

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Guests: Charlotte Alden (Ubysey), Andrew Ha (Ubysey), Natalie Cappe (Planning), Claire Ewing (AMS Sustainability), Laurent Lévesque (UTILE), Megan Quigley (UTILE), Emmanuel Ruba (AMS Elections), Ben Du (AMS Operations Committee), Jason Pang (AMS Sustainability), Matthias Leuprecht (member at large), Mitchell Prost (AMS Housing Service), Emily Pearson (AMS Services), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (Admin Assistant)

A) Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm with Cole Evans in the chair.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

Cole Evans:

- We are on the traditional lands of the həŋqəmiŋəŋ-speaking Musqueam people.
- It is important to recognize the lands we are on, and those who used to live here and those who still do.
- We should note the numerous ongoing conflicts where Indigenous sovereignty has not been respected, where land has been stolen.
- It is important for us as young leaders to recognize the work we still need to do.

C) Adoption of the agenda:

1. MOVED LAWRENCE LIU, SECONDED KRISTIAN OPPENHEIM:

“That the agenda be adopted as presented.”

2. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED CARTER MCLEAN:

“That a motion be added on Hong Kong.”

... No objections

3. MOVED LAWRENCE LIU, SECONDED KRISTIAN OPPENHEIM:

“That the agenda be adopted as amended.”

... No objections

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

Welcome to our new Members:

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

Goodbyes: Maryam Tayyab & Alexa Tanner (GSS)

E) Speaker's Business (5 minutes):

Cole Evans:

- I will be chairing.
- There was a candidate selected to be Speaker, but they have withdrawn.
- The HR Committee will be looking for someone new.

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

Matthias Leuprecht:

- In the past AMS Council has spoken up about South Africa and climate change.
- Now I would like Council to condemn the deterioration of democracy in Hong Kong.
- We should join other universities like McGill and McMaster.
- The safety of some of our own AMS members is at stake.
- The Chinese Communist Party has embarked on the largest mass internment of an ethnic group since the Holocaust (the Uyghurs).

Georgia Yee:

- Thank you for speaking up about this.
- We at the AMS need to show concern for our fellow human beings.
- There has been unjust detainment of activists, unjust actions by the Chinese government.
- I encourage Councillors to bring this back to their Constituencies.
- We need to be standing for democracy.

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- It's important that we stand in solidarity with other students standing up, e.g., the McGill student union, which supported us over the UBC graduate Loujain al-Hathloul.

G) Consent Agenda Items

4. MOVED GEORGIA YEE, SECONDED KALITH NANAYAKKARA:

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

AMS Council minutes dated November 12, 2020	[SCD328-21]
Executive Committee minutes dated December 9, 2020	[SCD329-21]
Executive Committee minutes dated January 13, 2021	[SCD330-21]
Advocacy Committee minutes dated November 13, 2020	[SCD331-21]
Advocacy Committee minutes dated November 26, 2020	[SCD332-21]
Sustainability Subcommittee minutes dated January 14, 2021	[SCD334-21]

"That Council on the recommendation of the Executive Committee and in accordance with Policy I-12 authorize a survey of the membership on the Equity Plan."

... Carried

For (28): Maria Therese Dela Rosa (proxy for Agam Gill), Alexandra Arbelaez, Simran Chahotra (proxy for Alison St. Pierre), Annika Szarka, Carter MacLean, Chris Sundby, Christian Bailey, Daniel Martin, Danny Liu, Emma Dodyk, Jackson Schumacher, James Chen, Jimmy Kim, Joshua Kim, Kalith Nanayakkara, Katherine Feng, Kiera Vandeborne, Kristian Oppenheim, Lawrence Liu, Mathew Ho, Nadir Nurali, Nevena Rebic, Rachel Chan, Ruby Barnard, Ryan Wong, Sebastian Cooper, Sylvester Mensah Jr., Varada Saha

5. MOVED GEORGIA YEE, SECONDED KALITH NANAYAKKARA:

“That the following consent items be accepted as presented (2/3^{rds}).”

