STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

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Guests: Kavie Toor (UBC Athletics & Recreation), Romilly Cavanaugh (Carbon Offsetters), Carla Lorincz (Carbon Offsetters), Louisa Hadley (Carbon Offsetters), Maia Wallace (AMS Equity) Charlotte Alden (Ubyssey), Nathan Bawaan (Ubyssey), Gavin Fung-Quon (student at large), Lawrence Liu (AVP University Affairs), Oscar Yu (Chief Electoral Officer), Jason Pang (AMS Sustainability), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (Admin Assistant)

A) Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm with Cole Evans in the chair.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Chair:

• We are on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the hə́n̓q̓ə̨̑̑̑̑̑̓̑̓̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑̑"
2. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU:

“That the agenda be amended to add an appointments motion.”

… No objections

3. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED MARY GAN:

“That the agenda be accepted as amended.”

… No objections

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

Welcome to our new Members: Jade Law (Education), Micah Mizushima (Land & Food)

Vacancies on Council: Journalism, Population & Public Health, Audiology, Engineering, GSS x 2, Indigenous seat, St. Mark’s

Goodbyes: Sylvia Fernandez (Land & Food)

E) Speaker’s Business (5 minutes):

Cole Evans:

- No Neal because his car broke down.
- I will chair tonight.

F) Statements from Students at Large (3 minutes each):

G) Consent Agenda Items

Mathew Ho asked that the motion to dissolve the Fermentation Lab Committee be removed to be discussed separately.

4. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED SAAD SHOAIB:

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

Executive Committee minutes dated September 8, 2021 [SCD168-22]
Executive Committee minutes dated September 15, 2021 [SCD169-22]
Council minutes dated June 3, 2021 [SCD170-22]

From the Nursing Undergraduate Society [SCD171-22]. [SCD172-22]
That Council approve the School of Nursing blog as the media source in which the Nursing Undergraduate Society publishes the 2020 building fee referendum results.

… Carried
For (23): Lauren Benson, Saad Shoai, Mary Gan, Cole Quist, Kamil Kanji, Mathew Ho, Romina Hajizadeh, Sanjana Bedi, Grace Lee, Jasneet Bal, Jade Law, Joey Yang, Ivran Rai, Gabrielle Matheson, Micah Mizushima, Sophie Penniman, Emily Gubski, Teddy O’Donnell, Emily Masse, Natalie Cappe (proxy for Kiera Vandeborne), Avery Chan, Katherine Feng, Shadia Qubti

5. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED SAAD SHOAIB:

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

From the Graduate Student Society [SCD173-22]
Be it resolved that Council suspend Code Section IX A, Article 12(1)(c)-(j) (on the conduct of elections for outside organizations) until December 1, 2021.

Be it further resolved that the contract between the AMS and the GSS be approved as presented.

... Carried

For (22): Saad Shoai, Mary Gan, Cole Quist, Kamil Kanji, Mathew Ho, Romina Hajizadeh, Sanjana Bedi, Grace Lee, Jade Law, Joey Yang, Julia Burnham, Ivran Rai, Gabrielle Matheson, Micah Mizushima, Sophie Penniman, Emily Gubski, Teddy O’Donnell, Emily Masse, Natalie Cappe (proxy for Kiera Vandeborne), Avery Chan, Katherine Feng, Shadia Qubti

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

UBC Athletics & Recreation – Kavie Toor [SCD174-22]

Kavie tossed two free T-shirts to Councillors and introduced himself as UBC’s Managing Director of Athletics & Recreation.

Kavie Toor:
- Our Vision:
  - Inspiring excellence, championing health and sport, building our community.
- Five strategic priorities:
  - Student Experience:
    - Participation.
    - Health and Well-Being.
    - Focus on removing barriers.
    - Targeting those not participating.
    - Live More program.
  - Asian females less active: created a program with them in mind.
  - People and Culture:
    - Equity, Diversity, Inclusion:
      - Focused on staff (at forefront of program deliveries).
      - Gender equity.
      - Indigenous initiatives.
Hundred Year anniversary of the Great Trek, but not just 100 years: a 1000-year jaunt through Musqueam territory.

- Brand and Profile:
  - Every student to feel they’re a Thunderbird, not just athletes.
  - “Take Flight” tagline.
  - The Indigenous sharing of the Thunderbird name in 1948.
  - Tickets from our sponsors.

- Financial Stability:
  - Exploring ways to rethink the financial model.
  - It’s usually 60% from business, 30% from student fees, 10% from the central University.

- Facilities:
  - New Rec Centre to Board 3 in June:
    - Meeting student needs re fitness: located next to the Life Building.

- Updates:
  - Sexual violence prevention.
    - You’re likely concerned over the 2018 incident.
    - Mandatory training, team by team, and for staff.
    - Optional program on toxic masculinity.
    - Partnering with UBC’s Sexual Violence Prevention & Response Office (SVPRO).

  - Waitlist for programs:
    - Demand is high.
    - Don’t want to leave students out.
    - Focusing more on students rather than the general public.

- Budget:
  - $21 AMS fee goes directly to Intramurals.
  - Santa Ono has asked us to consult on how to increase the Recreation experience through:
    - Expanding Intramurals.
    - IBPOC expansion.
    - Removal of fees for Storm the Wall.
    - Free outdoor programming on MacInnes Field.
    - Off campus programs.
    - Thunderbird shirt program.

**Questions**

Emily Gubski (who caught one of the two shirts):

- Love the shirt.
- Is there a timeline of events saying which are happening and which not?

Kavie Toor:

- All the activities from 2019 are happening.
- Our aim is to offer everything but at reduced capacity.
- In January we expect full capacity.

Mathew Ho:

- In the event of COVID being on the rise again, how prepared is Athletics & Recreation to handle that?
Kavie Toor:
- Operationally, very well: we have staff with experience adjusting.
- Financially, UBC has been very considerate of us because of our dependence on business revenue: hope that would continue to be there.
- Digital programming is still going on, but there would be more if there’s a shutdown.

20-minute recess to address audio problems.

**Carbon Offsetters – Lauren Benson (VP Admin), Romilly Cavanaugh and Louisa Hadley (Carbon Offsetters)**

Lauren Benson:
- Carbon Offsetters has been collecting data from the Nest on our ecological footprint.

Louisa Hadley:
- We used 2019 as the baseline (pre-COVID).
- Measured greenhouse gases (GHG):
  - Direct: onsite, your cars and equipment.
  - Indirect: purchase of electricity.
  - Other indirect emissions.
- 2019 total emissions: 791 tonnes of carbon dioxide, which is equivalent to the annual emissions of 40 Canadians.
- Largest source: employee commuting.
- Next: natural gas and district energy.
- Emissions decreasing from natural gas; increasing from district energy.
- Where go from here?
- Offsetting is a way to balance out the emissions you can’t reduce.
- Phase 2 would be a five-year greenhouse gas reduction/management plan, including climate friendly policies.

Questions
Gabrielle Matheson:
- Can you provide specifics about short and long-term recommendations?

Romilly Cavanaugh:
- Prioritize largest sources of GHG: employee commuting and natural gas.
- Most employees are commuting by car; 30% by bus.
- There are several different options:
  - Allowing employees to work from home.
  - Promote electric vehicles.
  - Provide shower facilities for bike riders.
- For natural gas:
  - Improve building operation.
  - It’s already a green building, but look to energy efficiency audits.
  - Make sure heating and ventilation is optimal.
  - Maintain equipment.
• District energy:
  o The movement away from natural gas is good.
  o Look to renewable energy.
• Waste audit a good idea.

Katherine Feng:
• What is going to be done after today to take action on these recommendations?

Lauren Benson:
• Continuing to work with Carbon Offsetters.
• Data can be put into our new dashboard.
• Using the Interactive Sustainability Centre: brainstorming.

Cole Quist:
• What would an investment in offsetting look like?

Romilly Cavanaugh:
• There’s various types of offsetting.
• Wind power and solar power for environmental and social benefits.
• It’s up to the AMS to select whichever fits best with its goals.

Mathew Ho:
• What does a waste audit entail and how long does it take?

Romilly Cavanaugh:
• It means going through the waste; the idea is to decrease the production of waste.

**AMS Equity Plan – Cole Evans, Maia Wallace**

Cole Evans:
• Excited to finally bring the Equity Action Plan to Council.
• Lots has been done; we’re 90% there.
• Work History:
  o At first Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) was done on an ad hoc basis.
  o An Equity Caucus was tried in 2017-19 under the Advocacy Committee, but it didn’t really take off; was siloed.
  o Early in 2020 Cristina Ilnitchi and Will Shelling worked on equity and created KPI’s.
  o The file was transferred to the President’s Office (that is, to me) later in 2020.
• Development Process/Core Focus Areas:
  o Executive guidance, Council involvement, focus groups, community survey, environmental scan, education.
• Town Hall April 2021.
• In May 2021 our consultant, Adeline Huynh, delivered materials to Maia, myself, and the Equity Subcommittee.
Maia Wallace:
- Looked at leadership, structures, policies and accountability, governance and decision-making, HR, finance, education etc.
- Critical lens to focus goals and KPI’s.
- Areas of focus: advocacy, operations, and governance.
- Main goals: Transparency, community relationship build-up.
- KPI’s are the way to have the plan exist long term to deal with equity.

Cole Evans:
- Next steps: Implementation and Continuity.
- Presenting finalized goals by the end of October.
- Then analyzing the process.
- In the spring a revised plan with additional sections based on what we learn.
- The AMS Sustainability Action Plan (ASAP) is the gold standard for continued application of strategy:
  - Every June we bring forward goals; there are consultations, etc.
  - It’s an effective model, dating back to when it was the Student Directed Sustainability Strategy and the Lighter Footprint Strategy.
  - I’m confident this model works.

Maia Wallace:
- Primary and secondary needs.
- Primary includes doing a policy review, making sure we connect short-term and long-term needs, keeping to the core commitments.
- Secondary are specific campaigns:
  - Pride Month.
  - Indigenous Culture Month.
  - Black History Month.
  - Quarterly check-ins.

Questions
Mathew Ho:
- If we finalize goals in October, how will there be a year of operational use?

Cole Evans:
- This is a condensed year, we’re getting the plan out the door.
- The October update will be like a mid-year update, though also the first time Council gets to see the goals.

Julia Burnham:
- It’s great to see this work come together.
- For success we’ll need buy-in.
- What will be the responsibilities of specific Executives and managers?

Lauren Benson:
- The Events Principles Committee will take a look.
Georgia Yee:
- This needs buy-in and engagement from everyone.
- One big thing: making sure there is long-term continuity.
- Also, how are we making sure we'll be resourcing this?

Cole Evans:
- Resourcing is a huge question.
- That’s why we’re taking time on the finalization piece.
- This is broader in scope than ASAP:
  - We want equity goals aligned.
- Resources get used up quickly.
- Last year my assistant was at over-capacity.
- This year we added a coordinator.
- Still at full capacity.
- Main recommendation: get someone full-time, perhaps in HR; perhaps separate from current structures.

Maia Wallace:
- Don’t want to rush to deliver goals; that defeats the purpose of meaningful community consultation.
- The implementation part is crucial.
- Having permanent staff for Equity is the long-term goal.
- It’s important to consider KPI’s and accountability.

