

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Guests: Halla Bertrand (AMS Elections Administrator), Emma Livingstone (Ubysssey), 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 special meeting was called to order at 3:08 pm.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Speaker acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the unceded, traditional, and ancestral land of the Musqueam people, also saying it is time to reflect on decolonization and reconciliation and adding that acknowledgements can only go so far.

C) Adoption of the agenda:

1. MOVED YASH GURNANI, SECONDED MARIUM HAMID:

"That the agenda be adopted as presented."

... No objections

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

Welcome to our new Members: John Segui (Social Work)

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

Goodbyes:

E) Business:

2. MOVED JOELLA ALLEN, SECONDED TYRA PHILLIPS: [SCD245-19]

From the Elections Committee

"That Council suspend Code Section IX A, Article 2(6)(a) and Code Section IX A, Article 2(9)(a, b, c) to allow the Elections Committee to determine the time and duration of the Official Campaign Period and the limits for campaign expenses and campaign expense reimbursements for the February-March 2019 elections after January 15."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

- The Speaker ruled that any candidates or proxies for candidates are in a conflict of interest and cannot vote on or debate this motion.

- However, those who are just supporting a candidate or are registered volunteers for a candidate are okay.

Halla Bertrand:

- The AMS Elections Committee realizes it acted in violation of Code by changing the campaign period dates as announced on social media after the time for fixing the dates.
- This motion will address that.
- We have sent a letter to Council outlining options for changing the dates.
- We think the one we have already proposed (extending the campaign period by a week and postponing voting by a week) is the most equitable to all.
- The letter explains that the issue arose because it was learned that the University Act requires a four-week period for BoG and Senate elections between the close of nominations and the actual voting.
- Our proposed solution creates that four-week period by delaying the beginning of voting until Monday, March 11 (nominations having closed on February 15).
- This means a campaign period from Monday, February 25 to Friday, March 15, with voting from Monday, March 11 to Friday, March 15.
- This adheres to the University Act and doesn't require the rescheduling of events.
- We will expand campaign spending levels because of the extended campaign.
- We rejected several other options:
 - Split Board of Governors and Senate from the AMS elections.
 - That would mean three weeks for some, two for others.
 - Unfair, and also some people are running for both the Executive and Board or Senate.
 - We felt having two separate ballots would be detrimental to turnout.
 - Push voting back to March 11-15, but end the campaign period March 8.
 - But that would prevent distribution of materials when voters most need it.
 - It would also require extreme vigilance by the Elections Committee to prevent campaigning during voting week.
 - Have nominations received after February 8 be declared invalid for BoG and Senate races.
 - This would unduly punish candidates not aware of the University Act and who followed the dates on the nomination forms.
 - Not sure if it viable: didn't discuss it with the University.
- All the options have benefits and downsides.
- The one we have proposed is best for all.

Yash Gurnani:

- Was pushing the entire timeline ahead by one week considered?
- Start campaigning a week later?

Halla Bertrand:

- We could do that, but it would still be in violation of Code and we would still need a Code suspension, because we set the date for the campaign period as beginning on February 25.

Joella Allen:

- How many campaign events will happen in the third week?
- The third week wasn't planned for by candidates: they may have term papers or work to do then.
- It will be a disadvantage to them if they can't go to events.

Halla Bertrand:

- We considered this.
- The dates of the debates won't change, and those would be the three events it would be the most detrimental to miss.
- There may be some social events in the third week, but they're not as well attended.

Andy Wu:

- Will this solution be the final one?
- Or would the Elections Committee deem some other solution more reasonable?

Halla Bertrand

- No, that's the one.
- We've had comments from candidates concerned about the longer campaign period, but this is what we're doing.

Tyra Phillips:

- What are the financial implications?
- Will it cost the AMS more?
- How much?

Halla Bertrand:

- I've had discussions with the VP Finance about this.
- We're able to access a maximum of \$5,000 without permission.
- The University Registrar's Office has also agreed to put in some money to cover the additional costs.
- The increase won't be a massive amount.

Declared Conflicts of Interest (because running in the election):

- *Max Holmes, Kuol Akuechbeny, Riley Ty, Chris Hakim, Kevin Zhang, Justin Zheng, Lucia Liang*

Christina Wiesmann:

- What would happen if we fail this?

Halla Bertrand:

- We would probably go with Option 2: ending the campaign period March 8 as originally announced (but with voting the following week).
- The main people who would suffer would be the votership.

3. MOVED JOELLA ALLEN, SECONDED TYRA PHILLIPS:

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"That Council suspend Code Section IX A, Article 2(6)(a) and Code Section IX A, Article 2(9)(a, b, c) to allow the Elections Committee to determine the time and duration of the Official Campaign Period and the limits for campaign expenses and campaign expense reimbursements for the February-March 2019 elections after January 15."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (8): Jennifer Cheng, Yash Gurnani, Marium Hamid, Jennifer Ling, Ada Mew, Nevena Rebic, Christina Wiesmann, Andy Wu

Against (3): Joella Allen, Katherine Westerlund (proxy for Bryan Starick), Tyra Phillips (proxy for Kate Burnham)

Abstained: Kuol Akuechbeny, Justin Zheng (proxy for Cole Evans), Chris Hakim, Max Holmes, Lucia Liang (proxy for Jerome Goddard), Riley Ty, Kevin Zhang

The Speaker:

- All present can vote on the next motion.
- There is no conflict.

