



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

**AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Minutes of October 20, 2021

**Attendance**

Present: Cole Evans (President, on phone), Mary Gan (VP Finance), Lauren Benson (VP Administration), Saad Shoaib (VP External), Lorris Leung (Senior Student Services Manager), Mitchell Prost (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Eshana Bhangu (VP Academic & University Affairs)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

**Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 11:10 am and took place in person in Nest Room 3529, with Saad in the chair.

**Agenda**

- The agenda was adopted (Lauren, Mary).

**Minutes**

- The minutes of October 13 were approved (Lauren, Saad).

**Blue Chip**

- Lauren:
  - There have been complaints about slow service at Blue Chip.
  - Slower for food than for drinks.
  - Talk about reaching out to the employees for solutions.
- Saad:
  - Meeting with the staff would be a good idea.
  - Look at procedures, get staff recommendations.
- Keith:
  - We do have staff meetings about concerns.
- Cole:
  - This is a problem many on-campus cafes are facing.
  - People are complaining, staff are under pressure.
  - An easy first step would be to set expectations (for customers): tell them how long they will probably have to wait.

- Maybe also market Blue Chip Express as the place to go for those who just want drinks.
- Keith:
  - We're getting a new espresso machine next week.
  - We need to advertise more for Blue Chip Express.

## Health and Dental Trip

- Mary:
  - Lorris, Cole, and I went to Montreal to have meetings with Studentcare.
  - Studentcare is suggesting new services, including:
    - A healthcare app that would allow students to contact a doctor or other health professional who could prescribe medicine or do an assessment.
  - We're looking to send out a survey on this.
- Cole:
  - Looking to enhance the services we provide.
  - Maybe split health from dental to be more flexible.
  - Possible legal service:
    - Legal costs are pricey and may discourage students from going to lawyers even when it would be helpful to get legal advice about such things as tenancy agreements.
    - This would be an insurance service for legal costs.
  - There are lots of areas for expansion to provide value to students.
  - Will probably do a survey about the new services to consult the students, asking if they're interested in the services and interested in paying for them.
  - Our health and dental service is the one providing the highest value for students; it's important we tweak it to make sure it has the best possible effect.
- Lorris:
  - Perhaps we can ask about a sexual assault legal fund.
  - This would be separate from the other legal service.
  - It was another suggestion from Studentcare.
- Cole:
  - The AMS Engagement Survey will be in November.
  - We don't want the two surveys to conflict.

## Sensory Room

- Lauren:
  - Hard to find a good spot.
- Keith:
  - Think we may have one in the Life Building.
  - A laundry room that was never used.
  - Can speak to Michael Kingsmill about converting it.

**Executive and Services Updates**

- *Lauren's update:*
  - Sensory Room to Council.
  - Thingery to the Finance Committee.
  - Job posting for manager of the Clubs Resource Centre:
    - Name changing to Clubs and Commuters Engagement Coordinator.
  - Soapstand to be installed in January.
  - Resource guide for clubs post-COVID.
  - January Clubs Days will be January 18-21:
    - Atrium and first floor.
    - Probably not outside.
  
- *Mitchell's update:*
  - Food Bank:
    - As of October 14 had surpassed the number of visits for all of last year.
    - Freezer approved by Fincom.
  - Peer Support:
    - Opioid overdose workshop.
    - Dialogue Nights a success.
  
- *Saad's update:*
  - SUDS done:
    - Very very successful. Every delegate I talked to loved it.
    - Speakers, events, networking, relationship building.
    - Good surplus. Want to transfer it to other projects.
    - One recommendation:
      - That SUDS not be solely done by the VP External,
      - Not healthy or right that it be under just one portfolio.
      - Should be an Executive Committee item.
    - Sending out feedback forms to delegates.
  - Going over priorities with UCRU for lobby week.
  - Northwest Marine Drive safety:
    - Working with Campus & Community Planning.
    - The RCMP made a presentation to the UNA.
  - Meeting with BC Housing about our non-profit housing project.
  
- *Mary's update:*
  - Shoppers Drugs flu shot issue.
  - Showpass.
  - Troubleshooting for clubs and Constituencies.

- Hiring new student staff.
- *Cole's update:*
  - AMS Engagement Survey with Insights West.
  - AGM next week:
    - 500 registrations so far.
    - Looking for more.
    - Going to send another email.
    - Hoping for quorum.
  - Agenda Code change going to Council.
  - Continuing to work on I-17 and I-18.
- *Lorris's update:*
  - SASC recruitment: interviewing.
  - Outreach with Studentcare:
    - Information sessions.
    - Boothing.
    - Want to increase awareness of the plan.
  - Streamlining processes:
    - Orientation courses.

### **Managing Director's Update**

- Keith:
  - Fincom approved the espresso machine for Blue Chip Express.
  - Upgrade to our payroll system.
  - Market review of salaries.
  - Massage therapist starting soon.
  - Hiring for HR Manager ongoing, have done seven interviews.
  - Equity Plan workshop in November.
  - All-Staff meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 am.