
SUBJECT	PRESIDENT COUNCIL REPORT & REMARKS
MEETING DATE	APRIL 22, 2020
	FOR INFORMATION SUBMISSION
PREPARED BY	Chris Hakim, President
DOCUMENTS	1. President Council Report & Remarks

**DESCRIPTION &
RATIONALE**

This report is meant to replace the 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.

PRESIDENT REPORT AND REMARKS

April 22, 2020 Report

The past two weeks have been busy spent managing the AMS's continued response to COVID-19 while also transitioning the incoming executives.

Regarding COVID-19, the AMS has been working diligently across all of its departments to support both students and staff during these unprecedented times. The budget for FY 2020/21 is front and centre of our minds as we look to present a preliminary budget to AMS Council that takes into account the increasing costs to the AMS as a result of COVID-19 and various factors as well. As noted before, the AMS, GSS, and UBC have collaborated to contribute \$1.7m from the \$7.8m tuition surplus towards providing emergency financial aid to domestic and international students affected by COVID-19. The AMS is also looking to provide an additional \$100k from its funds towards supporting students through financial aid. In addition to this work, we have updated our AMS website with a [dedicated section](#) on COVID-19 that includes information on our work with UBC, the governments, and internally. Furthermore, we are working with UBC on creating a public action plan that will detail UBC's student response to COVID-19 in the immediate and future. Finally, you will note in the docket that we are looking to use funds from SAIF towards funding a SASC initiative that will provide online emergency trauma counselling services.

This past two weeks, we have been moving forward on our various board governance initiatives. We have finalized our materials for the upcoming board orientation for the new members of AMS Council which we are currently scheduling for. Following from AMS Council's approval of an expenditure to purchase board software, we have been working diligently with Passageways on the implementation of the platform. We have many of our items prepared and uploaded onto OnBoard and will be beta testing it with select members of AMS Council in order to prepare the platform for use beginning May 2020. Finally, we are getting back into finalizing the report from the Ad-Hoc Committee on AMS Council Governance in which we will detail some short-term recommendations to improve AMS Council's governance but to also dissolve the committee and delegate the remaining work to the Governance Committee.

With the incoming executives starting office relatively soon, my office along with the other executives have been working diligently to prepare for the transition process. I have had multiple meetings with the incoming president to prepare them for the new role as well as connecting them to various campus stakeholders. In addition, my staff are finishing up their transition reports in order to effectively transition the incoming staff members.