



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of January 10, 2020

Attendance

Present: Chris Hakim (President), Julia Burnham (VP Academic & University Affairs), Cristina Ilnitshi (VP External), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Cole Evans (VP Administration), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:08 pm.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Chris, Julia).

Minutes

- Chris and Cristina moved to accept two sets of minutes:
 - November 22, sent back by Council for revision
 - December 6
- Consideration of these was postponed till the end of the meeting.

Lobby Trip

- Cristina:
 - With the timing of the federal budget settled (it will be in March), we are going to Ottawa with UCRU in February.
 - We've finalized our briefs, which will come to the next meeting.
 - We've already sent them to some MP's.
 - We're emailing MP's to arrange meetings.
 - By the time we go, the budget will already be pretty solidified, so we're going to send some UCRU people early (mid-January) with the National Student Letter to advocate on budget asks.
 - This way we can influence what's included.
- Chris: SkyTrain?
- Cristina:
 - Not necessarily lobbying on SkyTrain, though we do have opportunities while there.
 - We're advocating at the municipal level, but TransLink needs provincial and federal money.

- Going to connect with the Mayor's office.
- Abdul: There were financial assistance commitments by various parties in the election campaign.
- Cristina:
 - Our brief will reflect that.
 - Mostly we're focusing on what didn't get taken up last year, but we will also refer to the election commitments.
- Chris: Anything else from the elections?
- Cristina:
 - Focusing on a couple of main areas.
 - No one else has been speaking about research: that's a highlight for us.
 - Our big ask is about affordability.
 - We will be consulting the Indigenous Committee about the lobby documents.
 - Another issue has to do with skills, which everyone is committed to boosting.

The Policy Formerly Known as Policy 131 (now SC17: on sexual violence)

- Julia:
 - It's official consultation month for this and other UBC policies.
 - Our campaign coffee sleeves are arriving today; we've organized a campaign to stand with survivors.
 - Instead of a typical Town Hall, we're going to break down the policy into sections.
 - We're inviting students to present online feedback to us instead of to the University because they may be more comfortable writing to us.
 - This feedback will get added as an appendix to our submission.
 - We're partnering with SASC on an event.
 - SASC is going to make its own submission, so there will be two submissions.
 - The official UBC consultation will include UBC coming to speak to the Executives and to SASC staff.
- Cristina:
 - There's an issue concerning the lawyered language of the policy.
 - The province has dedicated money to translating policies into plain language.
 - UBC did not sign on to that.
 - Have you heard anything more on that?
- Julia:
 - A plain language translation would be fantastic.
 - One thing discussed in committee was creating an FAQ.
- Cristina:
 - Will there be meetings between SASC and UBC's SVPRO?
- Julia:
 - There's a new SVPRO Director starting.

- Events that were planned to take place last summer will happen now; it's unfortunate they didn't happen in the summer.
 - It looks like we'll be hosting something in late February in the Art Gallery: SASC will have art up there then.
- Chris: Is there going to be a respondents' support person?
- Julia:
 - UBCO has that type of role.
 - It needs to be completely separate.
- Cristina:
 - Faculty have been vocal on this.
 - Is there anything from their comments to consider?
- Julia: I will be able to articulate better on that next week.

Health and Dental Plan

- Chris:
 - Just had a meeting with TRG about the proposals on the administrative side of the plan.
 - We've had two proposals: from Studentcare and from Gallivan.
 - They're making presentations next week about prices, services, how they differentiate themselves, how they would benefit the plan.
 - Then the Health and Dental Plan Committee will vote.
- Several Executives asked if they could attend the presentations.
- Chris: It's open, yes.
- Cole: Does this go to Council?
- Lucia: Afterwards.
- Keith: It would be different if we were changing insurers.
- Lucia: This is just for the administrative end.
- Sheldon: If there is a contract, it will have to go to Council.
- Ian: I get lots of questions about who to contact about the plan: customer service issues.
- Chris:
 - Questions of customer service are absolutely relevant.
 - This is about administration: the front-facing part of the plan: the office, promotions, customer service, data collection. The front end.
 - Different from the insurance itself and the benefits (handled by TRG and Pacific Blue Cross). The back end.
- Cole: Could we do the front end ourselves in-house?
- Keith: Not with our current structure.
- Cole: Instead of paying an outside company, could we create something like SASC? Hire professionals.
- Chris: We could do that. It would require expansion.

- Cole: I'd like to see what Studentcare does: what is so specialized that we couldn't do it by hiring three staff persons?
- Cristina:
 - We still haven't had a Council presentation from Studentcare.
 - It's problematic that Council hasn't heard from them.
- Chris:
 - It was scheduled, but then the RFP took place and there was a blackout period.
 - We will get something later.

Ceridian Payroll System

- Keith:
 - Training this week as we prepare to switch over to the Ceridian payroll system next week.
 - Switching over to Ceridian for HR later.
- Cole: Can we do something nice for the HR team as thanks?
- Chris: They did a very good job.

AMSES (AMS Experience Survey)

- Chris:
 - Aiming to create a survey of the students about the AMS: the building, our businesses, advocacy, etc.
 - Right now we have the AES (the Academic Experience Survey), which is mainly about campus issues.
 - There's a small section in the AES on the AMS, but it's not enough.
 - Next year we'll have the AMSES to provide us more information on how well we're doing.
 - Speaking to Insights West, the polling company who do the AES for us, about the process and costs.
 - They're very excited to work with us on this.
 - At the end of the new survey we will have something that allows students to participate in other Insights West surveys and that will earn us some credit.
 - The Nest Experience Survey will be absorbed into the new AMSES.
- Cole:
 - This year is transitional; we're doing an AMS Nest and Experience Survey.
 - Next step will be to move on to finances, departments, etc.
 - There will be different subsections on subsidiaries, club bookings, etc.
 - Everything AMS-related will go into this survey.
- Julia:
 - Insights West has been a fantastic partner on the AES for years, but perhaps an RFP is called for in this situation.
 - We have a policy on the AES; we can make it more general.

- We don't want the new survey and the AES to compete with each other.
- Chris:
 - We're going to amend the AES Policy to be a general survey policy.
 - We have to set up the timeline so the new survey doesn't conflict with the AES.
- Cole: We would do the AMSES in the first term.
- Cristina:
 - The University also does surveys, e.g., the UES, but it's only for undergraduates.
 - Is there something for grad students?
- Julia:
 - I've been calling on the University to do something for grad students.
 - They know they need to do it, but no one's taking ownership of it.
- Abdul:
 - As part of the Services Review, there may be a recommendation for continuous assessment.
 - Every year a review instead of waiting for three years.
- Cole: Maybe we need a different name instead of AMSES.

Speakeasy/Vice

- Ian:
 - We're interested in changing Speakeasy to "Peer Support."
 - Vice operations are doing great, but Vice is not so good at efficiency and outreach.
 - We're going to combine the two services.
 - We're looking at models for that.
 - On a trip to New Orleans next week to see how other organizations structure themselves.
- Chris:
 - Make sure to go to Council.
 - Have to make sure the two services continue to do their work.
 - Speakeasy does not do much outreach; it's more service.
 - Vice is more outreach, workshops.
 - How can you keep all this working?
- Ian:
 - Speakeasy is good at service, Vice at outreach.
 - Vice does offer support, but is weak at that.
 - Speakeasy is weak at reaching out through booting.
 - That's why we want to combine them.
- Cole: Perhaps you'll want to separate co-Coordiators, a Peer Support Service Coordinator and an Outreach Coordinator.
- Julia: Replicating the SASC structure.
- Cristina: Will there still be capacity to do naloxone training and other events?

- Ian:
 - Not looking to cut any activities.
 - Saving money by ending duplication of training and promotion.
 - Synergy.
- Chris: Does the training cost really decrease? You'll still have the same number of people to train.
- Ian: Costs will go down because we can train a larger group once instead of having two sessions, e.g., one training session from the Canadian Mental Health Association.
- Abdul:
 - Speakeasy is good at one-on-one support.
 - Vice is good at group support.
 - How can we continue to promote peer support with a combination?

Mugshare

- Cole:
 - Mugshare mugs were recalled by Health Canada because they explode.
 - The bamboo gets too hot, it cracks, and there are spills.
 - We've stopped giving out Mugshare mugs.
 - What are we going to do now?
- Keith: Waiting to hear from Mugshare.
- Lucia: We're giving them funds to restart: a new Sustainability Projects Fund (SPF) project.
- Cole:
 - I'd prefer not to give them more from SPF.
 - Maybe we should be buying Mugshare, or take 50% of them.
- Keith:
 - We can't own equity. We're a non-profit.
 - We could give them a loan.
- Lucia: We want to keep prices low for students.

Executive Goals

- Chris:
 - Please send in what was requested.
 - Need to finish presentation.

Minutes

- The revised minutes of November 22 and the minutes of December 6 (as corrected) were accepted (Chris, Cristina).

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of January 16, 2020

Attendance

Present: Chris Hakim (President), Julia Burnham (VP Academic & University Affairs), Cristina Ilnitchi (VP External), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Cole Evans (VP Administration), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:07 pm.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Chris, Cristina).

Minutes

- The minutes of January 10 were approved (Chris, Julia).

Wet'suwet'en and NVDA Training

- Julia:
 - We've been asked if we will make a statement in solidarity with the Wet'suwet'en Indigenous Nation near Smithers who are opposing the RCMP's illegal access to their land.
 - Because of the issues of solidarity, reconciliation, and consent, it is appropriate to make a statement.
 - In accordance with our policies, the AMS should take a stand when an Indigenous group is facing this sort of issue.
- Cristina:
 - Somewhat similar issue: Non-Violent Direct Action training for activists to know their rights.
- Lucia: When will the statement be made? How long has this situation been going on?
- Julia:
 - Will make the statement as soon as possible.
 - The situation has been going on for a year, but has escalated in the past week.

Policy 131 (sexual violence), Retaliation, and At Risk Behaviour*Retaliation Policy*

- Julia:
 - There's a new UBC policy coming on retaliation to protect whistleblowers.
 - We weren't included on the committee looking into this.
 - We've raised issues, such as that this new policy should apply to Senate policies. Also that it should apply to the at risk policy and to digital retaliation and online harassment.
 - There's also an issue of fairness in reporting and an issue concerning the rights of respondents.
 - In general the policy is okay, but there are a few things to tweak.
 - Implementation is key.

At Risk Behaviour Policy

- Julia:
 - We were also not on the committee for this one.
 - The policy could be proactive to create interim safety measures about stalking, harassment, school shootings, natural disasters, etc.
 - It's pretty broad.
 - Quite a few issues with it:
 - It refers to SVPRO as if it's interchangeable with the investigation service.
 - Campus Security is to look into complaints and send them to SVPRO without offering any choice to survivors (to go to SASC or WAVAW instead).
 - References to trauma-informed practices, but these are not defined.
 - The seven decision makers should all receive trauma-informed training.
 - McMaster and McGill include Occupational and Health & Safety Committees.
 - No one from the AMS or SASC was on this committee.
- Keith: We weren't asked to contribute?
- Chris: We asked about banning people: if banned from campus, what about the Nest?

Policy 131

- Julia:
 - We were on this committee.
 - The policy needs to be clearer.
 - Need definition of members of the UBC community.
 - Curious about the removal of alumni.
 - Jurisdiction to investigate in the Greek village: ambiguous.
 - New institutional reports would allow UBC to become the complainant against serial perpetrators: that's anti-sexual violence but not pro-survivor.