6. MOVED SAAD SHOAIB, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU:

“Be it resolved that Council adopt the AMS Equity Plan as a Strategic Plan and/or Framework in accordance with Section II, Article 11(6) of the AMS Code of Procedure.

Be it further resolved that the AMS Equity Action Plan Report be accepted as presented.”

... Carried

For (25): Eshana Bhangu, Lauren Benson, Saad Shoaib, Mary Gan, Cole Quist, Aryan Mishra, Kamil Kanji, Mathew Ho, Romina Hajizadeh, Sanjana Bedi, Grace Lee, Jade Law, Joey Yang, Julia Burnham, Ivran Rai, Gabrielle Matheson, Micah Mizushima, Sophie Penniman, Emily Gubski, Teddy O’Donnell, Emily Masse, Natalie Cappe (proxy for Kiera Vandeborne), Avery Chan, Katherine Feng, Shadia Qubti

Five-minute recess.

I) Consultation Period
J) Appointments

7. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED LAUREN BENSON:

“Be it resolved that the following appointments to the Finance Committee be confirmed as presented:

Members: Mitchell Prost, Kamil Kanji, Aryan Mishra
Chair: Mary Gan.”

Cole Evans:
• This was pulled from the online decision.

Julia Burnham:
• I’d like a dialogue about the Student Services Manager (Mitchell) filling one of the seats.
• It’s technically allowed, but should it be?
• Could be a conflict of interest.
• This is not a comment on Mitchell, but it’s setting a precedent to have the Student Services Manager or another non-voting member on this committee.

Saad Shoaib:
• We talked about this at Exec.
• As long as Mitchell is stringent in following the conflict of interest rules in Code, we thought it should be all right.
• There’s already precedent.

Cole Evans:
• The SSM sat on the 2018-19 HR Committee.

Julia Burnham:
• The Finance Committee and the HR Committee are different.
• It’s less egregious on HR.
• It’s less wise to have someone who’s like an Executive making budget decisions in the Finance Committee.
• The SSM is sometimes considered a sixth Executive.

Cole Evans:
• Options:
  o Approve
  o Reject
  o Approve, but maybe clarify this in Code: refer it to committee to review.

Mathew Ho:
• Could we allow this as an exception for this year?
Cole Evans:
- You could do that:
  - Appoint Mitchell now and change the rules effective May 1, 2022.
  - That would allow Mitchell to serve his term.

Emily Gubski:
- Something to look into.
- Can something be done to address the conflict of interest?
- Make sure they abstain from certain votes.
- Maybe we should delay this to next meeting, or appoint now as long as discussions will be held.

Cole Evans:
- I would advise not to delay, so the Finance Committee can meet.
- The onus is on the individual to declare a conflict of interest; there’s also an onus on the chair of the committee.
- It’s challenging to proactively prevent this.

Mary Gan:
- If Mitchell does become a member of the Finance Committee, I have no problem asking him to abstain during discussions that involve Services.
- Hopefully, we won’t have delays appointing to the committee:
  - The committee has lots of issues to discuss.

Romina Hajizadeh:
- Are there a lot of issues in Finance about Mitchell’s role?

Mary Gan:
- Not about Mitchell’s role in particular, but if the Student Services are asking for increases, I would just remove Mitchell from the conversation for that item.

Julia Burnham:
- It’s not about Mitchell – it’s about the role, not the person.
- The SSM oversees a large part of our budget.

Katherine Feng:
- We could add a motion for the Governance Committee to look at this.

Emily Gubski:
- Considering that the SSM has served on a committee before, I’m less worried about it, but some committee should look at it.

8. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED KAMIL KANJI:

“That the motion be amended to add the following clause:
Be it further resolved that Governance Committee look into the issue of the Student Services Manager sitting as a Councillor on a committee and report back by the first Council meeting in November.”

Mathew Ho:
- Will Mitchell be on the committee until May?
- Who would determine if Mitchell stays on the committee or not?
- Finance? Governance?

Cole Evans:
- Governance should look into that.

9. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED KAMIL KANJI:

“That the motion be amended to add the following clause:

Be it further resolved that Governance Committee look into the issue of the Student Services Manager sitting as a Councillor on a committee and report back by the first Council meeting in November.”

… No objections

10. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED LAUREN BENSON:

“Be it resolved that the following appointments to the Finance Committee be confirmed as presented:

Members: Mitchell Prost, Kamil Kanji, Aryan Mishra
Chair: Mary Gan.

Be it further resolved that Governance Committee look into the issue of the Student Services Manager sitting as a Councillor on a committee and report back by the first Council meeting in November.”

It was noted that there were additional vacancies on committees:

**Governance Committee (1 x Councillor)**
*Councilor Nominee:* Romina Hajizadeh (Arts)

**Impact Grant Working Group (1 x Councillor)**
*Councilor Nominees:* Emily Gubski (Medicine), Kamil Kanji (Arts), Julia Burnham (GSS)
*Chosen:* Kamil Kanji

11. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED ROMINA HAJIZADEH:

“That the motion be amended to add a Councillor to the Ethics and Accountability Committee.”

… No objections
Ethics and Accountability Committee (1 x Councillor)

*Councilor Nominees:* Emily Gubski (Medicine), Katherine Feng (Science), Mathew Ho (Arts), Georgia Yee (BoG)

*Chosen:* Katherine Feng

*The additional Councillors selected for committees, along with students at large chosen online, were added to the motion.*

12. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED LAUREN BENSON:

“Be it resolved that the following appointments be accepted as presented:

Finance Committee: Mary Gan (Chair), Mitchell Prost, Kamil Kanji, Aryan Mishra
Governance Committee: Romina Hajizadeh
Impact Grant Working Group: Kamil Kanji
Ethics and Accountability Committee: Katherine Feng

Students at Large:
Advocacy Committee: Christine Wardell, Sylvia Fernandez, Krista Spurlock
Operations Committee: Bryan Cadman, Nikita Li
Governance Committee: Alina Bhimji
Finance Committee: Francesca Kohn, Juliane Jou
Human Resources Committee: Aadim Rajan
Student Life Committee: Jaya Athwal
Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee: Alexis Vollant

Be it further resolved that Governance Committee look into the issue of the Student Services Manager sitting as a Councillor on a committee and report back by the first Council meeting in November.”