From the Health & Safety Committee

[SCD334-21]

“That Council rescind the old AMS Health and Safety Policy, dated September 2011, and approve the new Health and Safety Policy (I-22) as presented.”

... Carried

For (28): Maria Therese Dela Rosa (proxy for Agam Gill), Alexandra Arbelaez, Simran Chahotra (proxy for Alison St. Pierre), Annika Szarka, Carter MacLean, Chris Sundby, Christian Bailey, Shovon Dos, Daniel Martin, Danny Liu, Emma Dodyk, Jackson Schumacher, James Chen, Jeremy Zuo, Jimmy Kim, Joshua Kim, Lucia Liang, Kalith Nanayakkara, Katherine Feng, Kristian Oppenheim, Lawrence Liu, Mathew Ho, Nadir Nurali, Rachel Chan, Ruby Barnard, Ryan Wong, Sebastian Cooper, Sylvester Mensah Jr.

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

UTILE – Ian Stone, Laurent Lévesque, and Megan Quigley

[SCD335-21]

6. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED KRISTIAN OPPENHEIM:

“That the presentation be extended to 20 minutes.”

Ian Stone:

- We have been exploring co-op housing, a physical housing development to be owned by the AMS or a related organization.
- Want to extend to allow context to be presented.
- It’s a huge project, a massive undertaking.

7. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED KRISTIAN OPPENHEIM:

“That the presentation be extended to 20 minutes.”

... No objections

Laurent Lévesque:

- I am the Executive Director of UTILE.
- Megan is our West Coast analyst.

- UTILE is a non-profit organization founded in 2012 in Montreal by urban planning students interested in affordable student housing in Quebec and across the country.
- The idea was to reinvent housing by and for students.
- Our members are Quebec student unions; we're the real estate branch of the Quebec student movement.
- We've been trying to get various levels of government to act on affordable student housing.
- Looking for funding.
- You know how important affordable student housing is:
- It's the first expense for students and the Number 1 driver of student debt.
- There's been little research on this. Little data. Students are invisible.
- So we've done our own survey.
- The majority of students do not live in student housing or with their parents.
- 60% of them are in the private market and vulnerable to landlords, increasing rents, etc.
- 20% of students have significant housing precarity.
- There are 250,000 student tenants in Quebec.
- No government has an eye on this.
- Our data lets us look at which neighbourhoods students choose to live in.
- In many neighbourhoods, students are paying more than the market level because of vulnerability.
- Looking for alternatives: to ensure affordable housing for students now and in the future.
- Looking off campus, complementary to university housing.
- We have one building up: Woodnote, with 90 units (144 rooms).
- It cost \$18 million: paid for by the federal government, the City of Montreal, and Concordia Student Housing.
- We are repeating this in three other cities in Quebec: a total of 400 units.
- Hope to develop a network in Quebec.
- Beyond Quebec, we've been working with the AMS for a couple of years.
- Doing "Flash 2021": a national survey, part of a national research project.
- Want to investigate different issues, inequalities. Students are not a homogenous group.
- Data is an important step.
- Encouraging BC student unions to take part.
- Also want to do a feasibility study to look at options.
- The AMS has expressed interest in going forward.
- We have shown non-profit student housing is possible.
- Real estate in the Lower Mainland is different and much worse than elsewhere in the country.
- We'll look at the political context, existing models, different approaches to organizational design, a business plan – and then we will recommend next steps.
- UTILE is in the business of building housing, so this study is meant to be empowering to move forward with that.
- Today we're looking for feedback on the study and on housing development.
- We're interested in listening. Not one size fits all.

Questions

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- We have spoken to Laurent's team and have seen the potential for co-op housing in this province.
- We would also like to use the data collected for our advocacy: it's difficult to find proper data.
- We do have some data, but the Flash Survey will be incredibly beneficial, producing data we can show to government officials.
- Concordia has done a great job with Woodnote.