- There are red flags that need to be addressed.
- Respondent support: UBC wants to provide services.
 - Shouldn't call it support; could be called services.
 - Can't say UBC supports respondents the way they support survivors.
- SVPRO in the policy, but not SASC: this is a huge issue. It harms SASC.
- The policy should mandate training of those doing the review of the policy; this is a problem: that there's no training.
- SASC should have a seat.
- The time-elapsing provision is not trauma-informed.
- Staff and faculty have more rights to see findings than do students (because of union agreements).
- The privacy law for UBC (FIPPA) and the BC Privacy Commission are not allowing survivors to see reports.
- People hearing appeals need trauma-informed training.
- There needs to be a standing implementation committee with a seat for SASC.
- The language is too lawyered, not completely understandable. Difficult to read unless you have a legal mind.
 - UBC was offered a chance to get plain language support, but declined.
- Some good things:
 - Immunity clause if underage and bring forward a complaint about drugs.
- Need to lobby the provincial government about FIPPA.
- Chris:
 - Need to note that elected student reps were not on the committees.
 - The jurisdiction to investigate clause has not been changed; it's too vague.
 - UBC should be advocating for exemptions from the BC privacy laws.
- Cristina: How will you go through all this information tomorrow at the Town Hall?
- Julia:
 - Broke down Policy 131 into six sections (principles and commitments, definitions, jurisdiction to investigate, etc.).
 - We'll do a primer at the beginning, then people will go into whatever section they want to.
 - The goal is to have people bring lived experience to the topic they choose.
- Cristina:
 - Have spoken to staff at the Ministry of Advanced Education; will be continuing these conversations with Attorney General David Eby.
 - They're interested in our review process.
 - We should collaborate.
- Chris:
 - Still including third party initial reports, so UBC can pursue an investigation without the consent of the survivor.
 - Send comments to Julia.
 - Get opinions by January 22 for final draft on January 31.

Clubs Platform

- Chris:
 - Campus Vibe agreement has ended.
 - They're closing down.
 - Clubhouse is going down.
 - We're doing consultation to replace it
 - Would like a presentation from Cole at a future meeting to discuss what we want, costs, etc.
- Lucia: Need to target the root problem of organizing clubs.

Equity Plan

- Cristina:
 - All departments have submitted audits.
 - We're collating.
 - Going to meet individually with the departments.
 - Re-editing the RFP.
 - Will update Council.
- Julia: Timeline?
- Cristina: Still what told Council: by the end of the month the RFP will be drafted and go out.

Budgeting

- Chris:
 - Keith is working on that.
 - Executives should as well.
 - Let's set February 17 as first draft of the budget.
 - Zero-based budgeting.
- Keith: Templates will be available next week.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of January 24, 2020

Attendance

Present: Chris Hakim (President), Cole Evans (VP Administration), Cristina Ilnitshi (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Julia Burnham (VP Academic & University Affairs), Lucia Liang (VP Finance)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:33 pm.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Chris, Cristina).

Minutes

- The minutes of January 16 were approved with corrections (Chris, Cole).

Subsidiary Management System

- Cole:

Background:

- The core features we need in a system:
 - Student Engagement
 - Data Analytics
 - Administration
 - Group and Membership Management.
- Need to know how many in each club, whether members are filling out waivers and registering.
- Forms and club election platform.
- Communications (club newsletter).
- Group discovery: clubs not just arranged alphabetically as they were in Clubhouse, but arranged in groups.
- Events – calendar.
- Data analytics.
- Attendance tracking.
- Ticketing system.

- Mobile functionality (can access on phone).
- Room management: we've talked a lot this year about bookings.
- Show pictures of rooms.
- Online payments: collecting club dues online, help tracking membership.
- Approval workflow: where grants are etc. (For both clubs and us to see.)
- Document upload (minutes) and storing.

Current situation:

- Looking at two groups.
 - My team has done comparisons with those two and with the defunct Clubhouse system.
 - The two new ones are comparable on most things.
 - One is much like Clubhouse: lots of lists; often things not filled in.
 - One is more extensive.
- Cristina: Can clubs use Simply Voting now for elections?
 - Cole: No, they use google.docs or paper ballots.
 - Chris: Or they vote in person.
 - Cole:
 - Ticketing.
 - Waivers.
 - Workflow.
 - Not cheap: perhaps twice as much as for Clubhouse.
 - May be able to negotiate.
 - Next steps:
 - Club consultation this month.
 - Finance Committee in February.
 - Then to Council, late February or March.
 - Chris:
 - A little rushed.
 - A lot of things we want to do.
 - Should talk to Events if we want to use the ticketing feature.
 - Should talk to Conferences & Catering about room bookings.
 - Would love more details.
 - The training aspect is an issue.
 - Last year my team had to spend 50% of its time explaining things.
 - Cole:
 - That's why we're trying to do this quickly.
 - If we do it now, it's club renewal and orientations time.
 - Or we wait a year and a half till next year's club renewal.
 - Rather go ahead sooner; don't know how we'll get through the year with just Qualtrics: messy downloading data.

- Chris:
 - The end of March is critical.
 - September is not the worst time to do this.
 - Last time in a similar timeline we had to do multiple trainings; it was rushed.
 - Let's not repeat that; let's use more time to get things right.
- Cole: Do we even want to go with a platform?

Capital Projects

- Cole:
 - Services Wall:
 - Removing the ceiling option for it.
 - Will just be the light features.
 - To Fincom and Council.
 - Lounge:
 - Lot of interest in it.
 - To Fincom and Council.
 - Sustainability Centre on hold: more consultation.
 - Red chairs:
 - Going to replace those with wooden tables and stools.
 - Soundproofing in Blank Vinyl Project's room (complaints from neighbours about the jam sessions).
- Chris: They said they were soundproofed.
- Cole: Maybe the walls, but not the ceiling.
- Keith: Another capital project: Air-conditioning.
- Ian: Various rooms are used for music; maybe more soundproofing will be needed.

Wet'suwet'en Statement

- Cristina:
 - Prepared.
 - Sent to Execs, Communications, Indigenous Committee, the Social Justice Centre.
 - Going to put it up asap.

Dayforce

- Keith:
 - Phase One complete: everyone got paid.
 - HR modules to be done by the end of February.

Lobby Trip

- Cristina:
 - Leave next Friday for lobby trip.

- 30 meetings planned.
- Way more than last trip at this point (usually we arrange more meetings once we're there).
- Will be speaking to all parties.
- Spoke to Indigenous Committee on how to collaborate: they're going to send someone with us; they're enthusiastic.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 pm.



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of March 6, 2020

Attendance

Present: Chris Hakim (President), Julia Burnham (VP Academic & University Affairs), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Cristina Initchi (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Cole Evans (VP Administration), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm in Nest Room 3511.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Chris, Cristina).

Minutes

- The minutes of January 31 were approved (Chris, Julia).

Ovens

- Keith:
 - All three ovens in the commissary are broken.
 - Would like to replace two and use the parts from those two to fix the third.
 - Not going to buy the same models as we had; we can buy two for \$40,000 (half the price of what we paid before).
 - The intention with the original ones was that they interact with the blast chiller, but the amount of chilled water wasn't enough; now they're breaking down, and there's no point in getting that type of oven because we don't have enough chilled water.
 - Because the cost is more than 5% of the amount in the SUB Repairs and Replacement Fund, this has to go to two committees and then Council.
 - Would like to change the Code rules on this; have asked the Governance Committee.
- Chris:
 - When we had to replace the espresso machines, we talked about a process to cover expected costs through regular budgeting.
 - Should we consider budgeting for this?

- Keith:
 - We were planning to budget for the ovens, but they broke down earlier than expected.
- The Executive agreed to send the expenditure to Council.

Climate Strike

- Cristina:
 - April 3 climate strike.
 - UBC C350 has approached us for support and to help promote awareness.
 - This means coordinating with HR so that if anyone wants to take time off, that can be arranged with their supervisor.
 - We would also be taking a number of demands from UBC C350 to Council and explaining why it's important to support the strike.
 - My office and Julia's will be working with UBC C350 on advocacy support.
 - We're waiting for tangible asks and will compare those with what the government is already doing.
- Chris: When are we expecting communications?
- Cristina:
 - We're waiting for the formal submission from UBC C350 later today.
 - HR has already sent the memo from the last climate strike.

Recreation Building Agreements

- Chris:
 - I've emailed the agreements.
 - It's part of the Rec Building project from the 2017 referendum.
 - These agreements finalize financing and management.
 - They need to be approved for the project to go forward.
- Julia:
 - How much is the total cost?
- Chris:
 - \$64 million; we're paying \$22.5 million and are the largest stakeholder.
 - The management committee will have a 4-3 UBC/AMS split, the standard division on UBC committees.
 - We had naming rights, but have given them away so they can be used as part of fundraising: to name the building after a donor.
 - Next steps: needs to go to Council for approval.
 - UBC will go to the Board of Governors for Board 1 approval.
 - Lots of interest from the Board.
 - Very exciting.
- The Executive agreed to send the agreements to Council.

Transition

- Cristina: What can be improved about onboarding the new Executive?
- Julia:
 - I am bursting with ideas.
 - One issue is that none of the incoming Executives is paid for the transition period, unlike the incoming Student Services Manager, who starts on April 1 and has a month of overlap.
- Lucia: It's not appropriate that our first day in office is the first day for our staff.
- Chris:
 - HR is looking at that.
 - Services have a grace period of two weeks for the Service Coordinators.
 - Trying to see if we can do something similar with student government portfolios.
 - Would there be interest from your staff in staying two weeks into May?
- Cristina:
 - Other student unions have a month of transition.
 - They do overlap.
 - During transition there's more opportunity for past Execs to be hands-on.
 - It would be great to see the current Executive get more involved.
 - At Western there's an alumni person who keeps connected and brings people back in for transition so that all the Executives can learn from previous folks.
 - It's also important for the Executives to know each other's portfolios.
- Chris:
 - For the Executives there's no additional cost: they already get a transition.
 - It's laid out in Code.
 - Also going to get UBC to take part in orientations: making sure there are meetings with senior UBC administrators.
- Cristina:
 - How do we financially support *incoming* Executives when transitioning?
 - There's no standard time, no compensation.
 - The new person is dedicating hours.
 - Maybe we should have a transitional honorarium for the incoming.
- Chris:
 - Will talk to HR.
- Julia: And they're transitioning their staff.

Policy I-9 (Executive Goals)

- Chris:
 - Under Policy I-9 we're supposed to assign staff for the new Executive (to assist with goal-setting).
- It was agreed to designate Keith (the Managing Director) for the President and the VP Finance.

- It was agreed to designate Abdul (Senior Manager of Student Services) for the other VP's.
- Chris:
 - Outgoing goal updates will be due in April.
 - Make sure you have KPI's with percentages or numbers.

Coronavirus

- Julia:
 - Meeting with the Deans. Strategizing for if something were to happen.
 - Three scenarios:
 - Significant absences by students
 - Significant absences by faculty
 - UBC shutdown
 - We have the experience of H1N1 from before.
 - The idea is to support students.
 - Preparatory work.
 - They're going to do the best they can.
 - Looking at what UNBC did during their three-week strike: they cancelled final exams and just provided an extra three weeks of teaching.
 - Wanted to reassure everyone that emergency preparations are in the works so that students can complete the semester.
- Keith:
 - We're putting things in place here in the AMS: telecommuting.
 - Looking at Block Party: does not mean we're cancelling it. There would be 6,000 people attending.
- Julia: Going to reach out to Pam Ratner, the Vice-Provost.

