STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

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Guests: Oscar Yu (AMS CEO), Charlotte Alden (Ubyssey), Nathan Bawaan (Ubyssey), Jason Pang (AVP Sustainability), Justin Zheng (VPAUA office), Lawrence Liu (AVP University Affairs), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (Admin Assistant)

A) Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 pm.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Speaker:
- The AMS Student Nest and the Forum are on the traditional, ancestral, unceded land of the Musqueam people.
- What we call Vancouver is the stolen territory of the Musqueam and Squamish peoples.
- Especially in Indigenous Cultural Month we should all be reflecting on Truth and Reconciliation.

C) Adoption of the agenda:

1. MOVED EMILY GUBSKI, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

“That the agenda be amended to move the discussion topics to after Presentations.”

… No objections

2. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED KAMIL KANJI:

“That the agenda be amended by removing the employee conduct discussion and replacing it with a discussion on elections and an in camera discussion of the report from the Election Appeals Committee.”

… No objections

3. MOVED ESHANA BHANHU, SECONDED EMILY REID:

“That the agenda be adopted as amended.”

… No objections

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

Welcome to our new Members: Ananya Swaninathan (Engineering)

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

Goodbyes
E) Speaker’s Business (5 minutes):

The Speaker:
- You’re here to hold the Executive to account.
- Feel free to take part in debate.
- There are some changes coming to the Societies Act. Sheldon can explain.

Sheldon Goldfarb:
- The Societies Act is being amended to remove proxies.
- Once the amendments take effect, you will no longer be able to send a proxy to a Council meeting.
- Until then you can send a proxy if you’re absent, but note that you are still counted as absent if you send a proxy, and if you have more than four absences from regular Council meetings during the School Year, you will lose your seat.

Max Holmes:
- Were we consulted on this?
- Did we put forward a position?

Cole Evans:
- Yes, and there is a discussion coming later.

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

G) Consent Agenda Items

4. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU:

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

Executive Committee minutes dated October 7, 2021 [SCD192-22]
Executive Committee minutes dated October 13, 2021 [SCD193-22]
Governance Committee minutes dated October 18, 2021 [SCD194-22]
AMS Council minutes dated July 21, 2021 [SCD195-22]
AMS Council minutes dated August 4, 2021 [SCD196-22]
HR Committee minutes dated September 10, 2021 [SCD197-22]
HR Committee minutes dated October 18, 2021 [SCD198-22]
Finance Committee minutes dated September 10, 2021 [SCD199-22]
Finance Committee minutes dated October 14, 2021 [SCD200-22]

From the President with consent from the Committee
Be it resolved that the Ad Hoc Committee on Electoral Engagement be dissolved.

Be it further resolved that the Elections Committee shall report back to AMS Council by the first meeting of January 2022 with strategies for improving engagement, proposed
changes to electoral procedures and rules, and plans for the upcoming election cycle."

... No objections

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

**ERP System Replacement – Keith Hester**

- Slow reimbursements.
- Been working on a system replacement.
- Amalgamating various systems.
- Much of the process is still manual.
- Want to switch to web-based.
- Been working with Encore Business Solutions.
- The AMS is unique and needs special customization and integration.
- Will come back next meeting for approval.
- Will take about three months to implement, so should be implemented by February.
- Looked at various options.
- The only one suiting our needs is Microsoft Central.
  - It includes an expense management system.
- The new system will reduce the need for frequent updates.
- It’s faster and there will be fewer errors.
- Since it’s in the cloud, we’ll save money on servers.
- Will cost only $150,000, which can be paid from the Capital Projects Fund.
- Maintenance costs ($16,000 annually) will be paid out of the ongoing operating budget.

**Questions**

Max Holmes:
- Just want to make sure this is a long-term good company.
- We’ve seen companies come and go.
- But this is very much needed.

Keith Hester:
- It’s Microsoft.
- And yes, this is much needed.

Emily Reid:
- I know the finance office is behind and short staffed.
- Will implementing this system cause further delays?

Keith Hester:
- Included in this is training on the new system and changing our workflow.

Mary Gan:
- The accounting department is being very active on this.
- I don’t think there will be many transitional hiccups.
• We will make sure treasurers are trained on the new system.

5. MOVED GRACE LEE, SECONDED EMILY REID:

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

… No objections

Questions
Ivran Rai:
• What will the treasurer training involve?

Mary Gan:
• It’s a bit early to describe that since we haven’t introduced or even approved the new system yet.
• We will update our guides, maybe make videos.
• We will update the Canvas course and the procedure guide.
• My team will be here to answer questions.

Grace Lee:
• For the time being, before the new system comes in, can Constituencies get higher credit card limits to avoid having to put expenses on personal credit cards?

Mary Gan:
• Credit card limits are another issue we’re dealing with.
• There’s a central limit for the entire Society.
• It’s stressful, but the new system may bring new credit cards with higher limits.
• If there are any transactions now that you need us to help you with, let me know.

UBC Budget Submission – Eshana Bhangu, Lawrence Liu, Justin Zheng  [SCD202-22]

Eshana Bhangu:
• These are the Student Priorities 2022-23 which we have submitted to the University’s Provost, VP Finance, and VP Students.
• They will also go to the Board of Governors later.
• This is one of our most important advocacy tools.
• The University budget is largely made up of student tuition.
• We have highlighted priority areas that money should be spent on.

Justin Zheng:
• Graduate Student Support:
  o We want to increase the minimum funding.
  o 78% of graduate students see funding advocacy as a priority.
Eshana Bhangu:
- Grad students don’t have the same aid as undergraduates.
- They tend to lack parental support and to have maxed out their student loans.
- And yet UBC’s high ranking comes in part from research done by grad students.
- UBC calls what it gives grad students “awards,” not wages; it’s not even minimum wage.
- Some of them have children, dependants.

Justin Zheng:
- International Student Awards:
  - International students pay in one year what domestic students pay in four years (for tuition).
  - We want needs-based awards, not based just on merit or hybrid awards.
  - Want to reallocate funding from small automatic awards to more valuable awards.

Eshana Bhangu:
- UBC says they have needs-based awards, but really they’re hybrids.

6. MOVED SAAD SHOAIB, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU

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

… No objections

Eshana Bhangu:
- Accessibility:
  - Pushing for a disability task force.
  - Also an audit of buildings.

Lawrence Liu:
- Career Support Services:
  - Advocating for funding to support positions in career advising.
  - Want a holistic review that would lead to a single platform for career advising.

Eshana Bhangu:
- Teaching and Learning:
  - Students are asking for recorded lectures.
  - We’re advocating for acquiring the Enterprise Video Platform.

7. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED SAAD SHOAIB:

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

Emily Reid:
- I am opposed.
- This is a very long meeting and I’d like to move on.
Eshana Bhangu:
- Students pay a lot of money in fees, and this submission helps determine how that money will be spent.
- We’re doing this to be transparent.

Emily Gubski:
- Perhaps compromise on two or three minutes.

8. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED SAAD SHOAIB:

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

... Carried

For (19): Lauren Benson, Saad Shoainb, Mary Gan, Cole Quist, Aryan Mishra, Kamil Kanji, Romina Hajizadeh, Sanjana Bedi, Jasneet Bal, Gabrielle Matheson, Micah Mizushima, Sophie Penniman, Emily Gubski, Teddy O’Donnell, Emily Masse, Kiera Vandeborne, Avery Chan, Katherine Feng, Minaho Chiew

Against (3): Grace Lee, Jade Law, Emily Reid

Eshana Bhangu:
- Mental Health and Well-Being:
  - Seeking two more years of funding for the Black Student Caucus pilot project on well-being, connecting Black students with Black counsellors.
- Food Insecurity
- Embed the Indigenous Strategic Plan in the University budget.
- Supporting UBC’s Climate Action Plan.

Questions
Max Holmes:
- Re international student aid, have we looked at increasing funding for programs that are already successful?
- Like the WUSC program for refugee students.

Eshana Bhangu:
- We’re definitely trying to support existing initiatives.