Mathew Ho:

- In BC we have the Residential Tenancy Act: would you take that into account?

Laurent Lévesque:

- The survey does not cover legal issues, but problems students have as tenants.
- In the feasibility study we will look at the legal context to tie our project to the BC act.

Megan Quigley:

- This is an important issue, the relation to the Tenancy Act.

Mathew Ho:

- Student housing does not fall under the act.
- It's unclear whether this new project would fall under it.

Laurent Lévesque:

- We followed the BC "rent with rights" campaign.
- We're very interested in making sure we deal with issues affecting students on the West Coast.

Katherine Feng:

- Is there a timeline for collecting this data?

Laurent Lévesque:

- We are talking to the AMS about the timing of the survey.
- There's an issue of finding time for it.
- Probably have reports by early fall.

Interactive Sustainability Centre – Claire Ewing & Sylvester Mensah Jr. [SCD336-21]

Sylvester Mensah Jr.:

- Ramping up this project.
- It was introduced last year.
- A SEEDS class did a research project on it, and we've been following up with them and other sustainability groups on campus.

Claire Ewing:

- This is for the Interactive Sustainability Centre (ISC) and the Sustainability Corridor.
- The ISC will be a small space across from UBC's ARC fitness centre.
- It will serve four purposes:
 - 1) Facilitating coordination between clubs focused on sustainability.
 - 2) Facilitating programming, workshops, and office hours.
 - 3) Providing resources not just for clubs but for students passing through.
 - 4) Providing outreach about sustainability.
- The sustainability clubs will facilitate work on sustainability and social justice.
- Will need honoraria or a pay structure for volunteers; will need to be budgeted for.
- Building networks between the clubs.
- The AMS Sustainability team will work on programming, creating a centralized calendar for sustainability events. Hosting virtual events.
- The resources will include literature from the clubs and faculties; it will stay in the ISC, but there will also be a Little Free Library for some materials.
- The budget for the project includes money for architectural and electrical work.
- We also want to partner with Chop Value, the company that recycles chopsticks: they provide furniture.
- There's also a Dashboard or data hub.
- The total cost will be \$26,000.
- We're also having a mural competition to find something to decorate the corridor.
- There will be a waste scale, measuring waste: reinstalling that.
- And a Thingery to lend out things.

Questions

Sebastian Cooper:

- Why do you need a physical space?

Sylvester Mensah Jr.:

- It won't necessarily be an event space.
- It will be a small meeting room or lounge, a welcoming area, for introducing students to sustainability.
- For creating connections.
- Necessary for AMS Sustainability: Sustainability doesn't currently have a physical presence.
- It will be a visual space for sustainability awareness, a central spot for knowledge.

UBC Budget Submission – Georgia Yee

[SCD337-21]

- This is about how we will be advocating for student priorities in the budget.
- Our themes are:
 - Affordability and alleviating student poverty.
 - Access to online learning and hybrid learning.
 - Anti-racism and equity.
 - Accessibility.
 - Climate Emergency implementation.

- COVID impacts have led us to look at opportunities to mitigate costs and funding opportunities.
- Looking at cutting remote invigilation and travel costs; also continuing the hiring chill on administrative expenses.
- Want to leverage the proximity of the budget consultation and the tuition consultation.
- Usually various groups are invited to provide input, but this has been an unusual year (reduction of revenues etc.), the timeline has been pushed back, and we were merely presented with an update and an opportunity to provide feedback.
- We want to take a proactive approach, seeking a holistic approach from the University in which they address the costs of attending university.
- We want UBC to continue its \$3.2 million emergency bursary fund for online technology and to continue to waive tuition in extenuating circumstances.
- We're investigating a cohort tuition model for four years of stable tuition (the time a student on average spends to get their degree).
- We want the University to continue funding for a senior manager of Academic Integrity.
- We'd like investment in recording technology for instructors.
- We want the University to provide funding to carry out the Indigenous Strategic Plan and to continue supporting the Anti-Racism Initiatives Fund.
- COVID has led to budget cuts in the VP Students Office: we want continued support for student services, an increase for Centre of Accessibility staff, funding for off campus Work Learn expansion, and support for students with disabilities and Indigenous students.
- Want to ensure that students are prepared to enter the work force.
- There's news of Proctorio's contract being extended, but we're trying to limit it. This could save \$200,000 to \$800,000.
- In the Zoom world, there are travel restrictions. In line with the Climate Action Plan, it's vital to reduce travel costs.
- We'll be meeting UBC stakeholders and publicizing our report on what we're advocating.
- Would like to create an external policy to guide the budget consultation process.

