

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Guests: Emma Livingstone (Ubysey), Henry Anderson (Ubysey), Dan Cooper (Associate Director, UBC Sport Facilities), Ahsan Sahibzada (Chief Electoral Officer), Nick Pang (AMS staff), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (Admin Assistant)

A) Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Speaker:

- It is important to acknowledge that this meeting is taking place on the stolen and unceded territories of the hə́nqəmíneh̓-speaking Musqueam people.
- We should not treat this acknowledgement as a formality.
- All of UBC is on these lands.
- We should reflect on how to mitigate the ongoing act of violence we are committing by our uninvited presence on this land.
- It's a good moment to note the passing of the referendum to create an Indigenous seat on Council.

C) Adoption of the agenda:

1. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED KATHERINE WESTERLUND:

"That the agenda be adopted as presented."

2. MOVED CHRIS HAKIM, SECONDED ALIREZA KAMYABI:

"That the agenda be amended as follows:

- Move the Recreation motion to Presentations and include a presentation on it.
- Add a Code change motion under Other Business regarding COVID-19.
- Remove the Health & Dental Plan discussion.

Katherine Westerlund:

- Also add a motion to add a Bylaw referendum question to the Special Election.

Arash Shadkam:

- I would like to vote on the removal of the Health & Dental Plan discussion separately.

3. MOVED CHRIS HAKIM, SECONDED ALIREZA KAMYABI:

"That the agenda be amended as follows:

- Move the Recreation motion to Presentations and include a presentation on it.
- Add a Code change motion under Other Business regarding COVID-19.
- Add a Bylaw referendum question to the Special Election.”

... No objections

4. MOVED CHRIS HAKIM, SECONDED ALEX GONZALEZ:

“That the agenda be amended as follows:

- Remove Health & Dental Plan discussion.”

Chris Hakim:

- We can have a more substantive discussion at the next Council meeting.
- Been working some things out with the GSS.

Arash Shadkam:

- The GSS Council has been briefed.
- I would like to have a discussion tonight on this.
- We could get updates at the next meeting.

Max Holmes:

- Point of order: All it requires is a single member asking for a discussion for us to have one.

Chris Hakim:

- We’re still considering a few items to do with the RFP process.
- I would encourage Council to consider that we’re bringing more details to the next Council meeting.
- If we have a discussion on it now, we could brief Council, but we could bring our health plan advisors, TRG, to the next meeting.

Jackson Schumacher:

- If this motion passes, we will just ask for a discussion anyway.

Lucia Liang:

- On behalf of the Health & Dental Plan Committee, I would like to report that we voted and reached unanimous agreement, but the AMS Executive raised new issues.

5. MOVED CHRIS HAKIM, SECONDED ALEX GONZALEZ:

“That the agenda be amended as follows:

- Remove Health & Dental Plan discussion.”

... Defeated

For (12): Keira Britto, Julia Burnham, Matthew Epstein, Elsabe Fourie, Alex Gonzalez, Chris Hakim, Cristina Initchi, Daniel Martin, Ishgun Matta (proxy for Sean Ryan), Wendy Song, Kia Teimouri, Kevin Zhang

Against (12): Nicholas Harterre, Haruka Higo, Alireza Kamyabi, Carmen Kim, Lucia Liang, Danny Liu, Michelle Marcus, Clara Sismondo (proxy for Riley Ty), Nevena Rebic, Jackson Schumacher, Arash Shadkam, Kaili Sun

Abstained: Michael Salloum (proxy for Ravi Parhar)

Max Holmes:

- I would like to add a discussion on coronavirus planning.

6. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED KATHERINE WESTERLUND

“That the agenda be adopted as amended.”

... Carried

For (27): Keira Britto, Julia Burnham, Matthew Epstein, Cole Evans, Elsabe Fourie, Alex Gonzalez, Chris Hakim, Nicholas Harterre, Haruka Higo, Cristina Ilnitchi, Alireza Kamyabi, Anne Khong, Carmen Kim, Lucia Liang, Danny Liu, Michelle Marcus, Daniel Martin, Michael Salloum (proxy for Ravi Parhar), Clara Sismondo (proxy for Riley Ty), Nevena Rebic, Ishgun Matta (proxy for Sean Ryan), Jackson Schumacher, Wendy Song, Kaili Sun, Chris Sundby, Kia Teimouri, Kevin Zhang

D) Membership: Introductions, new members, declaration of vacancies:

Welcome to our new Members: Elsabe Fourie (Planning), Daniel Martin (VST)

Vacancies on Council: Audiology, Law, Library & Archival, Population & Public Health

Goodbyes: Jonathan Kew (Planning), Justin Thurn (VST)

E) Speaker’s Business (5 minutes):

The Speaker:

- If you have trouble accessing the meeting, let me know.
- Or if you have ideas for making our meetings more efficient.

F) Statements from Students at Large (3 minutes each):

G) Consent Agenda Items

7. MOVED JACKSON SCHUMACHER, SECONDED ALEX GONZALEZ:

“That the following consent items be accepted as presented:

Advocacy Committee minutes dated January 27, 2020
Advocacy Committee minutes dated February 3, 2020
AMS Council minutes dated January 8, 2020

[SCD331-20]
[SCD332-20]
[SCD333-30]

AMS Council minutes dated January 22, 2020
Exec Committee minutes dated January 31, 2020

[SCD334-20]
[SCD335-20]

... Carried

For (20): Keira Britto, Julia Burnham, Matthew Epstein, Cole Evans, Elsabe Fourie, Alex Gonzalez, Nicholas Harterre, Haruka Higo, Alireza Kamyabi, Anne Khong, Carmen Kim, Danny Liu, Daniel Martin, Clara Sismondo (proxy for Riley Ty), Jackson Schumacher, Wendy Song, Chris Sundby, Kia Teimouri, Katherine Westerlund, Kevin Zhang

H) Presentations to Council and Accompanying Motions (10 minutes for presentation, 5 minute ? period):

Recreation Building – Dan Cooper (Associate Director, UBC Sport Facilities)

[SCD336-20]

Chris Hakim:

- This is about the huge project for students approved in a 2017 referendum.

