

**THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER**

September 1, 2020 Agenda of the AMS Governance Committee / Zoom link:
<https://zoom.us/j/91681615917>

Attendance

Present: Sebastian Cooper (Chair), Danny Liu, Ryan Wong, Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk)

Guests: Jeanie Malone, UBC Board of Governors

Regrets: Carter Maclean, Nicola Vanderveer, Georgia Yee

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm

Agenda Items

Territorial Acknowledgement

Approval of the Agenda

That the agenda be adopted.

Moved: Seb; Seconded: Ryan

[The motion carries.]

Approval of Past Minutes

That the minutes of August 18, 2020 be approved

Postponed to next meeting due to lack of quorum

BoG/Senators appointments to AMS committees

Sebastian

- Committee has seen the written submissions from Alex Gonzalez and Max Holmes
- Cole Evans reached out to share concerns about some interpretations of the proposal

Jeanie Malone, UBC BoG rep attends

Jeanie, UBC BoG rep:

- Provided an introduction: former EUS president and current BoG; has served on AMS Committees

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- A similar discussion occurred under GORICIM when reps' vote on Council was first removed
- GSS is a similar body, they allow reps to be on Committee
- There are other ways to manage Conflict of interest issues: e.g. there are concerns with being on Advocacy, Finance Committee
- Removing reps should be part of a larger decision about non-voting Council members: if they cannot be on committees, what's the benefit of having them on Council

Sebastian

- Asked about ways of currently managing conflicts of interest

Jeanie

- Note that Senators and BoG reps have different backgrounds and therefore conflict of interest would arise differently
- Ability to sit on Committees is a reason why senators might want to sit on Council
- Shared BoG conflict of interest rules: <https://bog3.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2020/03/BoG-Manual-Mar-2020.pdf>
- Can be tricky: for example, as both an elected Governor who is supposed to advocate for students but also would be personally affected by them: usually will speak to the issue but recuse self from voting
- As a BoG rep on AMS, stays arms length from issues to do with the businesses (e.g. since UBC food services compete), would also step away planning components
- Approach at BoG: governors disclose all interests at the beginning and then manage it on a day-to-day basis
- There's a benefit to allowing reps to be on committees: BoG, Senate reps in the past have previously held an AMS/leadership position and brought that experience to committee work
- Note that Senate and BoG is difference: Senators have a less clear fiduciary duty than do BoGs because they don't go through the same process, don't have the same property/financial obligations
 - BoG deals with financial, HR, property issues; Senate with academic concerns of council
 - https://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/00_96468_01
- A new standard would have to be applied to all student senators - even those who also hold other positions (such as the current AMS president)
- Suggests reaching out to student senate caucus

Jeanie Malone leaves

Sheldon:

- Conflict of Interest is dealt with in Code: for example, where there are in camera discussions, Councillors have been asked to leave where the matters being discussed effects matters dealt with by other boards they're on

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- This includes both committee and council
- Code also has provisions regarding non-voting members are not directors
- Sheldon to look share relevant Code provisions

Ryan

- At last orientation, we received information on what BoG/Senate does and on conflict of interest but not on BoG/Senate reps' conflicts of interest

Sebastian

- Has this been an issue before?

Sheldon:

- There have been fears about this in the past but no examples

Sebastian:

- Maybe we can move this forward by ensuring everyone is aware of when these reps should recuse themselves from certain conversations. This could be part of our study into transitions.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is September 8, 2020.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.