... Carried

For (23): Eshana Bhangu, Lauren Benson, Saad Shoaib, Mary Gan, Aryan Mishra, Kamil Kanji, Mathew Ho, Romina Hajizadeh, Grace Lee, Jason Liao, Emily Reid, Joey Yang, Julia Burnham, Ivran Rai, Gabrielle Matheson, Micah Mizushima, Sophie Penniman, Emily Gubski, Teddy O’Donnell, Emily Masse, Natalie Cappe (proxy for Kiera Vandeborne), Avery Chan, Katherine Feng

K) President’s Remarks (5 minutes):
Cole Evans

- Want to express sympathy over the tragedy on Northwest Marine Drive.
- This is never something that is easy to deal with.
- Our role is to be supporting students, students directly impacted or students who might have post-traumatic stress-related reactions.
- We put out a statement highlighting resources for anyone having difficulty:
  - Got a lot of traction on Instagram.
- You may have seen me on media outlets:
  - This is not something any president enjoys doing.
- Meanwhile it’s the start of the year, and it’s busy.
• Equity Plan.
• Indigenous Culture Month in October:
  o A number of events planned.
  o Something we hope to do every year.
• Strategic Plan:
  o Nicolas and I are talking about it.
  o Sending out a questionnaire to Councillors asking for views.
  o Coming to Council on the 13th.
• Vaccination:
  o Lots of discussions.
  o Definitely taking this seriously.
  o Going to evaluate how we can make this work.
  o Committed to seeing if we can implement a mandatory vaccination policy here at the AMS.

Questions
Georgia Yee:
• Could you bring a presentation about Indigenous Culture Month?
• Also, can we look into an alternate speaker of Council for when the Speaker can’t make it and when you need to comment?
• To avoid conflict of interest.
• There seems to be a recurring trend.

Cole Evans:
• My team is at capacity now organizing Indigenous Culture Month, so we’re not looking at making a presentation. Maybe in November.
• As to the Speaker issue, Code says I chair in the absence of a Speaker.
• If Council thinks there’s a conflict, let me know. I have not heard anything.

13. MOVED SAAD SHOAIB, SECONDED MARY GAN:

From the President
“That the Ad Hoc Committee on the Fermentation Lab be dissolved.”

Mathew Ho:
• Given that we are still looking into this, can we postpone dissolving?

Cole Evans:
• It’s important to separate the Fermentation Project from the brewery referendum.
• Last time we were going to reconsider what to do about the referendum.
• This committee no longer has any work to do because it was focused on UBC’s Food and Beverage Innovation Centre.
• We’re not implying anything about the referendum by dissolving the committee.

Julia Burnham:
• It’s useful to keep the committee.
• It would send a weird symbolic message to say this project is done.
• I’m not sure what benefit we get from dissolving it.
There may be a benefit to keeping this as something dormant while we resolve things.

Emily Gubski:
- If we dissolve it, how easy is it to reassemble?
- Can we just suspend its meetings?
- If we take up the referendum question, would it fall to this committee? Or Governance?

Cole Evans:
- You can have an ad hoc committee that does nothing.
- If you cut it, you could create a new ad hoc brewery committee.
- It could also live in Exec Committee, Operations Committee, or the Finance Committee.
- The project itself has been dealt with.
- There will probably be a referendum.

Mathew Ho:
- For most of its history, this committee has not provided updates.
- But it’s symbolic.
- Until the referendum is resolved, we may want to leave it.
- Maybe change its terms of reference.

14. MOVED SAAD SHOAIB, SECONDED MARY GAN:

From the President
“That the Ad Hoc Committee on the Fermentation Lab be dissolved.”

... Defeated

For (11): Saad Shoai, Mary Gan, Romina Hajizadeh, Joey Yang, Gabrielle Matheson, Sophie Penniman, Emily Gubski, Teddy O’Donnell, Emily Masse, Natalie Cappe (proxy for Kiera Vandeborne), Shadia Qubti

Against (13): Eshana Bhangu, Cole Quist, Aryan Mishra, Kamil Kanji, Mathew Ho, Grace Lee, Jason Liao, Emily Reid, Julia Burnham, Ivran Rai, Micah Mizushima, Avery Chan, Katherine Feng

Abstained: Lauren Benson

L) Executive Remarks (3 minutes each):

VP Finance – Mary Gan
- Making sure Health & Dental subsidy criteria reflect current needs.
  - The amount we’re setting aside for subsidies has doubled this year, from $50,000 to $100,000.
- Clubs and Constituencies getting going: working to support them.
- Wrapping up opt-ins and opt-outs.
- Workshops for clubs on budgets.
Credit cards: how to upload.

VP Academic & University Affairs – Eshana Bhangu
- Submission to UBC for their budget process.
- Working with the VP Students to improve their tuition survey to make it more like a consultation.
- Distributing fentanyl testing strips; looking into purchasing more.
- Professors are going to stop recording lectures on the grounds that the guidelines encouraging recording have an expiry date – but they don’t.
- Textbook Broke was a resounding success.
- OER’s and OER champions.
- UBC is now requiring proof of vaccination.
- Continuing to advocate for testing (of symptomatic students).
- Meeting with UBC Safety Services to discuss poor lighting, lack of speed bumps etc. in the wake of the accident on Northwest Marine Drive.
  - Not a lot is done now to ensure safe driving.

