AMS Governance Committee

Minutes for November 27, 2018

**Governance Committee Membership:** Dylan Braam (Chair, Councillor), Christopher Hakim (AMS VP Administration), Jeanie Malone (Councillor), Hannah Xiao (Councillor), Jennifer Ling (Councillor), Kate Burnham (Councillor), Melody Cheung (Member-at-Large)

**Staff Support:** Sheldon Goldfarb (AMS Archivist and Clerk of Council)

**Present:** Sheldon, Dylan, Hannah, Jeanie, Chris (phone)

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**Call to Order**
The Chair called the Committee to order at 11:09am.

**Territorial Acknowledgement**

**Approval of Agenda**

**Motion 1**

*WHEREAS* we are back to our regularly scheduled programming,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee approve the Agenda for the meeting of November 27, 2018.

Moved by Chris, seconded by Hannah.
Approved unanimously.

**Approval of Past Minutes (Motion)**

**Motion 2**

*WHEREAS* I sent all of our past minutes and want to send more,
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting of November 20, 2018.

To fix: Nov 13th agenda date, formatting, big red highlighting.

Moved by Dylan, seconded by Jeanie.
Approved unanimously.

Policy I-9 Executive Goal Setting (Motion)

Given that the Executive just sent out their goals update to Council, I think this is a good time to discuss this.

WHEREAS it is important to balance the need for new executives promptly set goals with the fact that they have no idea what they are doing,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee recommend that AMS Council approve the changes to Policy I-9: Executive Goal Setting as seen in Appendix A: Goals.

[Dylan]: This is timely! Executives have just presented their goals.

[Chris]: I think this is clear. I would like the strat plan part to be kept… but Cristina’s point about having no approved one is true. Designated staff member...can be an issue if they leave or can’t help you. How do we accommodate this?

[Sheldon]: Should specify permanent staff member.

[Dylan]: If before you start… should outgoing exec pick? Or you? If after you start, it makes sense for the current exec to pick.

[Chris]: Generally, minimal goal setting done during transition period.

[Jeanie]: try “In the case that a Designated Staff Member becomes unavailable to assist the incoming Executives, the current Executive Committee (either outgoing, or incoming, as per the usual timing at which Executives come into office) shall re-assign the role to another staff member.”?

[Sheldon]: I will wordsmith this.

[Chris]: Parag. 15 - why “in November” and “at any other time”? 
[Dylan]: Suggesting November… reads strangely.

[Dylan]: Thoughts on the strategic plan idea? Is the strat plan mandated?

[Sheldon]: Not… really… we have a strategic framework. Last updated a decade ago.

[Dylan]: Concern at Steering Comm - how much do we want to bind future elected people to this? I don’t see this being effective. No one is Stalin - the only way that was successful is no one was going to get rid of Stalin.

[Hannah]: Resetting every year isn’t productive.
[Sheldon]: But do we want to refer to it in the goals?

[Dylan]: I feel uncomfortable in tying it to the goals.

[Chris]: The struggle is tying elected officials to a strat plan they were not part of. Hard to ensure campaign promises etc are met.

[Jeanie]: What if we said mission statement instead of strat plan?

[Dylan]: What about the constitution? Wait. No.

[Jeanie]: Make sure refers to exec+SSM in all parts.

[Dylan]: This will come back to next GovComm and hopefully to go for second council in January.

**Governance Review — By-Laws (Discussion)**

Once again we are back to our By-Laws discussion.

Please see the [by-laws discussion document](#) in the [Governance Review folder](#).

[Dylan]: Good standing… not sure if defined anywhere.

[Jeanie]: A mention is in the student court area.
[Sheldon]: Not good standing of AMS… of a club. Does OpsComm define good standing in their manual?

[Dylan]: Don’t think so.

[Sheldon]: We should make sure to clean up and remove good standing mentions in code. Make sure club standing is discussed in OpsComm manual.

[Dylan]: We are all very familiar with AGM section…

[Dylan]: Quorum?

[Jeanie]: 500 or 1% (whichever is lesser) is good. Eventually we will NEED a quorate AGM, and we are approaching that being impossible.

**Adjournment**

12:09pm.
AMS Governance Committee

Agenda for November 13, 2018

Governance Committee Membership: Dylan Braam (Chair, Councillor), Christopher Hakim (AMS VP Administration), Jeanie Malone (Councillor), Hannah Xiao (Councillor), Jennifer Ling (Councillor), Kate Burnham (Councillor), Melody Cheung (Member-at-Large)

Attendance: Dylan, Kate, Hannah, Sheldon, Jennifer
Staff Support: Sheldon Goldfarb (AMS Archivist and Clerk of Council)

Call to Order

Territorial Acknowledgement

Approval of Agenda

Motion 1

WHEREAS we have a big new topic to discuss,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee approve the Agenda for the meeting of November 13, 2018.

Moved by Kate, seconded by Hannah.

Approval of Past Minutes (Motion)

Motion 2

WHEREAS we spoke last time and wrote down those speakings,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting of October 31, 2018.

Whereas last time we did not write down those speakings, BIRT the Committee proceeds despite the lack of Minutes. Moved by ____________, seconded by ____________. Unanimous consent from Members.
Internal Teamwork on Council (Discussion)

Following a long but productive discussion at Council last week, this committee has been tasked with looking into changing Code, policies and procedures to improve how Council functions. As much of this discussion was *in camera*, this description is limited, but more information will be provided at the meeting.

[Dylan]:
- BoD: approving everything from committees, executive and from the floor without much discussion
- Concern with lack of executive oversight
- There used to be a committee that had oversight over the Executive but this was disbanded and now the responsibility rests with Council

[Jeanie]:
- Why was oversight dissolved?

[Sheldon]:
- Committee didn’t do much for a while
- Some concerns with past Executive members
- Within this decade, bonus system if Executive performed well and achieved goals
  - Goals then no longer very ambitious
- However this led to a tension b/w Committee and Executive
- Then decreased metric to just goal setting and steps
- This was not sufficient so oversight Committee was dissolved

[Dylan]:
- Currently Council is not providing sufficient oversight and it’s not very concrete

[Sheldon]:
- During last AMS meeting, Councillor critical that other Councillors not engaged
- There is a desire to work together from all parties
- Executives seek trust from Council

[Dylan]:
- Trust is not the right word because our role requires accountability

[Sheldon]:
- Desire for public way for people to know events (i.e AGM) was expressed
- Council should be asking about things upcoming instead of being punitive after

[Dylan]:
- How to get Council more engaged?
  - [Sheldon]: Councillor felt intimidated about speaking

[Hannah]:
- Look back on what has worked well?

[Sheldon]:
• A Councillor feels they have lack of knowledge of bylaws and such so lack confidence
• Councillor suggested that Council should look more closely at Committee proceedings

[Dylan]:
• Governance Committee should be broad goals and policies that don’t just affect Council
• Much of meeting regarding comfort with speaking, personal conflict
• Student life planning: bonding of councillors important
• Attribute to personal responsibility for Councillors to speak up
• Currently: what was published online, minutes (but at least 2 week delay)
• Idea that Executives that prepare reports for meetings
  ○ This is not a perfect system b/c there’ll be a few days missing before meeting as Agenda must be firmed up
  ○ This allows more preparation for Councillors
  ○ Downside: Executive defers to written report and doesn’t present what is in the report
• [Hannah]: can we compel them to give an oral report?
• [Sheldon]: Executives used to give quarterly reports, then 3x/y, then abolished. Now give biannual reports but sometimes Executives didn’t finish.
• [Dylan] showed an example of a compiled report from a previous Council he has sat on from all Executives and all Councillors on their constituencies
• [Sheldon]: does this include Senators, BoG?
• [Dylan]: Yes, they can write ‘no meetings have occurred’
• [Hannah]: How about less frequently (3x/y) so it’s less work?
• [Kate]: Then that’s a summary and doesn’t promote Councillor engagement at each meeting
• [Dylan]: Something about Policy I-9
• [Hannah]: People no familiar with other Committees, too quick to think deeply about what questions they have. Give more rationale or documents about each change proposed before Moving.
• [Sheldon] in support
• Committee expresses they wish the Executive member was here since this is a Exec-Committee matter
• [Kate]: It’s good to give rationale before Moving

Mover and Seconder of Movements
• Members expressed that the game wastes time
• [Dylan]: Mover and seconder for Approval of Agenda?
• [Sheldon]: Initiator of agenda item should speak on the item
• [Hannah]: What about proxies?
• [Sheldon]: Proxies should be prepared for agenda items. Also report sizes are limited by email system
Post on the AMS website?
Debate regarding how to fit attachments onto emails
[Dylan]: Motions from floor should be discouraged unless they are urgent
[Hannah]: That has been the case
[Kate]: That was not the case last week
[Dylan]: Concern about timelines and how long it takes to go to the Agenda
[Kate]: The Councillor orientation should be re-done at Council because we have many new Councillors and also a lot of people didn’t attend
[Jeanie]: There has been a lot of training of Councillors. Committee participation allows a lot of learning for Councillors. It is both Councillor and Executive responsibility to provide everything beforehand so they are prepared. A year plan should be helpful.
[Hannah]: I attribute this more to student life
[Dylan]: yes this is not solved just by adding reports. It’s good that people are supposed to nominate themselves for at least one Committee. However, Committees bring things they agree on so they have nothing to debate.
[Hannah]: More discussion from each Committee?
[Sheldon]: We used to have a Consultation period.
[Dylan]: suggests each Council meeting have a Committee-of-the-Week where that Committee brings forth things for discussion. Committees sign up for their own time each semester.
Dylan will try and get minutes out immediately.
[Hannah]: Student life and Gov Committees should have a joint meeting?
Members are in support but worry about the logistics
Should we limit number of presentations?
[Jeanie]: Yes, no presentations
[Dylan]: We need to know what these presenters want, and what the rationale is for each meeting
[Hannah]: Who approves the presentations?
[Sheldon]: The President
Members want concrete desires from presenters
Members concerned that this is at the sole discretion of the President
However students-at-large can still come and present
Dylan will send out minutes quickly so Committee members can think about these topics

Governance Review — By-Laws (Discussion)

Please see the by-laws discussion document in the Governance Review folder.
Adjournment

Move by Kate, Second by Hannah. Adjourn at 12:17PM
AMS Governance Committee

Minutes for October 24, 2018

Governance Committee Membership: Dylan Braam (Chair, Councillor), Christopher Hakim (AMS VP Administration), Jeanie Malone (Councillor), Hannah Xiao (Councillor), Jennifer Ling (Councillor), Kate Burnham (Councillor), Melody Cheung (Member-at-Large)

Attendance: Dylan, Chris, Jeanie, Kate, Melody, Sheldon

Staff Support: Sheldon Goldfarb (AMS Archivist and Clerk of Council)

Call to Order

Territorial Acknowledgement

Approval of Agenda

Motion 1

WHEREAS we have a meeting to do,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee approve the Agenda for the meeting of October 24, 2018.

Moved by Jeanie, seconded by Kate.
Motion passes unanimously.

Approval of Past Minutes (Motion)

Motion 2

WHEREAS our discussions are not secret,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting of October 17, 2018.

Moved by Jeanie, seconded by Chris.
Motion passes unanimously.

**Executive Update (Presentation)**

By Christopher Hakim, VP Administration

[Chris]: No update. I-9 has been sent by Sheldon.

**Governance Review — By-Laws (Discussion)**

Please see the by-laws discussion document in the Governance Review folder.

[Dylan]: By-laws are intentionally tough to change. They should not be changed on a whim of a few students. They can be changed at a quorate AGM. We just had our AGM yesterday (not quorate).

[Sheldon]: The last quorate AGM was 2014.

[Dylan]: The only other way to amend by-laws is through a referendum which has \( \frac{2}{3} \text{rd} \) majority, and the YES has to be quorate.

[Sheldon]: AGM quorum is 558. Referenda quorum is 8% of the membership (4464).

[Dylan]: Therefore, this discussion is somewhat hypothetical and academic. To pass a referenda we need to ensure high engagement - including from council.

-the committee begins reviewing the document-

Issues (summarized):

- Do we need to have “good standing” more clearly defined to align our language with the Society Act?
  - Conclusion: not needed; however, we should make sure that there is no such thing as “good standing” anywhere in Code.

- Do we need to have a mechanism in which members may leave the Society?
  - Conclusion: We are not required to have procedures in by-laws.

- Do we need to include the divestment pieces from the referenda within the by-laws?
  - Conclusion: Would need a new referenda to ensure we reach the by-law referenda criteria. Probably having the investment policy is more useful.
• Should we consider the definition of membership for students who graduate in December? Should those folks be allowed to vote in the following year’s elections?
  ○ Conclusion: Yes, this issue should be debated more fully
• Should we consider removing Student Court from the by-laws?
  ○ Conclusion: It would be beneficial to remove this from by-laws.
• Should we consider a housekeeping amendment to remove typos?
  ○ Conclusion: Yes, if pushing other by-law amendments.
• Should the rights/obligations of members be solely defined in the by-laws?
  ○ Conclusion: Many rights/obligations are defined in Code. Some wariness of having things defined in Code; don’t want Council to think it can change these easily.
• Should we have a section that allows people to “accidentally omit” notice?
  ○ Conclusion: We should consider deleting this part since it invalidates previous parts. Hard to tell what is “accident”.
• Should we more fully define “campus publication”?
  ○ Conclusion: remove the phrase “campus publication” from by-laws but put it in Code instead. Since we do not control the Ubyssey, we should not require ourselves to do this.
• Should we reconsider quorum? Or what business can be done at a non-quorate AGM?
  ○ Conclusion: Has been reconsidered many times in recent years. No rules in Society act about quorums or activities that non-quorate AGMs may conduct. As long as the quorum is at least three. Would like to set it to be “500 or 1% whichever is lesser”.
• Should we add a requirement that referenda either be in the form of a by-law amendment or have a specified end-date?
  ○ Conclusion: YES. But need to handle the clubs with fees parts carefully. This is a tricky issue. Needs deeper discussion.
• NOTE: we will need to run a SASC referenda for fee.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:17pm.
AMS Governance Committee