Health and Dental

- Lucia:
 - Writing a report to send Council about the Health and Dental Committee: what was discussed, a breakdown, timeline.
 - None of the documents will be sent, but it would be good for Council to know.
- Chris:
 - Instead of rushing out a report now, we can send something on Monday after TRG comes.
- Cristina:
 - Has TRG spoken about confidentiality?
 - About what we can say or disclose?
- Keith: Nothing about the result.
- Chris: Pricing?
- Keith: That can be done in camera. Nothing out of camera.

- Lucia:
 - We can't guarantee confidentiality if we send all the documents.
 - That's why I should write the report.
- Chris:
 - We could look into sending the documents out confidentially.
 - If we're going to have a talk, it wouldn't be the worst thing to have a presentation to Council.
- Cristina: It wouldn't be appropriate to have a discussion with folks who don't know the details.
- Chris:
 - That's why I want to send presentation materials from TRG.
 - That would be better than rushing a report this afternoon.
- Keith: That doesn't address the companies' proposals.
- Chris: I'm fine with sending out the proposals.
- Keith:
 - Don't think you can send them and preserve confidentiality.
 - Better to have Councillors come in and read them.
 - If sent out, they will go public.
- Abdul:
 - Maybe use password protection.
 - You do risk spread, but providing documents ahead of time is good.
- Lucia: If we do decide to send, it should be today.
- Chris: I'm fine with that.

Special Election

- Chris:
 - Some elections staff will stay on for an extra two weeks to run the special election for VP Academic & University Affairs.
 - Communication is going out next week.
 - Nominations will be open March 9-13.
 - Campaigning will run March 16-27.
 - Voting will be March 23-27.
 - Council will be asked to suspend Code to reduce office hours for the elections staff and to have one debate instead of two.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of March 20, 2020

Attendance

Present: Chris Hakim (President), Julia Burnham (VP Academic & University Affairs), Cristina Ilnitshi (VP External), Cole Evans (VP Administration), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Lucia Liang (VP Finance)

Guest: Reed Garvin (AVP Finance)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:06 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Chris, Cole).

Minutes

- The minutes of March 6 were approved (Chris, Cristina).

Speakeasy and Vice

- Ian:
 - Looking to combine Speakeasy and Vice into one Service as AMS Peer Support.
 - This restructuring will result in something similar to SASC: one Service with two branches:
 - One focused on outreach and education
 - One on peer support.
 - There will be one Service Coordinator and two Assistant Coordinators (one for each branch).
 - Mental health on campus is changing very quickly; we need to keep up.
 - Speakeasy dates back to 1970; Vice is relatively new.
 - Speakeasy is weak on outreach, but good on peer support.
 - Vice is not established as peer support, but is good at holding events.
 - We will save costs by combining.
 - KPI's: Speakeasy has a low number of interactions, but they're of high quality; still, the cost per interaction is a concern.

- We're not going to take away anything that's offered.
 - We're hoping the Coordinator will have more interaction with community partners on campus.
- Chris:
 - Love the structural change.
 - How are we evaluating the KPI's?
- Ian:
 - We've done cost per interaction forever: it's just our budget divided by the number of interactions.
 - As to tracking quality, there's great data in the Academic Experience Survey (AES) answering the question, Is Speakeasy valuable?
 - We'll continue to work with the VPAUA on data from the AES.
 - We're also collecting feedback.
- Chris:
 - Immediate feedback is good.
 - Maybe for consistency (to measure KPI's at the end of the year) you could have a one-question prompt at the end of any interaction.
- Cristina:
 - Excited about this.
 - Is there thought about comparisons with other services on campus?
 - And working with other groups on campus, like the students in recovery group?
- Ian:
 - Two organizations on campus:
 - UBC Wellness Centre
 - The Student Recovery Committee: they focus more on recovery.
 - It's an ongoing conversation.
 - We work with them, but differentiate.
- Cristina: Referrals?
- Ian: Yes.
- Sheldon: Do you want a Code change at the upcoming Council meeting?
- Abdul:
 - Not at this meeting.
 - This will be a consultation or presentation.

Endowment Referendum

- Keith:
 - We've realized that we have assistance funds for bursaries, but not for imminent hardship.
 - If we could access our investments for that, would we need to get approval first in a referendum?
- Cristina: UBC often does emergency funding: is there anything at UBC?

- Julia: I'll talk about this more later in the meeting when we discuss COVID.
- Abdul:
 - A fund for unforeseen expenses.
 - We can mimic what others have done.
- Sheldon:
 - We can create new funds without going to referendum as long as we're not introducing a new fee.
- Chris:
 - But we want to change the terms of the Endowment Fund in the Bylaws.
 - That would require a referendum.
- Reed:
 - We also need to look at our subsidies for fees.
 - It's a mess.
- Chris:
 - Absolutely.
 - Keith and I will take a look at this: it's a long-term project.

CampusGroups Agreement

- Cole:
 - The agreement with CampusGroups has been drafted and is coming to Council.
 - (This is to create the replacement for Clubhouse for our clubs.)
 - One issue is to do with privacy, concerning storing data outside the country.
- Sheldon: The law on not storing data outside the country does not apply to private organizations like the AMS. It's only for public bodies like UBC.
- Cristina: We need to move forward on this.

Advocacy

- Cristina:
 - The federal government has announced a support package.
 - There will be a pause on student loan payments for six months, which is great.
 - It's something we pushed for with UCRU (Undergraduates at Canadian Research-Intensive Universities) and OUSA (Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance).
 - The federal government is also promising 10% wage support for small businesses and organizations.
 - They are also creating emergency packages, including one for those not eligible for EI.
 - Conversation with Melanie Mark, BC's Advanced Education Minister, about a pause on provincial student loan interest:
 - Going to send a letter.
 - In touch with other student unions.

- Also want support for renters and for students whose work hours have been reduced (or who have been laid off).
- The province hasn't come out with a response to the federal package yet.
- They're supposed to produce something next week, as early as Monday for student loans.
- We'd like them to improve on the federal stimulus, providing more local relief.
- Keith:
 - Alberta is giving \$1,146 to people in advance of EI.
 - Can BC do something similar?
- Cristina:
 - That's something we're discussing.
 - Something while federal money is processing.

COVID-19 and UBC

- Julia:
 - Disappointed with the level of consultation.
 - I was only able to get involved because I sit on the Associate Deans Working Group.
 - Yesterday we found out that research was being suspended.
 - A surprise.
 - We've not been involved.
 - Of course, health and safety is above any of us, but academic concession and accommodation is all about students, and there's been no involvement of students in discussions about it.
 - Good work is being done on accessibility, disability, etc.
 - Things are being handled by the Deans: not a one size fits all approach.
 - Student Senators are writing a letter to the Senate and the Deans, putting forward some demands about how students should be treated re course work, Credit/D/Fail, extending the deadline for withdrawals, transcript notation, etc.
 - The letter will be done by Monday.
 - We're trying to get our foot in the door.
- Chris:
 - If the University is not going to reach out, we need to be proactive.
 - We should communicate directly with the Provost's office, more so than with the Deans.
- Julia:
 - The Deans are the ones responsible.
 - Not all the Faculties are the same.
 - Don't want to change all courses to Pass/Fail; want to provide choice to students.

- Chris:
 - We need to communicate with the Provost so they can communicate with the Deans.
 - Need to communicate this to Simon (Associate Provost) as something urgent.
 - It's good to get our thoughts out there now and not wait for the Student Senators.
- Cristina: Emergency fund conversation?
- Julia:
 - These are only available if students reach out to Faculties or Professors.
 - That's problematic.
 - I'm trying to get them to do more formal communication, but am not too optimistic.
- Cristina: Can we speak to Enrolment Services or can we tell students where to apply?
- Julia: We could. Can think on that.
- Cristina:
 - Residences are staying open, but recently everyone got next year's residence assignments.
 - Are they still going to be honoured?
 - For Spring/Summer or year-round?

Inter-Fraternity Council Contract

- Cole:
 - Please leave your comments.
 - It's going to OpsCom.
- Cristina:
 - I see the VP External is listed as the primary contact.
 - The Bylaws do say that the VP External does liaison with other external student organizations, but perhaps someone else more appropriate could be named.

Council Plans

- Cole:
 - What is the plan? Conferencing? How will voting work?
 - Are we still meeting both March 25 and April 1?
- Chris:
 - Conferencing in.
 - Voting manually.
 - Kind of rough.
 - April 1 may not be a good idea.
 - Looking into some new Board software that might help.
 - Would cost a bit over \$10,000.
 - It would hopefully enhance our Board management.

Report from Finance

- Reed:
 - We're cancelling all Showpass events until April 9 and all club events till the Nest reopens.
 - We're doing e-transfers for reimbursements.
 - Processing about 100 emails a day.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 pm.



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of March 27, 2020

Attendance

Present: Chris Hakim (President), Julia Burnham (VP Academic & University Affairs), Cristina Ilnitshi (VP External), Cole Evans (VP Administration), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Chris, Cristina).

Minutes

- The minutes of March 20 were approved (Chris, Cole).

Budget

- Lucia:
 - Cole and I are looking into enrollment numbers and how UBC is handling that.
 - We're looking at what UBC is doing for their budget.
 - We've been told there may be enrollment reductions of 10% or 20%.
 - UBC is preparing various versions of its budget, and looking into what happens if enrolment drops 40%: will there be no summer session?
 - They are talking about approving a budget now that will only include the absolute necessities, but then a revision after the first quarter.
 - All additional asks would be on hold.
 - It was suggested that the AMS do this as well.
 - We need to decide our top priorities.
 - When we asked when we might learn the enrollment number, we could get no concrete answer.
 - The number might even go up for domestic students because in a recession that can happen.
 - But international enrollment is the big unknown.
 - Our businesses will be hit.
 - Working with Keith on various scenarios and models.
 - Doing several budgets.

- Cole:
 - The University is just as unsure over what to do as we are.
 - But they have a lot more manpower to do budget modelling.
 - As Lucia said, we'll model various scenarios.
 - There was positive news from the health ministry today about a good trajectory.
 - If we can get back to normal for May, that would be good.
 - But Conferences & Catering will probably lose a significant amount of money.
 - We should look at making cuts: determine what we really need, prioritize, in case we're low on cash.
- Keith:
 - We need revisions in a week.
 - On the business side, even before COVID, wage increases were coming.
 - Now we can maybe break even.
- Chris:
 - Can we do multiple versions of our budget?
 - It will take a lot of staffing.
- Lucia:
 - Yes, that's what I meant when I talked of doing several budgets.
 - Need to focus on the business numbers.
 - Fees will be impacted by enrollment, but our business operations will be seriously affected: all businesses will be reducing profit.
 - Some will open in the summer; a few will close.
 - This will reduce income by 10 or 20%.
 - If we're breaking even or in deficit, we can cut.
 - Keith asked about pushing back the April approval of the preliminary budget.
 - We can probably get something in, but by June we may not have final numbers (for the final budget). May not get them till July or August.
 - We have limited access to our accounting software at the moment, which is slowing us down.
- Chris:
 - Timeline? Late April?
- Lucia:
 - Yes, aiming for April 22.
 - Do want something to present to Council.
 - But there will be lots of changes for the final budget if there are huge variances with our revenue sources.
- Cristina:
 - Tough decisions with departments, deciding where to cut.
 - Block Party and Welcome Back events: not knowing if we can have a gathering in September.
- Lucia:
 - More considering cutting across the board.

