STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

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Guests: Charlotte Alden (Ubyssey), Nathan Bawaan (Ubyssey), Michael White (UBC Campus & Community Planning), Joanne Proft (UBC Campus & Community Planning), Madeleine Zammar (UBC Campus & Community Planning), Erin Co (AMS External Office), Mimi Neufeld (Policy Advisor), Michael Kingsmill (AMS Design Office), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council)

A) Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:17 pm.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Speaker:

- UBC and AMS are on the traditional, ancestral land of the Musqueam people.
- What we call Vancouver is the unceded, stolen territory of the Musqueam.

C) Adoption of the agenda:

1. MOVED EMILY GUBSKI, SECONDED SAAD SHOAIB:

“That the agenda be adopted as presented.”

... No objections

D) Membership: Introductions, new members, declaration of vacancies:

Welcome to our new Members:

Vacancies on Council: Journalism, Population & Public Health, Audiology, Education, Engineering, GSS, VST

Goodbyes: Jackson Schumacher (GSS), Daniel Martin (VST)

E) Speaker’s Business (5 minutes):

The Speaker:

- There’s been a question about Robert’s Rules and making Council as accessible as possible.
- You don’t need to worry about procedural conventions: that’s why Sheldon and I are here.
- If you have something to say, just raise your hand or placard.
- What really counts is that everyone gets to speak.
- Sheldon did a presentation in which he boiled Robert’s Rules down to five points:
F) Statements from Students at Large (3 minutes each):

G) Consent Agenda Items

2. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU:

“That the following consent agenda items be accepted as presented (simple majority).”

Executive Committee minutes dated July 28, 2021 [SCD117-22]
Executive Committee minutes dated August 4, 2021 [SCD118-22]
Executive Committee minutes dated August 11, 2021 [SCD119-22]
Finance Committee minutes dated July 27, 2021 [SCD120-22]
Finance Committee minutes dated August 3, 2021 [SCD121-22]
Finance Committee minutes dated August 10, 2021 [SCD122-22]
HR Committee minutes dated July 9, 2021 [SCD123-22]
HR Committee minutes dated July 27, 2021 [SCD124-22]
HR Committee minutes dated August 6, 2021 [SCD125-22]
Advocacy Committee minutes dated August 16th, 2021 [SCD126-22]
Advisory Board minutes dated July 19th, 2021 [SCD127-22]
Steering Committee minutes dated July 28th, 2021 [SCD128-22]
Operations Committee minutes dated August 9, 2021 [SCD129-22]
Governance Committee minutes dated August 11, 2021 [SCD130-22]

From the HR Committee [SCD131-22]
That on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, Council adjust the job description of the Chief Electoral Officer to reflect the following for the 2021/22 year only:

From September 1st, 2021 to October 12th, 2021, working 5 hours per week instead of 15.

From the Ad Hoc Committee on Electoral Engagement
That Max Holmes be appointed Chair and Karen Liu be appointed Vice-Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Electoral Engagement.

From the HR Committee [SCD132-22], [SCD133-22], [SCD134-22]
Whereas the current working hours of the Campaigns and Community Engagement Commissioner are fifteen (15) hours per week,

Whereas the current job title is Campaigns and Community Engagement Commissioner,
Be it resolved that Council on the recommendation of the HR Committee increase the amount of work hours for the Campaigns and Community Engagement Commissioner to twenty (20) hours per week at a Tier 2 level and consequently the job title be changed to Associate Vice-President, Campaigns and Community Engagement until the end of their work term.

... Carried

For (15): Cole Evans, Lauren Benson, Saad Shoib, Kamil Kanji, Jason Liao, Jasneet Bal, Joey Yang, Adenike Adelakun, Julia Burnham, Nevena Rebic, Gabrielle Matheson, Emily Gubski, Emily Masse, Kiera Vandeborne, Avery Chan

3. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU:

“That the following consent agenda items be accepted as presented (2/3rds majority).”

From the Executive Committee  [SCD135-22]
That Council on the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve the new agreement with Simply Voting as presented.

From the Finance Committee  [SCD136-22], [SCD137-22]
That the revised AMS Budget be accepted as presented.

Note: Amendments are limited to the Student Union Development Summit (SUDS) section in the VP External portfolio.

From the Governance Committee  [SCD138-22], [SCD139-22], [SCD140-22]
That Council on the recommendation of the Governance Committee amend Policy I-21 on committee appointments and also amend the Code definition of Student at Large, as presented.”

