

## **STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES**

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Guests: Charlotte Alden (Ubyssey), Andrew Ha (Ubyssey), Tina Yong (Ubyssey), Dante Agosti-Moro (UBC Student Senator), Isabelle Ava-Pointon (AMS Elections), Mona Zilinskaite (AMS Elections), Ben Du (AMS Operations Committee), Shivani Mehta (AMS AVP Academic), Saad Shoaib (AMS AVP External), Jason Pang (AMS Sustainability), Lorris Leung (AMS Senior Student Services Manager), Mackenzy Metcalfe (UCRU), Katherine Westerlund (former Governance Chair), 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 with Cole Evans in the chair.

### **B) Territorial Acknowledgement:**

The Chair:

- This is to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, unceded, ancestral lands of the hən̓q̓əmiñəm-speaking Musqueam people.
- It's important to do these acknowledgements to recognize that there is work still to do, especially in leadership, to advance the principles of reconciliation.
- It's imperative that we support the Indigenous cause.

### **C) Adoption of the agenda:**

#### 1. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED JAMES CHEN:

"That the agenda be adopted as presented."

... No objections

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

Welcome to our new Members: Ray Hua (Science)

Vacancies on Council: Journalism, Population & Public Health, Audiology, GSS x2

Goodbyes: Shovon Das (Science)

### **E) Speaker's Business (5 minutes):**

The Chair:

- There are a few proxies tonight: message me your votes in Zoom Chat.
- I've organized the submissions to indicate where they're coming from to make things clearer.

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

## G) Consent Agenda Items

### 2. MOVED GEORGIA YEE, SECONDED LUCIA LIANG:

“That the following consent items be accepted as presented (simple majority).”

AMS Executive Committee minutes dated January 20, 2021	[SCD349-21]
AMS Executive Committee minutes dated January 27, 2021	[SCD350-21]
Operations Committee minutes dated November 4, 2020	[SCD351-21]
Operations Committee minutes dated November 18, 2020	[SCD352-21]
AMS Council minutes dated November 25, 2020	[SCD353-21]
Student Life Committee minutes dated December 7, 2020	[SCD354-21]
Governance Committee minutes dated November 16, 2020	[SCD355-21]
Minutes from the Presidents Council dated November 26, 2020	[SCD356-21]
Governance Committee minutes dated November 26, 2020	[SCD357-21]

Max Holmes:

- Why don't we have more up-to-date minutes from committees?

The Chair:

- Good question. Maybe ask the specific committee chairs when they report.
- Maybe they haven't met to approve recent minutes.

### 3. MOVED GEORGIA YEE, SECONDED LUCIA LIANG:

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Student Life Committee minutes dated December 7, 2020	[SCD354-21]
Governance Committee minutes dated November 16, 2020	[SCD355-21]
Minutes from the Presidents Council dated November 26, 2020	[SCD356-21]
Governance Committee minutes dated November 26, 2020	[SCD357-21]

... Carried

**For (25): Agam Gill, Annika Szarka, Anissa Meghji, Abigail Stocker (proxy for Chris Sundby), Christian Bailey, Danny Liu, Emily Masse, Alex Gonzalez (proxy for Emma Dodyk), Georgia Yee, Jackson Schumacher, James Chen, Jeremy Zuo, Jimmy Kim, Kalith Nanayakkara, Katherine Feng, Kiera Vandeborne, Kristian Oppenheim, Mathew Ho, Nadir Nurali, Julia Burnham (proxy for Nevena Rebic), Rachel Chan, Ray Hua, Ryan Wong, Sebastian Cooper, Varada Saha**

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

***UCRU Updates – Mackenzy Metcalfe & Kalith Nanayakkara***

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- Working on bylaws for UCRU (Undergraduates of Canadian Research-intensive Universities).
- Lawyers have been consulted.
- The latest draft is a submission tonight.
- Mackenzy will talk about the process.

Mackenzy Metcalfe (VPX Western and UCRU Chair):

- A lot of great things have been happening.
- We had our Lobby Week and met 70 Members of Parliament.
- Did a climate survey, with the most responses coming from UBC.
- Also our Debt Free Degree campaign.
- But we're stretched really thin.
- We want to do better research and advocate on more topics.
- We need to formalize as an organization to become more permanent and sustainable, so we've drafted bylaws.
- Under the bylaws, leaving UCRU will be easy, and that section of the bylaws is never to be changed without unanimous support, so no one will be stuck in UCRU.
- It will be one school, one vote.
- We're only for U-15 schools, the larger schools.
- Won't be including the smaller schools.
- Still lots of work to do on the bylaws; they have nothing in them on policies or on electing the chair.
- This is intentional; we are solidifying and complying with the law.
- Feedback deadline is February 25.

*Questions*

Max Holmes:

- The AMS is meant to represent both graduate and undergraduate students.
- These bylaws say Undergraduates.
- Why limiting like this?

Mackenzy Metcalfe:

- 90% of our advocacy is for graduate students too.
- It's just semantics, but it's regrettable that the name is limiting.
- But our advocacy is on such things as financial aid, Indigenous students, international students: these are all applicable to graduate students.
- Your graduate students get to vote for your VP External, who can advocate for graduate issues such as research grants at UCRU.

Max Holmes:

- Do you include the graduate student societies of other universities?