4. MOVED MARIUM HAMID, SECONDED RILEY TY:

[SCD246-19]

From the President

"Whereas Council passed motions at its meeting of February 6 directing the President to call referendums to take place March 4-8 on five questions; and

Whereas owing to technical issues concerning some of the elections to be held at the same time as the referendums, the voting period is being pushed back to March 11-15; and

Whereas according to Bylaw 4(3), Council motions to call referendums may not be passed more than 30 days before the date of the referendum,

Therefore be it resolved that Council rescind the motions of February 6 and instead direct the President to call referendums to take place March 11-15 on the following five questions:

- 1) Do you support and approve amending the AMS Bylaws in accordance with the changes presented in the document entitled Proposed Changes to AMS Bylaws?

- 2) Do you support a decrease in the Graduating Class fee from the current \$7.00 to \$3.00 upon graduation, to begin in September 2019?

Note 1: All money raised through the Grad Class Fee will be deposited in the Grad Class Fund and may be used only for the purpose of supporting Grad Class as defined in the AMS Code of Procedure. Any money raised through this fee but not used in a given year shall remain in the fund for use in a subsequent year for Grad Class.

- 3) Do you support the AMS establishing a fee of \$0.95 a year to contribute to an Indigenous Student Fund, as of September 2019?

Note 1: All money raised through this fee will be deposited in the Indigenous Student Fund and may be used only for Indigenous student support and initiatives. Any money raised through this fee but not used in a given year shall remain in the fund for use in a subsequent year for Indigenous student support and initiatives.

Note 2: The \$0.95 fee will be indexed to inflation, increasing each year in accordance with any increase in BC CPI, beginning in September 2020.

- 4) Do you approve of the continuation of the U-Pass BC program with an increase to the U-Pass Fee from \$41.00 per month to \$42.50 per month commencing May 1, 2020, and, furthermore, approve annual increases to the U-Pass Fee of up to 2% (rounded up to the nearest nickel)?

Note 1: A long-term renewal has been secured for the U-Pass BC program until April 30, 2025.

Note 2: If this referendum is not approved, UBC students will no longer be eligible for the U-Pass BC program.

- 5) Do you support an increase in your AMS fees by \$5.67, to increase the fee for the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund from \$3.63 to \$9.30 a year, as of September 2019?

Note 1: All money raised through this fee will be deposited in the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund and may be used only for sexual assault support services and initiatives. Any money raised through this fee but not used in a given year shall remain in the fund for use in a subsequent year for sexual assault support services.

Note 2: The \$9.30 fee will be indexed to inflation, increasing each year in accordance with any increase in BC CPI, beginning in September 2020.

Be it further resolved that Council adopt a Yes position on all five of these questions.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Marium Hamid:

- Now that we have changed the timeline, the referendum questions are not possible as originally passed.
- They were passed to fit the original timeline.
- We need to change the dates, but everything else is the same.
- The questions have already been debated extensively.
- We're just amending to the right date.

Abdul Alnaar:

- Is the order of the questions as presented today the same as originally approved and will they appear on the ballot in that order?

Halla Bertrand:

- I will put them on the ballot as they are given to me by the President.

5. MOVED MARIUM HAMID, SECONDED YASH GURNANI:

"That the questions be re-ordered as follows

- 1) SASC fee
- 2) Indigenous Students fee
- 3) U-Pass fee
- 4) Grad Class fee
- 5) Bylaws."

Kuol Akuechbeny:

- This is violating the order from last time.

Marium Hamid:

- We are changing the order now.

Max Holmes:

- I don't think we were passing these last time in the order we wanted them on the ballot.
- Now we are.
- We weren't thinking about the order then.
- We're not going against what we did.

Kuol Akuechbeny:

- What order will be followed for the other referendum questions received?

Halla Bertrand:

- I haven't received any other questions yet.
- I will put them on the ballot as directed by the Elections Committee.
- Is there anything in Code on this?

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- No.

Kuol Akuechbeny:

- Can AMS Council say they're first?

Halla Bertrand:

- I'm not sure Council can.

Max Holmes:

- I would caution against Council telling the Elections Committee to do anything.
- They're supposed to be at arm's length.

6. MOVED MARIUM HAMID, SECONDED YASH GURNANI:

"That the questions be re-ordered as follows

- 1) SASC fee
- 2) Indigenous Students fee
- 3) U-Pass fee
- 4) Grad Class fee
- 5) Bylaws."

