Minutes of the AMS Advisory Board Committee
May 19th, 2021

Attendance

Present: Alessia Rodriguez (Student), Cole Evans (AMS President), Dana Turdy (AMS Strategy and Governance Lead), Jerry Jim (Professional), Keith Hester (AMS Managing Director), Lauren Benson (AMS VP Administration), Mary Gan (AMS VP Finance), Ron Gorodetsky (Professional), Samantha So (Professional)

Regrets: Eshana Bhangu (AMS VP Academic and University Affairs), Louis Retief (Student), Saad Shoaib (AMS VP External)

Recording Secretary: Emily Covell (Executive Assistant to the AMS President)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

2. Territorial Acknowledgement

3. Advisor Introductions

Samantha So: I am currently an auditor. I was once the VP Academic (2016), and I sat on the senate for that term as well. I bring professional experience from both senate and accounting, and have experience in finance and advocacy.

Jerry Jim: I have 30+ years of experience in finance and IT (within financial organizations). A good portion working with HSBC and now I run the Enterprise IT function at Central 1 Credit Union. I also teach an undergrad computer science course (software engineering), and a Sauder Business school course.

Ron Gorodetsky: I was an AMS Student Service Manager (2014-16), then became involved with the business side of the Ubyssey (until 2018). I started a software company called Hubly. You can reach out to me if you need help with anything related to student services, budgets, food bank, general community knowledge, and more.
Alessia Rodriguez: I am a UBC graduate, I got my masters in public policy and global affairs. I was a part of the student union during my undergrad. You can come to me for help with policy regulations, and campus life, related questions.

4. Future of the Advisory Board

Cole:
- This year’s meetings will probably be a bit more informal. Probably some more one on ones.
- We are to include recurring one on ones in calendars (for more frequent check-ins). I envision an executive paired with an advisor (certain obvious pairings exist).
- Also keep eyes open for, related to what was mentioned last meeting: Dana, Sheldon, and I might do some relooking at what’s in code for advisory board (we are currently not doing anything very close to what it expresses).
- Stay tuned for more from my office regarding all of these things.

Mary:
- In terms of finance, it's great to hear that a lot of you have experience with finance.
- We are constantly trying to improve the software that we are working with. Looking to streamline all of our softwares, find newer, more progressive ones (some are very outdated).

Lauren:
- I am really big on project consultation (I like to hear as many voices as I can). It is great to hear input and feedback from those who were in these positions before (love to hear different angles, maybe you have seen something similar before).

4. Logistical Questions

Jerry: Are we still leveraging Slack use?

Cole: The problem we faced last year was that not all portfolios used it to the same degree. Some people go on quite infrequently compared to others, making it difficult to guarantee a timely response always.

Mary: Right now we [my team] are still transitioning, and we haven't used an official platform yet. We have been using messenger for the time being and emails for more confidential communication.
Lauren: Same with my team. Currently messenger and email based, but more than happy to check Slack if it is going to be used.

Cole: Something else that we could try is Onboard. It might be a bit better as we are trying to get all councils and committees on it already this year. We would be using it more frequently, so there is a much higher chance that you would get more reaction this way (those messages that could be missed on Slack).

Jerry: I’m not fussy, whatever you guys pick!

Cole: Onboard would be a lot easier for distributing agendas. You can put all of the meetings for the year in there too (much more intuitive than sending emails with just a bunch of attachments). I’ll do some digging.

Ron: Perhaps we could create a master google sheet? One column for: each of our names, our roles, contact information, the best way to reach us (platform), and what you can come to us for.

Cole: Sounds great.

Mary: Sounds great

Ron: In addition, what you guys used for scheduling these meetings last year works great (When2meet!)

Action Item: Emily will send out a google sheet.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be on June 24, 6:00pm - 8:00pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm.