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:
  o That’s the COVID-19 survey: how do students feel about current adaptations and costs?
  o Continuing to evaluate concerning tuition.
  o Looking at definitions: what is online learning?
  o Making sure students getting their money’s worth.
  o To have quality online learning.
• Ian:
  o Services up and running.
  o Interviews for coordinators of eHub and Safewalk:
    ▪ Getting those services running.
    ▪ Safewalk by mid-June.
    ▪ Working with the Arts Co-op for Safewalk.
  o Food Bank still going.
    ▪ Thanks to Cole and the graduating class for money.
    ▪ Pretty high numbers.
  o Tutoring:
    ▪ Looking at who we want to work with.
    ▪ Reaching out to SASC for training.
  o Housing:
    ▪ Drafting a job description.
    ▪ Excited to get someone to research a housing service this summer.
• Abdul:
  o Transitions for SASC.
  o SASC is doing additional work in person.
  o Working on an SC-17 submission and a joint submission with Georgia.
• Cole:
  o Working with Lucia on the budget and with Georgia on submissions to the Board of Governors.
  o High level goal setting.
  o Executive expenditures.
  o Committee appointments.
  o Equity Plan RFP.
  o One of my assistants is working on improving communications and marketing.
• Keith:
  o Events have launched hiring for a social media coordinator.
  o Redoing Events budget, based on restrictions going forward.
  o Looking at what we can do instead of First Week.
  o Reopened the Gallery and Honour Roll. Blue Chip was already open.
  o Getting 100 customers a day at the Gallery, 20 at Honour Roll, and 70-80 at Blue Chip.
  o 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.
  - Looping 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.