Agenda for October 17, 2018

Governance Committee Membership: Dylan Braam (Chair, Councillor), Christopher Hakim (Vice-Chair, AMS VP Administration), Jeanie Malone (Councillor), Hannah Xiao (Councillor), Jennifer Ling (Councillor), Kate Burnham (Councillor), Melody Cheung (Member-at-Large)

Present: Dylan, Melody, Sheldon, Chris, Halla (guest, EA)
Regrets: Kate, Hannah, Jennifer

Recording Secretaries: Jeanie & Chris

Staff Support: Sheldon Goldfarb (AMS Archivist and Clerk of Council)

Call to Order

Territorial Acknowledgement

Approval of Agenda

Motion 1

WHEREAS the Governance Committee has a lot to do,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee approve the Agenda for the meeting of October 17, 2018.

Moved by Dylan, seconded by Melody.
Approved unanimously.

Approval of Past Minutes (Motion)

Motion 2

WHEREAS Council needs to know what we do,
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting of October 1, 2018.

Moved by Jeanie, seconded by Dylan.

**Executive Update (Presentation)**

[Chris]: Privacy policy. Opscomm is currently working on a policy re: banning members from clubs, trying to identify the information that needs to be tracked and communicated with respect to that. Lawyers said it was fine re: “use of info” is within privacy policy. However, I think we need other changes before we approve this.

[Dylan]: Interesting to see whether a legally binding privacy policy should be within our internal docs… I think it should.

**Constituency Elections (Motions)**

**Motion 3**

WHEREAS we wish to ensure that the elections of the AMS and its constituencies are free and fair,

Be it resolved that the Committee recommend that AMS Council approve the changes to AMS Code as seen in Appendix A: Code Changes — Proposed by Governance.

Moved by Jeanie, seconded by Melody

Passes unanimously.

**Motion 4**

WHEREAS the Elections Administrator knows quite a bit about the Elections Administrator job,

Be it resolved that the Committee recommend that AMS Council approve the changes AMS Code as seen in Appendix B: Code Changes — Proposed by EA.

Moved by ____________, seconded by ____________.

- Dylan:
  - Not in the format of Code changes
  - Transitional honorariums are bad, because it's bad HR practice.
• We shouldn’t make it seem like its an option for people to transitions their successors; it needs to be a requirement.

• Jeanie:
  ○ We should let HR Committee discuss this.

• Dylan:
  ○ Changing the payment of staff is not a Governance Committee thing.
  ○ We could remove the part about the Events Officer, and just let the Elections Committee decide who handles the bookings.

• Jeanie:
  ○ Different constituencies like different voting systems.
  ○ Should be constituencies’ choice to choose what they prefer.

• Dylan:
  ○ Why the hell do we have an award for people winning elections?
  ○ The reward for winning the election is the job.

Motion to add the changes
Moved Dylan, Second Jeanie

Policy I-1 (Motion)

Motion 5

WHEREAS I forgot to do an email vote,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee recommend that AMS Council approve the changes to Policy I-1: Policy on Policies as seen in Appendix C: Policy I-1.[

Moved by Dylan Braam, seconded by ____________.

Governance Review — By-Laws (Discussion)

Please see the by-laws discussion document in the Governance Review folder.

Policy I-9 Executive Goal Setting (Motion)

Motion 6

WHEREAS it is important to balance the need for new executives promptly set goals with the fact that they have no idea what they are doing,
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee recommend that AMS Council approve the changes to Policy I-9: Executive Goal Setting as seen in Appendix D: Policy I-9.

Moved by ____________, seconded by __________.

AMS Privacy Policy (Discussion)

Enclosure: Appendix D — Draft Privacy Policy

Adjournment
AMS Governance Committee

Agenda for October 1, 2018

Governance Committee Membership:

Present: Dylan Braam (Chair, Councillor), Christopher Hakim (AMS VP Administration), Jeanie Malone (Councillor, called in), Jennifer Ling (Councillor, called in), Kate Burnham (Councillor), Melody Cheung (Member-at-Large), Hannah Xiao (Councillor, called in at 2:36 PM)

Regrets: None.

Staff Support: Sheldon Goldfarb (AMS Archivist and Clerk of Council)

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:35 PM.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Approval of Agenda

Motion 1

WHEREAS the Governance Committee is ready to start its winter session,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee approve the Agenda for the meeting of October 1, 2018.

Moved by Dylan Braam, seconded by Chris Hakim.

Unanimous consent.

Introductions of Members (Discussion)

- we introduced ourselves.

Approval of Past Minutes (Motion)

Motion 2

WHEREAS we were lacking a quorum at our previous meeting,
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting of August 9, 2018 and August 23, 2018.

Moved by Dylan Braam, seconded by Melody Cheung.

Unanimous consent.

Executive Update (Presentation)

By Christopher Hakim, VP Administration

- Will come back with things on Policy I-9.

Election of the Vice-Chair (Motion/Election)

Motion 3

WHEREAS Dylan should watch his back,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Chris Hakim be appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Moved by Dylan Braam, seconded by Melody Cheung.

- rock paper scissors, one round
- chris wins, after an intense battle between rock and scissors.

Review of Committee Goals (Discussion)

We will discuss the goals adopted in the summer session and determine a plan for achieving them going forward.

- Dylan:
  - We are still planning on reviewing the whole Code of Procedures and Bylaws.
  - We can likely do this if we split up sections between members.
  - I’d like to review bylaws first, because they’re more important and take more time in terms of amending.
  - We also need to do a full review of all internal policies.
  - For some reason, if a policy does not explicitly state a responsible committee, it just defaults to Governance Committee.

- Sheldon:
  - We should format things properly, because in the old days we just made internal policies and didn’t assign a committee.

- Jeanie:
  - Are we reviewing external policies as well?

- Dylan:
  - We are not, but we can look into the possibility.
● Sheldon:
  ○ The person responsible for maintaining the external policies is the Policy Advisor.

● Dylan:
  ○ I feel like this it’s more Advocacy Committee’s wheelhouse.
  ○ This committee is more responsible for the internal operations of the AMS.

● Jeanie:
  ○ We could tell the Advocacy Committee to be responsible for the review of external policies.

● Dylan:
  ○ We also need to review the responsibilities of service managers.
  ○ Dual membership students are a problem and we need to fix it so people stop paying so much cash money.
  ○ Constituency elections review was supposed to be done by the end of the summer, but we failed!
  ○ We’re gonna review it right now.

**Constituency Elections (Motion)**

**Motion 4**

WHEREAS we wish to ensure that the elections of the AMS and its constituencies are free and fair,

Be it resolved that the Committee approve the changes to AMS Code as seen in Appendix A: Code Changes – Elections.

● Dylan:
  ○ The last Elections Administrator gave us a list a of recommendations regarding changes for constituency elections.
  ○ Some were reasonable, some not.
  ○ The recommendation about mandating constituencies to have a certain election period didn’t go well.
  ○ CUS has a weird hiring timeline, so it wouldn’t fit well with them.
  ○ We also stopped calling constituencies subsidiaries now, because it’s rude.

● Sheldon:
  ○ No no no, it’s because subsidiaries also refers to clubs as well.

● Chris:
  ○ We are giving the Elections Administrator more work when their hours don’t match the current JD hours.
  ○ We should be matching the JD hours with this code change.

● Dylan:
  ○ This is an issue, and we should be changing the JD hours.
  ○ However, the EA is currently doing a lot of these tasks.
Chris:
  - They’re doing these things because it’s convenient, but now we are making these tasks necessary.
  - We are making them required to do more work and it’s not going to match their hours.

Dylan:
  - I will try to coordinate with HR Committee.

Jeanie:
  - I can’t hear really well but I have added comments on the proposed code change!

Dylan:
  - We can refer this to the next Governance Committee.

**Policy I-1 (Motion)**

**Motion 5**

WHEREAS the only thing more meta that this committee could do is to establish a subcommittee on subcommittees,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee approve the changes to Policy I-1: Policy on Policies as seen in Appendix B: Policy I-1.

Dylan:
  - We’ve gotten a lot more prescriptive with these changes.

Jeanie:
  - Are we committing to the italicized defined terms? I note it has occurred in this document

Dylan:
  - We can italicize terms, but now we’re not making it required.

Chris:
  - This is the biggest non-problem I’ve ever seen.

Dylan:
  - Now, onto consultation!
  - Consultation should be receiving a response from an individual or group, not attempting to receive a response.
  - We’ll take this to an email vote.

**Adjournment**

- The meeting adjourned at 3:35PM.
AMS Governance Committee

Minutes for August 23, 2018

Governance Committee Membership: Dylan Braam (Chair, Councillor), Nathan Bowles (Vice-Chair, Student-at-Large), Max Holmes (AMS VP Academic & University Affairs), Jeanie Malone (Councillor) Evan Zhou (Councillor), Andre Wu (Councillor), Piers Fleming (AMS Student Services Manager)

Staff Support: Sheldon Goldfarb (AMS Archivist and Clerk of Council)

Present: Sheldon, Jeanie, Dylan, Max, and guests Kuol and Chris Hakim

NOTE: Quorum of Governance Committee was not met.

Call to Order: 6:15pm

Territorial Acknowledgement

Approval of Agenda – Motion

Be it resolved that Governance Committee approve the Agenda for the meeting of August 23, 2018

Passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – Motion

Be it resolved that Governance Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting of August 9, 2018

No quorum - tabled for next meeting.

Executive Update – Presentation

By Max Holmes, VP Academic

[Max]: I will be resigning from Governance Committee due to extra commitments with various university committees. A new executive will be taking my place. Probably Chris.

Committee postings will be going up soon for the fall committee appointments.

I-9 has been put on pause, with SUDS and other pieces. Timeline is for early September.
Working on restructuring student issues and equity caucus as a subcommittee of Advocacy Committee - trying to implement for September. There will also be a separate Indigenous discussion circle to see if this makes sense to blend that together or to give it a different structure.

**Code Changes as Proposed by Finance Committee – Discussion**

See Appendix A: Proposed Code Changes

[Kuol]: Basically we are looking into increasing transparency around some of the student fees that are administered by subsidiary or external groups.

We have talked to them about doing quarterly reports, like we do. They raised concerns about quarterly being too much effort on their side - we have agreed on bi-annual reports instead. We want to make this Finance Committee’s job to receive these reports.

[Sheldon]: Note - there is no May report (we do Aug, Nov, Feb, AGM).

[Dylan]: For one of these reports they get one month to make and three months in the second one?

[Jeanie]: Also note that FinComm will have turned over between these two reports.

[Max]: Is this timeline in line with when the resource groups etc. make their budgets?

[Sheldon]: But Council doesn’t do the May report? So no antecedent.

[Sheldon]: Why do we need to define the timeline of the report?

[Dylan]: Makes sense for consistency to define this.

[Jeanie]: Big question - under what purview do we have the ability to ask for these reports?

[Dylan]: Probably we can’t enforce… issues as these fees are approved via referenda, effectively like by-law...

[Kuol]: We don’t have to like, keep their money, etc

[Dylan]: Would the “stick” be then to run our own referenda etc.

[Sheldon]: What about this frozen fee pieces.

[Jeanie]: What is the scope?
I want it to include all fees.

Does this say it is going to be published?

Yes, goes to council

Does Finance Committee do anything with these funds?

Kinda nothing

Some fees have more rules - campus & community fund

Is this purely about transparency then, not accountability? Since we cannot ask for them to change their spending.

When we restricted it to AMS subsidiary organizations, we could restrict the funding

If the purpose is to give students an understanding of what’s happening, we won’t need S. You would have to pass a bylaw change that would need a financial report on every fee. S needs to be a referendum or be cut.

We already act on an ad-hoc basis. The Women’s Centre had a mismanagement of fees a while back, and that’s the only time I remember when the AMS stepped in on a rather independent group.

This is consultation; it’s great.

Finance Committee is just two people and a phone.

Section 9.p.

We are not allowed to make these changes without a referendum, because the referendum specified certain clubs.

What we want to do is distribute the money equally and then budget the money based off of their accounts. 9.p.(iii) will make them have to follow line (i).

Generally - remove anything that tells them how to spend their money, unless specified in the referenda! Referenda should be structured in the form of by-law amendments and no other form. This is chaotic.

Can we ask Sheldon to confirm if this abides by the referenda wording?
[Jeanie]: Let’s just make sure that any changes from the first section are carried through the rest of the document.

[Dylan]: There are no strings attached on the referenda. We should remove all the sections (i) through (ix).

[Dylan]: We can freeze accounts for RGAC. We can also do this for clubs if they haven’t submitted budget - add this in there.

[Jeanie]: Concerned about how this impacts non-fee based referenda.

[Dylan]: Add phrasing around “directly affects”.

[Dylan]: Is this Governance or Finance matter?

[Jeanie]: Probably broader than Finance

[Dylan]: I would like Governance to handle this. We will put this on our agenda.

**Policy I-1 – Motion**

Be it resolved that Governance Committee approve the changes to Policy I-1: Policy on Policies as seen in Appendix B: Policy I-1

**Constituency Elections – Motion**

[Dylan]: Jason noted that section (m) (iv) denotes that we don’t have to actually do… consultation… to count it as consultation.

[Chris]: He is right.

[Jeanie]: Can’t we just indicate who was engaged and who was reached out to?

[Dylan]: Prefer not to - discuss during motivation. Should be wiped clean each time, and be in appendix.

[Sheldon]: This policy doesn’t follow this.

[Chris]: Consultation doesn’t imply consent or agreement to the policy changes. It implies we tried to get information.