Mackenzzy Metcalfe:

- Only undergrads, but this is not an intentional exclusion.

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- We have been supporting the GSS in creating their own version, GCRU.
- We are trying to support grad students.

Mackenzzy Metcalfe:

- No reason we couldn't in the future have a graduate student wing.

Jackson Schumacher:

- Do you see yourselves making graduate student asks?

Mackenzzy Metcalfe:

- We can explore that.
- The problem now is we don't have standing policy.
- Hope to build out.
- You do have an advocate (your VP External) who can bring issues to us.
- Our advocacy on loans and grants and on international visas does benefit graduate students.

Max Holmes:

- What will the membership dues be?

Mackenzzy Metcalfe:

- There are no membership dues in the bylaws, but UCRU wants to work towards this.
- Currently, our individual researchers do the work, which is a burden on them.
- Ideally, we should have a centralized system.
- Once we move on with that we can decide on a fee structure.

Max Holmes:

- Ten of the 15 U-15 schools are on the east coast.
- How will you ensure good regional representation?

Mackenzzy Metcalfe:

- Right now we are tackling big issues that affect students across the country.
- For instance, financial aid: and we refer to UBC as an inspiration because in BC you pay no interest on provincial student loans.

Mathew Ho:

- This is a one vote, one school structure?

Mackenzzy Metcalfe:

- We are looking at the bicameral structure of the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance.

- One body in their two-body structure is one school, one vote; the other is proportional.
- This is when you have vastly different-sized schools.
- But we're moving slowly.
- Scheduling a policy conference.
- Hold your VP External accountable for what goes in the bylaws.

Mathew Ho:

- How will you review policies?

Mackenzy Metcalfe:

- We will have AGM's to review policies.

Max Holmes:

- What fee model will you adopt?

Mackenzy Metcalfe:

- That is for next year to work out.

#### **I) Consultation Period**

#### **J) Appointments**

#### **K) President's Remarks (5 minutes):**

Cole Evans:

- Election nomination forms are due tomorrow.
- Meeting with the University on career services and Linked-In Learning: been in the works for a while.
- Creating Canvas modules to onboard staff and also provide information for the general student population.
- AMS Auditorium feasibility study being done.
- Monitoring the pandemic and adapting accordingly.
- The Exec are working on their projects.
- We have a new Senior Student Services Manager, Lorris Leung: Welcome.
- Thanks to Ian for filling in.

*Questions*

Max Holmes

- Have the AMS Executives been following the past practice of encouraging candidates to run in AMS elections?

Cole Evans:

- You would have to ask the other Execs. I hope yes.
- As far as I know, our team has been supporting candidates who wish to run for their position.

**L) Executive Remarks (3 minutes each):**

**VP Finance – [Lucia Liang]** [SCD358-21], [SCD359-21]

- Lucia is away for Chinese New Year, but has sent reports: an update and a funds and fees report.

**VP Academic & University Affairs – Georgia Yee** [SCD360-21], [SCD361-21], [SCD362-21]

- Exciting updates.
- In response to our Work Learn submission, there's going to be \$600,000 for off-campus Work Learn opportunities, primarily for Indigenous students and students with disabilities: populations that often don't have much support.
- Rolling out more information on the SC-17 (sexual misconduct) implementation committee.
- Submission on health and well-being for marginalized communities.
- Awesome workshop on microaggressions: building up framework for anti-racist education.
- Starting to organize campaign around tuition increases: connecting with student groups (GSS, UBCSUO).
- Athletics & Recreation financial relief: data gathering.
- Transition to face-to-face.

*Questions*

Max Holmes:

- Is the \$600,000 for Work Learn going to be new funding? Or from existing Work Learn positions? Is it in addition to the off-campus pilot?

Georgia Yee:

- This is additional on top of the previous allocation.

**VP Administration – Sylvester Mensah Jr.**

- Sylvester is away.

**VP External Affairs – Kalith Nanayakkara** [SCD363-21] [SCD364-21]

- Good news: Loujain al-Hathloul has been released, something we've been advocating for over the last few months.
- Thank you all for sharing and supporting the campaign.
- Web series on co-ops and how they can help solve problems, especially housing co-ops: helping with affordable housing.
- Ended our provincial Lobby Week yesterday.
  - Met with the Minister of Advanced Education, Anne Kang.
  - Great conversation.
  - Talked about operational funding.
  - Emphasized housing priorities.

*Questions*

Mathew Ho:

- Now that Lobby Week is over, how will you follow up?

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- Lobby Week is just the first step of a long process.
- There are many new MLA's, so much of the time was spent on introductions.
- There will be follow-up conversations. Have arranged recurring meetings.
- Met with staffers.

Max Holmes:

- Funding for housing? Can that come from the provincial grant?

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- Looking into housing and the grant process.

Mathew Ho:

- Would a Policy Advisor help with exploring how the grant process works?

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- A Policy Advisor would help.
- Our team has been doing research and laying the foundation for the next VP External.

Max Holmes:

- Have we considered increasing the salary of the Policy Advisor since we're having trouble recruiting?

Keith Hester:

- The problem is that this position is on a unionized scale; we are restricted in how much we can pay.
- We'll be negotiating in May and can look at increasing it then.

Mathew Ho:

- How many other student unions have policy advisors?