Questions

Emma Dodyk:

- Do you think they'll listen to you?

Georgia Yee:

- Some of what we are asking for (e.g., the Centre for Accessibility, tuition waiving, emergency bursary funds) are already funded initiatives, so our emphasis is on sustained funding.
- Our focus is on creating a holistic affordability plan.
- Would like the University to bring in the cohort tuition plan.

Kristian Oppenheim:

- The Proctorio saving figure is a broad range.

Georgia Yee:

- It depends on the size of the class.
- Proctorio is being used in large first year courses.
- Either way it is a significant amount of funding.
- It's important to put pressure on.
- It's likely Proctorio will not be renewed beyond this latest extension.

Jeanie Malone:

- How much of this is already in the budget?

Georgia Yee:

- Some is in.
- Off campus Work Learn is not.
- We're going to push on hybrid learning and on graduate student aid.
- A lot of emphasis is on sustained funding.
- There will need to be corrections for the Climate Emergency.

Matthias Leuprecht:

- What is the Director of Academic Integrity?
- Is this a new position?
- What is its purpose?

Georgia Yee:

- It's a new position.
- UBC already has resources for addressing academic misconduct, but that's different from building a culture of academic integrity.
- UBC has an Academic Integrity working group.
- Academic misconduct focuses on punishment.
- Academic Integrity will focus on outreach. It will be proactive about integrity.

I) Consultation Period

J) Appointments

K) President's Remarks (5 minutes):

Cole Evans

- Opposing tuition increases this year.
- Sat on a panel with the leader of the Green Party of Canada.

L) Executive Remarks (3 minutes each):

VP Finance – Lucia Liang

- Working on the budget reforecast.
- Looking at Code changes to raise the limit on grants from the Clubs Benefit Fund.
- Processing applications for health and dental subsidies: 1,700 applications.

VP Academic & University Affairs – Georgia Yee

- Great discussions this week.
- Review of exam hardship policy.
- Resources for overseas students.
- Talked about creating diverse mental health resources.
- Commitments around anti-racism.
- Funding for the climate emergency implementation process.
- Organizing a Micro-aggressions workshop.

Questions

Ryan Wong:

- Re the Senate and the exam hardship policy: is it not already a policy?

Georgia Yee:

- It's not currently a policy; we're seeking to make it a policy.
- Currently, students are to report to the course coordinator and escalate if necessary, but there's a power imbalance.

Mathew Ho:

- There are stories of profs holding classes on Remembrance Day.
- We need rules for exam times and to avoid students having to take classes at weird times of day.

Jackson Schumacher:

- Is there room for us to advocate for students?
- They could contact us.

Georgia Yee:

- That points to the need to promote our Advocacy service and the UBC Ombudsperson.

Jeanie Malone:

- Isn't it academic concession?

Georgia Yee:

- We want to set a precedent that this is not a concession or accommodation, but a guarantee of equitable access.

VP Administration – Sylvester Mensah Jr.

- Last weekend my team was involved in the caucus portion of the Student Leadership Conference.
 - There were discussions on anti-racism, Indigeneity, climate justice, the pandemic.
 - About 330 people attended virtually.
- Clubs Days this week.
 - A club exposition.