- Events are being factored in.
- Services are the Number 1 priority.
- It's all being looked at.
- Welcome Back will probably happen, but be cut back.
- Can't see this department as not important.
- Cristina:
 - What about the new Executive?
 - Are we going to collaborate with them?
 - Of course, all departments are important but some are essential, e.g., Services.
- Lucia:
 - Working with the current Executive to pass on knowledge to the new team.
- Cole:
 - Do operational first.
 - Maximize efficiency.
 - We'll present and then edit.
- Keith:
 - If going to reduce or cancel Welcome Back Barbecue, we have to decide fairly soon.
 - Part of the loss on Block Party is being transferred to Welcome Back.
- Cole:
 - Do you need to know in a month? A couple of months?
- Keith:
 - We need to know in the next couple of weeks.

MoU on \$21 Athletics & Recreation Fee

- Chris:
 - Finalized with Athletics & Recreation.
 - This is the copy.
 - Lays out the 40% discount to clubs.
 - The terms for the \$21:
 - Commitment to lower membership fees
 - Equitable funding
 - We're part of their budget process.
- Keith: Does the 40% apply to AMS Events as well?
- Chris:
 - Yes, it's for the whole AMS.
 - Want to bring this to Council April 8.
- Cristina:
 - When the contract for the new recreational space came to Council, Council had some questions about representation and accountability.

- Chris:
 - Representation was around the management committee: that's separate.
 - Membership fees: UBC has requirements on their end.
 - The fees are approved by their Managing Director of Athletics & Recreation.
 - We do have a commitment from them to bring fee changes to us.
 - There's also an understanding with Athletics & Recreation:
 - Neither of us want to increase fees.
 - Both of us want people to access the services.
 - They'd look to reduce costs or make cuts first before increasing fees.
 - If they must increase fees, they've made a commitment to include the AMS in the process.

MOVED CHRIS, SECONDED COLE:

"That the Executive Committee recommend to Council that it approve the MoU on the \$21 fee."

... Carried

Board Software

- Chris:
 - This will definitely help us with committees and at the Board level as well.
 - The budget costs will come from the student government side.
 - It's only for one year, so we could pull the plug if not satisfied.
 - They want to spend April with us on implementation so it can be used in May.
- Cole:
 - This situation shows we've not been digitized properly.
 - Can we approve this in the current fiscal year?
- Chris: It will just be a budgetary expenditure.
- Cole: So we'll need a budget amendment on April 8.
- Keith: Or it could come from the Capital Projects Fund, which covers software.
- Chris: Let's do a budget amendment.
- Cristina: Have we looked at other platforms?
- Chris:
 - Did benchmarking and price shopping.
 - Functionally similar to other products, but a price difference because this company is willing to give us a better price as a non-profit in the postsecondary education sector.
- Sheldon: Has to go to Fincom if it's a budget amendment.

Government and COVID-19

- Cristina:
 - Working with Communications to get a COVID page up on our website to describe resources.
 - It will include a feedback form for students to describe their experiences getting support.
 - In conversation with the federal government about international students, especially their work permits; also about long-term investment in Canada Student Jobs.
 - Talking to the provincial government about the renter supplement of \$500: can they accept other things besides EI as part of the approval process to get it, so students can take advantage of it.
 - Note that student housing is not covered by the rent freeze or the eviction ban: having conversations about that.
 - The government wants to see leadership from the University.
 - Consulting the Advocacy Committee.
- Chris:
 - Julia and I spoke to the VP Students about various areas of student support.
 - You can use that as part of advocacy to government.
- Cristina:
 - Fantastic.
 - There are a lot of asks from SFU about international students; also with UCRU.
 - Long-term economic stimulus package: thinking of unemployed students post-COVID.
 - Thinking of encouraging government to invest in small and medium-sized businesses that might hire new grads:
 - We're told the government is having conversations.
 - We want to get in as soon as possible.
 - Working with Capilano and UVic on the renters piece.
- Chris:
 - Can we prepare a statement for Communications to tell students to follow social distancing?
 - That's been an issue.
- Cristina: Already spoken to Cole.

Governance Changes

- Chris:
 - Folks have been asking us to look at governance to improve efficiency and also not to have to wait two weeks (for a Council meeting).
 - A lot of organizations are making governance changes.
 - I'm having my team draft a report.

- Sheldon is drafting Code changes and suspensions.
- This is to allow email votes by Council and accepting consent items from committees.
- Have informed committee chairs: want to move oversight to them.
- It will make our lives a little easier.
- Cristina: Sounds really good: make things more efficient.

Services

- Ian:
 - Food Bank is very consistently seeing a higher than usual number of students now.
 - It's a really tough time.
 - We're doing our best to keep it stocked.
 - We're maintaining social distancing and sanitizing.
 - Organizations have reached out to us with deliveries and donations.
 - We're continuing to operate.
 - Will keep you up to date.
- Abdul:
 - Santa Ono and John Metras (UBC AVP Facilities) have really been helping out with cutting red tape to let Food Bank stay open in the Life Building.
 - Our expenditures are \$18,000, but we have room in our budget: can spend up to \$35,000.
 - Ian and I have been out shopping, at Costco etc.
 - We're in a good place with Food Bank.
- Cristina: Really appreciate all the work.
- Ian:
 - Safewalk is not operating.
 - Information for the Services is on the website.
 - Only change is that Nimbus, the Tutoring app, will be ready Monday to offer online tutoring.
 - Drafting a presentation.
- Abdul:
 - Ian and I are looking at budgets.
 - Looking at our Advocate's Office: will we see more or less appeals now?
 - Angus (the Coordinator) has a good team of volunteers.
- Chris: Thanks for all the work.

Election

- Cole:
 - Will there be election results tonight (for the special election for VP Academic & University Affairs)?

- Chris:
 - Great question. Let me follow up.

Donation

- Abdul:
 - Vice has received a donation which has raised various issues.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:54 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of April 3, 2020

Attendance

Present: Chris Hakim (President), Julia Burnham (VP Academic & University Affairs), Cristina Ilnitchi (VP External), Cole Evans (VP Administration), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:09 pm and took place by teleconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Chris, Cristina).

Minutes

- The minutes of March 27 were approved (Chris, Lucia).

Policies Review

- Chris:
 - Sent out the reviews of the policies that the Executive was assigned by the Steering Committee.
 - Looking for approval here.
- Cristina:
 - Repealing outdated policies. Seems practical.
 - The policy most relevant to me is the one on joining and leaving external organizations, which is being replaced by some Code provisions.
 - It makes a lot more sense in the Code.
 - What's in the Code is more known than the policies, so this adds an important layer of accountability.

MOVED CHRIS, SECONDED CRISTINA:

“That the policy changes be approved and sent to Council.”

... Carried

Governance Changes related to COVID-19

- Chris:
 - Sent out last night.
 - Council asked that we ensure we can be flexible during COVID.
 - Other institutions are making similar changes to ensure effective decision-making.
 - The measures include:
 - Email voting by Council
 - Email approvals made simpler at committees
 - Reports to Council to be written, not oral
 - Written updates to committee chairs
 - Offline decisions to be noted in minutes.
- Cristina:
 - Overall great.
 - Maybe better if the committees can follow the model of Executive updates: try to pull together what they decided in committee and put it into one document.
 - That can just be something done in practice.
- Chris:
 - Absolutely.

MOVED CHRIS, SECONDED LUCIA:

“That the changes be sent to Council.”

... Carried

CiTR appointments

- Chris:
 - Been talking to the CiTR board.
 - They’re trying to ensure continuity during COVID-19 and have asked if we can do early reappointment of the AMS representatives on their board.
 - Lucia will automatically continue to sit as the VP Finance.
 - The suggestion is that we reappoint Max and myself.
 - I will still qualify because one of the positions is open to students at large.
 - Max’s appointment would be for another two-year term. Mine would be for one year.
- The Executive agreed to send this to Council.

COVID-19 and Government

- Cristina:
 - Federal government

- Been doing advocacy to the federal government, with UCRU (Undergraduates at Canadian Research-intensive Universities) and OUSA (the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance), about the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit for those ineligible for EI.
- About students and recent graduates falling through the cracks.
- Been talking to CASA, the CFS, and other student unions to try to coalesce around a recommendation or assertion that this is an issue: we all seem on the same page.
- There have been grassroots petitions.
- Meanwhile we're continuing to talk to MP's and their staffers and have written a letter to ask for better support for students.
- We received a response from the federal government this morning, saying something is in the works, which is good to know.
- We are prepared for further discussions.

Provincial government:

- The BC government has announced supports for domestic students and Indigenous students.
- This will be delivered to institutions to be delivered to students.
- It will be really valuable.
- I've emailed UBC Finance to have a conversation about allocation and distribution.
- Want to discuss potential barriers.
- Haven't heard back yet.
- Keith:
 - Announcement this morning of \$100 million for food banks.
 - Abdul and Ian are trying to get some of that.
- Abdul:
 - SASC and I were on a call about funding for organizations that deal with gender-based violence.
 - Unfortunately, there is a requirement to be a charity; we can't access if that's the case.
- Cristina:
 - I expect that charity status will be required for the funding for both food banks and gender-based violence.
 - Happy to help on this; can bring this issue up.
- Chris:
 - Are we expecting support for international students?
- Cristina:
 - When they made the announcement about domestic students, the province said it was discussing international students.
 - It's a gap.

- We need to find a way to identify financial hardship funding.
- Chris:
 - Have we looked into the 75% wage subsidy?
- Keith:
 - We have applied for it.
 - Don't know when we will hear back: maybe end of the month.

U-Pass

- Cristina:
 - A lot of students have been emailing me and their Faculty reps.
 - Students are continuing to pay for U-Pass even though buses are now free (though there are still fares for SkyTrain and SeaBus).
 - Also, a lot of students are not using transit because of social distancing.
 - I've been in contact with TransLink and with other student unions to reach agreement on how to move forward.
 - Hoping to find a way to support students this month and beyond.

Nest Closure Update

- Keith:
 - Originally we were going to reopen April 14, but that doesn't seem realistic.
 - Thinking May, and even that could change.
- Chris:
 - We can send out May 1 as a message with caveats.
- Cristina:
 - Why don't we say until further notice?
- Chris:
 - That's a better idea.

Thank You

- Chris:
 - A big thank you to Keith, Lucia, and Cole for their work on the next fiscal year.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 pm.



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of April 17, 2020

Attendance

Present: Chris Hakim (President), Cole Evans (VP Administration), Cristina Ilnitshi (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Julia Burnham (VP Academic & University Affairs), Lucia Liang (VP Finance)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:20 pm and took place by teleconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Chris, Cole).

Minutes

- The minutes of April 9 were approved (Chris, Cristina).

