

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Guests: Charlotte Alden (Ubyyssey), Jackson Dagger (Ubyyssey), Andrew Ha (Ubyyssey), Pawan Minhas (Ubyyssey), Emmanuel Cantiller (student), Ben Du (student), Isabelle Ava-Pointon (AMS Chief Electoral Officer), Nicolas Williams (AMS AVP Administration), Saad Shoaib (AMS AVP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (Admin Assistant)

A) Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Speaker:

- We are meeting on stolen Musqueam land.
- It's Indigenous Solidarity Week across the country.
- This is a time of land claims, police brutality, and pipeline issues.

C) Adoption of the agenda:

1. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED GEORGIA YEE:

"That the agenda be adopted as presented."

The agenda was amended by removing an Elections Committee motion.

2. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED GEORGIA YEE:

"That the agenda be adopted as amended."

... No objections

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

Welcome to our new Members:

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

Goodbyes: Jake Reznik (Nursing)

E) Speaker's Business (5 minutes):

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

G) Consent Agenda Items

3. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED GEORGIA YEE:

“That the following consent agenda items be accepted as presented (simple majority):

Advisory Board minutes dated August 11, 2020	[SCD278-21]
Student Life Committee minutes dated October 20, 2020	[SCD279-21]
Governance Committee minutes dated November 2, 2020	[SCD280-21]
Advocacy Committee minutes dated October 30, 2020	[SCD281-21]
HR Committee minutes dated November 6, 2020	[SCD282-21]

... Carried

For: Agam Gill, Alexa Tanner, Alexandra Arbelaez, Alison St. Pierre, Anissa Meghji, Ryan Cheng (proxy for Annika Szarka), Carter MacLean, Chris Sundby, Cole Evans, Daniel Martin, Danny Liu, Elsabe Fourie, Emma Dodyk, Jackson Schumacher, James Chen, Jimmy Kim, Joshua Kim, Kalith Nanayakkara, Katherine Feng, Kristian Oppenheim, Laura Beaudry, Lawrence Liu, Mathew Ho, Nadir Nurali, Nevena Rebic, Rachel Chan, Ryan Wong, Sebastian Cooper, Sherly Prince, Sylvester Mensah Jr., Varada Saha

4. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED GEORGIA YEE:

“That the following consent agenda items be accepted as presented (2/3rds vote):

From the Governance Committee [SCD283-21], [SCD284-21]

“That Council adopt the following report from the Governance Committee: ‘Code Changes 2020: Updates Resulting from Bylaw Amendments’ and thus amend the Code as recommended.”

From the President

“That Council suspend Section VII: Advisory Board, Article 9(2) from the Code of Procedure, effective immediately and lasting until April 30, 2021.”

“That Council suspend paragraph 15 of Policy I-9 (Executive Goal-Setting and Reporting Policy) to allow the Executive to present its progress report on goals at the next meeting of Council.”

Sebastian Cooper:

- Why are we suspending Code for the Advisory Board?

Cole Evans:

- This is the regular Code suspension we’ve done for the last two years.
- We’re still working out how the Advisory Board will work.
- For the Executive Goals suspension, the Executive is hoping it’s okay if we submit next week.

- We've been very occupied the last few weeks dealing with a lot of issues; the goals update has not been our focus.

Max Holmes:

- Is continually doing Code suspensions for the Advisory Board the best idea?
- Shouldn't we be amending Code instead?
- If it's an advisory board, it's not fulfilling its purpose, which is to advise us.
- The minutes we received do not really fulfill that purpose.
- As to the goals postponement, is there a December Council meeting?

Cole Evans:

- Council is meeting next week.
- As to the Advisory Board, we've talked to them.
- For them it makes more sense to determine how it should be working going forward.
- So the advice of the Advisory Board is to wait.
- We could make Code changes, but we can't provide direction now on what they should look like.

Max Holmes:

- I would like to remove the Advisory Board motion and put it in Other Business.

5. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED GEORGIA YEE:

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From the Governance Committee

[SCD283-21], [SCD284-21]

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From the President

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... Carried

For (32): Agam Gill, Alison St. Pierre, Anissa Meghji, Ryan Cheng (proxy for Annika Szarka), Carter MacLean, Chris Sundby, Christian Bailey, Cole Evans, Daniel Martin, Danny Liu, Elsabe Fourie, Emma Dodyk, Georgia Yee, Jackson Schumacher, James Chen, Jeremy Zuo, Jimmy Kim, Joshua Kim, Kalith Nanayakkara, Katherine Feng, Kevin Kang, Kristian Oppenheim, Laura Beaudry, Mathew Ho, Nadir Nurali, Nevena Rebic, Rachel Chan, Rio Picollo, Ryan Wong, Sebastian Cooper, Sylvester Mensah Jr., Varada Saha

Abstained: Sherly Prince

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

AGM Summary and Report – Cole Evans

[SCD285-21]

- Super successful AGM (on Zoom). Super proud of it.
- Advance registration was 3052.
- The number who actually attended was 1625.
- When we called to order, we had 1490 present, so that was quorum.
- The meeting lasted three hours, and there were 100-plus questions.
- The results were overwhelmingly favourable, with three of the four Bylaw questions passing with more than 80% majorities.
 - The majority to pass the Records amendment was slimmer, but still 71%.
- The virtual format was very successful.
 - Feedback indicated that students enjoyed the convenience of a virtual meeting and not having to show up in person.
- The pre-registration far exceeded expectations (1500 registered in the first few hours), and over 50% of those registered actually showed up.
- Lots of positive feedback:
 - Students said they learned a lot about the AMS.
 - They liked the Town Hall portion.
- High level of interaction: 90% of those present cast votes, and there was lots of engagement in the Chat.
 - Almost too much engagement: we underestimated the time to discuss motions; we thought there'd be a couple of questions, but there were a lot more, verbally and through the Zoom Q&A feature.
 - Next time maybe we should not have so many motions on the agenda: maybe just one or two on top of the housekeeping ones.
- Handling a meeting of 1500 people was a fun challenge.
 - Have to look more at how to do that.
 - People used the Q&A function, and it was difficult to keep a speakers' list.
- In person we don't have a facility that could accommodate that many people, not in the Nest: we'd have to rent out the Chan Centre or the Thunderbird Arena.
- Issue with people calling the questions:
 - Of course, people have the right to do that, but they were doing it a lot.
 - Once people discovered it, it was used a number of times, even after the prize draw, as if the point was simply to get through the meeting.
 - Not sure how to handle that.
 - It meant we didn't answer all the questions.
 - Each call the question motion got about 90% votes in favour of calling the question.
- Working on a new template for the new bylaws.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- Who was doing the moderating and answering questions? Execs? Staff?

Cole Evans:

- It was a mix of Execs, my staff, Sebastian, Sheldon.

Sebastian Cooper:

- Cole and his team did a great job of providing rationales for the motions beforehand.
- Have the prize winners been announced?

Cole Evans:

- Emails have been sent out to the winners; they were asked if it's okay to release their names.

Max Holmes:

- It was amazing to see that we were able to get a quorate AGM.
- I do have a question about the prize draw:
 - Do we really think it's a good idea to give out prizes for democratic engagement?
 - It sets a dangerous precedent.
 - What are we going to do if we continue to offer prizes and if it becomes clear that the vast majority who attend are only there for the prizes?
 - They will try to get through the meeting quickly, calling the question ...

Cole Evans

- It's just an assumption that the vast majority were only there for the prizes.
- It discredits why people attend.
- There were definitely people there who wanted to get a prize.
- They still voted. They didn't have to vote.
- The Simon Fraser Student Society did this too, incentivizing with prize draws.
- You have to give students a reason to show up and vote.
- We could have adopted other approaches, for instance putting forward a motion taking a hard stance on Proctorio or against UBC charging the \$230 athletic fee.
- We need to explore other ways to incentivize other than throwing money at people.
- In the past we used free food.
- It's something to look at.

I) Consultation Period

J) Appointments

K) President's Remarks (5 minutes):

Cole Evans:

- The past few weeks have not been good for the Society from a PR standpoint.
- We have had a rough time in the news, on Reddit, Facebook, etc.
- It's been tough on the organization.
- But there's still great work happening:
 - Equity dialogue groups.

- Working with Communications on brand identity.
- Working on policy (my assistant Justin and the Governance Committee).
- Among the Executive, Kalith is talking to federal MP's as part of UCRU's lobbying week.
- Georgia is doing heavy lifting with the University about the climate emergency.
- Lucia is working to communicate information about our funds to students.
 - The Health & Dental surplus turns out not to be from over-collection, but from under-utilization because of COVID-19, which is good to know.
- Sylvester is working on the annual Student Leadership Conference.
- Things are going well despite the PR problems.

L) Executive Remarks (3 minutes each):

VP Finance – Lucia Liang

[SCD286-21]

- Health & Dental survey to see how the plan can be improved. 500 responses in the first hour.
- Q2 submission in tonight's docket.
- Finance minutes will come to the next meeting.
- Ian and his Student Services team working on collaboration with Finance for \$50,000 for Food Bank, mainly for items beyond food, such as diapers, gloves, and Christmas hampers.

Questions

Sebastian Cooper:

- Will you speak about Q2 next time?

Lucia Liang:

- Q2 was a submission.
- If Council wants a presentation, I'm more than happy to give a presentation.
- The main general thing was under-spending.
- A lot of the numbers are comparing to the first June budget, but they have to be adjusted in the reforecast.
- Didn't use September: it's not official.

Max Holmes:

- Really helpful information.
- Curious about where the greatest revenue uncertainty is.
- How much of the decrease in business revenue is from COVID?
- How much recovery do you expect, given all the new businesses around us?

Lucia Liang:

- The main uncertainty is from the businesses.
- They've broken even, but usually they contribute.

- Net contribution is going to paying off building operations.
- The business budget looks like it will contain an \$800,000 deficit.

Keith Hester:

- The business decline is entirely COVID-related; business down 80% from last year.
- Our competitors are actually starting to fall away; they are not as financially strong as we are.
- I'm confident we'll come out of this stronger and recover quickly.

VP Academic & University Affairs – Georgia Yee

- Indigenous Week of Action.
- Looking into a QPR suicide prevention session.
- Submitted a letter about Food Bank stats to the Board of Governors:
 - Food insecurity a trend exacerbated by COVID.
- Also a submission on affordable housing, urging wrap-up of the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan.
- Tuition consultation postponed this year.
- Will likely bring a presentation about UBC's budget.
- Advocating for low barrier COVID support.
- Climate Emergency Fund.
- Work Learn programs.
- Centre for Accessibility.
- Collegia Program – but who knows what commuter students and collegia are going to look like?
- Proctorio:
 - Presenting to the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee.
 - Students overwhelmed this semester – proposal to undergrad societies about student workloads.
- Celebrating instructors using OER's.
- Math 100 cheating scandal:
 - Pushing for a more compassionate approach.
 - Academic misconduct is the result of stress.
- Talk of extension of winter break: tradeoffs.
- Survey on Campus Security especially in relation to racialized students.
- Mid-term scheduling.
- Heard from the community about increased transparency around advocacy.
- Will be doing a campaign based on data obtained from the AES and the COVID survey.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- Is your office doing anything about the Math 100 situation?

Georgia Yee:

- We want to be very clear that the approach should be foregrounding student well-being.
- The students should not have been receiving the sort of email they did from the instructor.
- There's a larger issue of how UBC approaches academic misconduct: very much in a punishment way instead of building out academic integrity.
- It's vital to understand the causes: desperation and stress.
- Had conversation earlier today with the Associate Provost.