- 30-minute presentations.
- Three clubs present a day.
- Zoom turnout was not good, but the videos have been put on YouTube.
- Friday is the Live Fair.
- Creating an outline for an AMS Canvas course: for orientations.
 - Canvas is a great tool to interact with our membership.
- Sustainability:
 - Will work with Carbon Offsetters re a net zero 2025 framework.

Questions

Jeanie Malone:

- What is the difference between the Sustainability mural contest and the Grad Class gift mural.

Sylvester Mensah Jr.:

- Same idea. Different approaches.

VP External Affairs – Kalith Nanayakkara

- Finishing Lobby Week:
 - Met with over 40 MLA's with the GSS.
 - Received support from the NDP and the Liberals.
- Research project on the decrease in government operating grants to postsecondary education: used to cover 80-90% of the operating budget; now it's only 36%.
- UCRU:
 - Bylaws confirmed by lawyers.
 - Working on membership agreements.
 - Will bring another presentation to Council.
- U-Pass exemptions are in place.
- Equity-based grant research continuing:
 - Looking at barriers in post-secondary education.
- The Geography 371 project is going well.
 - This class research will be useful in our advocacy.
- Met with the Student Housing Working Group.

Student Services Manager – Ian Stone

- Been acting as Senior Manager of Student Services, but we will have a new senior manager come Monday.
- Our eHub coordinator is leaving; the Assistant Student Services Manager will take over.
- Safewalk operating as normal.
- Tutoring: Expanded the Nimbus app to include group tutoring.
- Advocacy Coordinator finishing soon; transitioning a little early.
- Peer Support operating as normal.
 - Encouraging good mental health.
 - Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

- Food Bank:
 - Working to support the Acadia Food Hub.
- Housing:
 - Focusing on getting database up.
 - Thinking of broader housing strategy.
- SASC:
 - Settling into new office.
 - New sign.
 - Events for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Managing Director – Keith Hester

- Working on 2021/22 budget.
- Helping Lucia with reforecast of 2020/21 budget.
- Recruiting for SASC manager.
- The new Senior Manager of Student Services will be starting next Monday. Thanks to Ian for filling that role on an interim basis.
- All-Staff meeting yesterday.
- Working on improving mental health coverage for students.
- Events Department transitioning to working on videos.
- Communications is busy with elections.

M) Committee Reports (5 minutes each):

Advocacy Committee – Mathew Ho

- First meeting last Monday.
- Focused on unfinished items from last meeting.
- Review of Policy I-11 (tuition consultation) – will send to Governance.
- Received consultation results from the AVP Sustainability. Hope to submit report next meeting.

Steering Committee – Cole Evans

- No update.

Finance Committee – Lucia Liang

- Reviewing funding applications for club projects.
- Funds and Fees report for next Council.

Governance Committee – Sebastian Cooper

[SCD338-21]

- Looking at cleaning up Code.
- Working on Policy I-22 (on committee chair transitions).
- Policy I-9 (on Executive goal-setting) up for review: reviewing the issue of KPI's.

Operations Committee – Katherine Feng

- Updates from VP Admin.
- Discussed video conferencing grant.
- Naming of clubs.

HR Committee – Lawrence Liu

[SCD339-21]

- Discussed the Speaker position, did make a recommendation, but the candidate removed himself from consideration.

Student Life Committee – Maria Therese Dela Rosa for Agam Gill

- Discussed responses to club support survey.
- Discussed Sustainability mural competition.
- Discussed replies from Constituencies re posting elections info graphic.
- Looking into enhancing outreach.
- Creating Grad Class Subcommittee to discuss this year's grad gift.

Indigenous Committee – Laura Beaudry, Ceilidh Smith, Chalaya Moonias

- No report.

Ethics and Accountability Committee – Katherine Feng

- Met once to discuss the committee direction.
- Also working on a timeline and Terms of Reference for the committee.