Government Advocacy

- Cristina:
 - Been asking the government about including students in CERB (Canada Emergency Response Benefit).
 - The government has made adjustments, but they're still missing hundreds of thousands of students.
 - We're worried students won't be able to afford their necessities.
 - Working with UCRU.
 - Have transitioned to a public-facing approach.
 - We sent a brief to the government.
 - We hear something's in the works, but we've been hearing that for a while, so we're going to the news outlets.
 - We're hopeful to get something before May.
- Cole:
 - Talking to the University: they're pushing the federal government for support.
- Cristina:

- UBC gave feedback to the government through MP Joyce Murray.
- Hoping government gets the message.
- We checked in with UBC: they're advocating with Universities Canada.
- The weakest point is direct financial support to students.
- Others are discussing other things, but we need the financial support piece to get done now.
- Chris:
 - Next steps?
 - Other points of advocacy?
- Cristina:
 - The financial support piece is the biggest issue.
 - Also international students, rent support, options for September.

Speakeasy/Vice

- Ian:
 - I've spoken a lot about this.
 - Now we want to go forward and finally dissolve Speakeasy and Vice, to replace them with a new Service: Peer Support.
 - It's outlined in Abdul's Services Review.
 - Now we want to amend Code to bring this in.
- Abdul:
 - Trying to move quickly on this so can hire our new team.
- Chris:
 - Good job on providing information on this.
 - Looking forward to seeing what the new Service will look like.

MOVED CHRIS, SECONDED CRISTINA:

"That the Executive Committee recommend the Services Code change to Council for approval."

... Carried

UBC Financial Support for Students

- Cristina:
 - Some questions we had after BC extended bursary funding.
 - Wanted clarification about eligibility, criteria, the burden of proof on students about financial hardship; also partnership with the AMS.
 - UBC agreed to a low barrier and burden of proof, which is great.
 - Set up a call for further clarification.
 - Connected with UBC's VP Students Office about emergency funding.

- AMS recommended that the University use money from its surplus: that's going to the Board of Governors, and we haven't yet heard whether it's been approved.
- As to the AMS contribution, we'd like to streamline pathways for students, and if UBC thinks it has enough funding, we asked them to let us know.
- The immediate need is about the U-Pass being suspended from May:
 - That means some students will go from paying \$41 a month to \$100 if they're still using transit, so we're looking at bursaries.
- Chris:
 - Glad to see the various supports from the University and us for students in need.
- Keith:
 - There's the \$100,000 the AMS can reallocate for financial support for students.
- Cole:
 - Wasn't it \$280,000?
- Keith:
 - That's the money we send to UBC.
 - The \$100,000 would come out of that.

SUB Repairs Fund

- Cole:
 - Want to replace the red chairs in the Nest with long tables and standard chairs.
 - With access to power supply so students can plug in.
 - Slots for over 100 people.
 - The broken red chairs will be discarded. We may keep the others or give them to Constituencies.
 - MUSA and SUS have expressed interest.
 - Total cost: \$150,000.
 - The Operations Committee is voting on this too.
- Chris:
 - Have we received other quotes?
 - More information could be included.
- Cole:
 - We're sourcing directly: this is the price. It's the industry cost.
 - We could go with cheaper furniture, but that's the amount for these.
- Chris:
 - Could that same chair be found from another supplier?
- Cole:
 - Would have to ask Michael Kingsmill (AMS Designer), but I think you would only pay less if you went with cheaper quality.
 - It's a fair cost.

- Chris:
 - Lifespan?
- Cole:
 - All wood.
 - Longer lifespan.
- Chris:
 - We need an exact number.
- Cole:
 - Ten to 15 years for the tables.
 - I think seven to 10 for the chairs.
- Keith:
 - That sounds right.
 - We hoped the red chairs would last longer, but they just didn't.
- Chris:
 - Insurance?
- Keith:
 - Already tried that for the red chairs.
 - Didn't work.
- Cole:
 - It's tough to get warranties from suppliers.

MOVED COLE, SECONDED CHRIS:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee recommend to Council that \$153,390.56 be allocated from the SUB Repairs and Replacement Fund for the Eastside Furniture Replacement Project.”

- Cristina:
 - If I abstain, does this still pass?
- Chris:
 - If you have concerns, bring them up.
 - Maybe we should wait till the next Executive Committee meeting.
 - Maybe we can have Michael Kingsmill prepare a presentation.
 - We only got this information a few minutes ago.
 - There are questions about lifespan.
- It was agreed to delay this motion.

SASC Counselling

- Abdul:
 - We at first thought we needed a Council motion, but Sheldon doesn't think so.

- It seems SASC can just go ahead and spend this money on an emergency counselling fund.
 - We could provide Council with information.
- Cristina:
 - I'd vote in favour if we needed a vote.
 - If not, it's good to announce it.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 3:09 pm.

CODE CHANGES 2020: COMMITTEE CHAIRS

TO: Council
FROM: Executive
May 2020

Amendment to allow non-Executives to chair all standing committees except the Steering Committee.

Additions are indicated by ***bold italics***. Deletions are indicated by striking through (~~like this~~).

SECTION V: COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Article 3. Committee Chairs

1. Chairs of Standing Committees

- (a) Each of the following Standing Committees shall be chaired by a non-Executive voting member of Council appointed by Council:
 - (i) the Human Resources Committee;
 - (ii) the Governance Committee.

- (b) Each of the following Standing Committees shall be chaired by a voting member of Council (Executive or non-Executive) appointed by Council:
 - (i) the Advocacy Committee;
 - (ii) the Student Life Committee-;
 - (iii) ***the Operations Committee;***
 - (iv) ***the Finance Committee.***

- ~~(c) — Each of the following Standing Committees shall be chaired by the Executive member designated below, unless Council decides by a Two-thirds (2/3) Resolution to name another voting member of Council to be Chair:~~
 - ~~(i) — the Steering Committee: the President;~~
 - ~~(ii) — the Operations Committee: the Vice President Administration.~~
 - ~~(iii) — the Finance Committee: the Vice President Finance.~~

- (c) *The Steering Committee shall be chaired by the President, unless Council decides by a Two-Thirds (2/3) Resolution to name another voting member of Council to be Chair.***



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of May 6, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External, arrived 12:15), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:08 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Georgia, Lucia).

Minutes

- The minutes of April 24 were approved (Lucia, Sylvester).

Transitions

- Cole:
 - Go through the Orientations presentations.
- Georgia:
 - Looking for transition reports from previous staff.
- Sheldon:
 - If you can't find them, we can look in the Archives.
- Lucia:
 - Next hiring cycle?
- Cole:
 - Going to wait to hear BC reopening guidelines.
 - If BC approves reopening in the next couple of weeks, then we'll go ahead.
 - If things are still slow, then we'll do a small round of hiring: Clubs Administrator, Funds and Grants.
- Lucia:
 - To get applicants, we'll need help from Communications.
- Cole:
 - Ideally, we'll know before the next newsletter.

- We did receive lots of applications in April.
- I'm not too worried about that.

[Kalith arrived.]

- Kalith:
 - Need to hire a SUDS Coordinator soon.

SASC Office

- Cole:
 - Been working with Abdul, Annette (SASC Manager), and Michael Kingsmill (AMS Designer) on an expansion.
 - Working with Studentcare: there will be a swap of space between Studentcare and SASC.
 - Looking to give SASC a bigger space.
 - Will go to Council with a preliminary budget and design for consultation.
 - Really excited about this project.

CampusGroups Name

- Sylvester:
 - CampusGroups is providing the replacement for Clubhouse, the clubs management system.
 - Hoping to begin onboarding clubs by the end of June.
 - Need to get a name.
 - Two suggestions: Birdhouse and Campus Base.
 - Did a survey, which came back with divided results.
 - Campus Base seems more professional.
- Kalith:
 - I like Birdhouse.
 - Fits in with Thunderbirds, and it will be part of the Nest.
- Georgia:
 - From Clubhouse to Birdhouse.
- Kalith:
 - How were the two options chosen?
- Cole:
 - We just brainstormed.
 - It's tough to come up with something that's unique but fits the service, and hasn't been used before.
 - Things like Connect and Sync have been used in recent history.
 - These were the two we liked most.

- Abdul:
 - Could we even just keep Clubhouse for consistency?
- Cole:
 - Don't really want to. Has a bad connotation.
 - Birdhouse is a continuation but with a different spin.
 - Campus Base is more professional.
 - If we're divided, maybe we need to go back to the drawing board.
 - Georgia and Kalith seem supportive of Birdhouse because of the relevance to our campus.
- Lucia:
 - It would be *AMS* Birdhouse?
- Cole:
 - Yes, we'd put that in.
- Lucia:
 - Clubhouse seemed so distant from the AMS.
 - Its animation seemed different.
- Cole:
 - Let's refer this back to Sylvester and his team, with the understanding that people like the uniqueness of "Birdhouse."

Nest Reopening

- Cole:
 - Senior managers have been discussing this.
- Keith:
 - We're looking at May 19, after the long weekend.
 - Partial reopening:
 - For the outlets, only Blue Chip, with Honour Roll and the Gallery the following Monday.
 - For the offices, anyone who can work from home should stay home.
 - We're installing sneeze guards.
 - Going to issue masks and gloves to staff coming in, and there will be hand sanitizers.
 - More detailed plans are being worked on.
- Cole:
 - Seating signage to keep people from sitting down.
- Keith:
 - Yes that is part of the plan.
 - Seating in the food outlets will be closed.
 - We're taping off every second chair in the rest of the building.
- Cole:
 - No issue with taping off chairs to prevent hanging out.

- Keith:
 - Need to send a memo to clubs to say no large occupancy.
- Cole:
 - Still need to conduct the club move-ins and move-outs.
- Lucia:
 - How often clean?
- Keith:
 - Looking at this.
 - Three times a day.
 - Sanitize in between bookings.
 - Sanitize outlets once an hour.
- Lucia:
 - Should we tape off the second floor altogether?
 - So the cleaning staff won't have to clean there.
- Keith:
 - All rooms will be locked.
 - Resource Groups are on the second floor, though.
- Cole:
 - Even now, with the building closed, custodial is still cleaning.
 - The idea of taping off chairs is to let people walk around, just not let them sit and stay.
 - Have to see what the BC government says.
 - UBC Food Services is slowly reopening.
- Lucia:
 - What else is open on campus?
- Cole:
 - Tim Horton's and the Point Grill are available for take-out.
 - UBC is slowly starting to get things going again, but they are also waiting to see what the BC government says.
- Keith:
 - We're looking to establish take-out and delivery service for the outlets.
 - Door Dash.

COVID-19 Support

- Cole:
 - Finalized contribution for now from the last fiscal year:
 - \$165,000 to the University
 - Also \$35,000 in special bursary funds.
 - Total of \$200,000.
 - Working with UBC to ensure it's distributed to students and to address gaps and needs.

- Kalith:
 - Putting a guide out to tell students how to apply for financial support.
 - Trying to get the government to put more funds into institutions like UBC for international students.
- Keith:
 - Pacific Blue Cross is going to give us a refund of \$500,000 for insurance premiums paid for dental care, which we will refund to the students.
- Cole:
 - Block Party cancellation: we're getting most of our money back.
 - Is that only if we use the money for a future event?
- Keith:
 - The money is still with us.
 - The expectation is that we will use it for buying talent for Welcome Back or next year's Block Party, but we don't have to.

Discipline Motion

- Cole:
 - Coming out of the potential action of discipline at the last Council meeting, and having been on Council for two censure motions, the thought process is that there is confusion about disciplining the Executive (or other Councillors).
 - There's only minimal procedures and no guidance about when to discipline, what degree of discipline to use, etc.
 - This will go to the Governance Committee so that they can create guidelines so everyone is on the same page about consequences, when to discipline, and so on.
- Lucia:
 - The discipline would be just for Executives?
- Cole:
 - For all Councillors.