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- Ten of the U-15 schools have one.
- I understand it has played a useful role.
- I don't have experts to support me and this is a gap.

4. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED JACKSON SCHUMACHER:

"That Council extend the question period until the speakers list is exhausted."

... No objections

Katherine Feng:

- What is the union issue for the Policy Advisor?

Keith Hester:

- A lot of the other schools are in a different union.
- Our union here is different.

Cole Evans:

- Each bargaining unit has unique traits.

### **Student Services Manager – Ian Stone**

- Looking at getting volunteers for our Housing Service:
  - Focusing on a database.
  - Appointments to answer housing questions.
- Safewalk running the same.
- Food Bank:
  - May-December 2020: 1404 visits, a 67% increase over same period in 2019.
  - Looks like we'll surpass 2,000 visits by May.
  - The huge jump is due to COVID.
  - Received 20,000 pounds of food from Food Mesh.
- Peer Support:
  - Event during Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
  - Naloxone kits.
  - Doing targeted outreach on Reddit.
- Advocacy: New coordinator.
  - Thanks to Angus for his work over the past years.
- Tutoring:
  - Training tutors on new software. Nimbus.
  - Collaborating with faculties for promo and review sessions
- eHub: No coordinator; my assistant is working to keep things going.
- Passing on information to Lorris, the new Senior Manager of Student Services.
- Getting back to my goals, which I had to put on the back burner while I acted as interim SMSS.

### **Managing Director – Keith Hester**

- Helping Lucia with this year's budget reforecast.
- Working on next year's budgets.
- Successful all-staff meeting January 26. Next one in March.
- Lorris is interviewing candidates for SASC Manager.
- Q3 report due at next meeting.
- The Health & Dental Committee increased psychological health coverage to \$1,000 and approved mental health subsidies.

Lorris Leung:

- Excited to work with the UBC student community.



- It's only my second week.
- Hoping to provide guidance.

*Questions*

Julia Burnham:

- I see there's going to be a Valentine's Day event with \$5 drink specials in the Gallery.
- This is in contrast to our past discussions about large gatherings sponsored by the fraternities in the Gallery.
- I'm concerned about health and safety.
- How was this decision made?
- And the ad hoc Events Committee has not met yet.

Keith Hester:

- The health and safety of all our members is uppermost in our minds.
- We do follow all COVID protocols.
- Seating capacity in the Gallery has been reduced to 40, with the seats quite distanced.
- There are extra security guards ensuring mask wearing.
- Tables have been distanced
- Extra security on the weekend

Julia Burnham:

- I don't understand the process of deciding to limit these things and then continuing to host events.

Keith Hester:

- The events we discussed before were under the AMS Events Department.
- This is under Food & Beverage, a separate entity.
- All our procedures make it COVID-safe.

Jackson Schumacher:

- Will there be extra security at this event?

Keith Hester:

- It's this Friday; we have extra security on Fridays.

Jackson Schumacher

- In lieu of the ad hoc committee meeting, I'd like to see more involvement of Executives in the Gallery.
- I don't like the optics of this.
- Even if it's COVID-safe, I don't feel it's wise to be hosting this.
- We need Executives regulating this better.

Cole Evans:

- The ad hoc committee will meet to discuss scope.

- That's going to be for our Events Department.
- This is Food & Beverage, but we can look for avenues to be involved.

Sebastian Cooper:

- In terms of this event, are all public health orders being followed?

Keith Hester:

- Yes, and exceeded.

Sebastian Cooper:

- There is a Public Health organization issuing recommendations, and Keith has reassured us that we are following them.
- I don't think we should look to optics.
- It's hard for individual students to be part of the larger community.
- We shouldn't stop that for fear of optics.

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- I thought it's just drink specials and not an event. It seems pretty similar to the happy hour menu.

Max Holmes:

- It seems very different than basic drink specials when this is a social event with drink specials too.
- This is basically like AMS Events except its just being done by F&B.

Jeanie Malone:

- Regardless of who is running it, the risk analysis is the piece I think we are missing.

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- Lots of student employees rely on the income they make from their jobs at the Gallery and other AMS businesses.
- It's important to keep our businesses alive while not worsening our deficit.

Laura Beaudry:

- The biggest concern is that people from different households will be meeting up.
- You can't ensure people are staying in their bubbles.

Max Holmes:

- I'm worried about the amalgamation of things. The combination.
- The Gallery being open and offering drinks at a discount on a day when people go out.
- We're not trying to shut the Gallery down and take away people's jobs, but we need to think what is best for our society.
- I'm hoping there's enough oversight coming from our Executives.

Georgia Yee:

- We are hearing that Councillors think there are very important decisions to be made concerning public safety guidelines.
- We need risk analysis.

**M) Committee Reports (5 minutes each):**

**Steering Committee – Cole Evans**

- Meeting next week about how to make the committee more useful.
- May lead to a Code change.

**Finance Committee – Lucia Liang**

[SCD365-21]

- Away.
- Written update submitted.

**Governance Committee – Sebastian Cooper**

- Working on Policy I-22 (committee chair transitions).
- Code clean-up.
- Updating the internal Records Policy to bring it in line with the amended Bylaws.
- Policy I-21 (committee appointments): a small change about candidates for committee chair positions.
- Policy I-9 (Executive Goals) review.