Advisory Board – Cole Evans

- Meeting soon.
- The Council-mandated report will be coming soon.

Shape Committee – Cole Evans

- No update.

Fermentation Lab Committee – Lawrence Liu

- No update.

Ad Hoc Committee on Affiliate Institutions – Daniel Martin

- Will meet again this week.

Ad Hoc Committee on Events Structure and Audit – Cole Evans

- Still researching some issues.
- Will meet soon.

Questions

Ryan Wong:

- Before the next Council meeting?

Cole Evans:

- I'll try but am not hopeful.

N) Report from Presidents Council (2 minutes):

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

Board of Governors – Jeanie Malone

- February Board cycle is upon us.
- Issues include student financial aid and the Climate Emergency Task Force Report.

Senate – Anisha Sandhu

- No major updates.

Questions

Emma Dodyk:

- Any updates on the Faculty senator elections?
- Dates, deadlines, and procedures?

Anisha Sandhu:

- I will try to find these details for you and get back to you by the end of the week.

Historical Update – Sheldon Goldfarb

- Last time when I discussed insurrections and impeachment, I mentioned AMS President Blake Frederick: there was a referendum that, if it had passed, would have removed him from office.
- This was in response to his submitting a complaint about tuition fees to the UN.
- The vote was 3542 to remove and 1400 not to remove; that fell short of quorum and also of the 75% majority required.
- I was also asked about other Presidents.
- There was Bijan Ahmadian, the year after Blake. He was controversial, and there was a motion to censure him, but it failed.
- Back in 2004-05, Amina Rai and her Executive fired the General Manager (something like the current Managing Director) without consulting Council.
- Council restored the General Manager and asked Amina to resign.
- She declined, so Council voted on a motion to remove her, but it failed.
- Council did pass a motion to censure her and her whole Executive.
- Councillor Dave Tompkins led the opposition against Amina.
- He later went on to become Speaker.
- We didn't use to have a Speaker: the President would chair, and if they wanted to participate in debate, they would relinquish the chair on that motion.
- In the 90's, to avoid that, we introduced the Speaker position.
- The first Speaker was Mark Mac Lean in 1995-96.
- Later there was former President Janice Boyle, 1998-2003, and:
 - Jason Loxton, 2003-05
 - Dave Tompkins, 2005-11
 - Michael Begg, 2011-14.
- And more recently Abdul Alnaar, Mohamed Shaaban, and Kareem.

Questions

Lawrence Liu

- Does the Speaker of Council have to be a student?

Cole Evans:

- No.

P) Minutes of Council and Committees of Council:

Q) Executive Committee Motions:

R) Constituency and Affiliate Motions:

S) Committee Motions:

T) Other Business and Notice of Motions:

8. MOVED MATHEW HO:

“Be it resolved that the AMS condemns the deterioration of Hong Kong’s civil liberties and civil rights, including the suppression of activists and student leaders as a result of the National Security Law imposed on Hong Kong.

Be it further resolved that the AMS advocate for the release of Hong Kong activists who have been unjustly detained and trialed.”

Mathew Ho:

- I’d like to amend.

9. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED BY JACKSON SCHUMACHER:

“Be it resolved that the AMS condemns the deterioration of respect for civil liberties and human rights in Hong Kong.

Be it further resolved that the AMS condemns the imposition of the National Security Law on Hong Kong, and its use to suppress activists and student leaders who are exercising their freedoms of expression and peaceful demonstration.

Be it further resolved that the AMS calls and advocates for the release of Hong Kong activists and student leaders who have been unjustly detained for politically-motivated reasons.

Be it further resolved that the AMS stands in solidarity with students in Hong Kong who have the right to demonstrate and advocate for political freedom.”