MOVED COLE, SECONDED LUCIA:

"That the Executive Committee recommend to Council that it direct the Governance Committee to investigate new guidelines or procedures regarding disciplinary action at AMS Council and report back to Council with a report and/or relevant Code changes by the last Council meeting of August."

... Carried

Committee Chairs

- Cole:
 - A Code change to remove the VP Administration and the VP Finance as automatic chairs of the Operations Committee and the Finance Committee.

- They'll still be eligible to serve, but it won't be required.
- This will make for better involvement from Councillors.
- It will also alleviate the unpaid extra labour for Executives:
 - the preparing of agendas, minutes, reports.
- Only the Steering Committee will be automatically chaired by an Executive (the President).

MOVED COLE, SECONDED SYLVESTER:

"That the Executive Committee recommend that Council adopt the Code amendment on committee chairs."

- Sylvester:
 - This will put more responsibility on Councillors.
 - It may reduce the misconception among Councillors that they're just there to point out our wrongs.
 - It will make for a more engaged Council.
- Georgia:
 - Definitely in support.
 - Taking on new leadership roles is important: letting Councillors know they have a role.
- Lucia:
 - Absolutely agree.
 - Councillors being chairs is a stepping stone.
 - Gives them a voice.
 - Can create unity between Council and the Executive.

MOVED COLE, SECONDED SYLVESTER:

"That the Executive Committee recommend that Council adopt the Code amendment on committee chairs."

... Carried

Updates

- Lucia:
 - Year-end stuff.
 - Sorting out with clubs.
 - Reimbursements, credit card transactions.
- Georgia:
 - Looking to make two submissions to the Board of Governors:
 - On UBC Policy SC-17 (the sexual misconduct policy)

- On COVID support:
 - Housing support
 - Long-term financial aid
 - What's going to happen for the fall term academically (looking for understanding and compassion)
 - Pushing for OER accessibility for students.
- Abdul:
 - Can you bring me and Annette into any discussions on SC-17?
 - If you're planning a submission, SASC would love to comment.
- Georgia:
 - Will definitely reach out.
- Abdul:
 - We have already made some comments on the document.
- Sylvester:
 - Club renewal:
 - Most clubs have renewed; still 70 outstanding. Extended deadline to the end of this week.
 - Nest booking system: asking clubs to send information.
 - Planning to implement the new "Clubhouse" (i.e., the new CampusGroups system):
 - Waiting for UBC to send CWL logins.
 - Dani (AVP Sustainability) is completing the Sustainability Action Plan for Council.
 - The Hatch Art Gallery:
 - Conversations with the manager about increasing visibility: perhaps a virtual Hatch gallery for the permanent art collection.
- Kalith:
 - Mostly catching up/new relationships:
 - Indigenous Committee
 - UCRU (Undergraduates of Canadian Research-intensive Universities)
 - TransLink
 - Provincial and federal governments
 - Ensuring all stakeholders know the new team here.
 - Trying to find solutions to U-Pass issues.
 - Looking at the UNA situation.
 - Food security issue.
 - Students falling through the cracks of COVID support.
- Cole:
 - Carryover from VP Admin work:
 - Sustainability Action Plan
 - Transitioning Sylvester.
 - Preliminary goal setting.

- COVID-19 related stuff: providing a unique opportunity to focus on our own structure.
- Strategies, fixes – will be an exciting year.
- Ian:
 - Transitions.
 - Crucial services.
 - Food Bank had a 50% increase from last year:
 - Lots of students and also staff and community people are using it.
 - Hiring volunteers.
 - New Peer Support Service (replacing the old Vice and Speakeasy).
 - Hired two-thirds of team.
 - Working on timelines.
- Abdul:
 - Initial rejection from Food Bank BC because of our non-charitable status.
 - Want to connect to our MLA, David Eby, to consider non-profits in addition to charities. (Will connect with Kalith on this.)
- Keith:
 - Reopening plan.
 - Business plan for COVID.
 - Completed Orientation presentations.
 - Looking forward to seeing you all in person.
 - Virtual orientations for Council, and for Executives and their staff, happened the last couple of days; went well; perhaps we should supplement with in-person orientations when we reopen.

U-Pass

- Kalith:
 - Looking at how to support students using transit.
 - Been working with TransLink.
 - The U-Pass is suspended until August 31 (for now).
 - Need to give 30 days' notice to restart.
 - This done because of low ridership.
 - Also TransLink ended fare collection on buses.
 - But TransLink has announced they will start charging fares on bus routes again.
 - They've also cancelled 47 routes.
 - Doesn't make sense to end the suspension now, but students may find it difficult to afford fares.
- Lucia:
 - We have a bursary to support students.
 - If they buy a month's pass, we can subsidize.
 - Have to work out the rubric.

- Kalith:
 - Need to do that soon.
 - TransLink will make refunds for April.
- Cole:
 - Have to look at the timing.
 - Earliest time to reinstate U-Pass would be July.
 - What would work best for students?

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:01 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of May 13, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:06 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Sylvester, Lucia).

Minutes

- The minutes of May 6 were approved (Georgia, Sylvester).

Updates

- Georgia:
 - Board of Governors submission on COVID.
 - SASC conversation on UBC Policy SC-17 (the sexual misconduct policy).
 - Discussing course scheduling and delivery for the fall term.
- Sylvester:
 - Getting CWL's from UBC for CampusGroups.
 - Making sure we follow privacy rules with CampusGroups.
 - Orientations for club executives in the first week of June: onboarding.
 - Sustainability Action Plan: aligning goals with it.
- Keith:
 - You can speak to Eric (the Communications Manager) about mailing lists for CampusGroups.
- Sylvester:
 - Still working on graphic design for CampusGroups.
 - Not yet at the mailing list stage.
 - Will reach out to Coms later for that.

- Keith:
 - Building Recovery Plan will affect sustainability goals.
 - We're going back to single use coffee cups and more disposable packaging.
- Sylvester:
 - I do believe such measures will be necessary in the short term.
 - I don't think this will be a long-term issue.
- Cole:
 - In the short term people will be understanding about the Zero Waste Strategy.
- Kalith:
 - BC budget.
 - Stats about the need for the U-Pass this fall.
 - With Lucia looking into a transit subsidy for the fall.
 - The website has been updated for COVID resources.
 - Waiting for Coms for the social media campaign.
 - First draft of goals.
 - Meeting with the Minister of Advanced Education.
 - Continuing our review of BC Bill 23 on sexual misconduct policies.
 - Meeting other student unions about collaborative asks.
- Lucia:
 - Treasurer orientations:
 - Have authorized 171.
 - Another 151 have signed up for upcoming sessions.
 - Pretty much done.
 - Subsidy for U-Pass.
 - Meeting with Showpass: their contract is expiring.
 - Lots of budget discussions.
 - Health and Dental Committee meeting tomorrow about bursaries and goals.
- Ian:
 - Safewalk: Intending to open next month.
 - eHub:
 - Cool stuff with the Arts Co-op Office: new programs for students creating businesses.
 - Tutoring:
 - Real cool projects with Nimbus: working hard to provide all services through the app: group tutoring and not just private tutoring.
 - Peer Support: Timelines for creating the new service.
 - Food Bank:
 - Applied for government funding, but denied for not having charitable status.
 - Looking for alternative sources of funding.
 - Waiting for the Life Building to open so we can adjust.
 - Canada Summer jobs for a social media person and a housing person.

- Doing research on a new housing service.
- Cole:
 - With Georgia, talking to the University, staying up to date with their plans for the fall.
 - Pushing for our priorities and for the University to consider all factors.
 - Working with the student governors to go to the Board of Governors with COVID-related stuff.
 - Council today: the first one using the OnBoard software.
 - Discussing the Nest reopening with Keith.
 - Working with Abdul and Annette (the SASC Manager) on the SASC expansion plan.
 - Emergency funding:
 - Meeting with Enrolment Services about the money the AMS is contributing.
 - Making sure we address gaps.
 - Ensuring money is used effectively.
- Georgia:
 - Working on a COVID survey with the GSS.
- Kalith:
 - Are all the questions we sent you going in?
- Georgia:
 - A draft of the questions is going out.

Nest Reopening

- Cole:
 - Going to present to Council.
 - Checked with WorkSafe, the province, and the University: they're happy.
- Keith:
 - Sending out an email to staff tomorrow.

BC Budget

- Kalith:
 - In June.
 - Compiling data on what to talk about.
 - Talking to Cristina (last year's VP External) about last year's asks.
 - Four main asks:
 - Increased funding to Open Education Resources (OER's), especially now with more education online.
 - Allocating emergency funding to student housing.
 - Increasing funding to the student loan program.
 - Transit solutions: a UBC-oriented project to help the economy.

- Cole:
 - Important to push for investment in public projects benefiting students, e.g., transit.
 - The COVID-19 situation can be an accelerant on these projects.
 - There's an opportunity this year to do advocacy to push large infrastructure projects.
- Georgia:
 - Can send over information on OER's.
- Kalith:
 - We expect a lot to be online now, a shift.
- Georgia:
 - Other universities have policies.
 - Something to look into: creation of a policy on OER's.
- Cole:
 - The University is interested in collaborating with us on large infrastructure projects.
- Kalith:
 - Our policy and funding asks have to connect.

UBC and COVID

- Cole:
 - A lot of classes are going to be online this fall:
 - The ratio is still to be determined, but it looks like a significant proportion will be online.
 - A lot of our advocacy is about how we can continue to support students in this time.
 - One issue is technological equity: making sure some students are not left behind because of technology.
- Georgia:
 - There needs to be a balance of asynchronous and synchronous classes so international students in other time zones are still being accommodated.
 - There are labour issues concerning TA's.
 - Equity of access between those attending in person and those attending remotely.
 - Our big priority is the quality of education: making sure those attending remotely are still getting a quality education.
 - Ensuring adjustments to experiential aspects will be maintained.
 - Making sure Work Learn funding that is not being used will be reallocated to student-facing opportunities.
- Lucia:
 - Are we talking about reduction of tuition?

- Georgia:
 - There's a good conversation to be had about the amount of resources put into quality online instruction.
 - As to reduction of tuition, if someone is not able to attend an in-person lab, they should not pay for in-person lab materials.
 - But still we're committed to giving the University support to provide quality education.
 - The focus is on financial support for students.
- Cole:
 - The focus is on pragmatic things:
 - How can we reduce other fees and costs to improve affordability?
 - Emergency funding aid.
 - Not necessarily about tuition.
 - Targeting where we can be most effective: looking at additional costs that we can reduce.
- Georgia:
 - For instance, how can we reduce textbook costs or the cost of renting lab coats?

In-Person AMS Orientation

- Cole:
 - As we start reopening, we can do some in-person orientations.
 - Not as intensive as usual, because we've already done online orientations.
 - Keith and I are planning.
- Kalith:
 - Who would be attending?
- Cole:
 - Us, our staff, presenters.
- Keith:
 - In the Michael Kingsmill Forum: we can do social distancing there.