... Carried

For (11): Cole Evans, Lauren Benson, Saad Shoib, Kamil Kanji, Jasneet Bal, Joey Yang, Adenike Adelakun, Gabrielle Matheson, Emily Gubski, Emily Masse, Avery Chan

H) Presentations to Council and Accompanying Motions (10 minutes for presentation, 5 minute? period):

Campus Vision 2050 – Michael White, Joanne Proft, and Madeleine Zammar  
(UBC Campus & Community Planning)  [SCD141-22]

Michael White:
- Happy to be here; we should come more often; feel free to invite us back.
- UBC land use policy has not been revisited in a decade.
- This is a chance to engage with the community and the Musqueam.
- There are different conditions now: climate action, etc.
Joanne Proft:
- Deep engagement with the Musqueam is crucial.
- A UBC-Musqueam engagement agreement is underway right now.
- UBC is one of the bigger employers in the region.
- There are about 80,000 people on campus during the day.
- A complex mix of interests: academic units, student housing and childcare, supporting the University Neighbourhoods Association.
- The main policy is the Land Use Plan, laying out the types of areas on campus: academic, green academic, neighbourhood housing, other types of housing.
- Leasing land is a way to raise money to support the mission of the University.
- Will need to get provincial approval.
- This is a long-term, 30-year vision.
- Beginning as a hinterland campus on the edge of Vancouver, UBC became a single use commuter campus and now has become a sustainable, transit-oriented community.
- Gathering and trying to express the collective aspirations of the community.
- Engaging deeply with the Musqueam as well as with the campus community.
- Responding to critical imperatives: affordability and climate change.
- Launching in 2022.
- Over the past ten years the campus has grown a ton.
- The old plan didn’t anticipate this much growth.
- Aligning with UBC’s strategic priorities, including rapid transit.
- Now doing informal outreach.
- Will then go to Board of Governors.

4. MOVED JULIA BURNHAM, SECONDED GABRIELLE MATHESON:

“That time for the presentation be extended by five minutes.”

... No objections

**Campus Vision 2050 (continued)**

Madeleine Zammar:
- Want to encourage collaboration, especially to include the voices of those not part of the past processes.
- Seeking broader representation, especially from marginalized and under-represented groups.
- Developing forms of engagement:
  - Pop-up events, open houses.
- Trying to be inclusive and to capture diverse audiences.
- Taking into account climate and COVID.
- Next steps:
  - Focus groups to inform the terms of reference to be presented to the Board.
  - Several AMS members are involved.
  - Aiming for a draft ToR in November.
Questions
Mathew Ho:
- How will this work in conjunction with things students are pushing for, such as the SkyTrain to UBC?

Michael White:
- There’s an important relationship.
- We’ve been working on rapid transit for three years.
- Looking for firmer commitments on SkyTrain.
- The processes are being integrated.
- There’s a relation to housing.
- We’re trying to create a complete community, integrating as best we can.

Julia Burnham:
- How have you been guided by the rights of Indigenous people?

Michael White:
- We are going through an engagement process with the Musqueam.
- A much deeper engagement with the Musqueam.
- Also working with the province.

Sylvia Fernandez:
- Will the Musqueam have a seat at the table?

Michael White:
- This is really important.
- The Musqueam are not a stakeholder, but the host nation.
- We are co-creating with them.
- We’ve never done that before.

5. MOVED LAUREN BENSON, SECONDED MATHEW HO:

“That time for questions be extended by five minutes.”

… No objections

Lauren Benson:
- How will this connect to climate action?

Joanne Proft:
- Climate action is on everybody’s mind.
- We definitely want to develop more compactly, preserving open space.
- We want to hear from the community.

Max Holmes:
- Moving beyond SkyTrain, what are the priorities for commuting to campus?
- How will you make the campus more bike-friendly and less reliant on cars?
Michael White:
- We have a transportation plan that’s also due for an update.
- I agree there’s more than SkyTrain: there’s pedestrians, cycling.
- Want to move to accommodate scooters and bikes.

Joanne Proft:
- Hoping to leverage SkyTrain to help provide additional biking facilities in tandem with rapid transit.

Eshana Bhangu:
- In engaging with the Musqueam, will they have to give their consent to any proposals?

Michael White:
- We are co-developing with the Musqueam.
- This is the first time asking them what works best for them.

Get Out the Vote – Erin Co (VP External Office) [SCD142-22], [SCD143-22]

The Speaker recused himself because he is working for Elections Canada.
Eshana Bhangu took the chair.

Erin Co:
- The election is September 20.
- We are partnering with UCRU.
- We will be using personalized merchandise to promote student voting.
- Two events:
  - Vancouver Quadra candidates debate in the Lev Bukhman Lounge in the Nest, September 8, 7-9 pm.
    - Three candidates have confirmed.
    - Will be livestreamed as well.
    - Chill night.
    - Livestreamed.
    - Refreshments.
- Online tagline “Vote now and change your future.”
- Posters, brochures, lawn signs.
- Social media, video.
- Encouraging students to vote and telling them when and where.
- Indoor boooting near the Honour Roll.
- Outdoor boooting outside the Nest.
- Hoping to get lots of traffic.
- Important to vote as students.
Questions
Mathew Ho:
- Also useful to mention issues that might be important, or is that not appropriate?
- The advocacy side of things.

Saad Shoaib:
- Going to compile issues.
- Obviously non-partisan. We don’t sway a single way.
- We’ll highlight issues that concern students.

Max Holmes:
- Why so much money on a video?

Erin Co:
- One of the highest levels of engagement we got in the provincial election was for the video we did.
- We’re paying for a professional production and doing two videos.

Mathew Ho:
- Is Elections Canada going to put a polling place on campus, and is the AMS going to take action to make sure there is?

Saad Shoaib:
- We’re trying our best.
- Elections Canada is not deploying the vote on campus program this year, which is very disappointing.
- Currently in discussions. Hopefully have an answer soon.
- Waiting for Elections Canada.

Nathan Bawaan:
- If Elections Canada doesn’t change their position, what will you do?

Saad Shoaib:
- Going to consider alternative options, e.g., mail-in ballots and special voting.
- Elections Canada is going to have to place a polling station somewhere in this riding. If it’s not in the Nest, we’ll have to evaluate what to do.
- We expected Elections Canada to be cooperative with us.
- It’s really disappointing to see the lack of electoral engagement with students and youth.

6. MOVED SAAD SHOAIB, SECONDED MARY GAN:

"That Council on the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve spending up to $10,000 from the Federal Election Reserve Fund for the Get Out the Vote Campaign in the upcoming federal election."
Note: Requires 2/3rds
Note: The balance in the fund is approx. $29,500
... Carried

For (21): Cole Evans, Lauren Benson, Saad Shoalib, Mary Gan, Aryan Mishra, Kamil Kanji, Mathew Ho, Romina Hajizadeh, Jason Liao, Jasneet Bal, Joey Yang, Adenike Adelakun, Julia Burnham, Nevena Rebic, Ivran Rai, Gabrielle Matheson, Sylvia Fernandez, Emily Gubski, Emily Masse, Kiera Vandeborne, Avery Chan

The chair returned to the Speaker.

I) Consultation Period

J) Appointments

K) President’s Remarks (5 minutes):

Cole Evans:
- Lots of announcements from the province about a vaccine card system, a mask mandate, and postsecondary guidance.
- Also the University will be requiring vaccinations for those living in student housing.
- This was a big win for the AMS, and it was Eshana who did most of the heavy lifting on this.
- The AMS played a leading role; our media strategy was a highly effective media blitz.
  - We got way more media attention than I can remember on any other single issue.
  - Eshana took lots of interviews.
  - We had a photoshoot with the Georgia Straight.
- We’ve kept our mask mandate in place.
- Also talking about vaccine requirements.
- And we have tons of masks to give out, donated to us by Tentree.
- Federal election: I will co-moderate the Quadra debate.
- Equity Plan coming to the next Council meeting.
- Still figuring out how to tackle the Strategic Plan.

Emily Gubski:
- How will the donated masks be distributed?

Cole Evans:
- I’ll let Lauren answer that in her remarks.
L) Executive Remarks (3 minutes each):

VP Finance – Mary Gan
- Looking for a new accounting system.
- Club repayments.
- Making funds more accessible.
- Health and Dental projects.
- Hiring staff.
- Opt-ins.
- Health and Dental subsidies and change of coverage period open.

VP Academic & University Affairs – Eshana Bhangu
- Successful concerning the new vaccination requirement in residences.
- Thanks to Council for engaging in discussions.
- Cole really helped, and my team members.
- Overdose issue: getting fentanyl test strips; Naloxone.
- Supporting international students who can’t get here.
- Advocacy for recorded lectures and for rapid testing and vaccinations on campus.