**Advocacy Committee – Mathew Ho**

- Hybrid learning updates: more budget allocations for alternative learning models for accessibility and accommodation, especially for Indigenous students in rural communities.
- Shortcomings of technology.
- Funding for infrastructure for online and hybrid learning.
- Maybe technology grants.
- Fall 2021 consultation on student learning spaces.
- More hand sanitizers.
- Smaller classes.

*Questions*

Max Holmes:

- Could each chair please state the last monthly report you submitted and the last minutes?

Cole:

- Maybe the chairs could just put that in the Zoom Chat.

**Operations Committee – Katherine Feng**

[SCD366-21]

- Clubs naming discussion.
- Looking at changes to the ToR for the Clubs and Societies subcommittee.

- Sylvester updated us on the AMS Canvas Module: will be a pilot project. Eventually will provide information on the AMS to all students.

**HR Committee – Emmanuel Cantiller for Lawrence Liu** [SCD367-21]

- Discussed the Speaker position and agreed to leave the posting up.
- Recommendation re the Elections Appeal chair change.
- Policy I-22 will be brought to the committee for review.

**Student Life Committee – Agam Gill** [SCD368-21]

- Discussed enhancing outreach for elections to improve total voter turnout and diversity.
- Discussed adding questions to the Academic Experience Survey to find out what students want for elections.
- Discussed ways to diversify our social media to attract more students.
- Working on the formation of the Grad Class Subcommittee.

**Indigenous Committee – Laura Beaudry**

- Working on Town Hall for self-identification system for students.
- Want to ask Indigenous students if they're okay with letting people self-identify.
- Working with the Chief Electoral Officer on election to fill the Indigenous seat: want a system under which only Indigenous students can vote for that seat.
- Permanent Indigenous cultural installation in the Nest.

**Ethics & Accountability Committee – Katherine Feng (Vice-Chair)**

- Hope to meet next week and then more often.
- Will discuss terms of reference.

**Elections Committee – Isabelle Ava-Pointon** [SCD369-21]

- Busy time.
- Nominations for AMS exec and SLFS close tomorrow.
- Working with the Indigenous Committee to come up with an electoral system for the Indigenous seat.
- Training Constituency Election Administrators to run elections.
- Faculty student senator election conversation coming later

*Questions*

Max Holmes:

- Is the Elections Committee making any more major rule changes?

Isabelle Ava-Pointon:

- Nothing has changed since the last time.
- The election is all online, no lawn signs, no posters, no in person campaigning.
- Lower spending limits.

Ray Hua:

- Any referendum questions coming?

Isabelle Ava-Pointon:

- That is a question for Georgia:

Georgia Yee:

- None of the referendum questions have met the threshold yet.
- The deadline is February 22.

Mathew Ho

- Do you think that COVID is affecting the signatures?

Georgia Yee:

- Yes, but to deal with that this year it was permitted to post on social media to enable students to get signatures.
- Some are close to 1,000, which is what they need.

Cole Evans:

- Why February 22?

Georgia Yee:

- This follows last year.

Cole Evans:

- Technically the 22nd is too late.

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- Bylaws require 10 days from the receipt of the petition before the referendum can be held, so if you want the referendum at the same time as the elections on March 1, the deadline should be February 19.

Cole Evans:

- There is discussion in the Chat on whether a referendum petition has to come to Council.

Jeanie Malone:

- I thought it only needs to go to Council if we want to endorse it.

Sebastian Cooper:

- Council can determine that a referendum doesn't meet certain requirements. But that doesn't mean it has to go to Council.

Max Holmes:

- The referendum guide page on the website doesn't have much information.
- It just says the referendum guide is coming soon.

Georgia Yee:

- The guide is similar to last year's.

- It should be uploaded soon.
- It needs to be in line with COVID restrictions, so no in person campaigning.

**Advisory Board – Cole Evans**

- No update.
- Meeting in March.
- Will bring an update to Council on the direction the Board wants to go.

**SHAPE Committee – Cole Evans**

- No update.

**Fermentation Lab Committee – Emmanuel Cantiller for Lawrence Liu**

- No update.

**Ad Hoc Committee on Affiliate Institutions – Abigail Stocker for Chris Sundby**

- Meeting tomorrow.

**Ad Hoc Committee on Events Structure and Audit – Cole Evans**

- Meeting in the next couple of weeks to determine the direction of the committee.

*Jeanie Malone asked that a Discussion Period topic be added on the referendum.*

*From the Chat:*

Govcomm (Sebastian Cooper): Last report: January 27 (checked and it's online). Last minutes: November 30.

Emmanuel Cantiller (for Lawrence Liu): HR last met last Friday (February 5th).

Advocomm submissions (Mathew Ho): Last minutes: November 26. Last report: December report.

Agam Gill:

The Student Life Committee's last report was the January report, submitted on February 5th. The committee's last meeting minutes are from December 7th, as the meeting minutes from our January meeting (which was held later due to the lengthened winter break) were approved at our first February meeting, which was yesterday! Thank you!

**N) Report from Presidents Council (2 minutes): Cole Evans**

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

**Board of Governors – Jeanie Malone & Max Holmes**

Jeanie Malone:

- Board committees met last week.
- Full board February 16.