Mathew Ho:

- I'm bringing this on behalf of UBC EHK Association and others who are concerned.
- They are raising awareness about the loss of democracy in Hong Kong
- The National Security Law has been used broadly to silence dissent.
- Members of the media and activists have been charged.
- Twelve Hong Kongers have been detained, and deprived of their rights.
- It's been 150 days of detainment.
- Attacks have been targeted at student union executives.
- UBC shares exchange links with universities in Hong Kong.
- There have been previous statements made in Council, the Lennon Wall, etc.
- Student unions at McGill and McMaster have released statements.
- Statements are being prepared at U of T and Waterloo.
- The AMS has a history of taking stands: divestment from apartheid South Africa, divestment because of climate change, etc.
- This is about academic freedom, freedom of speech, and human rights: things we think the AMS stands for.
- Taking a stand is symbolic, but it will empower our VPAUA, and is important.

Sebastian Cooper:

- If this gets passed can it go on the AMS News website?

Cole Evans:

- Yes, we can do that.

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- I expressed support earlier.
- I did have a student reach out to me during this meeting who expressed concern about Chinese students on campus: the possibility of them being antagonized or alienated.

Georgia Yee:

- I'd like to express my support for this motion.
- When it comes to issues like Mainland China and Hong Kong, one of the things to be mindful of is the need to make sure that we are not issuing a condemnation of Chinese students but of the Chinese government and its complicity in the deterioration of democracy.
- We are standing for peaceful protest, students using their voices, student activism.
- If we are making a media release, it would also be great to refer to the work we are doing to improve conditions related to democracy.
- The conversation needs to be nuanced as well.

Ryan Wong:

- What is the tangible outcome we want to see?
- What do we believe is possible?

Mathew Ho:

- Several things could be done.
- This could be used for external advocacy in conjunction with UCRU.
- Also, the National Security Law is applicable to people regardless of citizenship or where they are.
- This raises concerns about the safety of UBC students.
- We should be looking at that.
- Meanwhile UBC's Policy SC-12 (about students abroad) is up for review.
- We need to make sure students are safe even when abroad.
- There are questions to ask about the Hong Kong police force.
- We want to see whether UBC is going to pay more attention to the values it treasures.
- We can be looking at UBC's relations with other universities.

Joshua Kim:

- I commend Mathew for bringing this.
- Will show that the AMS stands with Hong Kong.
- There's a Goddess of Democracy on campus which the AMS supported because students had been killed.
- We need to show a united front supporting democratic values.

Mathew Ho:

- UBC and the AMS have been pretty sympathetic to democratic movements, as shown by the Goddess of Democracy.

Emma Dodyk:

- If we pass this, who writes the statement?
- Will we see it again at Council?

Kalith Nanayakkara:

- Putting out the statement is the first thing.
- Georgia and I, and Mathew and others, would draft a statement to use in support of our advocacy.
- We could bring it to Council before we put it out.

Sebastian Cooper:

- I'd like to see the motion passed by Council as the statement from Council.
- Then you could go further.

Georgia Yee:

- That's doable.
- I'm more than happy to draft something off the motion and send out an email draft.
- Can also provide suggestions for actions: writing your MP etc.

10. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED BY JACKSON SCHUMACHER:

“Be it resolved that the AMS condemns the deterioration of respect for civil liberties and human rights in Hong Kong.

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Be it further resolved that the AMS stands in solidarity with students in Hong Kong who have the right to demonstrate and advocate for political freedom.”

... No objections

U) Discussion Period

Referenda 2021

Cole Evans passed the chair to Matthias Leuprecht.

Georgia Yee:

- I want to see if there are any referendum questions.

Cole Evans:

- We brought this last time, but we needed Sebastian.
- Wanted to see if there is any desire for Council to pursue any sort of referenda this year.
- Time is getting tight, and there's nothing super-urgent: just Bylaw changes that didn't make the cut in October.
- If we are not running any AMS referendum questions, I won't post for a Referendum Coordinator.
- From the Executive's perspective, there's nothing we feel is needed, and it will be difficult to hit quorum this year. It's like running with lead.

