THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

February 19, 2021 Agenda of the AMS Governance Committee; 4pm
Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/91681615917

Attendance

Present: Sebastian Cooper (Chair), Danny Liu (SUS), Ryan Wong (VSEUS), Carter MacLean (AUS), Kalith Nanayakkara (AMS VP External Affairs), Kamil Kanji (student-at-large), Katherine Feng, Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council)

Guests:

Regrets:

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at ___ pm.

Agenda Items

Territorial Acknowledgement

Approval of the Agenda

Moved: Seconded:
That the agenda be adopted.

[The motion carries.]

Approval of Past Minutes

Moved: Seconded:
That the minutes of February 12, 2021 be approved.

[The motion carries.]

I-22: Committee Chairs Transition Reports

Update from Steering Committee.

Proposed Code changes

Discussion on proposed changes to bring Code into line with practice and Bylaw changes. Introduction of suggested amendments from the President.
Policy I-9: Executive Goal Setting and Reporting Policy


Conflict of Interest – officers and employees other than directors

Discussion of whether Govcomm should review conflict of interest responsibilities and language for officers of the society not including voting members of Council.

Referenda Responsibilities

Submission from Georgia Yee, VP AUA:

- I think it adds on a lot of additional labor to manually verify signatures. I don’t think it fits well in the VPAUA’s current responsibilities and skill set, nor is it an effective use of time of the VPAUA’s time either. It’s been pointed out that it might fit under the VP Admin portfolio or solely under the Elections Committee.

Submission from Jeanie Malone:

- My understanding of the issue is that we are lacking some clarity in (a) who owns the advertising/comms piece of the open call for referenda and (b) there was a sense from past AUAs that maybe verifying signatures isn’t the best use of their time/skillset. My suggestion would be to explore what can be done to ensure these duties are owned by someone (perhaps the CEO?) without needing to change bylaw. I think from my reading of bylaw 4 there is room for these specific duties to not belong to the AUA - but up to your committee to discuss. Or if it is best they reside within the AUA portfolio, some rewording may be needed to ensure there is clarity in this being their responsibility. Some of this may be better fit in a JD than in code and may end up getting delegated out to HRcomm, but again, up for the committee to consider first.

Faculty Senator Elections

WHEREAS the decision made by the Elections Committee about elections for UBC-Vancouver, faculty-student senators cannot be reversed for the 2021 Elections; and
WHEREAS Council continues to believe that all student elections at UBC should be run by students as has been the practice for decades;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT AMS Council direct the governance committee to report back with Code amendments to best ensure the following:
THAT AMS Elections, along with constituencies, continues to run student elections for UBC-Vancouver faculty-student senators;
THAT AMS Elections, must meaningfully consult UBC-Vancouver Student Senators and Governors for any changes related to their respective elections;
THAT AMS Elections, must meaningfully consult constituencies for any changes related to their respective faculty-student senator election; and THAT AMS Elections, must seek Council Approval if they plan on not running a UBC-Vancouver Student Senator or Governor election.
Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is February 26, 2021.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at ___ pm.