

NOVEMBER COMMITTEE REPORT TO AMS COUNCIL:

AMS Governance Committee

2019-11-21

Prepared by Katherine Westerlund, Chair



Hello hello from the Governance Committee! We've been having some fun with elections code and referenda recently. We meet weekly on Mondays from 12-1pm in NEST 3511 if you want to come be our friend and give your thoughts and feelings on what we are discussing.

1. Works in Progress:

Whistleblower policy might be something that happens in the future. We have sent the President's office out into the world to determine what other schools have and what this would look like for us. Maybe keep an eye out for this sometime ~January?

Contracts review process: when we were going through the code around ethical contracts, we noticed there's no real definition around what an ad-hoc ethical review committee would be, and we would have concerns about individual councillors having the education and knowhow to actually perform an ethical review. We have the President's office looking into what other universities do around Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) and how we could implement guidelines earlier in the contract process.

Constituency definitions we have not forgotten about this, we have just gotten sidetracked by these other code changes. Currently working to define exactly what problems exist beyond just "which programs live under what constituency" (eg. LASSA students who are represented by LASSA and the GSS) and how we would like to go about resolving this. Hopefully I'll get to spend some quality time with our data over the winter break, and will have action on this in January.

Indigenous seat on Council. Mainly establishing processes and bylaw changes for the event that people wish to proceed with this bylaw change. As there is no clear end goal for this committee (as it isn't our decision to make) the timeline is very flexible. Keep an eye on the bylaw amendments if you're interested in this topic.

New Code Changes currently on the menu for code changes are:

- Changes to managing directors signing authority
- Changes to how the Executive report their goals and discuss their campaign priorities

New By-Law amendment drafting are imminently beginning the process of reviewing previous bylaw amendments and deciding what we would like to send to referenda this year. Expect this at council by Feb at the latest. Let me know if you have any thoughts + feelings about this.

2. Work Completed this month

- Finalized some recommendations for code to be changed (including the shiny new record tracking table!).
- Records Policy was reviewed and approved at our last Council meeting.
- Election code review has been conducted, recommendations should be coming to council for the first meeting in January.