Kamil Kanji:
- Are we advocating to increase aid for domestic students as well?

Eshana Bhangu:
- We always advocate for domestic students, but the emphasis is on international.
- There is such a gap.
- The University spends most of its money related to international students on recruitment, not support.
- They need to provide support.
Minaho Chiew:
  • For the disability audit, how long will it take? When will it happen?

Eshana Bhangu:
  • Want it done by Term 2.
  • We want student consultation.
  • We don’t want a performative audit.
  • We want to ensure resources are made available to ensure success.

Julia Burnham:
  • Regrad student funding, will you be advocating for removing continuing fees for master’s students?

Eshana Bhangu:
  • For now just asking for master’s students doing research degrees.
  • Looking to speak to the GSS on this.

9. MOVED GEORGIA YEE, SECONDED ROMINA HAJIZADEH:

“That the question period be extended by three minutes.” … No objections

Georgia Yee:
  • Given that opposition to tuition increases could lead to less income for the University, how would you navigate that?
  • Have you looked at places where the University could spend less?

Eshana Bhangu:
  • We’ve had good response when we’ve asked for cuts.
  • If tuition isn’t increased – and we’re 100% against increases – then make cuts in the faculties.

Sustainability Update – Jason Pang (AVP Sustainability)

• AMS Net Zero 2025:
  o Working with Offsetters on this continuing project.
  o We produced 719 tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2019, which is pretty sustainable.
    • Much of it is offset by the University.
  o Working with Offsetters to reduce more and to improve our data collection.

• Two new projects:
  o Soapstand and the AMS Waste Hub.
  o Soapstand is a zero-waste soap dispenser.
  o The Waste Hub is for hard to recycle items.
  o Both launching in 2022.

• Changes to the Sustainability Subcommittee:
  o Inviting undergraduate societies to attend.

• AMS Sustainability Week in Term 2.
• Had soft launch of Interactive Sustainability Centre.
  o Grand launch in January.
  o Email if you want to use the space.

• AMS Thingery:
  o Final stages of approval.
  o Talking to the Finance Committee.
  o Working with the Thingery on an MoU.
  o Hoping to open next September.

• Food Security Initiatives:
  o Digital food hub.
  o Physical community food hub on campus.
  o Given the increased use of the AMS Food Bank, we’re looking for other ways to help students.

• Speaking to the Indigenous Committee about the Indigenous section of the AMS Sustainability Action Plan.
  o Hope to get that done by March.

Questions

Emily Gubski:
• Love the soap dispenser idea,
• Will it be free or at least at a competitive price?

Jason Pang:
• Our focus is on sustainability, accessibility, and affordability.
• Working with local companies.
• Scented and unscented products.
• Should be cheaper than from a store.

Minaho Chiew:
• Can you say more about the digital and on campus food hubs?

Jason Pang:
• Food security is a big spectrum, dealing with budgeting, preserving food: education about those things.
• Being done through UBC Well-Being.
• A resource for students on food.

Gabrielle Matheson:
• Could we have more clarity on the waste hub?
• How will it work?

Jason Pang:
• It will be in the Interactive Sustainability Centre.
• It will function only when the centre is open, to prevent contamination and to monitor the waste.
• It’s a pilot project for four types of items:
I) Discussion Period

**Societies Act Changes**

Cole Evans:
- Thanks to Katherine Feng for discovering that there are new amendments of the Societies Act that are close to coming into effect.
- The bill has passed third reading and is just awaiting royal assent.
- There are new reporting requirements and changes concerning access to records and disclosing remuneration.
- We’ve also discovered that email votes can only be done if all directors vote yes.
- And the biggest one for us is that proxy voting is ending.
- Also, there are changes about allowing someone in a conflict of interest to remain in an in camera session.
- And for remote sessions, instructions must be issued.
- The amendments will also give the government the power to issue regulations requiring universities and other postsecondary institutions to provide contact information of students to student societies.
  - We already have this provided for from UBC under an MoU with them.
  - We have had an interesting time with some of the affiliated institutions.
- We will have to make some bylaw changes.

