Hi Council,

Welcome back for some of you and welcome to AMS Council for others. It has been a busy past few weeks for the Student Life Committee and most importantly, our revamped Grad Class Subcommittee. We thoroughly consulted with our members of Grad Class Subcommittee, and they were thrilled to be given the opportunity to allocate gifts from their graduating class. The themes of the gifts revolve around supporting our students in times of transition and recognizing the freedom of speech that has shaped today’s society. I am very pleased to announce the gifts that our group has come up with. As outlined in the attached document, the gifts are:

- A $5000 donation to the AMS Food Bank to fund operations in the Summer of 2019, recognizing that food insecurity exists during times of transition for our graduating members, whose membership continues until September 2019.
- Furthermore, a $2500 donation to the AMS Food Bank to be used for the sole purpose of starting a hygiene products fund, on behalf of the Class of 2019.
- $5000 to the Indigenous Committee, to be used for capital improvement projects over the Summer of 2019 in their dedicated space in the Nest.
- $5000 to be allocated to the revitalization of the Goddess of Democracy statue and a 30-year anniversary ceremony on June 4th, 2019, recognizing the lasting impact of the events of Tiananmen Square as a symbol of the fight for expanded democratic rights. The AMS President will work with Michael Kingsmill and other relevant parties to ensure this is carried out.
$1000 to the UBC Archives Department to the project to digitize student handbooks from 1952-2013 so that alumni, researchers, club execs, and the general public can access them. This donation matches that of the Innovative Projects Fund (IPF).

The new Student Life and Finance committees will still need to approve these gifts – new members of that committee will get the material and should reach out if they have questions in advance. The gifts will also be announced at graduating ceremonies. I have a set of transition documents and draft material for the next Chair of the Student Life Committee, who can finish my efforts to revamp this role. This includes councillor roles and responsibilities, Blue and Gold restructuring, and the changes in orientations (in conjunction with Steering Committee) that will be reflected for your Council. If you are interested in chairing the Student Life Committee, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me! I can be reached at avpuniversityaffairs@ams.ubc.ca.

Have a great summer!

Best,

Jerome Goddard

(now retired) Chair of Student Life Committee

(now retired) Chief AMS Representative, UBC Arts Undergraduate Society