AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of December 1, 2021

Attendance
Present: Cole Evans (President), Eshana Bhangu (VP Academic & University Affairs, left 11:45), Mary Gan (VP Finance), Lorris Leung (Senior Student Services Manager), Mitchell Prost (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Lauren Benson (VP Administration), Saad Shoaib (VP External)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order
• The meeting was called to order at 11:23 am in Nest Room 3511.

Agenda
• The agenda was adopted (Eshana, Mary).

Minutes
• The minutes of November 19 were postponed.

Elections and Ombudsperson
• Cole:
  o A job posting for the Chief Electoral Officer has been posted.
  o There will be a motion tonight at Council giving authority to the HR Committee to hire a new CEO and an Ombudsperson.
  o We need to look at procedures in case a CEO or an Ombudsperson leaves in the future.
  o Also asking the HR Committee to look into raising CEO compensation:
    ▪ The departing CEO is saying the position needs better pay.
    ▪ It’s a pretty hard position.
    ▪ A very specialized job.
    ▪ You need a passion for elections.
Winter Break
- Cole:
  - We’re sticking with the status quo: staff will have to use vacation time for days they don’t work over the break.
  - Staff holiday party: why no food or drink?
- Keith:
  - There’s no buffet, for Covid reasons.
  - Also we can’t have more than 50 in the room, or we’d have to check vaccination status.
- Cole:
  - If it’s in the Pit, don’t we have to check vaccination status anyway?
  - We have buffets at Council meetings.
- Keith:
  - We probably shouldn’t.
  - We don’t do that for clients.

Referenda
- Cole:
  - Fee restructure referendum.
- Mary:
  - Meeting with the Campus Culture and Performance clubs about their fee.
  - Not sure what to do about the Resource Group fee, since the Resource Group Allocation Committee (RGAC) hasn’t met.
  - All other fees can be decided within the Finance Committee or my office.
- Cole:
  - Reach out to the Social Justice Centre.
- Eshana:
  - The Social Justice Centre wants to access their reserve.
- Cole:
  - Is the RGAC the best body to work with on this?
  - Half of the Resource Groups are not around.
  - Maybe we should have each individual Resource Group submit their budget to the Finance Committee.
- Mary:
  - We should reduce the Resource Group fee since they are not active and the money is just accumulating in their reserve.
- Eshana:
  - Some Resource Groups do great work.
- Cole:
  - We could freeze fee collection for them.
  - They have $400,000.
o By referendum we could say, pause on collection until the reserve is down to $100,000.

• Eshana:
  o I am very much against freezing their fee collection.

• Mary:
  o For Campus Culture & Performance, we could freeze the fee until their reserve is down to zero, then start collecting again.

• Cole:
  o We’re going to need to go to the Finance Committee and Council on this.
  o In January. Can’t wait till February.

**Executive Updates**

• **Eshana’s update:**
  o Student Experience of Instruction (formerly known as student evaluations):
    ▪ Campaign launched.
    ▪ Students who fill out the survey will be eligible for tuition reimbursement.
  o Campus Safety Audit.
  o Successful OER Champions reception.
    ▪ Attended by Deans, Associate Deans, UBC Executives, members of the Board of Governors.

• **Cole’s update:**
  o Student Experience Survey going well.
    ▪ Might extend it to next week.
  o Potential to pursue ambitious governance changes this year.
    ▪ Working with Max on some interesting ideas.
    ▪ Might be prudent to revisit our Board structure.
      ▪ Might move away from the Constituency representation model to electing all Directors at large.
      ▪ Reducing the size of Council.
    ▪ Maybe loop this into Bylaw changes in a March referendum, but it’s a tight timeline.
      ▪ Might take till next year’s AGM or a Special General Meeting.
    ▪ Governance Committee is working on a committee review.

[Eshana leaves.]

• **Cole’s update (in VP Admin role):**
  o Operations Committee is meeting to look over club applications.
  o Want to break up the Operations Committee Manual into separate policies.
• The manual keeps getting revamped, but not followed.
  o Hiring the Art Gallery Manager and the Clubs Resource Manager.

• Mary’s update:
  o Q2 financial report.
  o Flu clinic successful.
  o Meeting with fee-receiving groups about the fee restructure.
  o Finance Committee has been meeting.
  o Thinking about the 2022-23 budget.
  o Health & Dental coverage improvements:
    ▪ Could increase mental health benefits.
    ▪ Could also increase physio and chiropractor benefits.

Managing Director’s Update
• Keith:
  o While redoing the financial system, changing the inventory system too.
  o Increasing vision care and mental health benefits for permanent part-timers.
    ▪ Also including coverage for life and accidental death and dismemberment.
  o Vaccine survey out: 75 responses received.
  o New manager for Gallery starting January 4.
    ▪ Sous chef has already started there.
    ▪ Hope to return to full hours and menu for January.
  o The province has announced a new 5-day sick leave program, which will be an additional cost for us.
  o Goddess of Democracy:
    ▪ No update on moving it.

• Cole:
  o Maybe move it to the Nitobe Gardens.

• Mary:
  o The Nitobe Gardens are Japanese.
  o The statue is Chinese.

Services Updates
• Mitchell’s update:
  o Safewalk:
    ▪ Vehicle maintenance.
    ▪ Naming competition for the vehicles.
    ▪ Spending plan for the year.
  o Food Bank:
    ▪ Received funds for more diverse food options.
Hiring more volunteers.
  o Advocacy:
    ▪ Hiring volunteers.
  o Housing:
    ▪ Accepting applications for volunteers.
  o Peer Support:
    ▪ Received fentanyl strips last month.
    ▪ Boothing in January.

Lorris’s update:
  o SASC: Trans Day of Remembrance.
  o Council approved funding for event.
  o Program for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
  o Orientation and data collection for the Services.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 12:38 pm.