Max Holmes:
- Were we consulted?

Cole Evans:
- Yes, in 2019.
- Chris Hakim and Nicolas Romualdi at the GSS received notice of the proposed changes.
- They voiced their thoughts, and said they were against the change to disallow proxy voting.
- But the government didn’t listen to us.
- The pandemic probably stalled this, and then the provincial election.
- That’s why the consultation was so long ago.

Kamil Kanji:
- Does the disallowing of proxies apply to Constituencies as well?

Sheldon Goldfarb:
- I don’t think so, because the law is only for societies and their boards.
- The Constituencies are not societies themselves.
They’re subsidiaries, and the law doesn’t concern itself with them.

Emily Reid:
- Will attendance include online attendance?

Cole Evans:
- Probably.
- We will look at this.
- Because of our virtual attendance option, it will actually be less important to send proxies.

Romina Hajizadeh:
- Re instructions for remote meetings, will there be a template?

Cole Evans:
- It’s basically just requiring us to tell people how to join the meeting and vote.
- More societies are holding virtual meetings, so they want to make sure people know, but Zoom is pretty intuitive.

Kamil Kanji:
- Will all references to proxies in Code have to be removed?

Sheldon Goldfarb:
- The main reference is in the bylaws.
- There are some passing references in Code.

Kamil Kanji:
- There are 16, actually.

**Next Council date**

Cole Evans:
- The next Council meeting is set for November 10, but it turns out that that’s the first day of our new Fall Reading Break, and there are no classes that day.
- My preference is to keep it, but we could move it.
- We could do it on the Monday or move it to the following Wednesday, though that’s the same day as a Senate meeting.

Max Holmes:
- I didn’t fight for us to have a reading break so that we could have a Council meeting during it.
- Let’s choose another date.

Emily Gubski:
- Will this change the rest of the schedule?
- And would it count as an absence if we miss on the moved date?
Cole Evans:
- Ideally, we would not move the other dates.
- Attendance rules will stay the same.

Emily Reid:
- Could we keep the 10th and have it as an online meeting?

Cole Evans:
- There is always an online option.

Lauren Benson:
- I’d rather not have a meeting during Reading Break.
- Some may need the break.

Micah Mizushima:
- There’s another meeting here on Mondays from 5 to 7.

Cole Evans:
- That would be displaced.

Cole Evans:
- I’ll send out a poll.

Elections Discussion

Oscar Yu:
- In response to the decision of the Election Appeals Committee, I would like to say that if an election violates AMS Code, the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) can invalidate the result.
- I’ve spoken to past CEO’s, who agree with me.

Because the Speaker chairs the Election Appeals Committee, he passed the chair for this discussion to Cole Evans.

Oscar Yu:
- Every CEO has interpreted the relevant part of Code to mean elections could be invalidated.
- And the section of Code, which is about eligibility of those in a specific year or program, was written by a past CEO I spoke to.
- The Science election did violate Code.
- I recognize that the appeal committee’s decision is final, but I am disappointed in the result

Keanna Yu:
- Going to a past CEO does not really prove what the rule is.
There was a discussion about what documents were being discussed.

Cole Evans:
- There are two documents.
- One is the decision of the Election Appeals Committee; that is public.
- There is a second document that will be discussed in camera.

10. MOVED ROMINA HAJIZADEH, SECONDED SAAD SHOAIB, THIRDED KEANNA YU:

“That the meeting enter an in camera session.”

The meeting entered an in camera session at 8 pm.
The meeting left the in camera session at 10 pm.

11. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED EMILY REID:

“That the meeting be extended by one hour.”

… No objections

Council recessed until 10:07 pm.
Julia Burnham was in the chair.

Elections Discussion
Neal Cameron:
- The Election Appeals Committee has made some recommendations to the Governance Committee.
- There are deficiencies in the structure of the Elections Committee and the Election Appeals Committee.
- The CEO and the Chair of the Election Appeals Committee both act as sole adjudicators.
- There’s also a timeline issue: 48 hours is problematic for appeals.
- There should also be clarification about the eligibility of Constituency candidates and voters.

