Minutes of the AMS Operations Committee
December 1st, 2021

Attendance

Present: Ben Du (AVP Administration), Cole Evans (AMS President), Katherine Feng, Romina Hajizadeh, Matthew Ho, Nikita Li (Student at Large), Emily Reid

Regrets: Bryan Cadman (Student at Large)

Recording Secretary: Emily Covell (Executive Assistant to the AMS President)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:05pm.

2. Territorial Acknowledgement

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved: Cole Evans   Seconded: Emily Reid

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.”

3. Introductions

Cole: Hi everyone. I am Cole – I am the President of the AMS. As Lauren is taking a leave of absence, I am taking over her duties as chair of this committee until January.

Emily: Hi everyone, I am Emily, and I am the President of the EUS.

Ben: Hi I’m Ben, I am AVP Administration so I work with Lauren. I am here to talk about some admin related things that I think are relevant to this committee.

Romina: Hi I’m Romina, I am an Arts Representative. Nice to meet you!

Nikita: Hi, I am Nikita, I’m a first year student, so this is my first time doing anything AMS related. It’s nice to meet you!

Matthew: Hi I’m Matthew. I am a representative on the AMS council for the faculty of arts.
4. Club Applications

Cole: We do three application cycles each year, and these recommendations are generated from the clubs and societies working group. It’s up to the operations committee to decide whether or not these applications get approved.

Ben: Just sharing the operations committee policy manual in the chat. If you scroll to page 9, that is the criteria for approving clubs, and that’s what the clubs and societies working group bases their recommendations on.

Emily: Can you clarify what program-club designation is?

Ben: The main difference is that they are affiliated with a degree granting faculty at UBC.
   ● They can restrict their membership to those only in that faculty (normal clubs have to be open to any AMS member).
   ● They can be charged by enrolment services through that department, instead of by the club itself.

Cole: We are just going to skip all of the ones that say ‘do not constitute’.

AMS Bookaholics Anonymous at UBC

Cole: We don't really have any book clubs do we?

Emily: My only concern is the lifespan of it.

Ben: I think in terms of membership stability, they tend to generate demand. The only concern that we discussed in the working group is the name. It might strike some members the wrong way, what are our thoughts?

Cole: We can just say to them that they need to change the name.

UBC BJJ Club

Cole: (Brazilian Jiu Jitsu)

Ben: We have several martial arts clubs, but not jiu jitsu.
Emily: Jiu jitsu is very different from everything else that the AMS offers.

Cole: They should just change the name to AMS Brazilian Jiu Jitsu at UBC.

AMS Spinal Cord Injury Association at UBC

Cole: We don't have a spinal cord injury club.

Romina: I think people should have a community like this, but I worry about whether there will be interest. I like the initiative.

AMS KELE at UBC

Cole: Chinese comedy club from what I see. I don’t see any overlap here, I have no issues with this.

AMS Volleyball Club at UBC

Cole: I think this is a given, we don’t have a volleyball club, so why not.

Katherine: What type of support is the AMS able to offer these types of clubs?

Cole: We could possibly subsidize costs for space bookings and equipment out of the competitive athletics fund.

AMS Aquarists at UBC

Ben: In policy there is a clause that prevents clubs from bringing in animals, unless they are service animals.

Emily: What if there were no fish, just building and designing underwater landscapes?

Ben: Yes, worth bringing up to them.

Cole: There is no overlapping, but I don’t think it’s really feasible. They wouldn’t be able to bring in all their fish tanks to the nest. Seems like something that could be more of a discord group (for example), not a club.
AMS Music Production Club at UBC

Cole: So the first club that comes to mind is Blank Vinyl Project – seems similar, music sharing and stuff, but we don’t have one that is specifically for producing music.

Nikita: I feel like there would be a demand for a club that creates music, as opposed to just sharing it.

Cole: Fair point.

AMS Slackline at UBC

Cole: More than happy to bring it back.

Taoist Practitioner Club

Matthew: Would it be religion related?

Cole: Yeah. We do have religious clubs, we just try to not have duplicates. Name needs to be fixed, and they could change their name to not include ‘practitioner’.

UBC Mobile Gaming E-sports Club

Cole: I think that they should just go to the E-sports club and get them to do mobile gaming. E-sports is one of the most well-resourced clubs on campus, so they can probably easily do that.

Katherine: I would agree with that.

Ben: In this case, clubs and societies working group did not see explicit overlap with the E-sports club, but I think to any bystander, it would look like an overlap. Maybe when we reach out to them, we can just let them know that they should seek collaboration with, or branch out of, E-sports.

Cole: The recommendation to them can be that if they want to do it more mobile gaming focussed, then apply as a ‘mobile gaming club’, but if the focus is on E-sports, then they should work with the club that already exists.
Katherine: Something that I think that they can bring to the E-sports club is seeing if there is a way to make the club more accessible, as that seems to be the main differentiating factor.

AMS Socialists Fightback at UBC

Matthew: What is the policy on political clubs in the AMS again?

Cole: There's no rules against them, but they cannot promote discrimination, hatred, or contempt of any group. The only thing that is concerning, is I believe that there is external affiliation (Fightback), which I believe we do have a policy about. If they aren't fundraising/benefitting the organization though, then it should be fine?

Emily: I don’t think it's recruiting UBC members to that organization, so I think that's alright. I would be comfortable with constituting them as long as they know the rules that are in the policy about affiliation with an external group.

Cole: Yes.

Developing Economies Club

Cole: It just seems like one of those clubs that seems super niche – I wonder if you need a club for this.

Emily: I worry that this club will go along the line of 'let's look at countries that we think are third world'. I think that’s a fine line that we don’t want to cross.