Questions
Julia Burnham
- What is an OER champion and how do you nominate one?

Eshana Bhangu:
- OER Champions are professors who dedicate time to developing online, inexpensive materials, making resources more affordable, so you don’t have to purchase an expensive textbook.
- We will be having a reception in November to give out awards.
- Nominate a professor and you will get a chance to win a prize.

Mathew Ho:
- The Ubyssey reported that UBC is planning to remove the question from their survey asking students if they support a tuition increase.
- What efforts are you making to ensure this question stays at the forefront and to make sure UBC is receiving and acting on the views of students?

Eshana Bhangu:
- Since that article appeared, the VP Students has spoken to us, listened to our feedback, and been receptive to our point of view; the question will stay.
- We’re always opposing tuition increases because of affordability concerns.
- Our question is: Can we not make cuts somewhere?

VP Administration – Lauren Benson
- Very rewarding time.
- Clubs Days was quite a success: indoor, outdoor, virtual.
  - Follow-up survey went out today to get feedback from the clubs.
- Interactive Sustainability Centre has opened for bookings, workshops.
  - Working to increase its interactive components.
- Will be meeting Carbon Offsetters to discuss next steps.
- Jump Start debrief: nothing but the highest compliments for our clubs that participated.
- Helping clubs settle in.

**VP External Affairs – Saad Shoaih**
- What a federal election!
  - Get Out the Vote Campaign was successful, engaging thousands of students.
  - Problems with voting on campus.
  - Advocating to Elections Canada to reinstate the Vote on Campus program.
- Working with UCRU to write to the Prime Minister’s Office to influence the mandate letters sent to cabinet ministers.
- Federal lobby week at end of November:
  - Advocating for an end to interest payments on student loans.
  - Seeking easy access to Permanent Residence status for international students.
- Meeting with the provincial government’s David Eby about the provincial budget.
- The recent tragedy involving the death of two UBC students:
  - Looking at lighting, speed bumps, guard rails.

**Questions**
**Kamil Kanji:**
- Has there been any commitment from Elections Canada to reinstate the Vote on Campus program?

**Saad Shoaih:**
- There has been.
- It will be up to the AMS in three years’ time or whenever the next election is to make sure this happens.
- We’ll keep bringing this up.
- It’s very disappointing the way Elections Canada ran the election. Completely irresponsible.
- There was lower turnout than in the last two elections.

**Teddy O’Donnell:**
- I worked as a scrutineer in the Nest.
- The line-up to vote was about four hours long, mainly because people were registering to vote.

**Saad Shoaih:**
- This was mostly because of the suspension of the Vote on Campus program.
- This meant students didn’t register beforehand.
- It made for a messy election.
- On election day I called the assistant returning officer asking to send more staff.
Emily Gubski:
- It was crazy to vote.
- The communications from the AMS were great.
- Many students didn’t get their mail-in ballot.
- People didn’t know they had to be in this riding to vote in the Nest.

Saad Shoaib:
- We sent out newsletters saying you may not be able to vote here.
- It was sad to see a lot of students give up. Disheartening.
- I don’t blame them: I wouldn’t wait four hours either.

**Student Services Manager – Mitchell Prost**

**Safewalk:**
- Hiring more Safewalkers.
- Using new vehicles.

**Food Bank:**
- Interviews to get more volunteers.
- About 1500 visits from May through August; greater than in 2019-20 year.
- Increased food purchasing to meet the increased demand.
- New Assistant Student Services Manager started this week.

**Peer Support:**
- Safer Substance Use workshop.
- Naloxone training.
- Dialogue Night launching (Peer Support discussions of mental health).

**Tutoring:**
- Finalized agreement with Student Housing.
- Tutoring has started.

**Questions**

Kamil Kanji:
- How much is Safewalk utilized?

Mitchell Prost:
- Have not yet received the September report.
- Use was low because of the pandemic, but there has been an increase since the return to campus.

Micah Mizushima:
- What food security programs are there?

Mitchell Prost:
- Campus As a Living Lab.
- Acadia Food Hamper program.
• Meal Share programs.
• Wanting to shift Food Bank back to being an emergency food resource, which it hasn’t been lately.

Managing Director – Keith Hester
• Vaccine evidence protocol.
• Grand Noodle is opening its back area soon, so we will need the protocol there.
• Audit presentation next meeting.
• New Blue Chip signs: for Blue Chip Express, which is doing well.
• “New” furniture in Lev Bukhman Lounge, repurposed from elsewhere in the building.
• Replacing Gallery furniture.
• The Almost Welcome Back Barbecue was postponed because of rain; now scheduled for October 1:
  o A free event.
• Financial systems replacement request coming to Council.
• Looking at our building systems as per Carbon Offsetters suggestions.
  o Working on our HVAC systems: probably coming to Council.

M) Committee Reports (5 minutes each):

Advocacy Committee – Eshana Bhangu
• The new committee hasn’t met yet.

Steering Committee – Cole Evans
• Will meet biweekly.

15. MOVED SAAD SHOAIB, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU:

  “That the agenda be amended to skip committee reports except for the Elections Committee.”

  … No objections

Elections Committee – Oscar Yu
• The Equity Plan is great.
• I want to make sure we keep equity front of mind during the elections.
• Been able to get UBC to allow us to use preferred names, not legal names, and pronouns.
• Aiming to increase voter and nomination turnout.

Questions
Mathew Ho:
• How will you improve turnout?
• Removing barriers?
Oscar Yu:
- The Communications Department and I will work on communicating what each Executive position does to give students clear explanations of what the Executives do, and also the Board and Senate representatives.
- We will follow the Equity Plan.