Kamil Kanji:
- The Governance Committee will address all these issues.

Max Holmes:
- The public part of the decision should go on the website.

Cole Evans:
- It will probably go on the next Council docket as a submission.
Emily Gubski:

- It would be beneficial to hear a rundown of the overturn and the overturn of the overturn.

Neal Cameron:

- The CEO made a ruling overturning the results of the Computer Science election held as part of the Science Undergraduate Society (SUS) elections.
- That was appealed to the Election Appeals Committee.
- The appeal committee found that the obligation cited by the CEO was not correct.
- This decision by the Election Appeals Committee was unanimous, including the representative sent by the CEO.
- The CEO has an obligation to validate Constituency election results.
- We did find issues in Code about Constituency appeals.

Emily Gubski:

- Originally the candidate should not have been able to run, but they did and won.
- Then that election was overturned by the CEO because …

Neal Cameron:

- The CEO invalidated the results on the grounds of Code, but no appeal of the results had taken place.

Emily Reid:

- Someone ineligible ran for a position.
- This was not caught by anyone in the Computer Science election or by their appeals process.
- The CEO noted this.
- I am concerned at the precedent being set here: if I messed up and allowed an Arts rep to run in Engineering, no one could change that.

Oscar Yu:

- SUS knew at all times that the candidate was not in Computer Science and should not have been able to run for the Computer Science position.
- I received a complaint and decided on that.

Neal Cameron:

- A necessary condition for the AMS Elections Committee to hear an appeal of a Constituency election is that there first be an appeal made within the Constituency.
- The SUS Elections Administrator did not allow such an appeal, violating SUS procedures, but we don’t have the power to reverse that.

Emily Gubski:

- So the AMS Elections Committee could not act because SUS did not run an appeal?
Oscar Yu:
- Code says the AMS Elections Committee can rule.

Neal Cameron:
- Only if there has already been an internal appeal within the Constituency.
- Emily Reid suggests a precedent is being set that could allow a non-Engineer to get elected in Engineering.
- There is no precedent being set here.
- A decision is simply made by the Election Appeals Committee.
- And there is an obligation on the CEO to certify Constituency elections if there are no internal appeals.
- It is not an opportunity for discretion.

Cole Evans:
- We are going around in circles.
- It’s not really right or wrong.
- SUS didn’t follow their code.
- Our Code is not clear enough.
- We could talk for the next five hours.
- At the end of the day the Election Appeals Committee made a ruling.
- The thing is to have the Governance Committee and the Elections Committee look at this.
- Have Neal and Oscar involved in the conversations.
- I think we’re good.

Emily Reid:
- There was no formal appeal period in the SUS election: doesn’t that invalidate the election?

Oscar Yu:
- Nothing in Code says an election is automatically invalidated if there’s no appeal period.

Emily Reid:
- There must be an internal appeal or …

Grace Lee:
- What’s the point of asking someone to validate something if they don’t the power to refuse validation?
- We could have gone on the merits of the case.
- It’s something to learn from.

Cole Evans:
- The bigger issue is Constituency compliance with AMS governing documents.
- There’s no enforcement mechanism.
• Are we increasing the mechanisms or are we decentralizing and letting Constituencies run their own affairs?
• An even bigger issue: this is not an efficient use of our time.

Neal Cameron:
• The lack of an appeal process in SUS is problematic, yes.
• If the merits of the case were considered, it might have been a different decision.
• There’s the issue of the Election Appeals Committee’s powers.

12. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED ROMINA HAJIZADEH:

“That we cease debate on this and remove the committee updates from the agenda.”

... No objections

13. MOVED EMILY GUBSKI, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

“That Committee motions be next on the agenda.”

... No objections

*The Speaker resumed the chair.*

14. MOVED KAMIL KANJI, SECONDED COLE EVANS: 

[SCD206-22]. [SCD207-22]

“That Council adopt the following report from the Governance Committee: ‘Code Changes 2021: Council Agenda’ and thus amend the Code as recommended.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Kamil Kanji:
• We did this in consultation with the President’s office.
• The idea is to streamline Council meetings.
• We won’t have to motion so often to extend presentations.

