



## **Agenda of the AMS Advocacy Committee**

5 pm, July 19th, 2021

### **Attendance**

Present: Eshana Bhangu, Emmanuel Cantiller, Saad Shoaib, Kamil Kanji, Rebecca Liu, James Cabangon, Gabrielle Matheson, Lawrence Liu

Recording Secretary: Lawrence Liu

Meeting Agenda distributed with less than 48hrs notice

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 pm.

### **Territorial Acknowledgement**

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved: Saad Seconded: Kamil

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.”

### **(Agenda Items)**

- 1) VP AUA Updates
- 2) VPX Updates
- 3) Mask Mandate Motion (Discussion)
- 4) In Camera Discussion- 10 minutes
- 5) Goal-Setting (Time permitting)

### **Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting will be on (date), (time).

### **Adjournment**

Moved: Eshana Seconded: Saad

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at (time).

## Meeting Minutes

### VPAUA Updates

**Saad:** working on BC budget consultation submission, working with other student societies on recommendations: indigenous student, mental health, sexual violence prevention

- increase funding for sexual violence prevention initiatives
- still mapping out mental health piece
- targeted mental health programs
- indigenous languaging support? not enough current IND language programs in post secondary
- still working on potential collabs for initiative

-- federal budget works

- extension of elimination of interest rates
- mental health: making sure targeted investment toward young people mental health initiatives, mental health covered under health coverage

**Eshana:** alot of uni officials on vacations

- we did conduct UBC return to campus survey
- 8k response, 7933 current/incoming students
- Lawrence working on report, will be shared with everyone
- alot of useful data around concern of covid safety/ lecture capture/ mandating vaccine in student residence
- international student quarantine: price is concern
- vaccine discrimination a concern for some international students
- drafting letter to council: pending approval; condemning UBC for not doing enough on Covid safety back on campus
  - listing options from suggestions of data from survey
  - potential motion from this committee would be significant as well

**Emmanuel:** heavily in favour in this, University needs to take more precautions on what they have been doing so far

- huge lecture halls is a huge concern
- not having all students be required to vaccinate in residence is also a concern
- again, I'm heavily in favour

**Eshana:** just to ease anxiety and concerns for students is great

- McGill has mandatory physical distancing OR masks

**Saad:** UBC is hub for international students, people may not be comfortable from around the world. Absolutely in favour of this. Going to be a tough sell, good that AMS is standing up for this.

**Eshana:** speaking candidly, I have been shut down by high-level execs when bringing up this concern. They need to meet us halfway, do more.

**Kamil:** been in favour since last meeting, Arts caucus is very firm on this.

**Eshana:** we will stress that the logistics of this is not on students, but rather on university

**Gabrielle:** One thing I stand behind, it would be good to set clear lines for what we are asking for. Might not be received well, good to be clear on what we would like to work on.

**Emmanuel:** not sure if everyone has seen petition, but someone from change.org set up petition to demand mandatory vaccines across all campus.

**Eshana:** unfortunately with so many factors, not going to have much of an effect.

**Kamil:** If we are able to bring in support, well thought out and consideration for a plan, they have no excuse to implement it.

**Gabrielle:** agree with Kamil, if we can provide more concrete action items, the recommendations from what we know from student data would be good to bring to negotiation table.

**Eshana:** I like specificity; so what should be some specificity

- large lecture hall (we will come back to later)
- recorded lectures, not high level enough for now

**Kamil:** Are we mandating masks within AMS (Nest)?

**Eshana:** we are still in discussion, maybe something you can bring to council. E.G. we have VPAUA event in Nov, we are still uncertain.

**Emmanuel:** can UBC promote/mandate ease of access vaccination center. More vaccine promotion and availability

**Eshana:** currently also in discussion with UBC execs, something we can totally anticipate, no promises.

**Saad:** permanent clinics, pop-u clinics, how would logistics work, that is what we the VCH is asking. Last year we asked for testing site, but logistically it wouldn't work so denied.

**Kamil:** we should figure out lecture halls

**Eshana:** let's settle on any lecture hall, they are usually

BE IT RESOLVED that AMS Adv Comm goes into camera.

Passed

BIRT that AMS Adv Comm moves out of camera.

Passed



BE IT RESOLVED that the Advocacy Committee recommends to AMS Council that they call on the University of British Columbia to do more to ensure the safety and security of members of the UBC Community by mandating vaccines in Student Residences and mandating masks in all lecture halls.

Mover: Eshana

Second: Saad

Be it resolved that the advocacy committee minutes from June 17th and July 19th be approved and submitted to council.

Mover: Eshana

Seconded: Saad

Passed