THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of August 4, 2021

Attendance
Present: Cole Evans (President), Saad Shoaib (VP External), Eshana Bhangu (VP Academic & University Affairs, left 1 pm), Mary Gan (VP Finance), Lauren Benson (VP Administration), Mitchell Prost (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Keith Hester (Managing Director), Lorris Leung (Senior Student Services Manager)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order
• The meeting was called to order at 12:43 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda
• The agenda was adopted (Eshana, Mary).

Minutes
• The minutes of July 28 were approved (Saad, Lauren).

COVID-19 Advocacy
• Eshana:
  o Our letters were sent, a campaign was created.
  o We’re expressing our frustration with the University over our asks (re masks and vaccinations).
  o The Faculty have also been vocal, reiterating our concerns.
  o We’ve started a movement.
  o The response we received from Ainsley Carry (the VP Students) was inadequate.
  o We responded to that.
  o Now Santa Ono (UBC President) has responded.
  o Still not adequate.
  o Going to keep pushing.
  o Hoping for an open Board of Governors meeting in the next two weeks that can take some action.
  o We’ve spoken to Governors, the Faculty Association, and the TA union.
Executive and Services Updates

- **Eshana’s update:**
  - Advocacy on return to campus.
  - Compiling reports.
  - Pushing for recorded lectures.

  [Eshana leaves.]

- **Lauren’s update:**
  - Chop Value furniture arrived (for the Interactive Sustainability Centre).
  - Disposing of the old red chairs.
  - Club audit done: sending over strikes to the Operations Committee.
  - Applications for Clubs Days this week.
  - Helping UBC plan their Main Event:
    - Virtual fair.
    - CampusBase.
  - Planning communications for CampusBase about the platform: messaging, video, tutorials.
  - Clubs & Societies Working Group has been approving new clubs.
  - Office and locker allocations done: clubs notified.
  - Sensory Room consultation going strong.
  - Events Committee meeting.
  - Raised $150 with the Pride cookie.
  - Working on story board for the Dashboard.

- **Cole:**
  - Murals?

- **Lauren:**
  - Some issues with the files submitted from the artists.
  - Have to be reworked so they can be printed.
  - Going to cost a couple of hundred dollars.
    - But other costs (preparing the walls) have been lower than budgeted.
  - Resizing, then printing.
  - Later than hoped.

- **Cole:**
  - Should announce the murals in the newsletter or on social.

- **Lauren:**
  - They’re quite nice.
  - Checking with the artists to make sure they’re okay with the resizing.

- **Mary’s update:**
  - Budget template for website.
  - Approving funds and grants applications.
o Health & Dental.
o Hiring staff for my portfolio.
o Finance Committee running smoothly. Looking at operational things and goals.

- **Saad’s update:**
o Federal pre-budget consultation:
  - Sending tomorrow via UCRU.
  - Seeking removal of student loan interest, increasing grants, mental health targeted investments, and Indigenous student support.
o Provincial budget submission with UVic and ABCS on:
  - Sexual misconduct policy.
  - Funding for Indigenous language programs.
  - Financial support for mental health.
o U-Pass going forward with the same exemptions as before.
o SUDS:
  - Pretty much set.
  - Budget pending Finance Committee approval.
  - Hired a SUDS Coordinator.
  - 97 delegates showing interest so far.
  - Accommodations booked.

- **Cole:**
o Deposits paid?

- **Saad:**
o Going to expand invitation list.
o Payment portals up this month.
o Sponsorship getting increased because of our special circumstances.
o In terms of money, should be fine.

- **Mitchell’s update:**
o Peer Support training.
o Tutoring: Renewal of agreement with the Chapman Learning Commons.
o Housing training, hiring.
o eHub renewing MoU with e@UBC.
o Advocacy continuing to support students.
o Food Bank: Looking at food order system.
o Services team get-together this week.
o Student engagement plans for first week in September.

**Adjournment**
The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 pm.