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

**AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**
Minutes of May 27, 2020

**Attendance**
Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

**Call to Order**
- The meeting was called to order at 12:22 pm and took place by videoconference.

**Agenda**
- The agenda was adopted (Sylvester, Georgia).

**Minutes**
- The minutes of May 20 were approved (Lucia, Sylvester).

**Updates**
- Sylvester:
  - Clubs newsletter.
  - Clubs registering for executive orientations.
  - Office and locker clearouts/reallocations.
  - Waiting for CWL integration for CampusGroups.
  - Hatch Art Gallery:
    - Working with the Communications team about the Hatch website.
    - A permanent collection section so everyone can see our beautiful art.
- Lucia:
  - Hybrid reimbursement model.
  - Lots of questions, inquiries.
  - Creating an FAQ and automatic reply.
  - New accounting system, new ticketing service:
    - Got some quotes.
    - Want to get the best price.
    - Looking at Concur SAP.
  - Goals.
  - Goals for the Health and Dental Plan Committee and the Finance Committee.
  - And of course the budget, which is embedded in my existence.
AMS Executive Committee

Minutes of May 27, 2020

- Kalith:
  - Setting up subsidy fund for students who can’t afford transit.
  - BC budget consultation:
    - Talking to stakeholders.
    - Talking to UBC to align asks.
  - Continuing research on amendments to Bill 23 (on sexual misconduct policies):
    - Spoke to the team at the Ministry of Advanced Education.
  - UNA (University Neighbourhoods Association).
  - Elections coming up for UCRU (Undergraduates at Canadian Research-intensive Universities).
  - Goals pretty much done.

- Georgia:
  - Submission sent off on UBC Policy SC-17 (on sexual misconduct).
  - COVID-19 priorities.
  - COVID survey launches Friday, with GSS, also with UBC’s PAIR (Planning and Institutional Research office).
  - Working on financial aid concerns.
  - Tuition consultation:
    - Working on a submission about the Masters of Engineering and Leadership and similar programs.
    - Feedback on certificate tuition programs.
  - Adjusting goals to take account of COVID.
  - Impact Grant Working Group.
  - Academic Caucus:
    - Making sure Faculties are consulting with undergraduate societies.
  - Discussion about online learning:
    - CTLT (UBC’s Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology).
    - Privacy, technology, etc.

- Ian:
  - How are you collecting information about tuition consultation?

- Georgia:
  - Reaching out to the Engineering Undergraduate Society about the Masters of Engineering and Leadership.
  - Also probably MBA and Masters of Management and similar programs.
  - Speaking to the Nursing Undergraduate Society about the Masters of Health Leadership.
  - Discussing the certificate programs at the VP Academic Caucus.

- Ian:
  - Are you engaging with the general student body for a consultation on COVID?
  - About students paying for online instruction.
• **Georgia:**
  - That’s the COVID-19 survey: how do students feel about current adaptations and costs?
  - Continuing to evaluate concerning tuition.
  - Looking at definitions: what is online learning?
  - Making sure students getting their money’s worth.
  - To have quality online learning.

• **Ian:**
  - Services up and running.
  - Interviews for coordinators of eHub and Safewalk:
    - Getting those services running.
    - Safewalk by mid-June.
    - Working with the Arts Co-op for Safewalk.
  - Food Bank still going.
    - Thanks to Cole and the graduating class for money.
    - Pretty high numbers.
  - Tutoring:
    - Looking at who we want to work with.
    - Reaching out to SASC for training.
  - Housing:
    - Drafting a job description.
    - Excited to get someone to research a housing service this summer.

• **Abdul:**
  - Transitions for SASC.
  - SASC is doing additional work in person.
  - Working on an SC-17 submission and a joint submission with Georgia.

• **Cole:**
  - Working with Lucia on the budget and with Georgia on submissions to the Board of Governors.
  - High level goal setting.
  - Executive expenditures.
  - Committee appointments.
  - Equity Plan RFP.
  - One of my assistants is working on improving communications and marketing.

• **Keith:**
  - Events have launched hiring for a social media coordinator.
  - Redoing Events budget, based on restrictions going forward.
  - Looking at what we can do instead of First Week.
  - Reopened the Gallery and Honour Roll. Blue Chip was already open.
  - Getting 100 customers a day at the Gallery, 20 at Honour Roll, and 70-80 at Blue Chip.
  - Not huge numbers, but it’s good to see people coming and using the building.
Health and Dental refund

- Keith:
  - We got $500,000 as a reduction for dental work in the Health and Dental Plan premium.
  - Need to figure out a process to credit the students or invest the money in mental health services. Or just give the money back.

- Lucia:
  - I think we should give it back, but the process will be impossible for us to administer.
  - We’ll need to link up with UBC accounting or enrollment.

- Keith:
  - The tricky part is a lot of members of the plan have graduated and we don’t have contact information.

- Cole:
  - Any chance to give money back to students is awesome.

Events budget

- Keith:
  - Obviously it was put together before COVID.
  - We’ve eliminated Welcome Back Barbecue: it’s not going to happen.
  - Looking at how to change delivery of First Week; it’s not yet reflected in the budget.

- Cole:
  - Need to announce we’re not doing Welcome Back and say we’ll be doing different activities.

- Lucia:
  - Has UBC said what they’re doing for first week?

- Keith:
  - We’re going to collaborate with UBC on orientations.
  - Reducing the number of First Week kits because one of the key parts of the kit was the ticket to Welcome Back Barbecue.

- Sylvester:
  - My team is working with Events on Clubs Days.
  - Still not sure how it will pan out.
  - Maybe outside.

- Cole:
  - UBC has some pretty bold plans for Orientations.
  - Centralization will be key.
  - Good chance our staff will be entwined with theirs.
  - Our goal is to coordinate with the University as much as possible.
Policy SC-17
- Cole:
  - Submitted alongside the SASC submission to the Board of Governors.
  - Good ideas in both.

AGM
- Cole:
  - Looking at how to organize.
  - Probably won’t be able to hold a meeting where 500 people gather in person.
  - Looped in with what the province says.
  - They’re allowing us to hold the meeting virtually.
  - It will be easier to make quorum if virtual.
  - If it’s a Zoom call, we’ll have to validate that attendees are members.
  - Could do registration: we’ll figure something out.

SASC Expansion
- Cole:
  - Finalized budget soon to Fincom and then Council next week.
  - Looking forward to getting that project going.

Strategic Plan
- Cole:
  - Added item to Council budget.
  - Large item, but think the Society will benefit from this.
  - What’s the best way to steer this? Ad hoc committee? Or a joint effort of Steering Committee/Executive/Advisory Board?
  - I’m leaning to the latter. It will be easier.
- Sylvester:
  - I’m in support of an ad hoc committee.
  - It allows us to be selective about who’s involved.
- Keith:
  - That model worked very well for Governance Review.
- Cole:
  - Want to get moving quick.
  - We need an RFP.
  - Light Council meeting next week, so could do ToR then.
  - Maybe an email vote on Executive and then to Council.

Adjournment
- The meeting was adjourned at 1 pm.