AMS Finance Committee

Attendance
Committee members:
Lucia Liang (AMS VP Finance)
Cole Evans (AMS President)
Brandon Connor
Katherine Feng
Mathew Ho
James Chen
Jimmy Kim
Keith Hester (Managing Director, non-voting)
Mary Gan (Non-Voting, AVP Finance)

Present: Lucia Liang, Keith Hester, Mary Gan, Brandon Connor, Katherine Feng, Mathew Ho, James Chen, Jimmy Kim

Guests:

Regrets: Cole Evans

Recording Secretary: [Vice-Chair]

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 4:03 PM.
Adoption of Agenda (3 min)

MOVED by Mathew, SECONDED by Brandon

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted”

1. Appointments

- Katherine Feng as AMS Finance Committee Vice-Chair
- James Chen as AMS Funds & Grants Committee member
- Brandon Connor as AMS SPF Committee member

MOVED by Mathew, SECONDED by Jimmy

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the members mentioned above are approved in their positions”

2. Get Thrifty Invoice Approval

MOVED by Katherine, SECONDED by Mathew

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT that the Get Thrifty Painting Invoice is approved”

3. AMS Comment Discussion

- James: Under executive committee, could you explain the fund under President’s Assistants -> Projects and Events?
  - Lucia: We can set 30 minutes later to discuss Cole’s budget
- James: For student services, there’s a massive increase in furniture and equipment- $1,100 each/7 accounts

Prepared by: Lucia Liang

VP Finance
AMS Finance Committee

Agenda of May 22nd, 2020

- Lucia: Nimbus helps students meet up and determine meeting times for tutoring appointments

- Keith: In last year’s budget change, council came up with $30,000 in additional funding for advertising
  - Mathew: Should we be giving more money for advertising and promotions, given less in-person communication?

- James: Are we projecting the same amount of revenue from selling First Week kits? Budget has not changed
  - Lucia: The AMS Events team will be re-determining their budget as the COVID-19 situation has affected it
  - Lucia: The Welcome Back BBQ is a big selling point of First Week kits, but there will likely be a reduction in sales as the Welcome Back BBQ is not happening

- James: Should we be scaling back on SafeWalk due to the fact that there will be less on-campus interaction/traffic?
  - Keith: Considering parking the SafeWalk car, and only keeping a SafeWalk walking team
  - Cole: It’s hard to budget accurately when we don’t know when to restart services again

- Brandon: Considering the current situation and fall-term online, what are students going to be charged in terms of AMS fees?
  - Lucia: These fees are all tied to student groups and most are subsidiaries under the AMS - each has a specific purpose under the AMS
  - Lucia: Resource groups fees are opt-out-able already, a lot of collected fees are necessary as these services remain operating throughout COVID
  - Lucia: $18 million that we collect in total non-discretionary allocations, which we are not necessarily able to touch

- Mathew: Are we allowed to estimate what fees with be charged this year, such as UPass? Will it be collected during these times?
  - Lucia: Our contract with UPass is paused right now since likely most students won’t be using UPass during Term 1. Likely will not charge UPass fees in term 1

Prepared by: Lucia Liang
VP Finance
AMS Finance Committee

Agenda of May 22nd, 2020

- Lucia: We are working with Translink to establish a concession fee for university students
  - Cole: UPass is not opt-outable
- Mathew: Are there any fees that people have the option of opting out of?
  - Lucia: Bike Kitchen fee, Resource Group fee, Campus and Culture fee, we are working on pushing out more subsidies for larger fees to financially support students
- Katherine:
  - We normally consolidate all employee salaries into one line item for each portfolio
  - It doesn’t make sense to have so many account codes for employees specifically if we end up running out of them
- Jimmy: How will the Executive Team Building work during COVID-19 since the budget went back to $5,000? It was dropped in 2019/2020 to $1,000.
  - Cole: Even though there is COVID-19 there is a lot of team-building exercises to be done between the six of us. It helps us stay cohesive- it’s not simply a social budget- in some way it relates to work
  - Cole: Last year’s drop affected our cohesiveness as an executive team
- Jimmy: Why is there a $700 increase in Research & Community Projects?
  - Cole: Georgia is looking to run surveys during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the money will be used towards supporting that
- Why is there an $1,200 increase in Advertising & promotion for Sustainability under the Admin portfolio? What is ASAP?
  - Lucia: We can ask Sly to come in
  - Cole: This allows the sustainability team to do more things in terms of projects- previously there was no money for the team to do such
  - Lucia: Would like for Sly to justify $1,300 for advertising and promotion of Art Gallery as well, as class will be online for fall term

Prepared by: Lucia Liang
VP Finance
• Mathew: In terms of student services, why is the staff and volunteer appreciation budget increases
  o Lucia: We should be asking student services what they will be doing for their staff and volunteer appreciation budget - we can ask Ian or Abdul to expand on it when they come in

• Lucia: From what I see, we want Student Services, Sylvester, and the AMS Events team to come in. I will compile a question bank and we can take turn asking them

• James: What is the Clubs and Societies System budget, and why is it so high?
  o Lucia: This is the budget for our platform (we used Clubhouse last year) that we use for clubs, constituencies, and offer a place for forms

• James: How is the AGM going to work if it is likely online? How is the budget affected?
  o Cole: Likelihood of AGM being online is high, but we will need the budget to hold it online - however, we will likely not use as much money as before

Next Meeting
The next scheduled meeting is June 1st, 2020, 11 am to 12 pm.

Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.