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<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>PRESIDENT COUNCIL REPORT &amp; REMARKS</b>
<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>APRIL 9, 2020</b>
	<b>FOR INFORMATION SUBMISSION</b>
<b>PREPARED BY</b>	Chris Hakim, President
<b>DOCUMENTS</b>	1. President Council Report & Remarks

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**DESCRIPTION &  
RATIONALE**

This report is meant to replace the regular President Report and Remarks that are provided orally at the Council meeting. Instead, we are looking to provide this regular report through a written mean and in advance for Councillors.

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## PRESIDENT REPORT AND REMARKS

April 9, 2020 Report

The past two weeks have been busy times coordinating the AMS's response to COVID-19 as well as managing regular business.

During this time, we have been consolidating budgets for the 2020/21 fiscal year keeping in mind the loss of revenue from our businesses and Conferences & Catering and potential loss of revenue from a reduced enrolment. We are looking to draft multiple budgets that take into account various factors, such as reduced enrolment, and prioritizing the additional funding asks for the 2020/21 fiscal year. In addition, we have been working to create a central page on the AMS's website that will provide regular updates on the AMS's actions in response to COVID-19 and the working status of our various departments. Furthermore, we have provided AMS Council with a draft of the governance changes that would allow for the AMS to be efficient and effective in its decision-making during these times. We have also been looking to consolidate our staff hiring timelines and orientation programs for Council, Executives, and staff. Last week, we had met with the UBC VPS Office to discuss the University's response and actions to COVID-19. In this meeting, we had worked with UBC and the GSS to contribute \$1.7m from the \$7.8m tuition surplus towards providing emergency financial aid to domestic and international students. Finally, following the government's announcement of a 75% wage subsidy for non-profits affected by COVID-19, we are working internally to see how the AMS can leverage that subsidy for our operations and staff.

As mentioned previously, we are working hard to ensure that the board governance is effective. We are close to finalizing our new board orientation programs in which we provide Councillors with comprehensive information on the AMS and advice on how to be effective. In addition, we have finished designing the AMS Council self-assessment to allow for current Councillors to provide feedback on their experience as a Councillors and where the AMS can improve. Finally, we are looking to improve accessibility of Council and equipping it to be effective through the budget amendment to purchase board software.

With the election of Georgia Yee as our next AMS Vice-President Academic & University Affairs, we are continuing our transition process by involving Georgia in conversations with the university. This will ensure that both the President and VPAUA are equipped to effectively advocate to the university on behalf of students.

We recently onboarded Alex Thomas, the new Indigenous Engagement Facilitator, who will also be working with the Indigenous Committee. Our work with the Indigenous Committee is a bit delay

regarding the appointment process for the Indigenous seat on AMS Council due to COVID-19, but we are going to ensure that that is a priority.

Concerning hiring, we have finalized the interviews for the Student Services Manager and should be sending out an offer letter to the successful candidate.

We recently had a meeting with folks from the UBC Vice-President, Students office to discuss their upcoming portfolio's strategic plan. The current development of the plan is still in a high-level phase, but we emphasized (along with the incoming Executives) the importance of career development and affordability as key items.

Our Grad Class Subcommittee has been fully appointed and we have put out a call for proposals from the UBC Community for items they would like funded as part of the Graduation Class of 2020's gift.

As noted in the docket, our office has finalized the policies review that was mandated as part of the Steering Committee's mandate to reassign and review policies. We hope that this shows our commitment to effective governance at the AMS.

As part of the docket, we have also provided the final draft of the \$21 Recreation MOU with UBC Athletics & Recreation. This would ensure that this important fee is continuing to support recreation activities UBC and that students are having a say in its campus' athletics and recreation.