Questions
Mathew Ho:
- Can anything be done besides lecture recording for those who can’t get back to campus?

Eshana Bhangu:
- Heard from a lot of students.
- It’s too late to add a substantial number of online courses at this time.
- UBC is making sure every student is supported.

Max Holmes:
- On the drug poisoning crisis, what is the AMS doing beyond Naloxone kits?
- Naloxone is great, but ideally we want to avoid people overdosing.
- What are we doing to arrange drug testing to make sure drugs are not laced?

Eshana Bhangu:
- We asked the University for a drug testing site.
- The University said it’s not feasible by September.
- Met an external organization, but they said they don’t have the capacity.
- Trying to get fentanyl strips.

Cole Evans:
- It’s pretty close to the start of the school year.
- The University is receptive, but there’s a capacity issue.
- Our approach has been to get fentanyl test strips.
- We can distribute 200-500 strips.
- There’s also an educational piece; need to show people how to use them.
- This is a short-term solution.
- Long term need to work with the University, and maybe the University can partner with another organization.
  - The University has labs.
  - Regulatory hoops.

Julia Burnham:
- Based on the most recent update, students will not have to be vaccinated, but faculty and staff will.
- Has the AMS considered legal avenues? The SLFS?

Eshana Bhangu:
- Definitely an avenue we can explore.
- I’m frustrated by the wishy-washiness and contradictory nature of the PHO and UBC response.
- This is a governance crisis.

**VP Administration – Lauren Benson**
- Final stages of preparing the Interactive Sustainability Centre.
- Clubs Days boothing opportunities open: catering to a variety of comfort levels.
- Pleasantly surprised by the donation of 27,000 masks by Tentree:
  - For distribution, reached out to Constituencies, added them to First Week kits, will hand out at Clubs Days.
- Clubs recovery benefit.
- Working with clubs to prepare for the coming year.
- Clubs & Societies Working Group has almost completed its review of new club applications.

**Questions**
Max Holmes:
- Are the masks cloth?
- Are we distributing the appropriate masks?

Lauren Benson:
- They are cloth masks.
- You can layer them with medical masks.
- They come in multiple sizes.
- I believe they’re cotton.

Julia Burnham:
- There’s been confusing guidance about clubs and vaccinations.
- Has UBC reached out? The province?

Lauren Benson:
- I have not heard from the province or UBC.
- Definitely going to enforce proof of vaccination for events: cards at events.
• Random checks by Conferences and Catering.
• A strike system to ensure clubs are following rules.

Mathew Ho:
• Might we face legal action over requiring vaccinations?

Cole Evans:
• Considering that this is coming from the province, I don’t think we’re very much exposed to legal action: it’s the law.
• I don’t see us being at legal risk.

**VP External Affairs – Saad Shoaib**
• Federal election.
  o Elections Canada will not be deploying a special balloting station on campuses.
  o Students will not be able to vote in their home ridings from afar.
  o We’re putting a lot of media pressure on Elections Canada.
  o Interview with CBC.
• BC budget consultation submission with ABCS and UVic student society.
• U-Pass exemptions announced.
• U-Pass subsidy applications up.
• Harm reduction campaign: in discussions about getting the right resources to reduce overdoses.
  o Doing greater advocacy on the issue.

*The Speaker passed the chair to Cole Evans.*

**Questions**

Max Holmes:
• On the drug poisoning issue, this is a public health issue.
• The AMS has been advocating on COVID vaccines and masks, pulling out every stop.
• With the drug crisis, there’s a greater chance of students dying.
• What is the AMS doing?
• Not a lot publicly.
• Why not pull out all the stops on this?

Saad Shoaib:
• We are actively lobbying the province and will continue to do that.
• Going to make sure our voice is loud.
• Media pressure is something we can explore.

Cole Evans:
• The test strips will be a good opportunity for publicity.
Max Holmes:
- The AMS has known about the drug issue as long as COVID.
- What has already been done about it in public?
- Two possible tactics are private conversations and going public.
- What have we done over the summer?

Saad Shoaib:
- We absolutely will be applying pressure.
- You’re right: this is urgent.
- In the short term, we will be working on every solution we can.