- A huge range of topics.

*Questions*

Jackson Schumacher:

- When will BoG consider the Senate motion about hiring Black faculty?

Max Holmes:

- It hasn't gone to the Board yet; it was just passed at Senate last night.
- Funding plans may come from the Anti-Racism Task Force.
- Hopefully there will be a discussion on the April agenda.

Jeanie Malone;

- The Academic Excellence Fund might be considered.

Mathew Ho:

- Judging by student reaction on social media, the tuition consultation is not having a positive effect.

Jeanie Malone:

- Having no consultation would be worse.
- I do hear from students saying they don't want tuition to increase, and it's hard when that message doesn't seem to be heard.

Max Holmes:

- If we didn't have the consultation, that would be a loss.
- Tuition consultation has been a priority of the AMS for a long time.
- If that's changing, I'd like to know.
- Students don't get the result they want, but at least there is a discussion.
- You can watch the first day of the BoG meeting on the webcast: look for the questions.
- A larger consultation package will be coming.

**Senate – Dante Agosti-Moro (Student Senate Caucus co-chair)**

- Really busy meeting.
- Climate Emergency Task Force report.
- The Student Senate Caucus presented goals.
- Senate approved an extension to withdrawal deadlines until April 14.
- Report from the Provost on winter 2021 session.
- Plans for return to school in the fall or January.
- Three motions on race:
  - Hire at least 10-15 Black academics.
  - Expand the awards available to Black students.
  - Consult with the Task Force on Anti-Racism about expanding the African Studies curriculum

*Questions*

Mathew Ho:

- What's happening with Proctorio?

Dante Agosti-Moro:

- There's a motion working its way through the committee process which will set guidelines for its use.
- It's not up to Senate ultimately. It's a business decision by the Administration and the Board of Governors.

Max Holmes:

- I was on the committee considering this.
- We were looking at all remote invigilation, not just one tool.
- Conversation is happening.
- The AMS and the GSS have been invited to take part.
- I highly encourage the AMS to take advantage of this opportunity for consultation.

Georgia Yee:

- I'm more than happy to talk about the next steps for Proctorio.
- Emphasizing ethics and the integrity framework.
- There are race, equity, and privacy concerns.

Mathew Ho:

- Is there work being done about the weird exam hours?

Georgia Yee:

- We are working on putting this in the exam hardship policy.
- Want to make sure students are not required to write exams at odd hours.

Dante Agosti-Moro:

- Students can ask for an academic concession if they have to write an exam in the middle of the night.
- Take advantage of the accommodation that is available.
- Reach out to your student senator if you are having issues.

**Historical Update – Sheldon Goldfarb**

- Given the arrival of UCRU, I thought I'd survey some of the past student associations.
- 1926 National Federation of Canadian University Students (NFCUS).
- In 1964, to broaden to include college students, this became the Canadian Union of Students (CUS)
- Finding it too radical, the AMS withdrew from the CUS in 1969, but we joined a service organization called the Association of Student Councils (AOSC).
- Then came the National Union of Students (NUS) in 1972 and in 1981, out of a merger of NUS and AOSC, the CFS (the Canadian Federation of Students).
- We didn't join the NUS, finding it too radical too.



- We were a provisional member of the CFS, but when it went to a referendum here it was defeated in the largest No vote in AMS history.
- We then helped found the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) in the mid-90's, but left it in 2011.
- And now there's UCRU, formerly known as ADVOCAN.
- Lots of acronyms, which reminds me of the acronym song I wrote long ago about all the acronyms associated with the AMS.
- Set to the tune of "The Modern Major-General" from Gilbert & Sullivan, and inspired by Tom Lehrer's elements song, which used the same tune.
- [Sheldon sang his acronym song to much applause.]
- This dates from 2013, and 40 of the 50 still exist.

*Questions*

Mathew Ho:

- I feel like we need a session on the ones that no longer exist.

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- I'll look into that.

Mathew Ho:

- What did you mean by saying the CUS and NUS were seen as too radical?

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- They pushed for progressive policies in militant ways and went beyond education issues. I think perhaps on the Vietnam War, that sort of thing.

**P) Minutes of Council and Committees of Council:**

**Q) Executive Committee Motions:**

**R) Constituency and Affiliate Motions:**

**S) Committee Motions:**

5. MOVED SYLVESTER MENSAH JR., SECONDED LUCIA LIANG: [SCD370-21]

**From the Finance Committee**

"That AMS Council on the recommendation of the Finance Committee approve up to \$26,133.12 in funding out of the Capital Projects Fund for the purpose of constructing the Interactive Sustainability Centre."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Jason Pang:

- Claire presented last Council.
- Today we're asking for funding for construction.

Max Holmes:

- We had better change the Mover and Seconder, since neither is here tonight.

*It was agreed to make the change:*

6. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED KATHERINE FENG:

**From the Finance Committee**

“That AMS Council on the recommendation of the Finance Committee approve up to \$26,133.12 in funding out of the Capital Projects Fund for the purpose of constructing the Interactive Sustainability Centre.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Sebastian Cooper:

- I still don't understand why we need a physical centre costing \$26,000.
- Last time there was talk of this being an interactive space, but this is a small office.
- Still don't see why this can't just be online.