UBC Orientation for First Years

- Cole:
 - Things are looking good.
 - They're talking of involving the AMS a lot more this year.
 - Will loop in Events and Communications.
 - What do we want to do? Have to decide.
 - There won't be a lot of First Week activity: there will be few first years on campus.
 - What emphasis do we want to put on the First Year Kits?
 - Shipping the kits?
 - Something to start thinking about.

- Sylvester:
 - Will we not be getting First Week revenue?
- Cole:
 - No, the First Week Kits produce most of the revenue, so we should focus on that.
 - Going to have to talk more about this.
 - I think students who can't be on campus will find it cool to buy a kit.
 - But maybe people will be trying to spend less money, and there won't be a Welcome Back Barbecue ticket this year.
- Lucia:
 - How much do we make from the kits?
- Keith:
 - About \$60,000.
 - We sell about 700.
 - That's revenue. Gross, not net. Our net is \$25,000 to \$30,000.
 - It's a good chunk of money.
 - Might look for online events to increase revenue.
- Kalith:
 - There's potential.
 - Lots of students are active on social media.
 - There's so many online groups.
 - We can build partnerships.
 - Can market first year kits.
- Sylvester:
 - I definitely agree.
 - Students can't be on campus to feel university pride.
 - They'll be hungry for what we can give them.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 pm.



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of May 20, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:14 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Cole, Kalith).

Minutes

- The minutes of May 13 were approved (Sylvester, Georgia).

Updates

- Ian:
 - Safewalk hiring.
 - Food Bank operating.
 - Applying for Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) funding.
 - Another assistant for the Food Bank.
 - Research into a new housing service.
- Cole:
 - Other parts of the AMS could use CSJ funding: can it be expanded?
- Abdul:
 - This year our HR department has streamlined how that can work.
- Cole:
 - We can benefit a lot.
- Lucia:
 - Budget, quarterly reporting.
 - Transitioning a new AVP.
 - Treasurers' budgets.
 - Ticketing service.
 - Renegotiating our pricing with SAP Concur (financial administration system).

- My team is back in the office, and we're looking at expenditures for clubs.
 - Finance Committee and Health & Dental Committee.
- Sylvester:
 - Transitioning my team.
 - Finalizing executive orientations for clubs (on Zoom).
 - CampusGroups:
 - Data access report to UBC about CWL's.
 - My team chose a name: AMS Campus Base: we will figure out the branding.
 - Bookings: Putting together a survey of clubs regarding their use of the Nest.
 - Until further notice there will be no club activities in the Nest this summer.
- Kalith:
 - COVID page on website updated.
 - Social media campaign about the update.
 - Working hard on BC budget submission.
 - Consultation with other student unions.
 - Two asks:
 - Open Educational Resources
 - Funding for postsecondary institutions.
 - Also looking at support for international students: they've been left out of government programs.
 - Bill 23 (on sexual misconduct policies): looking at gaps.
 - U-Pass: looking for a solution.
 - UCRU (Undergraduates at Canadian Research-intensive Universities):
 - Elections: May run for vice-chair.
 - Working to make UCRU more of an organization, less ad hoc.
- Keith:
 - Year-end, and auditors will be coming.
 - Blue Chip is reopening as part of the Nest reopening. Signs are up.
 - Business numbers for the quarterly report are a little delayed.
- Georgia:
 - Shifting from the traditional Textbook Broke campaign to a new iteration.
 - COVID-19 survey with the GSS.
 - Community engagement.
 - Impact Grants.
 - VP Academic Caucus.
 - BoG submission about financial support: looking to make it more accessible.
 - UBC Policy SC-17 (on sexual misconduct): provincial discussion.
- Cole:
 - Working on everything: the budget, etc.

Blue Chip

- Keith:
 - Opened this morning.
 - About two dozen customers, and they weren't all staff.
 - On track to reopen the Gallery and the Honour Roll next week.
 - The Gallery will initially be open for take-out only; there will be limited seating later.
 - Using Uber Eats for delivery.
- Cole:
 - Larger chains are opening and allowing in person seating in groups of no more than six.
 - Good for us to start with just take-out, but good to plan for seating.

COVID-19 Survey

- Georgia:
 - Impact survey.
 - Gathering data on what students are encountering.
 - The Academic Experience Survey policy says we can only do two surveys a year, and we are doing the Academic Experience Survey and the Nest Experience Survey.
 - But the policy also says we can recommend to Council that they approve an additional survey, and this one would definitely be valuable to us to find out about pressing issues, what students are concerned about.
- Kalith:
 - Incentive?
- Georgia:
 - Five \$100 gift cards.
- Kalith:
 - I worry about not getting enough responses.
- Georgia:
 - We can look at the budget.
- Kalith:
 - We should look at previous surveys. See how they were marketed.
 - And I'm concerned about the length.
- Cole:
 - Last year for the Nest survey we gave out \$700 worth of prizes and got 2700 responses.
 - It was similar for the Academic Experience Survey.
 - As to length, you should test that: the AES took about 20 minutes to complete; the Nest survey about 10-15 minutes.
 - You probably want something that takes 10-15 minutes. No more.

- Georgia:
 - Planning a test run for timing.
 - There's a different branch for graduate students: there are questions relevant to undergraduates and questions relevant to graduate students.
- Kalith:
 - What kind of gift cards?
 - If they're for the AMS, and students are not here, they won't be able to use them.
- Georgia:
 - Visa. Lots of flexibility.
 - It's the incentive students will want.

MOVED GEORGIA, SECONDED SYLVESTER:

"That the Executive Committee recommend to Council that, in accordance with Policy I-12, it authorize a survey of the membership on the impact of COVID-19."

... Carried

PIPA Review

- Sheldon:
 - Every six years the government conducts a review of the Personal Information Protection Act, and they're doing one now and inviting submissions.
 - Kalith, Cole, and I will be meeting on this tomorrow, and if any of you have thoughts about the privacy rules under PIPA, let me know.
 - We may ask for clearer rules on publishing photographs (we publish photos in an online photo collection of historical AMS photographs).
 - We may also ask for something to be added to the Act to authorize the transfer of information from public bodies like the University to private organizations like us.
- Georgia:
 - Our recent referendum on records raised issues about transparency.
 - How do we reconcile student concerns about that and our current records policy?
 - Do our bylaws allow us to restrict access?
- Sheldon:
 - The PIPA review is only about the privacy of personal information.
 - Our bylaws follow PIPA, and even if they didn't, we would still have to follow PIPA, which restricts access to documents containing personal information.
 - The referendum and the records policy are a different issue: about limiting access to other sorts of records.

Council Governance

- Cole:
 - I'm going to ask Council to extend the Code suspension to allow email voting by committees even for issues that haven't been discussed in person. Also to allow our reports to Council to be written instead of oral.
 - Is there anything else people would like to see changed at Council meetings?
- Georgia:
 - The selection process for speakers.
 - People are speaking multiple times.
 - Can we distinguish primary, secondary, tertiary?
- Cole:
 - People are actually supposed to speak no more than twice on any motion: it's in Robert's Rules.
 - And we can have it so those wishing to speak a second time have to wait till everyone else who wants to has spoken once.
- Abdul:
 - I used to do that when I was Speaker.
- Cole:
 - I can speak to Karim (the current Speaker).
- Georgia:
 - Maybe we need something about online meetings, communicating what we can expect.
 - Something enshrined in our rules to say this is how online meetings work.

MOVED COLE, SECONDED LUCIA:

"That the Executive approve asking Council to vote by email to extend the Code suspension concerning email voting by committees and concerning written reports and remarks to Council."

... Carried

- Cole:
 - I will actually do this using OnBoard.
 - Code says email voting, but I don't think people will be concerned if we use OnBoard.
 - I'll still be sending out the call for the vote by email.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of May 27, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:22 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Sylvester, Georgia).

Minutes

- The minutes of May 20 were approved (Lucia, Sylvester).

Updates

- Sylvester:
 - Clubs newsletter.
 - Clubs registering for executive orientations.
 - Office and locker clearouts/reallocations.
 - Waiting for CWL integration for CampusGroups.
 - Hatch Art Gallery:
 - Working with the Communications team about the Hatch website.
 - A permanent collection section so everyone can see our beautiful art.
- Lucia:
 - Hybrid reimbursement model.
 - Lots of questions, inquiries.
 - Creating an FAQ and automatic reply.
 - New accounting system, new ticketing service:
 - Got some quotes.
 - Want to get the best price.
 - Looking at Concur SAP.
 - Goals.
 - Goals for the Health and Dental Plan Committee and the Finance Committee.
 - And of course the budget, which is embedded in my existence.

- Kalith:
 - Setting up subsidy fund for students who can't afford transit.
 - BC budget consultation:
 - Talking to stakeholders.
 - Talking to UBC to align asks.
 - Continuing research on amendments to Bill 23 (on sexual misconduct policies):
 - Spoke to the team at the Ministry of Advanced Education.
 - UNA (University Neighbourhoods Association).
 - Elections coming up for UCRU (Undergraduates at Canadian Research-intensive Universities).
 - Goals pretty much done.
- Georgia:
 - Submission sent off on UBC Policy SC-17 (on sexual misconduct).
 - COVID-19 priorities.
 - COVID survey launches Friday, with GSS, also with UBC's PAIR (Planning and Institutional Research office).
 - Working on financial aid concerns.
 - Tuition consultation:
 - Working on a submission about the Masters of Engineering and Leadership and similar programs.
 - Feedback on certificate tuition programs.
 - Adjusting goals to take account of COVID.
 - Impact Grant Working Group.
 - Academic Caucus:
 - Making sure Faculties are consulting with undergraduate societies.
 - Discussion about online learning:
 - CTLT (UBC's Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology).
 - Privacy, technology, etc.
- Ian:
 - How are you collecting information about tuition consultation?
- Georgia:
 - Reaching out to the Engineering Undergraduate Society about the Masters of Engineering and Leadership.
 - Also probably MBA and Masters of Management and similar programs.
 - Speaking to the Nursing Undergraduate Society about the Masters of Health Leadership.
 - Discussing the certificate programs at the VP Academic Caucus.
- Ian:
 - Are you engaging with the general student body for a consultation on COVID?
 - About students paying for online instruction.

- Georgia:
 - That's the COVID-19 survey: how do students feel about current adaptations and costs?
 - Continuing to evaluate concerning tuition.
 - Looking at definitions: what is online learning?
 - Making sure students getting their money's worth.
 - To have quality online learning.
- Ian:
 - Services up and running.
 - Interviews for coordinators of eHub and Safewalk:
 - Getting those services running.
 - Safewalk by mid-June.
 - Working with the Arts Co-op for Safewalk.
 - Food Bank still going.
 - Thanks to Cole and the graduating class for money.
 - Pretty high numbers.
 - Tutoring:
 - Looking at who we want to work with.
 - Reaching out to SASC for training.
 - Housing:
 - Drafting a job description.
 - Excited to get someone to research a housing service this summer.
- Abdul:
 - Transitions for SASC.
 - SASC is doing additional work in person.
 - Working on an SC-17 submission and a joint submission with Georgia.
- Cole:
 - Working with Lucia on the budget and with Georgia on submissions to the Board of Governors.
 - High level goal setting.
 - Executive expenditures.
 - Committee appointments.
 - Equity Plan RFP.
 - One of my assistants is working on improving communications and marketing.
- Keith:
 - Events have launched hiring for a social media coordinator.
 - Redoing Events budget, based on restrictions going forward.
 - Looking at what we can do instead of First Week.
 - Reopened the Gallery and Honour Roll. Blue Chip was already open.
 - Getting 100 customers a day at the Gallery, 20 at Honour Roll, and 70-80 at Blue Chip.
 - Not huge numbers, but it's good to see people coming and using the building.

