THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of August 12, 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), 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 12:09 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda
- The agenda was adopted (Georgia, Lucia).

Minutes
- The minutes of August 5 were approved (Sylvester, Lucia).

Hatch Strategic Plan
- Sylvester:
  - Last year’s manager of the Hatch Art Gallery drafted a strategic plan to accompany SHAPE (the committee on selling Hatch art).
  - It deals with the issues of maintenance and care of the collection, de-accessioning guidelines (i.e., procedures for removing works from the collection), acquisitions (seeking to address under-representation with a view to achieving more inclusivity and diversity), and transition issues.
  - There’s a lot in the plan that might be looked at.
  - It deals with more than SHAPE and the selling of art from the permanent collection; it’s also about managing the Hatch.

- Cole:
  - The original purpose of the plan was to deal with the permanent collection, not the running of the Hatch. That would be a different conversation.
  - Let’s discuss this further offline.
Trans Mountain Letter
- Georgia:
  - A letter about the Trans Mountain pipeline has come to us for endorsement.
  - It talks of a Just Recovery and is generally in line with principles we’ve endorsed.
  - It addresses climate change in a way that is in line with our positions.
  - The letter calls for freezing the pipeline expansion, honouring Indigenous sovereignty, and directing funding towards green jobs.
  - It’s a letter to the Prime Minister’s Office and signed by a number of student societies, including the ones at SFU, Concordia, and McGill.
  - Do we want to endorse this?
- Kalith:
  - We have other ways of engaging.
  - Sending a letter is not the most effective way; it’s not the route I would take.
- Georgia:
  - Let’s discuss offline.

Advisory Board
- Cole:
  - Met last night. Went well.
- Sylvester:
  - Good discussions and take-aways.

Updates
- Georgia’s update:
  - Climate Emergency report/climate justice.
  - Involved in networks to develop culturally appropriate resources for mental health, race, gender.
  - AES and COVID-19 survey reports.
  - Undergraduate research opportunities: developing momentum, identifying barriers.
  - Food Security Initiative.
  - Creating support for international students.
  - Sexual violence education/prevention initiatives.
  - Proctorio/remote invigilation: continuing momentum for September Senate meeting.

- Lucia’s update:
  - Digitizing Health & Dental fee opt-out and reimbursement forms.
  - Studentcare sent us a proposal on international students
    - We weren’t happy with it and are drafting a response.
  - Looking at the feasibility of international student opt-outs.
Loading opt-out information onto Campus Base.

- **Kalith’s update:**
  - Federal advocacy: Video with MP Joyce Murray.
  - Federal submissions.
  - Indigenous student support advocacy.
  - Equity-based grants.
  - UCRU: formalization/bylaws.
  - TransLink: options for the fall. Reinstating the U-Pass. Building a program for students outside the Lower Mainland so they can opt out.
  - Finding a way to support students at the Affiliated colleges for the transit subsidy.

- **Georgia:**
  - If a student in the Lower Mainland wants a subsidy, can they get one?

- **Kalith:**
  - During the year, there’s a regular U-Pass subsidy.
  - Will reinstate that.

- **Ian’s update:**
  - Some changes in Services, but still going forward.
  - All the Coordinators are hired now.
  - Housing person starts today.
  - Preparing for the fall: recruiting volunteers, etc.

- **Sylvester’s update:**
  - Hiring for CRC Manager this Friday.
  - Addressing issues for room bookings for clubs:
    - Rooms have to be cleaned, so that could mean a lot of time between bookings.
    - We’re going to provide cleaning supplies.
  - Workshops and programming at CRC.
  - Subsidiary onboarding continuing on Campus Base:
    - Hope to have at least 50% of the clubs onboarded by the August 24 launch.
    - Testing CWL integration: waiting for data from UBC.
  - Finalizing guidelines for Imagine Day and Clubs Days: virtual fairs.
  - Proposing a videoconferencing subsidy for clubs.
  - Monthly Sustainability symposiums for Constituencies and Sustainability groups. Starting in October:
    - October: AMS Sustainability in general
    - November: Sustainability Projects Fund: past projects; the process of applying; want to make this accessible.
December: Interactive Sustainability Centre (hoping it will open in January).
  o Bringing the renovation proposals for the Interactive Sustainability Centre to Council in September.
  o Hatch website for online exhibitions.
  • Keith:
    o Where will the funding come from for the website?
  • Sylvester:
    o From my portfolio. Just the domain cost: $100.
  • Cole:
    o I have an idea for Nest animation.
    o Put AMS messaging on the main staircase.
    o Floor decals telling what we do.
    o There’s not a lot of AMS material in our own building.
    o We could be advertising more.

Adjournment
  • The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.