Ryan Wong:

- Have we heard if that professor will be facing any consequences for his way of handling the Math 100 situation?
- Is someone going to tell him that's not a professional way to act?

Georgia Yee

- We are not privy to information about the consequences.
- We want procedural fairness for the professor as well, just as we want it for the students.

Alison St. Pierre:

- Re the extension of winter break, this discussion has come up quite a bit in Education.
- Will this be at the Faculty level? How will it affect practicums? It's different for different faculties.

Georgia Yee:

- This is one of the reasons why it's been so difficult to schedule this extension.
- Discussions about whether this will have to be a faculty by faculty approach.

VP Administration – Sylvester Mensah Jr.

- Despite how challenging this term has been, my team has been able to develop connections with the clubs and other subsidiaries.
- We did a Fall Engagement Survey to gauge the needs of the clubs.
- The information gathered has been instrumental in helping us navigate the situation.
- Looking into skills workshops, training modules, something on Canvas for Term 2.
- Hatch Term 2 programming.
- Sustainability: Next symposium will be the first Friday in December on recovery with a consultation lens, a just recovery.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- Will the speakers for the December symposium come from diverse perspectives?

Sylvester Mensah Jr.:

- With a topic like this, we'll be setting precedents, shedding light on various barriers concerning the Climate Emergency.
- There will be a guest speaker plus Q&A.
- Working with the Climate Hub and the VPAUA team.

Sebastian Cooper:

- Re Campus Base privacy issues.
- Do we know who the people are who gained access to the site?
- Will you be implementing the recommendations in the Privacy Officer's report?

Sylvester Mensah Jr.:

- Yes, we are looking at implementing what Sheldon recommended.
- This was a group effort: we had a Privacy Impact Assessment committee, including Sheldon, Hong from IT, Nicolas (the AVP Administration), and myself.
- The recommendations are a consensus reached, based on the ongoing evaluation of the programs.
- They are very important; we are making sure to preserve the security of the personal information of our members.
- As to who was involved, the bug in the system was reported to us by an individual.
- We did speak to this individual, and a forensic audit showed that they downloaded the data, but we retrieved it from them.
- The data was also seen by a second individual, the reporter who wrote the article about this.
- Both have been communicated with to make sure the information has been destroyed, and we are certain that it is no longer in wrongful hands.

Ryan Wong:

- Re the Campus Culture and Performance Fund: Any updates on the selection process for adding new clubs?

Lucia Liang:

- The selection process is up to the group.
- The Finance Committee just rubber stamps.

VP External Affairs – Kalith Nanayakkara

- There's lots going on within the AMS and for me on a personal and professional level, but here is an update for the External portfolio.
- Finished developing post-election advocacy strategy.
- Will be lobbying for increased government funding to postsecondary institutions, which could lead to a stabilization of tuition levels.
- Speaking about this with David Eby, the MLA for this area.
- Also spoke to him about the rent freeze and applying it to student housing. He said he would fight for that.
- Working to get access to grants for graduate students.

- In the middle of federal lobbying week with UCRU: advocating to federal MP's, making solid progress.
- Then provincial lobbying in January.
 - Trying to involve other student unions.

Student Services Manager – Ian Stone

[SCD287-21]

- Re the Math 100 situation, the Advocacy Office is aware. I expect large use of the AMS Advocacy services.
- Community food hub in Acadia Park: privately funded. Food, diapers, etc.
 - Lucia and I are working on taking money from the Child Care Bursary Fund to help pay for this.
 - Coming to Council next week.
- eHub: RBC Get Seeded event: 44 teams applied, thousands of dollars in prizes.
- I've taken on the role of interim Senior Manager of Student Services.
- Working with SASC.