Julia Burnham:
• I’m not sure allowing unlimited questions after presentations is the best idea.
• And allowing presentations to be up to 30 minutes long is also not the best thing, especially for external presenters.
• I suggest referring this back to Governance Committee.

Cole Evans:
• The main aim was not necessarily to shorten, but to reorder.
• This puts the important things at the beginning, because people start to leave at the end.
• For the presentations, it’s up to the President to grant up to 30 minutes.
• The President might not grant 30 minutes.
• This will make sure presentation time is more accurately reflected on the agenda.
- It’s a good change to make right now; we can change again later.

Eshana Bhangu:
- Maybe refer.

Emily Gubski:
- Yes, I feel it should go back to committee.
- The main goal was to move up the Discussion Period and the motions.
- That is valuable, but longer presentation times and unlimited question time are not.
- Ten minutes for a presentation sets a goal; we can extend if needed.
- It would be incorrect to pass this. Send it back.

Kamil Kanji:
- Some presentations do require more time.
- Governance Committee can look at this again, but it would be good to get these changes made now.

Saad Shoaib:
- A lot of stuff is referred back to Governance Committee.
- We can build on top of this.

Eshana Bhangu:
- As long as the Governance Committee keeps looking at this, that’s good.

15. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

“That the question be called.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (11): Lauren Benson, Eshana Bhangu, Mary Gan, Aryan Mishra, Kamil Kanji, Romina Hajizadeh, Sanjana Bedi, Micah Mizushima, Grace Lee, Emily Reid, Joey Yang

Against (2): Julia Burnham, Emily Gubski

16. MOVED KAMIL KANJI, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

“That Council adopt the following report from the Governance Committee: ‘Code Changes 2021: Council Agenda’ and thus amend the Code as recommended.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... No objections
J) President’s Remarks (5 minutes):
Cole Evans

- AGM tomorrow:
  - Just under 1,000 registered.
  - Less than last year because last year nothing else was going on.
  - Need 600 for quorum.
  - If no quorum, we can’t pass motions.
- Indigenous Cultural Month has been going on.
- Student Engagement Survey in November:
  - Used to be the Nest Engagement Survey.
  - Beefed up.
  - Run with Insights West.
  - As significant as the Academic Experience Survey.

K) Executive Remarks (3 minutes each):

VP Finance – Mary Gan [see also remarks submitted after the meeting, below]
- Budget amendments.
- Studentcare add-ons.
- Health and Dental questions.
- Reviewing funds and fees.

17. MOVED EMILY GUBSKI, SECONDED MICAH MIZUSHIMA

“That Council direct that the Executive remarks be submitted to Council by October 29 and that those remarks be included in the October 27 minutes of Council.”

... No objections

Quorum was lost at 11:04 pm.

K) Executive Remarks (as submitted after the meeting in accordance with Motion 17):

VP Academic & University Affairs – Eshana Bhangu
- Campus Safety Audit to be announced next week.
- Student Evaluation of Instruction promotions for the end of November.
- OER Champions Night on November 25th celebrating faculty and staff that work to support affordable and inclusive access to learning materials.
- Return to Campus Survey infographic posted today.

VP Administration – Lauren Benson
Hi everyone,

I hope you’ve all had a good week so far! Since last council my team and I have been continuing to work on a variety of ongoing projects and goals- one of those being raising more awareness around the sustainability initiatives the AMS has to offer. We just got funding approved (thank you Fincom) to create a series of informative
sustainability videos to educate students about the opportunities available through the Sustainability Projects Fund, the Interactive Sustainability Centre, as well as informing students about the AMS Sustainability Action Plan (ASAP).

Continuing on the topic of Sustainability communications, we also have a survey out now to get student feedback on what you would like to see from the Soapstand in terms of products that the machine may offer and the price point … it takes only a few minutes and you could win an AMS giftcard and totebag so I would highly encourage you to check that out!