[Dylan]: Would like to delete this section.

*-dictionary definition fight between Dylan and Chris-*
[Chris]: I think removing this hurts the credibility of the policy. Makes it look like we didn’t try.

[Sheldon]: Do we want to keep the information in the consultation box.
   [Jeanie]: Would like that to be included somewhere on the list.

   [Dylan]: Consultation history - let’s include this. And it has attempted.

   [Sheldon]: Appendix?

   [Dylan]: Yeah.

Be it resolved that Governance Committee approve the changes to AMS Code as seen in Appendix C: Code Changes – Elections

Updates on Previous Business

Quorum not met.

Other Business

Adjournment
AMS Governance Committee

Minutes for August 9, 2018

Governance Committee Membership: Dylan Braam (Chair, Councillor), Nathan Bowles (Vice-Chair, Student-at-Large), Max Holmes (AMS VP Academic & University Affairs), Jeanie Malone (Councillor) Evan Zhou (Councillor), Andre Wu (Councillor), Piers Fleming (AMS Student Services Manager)

Staff Support: Sheldon Goldfarb (AMS Archivist and Clerk of Council)

Present: Dylan, Jeanie, Evan, Andy, and Sheldon

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 6:18pm.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Approval of Agenda – Motion
The motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – Motion
The motion was approved unanimously.

Executive Update – Presentation

[Sheldon]: I drafted something related to I-9 along with Max. Max is soliciting feedback from the other executives. The hope is to bring this to GovComm next meeting.

Policy I-1 – Discussion

[Sheldon]: This was reviewed and approved last in August 2016 by GovComm, but not officially approved by Council.

[Sheldon]: Need to fix: name of responsible body to Governance Committee rather than Legislative Procedures Committee.
[Jeanie]: Remove mentions of commissions - we don’t have those any more.

[Dylan]: Note “date of anticipated approval” rather than “date of approval” when we bring things to Council.

[Dylan]: Concerned about (7) - which is about formatting - a bit overzealously prescriptive.

[Andy]: Could we delegate this? Like to the archivist?

[Dylan]: When is Council defining terms that are not in Code? (7 ii) is unclear.

The Committee agreed to remove item 7.

The Committee agreed to merge sections 8 and 9, and update the wording to clarify that all policies must include the following sections in this order.

[Jeanie]: Would it make sense to delegate formatting/consistency to Sheldon?

[Sheldon]: Maybe...

[Sheldon]: Some position titles have changed (ex. Policy Advisor).

[Dylan]: Do we need to circulate this to any other folks?

[Jeanie]: Maybe AdvoComm? They have the most internal policies.

[Sheldon]: This sets a template for external policies as well as internal. Let’s consult Jason (Policy Advisor).

[Jeanie]: Can we clarify the applicability is internal and external policies?

**Constituency Elections – Discussion**

See Appendices B & C for items to be discussed (continuing from previous meeting’s discussion).

[Dylan]: There are so many pieces to constituency elections that are hard to enforce. There are some fundamental rules that are good, but the administrative burden of elections should be held within the constituencies with the AMS EA in contact to provide training, support, etc.
I think that it would be more consistent to bring appeals from constituency elections to the AMS Elections/Appeals Committee.

The AMS EA should be able to set requirements in order for constituencies to obtain access to the online voting system.

[Sheldon]: I made proposed code changes - we largely nixed them. Maybe we need to work from current code?

[Dylan]: Flattening appeals process - would be helpful for there to be a process

[Jeanie]: Is it enforceable?

[Sheldon]: Article 9 Paragraph II - we need a ten person petition?

[Jeanie]: Biggest thing we need - new EA to do an environmental scan of all constituency elections and understand the rules they have in place. I think that understanding this - even if there are no changes - is a key part of the issues.

[Dylan]: Would be good if that came in the JD from HR comm. We can ask in council.

[Dylan]: Some of the recommendations were nice-to-haves - these are administrative pieces that don’t need to be in Code.

[Jeanie]: Would like to encourage people to use Simply Voting.

[Dylan]: Would like EA to have control over the online voting system, and can say no to requests.

[Jeanie]: Could EA come with a year plan / rules associated with the online system to Council?

[Dylan]: Could we require EA to deny access to the online voting system?

[Dylan]: AMS EA should be collecting results of constituency elections and sending that to finance rather than their councils approving.

The Committee agreed that they will review a draft of the changes at 7:45pm.

Updates on Previous Business

Other Business
Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.
6:07: Meeting is called to order

Agenda Adopted

Minutes Adopted

Executive Update:

Max:


2) Kuol sent I-8 to Dylan (revised investment). Changed review date to 4 years from 1. Changing investment practices every year is not sound investment strategy. Managing director advised this is more appropriate. This is only when it has to be reviewed, doesn’t prevent people from changing it (e.g. if it was part of their platform). Policy was rearranged. Major changes are additions of Fossil Fuel Free, ESG. Raising equities from 30 to 35%. Feedback from committee: Fossil Fuel Free should be capitalized. Table should go back to 100% cash.

Motion: Dylan We changed word from land to territorial
Sheldon said why/
Max: Just of note, we should in the future requiring committees,
Sheldon: maybe AGM

Motion carries (unanimous)

Constituency Elections:

Max: HR Committee has not met since our last meeting. Marium is the executive on the committee and is away. Max will speak to Hannah about the EA role at or before next council.

HR Committee needs to send the position to the HR Department as soon as possible so we can interview towards the end of August. HR Committee needs to review the job description because the pay is still for 20 hours per week, while we know that the hours will not be that much for the whole year.

Dylan: On the A/B options presented in the Elections Committee recommendations, I think that option A provides for too many things to keep track of. Option B is better because it allows us to focus on specific things we care about.

Max: It appears that option A requires constituencies to have an elections committee which is not always the case.
Sheldon: That requirement is already in Code.

Max: An issue with not allowing appointment process that cannot include a person that is running doing the appointing is that people don’t know if they’re running when the elections committee is being appointed, since they submit their nomination paperwork to the committee. This doesn’t seem enforceable. In theory it is a good idea. In practice it doesn’t work. Also, often the only people who know what to do to run an election are constituency Councillors who we would bar from running.

Dylan: I think it might be a good idea to flatten the appeal process of constituencies.

Max: There’s a problem with allowing constituency councils to rule on elections. That is why the AMS has an appeals committee. It would be sensible for the next step of appeal to be the AMS.

Dylan: I agree. Do we want to require that constituencies to have elections committees?

Max: No. We should require a chief electoral officer and recommend a committee. This recommendation could be made at AMS elections training.

I think we should cut [from code or from proposal] d), and the second half of a). If we’re going laissez faire also get rid of i) g) and d).

I like the AMS EA having the power to determine when voting takes place

Evan: It’s important for commerce to have our elections as early as we do because of our hiring process.

Max: How about a requirement that if you are using the online voting system the AMS EA can set date?