Managing Director – Keith Hester

- Closing the Nest earlier than usual this year: December 18.
 - The campus population will go down dramatically by then.
- Recruiting for permanent Senior Manager of Student Services and a new SASC Manager.
- Masks in the Nest: Got a contact for a supplier. Paid for by the Health & Dental surplus.
- COVID safety will be an issue for the January staff meeting.

M) Committee Reports (5 minutes each):

Advocacy Committee – Mathew Ho

[SCD288-21]

- Just Recovery Symposium.
- Academic Experience Survey.
- Tuition.
- Provincial government lobbying.
- External Policy/Code changes.

Steering Committee – Cole Evans

- Meeting next week.

Finance Committee – Lucia Liang

- Quarterly report.
- Loan application for \$32,000.
- Request from Services/Food Bank to use the Child Care Bursary Fund.

Governance Committee – Sebastian Cooper

[SCD289-21]

- Ethics and Accountability Committee.
- Draft policy on committee chair transitions.

Operations Committee – Katherine Feng

- COVID-19 club policy.
- Reviewing committee goals.

HR Committee – Lawrence Liu

- Helped with hiring of Elections Committee.
- Next step is to approve at the HR Committee.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- How has hiring been affected by COVID, given that duties may change for Elections Committee members?

Lawrence Liu:

- We have updated interview questions to deal with virtual events.
- Our interviews themselves have been done over Zoom.

Student Life Committee – Agam Gill

- Planned goals.
- Promoting voter turnout.
- Survey to clubs on how Student Life can support them.
- Providing input to the Sustainability team on what to do with their space.

Indigenous Committee – Laura Beaudry

- No update.

Elections Committee – Isabelle Ava-Pointon

- No report.

Advisory Board – Cole Evans

- Met in early November before the last Council meeting.
- Getting more concreteness on how the Advisory Board will work.
- Will meet again at the end of January.

SHAPE Committee – Cole Evans

- No report.

Fermentation Lab Committee – Lawrence Liu

- No report.

Ad Hoc Committee on Affiliate institutions – Chris Sundby

- Met Friday.
- Wonderful conversation.
- Participation from Georgia and Sheldon.

- The GSS showed up.
- Progress on sorting out our annoyances and problems as Affiliates.

Ad Hoc Committee on Events Structure and Audit – Cole Evans

- No update.
- Hope to meet once before the winter break.

N) Report from Presidents Council (2 minutes):

Cole Evans:

- Meeting tomorrow.
- Good forum for Constituency presidents to share what's going on.

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

Board of Governors – Max Holmes

- We've met a lot.
- Investment portfolio review.
- Mid-year financial review.
- Tracking well on enrollment: numbers are better than predicted.
- UBC is moving from 90's Internet to the 2000's.
- Recommendation to shift from five meetings to four a year, but there's been pushback: would this limit community engagement?
- Indigenous Engagement Committee: presentations.
- Community planning presentation.
- Presentation from SUO on COVID.
- Report on workload by gender.
- Teaching and Learning update
- Well-being annual report.
- Food insecurity update: very concerning. The AMS made a submission.
- Gateway Health building.
- Amendments to Campus Plan: mostly updates.
- Sustainability report
- Full Board meets next week, December 3.

Senate – Anisha Sandhu

- At November Senate there was an attempt to include a motion on an extended course withdrawal date and an extended deadline for Credit/D/Fail, but this failed: it was sent to the Teaching and Learning Committee instead.

Historical Update – Sheldon Goldfarb

- We'll be talking about the new committee on ethics and accountability, and this reminded me of past versions of this.
- Back in the 1920's Council set up a Vigilance Committee to spy on people doing improper things on campus (smoking, littering, loitering).