*The Speaker resumed the chair.*

**Student Services Manager – Mitchell Prost**
- Final preparations for the return of the Services.
- Hiring tutors, volunteers.
- Finalizing agreements.
- Food Bank is returning to the grocery store model.
- Peer Support will be available virtually in September; in person in October.
- Safewalk: walking and driving in September.
- Housing hosting its first session September 8.

**Questions**
Max Holmes:
- On the drug poisoning crisis:
  - We used to have Vice, then combined it into Peer Support.
  - What are we doing that’s new about this?

Mitchell Prost:
- We are offering a cannabis harm reduction workshop, a substances workshop, a psychedelics workshop on dangers.
- Naloxone training.
- Education outreach.
- Safer substance use workshop.
- Exact events not set yet; planning beginning now.

**Managing Director – Keith Hester**
- Given the announcements from the province, we have been trying to put together an operational plan.
- Finalizing the audit.
- Quarterly report with Mary.
- Working with Saad on housing.
- We have a new Policy Advisor, Mimi Neufeld.
- Hiring for other positions for the return in September.
Questions
Max Holmes:
- We’ve had large discrepancies between projections and actuals in past years.
- Have we brought this up with the auditors?

Keith Hester:
- They do compare to the budget and do ask why there’s a variance.
- Individual department managers generally answer those questions.

M) Committee Reports (5 minutes each):

Advocacy Committee – Eshana Bhangu
- Monthly report done.
- Working on goals.
- Input on enhancing teaching and learning.
- OER.
- Non-profit housing.
- Drug testing: fentanyl strips, Naloxone.

Questions
Mathew Ho:
- Now that there’s a Policy Advisor, will something be done about the External Policy Manual?
- It’s been gathering dust.

Eshana Bhangu:
- We will be doing something.

Mimi Neufeld:
- Reviewing AMS External and Internal Policies.
- Discussing with committees and Executives.

Steering Committee – Cole Evans
- Agenda setting.
- Loving the new Steering Committee and its new purpose in life.
- Waiting to receive committee goals.
- Committee appointments will be going out: please fill out the nomination forms.
- Next Council meeting will have new rules: we’ll be in person, not hybrid; Councillors cannot attend virtually unless they have a reason.
- Ask me if you need to attend virtually; we’ll be flexible.
- Meetings will be every second Wednesday starting September 15.
- We get so much more enjoyment in person than on Zoom.
- There will be food: come for dinner.
Finance Committee – Mary Gan
- Finalized goals.
- Standardized the budget review.
- Long term and short term loans.
- Reviewing Sustainability Projects Fund applications.

Governance Committee – Ray Hua for Katherine Feng
- Policy on committee appointments.

Operations Committee – Ray Hua for Katherine Feng
- New club applications.
- Deconstituting old clubs.
- COVID recovery grant for clubs.
- Committee goals.

HR Committee – Romina Hajizadeh
- Changes to CEO hours.
- VP External commissioner changes.
- Committee goals.
- Submitted minutes.
- Transition reports.

Student Life Committee – Emily Gubski
- Services presentation.
- Re-evaluation of committee membership.
- Goals.

Advisory Board – Cole Evans
- Discussed Fermentation Lab.
- Code changes going well. With Governance.
  - They look more substantial than they are.
- New monthly meetings improve engagement.
- Helpful to bounce ideas off them, getting new ideas from professionals outside the organization.
- If anyone has issues they want discussed by the Advisory Board, let me know. If you want to attend, let me know.

Extraordinary Committee on Affiliate Institutions – Lauren Benson
- Has not met.
- Will meet in September.

Ad hoc Committee on AMS principles and Ethics – Lauren Benson
- Couldn’t coordinate a meeting. Looking at finding a time.

Ad hoc Committee on Electoral Engagement – Max Holmes
- I just became chair.
• We’ve done nothing.
• The committee is far too big.
• Will be proposing some elimination.
• Will meet in the first or second week of September.
• Will look at the Terms of Reference.
• Will need to revisit timeline.
• Could the HR Committee please figure out my pay?

N) Report from Presidents Council (2 minutes): Cole Evans
• Just looking to schedule monthly meetings starting in September.

