

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Guests: Katherine Feng (student), Andrew Ha (Ubysey), Charlotte Alden (Ubysey), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (Admin Assistant)

A) Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Speaker:

- Important to recognize that we are not guests but occupiers on the traditional, unceded, and ancestral lands of the Musqueam and other First Nations.
- All of us are trying to understand what it means to be settlers.
- This needs to be something more than a formalistic acknowledgement.

C) Adoption of the agenda:

1. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED SYLVESTER MENSAH JR.:

“That the agenda be adopted as presented.”

... No objections

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

Welcome to our new Members: Delaram Shojaei (GSS), Maryam Tayyab (GSS)

Vacancies on Council: Journalism, Population & Public Health, Audiology

Goodbyes:

E) Speaker’s Business (5 minutes):

The Speaker:

- Let me know if I can make the meetings more accessible.
- Use the functions in Zoom: the Participant buttons.

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

G) Consent Agenda Items

2. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED GEORGIA YEE (regular majority):

“That the following consent items be accepted as presented:

From the Governance Committee

[SCD083-21]

“That Council extend the deadline for the report from the Governance Committee on new disciplinary guidelines and procedures until the last Council meeting in November 2020.”

From the Advocacy Committee

“That Council approve the endorsement of the JustRecovery Principles.” [SCD084-21]

Advocacy Committee minutes dated June 9, 2020 [SCD085-21]
Advocacy Committee minutes dated June 23, 2020 [SCD086-21]
Advocacy Committee minutes dated July 7, 2020 [SCD087-21]
AMS Council minutes dated May 13, 2020 [SCD088-21]
Executive Committee minutes dated July 8, 2020 [SCD089-21]
Finance Committee minutes dated July 7, 2020 [SCD090-21]
Executive Committee minutes dated July 15, 2020 [SCD091-21]
Governance Committee minutes dated July 7, 2020 [SCD092-21]
Operations Committee minutes dated June 19, 2020 [SCD093-21]
Operations Committee minutes dated July 3, 2020 [SCD094-21]
Operations Committee minutes dated July 10, 2020 [SCD095-21]
Student Life Committee minutes dated June 29, 2020 [SCD096-21]
Student Life Committee minutes dated July 13, 2020 [SCD097-21]
Sustainability Subcommittee minutes dated July 6, 2020 [SCD098-21]

... Carried

For (22): Cole Evans, Kalith Nanayakkara, Ruby Barnard, Mathew Ho, Carter MacLean, Kristian Oppenheim, James Chen, Ryan Wong, Emma Dodyk, Nadir Nurali, Alexandra Arbelaez, Jackson Schumacher, Nevena Rebic, Delaram Shojaei, Sebastian Cooper, Megan Fretz (proxy for Rachel Chan), Jake Reznik, Kevin Kang, Chris Sundby, Jimmy Kim, Danny Liu, Daniel Martin

3. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED LUCIA LIANG (2/3rds vote):

From the Executive & Finance Committees

“That Council on the recommendation of the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee allocate \$44,646 from the SUB Repairs & Replacement Fund to replace the existing surveillance system server.” [SCD099-21]
[SCD100-21]

“That the Access to Member Information MoU with UBC be accepted as presented.” [SCD101-21]

... Carried

For (23): Cole Evans, Georgia Yee, Kalith Nanayakkara, Ruby Barnard, Mathew Ho, Carter MacLean, Kristian Oppenheim, James Chen, Ryan Wong, Emma Dodyk, Nadir Nurali, Alexandra Arbelaez, Jackson Schumacher, Nevena Rebic, Delaram Shojaei, Sebastian Cooper, Megan Fretz (proxy for Rachel Chan), Jake Reznik, Kevin Kang, Chris Sundby, Jimmy Kim, Danny Liu, Daniel Martin

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

AMS COVID-19 Survey Summary – Georgia Yee (VPAUA)

[SCD102-21]