Jason Pang:

- We did consultation with clubs, the Climate Hub, the Student Environment Centre, Constituencies, other environmental groups.
- The idea of the space is for it to be a resource where people can come together.
- Hosting the dashboard showing emission calculations, showing a calendar of events.
- This was not successful digitally; hopefully better physically.

Max Holmes:

- Was Climate Justice UBC consulted?

Jason Pang

- Yes, they attended focus groups.
- They wanted to use it as an activist lab.

Max Holmes:

- The project would use Chop Value as a sustainable furniture provider.
- Have we looked into this to see if it would actually lower carbon emissions?

Jason Pang:

- They were started by UBC students.
- Their website shows how sustainable they are.
- I'm confident they are very sustainable.
- They make furniture out of recycled chopsticks.
- We decided to pay a little extra to work with Chop Value.
- Hope to be able to promote Chop Value.

Julia Burnham:

- I do feel a bit uncomfortable with staff having to answer because the VP's are absent.
- The VP's should be here.
- As to the issue here, the sustainability project, I do wonder.
- It's one thing to consult after the fact.
- To propose to build a \$26,000 centre and then consult instead of this organically coming from the groups makes me wonder.
- Is this centre not really in the community but hoping to become the community?

Jason Pang:

- I also had questions when I started, but it was really good to have clubs and other groups attend consultation sessions and express their interest.
- After all the consultation I feel these groups will build a community and programming around the space.

Ryan Wong:

- I am also concerned that we do not need a physical space.
- Can you explain the need for this in person centre in one sentence?

Jason Pang:

- It will provide a physical resource to safely engage about sustainability and learn about sustainability.

Alex Gonzalez:

- I am confused about the execution of this.
- Last year I thought this was a place to showcase sustainability projects.
- Now it seems just making a wall look pretty.
- How does this benefit the groups on campus doing this work?

Jason Pang:

- Claire made the presentation last time explaining the use of the centre:
  - Office hours for clubs, a place for events, tiny table talks, sustainability consulting.

Jeanie Malone:

- How does this fit into the goals in the report from the Climate Emergency Task Force.

Georgia Yee:

- This aligns with the report.
- An activist lab was a recommendation.

7. MOVED LAURA BEAUDRY, SECONDED RYAN WONG:

“That this motion be tabled until the next meeting when the responsible executive is present.”

Jeanie Malone:

- Does this need to be approved tonight?

Jason Pang:

- My goal is to have this project completed by September 2021.
- Delaying this would delay construction.

Cole Evans:

- Are there any critical time considerations?

Jason Pang:

- To my knowledge, no.

8. MOVED LAURA BEAUDRY, SECONDED RYAN WONG:

“That this motion be tabled until the next meeting when the responsible executive is present.”  
... No objections

9. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED KATHERINE FENG:

**From the Finance Committee**

“That AMS Council on the recommendation of the Finance Committee approve up to \$26,133.12 in funding out of the Capital Projects Fund for the purpose of constructing the Interactive Sustainability Centre.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Tabled till next time

10. MOVED GEORGIA YEE, SECONDED KALITH NANAYAKKARA:

**From the Elections Committee**

“Be it resolved that Council suspend the section of Code designating the Speaker as the Chair of the Election Appeals Committees [Section IX A, Article 8(4) and (5)] in order to allow the Ombudsperson to serve as Chair for the February-March 2021 elections.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Max Holmes:

- Is Governance or the Elections Committee planning to review the composition of this committee? It has an odd structure.
- Will we make sure that for UBC elections (Senate and BoG) candidates know that they can appeal to the Senate Elections Committee?

Isabelle Ava-Pointon:

- Good point on UBC elections. I will advertise that.

- The Ombudsperson is the closest parallel to the Speaker, so that's why we're suggesting them in the absence of a Speaker.
- As to committee structure, I will look into Code.

Sebastian Cooper:

- Do we need a further resolved clause appointing them?

11. MOVED SEBASTIAN COOPER, SECONDED RYAN WONG:

"That the motion be amended to add the following:

'Be it further resolved that the Ombudsperson be appointed interim chair of the Election Appeals Committees.' "

... No objections

12. MOVED GEORGIA YEE, SECONDED KALITH NANAYAKKARA:

**From the Elections Committee**

"Be it resolved that Council suspend the section of Code designating the Speaker as the Chair of the Election Appeals Committees [Section IX A, Article 8(4) and (5)] in order to allow the Ombudsperson to serve as Chair for the February-March 2021 elections.

Be it further resolved that the Ombudsperson be appointed interim chair of the Election Appeals Committees."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Max Holmes:

- The Ombudsperson has given their consent for this change.

Isabelle Ava-Pointon:

- Should they get extra compensation?

Cole Evans:

- If their job description includes a line about other duties, then we're not adding duties.

Jeanie Malone:

- Should this go to the HR Committee?

Max Holmes:

- Many years there are no appeals, so the appeals committee would not have to meet.

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- The Code does say "other duties as assigned by Council."

Max Holmes:

- Point of order
- If people are running in the upcoming elections they should abstain as they are in a conflict of interest.

13. MOVED GEORGIA YEE, SECONDED KALITH NANAYAKKARA:

**From the Elections Committee**

“Be it resolved that Council suspend the section of Code designating the Speaker as the Chair of the Election Appeals Committees [Section IX A, Article 8(4) and (5)] in order to allow the Ombudsperson to serve as Chair for the February-March 2021 elections.