... Carried

For (17): Kuol Akuechbeny, Joella Allen, Katherine Westerlund (proxy for Bryan Starick), Justin Zheng (proxy for Cole Evans), Jennifer Cheng, Yash Gurnani, Chris Hakim, Marium Hamid, Lucia Liang (proxy for Jerome Goddard), Tyra Phillips (proxy for Kate Burnham), Jennifer Ling, Ada Mew, Nevena Rebic, Riley Ty, Christina Wiesmann, Andy Wu, Kevin Zhang

7. MOVED MARIUM HAMID, SECONDED RILEY TY:

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Be it further resolved that Council adopt a Yes position on all five of these questions.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (18): Kuol Akuechbeny, Joella Allen, Katherine Westerlund (proxy for Bryan Starick), Justin Zheng (proxy for Cole Evans), Jennifer Cheng, Yash Gurnani, Chris Hakim, Marium Hamid, Max Holmes, Lucia Liang (proxy for Jerome Goddard), Tyra Phillips (proxy for Kate Burnham), Jennifer Ling, Ada Mew, Nevena Rebic, Riley Ty, Christina Wiesmann, Andy Wu, Kevin Zhang

F) Next Meeting:

Next Meeting: February 27, 2019

G) Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:47 pm.

February 19, 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 Initchi	VP External Affairs		
Kuol Akuechbeny	VP Finance	X	
Piers Fleming	Student Services Mgr		
Oliver Frayne	Architecture		
Yash Gurnani	Arts	X	
Andy Wu	Arts	X	
Cole Evans	Arts		Justin Zheng
Jerome Goddard	Arts		Lucia Liang
Kevin Zhang	Arts	X	
	Audiology		
Jeanie Malone	BoG		
Jakob Gatteringer	BoG		
Evan Zhou	Commerce		
Jacqueline Wu	Commerce		
	Dentistry		
Chris Gooding	Economics		
Derek Bennett	Education		
Kate Burnham	Engineering		Tyra Phillips
Bryan Starick	Engineering		Katherine Westerlund
Matthew Epstein	Forestry		
Arash Shadkam	Graduate Studies		
Darren Touch	Graduate Studies		
Nevena Rebic	Graduate Studies	X	
Christina Wiesmann	Graduate Studies	X	
	Journalism		
Andrew Au	Kinesiology		
Andria Coulbourn	Land & Food Systems		
Dylan Braam	Law		
Joella Allen	Library/Archival	X	
Jennifer Ling	Medicine	X	
Anican Yu	Music		
Tanner Gjosund	Nursing		
Frank Ju	Ombudsperson		
Jon Kew	Planning		
Ada Mew	Pharmacy	X	
	Population & Public Health		
Gareth Clegg	Regent College		
Jennifer Cheng	Science	X	
Gurshabad Singhera	Science		
Riley Ty	Science	X	
Priscilla Chan	Senate		

Hannah Xiao	Senate		
	St. Mark's		
John Segui	Social Work		
	VST		

V1: Test your clickers!

V2: Be it resolved that Council suspend Code Section IX A, Article 2(6)(a) and Code Section IX A, Article 2(9)(a, b, c) to allow the Elections Committee to determine the time and duration of the Official Campaign Period and the limits for campaign expenses and campaign expense reimbursements for the February-March 2019 elections after January 15."

V3: Motion to Amend the Referendum Question as amended

V4: be it resolved that Council rescind the motions of February 6 and instead direct the President to call referendums to take place March 11-15 on the following five questions as noted on the Council Agenda for Feb 19

Name	V1	V2	V3	V4
Marium Hamid	Y	Y	Y	Y
Chris Hakim		A	Y	Y
Kuol Akuechbeny	N	A	Y	Y
Cristina Initchi				
Max Holmes	Y	A		Y
Yash Gurnani	Y	Y	Y	Y
Andy Wu		Y	Y	Y
Justin Zheng proxy for C Evans	Y	A	Y	Y
Lucia Liang proxy for J Goddard	Y	A	Y	Y
Kevin Zhang	Y	A	Y	Y
Evan Zhou				
Andy Wu				
Chris Gooding				
Derek Bennett				
Tyra Phillips (proxy for Kate Burnham)	Y	N	Y	Y
Katherine Westerlund (proxy for Bryan Starick)	Y	N	Y	Y
Christina Wiesmann	Y	Y	Y	Y
Nevena Rebic	Y	Y	Y	Y
Arash Shadkam				
Darren Touch				
Matthew Epstein				
Andrew Au				
Andria Coulbourn				
Dylan Braam				
Joella Allen	Y	N	Y	Y
Jennifer Ling	Y	Y	Y	Y

Tanner Gjosund				
Jon Kew				
Ada Mew	Y	Y	Y	Y
Gareth Clegg				
Oliver Frayne				
Jennifer Cheng	Y	Y	Y	Y
Gurshabad Singhera				
Riley Ty	Y	A	Y	Y
VST Vacant				
Anican Yu				
John Segui				