Dylan: That could apply to other rules as well especially administrative ones. If you want to use our system you must play by our rules, if not, you have more flexibility.
AMS Governance Committee

Minutes for July 12, 2018

Governance Committee Membership: Dylan Braam (Chair, Councillor), Nathan Bowles (Vice-Chair, Student-at-Large), Max Holmes (AMS VP Academic & University Affairs), Jeanie Malone (Councillor) Evan Zhou (Councillor), Muse Greenwood (Councillor), Piers Fleming (AMS Student Services Manager)

Staff Support: Sheldon Goldfarb (AMS Archivist and Clerk of Council)

Attendance: Dylan Braam, Cameron England (proxy for Nathan Bowles), Max Holmes, Jeanie Malone, Muse Greenwood (by phone), Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order
6:15pm

Land Acknowledgement
The Chair acknowledged that the meeting takes place on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territories of the h̓q̓̑mt̑̊m̓’ speaking Musqueam people.

Approval of Agenda – Motion

Whereas: we have stuff to do,
Be it resolved that: Governance Committee approve the agenda for the meeting of July 12, 2018.

Motion passes unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – Motion

Whereas: Jeanie can spell her name better than I can,
Be it resolved that: Governance Committee approve the minutes of the meeting of June 14, 2018.

Motion passes unanimously.
Executive Update – Presentation

[Max]: Met with Stephanie Oldford (Academic Governance Officer) to talk about membership in VSESUS/AUS with respect to membership and how fees would apply etc for combined majors. The University Counsel has indicated that they will follow AMS determination of AUS/VSEUS when collecting fees. Will eventually bring a motion to council to place combined majors in economics will be members of VSEUS.

[Sheldon]: Unsure with what authority we will distinguish this – maybe VSEUS constitution?

[Max]: University Counsel pointed 27.1.2 in University Act re: fees. Without referenda, the AMS can move or determine membership that pay fees.

[Sheldon]: Article 17-4 defines what membership in a constituency is… enrolled in a faculty...

[Max]: Combined majors AUS/VSEUS agreed. Double majors, and major/minor they need to work out. Working on consultation.

[Sheldon]: Should we generally amend code to cover these cases?

[Max]: From Stephanie – not a ton of cases around this.

[Dylan]: Only 3 cases in BC Law – very rare

[Jeanie]: It would make sense for this to be in their constitutions?

[Dylan]: But they can change their own constitutions.

[Jeanie]: Consider enshrining in code membership for fee-collecting?

[Max]: Perhaps long term goal?

[Max]: Stephanie also raised definition of “active membership”.

[Sheldon]: Very interesting. Impacts elections.

[Jeanie]: How time sensitive is this?

[Max]: Needs to be done for Sept. Pass motion indicating which members are in VSEUS.
[Dylan]: We should make it clear that Council is the body to decide these matters.

[Cameron]: Of interest – AUS does not mention VSEUS at all.

The Committee agreed that Max and Sheldon, in consultation with Stephanie Oldford, will create draft wording of a motion to recognize combined major students as members of VSEUS. This will be brought to the next Governance Committee for debate.

[Max]: I-9 – executive discussed. Policy called for a rubric, it has never been in place. The incoming/outgoing VP Finances + HR managers are supposed to make this rubric. Governance Review Implementation Committee may have made this rubric? Unclear.

One idea is to have outgoing non-returning executives develop a rubric and it goes to Council for approval (not just Governance, but Council – avoiding re-creating Oversight Committee).

It also says that the reports need to refer to the strategic plan. We don’t really have one.

Another issue is the timeline – May is a hard time to deliver goals. There is an expectation that as soon as you are elected you are meeting with staff and outgoing folks – which is during exams, and before the term started. It might be better to have “by the end of June”.

The executives create their goals and it generally gets passed by Council. No room for council to be involved in creation of goals. No time for feedback.

A lot of committees work with specific executives. No room for conversations there. Perhaps tie them in more (ex. VP Admin presents draft to OpsComm, VP Finance to FinComm…).

SSM is unique. They are an interesting case – they do follow this piece but don’t have as much student government pieces like committees. Perhaps more conversation with Sr Services Manager.

There is November update and end of year report. Onus is on Council to hold accountable, to have deeper discussion.

Maybe needs to be more clear which staff members are relevant to goals for each executives. Clear for some – VP AUA to Policy Advisor, for instance.
[Jeanie]: Perhaps more fulsome discussion for next meeting? Would also like to see what is relation with budgeting process.

The Committee agreed that Max and Sheldon will create a draft of I-9 including these changes for Governance Committee to debate.

Land Acknowledgements – Discussion

[Dylan]: We start most AMS meetings with the land acknowledgements including wording around “traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories” and then identifying the particular indigenous groups relevant to the land that the meeting is held on.

Outside of the AMS, this is typically done first (right after the call to order). Could be done before the agenda is approved.

A student at large brought up that this land acknowledgement is brought into the Speaker’s Business mandated to be there by Code. The concern is this not common practice and pushes the acknowledgement farther into the meeting, I would like to consider moving this forward in the structure. I would like to direct Sheldon to provide some draft amendments to make this change.

[Sheldon]: Section 3 Article 2 Paragraph 19 – would be renumbering?

[Dylan]: And Paragraph 6 would be pushed to Paragraph 5. So the order of the agenda would be:

(a) Call to order
(b) Land Acknowledgement
(c) Adoption of the Agenda
(d) and onwards …

[Sheldon]: This will mean splitting out of Speaker’s Business. Will bring back for next Governance Committee.

[Dylan]: Within the description of the Land Acknowledgement, can we add “ancestral” as part of the wording.

Sheldon will provide a draft of code changes to move the Land Acknowledgement to immediately after the Call to Order, and to add “ancestral” within the description of the Land Acknowledgement. This will be brought to the next Governance Committee for debate.
Constituency Elections – Discussion

Tabled to next meeting.

See Appendices A & B for items to be discussed (continuing from previous meeting’s discussion).

Updates on Previous Business

[Cameron]: Spoke to HR Committee in relation to the EA hiring timeline and they were highly skeptical of need for EA in September.

[Jeanie]: I did speak to Hannah and indicated that we do need someone for Sept with respect to constituency elections assuming no drastic changes are made in the next two months.

[Max]: Of note – council already passed a recommendation to hire for September when I was EA. So HR committee is already being asked to do this.

[Dylan]: Max – please follow up with HR Committee to follow up on this! The rationale seems to be lost on them at the moment. Governance Committee is the “steward” of the Code and we are obligated to hold the Society accountable for following Code.

Max to follow up with HR Committee to ensure hiring of the Elections Administrator before September.

Other Business

Adjournment
AMS Governance Committee

Minutes for June 14, 2018

Governance Committee Membership: Dylan Braam (Chair, Councillor), Nathan Bowles (Vice-Chair, Student-at-Large), Max Holmes (AMS VP Academic & University Affairs), Jeanie Malone (Councillor) Evan Zhou (Councillor), Muse Greenwood (Councillor), Piers Fleming (AMS Student Services Manager)

Staff Support: Sheldon Goldfarb (AMS Archivist and Clerk of Council)

Attendance: Dylan Braam, Cameron England (proxy for Nathan Bowles), Max Holmes, Jeanie Malone, Evan Zhou, Muse Greenwood

Regrets: Piers Fleming (AMS Student Services Manager)

Call to Order
6:04pm.