- As incentives to answer we gave out gift cards to respondents.
- There were 7,410 responses and 5,989 completed surveys, or a 13% response rate.
- The findings show the impacts of COVID.
- Financial impacts: Employment, rent, housing, textbooks, etc.
 - 34.6% of respondents (1,150 students) had been laid off.
 - We want to ensure students can still access their awards.
 - CESB and CERB funding:
 - 43.5% said it was sufficient.
 - 15.8% were still waiting to receive the benefit.
 - A huge concern is meeting rent payments (68.5%)
 - Looking for innovative solutions: different rental contracts in student housing.
 - Concern about UBC evicting students due to housing closures.
 - International students have been disproportionately affected: 81.7% of them say the federal government has not been adequately responding to student housing issues.
 - 73.8% of domestic feel the same way.
- Academic Impacts: 18.4% of respondents will not be in the Pacific time zone in the fall.
 - A large percentage do not have access to necessary technology (7% say they do not, 23% are not sure).
 - We are advocating for technology bursaries.
 - A small percentage (9.6%) are not comfortable using the technology for online courses.
 - 58.8% said No when asked if they were engaging better online.
 - 17.8% have used free online open educational resources (OER's).
 - An alarming amount have not.
 - We will continue to push for OER's.
- Mental Health: Trauma and racial trauma during the COVID pandemic.
 - We will be emphasizing the academic concessions policy.
- As of June, 22.5% say the AMS and UBC have adequately supported them; 28% disagreed, and the rest were neutral.
- We will advocate for reducing student stress, ensuring social connections, creating a monitoring system for those with COVID-19, providing rent support programs, advertising financial aid, supporting emergency support funding, and promoting OER's.

- Discussing invisible disabilities, advocating for modifying the requirements for academic accommodations, softening harsh deadlines, flexibility.

Questions

Jeanie Malone:

- How will you use the data to inform your advocacy?
- What have you shared with the administration?

Georgia Yee:

- Sharing with associated deans, the VP Students, international student working groups.
- The data shows things are not one-off cases.
- There are issues around housing security: a large number of students have become housing insecure.
- The results guided our priorities in the June BoG submission.
- Focusing on mental health resources.

Mathew Ho:

- Will students have to pay extra if quarantined?

Georgia Yee:

- There are different packages, different meal plans.
- They can be put in a unit.
- Quarantine-related support.
- It does cost more.

Sebastian Cooper:

- Will you make the full report public?

Georgia Yee:

- Yes, it will be available in the August 26 Council docket.
- There are different faculty level reports as well.

UCRU – Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External)

[SCD103-21]

- UCRU is one of our many acronyms.
- It stands for the Undergraduates of Canadian Research-Intensive Universities.
- It's been mentioned at Council many times, and we realized it might be helpful to explain what it is.
- Last year's VP External (Cristina) and her assistant Conor played a big role in it; she was the chair.
- It's an informal coalition representing students at nine of the 15 U-15 universities across the country: 250,000 students.
- We're the only student group in it from BC.

- It focuses on federal advocacy for affordable, inclusive, and high calibre undergraduate university education.
- It's an ad hoc organization, not formalized.
- I am chair of the UCRU governance committee, and we're going to focus on formalization this year.
- Priorities last year included Indigenous students, international students, tax credit allocation, and the Copyright Act.
- This year we are looking to incorporate.
- We are working on bylaws and procedures.
- Looking at costs and benefits.
- It's going to be an important year for UCRU.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- How will you increase the involvement of Councillors and students at large?

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- Currently there are representatives from each student union.
- Thinking of having a general assembly.
- These conversations are ongoing.

Jackson Schumacher:

- Will you advocate for grad students?

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- UCRU, as you can tell from its name, is focused on undergraduates.
- But this brings up a good point.
- We will look at various options.

Megan Fretz:

- Why UCRU rather than, say, CASA, an already existing group?

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- Previously we have been members of CASA and the ABCS.
- From what I've heard there were conflicts resulting from being a big school with small schools.
- We relate better to bigger schools, like the ones in UCRU.
- We face similar issues and there are fewer opportunities for conflict.

