



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of November 18, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council and Privacy Officer)

Guests: Bahareh Jokar (Studentcare), Lilly Callender (AMS Associate, Equity & Inclusion)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:20 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Lucia, Georgia).

Minutes

- Approval of the minutes of November 4 was postponed.

Health & Dental Plan

- Bahareh:
 - The Health and Dental Committee looked at the following issues:
 - Removal of permanent opt-outs.
 - This will mean students will have to opt out every year.
 - We found the permanent opt-outs problematic when students come back for a second degree or age out of their parents' plans.
 - Then there'd be an administration fee to re-enroll.
 - If we end the permanent opt-outs, we'll be very clear in our communication about what is happening.
 - It looks like we'll honour pre-existing permanent opt-outs.
 - A new legal service:
 - This would require a referendum to introduce a new fee.
 - The service would cover students' costs in civil court in cases involving housing, academics, or employment.

- All such costs would be covered; it would be an uncapped model to support students pursuing their legal rights.
 - Plus there would be a legal hotline.
 - We'd like to do a survey of campus to see if students want this.
- Sylvester:
 - Have to look at what the implications would be.
 - Fee restructuring?
- Bahareh:
 - There was a question about international students accessing this. They're going to be able to.
 - As to fees, it would be a new fee of \$27 or \$28 per student per year.
 - It would be made opt-outable for anyone.
 - Unlike the health and dental fee, which you can only opt out of if you have another health and dental plan, anyone could opt out of the legal service.
 - But if you opt out, you would not be able to access the service that semester.
 - I'd also like to do an overview of the Health and Dental Plan at Council.

[Bahareh left.]

- Lucia:
 - Just to be clear: the Health and Dental Committee has not yet decided to go ahead with either of these things.
 - The GSS also has not yet decided.
 - This is consultation time, scoping out how people feel.
 - The legal service is a product being offered by Studentcare.
 - It's not a bad idea, but there are other products out there.
 - Also there's no time for a referendum this year.

Equity Training

- Lilly:
 - Equity Training Program to onboard AMS staff and club executives.
 - Have already been talking to AMS Services about this.
 - Have talked about putting this on Canvas.
 - Aim is to increase the cultural competencies of the staff.
 - Would focus on anti-racism and how to engage with social issues.
 - Is this something the Executive feels would be helpful?
 - There would be role training: how to communicate inclusively and effectively.
 - Discussion of micro-aggressions, unpacking land acknowledgements.
 - This is really important. There isn't any equity/anti-racism training for AMS staff yet.

- The idea would be for the AMS to lead by example by introducing our own training model.
- I've consulted UBC's CSIC (Centre for Student Involvement & Careers): they have a module. Also UBC Equity & Inclusion. And Adeline, our consultant on the Equity Plan.
- Sylvester:
 - I think this is great. I'm fully on board. It's long overdue.
 - How this organization addresses such issues is something to look at.
 - We should have our own training modules, something ongoing, instead of a one-time workshop.
 - I originally wanted to provide resources through a workshop, but we need something more permanent and continuous.
 - Can I send the proposal to the clubs to get their feedback?
 - UBC's SVPRO (Sexual Violence Prevention & Response Office) also has training modules: another avenue to build off.
- Ian:
 - I appreciate this: there's a lot of potential in Services.
- Sylvester:
 - Will there be specific outcomes by March or May?
 - We could have a Canvas course by second term.
- Lilly:
 - Re Timeline: The plan is to consult first and see what people have been trained on.
 - Equity can mean lots of things: how to unpack privilege, sexual assault prevention, anti-racism.
 - After consultation, one idea is to produce a video series.
 - Don't want to have people learn just once; it should be an ongoing educational process.
 - Hope to have script ready (for the videos) by the end of January.
 - Have films ready by the end of the year to pass on to the next administration.
- Sylvester:
 - My team is at your disposal.

CampusGroups

- Sylvester:
 - Hong, Sheldon, and I met with CampusGroups about the bug that was discovered last week.
 - Going to be receiving a forensic study from CampusGroups and we're looking to find out their plans.
 - Luckily, this bug was discovered by a student who brought it to our attention.
 - We informed CampusGroups and they were able to address it in minutes.

- We've received promises from CampusGroups about safety and security.
 - We're preparing a statement for Council on the bug and what will need to be done.
 - It was not really a breach.
- Sheldon:
 - I would call it a breach. An unauthorized person got access.
- Keith:
 - Do we have to notify?
- Sheldon:
 - Just because there's a breach doesn't mean we have to notify.
 - This was a quickly contained breach.
- Sylvester:
 - Our Privacy Impact Assessment team will be meeting soon.
 - We're going to release a statement.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm.