



**THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER**

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of March 23, 2022

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Eshana Bhangu (VP Academic & University Affairs), Mary Gan (VP Finance), Lauren Benson (VP Administration, arrived 11:15), Saad Shoaib (VP External, arrived 11:57), Lorrin Leung (Senior Student Services Manager), Mitchell Prost (Student Services Manager, left 11:57), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 10:47 am in Nest Room 3511.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Mary, Cole).

Minutes

- The minutes of March 16 were approved (Cole, Eshana).

Services Review

- Lorrin:
 - Did informal Services review when started.
 - Discussions with previous year's staff.
 - New staff did a SWOT analysis.
 - Looked at what other student unions do.
 - Looked at results from the Academic Experience Survey.
 - Now doing a Services survey to judge student engagement with the Services.
 - Want to consolidate marketing and administrative functions, introduce online orientation, create a marketing calendar template, and review and assess functions.
 - There are lots of promotions for individual Services, but none for the Services as a whole.
 - We need to increase general awareness.
 - We already have a dedicated social media account.
 - Doing more booting.
 - We've reached out to the Affiliated colleges.

- We're getting Services swag.
- We've chosen a vendor for a new data collection system.
- Mission: Thinking of new services not available at UBC, e.g.:
 - A financial literacy web page.
 - An IT repair service:
 - Reaching out to IT shops.
 - Maybe a pop-up.
- Cole:
 - How will this tie in with next year's formal Services Review?
- Lorris:
 - Have not worked that out yet.
 - Once we get the committee going, can build on our short-term plans.
- Cole:
 - What you've outlined today can be the starting point.
- Lorris:
 - These are our short-term goals, but they can be built on.
 - Data collection presentation to Council tonight. Talking about funding.

Governance Review

- Cole:
 - Was looking to do a governance review/committee restructuring this year, but will probably just do some minor changes.
 - Not introducing the new Property Development Committee.
 - Going to tie this into a broader governance review, especially looking at our board structure, perhaps changing the Council structure.
 - Want to send out an RFP to come back to the Executive and Council.
 - Then the next Council can approve and go forward.
- Eshana:
 - Good to get going on this.
 - There should be no limits on scope.
- Mitchell:
 - Should cover all levels.
- Mary:
 - Budgeted for in the preliminary budget?
- Cole:
 - Yes.

[Lauren arrives.]

- Keith:
 - We used to have a VP Services.

- Cole:
 - We could have a VP Student Life.
 - Odd that we don't have one.
 - Other student unions combine Finance and Administration under one VP and then have a VP Student Life.
 - We could also look at hiring VP's instead of electing them.

Budget Privacy

- Sheldon:
 - Concerned that the new transparent budget reveals individual salaries.
- Cole:
 - Shouldn't do that.
 - When possible, salary lines should be combined.
- Mary:
 - Combining budget lines will confuse things.
- Mitchell:
 - Maybe can separate full-time from part-time.
- Cole:
 - This can be worked on offline.
 - If some salaries are on individual lines, that's not consistent and not fair to those staff.
 - It's also a competitive disadvantage to us, if we're revealing salaries.
- Mary:
 - I can combine lines.
- Keith:
 - Can create a line called Total Labour Costs.
- Sheldon:
 - I'm concerned not just about publishing this information on the website, but even about sharing it with Councillors.
- Cole:
 - Councillors are privy to this, but we need to let them know it's confidential.

New Tier Structure

- Cole:
 - Changing the tier system from three tiers to five.
 - To become more granular over what people do, fix discrepancies.
 - Tier 5 would be the highest (\$19 an hour) for the Chief Electoral Officer, the Ombudsperson, and the Speaker of Council.
 - Tier 4 (\$18) for AVP's, Service Coordinators, etc.
 - Tier 3 (\$17.50) for committee chairs, Elections Committee members.
 - Tier 2 (\$17) for student government coordinators and administrators.

- Tier 1 (\$16) for assistant coordinators.
- **Lorris:**
 - We should separate the Service Coordinators.
 - They're different.
- **Sheldon:**
 - Aren't they separate already?
- **Cole:**
 - Yes and no.
 - Council determines the Tier Levels for student government, but Services uses the same Tiers, though now they're moving to using Work Learn, so the levels will be different.
 - Food & Beverage are also moving off this system.
- **Lorris:**
 - So Council doesn't have to approve for Services.
- **Cole:**
 - This will only be for student government support.

Updates

- *Keith's update:*
 - Gallery renovation.
 - Pit problem with speakers; may need replacing; won't be cheap.
- *Lauren's update:*
 - Last day of current Hatch Art Gallery exhibit. Prepping for final exhibit.
 - Sustainability report going to Council.
 - Thingery project ended:
 - Chris Diplock told us the Thingery is pulling out.
 - They no longer have the capacity.
 - It's a shame after a year of working on this.
 - For next year we could try our own lending library, not a Thingery. Will recommend that to the next team.
 - Looking to improve the Interactive Sustainability Centre experience.
 - Sensory Room is underway.
 - Clubs renewal forms are out.
- **Cole:**
 - Dodged a bullet with the Thingery.
 - Good thing we didn't sign three months ago.
 - What should we do with the Exchange Student club space? It hasn't been used since 2020. Maybe remove them or combine them with another club.

- *Mary's update:*
 - Health & Dental fee increase to Council.
 - New budget report for the website, to increase transparency.
 - Fee schedule to the Board of Governors.
 - Sustainable Food Access fee finally distributed.
 - Working on the 2022-23 budget.
- Cole:
 - Tele-health referendum passed at McGill, but referendum thresholds are lower there.
- Sheldon:
 - What happened with the Nursing fee?
- Cole:
 - The Board forgot.
- Mary:
 - Waiting to hear if it can still get on the docket.
- Cole:
 - By the way, we need to post our office hours.

[Saad arrives, Mitchell leaves.]

- *Eshana's update:*
 - The Academic Experience Survey is ready to launch.
 - Waiting for the Services survey to finish.
 - Made a submission opposing tuition increases.
 - Appalled that there is no comment box in UBC's survey.
 - Harm reduction going to BoG; that was really our work.
 - The UBC Affordability Plan is at the BoG Finance Committee.
 - Arts Dean Gage Averill will become the pro tem Provost.
 - I'm on the search committee for a new permanent Provost.
- Mary:
 - Our donation to UNICEF resulting from the election (at \$2 per voter) will be \$20,600.
- *Saad's update:*
 - U-Pass audit.
 - Harm reduction with AMS Events.
 - Naloxone training with SASC and Peer Support.
 - UCRU fee implementation strategy.
 - Met UBC about public engagement on the SkyTrain:
 - Policy consultation early April.
 - Sending letters to the majors.

- *Lorris's update:*
 - SASC presentation on the referendum on April 20.
 - What would you like to see?
- Cole:
 - What does SASC plan to do with the money?
 - What is the plan?

- *Services update (Lorris):*
 - Peer Support Week.
 - Food Bank:
 - Food for Fines has ended.
 - Housing:
 - Education and Outreach.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.