AMS CampusBase Update – Nicolas Williams (AVP Administration)

[SCD104-21]

- CampusBase is our new campus engagement platform.
- It will allow students to find groups that suit their interests.
- It's a more fluid platform.

- Started as club management, but has grown into something larger, a means for subsidiary groups to contact their members, a way to create a virtual community in the current situation.
- Students can log in and join groups.
- It can become a social networks: students can chat with others who share their passions.
- It will make it easier to find a group that suits your interests.
- There's a mobile app.
- From the officer perspective (those in charge of a group), there are lots of tools available: it will be easier to connect with your members, through email, forums, chats, surveys, and forms.
- Workflow can be created and seen.
- There's an integrated website builder for clubs that can't afford to build their own.
- Officers can create events.
- Video conferencing.
- Virtual Involvement Fair: a new tool for reaching students around the world: like an in-person fair; students can browse a directory of groups.
- Will play a role in orientations.
- Today we onboarded all the subsidiaries.
- On August 24 we will be making a marketing push to members.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- Since Imagine Day includes clubs not under the AMS, will they be able to take part?

Nicolas Williams:

- This is not just for AMS members.
- External groups can take part.
- We are working with UBC Orientations and Imagine Day.
- We're excited to create greater campus community.

Sean Ryan:

- Can Affiliated Colleges join?

Nicolas Williams:

- Definitely.
- Focusing on getting executives from all groups.
- If you haven't heard from us, reach out to me.

Cole Evans:

- Want to highlight all the work that Sylvester, Nick, and Arnaud in the VP Admin office have done.
- This is arguably the most exciting piece of software we have ever introduced.
- It has the potential to strengthen the campus community.
- It's not just for AMS clubs, but for all groups on campus.

- A one-stop shop for all things extra-curricular.

I) Consultation Period

J) Appointments

Equity Plan Steering Committee

Cole Evans:

- The Equity Plan Steering Committee will be designated as a Working Group under the Executive Committee with the following proposed structure:
 - Niki Oveisi - Associate, Equity and Inclusion (Chair)
 - Cole Evans - President (Vice-Chair)
 - Praneet Sandhu - Senior Manager, Human Resources
 - One (1) Executive selected by the Executive Committee
 - Two (2) non-Executive Councillors
 - Three (3) Students-at-Large from groups representing marginalized communities
 - The Equity Plan Consultant, who will be non-voting.
- The Steering Committee will collaboratively develop a ToR once its membership is determined to fit the needs of the Equity Plan development process.

Ryan Wong:

- How will the three students at large from marginalized communities be chosen?

Cole Evans:

- We've left it vague.
- There will be an invitation process to get the broadest representation possible.
- We have a few groups in mind and will start with them.
- Don't want to go into details yet.
- Trying to be sensitive to the needs of the marginalized communities.
- Probably will meet bi-weekly.

Laura Beaudry:

- Can I be a student at large?

Cole Evans:

- It would be up to the group invited to nominate the student at large.

The Speaker:

- The at large positions are for non-Councillors.

Mathew Ho:

- Is this for the rest of the school year?

Cole Evans:

- Yes, until the plan is completed.
- The intention is to complete it before the end of the year.
- It will probably go till February or March.

Sean Ryan:

- How will the at large groups be determined?

Cole Evans:

- We can't represent everyone on the Steering Committee.
- There will be broad student engagement on the plan.
- The committee will be for student leaders to guide the project.

Alex Gonzalez:

- Will you reach out to the Equity and Inclusion Office?

Cole Evans:

- Our consultant has experience in that, but it's a good idea to reach out to the EIO.

Nominees (2): Joshua Kim (Arts), Nevena Rebic (GSS)

4. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED KALITH NANAYAKKARA:

"That Joshua Kim and Nevena Rebic (2 x non-Executive Councillors) be appointed to the Equity Plan Steering Committee."

