



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY OF UBC VANCOUVER

AMS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

February 12, 2019 – 5PM, Teleconference

Members

Present: Christopher Hakim (Chair), Katherine West (Vice-Chair, Member-at-large), Jeanie Malone (Councillor), Dylan Braam (Councillor), Jerome Goddard (Councillor), Cole Evans (Councillor),

Regrets: Nicholas Harterre (Member-at-large)

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm

Approval of the Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Jeanie, Katherine).

Approval of the Minutes

- The meeting minutes from the February 5, 2019 Operations Committee meeting were approved (Cole, Jeanie).

Discussion: Men's Rights Association Booking

- [Chris]:
 - In the Bookings Policy, “controversial bookings” need approval by the Operations Committee.
 - The bookings staff brought this to us.
 - The concern is safety; last bothing (January 17th) resulted in an item being thrown at an MRA person.
 - Large crowd, UBC Campus Security had to supervise.
 - Concerns for large crowd impacting other individuals bothing or general student population in the Nest.
 - Have notified the individual about this and about Operations Committee meeting, but they chose not to attend (were invited).
- [Dylan]:
 - Did the individual booking it have any response?
- [Katherine]:
 - There are a lot of concerns from the members.

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- They seem inclined to want to booth even at risk of personal harm (re: item throwing).
- [Chris]:
 - They indicated they intend to booth regardless and will booth in the snow if necessary.
 - They highlighted that as a greater safety concern than item-throwing.
 - They noted anti-male discrimination claims will be filed against the AMS if the booking is not honoured.
 - Note: they are not an AMS club nor are they affiliated with UBC, they are an external group.
 - Bookings staff were particularly concerned about altercations occurring within the NEST.
- [Dylan]:
 - As far as know, aside from the object being thrown, it did not seem provoked?
 - I have concerned with telling someone that they cannot book a space on the purpose of what other people may do against them.
 - I do, however, understand that we don't want an incident.
- [Cole]:
 - Agreed.
- [Dylan]:
 - We can't really blame them for the incident unless we are stating that they are deliberately causing it?
- [Katherine]:
 - I don't think this booking should be upheld.
 - I think there is a reason we are in place to review bookings like this.
 - I am concerned that this would be authorizing a disturbance in the NEST.
 - I don't think this group is limited to NEST or outside, they have other options.
 - I would recommend rejecting this and directing this group to the other bookings available on campus.
- [Dylan]:
 - I do think if we book this space, we can and perhaps should expect an incident.
 - The size of the crowd blocking access throughout the thoroughway would be an issue... almost too popular.
- [Katherine]:
 - I would feel better if this were a contained event, in a room?
 - I think it is not the correct venue.
- [Dylan]:
 - I am not sure if a club booth is the right dimensions for it?
 - Can we suggest an alternative AMS space?
- [Katherine]:
 - Or lower level? May help crowding issue.
- [Dylan]:

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- Can we offer that?
 - I am also concerned about us hitting fire capacity if there is a lot of people within that hallway.
 - That's not safe.
- [Katherine]:
 - What about the top of the egg? Or inside? Open space, but still accessible?
- [Jeanie]:
 - If safety is the concern, we need to make sure that this is the key point.
 - I am still not sure we can reasonably reject this though.
 - Have they done this event before?
- [Chris]:
 - Not to my knowledge.
- [Cole]:
 - Not sure if crowding is a reason not to allow a booth.
 - I don't see a reason to reject this.
 - If we had a UBC Doughnut Club that drew a big crowd, would we move them?
- [Dylan]:
 - I feel we can reasonably expect a crowd?
 - If there was a big crowd, and we asked them to move aside - would they move?
- [Katherine]:
 - I see this as prospective crowd management.
 - I would maintain this with any booking, move things not in the middle of the walkway.
 - Chris - do you have the booking schedule?
- [Chris]:
 - When I'm in the office, not sure if will be open tomorrow with snow.
- [Dylan]:
 - Can we send an email to the club and say we are looking at other room availability?
 - Re: crowding, we are concerned about blocking the walkway - we are thinking about the egg and/or the lower atrium.
 - And don't charge more for the booth.
- [Chris]:
 - We need to obey the fee waiving criteria.
- [Jeanie]:
 - We probably should waive any fee changes.
- [Chris]:
 - Not sure about available bookings.
- [Cole]:
 - Inside the egg has a posted capacity, which could be helpful.
 - Better than top of the egg.

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- [Jeanie]:
 - Lower atrium isn't the worst idea ever if it comes to that.
- [Cole]:
 - Might be more angry people in the lower atrium, and many people do walk through there still.
- [Dylan]:
 - If we do the inside, they have to be able to have the big doors open.
 - Don't like the idea of sending them away to a little corner, would like it to have exposure.
- [Cole]:
 - I like the egg.
 - Don't block any entrances/pathways, still very central, able to be accessed easily.
 - If we offer them this they will probably take it, and it would work well for them I believe.
- [Chris]:
 - Still concerned about the fee waiving criteria.
 - Criteria says they need to take into account other options available to them.
 - I don't think believe they fulfilled the criteria that warrants exempting a change in charge.
- [Katherine]:
 - I think it is a special circumstance.
- [Dylan]:
 - If the space isn't booked, not like we are losing money.
- [Chris]:
 - But the policy does not consider that, the criteria is clearly laid out.
- [Jeanie]:
 - But we have the power to waive that.
- [Chris]:
 - I don't feel this fulfils the criteria, if you choose to go with this option, you will need to challenge me.
- [Jeanie]:
 - In my mind, if we are going to attempt to charge the group more and force them to move, we may as well turn them away completely.
 - Still think we are extrapolating to see some large crowd and I'm not sure that's supported (although didn't see last event).
- [Dylan]:
 - At last event the people screaming were against them, not for.
 - Still very disruptive.

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- **DECISION:** Chris to inform Men's Rights Association that there is concerns about crowding re: previous events with the walkway location. Chris to seek to move the booking to: inside the egg, if available (for the same fee as booking a booth). If not, apologize, refer to UBC booking services for other bookings, and return the money (Jeanie, Katherine).
 - **Abstentions:** Cole Evans.

Updates from the VP Administration

- [Chris]:
 - Will give updates at the next one. Snow day means lack of notes unfortunately.

Discussion: January New Club Application

- The January New Club Applications were approved (Katherine, Dylan).

Discussion: Operations Committee Policy Manual

- Discussion and work on the Operations Committee Policy Manual was tabled.

Discussion: Policy on Expulsions and Suspensions from AMS Property (Policy I-7)

- Discussion and work on the Policy on Expulsions and Suspensions from AMS Property (Policy I-7) was tabled.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 PM.