Be it further resolved that the Ombudsperson be appointed interim chair of the Election Appeals Committees.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

**For (16): Agam Gill, Annika Szarka, Anissa Meghji, Christian Bailey, Danny Liu, Alex Gonzalez (proxy for Emma Dodyk), Jimmy Kim, Katherine Feng, Kiera Vandeborne, Kevin Kang, Kristian Oppenheim, Laura Beaudry, Nadir Nurali, Rachel Chan, Ray Hua, Ryan Wong**

**Abstained: Carter MacLean, Emily Masse, Georgia Yee, Jackson Schumacher, Mathew Ho, Julia Burnham (proxy for Nevena Rebic), Sebastian Cooper**

**T) Other Business and Notice of Motions:**

**U) Discussion Period**

***Faculty Student Senator Elections***

14. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED JULIA BURNHAM:

“That the agenda be amended to add a motion on Faculty Student Senate elections.”

Max Holmes:

- Isabelle and I have had long email discussions about this.
- I understand the decision made by AMS Elections this year, but student elections are student elections.
- There was a change this year.
- There were issues with following provincial law and with UBC Faculties not always aligning with AMS Constituencies (a longstanding problem).
- The AMS can still run these elections.
- The point of this motion is to best ensure that the AMS runs student Senate elections.

- UBC technically runs these elections, and if they decide to run them themselves, we can't stop them.
- But student societies have been fighting to run these elections; SFU has been trying.
- There's a benefit when we can run the Senator elections with Constituency elections.
- If not on the Constituency ballot, people won't know about it.
- This year the student Senate elections are on UBC WebVote: not connected to the AMS election system.
- It's more work for the Constituencies to promote this second election.
- Not every student hears about these positions; it can hurt turnout.
- In future these should be run by the AMS and its Constituencies.
- It's a forward-looking motion; it can't change anything for the current year.

15. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED JULIA BURNHAM:

"That the agenda be amended to add a motion on Faculty Student Senate elections."

... No objections

16. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED JULIA BURNHAM:

"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 elections; and

That AMS Elections must seek Council approval if they plan on not running a UBC-Vancouver Student Senator or Governor election."

Sebastian Cooper

- I echo what Max said.
- Law is a small school.
- A separate election will hurt turnout.

- We get turnout because of the AMS.

Ryan Wong:

- VSEUS (the Vancouver School of Economics Undergraduate Society) is part of Arts, but our members have not been included in Arts student senator elections.
- Same for students in the School of Music.
- Can we make the language more specific?

Max Holmes:

- You should be consulted, but I have kept the language broad for a reason.
- Simply Voting (the AMS elections system) allows segmentation to separate the Arts Undergraduate Society elections and the Faculty of Arts student Senate election.
- Ideally, plans will have to be made with the Constituencies.

Isabelle Ava-Pointon

- It's going to take some negotiating with UBC to convince them this can work.

Ray Hua:

- What was the specific issue UBC had with how the AMS ran the elections?

Isabelle Ava-Pointon:

- MBA students would vote in the wrong elections or were not allowed to vote.
- Also they didn't think the Constituencies were the best bodies to run these elections, even with segmentation.
- Concerned about outreach.

Jeanie Malone:

- Students being classified in the wrong bucket?
- Katherine Westerlund can talk to us about that. She was chair of Governance last year.

Katherine Westerlund:

- We were planning to solve this last year on Governance Committee, but didn't finish.
- Would recommend that the current Governance Committee look into it.
- This is a UBC problem.

Georgia Yee:

- I'm strongly supportive of this motion.
- Senate elections are sometimes relegated to one Constituency.
- Maybe ensure the Constituencies connect: Nursing with Engineering, etc.

Max Holmes:

- I am a member of the Council of Senates Election Committee.



- In the past we've been able to communicate that students running the elections is in the best interest of the University and the students.
- There's been some disagreement over how to do that.
- I hope we can get to a point where Constituencies run the elections.
- I think we can get to a good place through negotiation.

Isabelle Ava-Pointon:

- This year we adopted a temporary solution after the timeline got changed.

17. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED JULIA BURNHAM:

"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,

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That AMS Elections must meaningfully consult Constituencies for any changes related to their respective faculty-student Senator elections; and

That AMS Elections must seek Council approval if they plan on not running a UBC-Vancouver Student Senator or Governor election."

... No objections

Max Holmes:

- We're not done yet.
- We still need to promote this year's elections.

***AMS Referendum Timeline***

Jeanie Malone:

- We need clear information on our website.
- It should say petitions need to be submitted by February 19.
- Who should be in charge of this, of publicizing referendum information?
- Would it violate the Bylaws if someone other than the VPAUA did it?
- Why can't the Elections Committee do this?
- And do the petitions have to go to Council?
- There's also the question of having to wait 30 days for the call of a referendum.

Isabelle Ava Pointon:

- I feel it would be easier for the Elections Committee to run the referendum question process right from the start.

Cole Evans:

- The VPAUA is responsible for receiving the petitions, but the Bylaws don't say they're the ones to coordinate publicity.

