

**Foreword:** The past year has been an insightful, progressive and transformational year for both the AMS and the VP Administration portfolio. Our values of diversity, engagement, accessibility and innovation were realized throughout the portfolio, with the initiation of new projects and procedures that have pioneered our society's adaptation to pandemic-related challenges, while ensuring growth and development within our student body. As a team, we were able to address campaign goals within reason, and successfully executed new goals with the help of various feedback channels adopted to ensure decisive impact.

## **Goal 1: Ensuring an Active Clubs Community**

**Values: Support, Growth, Community**

### **SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF AMS CAMPUSBASE**

AMS CampusBase was acquired in the spirit of retaining the shared campus experiences of all AMS members, replacing the defunct club management system, Clubhouse, and pioneering our society's digital transformation during these unprecedented times. Our primary goal was to establish AMS CampusBase as a necessary tool for AMS clubs and a fundamental resource for students to explore new opportunities and build new connections at UBC. We were able to achieve this by:

- Partnering with key stakeholders including UBC Orientations, Collegia, CSI&C and the First Year Experience team in conjunction with AMS Subsidiaries to facilitate virtual programming for the Jumpstart Resource Fair, Imagine Day 2020, and Clubs Days.
- Facilitating the onboarding of 82% of all AMS Subsidiaries onto AMS CampusBase through video-based tutorials, office hours and training materials delivered via our executive orientations, bi-weekly club newsletters, and strategic event partnerships.
- Leveraging key features of the platform such as the event creation tool, group newsletter builder, custom group webpage, elections, forms and forums to coordinate internal procedures while enhancing the administrative tools available to AMS Clubs and their respective memberships.

As of March 2021, the platform has seen over 23,000 AMS and community members who have created and joined over 500 groups and hosted over 1000 events. We have also hosted some of the largest virtual events ever to take place on the platform, including Imagine Day's Main Event, which was attended by almost 10,000 students and staff. As the features offered by CampusBase continue to expand, we are confident that these statistics will continue to grow.

### **SUPPORTING CLUBS WITH ADAPTABILITY AND GROWTH AMID THE PANDEMIC**

In adapting to a new normal, we established feedback channels through the creation of a Club Engagement Survey for both the Fall and Winter Semesters in order to better understand the changing needs of our AMS Subsidiaries. Thanks to the feedback from our members, we were able to support the adaptability and growth of our student organizations by:

- Creating a simplified process for changing membership fees after club renewals in order to further incentivize AMS Members to obtain club memberships throughout the 2020/2021 academic year.

- Introducing an online room bookings request form through AMS CampusBase for club event bookings that allows direct communication with the AMS Bookings team along with progress tracking to better coordinate workflows and booking confirmations.
- Introducing a video-conferencing grant that subsidized the cost of online platforms used to facilitate club operations, events and activities.
- Creating a Club Executive Canvas Course that will serve as a manual for all AMS operations and club executive orientations. This course will also function as a long term resource for facilitating personal, professional and skill-based training in elevating the potential of AMS Club Executives in conjunction with the Clubs Resource Centre, SASC, SVPRO, and external campus partners.

## Goal 2: Expanding the Hatch's Presence on Campus

### Values: Engagement, Culture, Community

Our team's successful efforts at adapting the Hatch Art Gallery's offerings to a virtual environment was recognized by many. As such, we believe we have been able to set a new standard for the gallery by elevating its accessibility, visibility and engagement. This was possible despite having to do away with the in-person exhibition model, which accounted for 90% of previous gallery operations pre-pandemic. Together we have been able to:

