



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of January 31, 2020

Attendance

Present: Chris Hakim (President), Julia Burnham (VP Academic & University Affairs), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Cole Evans (VP Administration), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager, left 2:50), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Cristina Ilnitchi (VP External), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services)

Guest: Michael Kingsmill (AMS Designer)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:08 pm.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Chris, Cole).

Minutes

- The minutes of January 24 were approved (Chris, Julia).

Air Conditioning Project

- Michael Kingsmill:
 - Rationale for adding air conditioning to the Nest:
 - We're projecting increases in exterior temperatures because of climate change.
 - We have to be careful not to jeopardize the Nest's LEED Platinum status.
 - We're getting a lot of complaints in the summer about the heat in the building from staff, clients, and clubs.
 - We've reached out to UBC to explore cooling options.
 - We do have some air conditioning in the building now, in childminding, the Pit Pub, the IT servers room, and the Archives.
 - We already have air handling units, to which we could add cooling coils.
 - Want to focus on the third floor: Administrative area (staff, Execs, the Services).
 - Also on the second floor in the meeting rooms.
 - Don't need it so much on the main floor or in the basement because there's lots of traffic and frequent opening of doors, which produces natural ventilation.
 - Also not needed on the fourth floor because of the open space of the Atrium.

- It's important that people be comfortable in the building so they'll come back.
- Much attention was paid to the LEED program in the design of the building: sustainability was the largest voice.
- We are also planning to increase the solar panels in the building.
- This will mean we draw less from the district energy system, which means there will be a net benefit to the campus, reducing overall energy.
- It will cost perhaps \$250,000 to install the cooling coils.
- We need to investigate the options more: we'll need \$15,000 to pay a consultant to do that.
- We also need to run all this through UBC: they maintain and operate the equipment.
- If we wait, we will still get complaints, and the price of the installation will likely increase by about \$107,000 because of inflation, which is 1% a month.
- Would like to know if the Executive want to go forward; the first step would be to pay the \$15,000 for the initial study.
- Chris: Does the total cost include the solar panels?
- Michael: Yes.
- Chris: How many panels would we add?
- Michael: Originally we cut back 50% on the number we were going to install; I think there are 190 panels now.
- Chris: By putting in the solar panels, we would be reducing our carbon footprint and offsetting the effect of expanding the air conditioning in the building?
- Michael: We would be more than offsetting.
- Cole:
 - I would advocate doing this.
 - We'll need to suspend Code because this would mean spending more than allowed from the Capital Projects Fund in a fiscal year.
- Michael:
 - The first part, the analysis, would go to Council in March.
 - The project itself couldn't start in time for this summer, and payments would be staggered, with final payment probably not till October or Novembers.
- Chris:
 - This fiscal year would be just for the consultants.
 - We can approve the first payment now (and not have to suspend Code) and then do the next in the next fiscal year.
- Michael:
 - There are three possible options we will be looking at, but for all of them we'll have to put the cooling coils in.
- Chris: What impact will this have on our LEED Platinum status?
- Michael:
 - Adding the solar panels will build on our LEED Platinum status.

- We are going to protect our LEED Platinum status.
- Chris: Are you okay going to next week's Council meeting for consultation?
- Michael: Yes.

[Michael leaves.]

Academic Experience Survey (AES)

- Julia:
 - I've circulated the 2020 final draft questions and have been receiving feedback.
 - Not too many changes this year.
 - Tried to cut some stuff that we have not been using, such as questions about:
 - Attending Thunderbird games.
 - Off campus health/well-being (this was too subjective).
 - We're reviving a set we had before about Career Services.
 - Took out questions about the reasons students choose to come to UBC: that might be useful for UBC to know, but we're dealing with students who are already here.
 - Added one question about the main worry students have about running out of food.
 - Restoring a question about how long students' commute to campus is.
 - Also adding a question on what the most useful form of financial aid is.
 - And asking whether you're a first generation student: important for equity.
 - Tried to keep the survey tight.
- Cole: Is there a possibility of moving the questions about the AMS to later in the survey, since students will have just done the AMS Nest Experience Survey (NES)?
- Julia:
 - Don't want students to think this is a UBC survey, so the AMS questions will stay near the top.
 - Planning launch February 13.
 - One hiccup: UBC usually does a survey in January, but they're not doing that this year. Instead, they're sending out a national survey in mid-February.
 - Not great that they're overlapping.
 - Hope it's not a deterrent.
 - Goal is 3,000 responses.
- Cole: The NES got almost 3,000.
- Julia:
 - And the AES has a lot more prizes and is on the ballot.
 - People know to expect the AES this time of year.
 - Maybe we will do some in-person booting.

[Ian leaves.]

IFC MoU

- Cole:
 - Sent a draft of the MoU with the Inter-Fraternity Council.
 - Meeting them to discuss.
 - Eventually formal consultation with the Executive.
 - In the draft, saying what our expectations are:
 - Lots about sexual violence, respectful environment, harm reduction.
 - Want to make sure they commit on that.
 - Have to check with SASC.
 - Giving them some privileges: accessing resources like SASC workshops.
 - Also discounted bookings for bids day.
 - There is an active termination clause: we won't be locked in.
 - Aim is to make sure our members are safe at their events.
 - They want to continue seminars with SASC. Have to check with SASC.
- Julia:
 - Question about IFC paying for those.
 - They involve a significant amount of work, and this would be for a non-AMS organization.
- Cole:
 - Initially, the idea was that they could attend workshops for free.
 - I'm not opposed to putting in limitations or charging them.
- Julia: I'm in favour of appropriately charging any external organization for specialized things.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 pm.