O) Board of Governors, Senate, Ombudsperson & Historical Update Reports (2 minutes each):

Board of Governors – Max Holmes, Georgia Yee
Max Holmes:
• Return to Campus Guidelines.
  o I'd like to thank the community members on the Board who helped to get this discussed.
  o Also the Faculty Association, administrative staff, and the AMS (especially Eshana and Cole).
  o Personally I think the PHO hasn’t gone far enough.
  o Prioritizing attendance by anti-vaxxers was a big mistake.
  o One basic question not answered: can the University bring in its own policies?
  o I don’t describe the situation as a win.
  o There are major access issues.
  o Vaccinations are not required for classrooms.
  o There’s a governance crisis; it’s frustrating.

Eshana Bhangu:
• We appreciate the work of the elected governors.
• What makes you think it’s acceptable for the Board of Governors to bow down to the province and not protect University autonomy?
• What are the student governors doing?

Max Holmes:
• We don’t support the current situation.
• However, decisions were made.
• Ultimately, it’s the obligation of the Board and the President to make decisions in the best interests of the students.
• I’ve been in constant communication with my colleagues.
• It’s disappointing that a lot has been behind closed doors.
• We’re applying pressure.
• The Faculty Association sent a letter that has some very clear questions that need to be answered.
Julia Burnham:
- Can you explain collegial governance?

Max Holmes:
- There are unique elements to University governance.
- A majority of members of the Board are not elected; only 8 out of 21 are.
- There are shared powers: all academic authority is with the Senate; property is with the Board of Governors.
- Universities can only act if they understand where communities are.
- Academic freedom is another issue.
- Collegial governance is recognizing that universities are not corporations.

Georgia Yee:
- The University’s first mission is to be a scholarly community.
- Also to promote public health.
- Autonomy is an issue.
- We need transparency.
- Phenomenal to have all this community input and advocacy; I am grateful to Cole and Eshana.

Saad Shoaib:
- What discussions has the Board been having on the drug crisis?

Max Holmes:
- Been bringing it up with the responsible Executives to get information.
- Has there been an open Board discussion on this? No.

Senate – Eshana Bhangu
- No update.
- Can expect more when Senate resumes meeting.

Historical Update – Sheldon Goldfarb
- Last time I talked of Indigenous presence on campus, and showed you Frank Calder, who may have been the first Indigenous student at UBC and who went on to a distinguished career in politics.
- Then I showed you another early Indigenous student, Alfred Scow, long after his student days when he was receiving the AMS Great Trekker Award for his distinguished career.
- Then I showed Alfred Scow’s father, Chief William Scow, attending a 1948 UBC Homecoming football game at which he gave us permission to use the name Thunderbird and also presented us with a totem pole.
- Beside him in the 1948 picture is someone in an impressive mask, and I was asked about it.
- I couldn’t find out too much about the mask itself, but I can now tell you who was wearing it. I dug up an old copy of the Ubyssey, and they had another shot of the
ceremony with a caption that says that the person wearing the mask was – Alfred Scow, the very same Alfred Scow I showed you in a 1995 picture when he was 68. In the mask picture, taken in 1948, he was 21 – so it’s no wonder we couldn’t recognize him.

- I want to go back to the Ubyssey photo for a moment to point out someone else in the photo. In between Chief Scow, holding the Indigenous talking stick, and his son Alfred in the mask is Patsy Jordan, that year’s Homecoming Princess.
- I mention her because she went on to become the mother of Joanne Pickford, the AMS Admin Assistant who is usually at these Council meetings taking notes. Joanne couldn’t be here tonight, so she sent her mother instead.
- But my real topic tonight, at the request of the Speaker, is a history of the AMS Archives.
- I had one of my assistants poke around, and she didn’t find much in our early years, except a statement in one of our old constitutions saying that the Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining AMS records.
- You might think that by Secretary was meant someone like Joanne, our Admin Assistant, but no, the Secretary in the 1933 was roughly equivalent to today’s VP Academic & University Affairs, who in fact according to our bylaws is still responsible for maintaining AMS records, which tells you more about how our bylaws need updating than about how the records are maintained today.
- But in 1933 I’m willing to believe it really was the Secretary. There was no Archivist then, and no Communications Manager or Events Manager either. In those days AMS work was mostly done by Council members, so there’d be a PR Officer elected from among the Councillors and a Coordinator of Activities a few years later who was an elected member of the AMS Executive.
- We couldn’t find many records about the records from the early days, about how they were kept, where they were kept, etc. But they were kept somewhere because we have Council minutes and documents going back to 1921.
- The first records about the records we could find was an exchange of correspondence between the University Archives and the AMS General Manager, Brian Robinson, in 1972, in which the University invited the AMS to store its “inactive and dead records” with them, because the University could care for them professionally and maintain continuity.
- We did indeed send our old records to the University in 1972, and they stayed there till we moved to the Nest in 2015.
- But there still was no AMS Archivist. That had to wait until 1983 when Council was told: “The AMS requires a usable system of longterm storage and retrieval of information. Committees … would benefit from having available information on old projects, the solutions to repeating problems, and the reasons why other solutions were rejected. The absence of such an archive has resulted in the loss of various documents already. The business of the Society has become too complex for relevant information to be passed from old to new Executives by word of mouth.”
- And so we hired an archivist, Iolanda Weisz, who was actually just supposed to set things up over the summer. Not sure who was going to run things after that – but she ended up staying for six years, until 1989, at which point she was replaced by Bruce Armstrong.
Bruce’s story is interesting. When Cole was re-elected, you may have heard that he was only the second president elected to consecutive terms, the first being Bill Dobie in 1993-94 and 1994-95.

