



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

AMS Governance Committee

Minutes of July 3rd, 2019

Attendance

Present: Katherine Westerlund (Chair), Tyra Phillips (Councillor), Kevin Zhang (Councillor), Dylan Braam (Student at Large), Cole Evans (VP Administration), Sheldon Goldfarb (AMS archivist - non-voting), Jeanie Malone (Councillor)

Guests: Michelle (Councillor)

Regrets: Nicholas (councillor)

Recording Secretary: Katherine

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:43 pm.

Introductions

Approval of Agenda

Moved: Cole

Seconded: Kevin

That the agenda be adopted.

The motion carries unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Moved: Cole

Seconded: Kevin

That the minutes of June 17th, 2019 be approved.

The motion carries unanimously.

Updates from the Chair - 3 mins

America is hot, submarines are cool, Air Canada is a living nightmare.

Had a meeting with Stephanie Oldford, we will talk about that later in the meeting! Most of our other goals are on hold right now.

Going to be bringing the internal policy review to Steering committee tomorrow!

Discussion on Constituency Composition - 40 mins

RE: Stephanie Oldford meeting.

Katherine: Basically, the AMS might have a problem. How our different constituencies define their compositions is not good. Things can be very unclear, generally is defined by faculty instead of by program. Stephanie recommended we modify things to define the compositions of constituencies by programs (and degrees) instead of by faculties. This is a big problem in terms of both student fees + voting in elections.

Cole: interesting idea, how do we know exactly what programs should live in what places?

Katherine: Stephanie has told us she will try to make a big list of who (in her mind)

Katherine: How should we go about this consultation? I know bylaws says we can just change things, but

Cole: 3 ways we could do it

1. We just do it, consultation limited to AMS council
2. Create proposal, go to constituency councils, that's consultation
3. Referendum question to all students. This is extreme in my opinion, but

Sheldon: in terms of legalities, we don't necessarily need to

Dylan: don't think law students should be participating in this referendum? Our constitution wouldn't change.

Cole: Yeah I agree, don't

Tyra: what if we just posed the refs at all the individual constituencies?

Dylan: problem is with patchwork, some groups might end up not being represented.

Cole: This is why I like #2 best. If we believe this is in the best interests of all students, I think this needs to be a top down.

Dylan: I agree, I think this needs to happen over a period of time. Consider using the consultation period at council, and go to constituency councils. Need to do it slowly. The thing is this won't come into effect until September, so we do have the ability to talk to people over a long period of time.

Katherine: should we have an internal policy about this? Code? bylaws?

Dylan: problem is they are easy to update.

Dylan: Maybe we should be collecting all the constituency constitutions. Put them on the website. It would be good to be tracking these documents to make sure they aren't in violation of code.

Katherine: The AUS deserves Air Canada.

Sheldon: could amend code to do this.

Katherine: Where do we want to go with this?

Cole: stephanie brain child. Find the problem children, work from there.

Joint Committee Meetings Code? - 15 mins

Committees could have the ability to meet together to work on projects together. Do we want to formalize this? Let's set up some guidelines for Sheldon to draft some code.

Katherine: It would be nice to put this in code. Technically there's nothing against this,

Dylan: How does voting work in this case?

Katherine: I'd imagine just both groups meet together, quorum is some minimum number of people from each committee

Cole: need to think about people who sit on multiple committees. Come up with some quorum equation. I like putting this in code for sure.

Katherine: How do we figure out what the rules are for these joint meetings.

Kevin: what about 3 way committee meetings?

Cole: I think we need them to be expandable.

Internal Policy Review Procedure - 5 mins

Just a clarification about what we would like other committees to be doing, and how govcomm would like to be involved in this. To be brought to the Steering Committee.

Katherine: What do we want our role to be in this?

Cole: tell people to refer to policy I-1? Maybe governance should be consulted on every one of these policies?

Katherine: Seems like a good plan.

Quick Discussion on Future Code Cleanup - 5 mins

Katherine: how do we want to do that?

Sheldon: I can look through, just give me a deadline.

Katherine: Tentative deadline July 15th.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is Monday July 8th, 2019.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:39 pm.