Dan Cooper:

- UBC embarked on a lengthy Game Plan Process in 2015.
- It was an engagement strategy about directing capital investment for the next 20 years.
- It produced a final document in 2017.
- There were workshops etc. in which the idea was to discover needs.
- The focus was on:
 - Recreation and fitness centres
 - Aging facilities, e.g., War Memorial Gym and Thunderbird Stadium
 - The lack of sports facilities, courts, etc.
- In 2017 AMS members voted to help pay for new fitness space on campus.
- When the ARC Fitness Centre opened in the Life Building, that doubled the fitness space on campus (to 16,000 square feet), but left us still well below the national average.
- The new recreational building will bring us to 45,000 square feet, a dramatic increase putting us in line with schools elsewhere.
- Overall the new facility will have 100,000 square feet, including three gym courts, an indoor track, areas for strength and conditioning, cardio, and stretching, and multi-purpose studios.
- It will be north of the Life Building and attached to it, west of the Student Rec Centre.
- The latest budget is \$66 million.
- The AMS is contributing \$22.5 million from student fees over a number of years, resulting in a net present contribution of \$13.4 million.
- There will be a Project Steering Committee with 4 UBC reps and 3 from the AMS.
- It will be managed by UBC Properties Trust.
- There will be a second committee, a Management Committee, to direct operations and provide advice to the Managing Director of Athletics and Recreation.

- It will also do strategic and financial planning and select the building manager.
- Naming of the building will be explored as a potential fundraising tool.

Chris Hakim:

- An amazing amount of work went into the planning process for this since the referendum.
- Data suggests that recreation is one of the top extra-curricular interests in postsecondary institutions.

Questions

Alireza Kamyabi:

- Out of the student contribution of \$22.5 million, if \$13.4 million is going to construction and financing, where is the rest going?
- Re the Management Committee: Will there be AMS members?

Dan Cooper:

- Yes, the Management Committee will have the same composition as the Steering Committee: 4 UBC and 3 AMS members.
- The gap in funding is because of construction costs incurred: it's \$13.4 million because \$8 million is consumed in interest.

Max Holmes:

- I'm concerned about membership costs changing.
- Want to keep them affordable.
- Will it take a two-thirds vote of the committee to increase them?
- I note that the AMS already collects a \$21 fee that goes to Athletics & Recreation.
- Because of this, will we look at lowering the membership costs for facilities?

Dan Cooper:

- The Management Committee will be responsible for membership costs.
- Their voice will be added to that of the Managing Director.

Chris Hakim:

- Conversations are happening about the \$21.
- Membership prices have certainly been discussed.
- Looking at them decreasing over time.

Max Holmes:

- What about the issue of two-thirds votes?

Dan Cooper:

- I can't speak to that.

Chris Hakim:

- It was part of the \$21 fee discussion.

8. MOVED CHRIS HAKIM, SECONDED COLE EVANS: [SCD337-20], [SCD338-20]

From the Executive Committee

“That the AMS/UBC Recreation Facility Finance agreement and the AMS/UBC Recreation Facility Management agreement be accepted as presented.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Chris Hakim:

- This is what students asked for a few years back.
- It will be an amazing facility.
- We are excited to see it go through.

Michelle Marcus:

- Is there a link to these agreements?

Chris Hakim:

- We gave Councillors an opportunity to view the documents beforehand.

Max Holmes

- If I were a voting Councillor, I'd be asking questions about the \$21, the MoU process, and what recognition the AMS will get for its contribution.
- Students still have to pay fees: is this making it more affordable?
- However, I am in a conflict because I am on the UBC Board of Governors.

Alireza Kamyabi:

- With all the fees for athletics and recreation, we still have to pay a fee to use the gym or become a member.
- A little math on this would be helpful.
- Some guarantees on where the money is going would be helpful.

Chris Hakim:

- Not all the athletic fees are AMS fees.
- The \$175 fee is not ours.
- The \$21 fee is.

Katherine Westerlund:

- Why were the contracts not sent with the Council docket?

Chris Hakim:

- Financial and management information and contracts in general we generally do not circulate.

Arash Shadkam:

- If they were not in the docket, how can we discuss them?

- Perhaps we should go in camera.

9. MOVED CHRIS HAKIM, SECONDED CHRIS SUNDBY, THIRDED KIA TEIMOURI:

“That Council go in camera”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Council went in camera at 6:47 pm.

Council left the in camera session at 7:08 pm.

10. MOVED CHRIS HAKIM, SECONDED COLE EVANS: [SCD337-20], [SCD338-20]

From the Executive Committee

“That the AMS/UBC Recreation Facility Finance agreement and the AMS/UBC Recreation Facility Management agreement be accepted as presented.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (23): Keira Britto, Julia Burnham, Cole Evans, Elsabe Fourie, Alex Gonzalez, Chris Hakim, Nicholas Harterre, Haruka Higo, Cristina Initchi, Alireza Kamyabi, Anne Khong, Lucia Liang, Daniel Martin, Michael Salloum (proxy for Ravi Parhar), Nevena Rebic, Ishgun Matta (proxy for Sean Ryan), Jackson Schumacher, Arash Shadkam, Sabreena Shukul, Kaili Sun, Chris Sundby, Kia Teimouri, Katherine Westerlund

April 3rd Climate Strike – Cristina Initchi and UBC C350 (Clara Sismondo and Michelle Marcus) [SCD339-20]

Clara Sismondo:

- Caveat: The strike may be cancelled due to Coronavirus.
- The first climate strike on September 27 saw a mass student turnout.
- It was highly successful in pressuring the University to take action on the climate crisis.
- The AMS and others signed on to an open letter and got UBC to declare a climate emergency.