My team and I are also laying down the foundation for January Clubs Days and will be sending out applications for clubs to participate in early November, and we’re working on having a revamped version of the Clubs Resource Centre open in tandem with the event, and will be hiring another member of the team to oversee the space shortly. We’re very excited to see the space reopen and have another member on the team! Additionally, I think I mentioned this last week but our Clubs Days feedback survey is out right now so if you participated in Clubs Days with a club please fill it out and tell your friends in clubs to let us know their thoughts!

As usual, these are just a few of the projects my team and myself are currently working on, and you can always fire me an email if you want to learn more about them as well. Thank you!

VP External Affairs – Saad Shoaib
Hey folks, hope you’re all doing well. We’ve had some interesting developments over the past few weeks.

We’ve been working with our federal partners at the Undergraduates of Canadian Research-Intensive Universities (UCRU) on preparing for our federal lobby week. This past week, UCRU finalized its recommendations around the following advocacy priorities: student financial aid- targeting the permanent removal of interest rates and permanent increases to the Canada Student Grants, mental health- working with the provinces to invest more into student-centric e-mental health supports and student employment- creating more opportunities for international students and investing more into Canada’s youth-centric and student-centric employment programs.

We also completed the Fall 2021 U-Pass audit finalizing the exemptions list for this term. We’ll be meeting with UBC’s Enrollment Services team on the Spring 2021 U-Pass exemptions and what the infrastructure/dates will look like for that. The same U-Pass exemptions will be available to students in acknowledging that the pandemic is still ongoing.

The Office of External Affairs is also working on a partnership with research courses through SEEDS to gather more insights into the viability of equity-based grants. We’ll be bringing an update as to the partnership in future council meetings.
We’ve also been collaborating with AMS Services on our harm reduction campaign. We’re working with the BC CDC, specifically with Toward the Heart, on establishing an advocacy relationship in order to lobby the provincial government to provide more harm reduction resources to post-secondary institutions in BC.

These are just some of the things that we have been working on throughout the past couple weeks. If any of you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me at any time at vpexternal@ams.ubc.ca.

Student Services Manager – Mitchell Prost
- Safewalk:
  - Met with UBC Accessibility Centre to discuss about letting them borrow our shuttle – decided it was not currently feasible due to insurance issues.
  - Planning to get a 2nd team of Safewalkers for Term 2.
- Food Bank:
  - Hired a new Assistant FB Coordinator – will start this Friday or next Monday.
  - Received funding approval for a new freezer for the foodbank, will be purchasing soon.
- eHub:
  - MOU signed from UBC – need to get AMS to sign to receive some funding.
  - RBC Get Seeded event is being planned – scheduled for Wed, Nov 17th in Term 1.
- Advocacy:
  - Having meeting with different Ombudspeople and Advocacy Coordinators around BC.
  - Received funding from the Student Legal Fund Society.
- Housing
  - Planning to create an education and outreach side of the service next term.

VP Finance – Mary Gan [see also oral report above]
- Finance committee super busy, some budget amendments, fund adjudication.
- Working on flu coverage dialogue and exploring add-ons to our Health and Dental Plan.
- Working on survey questions for Health and Dental as part of upcoming AMS survey to consult students.
- U-Pass Subsidies in processing. Successful applicants will receive a credit on SSC.
- Finalizing Health and Dental subsidies. Done via e-Transfer.
- Working with Studentcare to set up a flu clinic.
- Reviewing funds and fees.
- Finance Committee:
  - Did a couple approvals such as a pay scale product (to conduct market salary reviews, establish pay banding structure), club terms of repayment, espresso machine.
  - Referred new ERP system to Council.
  - Reviewed over SPF applications, the Thingery.
L) Submissions:
   AUS Fall Election Results [SCD208-22]
   CUS Fall Election Results [SCD209-22]
   LFSUS Fall Election Results [SCD210-22]
   VSEUS Fall Election Results [SCD211-22]
   VP External Council update [SCD212-22]
   Services Council Update [SCD213-22]

M) Next Meeting:

   Next Meeting November 8, 2021
## Votes and Attendance

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