Land Acknowledgement

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting takes place on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territories of the Musqueam peoples.

Approval of Agenda – Motion

Whereas: without an agenda, we are adrift at sea,
Be it resolved that: Governance Committee approve the agenda for the meeting of June 14, 2018.
No opposition; unanimous consent.

Approval of Minutes – Motion

Whereas: Dylan tried his best to write down what happened,
Be it resolved that: Governance Committee approve the minutes of the meeting of May 31, 2018.
No opposition; unanimous consent.
Executive Update – Presentation

[Max]: Policy I9 - we should review this once goals are complete. I will add this to the ExecComm agenda.

[Dylan]: Would love to have exec feedback before we begin the review.

[Sheldon]: Note that only constituency representatives are allotted a proxy in by-laws, not students-at-large or councilors. So Cameron cannot hold a vote for this meeting.

Cameron remains to represent Nathan’s views.

[Max]: Note on timing – both Sheldon and I will be away in two weeks.

CiTR and VP Finance – Motion

Whereas: the laws regarding citizenship and radio communications are less strict than AMS Code,
Be it resolved that: Governance Committee recommend that Council adopted the proposed changes to policy attached in Appendix A.

[Dylan]: This was discussed at the first AMS Council of the year, which all committee members were in attendance. The discussion at Council and at our previous meeting has led to the following draft code.

No debate.

Motion passes unanimously (including Cameron).

Constituency Elections – Discussion

The Committee received the email recommendations from the last Elections Administrator to the 2017-18 Governance Chair, as well as a draft of the recommendations with relation to Code.

[Sheldon] The Governance Committee last year only discussed the items in the email after #5.

EA RECOMMENDATION 1.) Make it mandatory for AMS EA to run a test ballot on Simply Voting, days prior to launching the ballot.
[Max]: Hard to enforce. Already in transition.

The Committee concurs that this recommendation is operational, and does not need to be implemented within Code.

**EA RECOMMENDATION 2.) Make rules governing candidates that are (a) incumbents (b) current AMS student staff (definition is same as mentioned in previous code additions referring to elections)**

[Dylan]: Vague.

[Max]: Unsure what this means; already strict rules around office space. For current AMS student staff, last year they had a waiver signed stating support (which had issues with restrictiveness). Unsure what rules you would need other than not letting resources being used?

[Dylan]: At Queen’s, hard rule – if you were an incumbent/staff member/constituency executive, you took a leave of absence for entire campaign period and nominating period. Very restrictive. Caused some people to not run (discouraged experience candidates). Not exactly successful at removing relationships/influence though.

[Max]: Almost everyone in my office would not be working last year if that was the case.

[Muse]: What was the original request around this? Is there a concern of nepotism?

[Sheldon]: Not clear – I don’t have minutes from elections committee.

[Max]: May be a complaint that comes up time to time – staff members are at an inherent advantage because of the experience they come with.

[Muse]: How do we balance the playing field though? Bias?

[Max]: Difference between elections and hiring? Students choosing who they believe will do the job best.

[Dylan]: Systemic issue – where do they get the experience? Through hiring, we are indirectly choosing who gets elected.

[Muse]: I think this issue is really important. It is an issue of trust.
[Max]: Information? Candidates, office hours, maybe let prospective candidates can talk to staff members about running (confidentially). Also need to be concerned about the optics of appearing bias.

[Muse]: Separately – concerned about the hiring piece. Applicants not receiving word back. No acknowledgement of rejection – this is one of those other issues of trust.

[Cameron]: HR Committee will be discussing this at our next committee.

[Muse]: How can we share this with HR? Mechanisms for collaboration?

[Cameron]: Committees collaborate periodically.

[Jeanie]: Still unclear on what rules are being discussed?

[Max]: Rules already exist?

[Muse]: If this is about ensuring a sense of inclusion for not a) incumbents or b) staff – and influence. Then it is about making sure we are inclusive.

[Dylan]: Inclusion within elections – we should discuss further.

**EA RECOMMENDATION 3.) Hiring timeline: EA hired in September to help conduct Constituency by-elections, followed by committee hiring (latest) by November.**

[Sheldon]: We never hire them early enough. Ask this every year. Elections are Feb/March.

[Dylan]: Are there rules around impeachment/resignations?

[Max]: Council appoints an interim, we hire EA, by-election. We usually don’t hold elections over the summer – postpone it.

[Sheldon]: Issues with respect to hiring – HR committee, HR department… someone eventually remembers we need an EA.

[Max]: Timeline for Sept is complex. Why does the EA need to deal with all these extra elections…

[Jeanie]: I could bring this topic to Operations Committee to discuss the possibility of the VP Admin handling constituency elections?

    Some support of this idea.
[Muse]: How big is the committee?

[Max]: 7? We tried to add more people to support, but it is hard.

[Sheldon]: One of the more external positions.

[Dylan]: At Queen’s, for a time, the Speaker was the head of the Elections Committee. It was not possible to have a vacancy.

Chris Hakim enters Governance Committee.

[Max]: I have a report that I wrote when EA – some of this is within code already (ex. office within AMS space).

[Jeanie]: Note – reason why we have EA do constituency elections is that it aligns in the spring very tightly with AMS elections. Don’t want too many people in the simply voting system

[Max]: Why not webvote?

[Jeanie]: But having the vote together on same ballot increases voter turnout.

[Muse]: Hire for a few hours in September!

[Dylan]: Let’s have HR Committee consider this.

BIRT Governance Committee recommends to HR Committee to consider hiring the EA for 5hrs/week for Sept – Dec, and 20hrs/week for Jan – Apr.

Committee agrees unanimously.

Chris leaves.

RECOMMENDATION 4.) Official office space allocated to the Elections Committee that is outside the AMS offices area but located in the NEST

[Max]: We already have this in code.

RECOMMENDATION 5.) Addition to AMS EA job description in code: The EA must train constituency elections officers and in extraneous circumstances (removal of EO etc...) must conduct the constituency election. [Also the EA should ensure the Constituencies have election committees]
[Max]: Mostly in transition manual. I did this. Concerned that this is a little much.

[Dylan]: I think this comes from a committee that runs elections that is very big, primarily running faculties with several thousands. Smaller constituencies with vacancies… maybe we should deal with that.

[Muse]: Concern around JD – is it sufficient?

[Max]: It makes the job sound better than it is.

[Muse]: Can there be other supports without creating conflicts of interest?

[Max]: Transition – you don’t get to talk to your predecessor. When you aren’t communicating with exec – you lose out on a lot of helpful support.

[Muse]: Can we outsource?

[Sheldon]: expensive! Has been discussed in the past.

[Jeanie]: What is pay rate? Compensation issue…

[Dylan]: Constituencies may push back – people don’t like external folks.