Michelle Marcus:

- September 27 focused on pressuring the University.
- It got the University to sign on to divestment from fossil fuels.
- For April 3 the focus is on the provincial government.
- There will be a strike on campus and another one downtown.
- Looking to get communities, faculties, and staff to come out.
- We have a pledge we are asking you to sign demanding climate action now: a transition to a fossil-fuel-free economy while taking account of the effects this might have on fossil fuel workers.

- We're asking the UBC community to demand more from the government: a Green New Deal, climate justice.
- We're engaging Indigenous and social justice groups.

Clara Sismondo:

- We're looking to mobilize students.

Cristina Ilnitich:

- The AMS has been asked to support the strike in many ways:
 - By endorsing, promoting, giving permission to employees to miss work, lobbying governments.
- We're discussing this at the Advocacy Committee and coordinating with the AMS Communications Department.
- Also working with the AMS HR Manager.
- We're reviewing the climate strike demands and how they align with what government is doing now.
- Looking for who we can partner with.
- It's important for the AMS to take a stand on this.
- We have a policy on this, saying we will advocate for climate justice.
- This matters to lots of students.
- Items for consideration
 - How do we have complicated conversations about pipelines?
 - How do we advocate?
 - What partners and channels should we seek out?
 - How are we transitioning this advocacy?
 - Transition to new AMS Executive.

Questions

Alex Gonzalez:

- It's important to go beyond pro and con on pipeline issues.
- Need to include people who understand the technical side of pipelines.
- Hard to tell sometimes which is the most sustainable option.
- It's certainly important to invite people with expertise.

Cristina Ilnitich:

- Have had this conversation.
- Please reach out to anyone who might want to attend our Advocacy meeting.
- We want a results-oriented discussion.
- The Advocacy Committee hasn't reached consensus, but the higher level is supporting climate justice.
- Need to get a better understanding of how to move forward.

Michelle Marcus:

- Opposing pipelines is central to the April 3 strike.
- But we talk of having a just transition and not leaving anyone behind to be fair to the workers.

Chris Sundby:

- Have we been talking to others?
- And for employees missing work, will that be paid or unpaid leave?

Clara Sismondo:

- We have been talking to other schools: SFU, Langara, etc.
- This is part of a national conversation.

Cristina Initchi:

- We've talked to schools in BC and federally.
- The ABCS (Alliance of BC Students) is going to be advocating for climate justice.
- Looking at partnerships federally.
- As to staff taking time off, currently we're asking for a heads-up to let employees and employers know about the strike and if someone wants to take time off, schedule that.

Michelle Marcus:

- That's what we did in September.

11. MOVED CHRIS HAKIM, SECONDED CARMEN KIM:

"That the question period be extended by two minutes."

... No objections

Chris Hakim:

- We have made statements about climate before and in support of the Wet'suwet'en.
- We need to restart discussions in the Advocacy Committee.

Cristina Initchi:

- The Advocacy Committee will be having a conversation Monday.

Max Holmes:

- Understanding the complexities, how long do you expect these conversations to go on?
- Will there be a decision at the next meeting?
- Who have you invited to the meeting?

Cristina Initchi:

- We've discussed some high level details.
- Still having discussions with the chair before sending out the agenda on Friday.
- The conversation will mostly be about the language we use.
- To be honest, we've had this conversation several times at Advocacy: it may have to come to Council.

Max Holmes:

- Who has been invited?
- Timeline on the conversations?
- Decision on Monday?
- Or another meeting?
- Or Council?

Cristina Initchi:

- We're inviting the Engineering Undergraduate Society.
- Also UBC C350 and the Social Justice Centre.

2020 AMS Elections and Referendum results – Ahsan Sahibzada (Chief Electoral Officer) [SCD340-20]

- Thanks to all the candidates, and to the Elections Committee, and the permanent staff (Joanne, Sheldon, Leslie Tulett) and UBC staff in the University's Academic Governance Office.
- Turnout was low: 11.6 % or 6,766 votes, about half of what we had last year.
- The Indigenous seat passed, so the Bylaws will be amended to add the seat on Council.
- The Bylaw amendment package failed for lack of quorum.
- The elected candidates for the Ubysey Publications Society Board of Directors were:
 - Olga Unigovska
 - Nayah Mang
 - Ashley Bate
 - Bruno Teixeira
 - Rees Pillizzi.
- The Students for Students slate won the Student Legal Fund Society election. The individual candidates elected were:
 - Ilaria Cobb
 - Molly Wilson
 - Nicholas Harterre
 - Chris Hakim
 - Sara Sebba
 - Ryan Wong
- The five students elected to the UBC Vancouver Senate are:
 - Cole Evans
 - Eshana Bhangu
 - Julia Burnham
 - Max Holmes
 - Chris Hakim
- The two students elected to the University of Board of Governors are:
 - Jeanie Malone
 - Max Holmes

- The newly elected Executive is:
 - VP Finance: Lucia Liang, defeating No.
 - VP External: Kalith Nanayakkara, with two majorities (Andy Wu got one, and Remzi Xhemalce-Fuentes got none)
 - VP Administration: Sylvester Mensah Jr. defeated Aidan Wilson
 - President: Cole Evans, winning two majorities (Harresh Thayakaanthan won one, Ian Stone none)
- Smoother election cycle than I heard of from my predecessor.
- Only two complaints, one very minor resulting in a warning.
- There were a few complaints about lawn signs being removed, but there was no proof.
- There was good turnout at our events.
- Worked with the Indigenous Committee on a forum: I would recommend consulting with the Indigenous Committee before planning.
- Need more visibility: posters were banned this year; there was not enough in-your-face.
- Classroom announcements may not be sufficient.
- Electors' names: issue of legal versus preferred names.
 - Legal names showed up when we sent out email blasts, causing distress to some.
 - I did include a disclaimer saying that the system was set up to use legal names, but we will work in the future to get UBC to use the preferred name rather than the legal one.
- Need to reach out to student groups that might not be as aware of the elections and the positions. Need to make them aware.

