AMS Clubs and Societies Working Group
Minutes of the February 18th, 2021 Meeting | Zoom

Attendance

Present: Nicolas Williams (Chair), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (Vice-Chair), Arnaud Dione (Clubs Administrator), Tommy Xu (CRC Manager), Mary Gan (AVP Finance)

Regrets: Suyoung Ahn (Clubs and Constituencies Financial Administrator)

Call to Order
Moved by Nicolas, Seconded by Arnaud
The meeting was called to order at 1:07 PM

Land Acknowledgement

Approval of the Agenda
Moved by Arnaud, Seconded by Tommy
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda is adopted as presented.

1. New Club Applications
   1.1. Egyptian Students Association
       1.1.1. Good club for a strong constituency on campus. We typically approve all similar clubs like this.
       1.1.2. Recommended for constitution.
   1.2. L-Earn:
       1.2.1. Significant overlap with the Trading Group, does not offer a significant and unique contribution.
       1.2.2. Not recommended for constitution, on the basis of:
           1.2.2.1. The club’s mandate overlaps with the mandate of an existing AMS subsidiary, the UBC Trading Group.
   1.3. AMS New Urbanists at UBC
       1.3.1. An interesting perspective, a bit of confusion about the intent of the club.
       1.3.2. Significant overlap with UBC CapaCity, can collaborate with the club if they want.
       1.3.3. Not recommended for constitution, on the basis of:
1.3.3.1. The club’s mandate overlaps with the mandate of an existing AMS subsidiary, UBC CapaCity

1.4. Canadian Mentors for Youth UBC
   1.4.1. Vague application, unclear whether the role of the club is to recruit students or to mentor new entrants.
   1.4.2. Many services that already exist, therefore we cannot identify what the justification for AMS status is.
   1.4.3. Not recommended for constitution, on the basis of:
      1.4.3.1. There is not adequate justification for AMS status.
      1.4.3.2. Lack of clarity in application, some indication that this club will primarily focus on supporting students which are not members of the AMS.

1.5. AMS Hiking Club of UBC
   1.5.1. Significant overlap with the Varsity Outdoors Club.
   1.5.2. Not recommended for constitution, on the basis of:
      1.5.2.1. The club’s mandate overlaps with the mandate of an existing AMS subsidiary, the Varsity Outdoors Club.

1.6. FashionBiz at AMS UBC
   1.6.1. Good idea, but there is an overlap with the Creative Industries Network. Focuses on fashion as well as other areas and how to start a business there.
   1.6.2. However, Creative Industries Network does not explicitly state they would work with fashion. Also, minimal number of organizations in this area.
   1.6.3. There is also a University Fashion Club which overlaps with this.
   1.6.4. Not recommended for constitution, on the basis of:
      1.6.4.1. The club’s mandate overlaps with the mandates of multiple AMS subsidiaries, including the University Fashion Club and the Creative Industries Network.
      1.6.4.1.1. Recommend to group collaboration with the UFC.

1.7. AMS Science to Business Network @ UBC
   1.7.1. Mary mentioned that many clubs offer these services, and there is already a biotech club.
   1.7.2. Not recommended for constitution, on the basis of:
      1.7.2.1. The club’s mandate overlaps with the mandate of an existing AMS subsidiary, AMS UBC BCIT Biotechnology Club at UBC, as well as services offered by other AMS subsidiaries such as SUS.

2. Reforms to Operations Committee Policy Manual:
   2.1. Introduction of tasks given to Clubs & Societies Working Group with regards to reforms around bylaw changes. These include changes to the ways that bylaws are proposed and approved, in order to avoid future issues where bylaws are not in accordance with the Operations Committee Policy Manual.
2.1.1. Will bring a set of proposed changes to the Operations Committee by the middle of March.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm

Appendix
Reference: According to the Operations Committee Policy Manual as per Section 4.1: New Club Application; and Section 4.2: Constituting Clubs

1. New Club Applications

a. The ‘New Club Application’ shall be made available in the months of June, September, and January.

i. Club applications shall be made available at a minimum of one month prior to their due date

ii. Each group of Active AMS Members intending to form a club, or who have formed a club, may apply for club status by preparing and submitting the following mandatory items:

1. a petition signed by twenty-five (25) Active Members requesting AMS club status;

2. a list of potential resources the AMS Club may need from the AMS to function;

3. a one-year plan outlining three (3) proposed major events;

4. the purpose and goals of the AMS Club;

5. the type of AMS club (regular, program, etc.);
6. the AMS Club’s anticipated membership fee; and

7. any external affiliations the club may have.

b. All AMS clubs formed after January 2018 are required to follow the listed naming conventions:

i. All clubs shall be named AMS [CLUB NAME] at UBC; or AMS [CLUB NAME] @ UBC.

c. AMS Club applications are prohibited from having the words “council” or “society” in their club’s name

i. Exceptions can be made by the Operations Committee

2. Constituting Clubs

a. The Clubs and Societies Working Group shall recommend that the Operations Committee constitute a club on the basis of the following:

i. the club’s mandate furthers the Mission Statement of the AMS;

ii. there are sufficient resources within the AMS to support the club;

iii. it is open to all AMS Members, unless Program Club designation is sought;

iv. there is adequate justification for AMS club status;

v. the club’s mandate does not overlap with the mandate of an existing AMS subsidiary; and

vi. the club demonstrates the likelihood of future membership and financial stability.

b. The AMS Operations Committee may not approve a new club application that
proposes an AMS Club that it believes:

i. has an external affiliation that primarily favours or benefits an external organization;

ii. can be considered a ‘charity’ club;

iii. primarily focuses on benefiting communities that are not members of the AMS;

iv. promotes, or would have the effect of promoting, discrimination, contempt, or hatred, of any group or person based on their sex, sexual identity, gender identity or expression, racialization, age, family status, marital status, religion, faith, ability, disability, national or ethnic origin, Indigeneity, immigration status, socio-economic status, class, language, political affiliation, social affiliation, other personal characteristics, or any other similar factor.

c. When a group’s application has been approved by the Operations Committee, they will be required to submit the following within a 60-day period:

i. bylaws;

1. The Operations Committee may advise a club to submit a constitution.

ii. IGM minutes showing a record of the elected executives and approval of bylaws; and

iii. a club page on the relevant club management platform.

d. If a group’s approved application is unable to provide the necessary items stated in Section 2, (f) within a 60-day period, the approval may be retracted by the Office of the Vice President Administration.

e. The Operations Committee and the Office of the Vice President Administration shall
advise newly constituted AMS Clubs of additional requirements they need to fulfill.

f. Club applicants may not appeal a decision made by the Operations Committee.

i. The Vice President Administration may recommend to the Operations Committee that a club application be reconsidered.