... No objections

K) President's Remarks (5 minutes):

Cole Evans

- Working with Lucia and Keith on Q1 financial reforecast.
- Looking to revise the quarterly report system to include more than just financial information.
- Equity Plan: Kickoff meeting with Adeline Huynh at the Commons (our consultant).
- SASC Offices:
 - Construction well under way.
 - Demolition done.
 - Framers and drywallers here today.
 - To be completely done by mid-September.
- Working with the SASC team on brand tweaks.
- Hiring a new Assistant SASC manager.
- Working with Ian on a new position for the new housing service.
- A gazillion University meetings: always fires raging.

- I'd like to add a discussion on some University surplus funds and what projects can be done with the money.
- Not an easy year, but things are going well.

L) Executive Remarks (3 minutes each):

VP Academic & University Affairs – Georgia Yee

[SCD105-21]

- COVID-19 report.
- AES report coming next meeting.
- Discussions about lecture-recording technology.
- Large conversation about systemic racism:
 - How to empower survivors of incidents to come forward.
- Accessibility projects: subtitling software.
- Climate issues.
- Proctorio invigilation system.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- Can you provide more information about Proctorio?

Georgia Yee:

- There's a working group looking at privacy, best practices, funding.
- Faculty instructors and student leaders in the group.
- How do we support a student kicked out of an exam? That's one of the questions we're pondering.

VP External Affairs – Kalith Nanayakkara

[SCD106-21]

- I made a long written submission.
- Equity-based grants.
- Provincial advocacy: submission to opposition critics and to our MLA.
- Federally, met with the BC Advisor to the Prime Minister last week:
 - Looking to have the student loan repayment freeze extended.
 - Advocating for funding to extend the SkyTrain to UBC.
- Transit subsidy: Have heard that students don't know about it. Working on a stronger social media campaign to advertise it.
- Looking at an opt-out system for U-Pass for the fall for students outside the Lower Mainland.
- Filming a video tomorrow with MP Joyce Murray about relations with the federal government.

Managing Director – Keith Hester

- Auditors here.
- Working on Q1 budget reforecast for August 26.
- Health & Dental.
- Air conditioning in the building: looking into options.

- A/V replacement: doing that.
- New expense management system.

VP Finance – Lucia Liang

[SCD107-21]

- Digitizing the Health & Dental Plan subsidy and other grants.
- Integrating financial forms on CampusBase.
- Credit cards for Constituencies.

VP Administration – Sylvester Mensah Jr.

[SCD108-21]

- Away.
- Written report submitted.

Student Services Manager - Ian Stone

[SCD109-21]

- Away – see written report.

M) Committee Reports (5 minutes each):

Advocacy – Georgia Yee for Joshua Kim

- Preparing principles:
 - A just transition out of COVID-19.
 - Looking through a climate lens.
 - Anti-Black/anti-Asian racism.
- Resource list.
- Policy I-11 on tuition consultations.

Questions

Jackson Schumacher:

- What are you doing about Proctorio?

Georgia Yee:

- The committee discussed some of the issues.
- Talked of decentralization.

Ryan Wong:

- Is the AMS aware of the alleged assault against a female UBC Asian student?
- Is the AMS offering support?

Georgia Yee:

- This is definitely on our radar.
- Working with Equity and Inclusion on incidents like these.
- Working with the Ombudsperson on culturally appropriate mental health resources.

Finance Committee – Lucia Liang

- Fund applications.

- Expense management software approved.
- Wage analysis discussion.

Governance Committee – Sebastian Cooper

- Working with Cole and his office on a policy on appointment to committees.
- Aiming for August 26 to have it in place for reconstituting of committees in September.

HR Committee – Cole Evans for Lawrence Liu

- Working with Chrissa and the Student Life Committee on the diversity mandate Council gave them concerning AMS Elections.

Operations Committee – Sylvester Mensah Jr.

- Away.

SHAPE Committee – Cole Evans

- No update.

Steering – Cole Evans

- Committee goals have been submitted to Steering; will put them on the August 26 agenda.