N) Report from Presidents Council (2 minutes): Cole Evans
- No report.

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

**Board of Governors – Georgia Yee**
- Approved recombining the Sustainable Futures Pool into the Endowment.
- Changed the terms of reference for the Governance and Finance committees.
- Discussed the UBC President’s goals.
- Received a presentation from the AMS on affordability, anti-racism, campus projects, etc.
- Decided to require all students, faculty, and staff to have proof of vaccination or do regular testing.

*Questions*
Katherine Feng:
- We’ve heard that Food Bank is getting more clients; the lines are long, students miss classes.
- What is UBC doing about food insecurity?
- Food Bank is an AMS service; it’s student-run.

Georgia Yee:
- The University needs to take responsibility for the financial pressure it puts on students.
- Food insecurity is only one aspect.
- The Affordability Task Force should be addressing big systemic issues.
- This is definitely something that needs to be continually revisited.
- I think at the next meeting there will be a food security update.

Eshana Bhangu:
- Been hearing about health experts misleading the Board.

Georgia Yee:
- There is a lack of transparency about health data in BC.
- This is not just a UBC issue.
- Students have been making their own data reports.
- Public health data has not been available or has been used as a political tool.
- I want to continually challenge the transparency.
- What is UBC’s role?
• We need to make sure the data we are receiving is verifiable and not misleading.

Emily Gubski:
• The UNA used to have a student rep on it. Does it still?

Georgia Yee:
• There will be a UNA liaison committee from the Board.

**Senate – Eshana Bhangu**
• Reviewing honorary degrees.
• Several students are chairing Senate committees this year:
  o I’m chairing the budget committee.
  o Julia Burnham is chairing the agenda committee.

**Historical Update – Sheldon Goldfarb**
• After my last presentation people wanted to see me in the 90’s.
  o Here’s a photo: the most interesting part of it is the old-fashioned filing cabinet.
  o Nowadays we have more modern filing cabinets, but actually most of our files are digital now.
• Tonight I mostly want to answer a question I was asked about the AMS connection to the Order of British Columbia (OBC).
• In earlier talks I mentioned two early Indigenous students at UBC, Frank Calder and Alfred Scow, who both became members of the OBC, which is a recently created award meant to honour outstanding British Columbians.
• Other recipients with AMS connections:
  o Kim Campbell, student frosh president here in the 60’s who ran on the platform “Kim is cuddlier,” and who went on to become Prime Minister. She also wrote the foreword to the AMS history book (The Hundred-Year Trek).
  o David Suzuki, the well-known environmentalist. Never a student here, but as a young UBC professor in the 60’s he pushed for opening a pub on campus and worked with the AMS to get the Pit started in 1968. According to the legend, he even came up with the name Pit.
  o Rick Hansen, the UBC wheelchair athlete who launched his Man in Motion World Tour to draw attention to disabilities.
  o Michael Smith, the UBC professor who won a Nobel prize, and whose AMS connection was through his daughter Wendy, who ran our old Outpost in the Old SUB (a stationery and sweatshirt store).
  o Martha Piper, the former UBC President who attended the ceremonial opening of the Nest in 2015.

**Questions**
Emily Gubski:
• Is this the Martha Piper of the Martha Piper Fountain?
Sheldon Goldfarb:
  • Yes.

Mathew Ho:
  • Why do we not have an Outpost now?

Sheldon Goldfarb:
  • When we moved to the Nest, the decision was to focus on food and beverage outlets.

16. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED KAMIL KANJI:

   “That the meeting be extended by 60 minutes.”

   … No objections

P) Minutes of Council and Committees of Council:

Q) Executive Committee Motions:

R) Constituency and Affiliate Motions:

S) Committee Motions:

T) Other Business and Notice of Motions:

The following people were named to committees via an email vote before the Council meeting:

Advocacy Committee:
Rebecca Liu
Gabrielle Matheson
Kamil Kanji
Mathew Ho

Operations Committee:
Romina Hajizadeh
Katherine Feng
Mathew Ho
Emily Reid

Student Life Committee:
Jasneet Bal
Mathew Ho
Noah Collins
Aryan Mishra
Committee Chairs:
Advocacy Committee: Eshana Bhangu
Human Resources Committee: Romina Hajizadeh
Student Life Committee: Aryan Mishra
Governance Committee: Kamil Kanji

The following people were named to committees by acclamation:

Human Resources Committee:
Sophie Penniman
Avery Chan
Romina Hajizadeh
Mathew Ho
Erin Song

Governance Committee:
Shadia Qubti
Kamil Kanji
Avery Chan
Rebecca Liu
Katherine Feng

Committee Chairs:
Operations Committee: Lauren Benson

U) Discussion Period

At large members
Cole Evans:
- We had over a hundred students at large apply to sit on committees, which is great and I think the most ever, but they want to get involved and only a few can sit on the committees.
- It’s important to keep them engaged.
- One idea: Use them as a focus group for the Strategic Plan.
- Or create a group interested in meeting every six weeks or so to talk about issues.
- And then when we have elections we can turn to them and suggest they run for Council.
- Harness the students at large.

Julia Burnham:
- It’s important to remember that it’s early in the year and easy to apply online.
- This is not necessarily a surefire indicator that people will remain interested.

Emily Gubski:
- I’ve had countless students ask me how to get involved.
- Could create a mailing list.
- It’s hard to get involved: let’s make it easy.
• We don’t need to find just one way.
• Focus groups are okay, but some want leadership.
• They could also be manpower for events.

