

February Advocacy Committee Report to AMS Council

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Greetings and Salutations from the advocacy committee!

The Advocacy Committee meets bi-weekly on Mondays from 5 to 6 pm PST on Zoom; if you would like to join let me know!

As always, you can reach me at advocomchair@ams.ubc.ca or mathew_hoo@yahoo.ca .

Works in Progress (or on the Horizon)

- Work on Hybrid/ Online Learning: The AMS VPAUA's portfolio is pushing for better course accessibility, especially in hybrid and online learning. The work has included budget asks of over \$500,000 for lecture recording infrastructure, along with supporting UBC in their current release of grants to test out pilot programmes allowing for 5 proposals for up to \$18,000 each, in response to growing interest in the medium by faculties. The Advocacy Committee has been consulted for suggestions and areas to explore, such as accessibility and technology grants, but more work is needed.
- Skytrain to UBC: the VP External portfolio, is working on advocacy strategies to have Skytrain to UBC to be prioritized by the Council of Mayors, especially in presenting the wider community picture of benefits that Skytrain to UBC can bring. As an ongoing issue, the Advocacy Committee is expected to receive more updates.
- Statement on Anti-Asian Racism: Currently in the process of being drafted by the AMS VPAUA, Advocacy Committee was consulted about potential considerations to be added in a statement draft, from groups that should be consulted, to the bigger picture on how racism is tackled in UBC and in the community in Vancouver.

Work Completed this Month

- Reviewed draft language surrounding exam hardships for students in other timezones, which is to be sent to the UBC Senate by the AUA office.
- Explored the role of Advocacy Committee in relation to AMS Council's vote for Governance Committee to work on the issue of Faculty Student Senator's Elections, especially given that these elections are under the purview of not UBC, but the University and possibly provincial legislation.
- Provided responses in regards to consultations relating to student learning space priorities, requirements, and other relevant concerns for the F2021 term.