Questions

Michael Salloum:

- Do you have a population breakdown of who voted so we can know which groups to target?

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- We don't really have that data.
- We do have some individual data, but it would take a lot of time to go through it.

Danny Liu:

- Re the voter turnout issue, maybe we could have a Designated Poster Wall.

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- Posters are banned.
- I wouldn't really recommend to Council to remove the ban: not yet after only one election cycle. Wait one more year and then see.

Max Holmes:

- I believe this is the lowest turnout since we started using Simply Voting in 2013.
- The AMS should not accept this turnout.

- There were problems on the candidate side too:
 - One uncontested race.
 - One race (VP Academic & University Affairs) in which no one ran at all.
 - Three men running for President.
- The AMS is not doing enough to advertise these positions.
- What is the Elections Committee doing to address this? Council?

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- The Elections Committee is reaching out to more student groups.
- During voting an email goes out to all students, though some ends up in Spam, and some students are not interested.
- The Nomination Period is more of a concern: it's important that people run.

Max Holmes:

- Does the Elections Committee see this as an issue to discuss outside the Elections Committee?
- Do you have enough money and resources?

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- We don't have emails of clubs.
- We could use the AMS's help.

Arash Shadkam:

- Re voter turnout: I bet a few Constituencies turn out in huge numbers while others don't bother.
- The GSS adds a question: where are you from (your faculty)?
- If we ask that, we can know what turnout is by faculty and then reach out.

Chris Hakim:

- Folks are bringing up a lot of good points.
- Do you see an opportunity for the AMS to take a more data analytical approach?

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- Not sure how we'd collect data.
- We could do surveys, but who would respond?
- I think the lack of posters was the biggest reason for the lower turnout.
- People couldn't tell that elections were happening.

12. MOVED JULIA BURNHAM, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

"That the question period be extended by 15 minutes."

... No objections

Nevena Rebic:

- Re having a more diverse selection of candidates: what can we put forward?
- How could we encourage more diverse candidates to run?

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- The simplest thing is for Councillors to go back to their Constituencies.
- Probably by December or early January.
- This year there were a lot of nominations from new students, but a lot of these were rejected because they didn't have enough signatures.
- If students can start collecting well in advance, that might help.

Julia Burnham:

- Thanks for the smooth elections and answering emails promptly.
- Nomination time is a crucial time.
- Perhaps there could be collaboration on events in the Gallery between the Elections Committee and the Executive Committee.
- Information sessions at which students get to learn about the AMS and the positions.
- Lots of individual work could be done by Executives, though it would be tough on top of their regular jobs.
- This is not just for elections.

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- That's a good option, to meet the current Execs.
- As to the diversity issue, I'm not sure how we get a diverse group.

Andrew Huang:

- If we get data, it would help us market better.
- I saw zero engagement or ads from the Elections Committee.
- At the booths, people were looking down at their phones and not engaging.
- How do you plan to market the elections better?
- Could you make the process more engaging?

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- Re poll clerks being on their phones, I was not aware of that. I will include this in transition reports.

Katherine Westerlund:

- We have an MoU with UBC for data that states we can't use it for data analytics.
- Was there anything substantially different between this and previous election periods besides postering?
- We need to think of the impacts of Executive roles on who is running: it takes privilege to put your education on hold to run, something we have to acknowledge.

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- What was different, besides posters, was that there were fewer complaints and more emails (mostly questions from candidates).

Chris Hakim:

- Making the positions more appealing to students.
- Building awareness of the positions.
- Pay level.
- There's an opportunity there.

Alireza Kamyabi:

- To know what the positions are is important.
- Sitting Vice-Presidents know more, which is not fair.
- The Ubsysey did a great job in their coverage.

Cristina Ilnitich:

- One critical piece is that it was a small pool of not very diverse candidates.
- There's something systemic about not reaching out.
- It's not enough to say we need more; we need to do things.
- Other places run campaigns like #askher to get others to run.
- Mentorship is important.
- Maybe the Elections Committee and the Executive could meet to discuss.
- Research shows women need to be asked more than once; we need to be serious about that.

Jackson Schumacher:

- An idea for increasing voter turnout: reach out to grad students more.
- There are 10,000 of us.

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- I completely agree.

Carmen Kim:

- Re diversity:
- It's not just about telling people.
- We need to market with a focus on diversity.
- We haven't focused enough on diversity.
- We need to make sure diversity is embedded in our advertising.

13. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED CARMEN KIM:

"That the discussion be extended by 15 more minutes."

... No objections

Michelle Marcus:

- I'm happy we're having this discussion, this conversation about diversity.
- There's a disproportionate representation from Greek Life.
- Besides looking at identity groups, we need to look at what people are involved in.
- Fraternities have a network; there's a power imbalance.
- Another idea: Hold an event on How and Why to run in an AMS election.

- There are so many barriers.
- What do you think the Elections Committee needs to take on this work?

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- We would definitely need help from the Executives.
- They need to come to these events.
- As for reaching out, the Elections Committee can do that, but I don't see how we as an impartial body can force or even convince people to run or be responsible for there being more diverse candidates.
- Our job is to ensure a fair election.

Kaili Sun:

- The nomination period is short.
- Possibly you could add public information events in first term.
- That would be a longer time to get nominations in and have people learn.

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- The nominations opened on January 10 and closed February 14.
- I think that's too long, not too short.
- We could hold events earlier in the year, in October or November, but I don't agree with a longer nomination period.

Kaili Sun:

- I meant it starts too soon after the winter break to raise awareness.
- It would be good to let people know that the nominations are opening that early.

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- It was included in the AMS newsletter.
- We could advertise them more.

Alex Gonzalez:

- Council is probably not the best place for this conversation.
- Maybe the Student Life Committee could be tasked with this and told to report back.

14. MOVED ALEX GONZALEZ, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

"That the Student Life Committee, in consultation with the HR Committee, look to the improvement of diversity in the AMS Executive and report back to Council with recommendations regarding how to implement this by September 1, 2020."

Katherine Westerlund:

- I'm worried about the by-election turnout.
- Is anyone going to vote in the by-election?

Michelle Marcus:

- The HR Chair isn't here.
- This may mean changes in job descriptions.

Max Holmes:

- The Elections Committee has ballooned to six people.
- I really don't think we need more staff.

Cole Evans:

- I chair Student Life.
- Send me any concerns or ideas.

15. MOVED ALEX GONZALEZ, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

"That the Student Life Committee, in consultation with the HR Committee, look to the improvement of diversity in the AMS Executive and report back to Council with recommendations regarding how to implement this by September 1, 2020."

... Carried

For (26): Keira Britto, Priscilla Chan, Matthew Epstein, Cole Evans, Elsabe Fourie, Alex Gonzalez, Chris Hakim, Haruka Higo, Cristina Initchi, Anne Khong, Carmen Kim, Lucia Liang, Danny Liu, Michelle Marcus, Daniel Martin, Michael Salloum (proxy for Ravi Parhar), Clara Sismondo (proxy for Riley Ty), Nevena Rebic, Jackson Schumacher, Sabreena Shukul, Wendy Song, Kaili Sun, Chris Sundby, Kia Teimouri, Katherine Westerlund, Anican Yu

Cole Evans:

- In defence of the Chief Electoral Officer, there's no capacity for them to organize this in first term.
- It shouldn't be the Elections Committee's responsibility.
- This falls on the Executive and departments in the AMS.
- It's more an organizational issue to address.

Michael Salloum:

- Residences hold a big chunk of people and are easy to get to.
- Reach out to the Residence Advisors.
- Especially good to get the first-years: get 'em young, get 'em forever.

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- Rez Life has rules, and they've said no to that.
- No posters or lawn signs.
- Can't really campaign inside residences or have Rez staff help.

Max Holmes:

- We had posters for 100 years – some of those years had low turnout.
- I don't think we can blame posters.

- We had the lowest number of club endorsements this year.
- Give out the clubs list to all candidates.
- We had a bad Yes campaign in the referendum this year.
- Need to look at resources for the Yes campaign.
- We need to go beyond seeking more people to run.
- We don't do enough to bring people into entry-level staff positions: that's how people learn about the AMS, and then they run.
- We need to encourage more ways of campaigning.
- There's too much bureaucracy, too many barriers.
- The Student Life Committee should look into resources.
- We used to do a significant amount of advertising online, Facebook ads.

I) Consultation Period

J) Appointments

K) President's Remarks (5 minutes):

Chris Hakim:

- The new Executives are being transitioned.
- Met with Indigenous Committee to discuss procedures to fill the Indigenous seat on Council; also to talk about their budget and priorities.
- Wage analysis: looking at sending something to Council.
- Interviewing for Student Services Manager next week.
- Meeting with UBC Athletics & Recreation about the \$21 MoU.
- Meeting with the UBC art community and Cole to discuss the future of the art collection.
- All Presidents Dinner.
- Councillor chair orientations.
- Law Students Legal Advice Program.
- Ad Hoc Committee on Council Governance.
- Equity and Inclusion position in the President's office.
- Block Party.
- Grad Class openings went out today.
- Finalizing policy reviews.

Arash Shadkam:

- Could you let us know why the Health & Dental Plan was put on the agenda, then pulled?

Chris Hakim:

- This would be better addressed in the discussion.

L) Executive Remarks (3 minutes each):

Cristina Initchi:

- First transitioning meeting with the new VP External.
- Met with the Indigenous Committee about the federal lobby trip.
- Prepping my last provincial lobby trip.
- Finalizing the Equity Plan RFP.
- Following up on the Ottawa lobby trip.
- Working on pre-budget consultations submission to the federal government.
- Hosting an event, Know Your Rights as a Protester.
- Meeting with the UNA re bylaw changes.
- Met with the BC ombudsperson team about student loans.
- Attended a Board of Trade event on gender pay gaps in co-ops.

Questions

Jackson Schumacher:

- There is also a gender pay gap in grad student stipends.

Cristina Initchi:

- During the provincial budget consultation, we fought for grad student grants.

VP Admin – Cole Evans

- Busy couple of weeks.
- Replacement for Clubhouse – phone call today.
- Will bring to committee and Council.
- Executive orientations for clubs being planned.
- Club elections happening.
- Working on OpsCom Policy Manual.
 - Bookings.
 - Space use provisions for the building.
- Resource Group Code change.
- Sustainable space; sitting down with the Climate Hub.
- Get Thrifty grand opening in the basement of the Life Building: congratulations to them.
- Updating wayfinding signage.
- MoU with IFC.
- Next Council you can expect a summary of the Nest Experience Survey.
- Sustainability Action Plan.
- Hatch team working on a strategic plan for the art gallery.

Questions

Max Holmes:

- How is the allocation and design planning going for the Senate/BoG office for May 1?

Cole Evans:

- Allocation virtually done.
- Could do a lot for design if there was money.
- I'll consult Student Senate Caucus and the BoG reps.

