

April 1, 2021 Agenda of the AMS Governance Committee; 7pm

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/91681615917>

## **Attendance**

Present: Sebastian Cooper (Chair), Danny Liu (SUS), Cole Evans (AMS President), Kamil Kanji (student-at-large), Katherine Feng (SUS), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council)

Guests:

Regrets: Carter MacLean (AUS), Ryan Wong (VSEUS)

## **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm.

## **Agenda Items**

### **Territorial Acknowledgement**

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved: Kamil                      Seconded: Katherine

That the agenda be adopted.

*[The motion carries.]*

### **Approval of Past Minutes**

Moved: Katherine                Seconded: Kamil

That the minutes of March 18, 25 2021 be approved.

*[The motion carries.]*

### **Ad hoc committee on increasing student engagement**

*Original proposal:*

- *President, Chair*
- *CEO, Vice chair*
- *Govcomm Chair*
- *Student Life chair*
- *3 members of AMS Council*

*New proposal (following discussions with the Chief Electoral Officer and Chair of the Student Life Committee):*

- *Membership:*
  - *Chief Electoral Officer, as a non voting member*
  - *One member of the Executive chosen by the Executive*
  - *One member of Governance Committee*
  - *One member of Student Life Committee*
  - *3 students-at-large (at least one of whom shall be a graduate student)*
  - *One non-Executive member of AMS Council*
  - *A current student Senator*
  - *A current or former student member of the Board of Governors*
  - *The Clerk of Council, as a non voting member*
  - *A representative from AMS Communications, as a non voting member*
- *Terms:*
  - *The Committee is to be constituted in May, alongside the other summer constitutions of committees*
  - *Once formed, Committee members shall put forward their names for Chair and Vice-Chair, to be voted on by Council*
  - *Members should endeavour to remain on the Committee for its duration*

Kamil: I'm in favour of this composition. Wondering why the CEO is no longer chair?

Sebastian: It was going to be the President originally, then we thought of the CEO. Concerns were raised as to whether an incoming CEO would have the sort of operational knowledge required to chair this sort of meeting. Spoke with Isabelle too and we settled on the option of letting Council choose.

Sheldon: We use non-voting instead of ex-officio.

Sebastian: Ok, we can present this to Council.

Sheldon: To note, without quorum, committees are allowed to make recommendations to council as long as Council is notified that the recommendation was made without quorum.

Moved: Sebastian, Second: Katherine

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT the composition of the ad hoc Committee is recommended to Council"

## **Future Meetings**

*Discussion of meeting planning between now and the end of April.*

\*Cole joined\*

## **Faculty-student senators elections issue**

*Discussion of next steps; discussion of which executive could/should lead.*

Sebastian: We won't be able to finish this this term and will have to pass this onto the summer committee. Recognizing that, I don't want us to do work that will have to be replicated by the new committee. We have discussed with Max and Isabelle. I have reached out to Jessica Iverson (who hasn't responded yet). Maybe the future committee can hear from Jessica. Will include this in my transition memo.

## **Policy I-9: Executive Goal Setting and Reporting Policy**

*Up for review. Policy: <https://www.ams.ubc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Policy-I-9-exec-goals-february-may-2019.pdf>*

*Discussion of proposed Code amendments and potential template.*

Sebastian: Cole had possible amendments that he discussed with Praneet and Keith. Anything else?

Cole: People might need more time to look over this. I had a meeting with both of them yesterday and I think we're largely on the same page for changes. My goal is to include guidelines for how executive comm is reviewing senior manager goals so exec goals can be aligned with long-term manager work. I would like to make sure Praneet and Keith are comfortable with everything before bringing the final proposal to governance committee. On track to getting it to April 28th Council.

Sebastian: Do you have a draft to share?

Cole: Will send.

Sebastian: Any questions at this stage?

Sheldon: I'm happy to work on it too when Cole's finished with the details.

Sebastian: Would this template from Georgia be useful?

Cole: Yes, so that execs know what it should look like and how detailed it's expected to be. Would be helpful to have examples for the entire goal section.

Sebastian: Is there a particular example that you know of that we could make a template from?

Cole: I'll add some edits to this document for next meeting.

## **Proposed Code changes**

*Discussion on proposed changes to bring Code into line with practice and Bylaw changes.*

Sheldon: I reprinted the document and indicated which things we've already approved. I stuck to the internal contradictions being fixed and updating things

- Changing SUB to UBC Life Building
- Archivist and Clerk of Council is really two positions so I've separated the two

Sebastian: Is it used anywhere else where it's Archivist and Clerk of Council as one thing - would there be unintended consequences?

Sheldon: What do you recommend?

Sebastian: As long as you have the ability to go through Code and other documents to change the role where necessary.

Sheldon: Ok.

Sheldon: More changes

- remove definition of SUB
- Change policy manual to policies since we no longer have a policy manual except for the external policy manual but we also have internal policies and strategic plans and frameworks
- Remove some responsibilities for Executive committee to do orientation and inform about COI rules

Sebastian: Council would probably not be in favour of COI changes right now - especially if they're a reduction in duties in relation to COI.

Sheldon: Steering in charge of orientations now. But will there be members of Steering Committee available past May 1 to do this?

Cole: They can play a role in planning.

Sebastian: Executive committee still responsible for arranging councillor orientations?

Cole: Yes.

Sheldon: Ok we can leave it. Also propose removing presidential responsibility to circulate agenda for consultation first since it's not done in practice.

Cole: Didn't realize this was a responsibility. Should standardize committee reporting and set up committee meetings all in advance at the beginning of the year.

Sebastian: Did you want to work with Sheldon to put together some language on that? Could solve issues. Committees should retain some flexibility. Issue is that Council doesn't have enough information about how and when committees meet.

Cole: Instead of verbal updates from Committees, have written submissions.

Katherine: Concerned that people won't read them since Onboard statistics are poor. Committee chairs are unlikely to get questions and engagement.

Cole: Zoom Council this year. 80% don't have cameras on or actively participate. Chronic issue. Allows for there to be a record when there are reports. Easier than scrolling through council minutes. Unfortunate issue but maybe it will help foster more of a practice of reading things in advance. Could change a lot.

Sebastian: I also see value in verbal updates. Chairs need to deliver reports anyway once every month. Verbal updates are an easier way of getting people involved. Code should reflect our actual practices but since it's important to Council and Jeanie and Max specifically raised this last Council, I'm not sure we should remove it.

Sheldon: Leave it?

Sebastian: That is my preference for the time being.

Kamil: Should keep it until an alternative is in place.

Sebastian: Could get rid of 1b since it never happens.

Sheldon: The only thing lost by cutting this is now consultation with executive committee since now Steering committee meets more frequently.

Cole: Can probably be removed. I talk to executives frequently anyway.

Sheldon: Another change - didn't see need to add "President who shall be Chair here" and it contradicts with language elsewhere.

Cole: Council can change Chair by 2/3rds resolution. Redundant to add it again. Just put it in Steering Committee terms. Keep who shall be chair as it is.

Sheldon: I heard from Finance Committee and they said SIF should say either/or. Doesn't have to affect both on-campus and local community.

Sebastian: Sheldon did you want to do an explanatory rationale doc? If so, we can bring to Council.

Sheldon: Sure.

## **Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting is April 1, 2021.

## **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm