Agenda of the AMS Operations Committee
(Agenda for June 19th, 2020 Meeting | Zoom)

Attendance
Present: Sylvester Mensah Jr. (AMS VP Admin), Ben Du, Katherine Feng, Alex Arbelaez, Lawrence Liu, Daniel Martin, Nadir Nurali

Regrets: None

Guests: Kay McDonald

Recording Secretary: Katherine Feng

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 pm.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Approval of the Agenda

Moved: Ben Seconded: Lawrence

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.”

Agenda Items

1. Club Membership Fees
   As discussed at our last meeting, we agreed to give AMS Clubs a notice, alerting them of the financial strain that members may be in, coming into this year, and hence advised them to lower membership fees for those whose fees may pose barriers to entry for their targeted audience. Since Membership Fees are a part of Club Bylaws, in allowing clubs to change their fees after the renewal deadline, we will need to suspend the code for proper procedure.

   Motion
   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Operations Committee suspend Section 4.7h of the Operations Committee Manual that states that:
   “All bylaw amendments, including club name and membership fee changes, must be
passed by two-thirds (2/3) majority at a General Meeting where quorum is met.” - only with regards to the change of membership fees, post club renewal, upon the request of the Office of VP Administration until September 2020.

Moved: Sylvester  
Seconded: Katherine

This motion passed unanimously

Sylvester: This gives clubs some room to change fees without having to meet with all their members

2. Visit by RGAC Concerning Neurodiverse and Disabled Alliance

We will have a member of the Resource Group Allocation Committee, join our meeting to talk more about the new resource group as well as address the concerns that were shared about the use of the word, ‘Disabled’ in its name. This individual will be present from 1:10pm - 1:30pm

Discussion Period:

Kay: I don’t understand why “disabled” is a concern. It’s there for people who are physically disabled, whereas neurodiverse is for people who have mental disabilities.

Sylvester: As long as the name doesn’t hinder someone’s ability to seek help from the group, we don’t have any reason to change it

Ben: To echo what Sylvester said, we just wanted to adapt to whatever language is considered most welcoming

Sylvester: Kay please send a record of the president/elected official from the RGAC

Kay: Most people who use the word disabled are disabled. Other language hasn’t been proposed by people who actually have disabilities. Other names like “differently abled” are kind of insulting

Sylvester: Thank you for joining us. This clarifies things.

3. Operations Committee Goal Setting

Each committee is required to submit a list of goals to the Steering Committee of which they hold themselves accountable. I have attached previous goals to the email I sent so you have an idea what has been done in previous years, to help guide our discussion and focus this year

Potential Goals:
Club Audit: The AMS currently has a scarcity issue with its clubs - ‘infinite’ clubs competing for ‘finite’ resources. The aim of this audit will be to ease out the pressures from both the AMS and clubs to ensure better operations, communication and functionality.

- Encouraging the merging/dissolution of similar clubs
- Updating club resources: Club Handbook
- Reviewing criteria for new clubs applications to better judge the value added by students wishing to constitute clubs

COVID 19 Response

- Room bookings
- Alternative Programming for clubs

Discussion Period:
- Move to next week’s meeting

VP Admin COVID 19 Plans

I have attached a document that outlines the effects that COVID19 has on the VP Admin portfolio which will be presented at our next council meeting. Kindly read through it so we can discuss any recommendations/changes any of you will like to add.

Discussion Period:

Sylvester: Students want to know more about what the AMS is doing (council) so
Katherine: Is it possible to get Daniel’s plan?
Sylvester: They’re about sanitizing the Nest and plexi-glass installation. They’re going to put signs on tables so people know which ones have been cleaned. It will be presented at Council on Wednesday.
Daniel: Our affiliate school (Regent) won’t be in person. How can we use the Nest for clubs and book spaces? What’s the process for us?
Sylvester: They are considered an AMS Subsidiary so they do have access to the Nest already. We can have this conversation later.
Nadir: Why isn’t symptoms of COVID-19 considered a reason to not be allowed into a booked space?
Sylvester: That’s already a requirement for people to enter the building and a consideration before people are allowed to make a booking
Sylvester: Clubs day is planned to be online (on Campus Base). I’m confident for the most part that it will replicate the in-person experience of finding clubs you’re passionate about. JumpStart and other orientations are also happening online and much cheaper and available to everyone. UBC reached out to the AMS to help with the social component of orientations and we’re planning to incorporate this into Imagine day.
Ben: In the event that this doesn’t work, there’s usually also a winter clubs day.
Sylvester: Yeah we have one in September and one in January. Hopefully the January one will be in person but we have the resources to adapt.
4. **Final VP Admin Goals**

Presentation about my final goals for the year after which we will have a discussion to address any questions, suggestions or concerns anyone may have.

**Discussion Period:**

Sylvester: Club House was terrible and Campus Base has a lot more functionality. This is a Facebook for the AMS.

Presentation:

- Ensure an active clubs community (successful launch of CampusBase)
- Help clubs adapt to COVID-19 (Clubs operation survey to gauge expectations for booking, resources needed from the AMS)
- Providing resources (programs, workshops) to help executives and clubs operate better

We’re very on track - a lot of these are in progress or almost done

- Creation of a HATCH website that has a catalogue of all the permanent pieces of the AMS art collection (help increase visibility - not limited to physical space)
  - more multi-disciplinary interaction with the HATCH so people who are not necessarily super interested in art will still interact with it
  - launched colouring pages series, use art as a way to engage in current movements (still getting submissions from artists)
- Improving usability and inclusivity of Nest
  - More Halal and Kosher options, working with Food and Beverages Manager
  - Exploring ways to add study spaces to the Nest (motion that was tabled in the first council meeting - furniture replacement), will probably come up in second semester
- Sustainability: develop a more collaborative and unified approach to sustainability, work with other organizations, hold people accountable
  - Sustainability symposium: monthly meeting for constituents to share progress, educate people about what’s happening
  - Interactive sustainability center
- Developing a more comprehensive AMS Sustainable Action Plan
  - Include food security framework, how AMS will make food more accessible
  - Ambitious goal: Put together a net zero guideline for AMS

These are things I’m confident my team and I can complete

Lawrence: are there other institutions that use this?

Sylvester: UCSB uses the same provider. Here’s what it looks like (shoreline.ucsb.edu). We’re going to have the CWL as a way to keep certain things to just UBC students. Clubs can be suggested based on the interests people put in their profile. I’ll send a follow-up email with links to how the platform will work.
Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be on June 26th, 1-2pm.

Adjournment

Moved: Sylvester  Seconded: Alex

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:05pm.