- There were objections, but a general meeting upheld the plan (it didn't last long, though).
- In those days the focus was not on misconduct by the Executive or Councillors, but on students at large.
- One of the oddest examples of discipline involved a student named Louis Chodat in the 1930's.
- The AMS ran athletics then, and decided that Louis was not eligible to play on the rugby team (not clear why: academic standing?).
- So he joined a non-UBC team.
- But AMS Council said no, no, no; UBC students can't play for non-UBC teams. (But they wouldn't let him play for the UBC team: oh, well).
- When Louis ignored Council, they fined him \$5, and when he refused to pay, they went to the University Administration and asked them to suspend him, which they did!
- And the Ubysey applauded, saying this demonstrated the power of student government (though conceding that it was a bit tough on poor Louis).

P) Minutes of Council and Committees of Council:

Q) Executive Committee Motions:

R) Constituency and Affiliate Motions:

S) Committee Motions:

6. MOVED SEBASTIAN COOPER, SECONDED COLE EVANS: [SCD290-21], [SCD291-21]

"That Council adopt the following report from the Governance Committee: 'Code Changes 2020: Ethics and Accountability' and thus amend the Code as recommended."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Sebastian Cooper:

- One of the results of the consultation last time is a renaming of the committee.
- Instead of the Discipline Committee, it will be the Ethics and Accountability Committee.
- Also, after the recommendations from Councillors and checking with Kareem (the current Speaker), we're recommending that the chair be the Speaker rather than the Ombudsperson.

Max Holmes:

- I hate to give opposite feedback to what I gave last time, but one worry I have is about the Speaker being chair: how will it work if the Speaker as chair of the committee is reporting to a Council meeting chaired by the Speaker?
- And should they be a voting member of the committee?

Sebastian Cooper:

- Great points.
- If they'd been brought up before, it would have been even better.
- The idea of having the Speaker be the chair came from their being non-partisan and having a knowledge of the rules.
- They could step aside from chairing Council while presenting a report.

Cole Evans:

- Good point from Max: It will be hard for the Speaker of Council to deliver the results of a report.
- A member of the committee could represent the committee to Council.
- We do get reports from the Speaker as the chair of Election Appeals committees.

Mathew Ho:

- Do transparency measures have to be put in Code?
- Will the committee submit a regular committee report?

Sebastian Cooper:

- These are issues for the committee to decide.
- It can determine its own rules and procedures.
- If something is confidential, they can go in camera, but the default is an open committee.
- They are very much operating as a unit of Council.

Max Holmes:

- For potential members of the committee, what's missing is HR expertise.
- It should be made clear what resources the committee can access.
- Can it get legal advice?

Mathew Ho:

- Will the meetings be open?

Cole Evans:

- Probably this committee will go in camera a lot.
- It will depend on the case and be up to the committee.

7. MOVED SEBASTIAN COOPER, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

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... Carried

For (33): Agam Gill, Alexa Tanner, Alexandra Arbelaez, Alison St. Pierre, Ryan Cheng (proxy for Annika Szarka), Carter MacLean, Chris Sundby, Christian Bailey, Cole Evans, Daniel Martin, Danny Liu, Elsabe Fourie, Emma Dodyk, Georgia Yee, Jackson Schumacher, James Chen, Jimmy Kim, Joshua Kim, Kalith Nanayakkara, Katherine Feng, Kevin Kang, Kristian Oppenheim, Lawrence Liu, Lucia Liang, Mathew Ho, Nadir Nurali, Nevena Rebic, Rachel Chan, Rio Picollo, Ryan Wong, Sebastian Cooper, Sherly Prince, Varada Saha

T) Other Business and Notice of Motions:

8. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED LUCIA LIANG:

From the President

“That Council suspend Section VII: Advisory Board, Article 9(2) from the Code of Procedure, effective immediately and lasting until April 30, 2021.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

9. MOVED MAX HOLMES:

“That the motion be amended to have the suspension last only until February 15.”

... No objections

10. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED LUCIA LIANG:

From the President

“That Council suspend Section VII: Advisory Board, Article 9(2) from the Code of Procedure, effective immediately and lasting until February 15, 2021.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Max Holmes:

- I don't want to keep suspending the Code.
- I want to examine the value we get from this body.