This is true, but before that there was Bruce, who was elected twice – but not consecutively. He was president in 1978, fell ill, resigned, was away for a year, and then returned as president again in 1980.

Then in 1989 he became our Archivist – promoted, I like to say.

He remained till 1994, then left just after hiring me as his assistant, and I’ve been Archivist since 1995.

*Questions*

Cole Evans:
- Can we see a picture of Sheldon in the 90’s?

Sheldon Goldfarb:
- I’ll see if I can dig one up.

Mathew Ho:
- Have you thought of digitizing all the old records?

Sheldon Goldfarb:
- This has been proposed in the past, but it would costs hundreds of thousands of dollars or lots of labour time.
- Also the results might not be worth it; there is a lot of trivial material in the files. About meeting times etc.

Max Holmes:
- How long would it take your assistants to scan everything?

Sheldon Goldfarb:
- We did look into this.
- I don’t have the information in front of me, but it would take a great many hours.

**P) Minutes of Council and Committees of Council:**

**Q) Executive Committee Motions:**

*Council went in camera at 8:45 pm.*

*Council came out of camera at 9:05 pm.*

7. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED LAUREN BENSON: [SCD146-22]

"That Council on the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve the new lease agreement as presented."

Note: Requires 2/3rds
8. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU: [SCD147-22], [SCD148-22]

“That on the recommendation of the Executive Committee the amendments to Policy I-7A be accepted as presented.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Cole Evans:
- The amendments we’ve brought forward are out of date now that the PHO has issued new orders.
- In a way we don’t need the policy because it’s law.
- But there may be parts we want.
- We can discuss this, then table it, and maybe do an email vote on it.

Ray Hua:
- I have a question about how the AMS is interpreting the PHO order.
- How does it apply to club meetings?

Cole Evans:
- My view is that opening a club room would not be an event.
- What’s meant is large meetings, weddings.
- If just opening a room, like a workplace, with six people, say, then you wouldn’t need everyone in that meeting to be vaccinated.

Mathew Ho:
- Are there still going to be capacity limits?

Cole Evans:
- Everything we do will still be in line with Provincial Health guidelines.
- We’re still in Step 3.
- Indoor events are limited to 50 people.

Max Holmes:
- Will the AMS go further than what the PHO says?
- It could be possible to require vaccination to access rooms even if the PHO doesn’t require it.

Cole Evans:
- The proposed amendments will require monthly reviews at Council, so we can discuss this further.
- A lot depends on different areas of the Nest.
- There are some challenges, since we’re a semi-public building.
- It could be if cases go up that we require vaccination for the whole building.
- Some parts of the proposed amendments (about vaccination) are redundant, given the latest announcement.

Emily Gubski:
- Since we offer food, will we make it clear when people can take their masks off?

Cole Evans:
- Last year we didn’t need that.
- We’ll probably do the same as then: passive approach, signs up saying wear a mask, but probably no patrols.
- Mask policy has not changed.
- We’ve seen relatively good compliance.

Julia Burnham:
- Glad we’re going to bring this back every month.
- Wonder about the proposed exemption for people suffering from a professionally diagnosed trauma or phobia-related needs.
- We may be exposing them to greater risk by saying this.

Cole Evans:
- The language was included for clarity.
- But there are no exemptions now because the province is not allowing any.

Max Holmes:
- How are we going to let people know when they should be wearing a mask?

Cole Evans:
- We will go back to our Communications team.

