salaries at SASC.
- Marium: At that figure, operations would remain the same?
- Abdul: Yes.
- Kuol:
 - The Finance Committee has also been discussing a \$1 reduction to the Grad Class Fee.
 - We have a proposal that would lead to us having three fees:
 - Grad Class Fee.
 - Indigenous Students Fee – of course only if the Indigenous Committee agrees.
 - Student Initiatives Fee.
- Max:
 - Are you assuming four years before graduation?
 - The Grad Class fee is different, in that it is only assessed on graduating students.
 - It's the same amount whether the student graduates in four years or five.
- Marium:
 - We don't know how to administer the Indigenous fee.
 - UBC will have to do it.
 - There will be criteria for awards and bursaries to figure out.
- Kuol: We can look into the logistics and will be ready with a referendum question for the February Council meeting.
- Marium: This would be coming the same year as the SASC fee increase. We have to be careful not to jeopardize that.

Graduation Ceremony Feedback

- Marium:
 - UBC consulted us on what the grad ceremonies should look like.
 - Currently, there are 36 ceremonies, which is cumbersome.
 - This is not usual at other universities: they have one big graduation.
 - UBC is suggestion a Last Day with a big headliner at BC Place, to be attended by all 9,000 graduating students plus guests.
 - They would also book spaces across Vancouver for smaller faculty ceremonies.
 - Santa (President Santa Ono) would only attend the big one here and one at UBCO.
 - This is an old suggestion that has been revived.
 - They're looking for support from students for one big ceremony.
 - It would probably cost less than having 36 ceremonies.
 - At the one big ceremony there would be a collective granting of degrees on the 9,000 students: no one would be crossing the stage and shaking hands.

- The Executive voiced its support.

Student Engagement

- Cristina:
 - Want to increase awareness of the AMS.
 - Online videos for the elections, explaining what the Executive is.
 - Also explaining how money from businesses goes to services and events.

Transition planning/Council orientation

- Marium:
 - Everyone in the office (all the student staff) should produce a report.
 - Two weeks before the end of April, submit the final copy.
 - Want to set up a template.
 - Want to do Council orientation the last weekend of April.
 - We should set up a working group to look into it.

The meeting went in camera at 5:30 pm.