Student Services Manager – Ian Stone

- Great conversation about diversity in the AMS Executive.
- All positions in the Services are open.
- Can't just throw people into Executive positions, and running in elections is hard, as I discovered.
- Send me names, and let's put them on staff so they can get involved.
- eHub:
 - RBC Get Seeded Round 2 on Monday.
- Tutoring: Running review sessions.
- Vice:
 - Naloxone training.
 - Great turnout.
 - Great panelists.
 - Chill Cube at Block Party,
- Food Bank:
 - Coupon program for meals from Sprouts.
- Combining Speakeasy and Vice into AMS Peer Support service.
 - Will bring a report to Council about what this will look like.
 - If you have thoughts let me know.

VP Academic & University Affairs – Julia Burnham

- Involved in two search processes: for AVP Academic and Provost.
- Policy 131 – community consultation.
 - Will go to Board in June.
 - Brought Annette and Abdul to provide feedback.
- Meeting re IMED fee increase proposal:
 - Insurance for international students before they get MSP.
- Academic Freedom working group.
- Adjudication for Education Research Fund.
- Chat about Open Education Resources champions.
- Meetings about coronavirus contingency planning with Academic Deans.
- Walkout for Wet'suwet'en.
- Went to an International Women's day event with female UBC VP's.
- Outreach with people interested in my job.
 - Lots of people interested.

VP Finance – Lucia Liang

- Treasurer payment issues.
- Contacting companies re Showpass replacement.
- Looking at new accounting companies.
- Financial management system:

- Three demos.
- Met with investment managers today about the Q3 report.
- Didn't need to do transition.
- Want to simplify procedures.

Managing Director – Keith Hester

- Block Party tickets going slower than expected.
- Sponsors have dropped out.
- Block Party still on, but discussing cancellation.
- Abdul is finalizing the Services Review.
- Started on orientations for new Executive.
- Launching new payment method in the outlets: Ally Pay.
- Working on next year's budget.
- Investment portfolio doing well but not quite as well as last year: took a bit of a hit with the uncertainty in the market.

16. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED KAILI SUN:

From the Executive Committee and the Finance Committee

"That \$40,280.80 be spent from the SUB Repairs and Replacement Fund on two gas convection ovens for the commissary kitchen."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Note: The balance in the SUB Repairs and Replacement Fund is \$621,053.91

Keith Hester:

- Down in the commissary kitchen we have three ovens.
- They're all broken.
- Can't cook anything.
- Plan to replace two with much cheaper models at half the price.
- Use parts from the two we're replacing to repair the third, which will mostly cook bagels.
- Looked at three different models of gas convection ovens.
- Chose the cheapest, from Garland.
- This is the type we use in Blue Chip, and it's been issue free.

17. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED KAILI SUN:

From the Executive Committee and the Finance Committee

"That \$40,280.80 be spent from the SUB Repairs and Replacement Fund on two gas convection ovens for the commissary kitchen."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Note: The balance in the SUB Repairs and Replacement Fund is \$621,053.91

... Carried

For (21): Keira Britto, Priscilla Chan, Cole Evans, Elsabe Fourie, Alex Gonzalez, Haruka Higo, Andrew Huang, Cristina Initchi, Carmen Kim, Lucia Liang, Danny Liu, Daniel Martin, Michael Salloum (proxy for Ravi Parhar), Clara Sismondo (proxy for Riley Ty), Nevena Rebic, Jackson Schumacher, Sabreena Shukul, Kaili Sun, Chris Sundby, Katherine Westerlund, Anican Yu

M) Committee Reports (5 minutes each): (Advocacy, Finance, Governance, Human Resources, Operations, SHAPE, Steering, Student Life, Ad Hoc Committee on AMS Council Governance, Fermentation Lab Committee)

Advocacy – Cristina Initchi for Nicholas Harterre

- Conversations about long term goals.
- Policy reviews.
- Talked about AMS statement in support of Wet’suwet’en.
- Plans for federal advocacy collaborations.

Finance Committee – Lucia Liang

- Reviewed 20 fund applications. Approved 14.
 - Excited: announcements working.
- Services pony wall.

Governance – Katherine Westerlund

- Following up with committee chairs re internal policy reviews.
- They will come to Council.

HR Committee – Clara Sismondo for Riley Ty

- Met today to discuss the hiring process for Speaker, Ombuds, and CEO.
- Removing gender-specific language from all JD’s.
- Approved JD’s for Exec support staff.

Operations – Cole Evans

- Meeting in the Gallery.
- Approving new clubs.
- Operations Committee Policy Manual.

SHAPE – Chris Hakim

- We’re taking a look at the art.
- Meeting folks from the arts community: getting feedback.

Steering – Chris Hakim

- Scheduled a meeting for next week with a consultant.

Student Life – Cole Evans

- Did not meet during the elections.
- Just passed new ToR.
- Now it seems we’ll be looking at elections.

Ad Hoc Council Governance – Chris Hakim

- Meeting next week.

Fermentation Lab Committee – Cole Evans for Kia Teimouri

- MoU's.
- Apparently, UBC is exploring interim solutions not involving the UBC Farm.
- Doesn't affect us.

N) Report from Presidents Council (2 minutes):

Chris Hakim

- Haven't met.

O) Board of Governors, Senate, Ombudsperson & Historical Update Reports (2 minutes each):

BoG – Jeanie Malone

- We are back.
- Next meetings not till April.
- Board turnover: the three student reps (Max and I and the UBCO student rep) are returning, but there will be two new faculty members and two new provincial appointees.

Senate – Lillian Milroy

- Triennial Review final draft going out tomorrow.
- Next meeting March 18.