Kamil Kanji:
• Never hurts to pilot something.
• We have an Advisory Board of professionals; why not have a student version to get their feedback?
• Sometimes there is a stigma around the AMS: that we don’t engage well.
• This is an opportunity to engage.

Saad Shoaib:
• Really like the ideas.
• UBC has done this.
• It could lead to change.
• Remuneration would be a good idea: they should get compensation.

Mathew Ho:
• My only concern is whether AMS marketing and the website have the capacity to do this.

Romina Hajizadeh:
• Another thing is to keep up on social media.
• Also, are Execs doing office hours?
• Maybe make them better known.

Kamil Kanji:
• Can we send this to Student Life or Governance?

Cole Evans:
• Student Life would be an interesting option.

Julia Burnham:
• Maybe look at U of T, which has a First Year Council.

Emily Gubski:
• We did have a first year committee a few years ago.
• One approach might be to write those who didn’t get on a committee to tell them that and to say, But click this box and we’ll let you know about future opportunities.

Mathew Ho:
• We could also refer them to the Constituencies.

Saad Shoaib:
• I can talk to UCRU to find out what’s done at other schools.
Romina Hajizadeh:
- It would be nice if the chairs of the committees reached out to the unsuccessful candidates.
- These are motivated students.

Jason Liao:
- A first year committee could be valuable.
- I wonder why it stopped.

Cole Evans:
- Sometimes things just get lost.

17. MOVED KAMIL KANJI, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU:

“That this issue be referred to the Student Life Committee.”

... No objections

AGM Agenda

[SCD177-22], [SCD177A-22]

Cole Evans:
- Trying to come up with ideas.

Eshana Bhangu:
- A motion on tuition, saying the AMS continues to oppose all tuition increases by UBC and advocates for a fully finalized and approved student affordability plan.
- Be it further resolved that the AMS, in collaboration with other student organizations, protest any Board of Governors meeting where tuition increases will be approved if there isn’t a fully finalized student affordability plan approved at or before the meeting.
- It would be great to have this motion to back up our advocacy.
- Students have been advocating for an affordability plan for five years, a long time.
- There’s a Student Affordability Task Force: if they don’t produce a plan, I will go protest.

Saad Shoaib:
- Another motion would be to call on the federal government to eliminate interest payments on student loans.
- It would be good to have a formal motion we can act on.

Julia Burnham
- We can add that the AMS advocate for a tuition freeze or reduction and for increased funding and stipends for graduate students so they can be above the poverty line.

Kamil Kanji:
- Are we expected to be present at the AGM?
Cole Evans:
- It’s not required, but it would make me very happy.
- Last year’s AGM was the event of the year, though it went a little long.
- It won’t be that long this year.

Saad Shoaib:
- We have needs-based grants in BC; we can advocate for more funding for them.
- We could explore with the federal government, but most likely this is something for the province.

Julia Burnham:
- I don’t want us to limit ourselves.
- We want to generate buzz.

Saad Shoaib:
- It would be better not to refer to the federal government on this; if we advocate to them, they’ll just tell us to go to the province.
- As to a tuition freeze, we can advocate, but we need to see the operating grants.
- If we were to put this forward, the response would be: How do you expect these institutions to survive?
- The only way to stabilize tuition is if there are increased operating grants.

Kamil Kanji:
- Can we add a conversation about the brewery?

Cole Evans:
- The AGM doesn’t have the power to overturn a fee referendum.

Emily Gubski:
- Can we have discussions on COVID?

Cole Evans:
- We have a Town Hall planned for the end of the meeting.
- That would be a better place for this.
- A thousand people at an AGM would be too big a group for discussion.

Katherine Feng:
- What is the attendance at town halls compared to an AGM?

Cole Evans:
- Depends on the scope.
- Perhaps 20 to 100 at a Town Hall.
- Last year’s AGM had 1600 people; when we got to the Town Hall at the end, we were down to about 600 people, and it was not unmanageable.
Georgia Yee:
- I think the town hall and debriefing is a great opportunity for engagement.
- Maybe we should do consultation on the questions before the meeting.
- Engage ahead of time and it would allow us to be better at our time management.

Kamil Kanji:
- Will there be an opportunity for in person gathering?
- Can we discuss student engagement at the Town Hall?

Cole Evans:
- The meeting will be completely virtual.
  - People liked that last year.
  - Also better to get turnout.
- Maybe in registration for the Town Hall we can ask people for topics.
- Last year at the end of the AGM people were interested in asking questions.

Emily Gubski:
- Will we be addressing the student deaths at the AGM?

Cole Evans:
- It would be over a month after the fact.
- If there are people who were close to the victims, I don’t want it to be uncomfortable for them.

Saad Shoaib:
- There’s a police investigation coming up; don’t want to interfere with that.
- Another motion being suggested is on electoral reform and proportional representation: on the draft agenda this would come first after the required financial motions.
  - We would have to define what we mean by electoral reform.

Julia Burnham:
- We’re looking for something exciting.
- Is electoral reform really the spicy thing that will get people in the seats?

Romina Hajizadeh:
- I think it is because of the mess of the latest election.
- I think it’s kind of spicy.
- Maybe don’t limit it to proportional representation.

Emily Gubski:
- Electoral reform could be a valuable discussion, but maybe it should come after something more spicy, like tuition increases.

Eshana Bhangu:
- Tuition should be first.
Cole Evans:
- Usually the exciting thing comes later.
- You don’t want to do it first and then have people leave.

Saad Shoaib:
- I don’t see why electoral reform needs to be there.
- We don’t know what students want on electoral reform, and this could bind future VP Externals to something it may not make sense to advocate on.

Kamil Kanji:
- I feel this is an important topic, but we don’t need to refer to proportional representation.
- Make it more open-ended.