Sebastian Cooper:

- When this is brought back, maybe we can get a formal report from the Advisory Board saying why this has been delayed, explaining the rationale and also the long-range plan.

11. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED LUCIA LIANG:

From the President

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Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (33): Agam Gill, Alexa Tanner, Alexandra Arbelaez, Alison St. Pierre, Ryan Cheng (proxy for Annika Szarka), Carter MacLean, Chris Sundby, Christian Bailey, Cole Evans, Daniel Martin, Danny Liu, Elsabe Fourie, Emma Dodyk, Georgia Yee, Jackson Schumacher, James Chen, Jimmy Kim, Joshua Kim, Kalith Nanayakkara, Katherine Feng, Kevin Kang, Kristian Oppenheim, Lawrence Liu, Mathew Ho, Nadir Nurali, Nevena Rebic, Rachel Chan, Rio Picollo, Ryan Wong, Sebastian Cooper, Sherly Prince, Sylvester Mensah Jr., Varada Saha

Abstained: Laura Beaudry

12. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED GEORGIA YEE: [SCD292-21]

“That AMS Council refer the case of the Vice-President External Affairs and his apparent conflict of interest to the Ethics and Accountability Committee for review.”

Cole Evans:

- This is fairly straightforward.
- There is lots of supporting material.
- We could go in camera to discuss in detail.

Nevena Rebic:

- There is new information behind this motion, raising new questions about the Halloween pub crawl, the conflict of interest involving the VP External and the Plug, the health impact on students, and the fact that leaders need to think about the impact of their actions.
- I'd like to see a clear evaluation of what we know now and how it pertains to the Halloween event.
- This doesn't sit right with me.
- There are procedural issues to address.

Cole Evans:

- Procedurally, it was inappropriate for me to state things about a perceived conflict of interest.
- I kept things factual.
- It's up to the committee to decide what to focus on, if it wants to expand its scope.
- I'm not in a position to recommend what the committee should or should not do.
- It's important that I not make assumptions on things that I'm not 100% sure about.
- The committee can look at anything it wants.

Max Holmes:

- The Code for this committee doesn't give it that sort of leeway.
- It's to review issues referred to it by Council.

- The language is broad about procedures: the committee can set procedures for how to handle an issue, but not for what is sent to it.
- Nothing prevents Council from sending something new to it.

Cole Evans:

- My bad. Max is correct. The committee can't just look at anything.

13. MOVED SEBASTIAN COOPER:

"That the motion be amended to replace 'his' with 'the'."

... No objections

14. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED GEORGIA YEE:

"That AMS Council refer the case of the Vice-President External Affairs and the apparent conflict of interest to the Ethics and Accountability Committee for review."

Mathew Ho:

- Will the work of this committee affect the Ad Hoc Committee on Events?

Cole Evans:

- It's hard to tell what the committee will do.

Nevena Rebic:

- Can we task this committee to come up with rules on conflict of interest?

Sebastian Cooper:

- There are rules on that in the Code already.

Max Holmes:

- I have never seen a proactive report of conflicts of interest.
- The AMS may need to update its procedures.
- May need to make a staff member responsible for this.
- Could send to the Governance Committee.

Cole Evans:

- Another thing for Governance.
- AMS conflict of interest rules are almost entirely self-governing.
- It's up to Directors to declare.
- There's no structure in place, no centralized system.
- A system similar to what we have for elections might work:
 - At the beginning of your term as Director, you declare any conflicts of interest.
 - For instance, if you're on the board of the TD Bank, you would have to declare a conflict of interest on all issues of banking.

Nevena Rebic:

- Can we also think about proactive actions about student health?
- Look at the lack of action that may have put students at risk.
- It's not just about appropriate actions to avoid conflict of interest.

15. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED GEORGIA YEE:

"That AMS Council refer the case of the Vice-President External Affairs and the apparent conflict of interest to the Ethics and Accountability Committee for review."

... Carried

For (30): Agam Gill, Alexa Tanner, Alexandra Arbelaez, Alison St. Pierre, Ryan Cheng (proxy for Annika Szarka), Carter MacLean, Chris Sundby, Christian Bailey, Cole Evans, Daniel Martin, Danny Liu, Emma Dodyk, Georgia Yee, Jackson Schumacher, James Chen, Jimmy Kim, Joshua Kim, Katherine Feng, Kevin Kang, Kristian Oppenheim, Lawrence Liu, Lucia Liang, Mathew Ho, Nadir Nurali, Nevena Rebic, Rachel Chan, Rio Picollo, Ryan Wong, Sebastian Cooper, Varada Saha

Abstained: Elsabe Fourie, Kalith Nanayakkara, Sherly Prince

U) Discussion Period

AMS-Wide Managerial Updates (in camera discussion for Directors only)

The meeting went in camera at 8:48 pm and came out of camera at approximately 11:30 pm.

V) Submissions:

AMS Sustainability December Symposium Outline	[SCD293-21]
Finance Committee Q2 Report	[SCD294-21], [SCD295-21]
Campus Base Update	[SCD296-21]
NOVALSYS Privacy update	[SCD297-21]

Email vote:

The following motion passed without objection in an email vote held before the meeting.

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

"That Kristian Oppenheim be appointed to the HR Committee for a period effective immediately and ending a Council meeting in May 2021."

... No objections

W) Next Meeting: December 2, 2020

X) Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 pm.

Y) Social Activity:

Attendance and Voting Records

Name	Constituency	Attending	Consent	Consent 2/3rd	Code Changes Ethics & Accountability	Code Suspension Advisory Board	VP External Referral
Kareem Ibrahim	Speaker	X					
Cole Evans	President	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Georgia Yee	VP Academic	X		Y	Y	Y	Y
Lucia Liang	VP Finance	X			Y		Y
Sylvester Mensah Jr.	VP Admin	X	Y	Y		Y	
Kalith Nanayakkara	VP External	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	A
Ian Stone	Student Services Manager	X					
Agam Gill	St Mark's	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Alexa Tanner	GSS		Y		Y	Y	Y
Alexandra Arbelaez	Forestry	X	Y		Y	Y	Y
Alison St. Pierre	Education	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Anisha Sandhu	Senate						
Annika Szarka (Ryan Cheng Proxy)	Kinesiology		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Anissa Meghji	Social Work	X	Y	Y			
Carter MacLean	Arts	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Chris Sundby	Regent	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Christian Bailey	Music	X		Y	Y	Y	Y
Daniel Martin	VST	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Danny Liu	Science	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Elsabe Fourie	Planning	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	A
Emma Dodyk	Engineering	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Eshana Bhangu	Senate						
Jackson Schumacher	GSS	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Nursing						
James Chen	Commerce	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jeanie Malone	BoG						
Jeremy Zuo	Medicine			Y			
Jimmy Kim	Science	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Joshua Kim	Arts	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Katherine Feng	Science	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kevin Kang	Pharmacy	X		Y	Y	Y	Y
Kristian Oppenheim	Commerce		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Laura Beaudry	Indigenous Seat	X	Y	Y		A	
Lawrence Liu	Arts	X	Y		Y	Y	Y
Maryam Tayyab	GSS						
Mathew Ho	Arts	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Max Holmes	BoG	X					
Nadir Nurali	Engineering	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Nevena Rebic	GSS	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Oluwakemi Oke	Ombudsperson						
Rachel Chan	Land & Food	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rio Picollo	Library/Archival	X		Y	Y	Y	Y
Ruby Barnard	Architecture						
Ryan Wong	Economics	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sebastian Cooper	Law	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sherly Prince	Arts		Y	A	Y	Y	A
Varada Saha	Dentistry	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y