Keith Hester:
- Our Health and Safety Committee will have ambassadors going around the building to tell people to wear masks.

Cole Evans:
- I was mistaken about that.

Mathew Ho:
- What about social distancing?

Cole Evans:
- We will follow provincial guidance.

Mitchell Prost:
- Will we be making mask announcements over the PA system?
Keith Hester:
- Messaging is being re-recorded.

Julia Burnham:
- Will we have an email vote as soon as we hear from the province?

Cole Evans:
- The plan is to send the basic language to an email vote: adding something about aggressive action leading to expulsion from the building.
- Otherwise we’re just following the PHO.

Emily Gubski:
- Still a lot of uncertainty about when to wear masks.

Ray Hua:
- It’s ridiculous to not have vaccination rules for club rooms.
- It’s logically unsound.

9. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

“That the motion to amend Policy I-7A be tabled.”

… No objections

10. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU:

“That on the recommendation of the Executive Committee the amendments to Policy I-7A be accepted as presented.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

… Tabled

R) Constituency and Affiliate Motions:

S) Committee Motions:

T) Other Business and Notice of Motions:

U) Discussion Period

Bylaw Changes at the AGM

Cole Evans:
- Not currently planning any bylaw changes.
- Last year we made changes to the bylaws at the AGM.
- Are there any minor changes we want to make now?
• There are some issues, like the duties of the Executives, which are out of date, as Sheldon suggested in his history update.
• My team is also exploring the possibility of creating an Indigenous Constituency: that would require a bylaw change.
• Planning a similarly run AGM to last time, on Zoom. Probably with prizes.

Julia Burnham:
• Perhaps the AGM could debate advocacy motions, condemning something, addressing the University or the province.

Max Holmes:
• Last year I was pretty hard against this (using the AGM to pass Bylaw changes).
  o I’m against it this year too.
  o I think using the AGM goes against democratic involvement.
  o There’s a higher quorum at a referendum.
  o It’s harder to oppose something at an AGM; you can’t get money to campaign as with a referendum.
  o It’s an advantage to the AMS, using an AGM: an easy way to pass Bylaws.
  o Significant things should go to referendum.
  o There’s a time limit at an AGM and not the same level of scrutiny.
  o But AGM’s can be great for advocacy issues; let’s pivot to that.
• Paying people to do democratic engagement, even through prizes, is unethical; it seems sketchy.
  o Last year it was really clear a lot of people were there for the prizes.
  o That’s not the way to change governance structures.
  o And maybe we should look at the corporations whose gift cards we give out.

Cole Evans:
• I love the idea of doing issues.
• Could do minor Bylaw changes.
• As to prizes, when SFU had an AGM, they had both topical changes and a bylaw change and they also incentivized attendance through prizes.
• I agree we should focus on organic engagement.
• But AGM’s can be dull: financial statements, appointing auditors, receiving reports.
• Last year we did see a good number of people who had never engaged with the AMS before.
• Maybe they came for the prizes, but they showed interest when they were there.

Emily Gubski:
• It’s unfortunate if we have to incentivize, but if that’s what we have to do, that’s what we have to do.
• We should look at which issues will engage the students.
• What can we do to make it more interesting, useful, accessible?
Julia:
- We have two new years of students this year.
- Let’s not give up hope.
- We had good success with turnout last year.
- Can build off the great stuff we’ve been doing on vaccines and masks this year.

Max Holmes:
- The previous AGM that reached quorum did so without incentives.
- It was the issues that brought people out.
- If you incentivize, you imply it’s boring.
- Students are interested in lots of advocacy issues.
- Lean into that rather than governance.

Cole Evans:
- I love the idea of doing issues.
- Could do minor Bylaw changes.

Fermentation Lab Project and Brewery Referendum

11. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED LAUREN BENSON:

“That Council be extended by 30 minutes.”

... Carried

For (8): Julia Burnham, Cole Evans, Emily Gubski, Mathew Ho, Grace Lee, Emily Masse, Nevena Rebic, Saad Shoai, Eshana Bhangu

Against (1): Eshana Bhangu

Council moved in camera at 10:02 pm.
Council moved out of camera at 10:40 pm.

V) Submissions:

W) Next Meeting:

Next Meeting: September 15, 2021

X) Adjournment:

12. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED LAUREN BENSON:

“That the meeting be adjourned.”

... No objections

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 pm.

Y) Social Activity:
## Votes and Attendance

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