Emily Gubski:
- We could talk about the Vote on Campus program.
- That would be something students are interested in, the process of voting.
- Students are mad.

18. MOVED KAMIL KANJI, SECONDED SAAD SHOAIB:

“That the meeting be extended by 12 hours.”

Jason Liao:
- Work expands to fill the time available.

Emily Gubski:
- How late can Council go?

Cole Evans:
- There’s no rule.

19. MOVED KAMIL KANJI, SECONDED SAAD SHOAIB:

“That the meeting be extended by 12 hours.”

... No objections

Council turned to discussing proposed constitutional amendments.

Georgia Yee:
- The proposed addition of a territorial acknowledgement refers only to the Musqueam.
- There are other First Nations.

Cole Evans
- This is from the UBC guidelines for UBC Vancouver/West Point Grey.
- It’s true there’s also Robson Square.

Romina Hajizadeh:
- Are we consulting Indigenous students?

Cole Evans:
- We have not engaged with the Musqueam.
- I would be uncomfortable going beyond the UBC guidelines.
- UBC has consulted; that’s why I would want to follow the guidelines strictly.
- If we do want to go beyond, then we should consult, so I’d advise not to go beyond now.

Romina Hajizadeh:
- Good idea, but in the future we can consult.

_Council returned to discussing the tuition motion._

Emily Gubski:
- I think we should move the tuition motion up on the agenda.

Romina Hajizadeh:
- Is there a way to advocate on where the tuition money goes?

Eshana Bhangu:
- We prepare a budget submission every year on where UBC’s money is going.

Julia Burnham:
- Talking about allocation would weaken this motion, which is opposing tuition increases.
- We would be saying no to an increase, but then saying, If you do increase tuition, then move the money here.

Georgia Yee:
- This would be a good time to get engagement on budget priorities.
- We could get good feedback at the AGM.

Eshana Bhangu:
- It’s a little messy to involve the AGM in budget discussions.
- We have survey data, and I’m the elected representative.

Kamil Kanji:
- Are people good with the placement of this question on the agenda?

Eshana Bhangu:
- I’d like it first, but it will keep students there, so in the middle is fine.
Council discussed a proposed housing motion.

Saad Shoaib:
- Rent with Rights called for the provincial government to guarantee students in student housing the same rights as other tenants get under the province’s Residential Tenancy Act.
- In 2018 the Leading Practices Working Group created by the provincial government created a manual for guaranteeing student rights as tenants, but it’s not legally binding.
- The solution is to push for student housing legislation.
- Students in student housing did not qualify for support during COVID because they were not under the Tenancy Act.

Council returned to discussing the tuition motion.

Saad Shoaib:
- Can we separate the motions relating to UBC from the ones relating to the government?
- And we should say this is in the context of a provincial operating grant review.

Georgia Yee:
- It would be helpful to add the operating grant reference to the whereas section of the motion.

Saad Shoaib:
- That works perfectly.

Cole Evans:
- Let’s wordsmith this outside the meeting and I will send it out for an email vote.

Due to lack of quorum the meeting adjourned at 11:45 pm, but the remaining Councillors stayed behind to discuss two remaining Discussion Items (see below).

V) Submissions:

W) Next Meeting:

Next Meeting: October 13, 2021

U) Discussion Period (post-quorum)

COVID testing
Romina Hajizadeh:
- The only testing places on campus are for asymptomatic students (Orchard Commons and IKB).
- If you have symptoms you cannot get tested on campus.
- Are we lobbying on this?
Eshana Bhangu:
- Ponderosa is also up and going, but other sites are far away.
- The University says it is waiting on the province.

Saad Shoaib:
- We are exploring options.
- Talking to the federal government.
- Take-home rapid antigen tests.

Grace Lee:
- There is greater risk elsewhere in the province, so resources are being allocated there.

Eshana Bhangu:
- We still have students taking two buses to get to an off campus testing site.
- I will still advocate.

Aryan Mishra:
- Is there a charge, or are the tests free?

Eshana Bhangu:
- All tests on campus are free.

Safety on Campus
Romina Hajizadeh:
- Re the devastating events of Sunday night.

Aryan Mishra:
- It is totally dark in that area.
- Could we extend Safewalk there?

Eshana Bhangu:
- Safewalk does go there.

Romina Hajizadeh:
- This is near first year residences.
- There are no street lights.
- It's dangerous.
- People frequently speed there.

Saad Shoaib:
- I've talked to the provincial government.
- They're looking for ways to make improvements.
- Have to wait for the RCMP investigation.
• If impaired driving was involved, there would be messaging about that.
• We need to wait to learn the variables involved; then we can make recommendations, which could include street lighting, barriers, etc.

Lauren Benson:
• We spoke about this at Executive Committee.
• No matter what happened, the lighting needs to be improved.
• We used to do a campus safety audit, back in the 90’s.
• That’s something we might want to bring back.
• Eshana will take that up.
• Saad will advocate provincially.
• This is a dangerous area.

Kamil Kanji:
• Do you know when the RCMP investigation will be done?

Eshana Bhangu
• My advocacy does not depend on the RCMP investigation.

Julia Burnham
• There are other safety issues on campus.

Georgia Yee:
• Campus Security told the Board of Governors they would be reviewing the Blue Light system.
• This has been raised multiple times.
• I’ve heard from many who were almost hit in that area.
• There are jurisdictional issues: UEL/City of Vancouver.

Aryan Mishra
• Whatever the decision UBC takes, lights are a basic need.
• Lighting on campus in general is pretty bad.

Saad Shoaib:
• On the provincial front it’s best to keep our asks the same as UBC’s.
• That would be a reason to wait to see what UBC decides to do.

*The informal discussion ended at 12:15 am.*
## Votes and Attendance

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<th>Equity Plan</th>
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