Katherine: I agree.

Ben: We were torn, we saw some concerns with some of the language, we thought that it enforced certain stereotypes.

Cole: I just don’t know why they need AMS club status for this. They should just go to the school of economics, find a professor that wants to talk, and host events. I don’t think they justified needing club status.

AMS The FentaNIL Project at UBC
Ben: Main concern was overlap with AMS Peer Support.

Katherine: I would be concerned about potential liability, I think this was discussed before, I don’t know if that has changed.

Cole: I don’t know whether they justify club status for this. You don’t need to have a club to do this. They didn’t present a very good reason as to why it needs club status.

Emily: Naloxone kits are not too difficult to get, the engineering frat gets them all the time.

Ben: Note that this is a re-application. Got declined because of lack of adequate justification of need for AMS Club status, and overlap with AMS Peer Support.

Cole: I would give the exact same explanation as last time.

Women in Economics and Policy

Cole: I am happy to bring them back

Google and Developer Student Club at UBC

Cole: We have a bunch of clubs that already do a bunch of these things (too much overlap). Affiliation with google, makes it seem impossible for there not to be interference.

Emily: I agree, would be more compelled to constitute if they were just a ‘developer student club’.

Age-Link Club

Ben: Main concern here is, is the target audience really UBC students? And do they need club status?

Emily: I don’t think they do.

Cole: There is already an established non-profit that does this in BC, so they should just do work at UBC on this, they don’t need to be a club. They also say that they will get support from the external non-profit.
AMS Educational Impairment Awareness at UBC

Ben: This is a reapplication. Mandate overlapped with Disabilities United Club.

Cole: Did they change the name of the resource group?
Ben: At the very beginning they used to be called ‘Neurodiverse Pathfinders Club’, then changed to ‘Neurodiverse and Disabled Alliance’, then changed to ‘Disabilities United Club’.

Cole: Regardless, the resource group still exists, so I would point these people to that group, and if they’re interested in doing this work, to start that back up again. **Let’s make a note to put this one on hold**, we can come back to it, and make a decision once we do more research.

HanVoice UBC

Emily: I was a part of the committee when this was recommended against approval. It doesn’t look like they have changed anything at all in their application. Previously rejected because it seemed like a political activism club (It didn’t seem like a cultural club at all).

Cole: I agree, it seems like they’re just doing advocacy work. Going to be a no for me, seeing as their application did not change.

Feng Shui Club

Katherine: I think their answers were a bit broad, but I also don’t see any overlap.

Emily: I like it.

Cole: No problems with it.

Undergraduate Statistics Society

Katherine: My only comment would be that I don’t think we can call it a society.

Emily: No we can’t.
Cole: Yeah, so I am good to approve this one as a program-club, I don't think we have a statistics club do we? Yeah we don't. When we approve them, we are going to have to connect them with SUS.

AMS French Students Association

Romina: I think they should be approved.

AMS Cannabis Business Club

Cole: I would like it better if they were just called the “AMS Cannabis Club”?

Romina: Maybe, they are in Sauder? I would get it.

Katherine: Maybe they want to make it clear that it isn’t a club to consume it.

Cole: They want to affiliate with CUS, so they want club status so that they can be. I really don’t know how this benefits UBC students – I don’t know, it seems niche. I don’t like that their reason for club status is wanting affiliation with CUS. I would suggest that if they want club status, they should get the CUS to say, ‘yes they should be a club’.

UBC CANFAR Club

Cole: Good to keep this?

Emily: Good.

Ben: No issues here.

Sciences Po

Cole: We used to have one – everyone good?

Everyone: Yeah.

AMS Vaccine Accessibility Committee

Katherine: I have thoughts about this one. Their previous application was literally copy and pasted. Previous concerns were, liability, and will it still be relevant in the future.
Ben: Something we looked through, and noticed, was that it was mentioned that they would focus on vaccines in general, past this current pandemic.

Emily: I am still not convinced that they are going to do that.

Cole: I agree, I think we should get them to reach out to the medical undergraduate society to get involved with stuff like this. I also don’t think it really needs to be a club, it’s more of an advocacy club, it isn’t really a hobby.

**Chinese Debate League**

Ben: I believe they only changed how open their membership is (previous application otherwise the same).

Matthew: What were their previous reasons for rejection in addition to that?

Ben: In addition to that, they didn't have an explanation for why they wanted club status. Now a one-liner is provided.

Katherine: Is there a club that we could make more accessible to this group?

Cole: I think that's a good point. Maybe we need to send them to the debate society to see if they can make it more of a wing of their organization.

Romina: I think it would be good to make the current debate group more accessible.

Cole: Okay, **let's flag this one, and come back to it**. We can postpone that to the next meeting.

**Comagape Christian Conference**

Ben: There surprisingly was not very much overlap with the several other christian clubs. But do they need club status?

Cole: So, this is already a thing – I am not sure if they need club status. I can almost guarantee you, that the reason why they are wanting club status is so that they can have free room booking, that's all.
Ben: So it is focussed around one flagship event?

Cole: Yeah it looks like it. This one is going to be a no go.

**Data Science Club**

Cole: Yes.

**UBC Underdiagnosed Reproductive Health Club**

Cole: This is separate from UBC Women's Health initiative?

Ben: I think they have just changed the name.

Cole: Going to say no.

Cole: We have reached the end! Ben you’re just going to have to go and reformat all of these names. We will come back to the Chinese Debate League and Education Impairment Awareness and we will discuss those ones further.

### 5. Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, December 9th, 4:00-5:00pm.

### 6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:31pm.