[Muse]: I hear everything here – since it has never been tried, we are assuming it won’t work.

[Max]: I think the AMS’s mandate for hiring students is pretty important here.

[Sheldon]: Do we feel it is a failure?

[Max]: Rarely, people appeal…

Updates on Previous Business

Other Business

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.
AMS Governance Committee

Agenda for May 31, 2018

Present: Dylan Braam (Chair), Max Holmes, Piers Fleming, Katherine Pan (proxy for Evan Zhou), Nathan Bowles (arrived 18:34), Sheldon Goldfarb (non-voting)

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at ~18:15. At this time, there was no quorum present.

Land Acknowledgement

Approval of Agenda

Added Vice-Chair Election to before committee goals.

Executive Update

Max: Everything good on governance side. Policy I9 causing some timeline issues. Adding two more senior government positions: Sr. Student Services Manager and Sr. Finance & Administration Manager

Vice-Chair Election

Nobody present wanted to be the chair, so the election was pushed to the end of the meeting in case anyone late wished to seek nomination.

Committee Goals

Elections:
Dylan: This was assigned to the committee in the past. It was also suggested by Jeanine Malone via e-mail. Summer is a good time to do this (as pointed out by Jeanine) as this is the only time that elections are not occurring.

Full Review of Code:
Max: Code is bloated, there are unused sections and things that should be cut. There are also things that aren’t correct. There are lots of things that never happen, such as reporting actions.
Sheldon: I am currently working on compiling a list of sections of Code that could be cut.

Full Review of Internal Policies
Sheldon: Certain policies are the responsibilities of certain committees. If not given to a committee they default to governance. Many are out of date. They also could have been superseded. Examples include the executive cell phone policy, the executive travel policy, and the sponsorship guidelines. The sponsorship guidelines are 6 years old.
Dylan: Do we want to review them all?
Max: We should review all that governance is responsible for, or no one is.
Sheldon: Several are supposed to be in the care of committees that no longer exist. I can review and provide a list.
Piers: we should make sure that responsibility is redirected to the most appropriate committee.

Adding Responsibilities of Senior Managers and Managers into Code

Piers: The responsibility of senior managers and managers are currently not in Code
Max: We don’t have a lot in code about managers. We try to keep that out of code so that it’s more on business and operations side of things. We don’t talk about what the Senior HR manager does in code. However, for the services side of things it makes sense to have it in code.

18:34, Nathan arrives. Quorum is achieved.

Specific fee levels for AMS:

Sheldon: Code includes a list of fees. These we put in before fees became indexed to inflation. Every year it gets more out of date.
Max: There is an issue with our CPI indexing. We index on January’s numbers. UBCO use May’s. We should work on getting on track
Sheldon: According to Code, we apparently are supposed to use September. We should check with the Managing Director
Dylan: we need to find a way to list our fees without having to update them at AMS Council every year.
Max: This is more appropriate for finance to take care of.

Election Reserve Fund and SUB Fund:
Sheldon: Do we use these?
Max: I’m not sure if we put money in, but we take it out. This is something finance should take care of. This will also come up as part of general review.

Changing AMS membership requirements:
Sheldon: As Bylaws currently read, there is confusion as to whether student graduating in December, but paid fees in September are members and whether they can vote.

Dual degrees:
Max: There is an issue determine as to what constituency students in two faculties are a part of and whether they are able to vote twice. This was sent to University Council. The response was “we have to check” and they never got back. We have made an agreement on fees but we didn’t figure out whether there was a referendum needed to implement that agreement.
Nathan: How many students does this even apply to, and of those, how many care.
Max: As it currently is being done, whichever faculty you joined first is the one you are part of. We could have issues with inconsistent membership rules. It is important to ensure that whatever we implement is technically possible.

Student Court
Max: When we last tried to eliminate it, we didn’t do a good enough job advertising this. We weren’t close to quorum.
Dylan: I have concerns about what happens when Code isn’t followed. Is there any form of follow-up?

Following discussion, the below were adopted as goals:
   Review the Code policy on constituency elections;
   Full review of Code;
   Full review of Internal Policies under the care of Governance Committee (include those under Governance Committee by default);
   Full review of orphaned Internal Policies (those under Committees that no longer exist); and
   Looking into rules regarding AMS membership, especially with regard to graduation and membership in multiple constituencies.

The following items were deemed to be more under the purview of Finance Committee:
   Specific fee levels;
   Election Reserve Fund; and
   SUB Fund

The following items will not be adopted as goals but will be considered during Code review:
   Responsibilities of managers and senior managers in Code;
   Possibility of eliminating Student Court
CiTR Board Policy

Sheldon: Currently all appointees with the exception of the VP Finance must be Canadian Citizens. This was done to comply with federal law, but (at least) one person on the CiTR Board who is a non-citizen is allowed. There was a proposal some years ago about changing this. How should we proceed?

Voted by the committee: Sheldon to draft a specific exception for the VP Finance for approval of the committee.

Vice-Chair Election

Nathan Bowles elected Vice-Chair of Governance Committee

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned, ~17:30
THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY OF UBC VANCOUVER

Minutes of the AMS Governance Committee
January 18, 2018 – 2PM

Members

Present: Christopher Hakim (Chair), Jeanie Malone (Councillor), Cameron England (Councillor), Julian Villafuerte Diaz (Councillor), Kevin Doering (Councillor), Hadi Chaudhry (Member-at-Large), Max Holmes (Executive), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council)

Guests: Alim Lakhialov (AMS VP Finance)

Recording Secretary: Julian

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm

Agenda Items

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved: Jeanie       Seconded: Cameron

That the agenda be adopted.

*Motion passes with unanimous consent*

2. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Jeanie       Seconded: Max

That the minutes from the November 14th, 2017 Governance Committee meeting be approved and sent to Council.

*Motion passes with unanimous consent*

3. Discussion

   • Student Court
AMS Governance Committee

Chris: We need to get the final referendum contents and questions sent to Council soon. What will the referendum question be?

   Sheldon: Question is simple: will state what the recommendation states ie. “Are you in favour of presented bylaw changes?”

[2:01 Alim arrives]

Chris: Omnibussed or separate motion?

   Sheldon: Omnibussed with what?

   Chris: Assuming we are making housekeeping bylaw changes.

   Max: Don’t think we’re making any.

Chris: The question will be “Are you in favour of this bylaw change” and the bylaw change will be one which removes all mentions of student court in the bylaws.

   Sheldon: I drafted something over the holidays. Big change in the bylaws is how referendum questions will be written and reviewed. Delegates this responsibility to Council, which could delegate this task to anybody of Council it deems fit.

   Max: A similar motion like this failed previously. Important to look at why and how to prevent this from happening again.

   Chris: Will have motion on this proposed bylaw change next week.

- Referendums and Fees

Discussion regarding referendums and fees ended in the conclusion that Finance Committee will research further into the topic.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be on February 1st, 2 PM.

Adjourn
AMS Governance Committee

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:37 pm.