



**Agenda of the AMS Operations Committee**  
(Agenda for June 25th, 2021 Meeting at 8pm | [Zoom](#))

**Attendance**

Present: Ada Ang (Vice-Chair), Lauren Benson (VP Administration), Katherine Feng (Chair), Lucy Li, Emily Masse

Regrets: Sanjana Bedi, Emily Reid

Guests:

Recording Secretary: Ada Ang (items 1-3) and Lauren Benson (items 4 and 5)

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8pm.

**Territorial Acknowledgement**

**Approval of the Agenda**

Moved: Ada Ang      Seconded: Emily M

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted.”

## Agenda Items

### 1. Approval of Minutes

First moved: Katherine    Second Moved: Ada

### 2. Soapstand Discussion

Jason: AVP Sustainability, Subcommittee Chair

Soapstand project, eyeing for past two years

Pilot project

Drinkfill

Need for product for nest

Andy is the co-founder of soapstand

Andy: Drinkfill is a zero waste tech company

- Created refill station that has gone in different places
- Sell products locally made and alternative beverages such as kombucha
- This product exists because it's hard to have zero waste, it's inconvenient for students to go out of their way to be zero-waste. So if we put this in the nest, there would be quite a bit of usage.
- One machine can produce 4 products.
- They're international - in Singapore, US, Mexico, Russia, EU, nation-wide in Toronto. Leading the way in this technology
- Allows people who have containers to be able to use it in a quick manner - whether it's a mug from their office or a bottle from home.
- Cost for students who get a refill is anywhere from \$4 to \$5 per liter. A student will save 30-40%.
- Cost of the station itself cost around \$5999 as a baseline. Possible to pay per month and to go through a financing company, and will cost ~\$150/month. Cost is dwarfed by the revenue it brings in.
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Jason:

- Received positive feedback about SoapStand. It's affordable and sustainable.
- They're interested in taking the pilot project for one school semester to see how it goes. If successful, they hope to continue the partnership for years to come.
- They're here today with the intention to determine what the results will be. They believe students at UBC will benefit from this.

Katherine: does cost include installation or machine itself?

Andy: it's just plugging it into the outlet and will take just 15 minutes. So the cost includes everything.

Andy: the internal bulk containers - for staff to refill all 4 products for 20L to be swapped takes ~5 minutes. For a user (student), that takes about 45 seconds. There will be a profit share to the AMS.

Jason: can you tell us about the estimates and agreements you have with current grocery stores?

Andy: on average, they sell about 6L per day. Grocery stores get about a thousand people going inside every day with the intent to purchase product. The agreement is that they either pay them a monthly fee or they purchased the machine all at once. Those are the two models.

Lucy: Regarding the product, are there specific brands that will be in the machine?

Andy: we work with local companies such as EchoClean (owned by a larger company) and they produce products such as VIP, Grannies, etc. We work with producers around Metro Vancouver and BC. They want the ability to have their own product under our own label.

Jason: Goal is to have one machine in the nest from September 2021 to April 2022 for now.

We will invite Jason again to another Operations Committee to answer any further questions more specific to the AMS.

### **3. Club Name Change**

- Question: is there a good enough reason to grant an exception or change rules here?
- They did not provide a reason for why they are worth the exception.
- Concerns: if we provide an exception for them, this is not fair to other clubs
- Our brainstorm of some names in lieu of "society":

- “Association” was suggested. But there are issues and confusion regarding this.
- We should reach out to this club to ask what the reason was for changing the name.
- Katherine will email Ben to see if he is able to get back to the club to ask if there’s a club-specific need for exception.

No motion.

#### **4. Club Strike System Discussion**

Katherine: Continuing discussion of the strike system. Explains the strike system. AVP Admin proposes increasing the number of strikes for more minor things without threat of deconstitution. Not aware of a time when they have been used, likely because it seems serious to clubs and can be threatening. Goal is not to deconstitute but give the opportunity to improve. 5 strikes could help with that. One concern is 3 strikes and 5 strikes could be the same if strikes continue not to be used

Lucy: What do strikes include?

Katherine: Strikes entail deconstitution if 3 are given out. Otherwise, they mostly mean a loss of AMS privileges. I believe they’re reset at the end of the year.

Lucy: There could be so many loopholes in the strike system. Case study example- does the system even work? What has happened in the past?

Katherine: Never heard of strikes being used.

Lauren: Me neither.

Emily M: Would be better with case studies and background knowledge.

Katherine: Listed some examples of issues encountered

Lauren: Added more issues with clubs

Katherine: 5 strikes could make future admin offices and operations committees more willing to address more minor issues that still need to be brought up with clubs

Emily M: Could there be a way to differentiate serious and minor things? Could be subjective.

Katherine: Seen tiers with elections- does that exist?

Lauren: Not that I know of, but would be a good idea.

Emily M: Could be a very good idea to make things fair.

Katherine: Specific criteria could make it easier for the committee to enforce rules fairly. Who would be involved in coming up with a tier system?

Lucy: Do we have someone to check that?

Lauren: Clubs Admin and Clubs and Society Working group.

Lucy: Is the tier system too much work for the Admin team? Could we just expand on the strike system and make it more detailed for future teams?

Katherine: It could be a lot of work to expand on the strike system, but also useful. Admin is usually very nice and can be hesitant to punish clubs for smaller issues that may become larger.

Lauren: It's hard not to be, so this could really help.

Lucy: Could we do work on this, so it's less of a hassle for AVP?

Katherine: Reach out to Ben, Tommy, possibly Dana to figure out how we go about doing this. Back to strike system: should we leave it for now so we can get more information or change it to 5?

Lauren: Ben has put a lot of thought into it. Sees merit of changing it to 5, but case studies for further information would be nice.

Emily M: In favour but should revise strike system too. Could it be temporary? Should probably leave as is for now.

Katherine: One option is to amend with the intention of reviewing it later

## **5. Finance Committee Motion**

Finance Committee motioned for Operations Committee to discuss: should Clubs/Constituencies be mandated to use AMS catering for events in the Nest?

Emily M: Liked Max's point but worried about who we are restricting business to like small clubs. Could be hard to generate revenue.

Lauren: Understand the financial burden of the AMS but feels the policy benefits the society more than students. Students should be prioritized more than the society, as we are to act on behalf of them. Could create more burden for Admin team to administer this as well.

Lucy: Sits on the Finance Committee and notes that there should be a comparison done to see if it's worth it. That being said, the menu is limited.

Katherine: Agrees, needs may not be met. For example, cultural clubs may be looking for dishes that AMS catering doesn't provide. Clubs are the best to decide what catering is best for them. Would likely be cheaper if all clubs use AMS catering, but doesn't think that's enough justification for taking away a club's choices.

Lucy: There's lots of troubleshooting within the AMS. Lauren said what was proposed will create more burden. Admin and Finance are already burdened and this would add more work.

Lauren: Monika and Keith could help with the forecast if one is needed. We should also be treating clubs the same way and not based off of membership size in the interest of treating them fairly.

Emily M: If clubs can't afford it, they will not hold events or put burden on students.

No motion.

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled to be on July 9th at 8 pm.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.