



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of October 7, 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), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:14 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Lucia, Kalith).

Minutes

- The minutes of September 30 were approved (Lucia, Georgia).

BC Election

- Kalith:
 - There will be a polling station in the Nest for advance voting and for Election Day itself.
 - The idea is to ensure that students can safely vote and can have easier access to voting.
 - We're looking to set a date for a virtual debate between the Point Grey candidates, to be moderated by the Ubysey.
 - Will encourage residents from the UNA to engage with it.
 - Potentially hosting a virtual party on Election Night and also perhaps a limited capacity in-person gathering at the Gallery.
 - Conducting the Take It Over campaign: postering etc.

Updates

- *Ian's update:*
 - Services doing well.
 - Safewalk is implementing new software for data analysis.

- Mount Pleasant has introduced a Safewalk program, and we're going to engage with them and maybe work out some transfer system with them.
- eHub is planning for the RBC Get Seeded event in late November.
- Tutoring is going well; producing a feedback survey.
- Food Bank will be getting donations from the Greater Vancouver Food Bank.
- The Housing coordinator is working out details for the service and will potentially be working with the Law students on advising students about leases.

- *Georgia's update:*
 - On UBC's respondent resource specialist search committee for Policy SC-17 (on sexual misconduct).
 - Thinking of putting name forward as co-chair of UBC's Mental Health and Resilience Committee:
 - They're looking for a student co-chair.
 - Will be discussing COVID.
 - Anti-racism programs and bystander intervention training: with the President's office.
 - Academic integrity/Proctorio:
 - Going to push strongly for the discontinuation of the contract with Proctorio.
 - Nominations are open for Open Education Resource leaders: you can nominate a prof who's done an excellent job using OER's.
 - Discussions with UBC President Santa Ono and VP Research Gail Murphy about climate emergency and accountability.

- *Kalith's update:*
 - Mostly working on the BC election.
 - SkyTrain project: pushing for SkyTrain to UBC:
 - Meeting the UBC rapid transit team for a photo shoot.
 - Working on housing project with Ian.
 - Equity-based grants.
 - U-Pass:
 - Lots of students needed more time to apply for the subsidy, so the deadline's been extended.
 - The U-Pass Advisory Committee will meet in Term 2.

- *Sylvester's update:*
 - First AMS Sustainability Symposium:
 - 30 people attended.
 - About 10 different organizations were represented.
 - Nice to hear from constituencies like VSEUS about what they're doing for sustainability, creating their own sustainability committee.

- Started looking at new club applications.
- Deciding not to hire a Clubs Resource Centre Manager because we were unable to find good candidates:
 - We will divide up the work among the rest of us.
- Reaching out to corporations and other organizations and individuals who can help us with workshops for clubs:
 - Our first one will be on marketing and brand image: How to operate in the COVID world; how to advertise in a world where there are more eyes on social media.
 - Our team has a storyline about the things essential to running a club: how to market, how to host a good event, etc.
 - Looking at creating a safe community in the clubs.
 - Looking at training and transitions, probably next term.
- Hatch Art Gallery/Water problem:
 - Unfortunately, a sprinkler issue in the SASC construction site sent a lot of water into parts of the Nest, and some dripped into the art gallery.
 - It also affected the Studentcare office and the Archives.
 - Also the eSports lounge, the 3206 precinct.
 - Cleaning is in progress; we expect it to take four weeks.
 - I'll be sending an email out to let everyone know the problem is being handled.
- Free masks:
 - Georgia asked the VP Students Office for these, and I'll be coordinating distribution in the building: at the outlets, the Food Bank, the Bike Kitchen, etc.
- Ian:
 - eHub would love to partner on club skills training.
- *Lucia's update:*
 - Finished reviewing apps for subsidies; inputting data from UBC.
 - Finished hiring of team, onboarding, orientations.
 - Ongoing duties.
- *Keith's update:*
 - Audited financials are in; will present to the Executive.
 - Lucia and I are working on version 4 of the budget. To Council in November.
 - Also working on the budget for 2021-22.
 - Started working on the AMS financial payment portal to allow payments through the website.
 - With Lucia discussing uses of the Health and Dental Reserve.
 - Working on recruitment:

- Will need a new SASC Manager because Annette is leaving.
- Also a new Senior Manager of Student Services and a financial analyst.
- Ian:
 - What's the recruitment process? Will you be using an external firm?
- Keith:
 - No, we'll post for the SASC Manager and the Senior Manager of Student Services on our website.
 - May go to a recruitment company later.

Staff Updates

- Cole:
 - Annette has resigned as SASC Manager. Sorry to see her go; wish her the best.
 - Leaves us with a vacancy.
 - Original plan was that we wouldn't need a Senior Manager of Student Services right away, but now we're looking to hire more promptly to ensure SASC is adequately supported.
 - Also other positions:
 - Financial analyst.
 - Policy Advisor.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 pm.