Emma Dodyk:

- It's been a long year for everyone.
- I think it's okay if we don't run a referendum this year.
- There may be some concerns about election turnout, but there's a strong chance that we would put in effort and still not meet quorum for a referendum.
- It would be money spent without result.

Jeanie Malone:

- Have there been questions submitted from students at large?

Georgia Yee:

- There have been, but they don't have enough signatures so far.

Jeanie Malone:

- I'd hate for us not to be able to support a referendum that students bring if we think it's something we'd like to endorse.
- We'd have no resources for them.

Cole Evans:

- Not necessarily.
- We could hire a Referendum Coordinator late if Council wanted to endorse something.
- But right now we're not really seeing questions submitted with the momentum needed to get on the ballot.

V) Submissions:

AMS/GSS Advocacy Brief	[SCD340-21]
November Advocacy Committee Report to Council	[SCD341-21]
December Advocacy Committee Report to Council	[SCD342-21]
President's Office External Policy Manual Recommendations	[SCD343-21]
UCRU Advocacy Brief	[SCD344-21]
VP External Provincial Lobbying Strategic Plan – draft	[SCD345-21]
Interactive Sustainability Centre write up	[SCD346-21]
AMS-UTILE Collaboration Agreement V04	[SCD347-21]

W) Next Meeting:

Next Meeting: February 11, 2021, a Thursday instead of the usual Wednesday.

X) Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Y) Social Activity:

Attendance and Voting Records

Name	Constituency	Attending	Consent	Consent 2/3rd	
	Speaker				
Cole Evans	President	X			
Georgia Yee	VP Academic	X			
Lucia Liang	VP Finance	X		Y	
Sylvester Mensah Jr.	VP Admin	X	Y	Y	
Kalith Nanayakkara	VP External	X	Y	Y	
Ian Stone	SSM	X			
Oluwakemi Oke	Ombudsperson				
Maria Therese Dela Rosa (proxy for Agam Gill)	St. Mark's	X	Y	Y	
Agam Gill	St. Mark's				
Alexandra Arbelaez	Forestry	X	Y	Y	
Simran Chalhotra (proxy for Alison St. Pierre)	Education	X	Y	Y	
Alison St. Pierre	Education				
Anisha Sandhu	Senate	X			
Annika Szarka	Kinesiology	X	Y	Y	
Anissa Meghji	Social Work				
Carter MacLean	Arts	X	Y	Y	
Chris Sundby	Regent	X	Y	Y	
Christian Bailey	Music	X	Y	Y	
Daniel Martin	VST	X	Y	Y	
Danny Liu	Science	X	Y	Y	
Emily Masse	Nursing				
Emma Dodyk	Engineering	X	Y	Y	
Eshana Bhangu	Senate	X			
Jackson Schumacher	GSS	X	Y	Y	
James Chen	Commerce	X	Y	Y	
Jeanie Malone	BoG	X			
Jeremy Zuo	Medicine	X		Y	
Jimmy Kim	Science	X	Y	Y	
Joshua Kim	Arts	X	Y	Y	
Katherine Feng	Science	X	Y	Y	
Kiera Vandeborne	Planning	X	Y		
Kevin Kang	Pharmacy				

Kristian Oppenheim	Commerce	X	Y	Y	
Laura Beaudry	Indigenous Seat				
Lawrence Liu	Arts	X	Y	Y	
Mathew Ho	Arts	X	Y	Y	
Max Holmes	BoG				
Nadir Nurali	Engineering	X	Y	Y	
Nevena Rebic	GSS	X		Y	
Rachel Chan	LFS	X	Y	Y	
Rio Picollo	Library/Archival				
Ruby Barnard	Architecture	X	Y	Y	
Ryan Wong	Economics	X	Y	Y	
Sebastian Cooper	Law	X	Y	Y	
Sherly Prince	Arts				
Shovon Das	Science	X	Y	Y	
Sylvester Mensah Jr.	VP Admin	X	Y	Y	
Varada Saha	Dentistry	X			