Operations Committee – Daniel Martin

- Met last week and this week.
- Constituted and de-constituted clubs.

Indigenous Committee – Laura Beaudry

- Meeting tomorrow.
- New treasurer.
- We answer questions like, How do we do a land acknowledgement?
- Talking about opening up the Indigenous Lounge in September.
- Outreach.

N) Report from Presidents Council (2 minutes):

- No report.

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

Board of Governors – Jeanie Malone

- So many more meetings than usual.
- Special July finance committee.
- Full board meeting.
- Approved budget which was deferred from April.

- Endorsed Indigenous Strategic Plan.

Senate – Alex Gonzalez

- New School of Creative Writing.
- Statement for transcripts on impact of COVID-19.
- SACADI (the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Diversity and Inclusion) recommended a new structure be put in place to address diversity and inclusion.
- Approved recommendations on academic equity and inclusion
- Approved triennial review recommendations.
- A senator said student senators speak too much, but later apologized.

Historical Update – Sheldon Goldfarb

- Speaking of UCRU, the AMS has been involved with other student organizations, such as CASA, the CFS, and the ABCS.
- We were provisional members of the CFS, but a referendum on joining went down to the biggest defeat in AMS referendum history.
- We helped found both CASA and the ABCS, but later left them both.

Questions

The Speaker:

- What was the no vote against joining the CFS?

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- In the CFS referendum in 1984, 851 voted in favour and there were 4177 against.

P) Minutes of Council and Committees of Council:

Q) Executive Committee Motions:

R) Constituency and Affiliate Motions:

S) Committee Motions:

5. MOVED SEBASTIAN COOPER, SECONDED COLE EVANS: [SCD110-21], [SCD111-21]

From the Governance Committee

“Be it resolved that Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled ‘Code Changes 2020: Committee Chairs’ and thus amend the Code as recommended.

Be it further resolved that this Code amendment take effect at the first Council meeting in September.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Sebastian Cooper:

- Currently the Finance Committee and the Operations Committee are chaired by the VP Finance and VP Operations respectively.
- The committees oversee the two Executive, but can't really perform oversight if they're chaired by them.
- Also, opening up these positions to regular Councillors will provide a learning experience for them.
- We weighed up the pros and cons and are recommending to change the system.
- Under the proposed change, the VP's can still run to be chair.
- We can re-examine by May of next year.

Keith Hester:

- I respectfully disagree with changing the chair of the Finance Committee.
- This chair needs a finance background.
- The VP Finance needs to be the chair.
- The VP Finance could be compensated for taking on the extra workload.

Sebastian Cooper:

- The VP Finance would still be a member of the committee and be able to provide insight, just they wouldn't be the chair.
- Someone could be elected VP Finance without a background in finance.
- Hopefully, Council will choose someone with a good background in finance.

James Chen:

- I disagree with removing the VP Finance as chair of the Finance Committee.
- It's great to get Councillors to engage, but I have concerns.
- My biggest one is that though on paper the chair does not have that much power, they do have a hidden power to steer discussions, so the person with the most knowledge should be doing that.

Sebastian Cooper:

- Our primary duty is to ensure oversight of the Executive.
- I have an issue with our ability to do that if the chair has implicit power.
- If the committee is reviewing the VP Finance, then the VP Finance would be reviewing their own work.

Mathew Ho:

- As a Fincom member, the idea of a non-VP Finance as chair is concerning.
- Committee chairs don't get as robust a transition as the VP Finance does.
- Maybe there could be a middle ground: have the VP Finance in charge when the budget is discussed.
- I am disappointed that the discussion about this issue that took place in the Finance Committee is not reflected in the report submitted to support this proposal.

Cole Evans:

- There are valid arguments on both sides.
- The Executive is in support of this motion.
- If a VP wants to chair the committee, there will be a good chance that they'll be elected as opposed to another Councillor.
- This system works for the Advocacy Committee: there's a chair who doesn't have to be either of the VP's on the committee.
- There's been a focus on worst case scenarios in this discussion.