- Create a user friendly experience for the diverse range of multidisciplinary content delivered during our 7 online exhibitions and varied programming, with the purpose of maintaining a much-needed online presence.
- Maintain a steady level of unique monthly website visits with an average of 165 unique visits over the past 8 months as well as 10.13% increase in our social media (IG & FB) presence compared to the 2019-2020 term.
- Ensure further progress on the long-term goal of digitizing our AMS Permanent Art Collection (PAC) by re-creating the digital rights for all 75 pieces as well as researching and retrieving the relevant point of contacts for the respective artists and estates whose works are in our collection. We have passed this over to the Archives Department, who will begin outreach to these estates throughout the summer, in hopes of obtaining the necessary rights to begin showcasing these pieces on our gallery website by Fall 2021.
- Introduce the Permanent Art Collection to the Department of Art History, Visual Art & Theory as a potential curriculum focus, through the facilitation of a class project led by this year's Hatch Managers, in the course; Art History 443, Seminar in Canadian Art History. We believe this partnership will continue in the coming year and we support further outreach with relevant faculty in making this partnership permanent and reoccurring.

## Goal 3: Improving Inclusivity and Usability

# in the AMS Nest

**Values: Inclusivity, Accessibility, Community**

## **MAKING THE NEST A MORE USABLE SPACE FOR STUDENTS' NEEDS**

The 2019/2020 Nest Experience Study (NES) revealed that one of the primary reasons that students come to the Nest is to study. However, a large number of students expressed disagreement when asked whether the Nest was a usable space for their studies. The mismatch between these two points was further aggravated due to the reduced seating options available across campus this past year, thereby creating an increased need for study spaces within the AMS Nest. This need was addressed by:

- The creation of an Eastside Furniture Capital Project, which will increase study space options by an additional 58 seats. This project was initially intended to be completed in January 2021. However, we delayed its execution in hopes of reducing its cost by sourcing new furniture suppliers - which we successfully accomplished. As of now, all chairs have been delivered and we are waiting for the completion of the accompanying tables. We are confident this project will be completed by the end of May 2021.

## **ADVANCING INCLUSIVITY, VARIETY, AND QUALITY AT OUR AMS FOOD OUTLETS**

Another notable insight from the 2019/2020 Nest Experience Survey was the desire for increased diversity in food options and an improved quality of service from our AMS Food Outlets. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic posed extensive challenges for our food services, limiting the amount of progress made on this goal.

Nonetheless, we were able to address aspects of inclusivity within menu items through new menu offerings at The Gallery, which saw an increase in Indian and Mexican cuisines, with more options catered towards respective dietary restrictions.

We believe there is a lot more work to be done with respect to inclusivity and accessibility within the AMS Nest and we will be recommending worthwhile projects and initiatives to the incoming team in supporting their ability to ensure impact throughout their term.

# Goal 4: Developing a More Collaborative University-Wide Sustainability Approach

**Values: Progressive, Innovative, Community**

Despite perceived pandemic-related disruptions to our operations, this year has been really successful, collaborative, and progressive for AMS Sustainability. We managed to build new avenues for engagement, discourse, and initiative in strengthening our organization's contribution in improving sustainability across the UBC campus. Our collaborators included AMS Members, AMS Clubs, university stakeholders, community members, and external partners in executing the goals of the AMS

Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP). Together, we were able to:

- Initiate student driven initiatives that have revived the spirit of sustainability within the AMS Nest and across the UBC campus such as; the Runoff & Rotating Gardens which serve as carbon sinks, a pilot Hydroponics project in support of the Food Security Initiative, the animation of the Life corridor with sustainability-themed murals, and the replacement of display bins to enhance behavioral sustainability within the building.
- Introduce the Interactive Sustainability Centre (ISC), which serves to facilitate cross-collaboration with all student groups engaged in sustainability initiatives and the broader campus community. This cross-collaborative environment will increase awareness, accountability and action in achieving sustainability objectives set out by our AMS Members, student society and university. This project is scheduled to be complete by the end of May 2021, with an opening at the start of the 2021/2022 academic year.
- Plan regular symposiums that updated the general public on AMS Sustainability progress, fostered collaboration between sustainability groups on campus, educated participants on a diverse range of sustainability topics, and provided support on implementing the goals of the AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP).
- Embark on a carbon emissions assessment for the creation of a five-year carbon management plan for reducing the organization's ecological footprint in collaboration with industry consultants. Data collection is almost complete and we aim to provide a completed report to AMS Council, by July 2021.

**END OF REPORT**