



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of August 19, 2020

**Attendance**

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External, left at 12:30), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Keith Hester (Managing Director)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

**Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 12:07 pm and took place by videoconference.

**Agenda**

- The agenda was adopted (Kalith, Georgia).

**Minutes**

- The minutes of August 12 were approved as corrected (Kalith, Georgia).

**Updates**

- *Kalith's update:*
  - UCRU bylaws: special meeting tomorrow, then coming to all the student unions, will bring the bylaws here for feedback.
  - Video with Joyce Murray being edited; will be posted next week.
  - U-Pass Advisory Committee (UAC) meeting to finalize fall plans:
    - Reinstating the U-Pass.
    - Working on an opt-out mechanism for those outside the Lower Mainland.
  - Fixing our entries in the provincial and federal lobbying registries.
  - Quarterly report.
- *Georgia's update:*
  - Updates on Climate Emergency: distilled to strategic priorities; to go to the Board of Governors in November.

- Delaying the report on the Academic Experience Survey until September.
- The COVID-19 survey report is probably ready for next week's Council.
- Meeting Thrive, UBC's health promotion unit. Looking to develop culturally appropriate mental health resources and remove barriers to accessing those resources.
- Getting momentum going on Linked-In Learning again, especially in light of our current online environment.
- Impact Grants.
- Steering Committee on student evaluations met; to make recommendations for May 2021.
- Proctorio: Academic Integrity and Remote Invigilation Principles.
- Soft launch for Textbook Broke Campaign:
  - Students nominating professors over the summer for advances in using Open Education Resources (OER's).
  - Discussions of what constitutes an OER.
- Mistreatment resources: What is available to a student if they're encountering mistreatment?
- Centre for Accessibility meeting.
- Problems with email: when writing to Gmail accounts from AMS Outlook, emails are going to spam.
- Cole:
  - Have discussed the email problem with Hong and Keith.
  - Maybe we should move our emails to G-suite.
- Sheldon:
  - Privacy issues if move to the cloud?
- Cole:
  - Wouldn't anticipate more than now.
  - We already do a lot of work on Google drive.
  - In-house is always more secure, but I'll have IT look at it.
- *Cole's update:*
  - Norm Theatre:
    - Good meeting with the Faculty of Arts.
      - Different options for how to proceed; still waiting to hear back.
      - They may foot the bill for exploratory work.
      - We'll see what they want to contribute: they're interested in the academic aspects.
    - Exploring potential donor options with Alumni Development.
  - Conversation with Keith and Praneet about wages for student staff: will come to the Executive. Confident we'll find a balance.
  - New committee appointment policy coming.
  - Out of office next Monday and Tuesday.

- East Side Furniture motion tabled by Council: would like to bring it back.
- Georgia:
  - UBC is concerned about the lack of study space in campus, so is interested in the furniture project.
- Cole:
  - Is everyone good to bring this motion back to Council?
- There was consensus to bring it back.

[Kalith left.]

- *Sylvester's update:*
  - Team getting ready for the CampusBase launch on Monday.
    - Still waiting for AMS member list from UBC.
  - Hired new Hatch assistant manager.
  - Hatch also got a new Wix template for its website for the permanent collection.
  - Sustainability: Runoff garden project still in progress.
  - Helping UBC Orientations
- *Ian's update:*
  - Safewalk starts operations on Friday.
  - Tutoring still working with our partners.
    - Contract negotiations about Nimbus.
  - Peer Support is hiring outreach people; already hired support people.
  - Food Bank busy as ever; finalizing partnership with Food Mesh.
  - Videographer to produce videos on the Services to let students know how the Services work.
  - Housing Coordinator well on way; aiming for a feasibility report for September 30.
  - Accessibility shuttles for Safewalk.
- *Lucia's update:*
  - Health & Dental opt-out period for international students.
  - Implementation of Certify (the new expense management system):
    - To launch to the Finance Caucus.
    - The EUS and the CUS are two constituencies with massive amounts of transactions, so will be meeting with them.
  - Get Thrifty budget approved by Fincom, so they can work on their expansion now.

## Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 pm.