Georgia Yee:

- I fully support Sebastian and Cole's views on this: the Advocacy Committee is a model.
- The VP Finance will still work closely with the Finance Committee chair.
- This makes it more collaborative and allows for flexibility.

Keith Hester:

- On the issue of oversight of the VP Finance, there is a mechanism already: the auditors.
- They provide independent oversight.

Sebastian Cooper:

- As to the Finance Committee's views not being fully incorporated, I did ask for minutes and a report from the Finance Committee, but Execs have a lot on their plate, and I didn't receive the materials till late.
- If you want to mandate us to review this again in April or May, I'd be open to that.
- We can return to the old system if this new one is not working.
- As to the audit, that's a good point, but it doesn't remove our fiduciary duty as Councillors to make sure the finances are well looked after, and one way to fulfill that duty is to have one of us be chair of the Finance Committee.

6. MOVED SEBASTIAN COOPER, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

From the Governance Committee

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Be it further resolved that this Code amendment take effect at the first Council meeting in September."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (22): Cole Evans, Georgia Yee, Kalith Nanayakkara, Lucia Liang, Ruby Barnard, Carter MacLean, Kristian Oppenheim, Ryan Wong, Emma Dodyk, Nadir Nurali, Alexandra Arbelaez, Nevena Rebic, Laura Beaudry, Annika Szarka, Sebastian Cooper,

**Rachel Chan, Christian Bailey, Elsabe Fourie, Caris Tin (proxy for Shovon Das),
Danny Liu, Sean Ryan, Daniel Martin**

Against (4): Mathew Ho, Kevin Kang, Jimmy Kim, James Chen

Abstain: Jackson Schumacher, Chris Sundby

T) Other Business and Notice of Motions:

U) Discussion Period

University/AMS Surplus Allocations – Cole Evans

- The University approached us last year about how to spend surplus money so that students get the highest amount of benefit.
- There's an \$8 million tuition surplus for both UBCO and UBC Vancouver; \$6.8 million is for UBC Vancouver.
- We want to have a discussion here for transparency and accountability.
- The money will not be administered by the AMS, so it's not something that would come to Council for approval, but it has to do with initiatives and facilities that impact the AMS.
- What's already been decided is:
 - \$1.7 million for COVID-19 emergency aid.
 - \$1.25 million for the emergency U-Pass subsidy program.
- Also being proposed (by the AMS and the GSS):
 - \$1.2 million for renovations to the Grad Student Centre (of benefit to grad students).
 - \$750,000 to \$1 million for the Norm Theatre:
 - We did some upgrades, but it was barebones; this money would go to finishing this AMS facility, with the potential for making it a hub for the campus community, a cultural space.
 - The Chan Centre and the Fredric Wood Theatre are high end facilities, but not necessarily available to students for more casual low-cost programs.
 - Also talking to the Faculty of Arts for funding for this project.
 - \$50,000 for new vehicles for Safewalk: similar to accessibility vehicles.
 - \$25,000 for graduate student aid (the AMS is in full support of that).
- There is still \$1.6 million left over, plus anything left over from the U-Pass subsidy, so it could be \$2.2 million. This could be spent on:
 - Emergency student aid.
 - AMS-operated housing developments (coordinating with UBC and governments).
 - AMS-Indigenous capital investments (inclusion of Indigenous culture/art in the building).
 - Investment in equity-related areas like lecture capture.

Mathew Ho:

- The new Safewalk vehicles: is that just a fancy name for a golf cart?

Cole Evans:

- Very high end golf carts.

James Chen:

- Does the \$1.7 million include COVID housing subsidies?

Georgia Yee:

- Yes, it's general financial aid.

Rachel Chan:

- Who is eligible?

Cole Evans:

- Any student who can show financial need.

Mathew Ho:

- Re housing: Will you collaborate with UBC Student Housing?

Cole Evans:

- Absolutely.
- Can't afford to do this ourselves.
- The University and government would be stakeholders.

Sean Ryan:

- Can money be directed to mental health?