Historical Update – Sheldon Goldfarb

- A couple of years ago I did some research for Chris Hakim to find out where most AMS Presidents come from. The result:
 - Most were Executives.
 - 7 were the VP Admin, 7 were the VPAUA.
 - Now we've had two more Presidents come from the VP Admin portfolio, so VP Admin is Number 1 with 9 Presidents coming from it.
- This year's election turnout was the lowest in several years, but we've had lower.
- We've also had other years in which only one candidate ran for a position.
- But this is the first time I know of in which we've had a race in which nobody ran.
- With COVID-19 approaching, I thought I'd mention the last serious pandemic to his UBC: the 1919 Spanish Flu:
 - Three students died, and the University closed for five weeks.

P) Minutes of Council and Committees of Council:

Q) Executive Committee Motions:

R) Constituency and Affiliate Motions:

S) Committee Motions:

18. MOVED MICHAEL SALLOUM, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

From the Elections Committee

“Be it resolved that for the period of the Special Election Council suspend Code Section IX A, Article 1B(7)(a), the provision requiring that at least one member of the Elections Committee be on duty every day between 9 am and 5 pm.

Be it further resolved that for the period of the Special Election Council suspend Code Section IX A, Article 2(5)(a), the provision requiring the Elections Committee to organize two or more Candidate Forums.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- We need to hold a special election to fill the VPAUA position.
- Since the election is only for one position, we'd like to suspend the requirement that I be on duty 9-5 and also the requirement to hold two debates.
- Even in the general election only two people came to the office in two weeks.
- I'll still be on duty, answering emails.
- We don't need two forums for one position.

19. MOVED MICHAEL SALLOUM, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

From the Elections Committee

“Be it resolved that for the period of the Special Election Council suspend Code Section IX A, Article 1B(7)(a), the provision requiring that at least one member of the Elections Committee be on duty every day between 9 am and 5 pm.

Be it further resolved that for the period of the Special Election Council suspend Code Section IX A, Article 2(5)(a), the provision requiring the Elections Committee to organize two or more Candidate Forums.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (17): Keira Britto, Julia Burnham, Priscilla Chan, Cole Evans, Alex Gonzalez, Haruka Higo, Andrew Huang, Cristina Initchi, Carmen Kim, Danny Liu, Daniel Martin, Michael Salloum (proxy for Ravi Parhar), Clara Sismondo (proxy for Riley Ty), Kaili Sun, Chris Sundby, Katherine Westerlund, Anican Yu

20. MOVED JACKSON SCHUMACHER, SECONDED CHRIS SUNDBY:

From the HR Committee

“That the contracts for the Elections Chief Returning Officer (Isabelle Ava-Pointon), Communications Officer (Declan Rounce) and the Events Officer (Palak Barman) be extended from March 15, 2020 until March 31, 2020.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Note: The current employees in these positions have agreed to this change.

Chris Hakim:

- Extending elections contracts because of the Special Election.
- Spoke to the employees; they all consented.

Ahsan Sahibzada:

- The polling officers are not in there, not extending their contracts, because we're not planning to have that many polling stations.

21. MOVED JACKSON SCHUMACHER, SECONDED CHRIS SUNDBY:

From the HR Committee

"That the contracts for the Elections Chief Returning Officer (Isabelle Ava-Pointon), Communications Officer (Declan Rounce) and the Events Officer (Palak Barman) be extended from March 15, 2020 until March 31, 2020."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Note: The current employees in these positions have agreed to this change.

... Carried

For (18): Keira Britto, Julia Burnham, Priscilla Chan, Cole Evans, Elsabe Fourie, Alex Gonzalez, Haruka Higo, Cristina Ilnitchi, Carmen Kim, Daniel Martin, Michael Salloum (proxy for Ravi Parhar), Clara Sismondo (proxy for Riley Ty), Nevena Rebic, Jackson Schumacher, Kaili Sun, Chris Sundby, Katherine Westerlund, Anican Yu

R) Other Business and Notice of Motions:

22. MOVED JACKSON SCHUMACHER, SECONDED MICHAEL SALLOUM: [SCD341-20]

"That Council amend Code to allow Council meetings by teleconference or videoconference in extraordinary circumstances, in accordance with the report presented called 'Code Changes 2020: Remote Council Meetings'."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Chris Hakim:

- Apologies for the last minute addition of this motion.
- Considering the current circumstances, we should have the possibility of a remote meeting if we can't meet physically.

Max Holmes:

- I would review this in the future.
- I understand the need, but this is rushed.
- It could be abused.

- And it doesn't say anything about committees.

Chris Hakim:

- Committees can currently meet remotely.
- We will review it soon.

23. MOVED JACKSON SCHUMACHER, SECONDED MICHAEL SALLOUM:

"That Council amend Code to allow Council meetings by teleconference or videoconference in extraordinary circumstances, in accordance with the report presented called 'Code Changes 2020: Remote Council Meetings'."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (20): Keira Britto, Priscilla Chan, Cole Evans, Elsabe Fourie, Alex Gonzalez, Chris Hakim, Haruka Higo, Cristina Initchi, Carmen Kim, Lucia Liang, Danny Liu, Daniel Martin, Michael Salloum (proxy for Ravi Parhar), Clara Sismondo (proxy for Riley Ty), Nevena Rebic, Jackson Schumacher, Kaili Sun, Chris Sundby, Katherine Westerlund, Anican Yu

24. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED KEIRA BRITTO:

"That Council suspend Section VII: Advisory Board, Article 9(2) from the Code of Procedure, effective immediately and lasting until April 30, 2020."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Chris Hakim:

- This is about the regular report from the Advisory Board, but it hasn't met yet.
- This suspends the requirement to submit a report.

25. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED KEIRA BRITTO:

"That Council suspend Section VII: Advisory Board, Article 9(2) from the Code of Procedure, effective immediately and lasting until April 30, 2020."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (19): Keira Britto, Julia Burnham, Priscilla Chan, Cole Evans, Elsabe Fourie, Alex Gonzalez, Chris Hakim, Haruka Higo, Cristina Initchi, Carmen Kim, Lucia Liang, Danny Liu, Daniel Martin, Michael Salloum (proxy for Ravi Parhar), Clara Sismondo (proxy for Riley Ty), Jackson Schumacher, Kaili Sun, Chris Sundby, Katherine Westerlund

26. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED CRISTINA ILNITCHI:

“Be it resolved that Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 23 to 27, 2020 on the following question:

Do you support and approve amending the AMS Bylaws in accordance with the changes presented in the document entitled Proposed Changes to AMS Bylaws?

Be it further resolved that Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes.”

Katherine Westerlund:

- I don't think I'm alone in saying the Yes campaign was relatively lacklustre first time around.
- I'm wondering if we can discuss alternative methods to get this to pass.

Chris Hakim:

- Apologies for the referendum: we had difficulty in hiring.
- Our staff is willing to stay on, and they know the landscape.
- We'll emphasize meeting with clubs and Constituencies, coordinating with social media.

27. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED CRISTINA ILNITCHI:

“Be it resolved that Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 23 to 27, 2020 on the following question:

Do you support and approve amending the AMS Bylaws in accordance with the changes presented in the document entitled Proposed Changes to AMS Bylaws?

Be it further resolved that Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes.”

... Carried

For (19): Keira Britto, Julia Burnham, Priscilla Chan, Cole Evans, Elsabe Fourie, Alex Gonzalez, Chris Hakim, Haruka Higo, Andrew Huang, Cristina Ilnitchi, Lucia Liang, Danny Liu, Daniel Martin, Michael Salloum (proxy for Ravi Parhar), Nevena Rebic, Jackson Schumacher, Kaili Sun, Chris Sundby, Katherine Westerlund

T) Discussion Period

Health & Dental Plan

Chris Hakim:

- You had the opportunity to review the documents to date.
- This is an ongoing RFP.
- It's confidential information.
- We will bring this back to Council.

There was a motion to go in camera.

Council went in camera at 9:33 pm.

Council came out of the in camera session at 10:33 pm.

Coronavirus

Max Holmes:

- What are the AMS's plans?

Chris Hakim:

- Senior Management is preparing in case we get shut down.
- Working with unions.
- Planning for Services.
- Re Block Party:
 - Trying to determine if this will be high or low risk.
 - Cautious on our spending around this.

Mathew Ho:

- What about clubs and constituencies re reimbursements?

Chris Hakim:

- Dependent on staffing.
- We would ask them to get their reimbursement done right away.

Max Holmes:

- Can you come back with the plan from senior management?

Chris Hakim:

- Absolutely.

U) Submissions:

2020 AMS Elections and Referendum results
Support for Wet'suwet'en

[SCD342-20]

[SCD343-20]

V) Next Meeting:

Next Meeting: March 25, 2020

W) Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:43 pm.

X) Social Activity:

March 11, 2020 Roster

The Alma Mater Society of U.B.C. Vancouver – Student Council Attendance

Name	Constituency	Present	Proxy
Kareem Ibrahim	Speaker of Council	X	
Chris Hakim	President	X	
Julia Burnham	VP Academic	X	
Cole Evans	VP Administration	X	
Cristina Initchi	VP External Affairs	X	
Lucia Liang	VP Finance	X	
Ian Stone	Student Services Mgr	X	
Kaili Sun	Architecture	X	
Melanie Mpanju	Arts		
Sabreena Shukul	Arts	X	
Shadi Saberian	Arts		
Kia Teimouri	Arts	X	
Kevin Zhang	Arts	X	
	Audiology		
Jeanie Malone	BoG	X	
Max Holmes	BoG	X	
Priscilla Chan	Commerce	X	
Andrew Huang	Commerce	X	
Jody Mao	Dentistry		
Nicholas Harterre	Economics	X	
Haruka Higo	Education	X	
Alex Gonzalez	Engineering	X	
Katherine Westerlund	Engineering	X	
Matthew Epstein	Forestry	X	
Jackson Schumacher	Graduate Studies	X	
Arash Shadkam	Graduate Studies	X	
Nevena Rebic	Graduate Studies	X	
Alireza Kamyabi	Graduate Studies	X	
Rashika Srivastava	Journalism		
Keira Britto	Kinesiology	X	
Carmen Kim	Land & Food Systems	X	
	Law		
	Library/Archival		
Ravi Parhar	Medicine		Michael Salloum
Anican Yu	Music	X	
Jake Reznik	Nursing		
Katrin Iacono	Ombudsperson		
Elsabe Fourie	Planning	X	
Wendy Song	Pharmacy	X	
	Population & Public Health		
Chris Sundby	Regent College	X	
Danny Liu	Science	X	
Michelle Marcus	Science	X	

Julia Burnham	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y			Y	Y		Y	Y
Melanie Mpanju														
Sabreena Shukul					Y	N	Y	Y	Y					
Shadi Saberian														
Kia Teimouri	Y	Y	Y	Y	A		Y	Y						
Kevin Zhang	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N								
Priscilla Chan								Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Andrew Huang									Y	Y				Y
Nicholas Harterre	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y							
Haruka Higo	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Alex Gonzalez	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Katherine Westerlund	Y			Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Nevena Rebic	A	N	Y		Y	N	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
Jackson Schumacher		N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y
Arash Shadkam	Y	N				N	Y							
Alireza Kamyabi	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y							
Matthew Epstein		Y	Y	Y		N		Y						
Keira Britto	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Carmen Kim		N	Y	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Law Vacant														
Lucita Villarreal														
Michael Salloum (proxy for Ravi Parhar)	Y	A	Y		Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jake Reznik														
Elsabe Fourie	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y
Wendy Song	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N		Y						
Chris Sundby	Y		Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kaili Sun	Y	N	Y		Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Danny Liu	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y
Michelle Marcus		N	Y					Y						
Clara Sismondo	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	