Sheldon Goldfarb

- There is nothing in Code or Bylaws that says the VPAUA does the publicity.
- As to 30 days, that's just the maximum. Referendums can go to a vote within 10 days of being submitted.

Georgia Yee:

- Once petitions are submitted, Council can step in if it thinks a question is unclear, but the petitions don't have to go to Council. That's not part of the process.
- The goal has been to reduce barriers.
- I take responsibility for the date mix-up; will correct that.

Isabelle Ava-Pointon

- I think we should look at whether this should be under the purview of the Elections Committee.

Cole Evans:

- It doesn't really fit under the VPAUA.

Danny Liu

- Is there anywhere in Code saying the VPAUA coordinates promotion?

Cole Evans

- I don't believe so.
- Bylaws simply specify that they receive the petition.
- My reading of Code is that nothing prevents the Elections Committee from doing the publicity.

Jeanie Malone:

- I respectfully request that Isabelle put information up on the website or send out an email.
- And we should say the deadline is February 19.

Cole Evans:

- That's only the date to get on the March 1 ballot.

Jeanie Malone:

- They could go on a separate ballot but you would lose turnout.
- We could push the election back to March 3.

*A straw poll showed support for keeping the election date as March 1 and advertising February 19 as the deadline to submit referendum petitions in order to get on the March 1 ballot.*

Julia Burnham:

- Groups organize their referendums at the same time as our elections for a reason.
- Hopefully this won't have a negative effect on those trying to launch a referendum.

Jeanie Malone:

- So Georgia can change the announced deadline on the website.
- The Elections Committee can help with publicity.
- The Governance Committee should review this.

### ***Council Composite***

Cole Evans:

- Usually we get pictures taken before a Council meeting, but this year we're not meeting in person.
- So two options are:
  - Set up a time in the Nest for socially distanced photo taking.
  - Go individually to Artona Studio.

Laura Beaudry:

- Is everyone in Canada? Vancouver?

Cole Evans:

- That's going to be one of the issues no matter how we get the photos taken.

Nadir Nurali:

- I'm doing the Engineering yearbook this year.
- Grad photos are a big challenge.
- For those outside of Vancouver we've asked them to submit their own headshot.

Ryan Wong:

- Does the AMS have a contract with Artona?

Joanne Pickford:

- We don't have a contract.
- Artona does this for us for free, for exposure to UBC.

Jeanie Malone:

- Maybe we should use Zoom screenshots.

*A straw poll showed:*

*55% in favour of a day for photos at the Nest  
60% for sending their own photo*

*5% for going individually to Artona.*

Cole Evans:

- We can do a day at the Nest.
- Those not comfortable with coming in can send in a headshot.

**V) Submissions:**

**W) Next Meeting:**

Next Meeting: February 24, 2021

**X) Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:49 pm .

**Y) Social Activity:**

### Attendance and Vote Records

Name	Constituency	Attending	Consent	Interactive Sustainability Centre	Elections Appeals Committee Chair	Faculty Student Senator Elections		
	Speaker							
Cole Evans	President	X						
Georgia Yee	VP Academic	X	Y		A			
Lucia Liang	VP Finance							
Sylvester Mensah Jr.	VP Admin							
Kalith Nanayakkara	VP External	X	Y					
Ian Stone	Student Services	X						
Oluwakemi Oke	Ombudsperson							
Agam Gill	St Mark's	X	Y	Carried by unanimous consent	Y	Carried by unanimous consent		
Alexandra Arbelaez	Forestry							
Alison St. Pierre	Education							
Anisha Sandhu	Senate							
Annika Szarka	Kinesiology	X	Y		Y			
Anissa Meghji	Social Work	X	Y					
Carter MacLean	Arts	X			A			
Chris Sundby								
Abigail Stocker (proxy for Chris Sundby)	Regent	X	Y					
Christian Bailey	Music	X	Y		Y			
Daniel Martin	VST							
Danny Liu	Science	X	Y		Y			
Emily Masse	Nursing	X	Y		A			
Emma Dodyk	Engineering							
Alex Gonzalez (proxy for Emma Dodyk)	Engineering	X	Y		Y			
Eshana Bhangu	Senate							
Jackson Schumacher	GSS	X	Y		A			
James Chen	Commerce	X	Y					
Jeanie Malone	BoG	X						
Jeremy Zuo	Medicine	X	Y					
Jimmy Kim	Science	X	Y		Y			
Joshua Kim	Arts	X						
Katherine Feng	Science	X	Y		Y			
Kiera Vandeborne	Planning	X	Y		Y			
Kevin Kang	Pharmacy	X			Y			

Kristian Oppenheim	Commerce	X	Y		Y			
Laura Beaudry	Indigenous Seat	X			Y			
Lawrence Liu	Arts							
Mathew Ho	Arts	X	Y		A			
Max Holmes	BoG	X						
Nadir Nurali	Engineering	X	Y		Y			
Nevena Rebic								
Julia Burnham (proxy for Nevena Rebic)	GSS	X	Y		A			
Rachel Chan	LFS	X	Y		Y			
Ray Hua	Science	X	Y		Y			
Rio Picollo	Library/Archival							
Ruby Barnard	Architecture							
Ryan Wong	Economics	X	Y		Y			
Sebastian Cooper	Law	X	Y		A			
Sherly Prince	Arts	X						
Varada Saha	Dentistry	X	Y					