Cole Evans:

- Yes. That's the sort of idea I'm looking for.

Laura Beaudry:

- I've been in the Norm.
- How much more upgrading does it need?

Cole Evans:

- Currently, the Norm has limited functionality aside from movies.
- Its stage equipment is out of date, the curtains are shot.
- All it can be used for now is movies and events not using tech. Improv used it.

Laura Beaudry:

- Are the chairs from the old Norm?

Cole Evans:

- The chairs currently are the newest parts of the theatre.
- Replaced in 2006.
- They're not being modified.

Laura Beaudry:

- They're the worst chairs.

Cole Evans:

- Great feedback. Maybe we'll get new chairs too.

Sebastian Cooper:

- Where did the money come from?
- What is the process for deciding how to spend it?
- With the leftover should we not save it for COVID emergency aid?

Cole Evans:

- It's the University's money.
- They're asking our Executive team how to spend it to support student priorities. They seem flexible.
- They are consulting us on what we want.
- The Board of Governors has asked us to inform them about projects, but the money won't be administered by the AMS, so unless Council wants this to come back, it won't come back here.
- As to the remaining money, it could go to COVID emergency aid.

Jackson Schumacher:

- Could there be a scholarship fund?

Cole Evans:

- Last year the University spoke about an endowment, but the Board of Governors said no: spend it now for students currently, not future students.
- So the proposals should be for spending this year.

Rachel Chan:

- Can this be used to subsidize tuition?

Cole Evans:

- If we did that, it would only be about \$100 per student.
- If students have problems paying, they can apply to the emergency aid fund.

Nevena Rebic:

- Could we use money for long term mental health support?
- To subsidize mental health services, especially for groups of students who have additional needs?

Cole Evans:

- This ties in with some of the work we've been scoping out.
- We have the ability to draw on our Health & Dental Reserve.
- I'm seeing a lot of interest from Councillors in mental health: we can move that to the top of the list.

Danny Liu:

- This \$8 million is from the incremental tuition increases?

Cole Evans:

- That is correct.

Danny Liu:

- It doesn't sit well then.
- The AMS is mandated to oppose tuition increases, and here the Board of Governors has increased tuition and then asks us what to spend it on.

Cole Evans:

- Good point.
- We definitely recognize our duty to advocate against tuition increases.
- The surplus wasn't intentional, and now the University is saying let's invest it back into the students.

Jackson Schumacher:

- You could talk to UBC Clinical Psych and Counselling about mental health initiatives.

Cole Evans:

- Good ideas.
- If I'm not hearing any issues with the already proposed initiatives, we'll proceed with advocacy in support of them and then discuss what to do with the remaining funds.

Laura Beaudry:

- Back to the Norm Theatre:
- How will upgrades cost that much? A million dollars?

Cole Evans:

- We are being as modest as possible with the Norm.
- Seven lights can cost \$80,000.
- Theatre equipment is expensive.
- We do want to make sure we're not overspending.
- We're not trying to create an arena for concerts.

V) Submissions:

AMS Equity Plan RFP Proposal Response	[SCD112-21]
Advocacy Committee July Report	[SCD113-21]
Governance Committee July Report	[SCD114-21]
Operations Committee Report - August 5 th	[SCD115-21]
AMS July Sustainability Report (Revised)	[SCD116-21]
Finance Committee June Report	[SCD117-21]
Finance Committee July Report	[SCD118-21]

W) Next Meeting:

Next Meeting: August 26, 2020

X) Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Y) Social Activity:

