



**THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER**

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of January 16, 2020

Attendance

Present: Chris Hakim (President), Julia Burnham (VP Academic & University Affairs), Cristina Ilnitshi (VP External), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Cole Evans (VP Administration), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:07 pm.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Chris, Cristina).

Minutes

- The minutes of January 10 were approved (Chris, Julia).

Wet'suwet'en and NVDA Training

- Julia:
 - We've been asked if we will make a statement in solidarity with the Wet'suwet'en Indigenous Nation near Smithers who are opposing the RCMP's illegal access to their land.
 - Because of the issues of solidarity, reconciliation, and consent, it is appropriate to make a statement.
 - In accordance with our policies, the AMS should take a stand when an Indigenous group is facing this sort of issue.
- Cristina:
 - Somewhat similar issue: Non-Violent Direct Action training for activists to know their rights.
- Lucia: When will the statement be made? How long has this situation been going on?
- Julia:
 - Will make the statement as soon as possible.
 - The situation has been going on for a year, but has escalated in the past week.

Policy 131 (sexual violence), Retaliation, and At Risk Behaviour*Retaliation Policy*

- Julia:
 - There's a new UBC policy coming on retaliation to protect whistleblowers.
 - We weren't included on the committee looking into this.
 - We've raised issues, such as that this new policy should apply to Senate policies. Also that it should apply to the at risk policy and to digital retaliation and online harassment.
 - There's also an issue of fairness in reporting and an issue concerning the rights of respondents.
 - In general the policy is okay, but there are a few things to tweak.
 - Implementation is key.

At Risk Behaviour Policy

- Julia:
 - We were also not on the committee for this one.
 - The policy could be proactive to create interim safety measures about stalking, harassment, school shootings, natural disasters, etc.
 - It's pretty broad.
 - Quite a few issues with it:
 - It refers to SVPRO as if it's interchangeable with the investigation service.
 - Campus Security is to look into complaints and send them to SVPRO without offering any choice to survivors (to go to SASC or WAVAW instead).
 - References to trauma-informed practices, but these are not defined.
 - The seven decision makers should all receive trauma-informed training.
 - McMaster and McGill include Occupational and Health & Safety Committees.
 - No one from the AMS or SASC was on this committee.
- Keith: We weren't asked to contribute?
- Chris: We asked about banning people: if banned from campus, what about the Nest?

Policy 131

- Julia:
 - We were on this committee.
 - The policy needs to be clearer.
 - Need definition of members of the UBC community.
 - Curious about the removal of alumni.
 - Jurisdiction to investigate in the Greek village: ambiguous.
 - New institutional reports would allow UBC to become the complainant against serial perpetrators: that's anti-sexual violence but not pro-survivor.

- There are red flags that need to be addressed.
- Respondent support: UBC wants to provide services.
 - Shouldn't call it support; could be called services.
 - Can't say UBC supports respondents the way they support survivors.
- SVPRO in the policy, but not SASC: this is a huge issue. It harms SASC.
- The policy should mandate training of those doing the review of the policy; this is a problem: that there's no training.
- SASC should have a seat.
- The time-elapsing provision is not trauma-informed.
- Staff and faculty have more rights to see findings than do students (because of union agreements).
- The privacy law for UBC (FIPPA) and the BC Privacy Commission are not allowing survivors to see reports.
- People hearing appeals need trauma-informed training.
- There needs to be a standing implementation committee with a seat for SASC.
- The language is too lawyered, not completely understandable. Difficult to read unless you have a legal mind.
 - UBC was offered a chance to get plain language support, but declined.
- Some good things:
 - Immunity clause if underage and bring forward a complaint about drugs.
- Need to lobby the provincial government about FIPPA.
- Chris:
 - Need to note that elected student reps were not on the committees.
 - The jurisdiction to investigate clause has not been changed; it's too vague.
 - UBC should be advocating for exemptions from the BC privacy laws.
- Cristina: How will you go through all this information tomorrow at the Town Hall?
- Julia:
 - Broke down Policy 131 into six sections (principles and commitments, definitions, jurisdiction to investigate, etc.).
 - We'll do a primer at the beginning, then people will go into whatever section they want to.
 - The goal is to have people bring lived experience to the topic they choose.
- Cristina:
 - Have spoken to staff at the Ministry of Advanced Education; will be continuing these conversations with Attorney General David Eby.
 - They're interested in our review process.
 - We should collaborate.
- Chris:
 - Still including third party initial reports, so UBC can pursue an investigation without the consent of the survivor.
 - Send comments to Julia.
 - Get opinions by January 22 for final draft on January 31.

Clubs Platform

- Chris:
 - Campus Vibe agreement has ended.
 - They're closing down.
 - Clubhouse is going down.
 - We're doing consultation to replace it
 - Would like a presentation from Cole at a future meeting to discuss what we want, costs, etc.
- Lucia: Need to target the root problem of organizing clubs.

Equity Plan

- Cristina:
 - All departments have submitted audits.
 - We're collating.
 - Going to meet individually with the departments.
 - Re-editing the RFP.
 - Will update Council.
- Julia: Timeline?
- Cristina: Still what told Council: by the end of the month the RFP will be drafted and go out.

Budgeting

- Chris:
 - Keith is working on that.
 - Executives should as well.
 - Let's set February 17 as first draft of the budget.
 - Zero-based budgeting.
- Keith: Templates will be available next week.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 pm.