Name	Faculty	Consent Simple Majority	Consent 2/3rds	Appointment	Committee Chairs	
Cole Evans	President	Y	Y	Carried Unanimously	Y	
Georgia Yee	VP Academic & University Affairs		Y		Y	
Sylvester (Sly) Mensah Jr.	VP Admin					
Kalith Nanayakkara	VP External	Y	Y		Y	
Lucia Liang	VP Finance				Y	
Ian Stone	Student Services Manager					
Ruby Barnard	Architecture	Y	Y		Y	
Lawrence Liu	Arts					
Sherly Prince	Arts					
Joshua Kim	Arts					
Mathew Ho	Arts	Y	Y		N	
Carter MacLean	Arts	Y	Y		Y	
	Audiology					
Jeanie Malone	BoG					
Max Holmes	BoG					
Kristian Oppenheim	Commerce	Y	Y		Y	
James Chen	Commerce	Y	Y		N	
Varada Saha	Dentistry					
Ryan Wong	Economics	Y	Y		Y	
	Education					
Emma Dodyk	Engineering	Y	Y		Y	
Nadir Nurali	Engineering	Y	Y		Y	
Alexandra Arbelaez	Forestry	Y	Y		Y	
Maryam Tayyab	GSS					
Jackson Schumacher	GSS	Y	Y		A	
Nevena Rebic	GSS	Y	Y		Y	
Delaram Shojaei	GSS	Y	Y			
Laura Beaudry	Indigenous Seat				Y	
	Journalism					
Annika Szarka	Kinesiology				Y	
Sebastian Cooper	Law	Y	Y		Y	

Rachel Chan Megan Fretz (proxy for first two votes)	LFS	Y	Y		Y	
Rio Picollo	Library/Archival					
Jeremy Zuo	Medicine					
Christian Bailey	Music				Y	
Jake Reznik	Nursing	Y	Y			
Kevin Kang	Pharmacy	Y	Y		N	
Elsabe Fourie	Planning				Y	
	Population & Public Health					
Chris Sundby	Regent	Y	Y		A	
Jimmy Kim	Science	Y	Y		N	
Shovon Das – Caris Tin proxy	Science				Y	
Danny Liu	Science	Y	Y		Y	
Chris Hakim	Senate					
Alex Gonzalez	Senate					
Chrissa Rassias	Social Work					
Sean Ryan	St Mark's				Y	
Daniel Martin	VST	Y	Y		Y	

August 5, 2020 Roster

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

Name	Constituency	Present	Proxy
Kareem Ibrahim	Speaker of Council	X	
Cole Evans	President	X	
Georgia Yee	VP Academic	X	
Sylvester Mensah Jr.	VP Administration		
Kalith Nanayakkara	VP External Affairs	X	
Lucia Liang	VP Finance	X	
Ian Stone	Student Services Mgr		
Ruby Barnard	Architecture	X	
Lawrence Liu	Arts		
Sherly Prince	Arts		
Joshua Kim	Arts		
Mathew Ho	Arts	X	
Carter MacLean	Arts	X	
	Audiology		
Jeanie Malone	BoG	X	
Max Holmes	BoG		
Kristian Oppenheim	Commerce	X	
James Chen	Commerce	X	
Varada Saha	Dentistry		
Ryan Wong	Economics	X	
Haruka Higo	Education		
Emma Dodyk	Engineering	X	
Nadir Nurali	Engineering	X	
Alexandra Arbelaez	Forestry	X	
Jackson Schumacher	Graduate Studies	X	
	Graduate Studies		
Nevena Rebic	Graduate Studies	X	
	Graduate Studies		
Laura Beaudry	Indigenous Seat	X	
	Journalism		
Annika Kamyabi	Kinesiology	X	
Rachel Chan	Land & Food Systems	X	Megan Fretz for part
Sebastian Cooper	Law	X	
Rio Picollo	Library/Archival		

Jeremy Zuo	Medicine		
Christian Bailey	Music	X	
Jake Reznik	Nursing	X	
	Ombudsperson		
Kevin Kang	Pharmacy	X	
Elsabe Fourie	Planning	X	
	Population & Public Health		
Chris Sundby	Regent College	X	
Danny Liu	Science	X	
Shovon Das	Science		Caris Tin
Jimmy Kim	Science	X	
Chris Hakim	Senate		
Alex Gonzalez	Senate	X	
Sean Ryan	St. Mark's	X	
Chrissa Rassias	Social Work		
Daniel Martin	VST	X	