Health and Dental refund

- Keith:
 - We got \$500,000 as a reduction for dental work in the Health and Dental Plan premium.
 - Need to figure out a process to credit the students or invest the money in mental health services. Or just give the money back.
- Lucia:
 - I think we should give it back, but the process will be impossible for us to administer.
 - We'll need to link up with UBC accounting or enrollment.
- Keith:
 - The tricky part is a lot of members of the plan have graduated and we don't have contact information.
- Cole:
 - Any chance to give money back to students is awesome.

Events budget

- Keith:
 - Obviously it was put together before COVID.
 - We've eliminated Welcome Back Barbecue: it's not going to happen.
 - Looking at how to change delivery of First Week; it's not yet reflected in the budget.
- Cole:
 - Need to announce we're not doing Welcome Back and say we'll be doing different activities.
- Lucia:
 - Has UBC said what they're doing for first week?
- Keith:
 - We're going to collaborate with UBC on orientations.
 - Reducing the number of First Week kits because one of the key parts of the kit was the ticket to Welcome Back Barbecue.
- Sylvester:
 - My team is working with Events on Clubs Days.
 - Still not sure how it will pan out.
 - Maybe outside.
- Cole:
 - UBC has some pretty bold plans for Orientations.
 - Centralization will be key.
 - Good chance our staff will be entwined with theirs.
 - Our goal is to coordinate with the University as much as possible.

Policy SC-17

- Cole:
 - Submitted alongside the SASC submission to the Board of Governors.
 - Good ideas in both.

AGM

- Cole:
 - Looking at how to organize.
 - Probably won't be able to hold a meeting where 500 people gather in person.
 - Looping in with what the province says.
 - They're allowing us to hold the meeting virtually.
 - It will be easier to make quorum if virtual.
 - If it's a Zoom call, we'll have to validate that attendees are members.
 - Could do registration: we'll figure something out.

SASC Expansion

- Cole:
 - Finalized budget soon to Fincom and then Council next week.
 - Looking forward to getting that project going.

Strategic Plan

- Cole:
 - Added item to Council budget.
 - Large item, but think the Society will benefit from this.
 - What's the best way to steer this? Ad hoc committee? Or a joint effort of Steering Committee/Executive/Advisory Board?
 - I'm leaning to the latter. It will be easier.
- Sylvester:
 - I'm in support of an ad hoc committee.
 - It allows us to be selective about who's involved.
- Keith:
 - That model worked very well for Governance Review.
- Cole:
 - Want to get moving quick.
 - We need an RFP.
 - Light Council meeting next week, so could do ToR then.
 - Maybe an email vote on Executive and then to Council.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of June 3, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:10 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Kalith, Lucia).

Minutes

- The minutes of May 27 were approved (Georgia, Kalith).

Updates

- Georgia:
 - COVID survey going out: 25,000 already out, eventually 51,000. So happy that we'll be able to collect useful data for advocacy.
 - Want to learn what we should spend our money on: e.g., CPR and Naloxone training?
 - Starting up a digital meal donation program: Swipe It Forward:
 - Donate your extra meal plan dollars to be used in food outlets to help with food insecurity.
 - Talking of a digital food hub.
 - Advocating for students with disabilities to get accommodation in courses; they shouldn't have to seek out the accommodation.
 - Instructors can design courses with students with disabilities in mind.
 - Feasibility research about an investment in a shift to online learning.
 - Looking into models, student demand.
 - Black Lives Matter work.
 - Masters of Health degree.
 - Assessment principles about the cost of online learning materials.

- Ensuring that students don't have to pay for course assessment.
 - COVID survey going out under the brand of the AMS and the GSS. Coming from AMS Communications even though administered through Qualtrics.
- Cole:
 - May want to send it out in the AMS newsletter too.
- Georgia:
 - Working with Eric (the Communications Manager) on this.
- Kalith:
 - First final draft of BC budget consultation. Two priorities:
 - Increased funding for postsecondary institutions.
 - Support for BC Campus (Open Education Resources).
 - Highlighting COVID: gaps in postsecondary education model.
 - Talking about the UNA (the University Neighbourhoods Association) tonight at Council:
 - Essentially, the UNA wants to get rid of the AMS seat on its Board.
 - We're pushing against that.
 - A lot of students are not aware of the UNA, not aware that some of them belong.
 - Reaching out to other student unions about the federal student loan interest rate.
 - Capital funding for SkyTrain.
 - UCRU elections (for the federal advocacy group, Undergraduates at Canadian Research-intensive Universities):
 - I withdrew my application for Vice-Chair.
 - Decided my efforts would be better applied elsewhere, especially towards health matters at the provincial level.
 - I have confidence in the candidates still running.
 - Big year for UCRU, but bigger provincially.
- Lucia:
 - Budget.
 - New accounting system.
 - New administrative transfer system: talking to multiple companies.
- Sylvester:
 - Hatch Art Gallery is calling for applications for exhibitions.
 - Will be doing digital exhibits as well as regular ones this year.
 - Hatch can still function.
 - Hoping to increase visibility and engagement.
 - Summer exhibition: a colouring book.
 - Sustainability:
 - Talking with SEEDS to update our MoU.
 - Last year collaboration with them was beneficial.
 - Help with our Interactive Sustainability Centre.

- This year trying to involve clubs more: including clubs that focus on areas addressed in the Sustainability Action Plan: will be sending them a survey.
- Club orientations going well.
- Campus Base:
 - Involving Communications.
 - Can benefit more than just clubs; could be a sustainable resource for all our on-campus activities.
- Keith:
 - When will you go to Council about the Sustainability Centre?
- Sylvester:
 - Not till September.
 - More consultation needs to be done.
 - Getting in touch with clubs with a sustainability background.
 - Also speaking to the Climate Hub and UBC C350.
- Ian:
 - Working on longer-term projects.
 - Facebook:
 - Hiring volunteers.
 - Busy.
 - Lots of donations, usage.
 - Safewalk:
 - Olivewood Data Collection is no longer servicing our software and is ceasing Swiftwalks dispatch software.
 - Doing research for new software programs.
 - Maybe use CampusGroups for data collection.
 - Peer Support restructuring: connecting with SASC to see how they do things.
- Abdul:
 - SASC has completed its goal-setting.
 - Four goals, the first two for the first term:
 - Guiding SASC programming and communication: gathering historical documents; developing a strategic plan, perhaps with a consultant.
 - Creating an advisory committee (with UBC) to guide us to best practices.
 - Developing regular communication with partners: SVPRO, RCMP, etc. (With the RCMP, more frequent communication; not just on particular cases).
 - Establishing guidelines for diversifying revenue streams, especially if grants not approved: perhaps off campus workshops.

Equity Plan

- Cole:
 - Sending out invitations to present for the week of June 22.

- Presentations to be made to a working group consisting of Cole, Georgia, Keith, Praneet (HR Manager), and Niki (Cole's associate for Equity and Inclusion).
- Will do scores, rubric.

Black Lives Matter

- Cole:
 - Been working with Niki to determine what we can do for anti-racism planning.
- Georgia:
 - We're working on a bystander intervention program.
 - Dialogues on race.
 - Connecting with various Resource Groups.
- Abdul:
 - Should connect with the Black Students Union.
- Georgia:
 - We've reached out to them and will continue that dialogue.
- Lucia:
 - If looking for funding, speak to the Resource Groups.
 - They have a reserve and are eager to help out.
- Cole:
 - Should be a joint effort between Niki and Georgia's team.
- Sylvester:
 - Are we going to have some conversation with the RGAC (Resource Group Allocation Committee)?
 - I've found it hard getting in touch with them, especially about the new Resource Group.
 - It's important to meet the RGAC and the Resource Groups under them.
- Cole:
 - The goal is to try and set something up in the next month.
- Lucia:
 - Also reaching out to them about their quarterly financial reports.
 - They haven't been that active since the start of the year.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of June 10, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Ian Stone (Student Services Manager)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:08 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Georgia, Lucia).

Minutes

- The minutes of June 3 were approved (Sylvester, Kalith).

Updates

- Georgia:
 - Two tuition consultations: Engineering Leadership, Health Leadership.
 - Also Forestry/Indigenous Land Management.
 - Strategizing about tuition: making sure students get value for tuition increases.
 - Submission on COVID procedures.
 - Accessibility.
 - Difficult challenges in light of COVID.
 - Subtitling and Personal Protective Equipment for students with sensory challenges.
 - Working with the Food Security Initiative, making sure funds from the Student Well-Being Fund are allocated to it.
 - Getting started on a policy regarding the cost of online learning.
 - Principles for online instruction.

- Sylvester:
 - SEEDS MoU.
 - Also working with UBC Sustainability Ambassadors.
 - Working with the Food Security Initiative on food hub, a centralized online location providing information.
 - Combating Nest carbon emissions; aim is net zero.
 - First round of club orientations.
 - Club locker and office clearouts; relocating some clubs.
 - Hatch:
 - Almost done preparing the summer installation: a colouring book.
 - Set to launch this week.
- Kalith:
 - Biggest goal was holding conversations with campus stakeholders.
 - Now transitioning to speaking to politicians: the Opposition party, the Minister of Advanced Education.
 - AVP student housing.
 - Ran goals by Advocom. Ready to present to Council soon.
 - Advocacy is a continuous, long-term process: much of what I'm doing is the same as last week.
- Lucia:
 - Hiring new team members.
 - Q4, budget.
 - Meeting with fee-receiving groups.
 - Health & Dental Plan: meeting with UBC next week.
 - Exploring option of reducing the fee due to COVID.
 - Final numbers on contract and from expense-reporting company.
 - WUSC:
 - New refugee students not coming here.
 - What to do with the money for them?
 - Maybe stop collecting the fee.
 - Sustainability Projects Fund:
 - Some projects couldn't finish: we've extended the deadline.
- Georgia:
 - What are the strategies for the Health & Dental Plan?
- Lucia:
 - Have to talk to UBC, Studentcare, and Pacific Blue Cross about usage.
 - See if it's lower. But it could go higher.
 - Just initial conversations.
 - Want to be prepared for September.
 - It's one of the main costs.

- Cole:
 - Working with Georgia on submissions to the Board of Governors on COVID, student consultation, and tuition.
 - Working with Lucia on the budget.
 - Working with Keith on a COVID-response plan.
 - Hired a new assistant, who will take some work off my plate.
 - Equity Plan details: scheduled for June 23.
 - Advisory Board also scheduled for June 23:
 - Figuring out direction.
 - A bit outdated despite recent changes.
 - Governance changes.
 - Meeting UBC Orientations about programming.
 - On the team planning the pep rally.
- Abdul:
 - Interviewing, volunteers.
 - Donations from Food Mesh.
 - Collaborating with Farmers Market.
 - New Coordinator for Safewalk.
 - Accessibility folks reached out to us.
 - eHub Coordinator recruitment.
 - Tutoring Coordinator looking for opportunities for collaboration.
 - Peer Support: Meeting Annette, the SASC Manager, to cross-collaborate and learn best practices.
 - The Advocacy Coordinator is reaching out.
 - SASC team meetings, transitions.
 - Exploring options for management software; looking for a secure solution.
 - Planning an online event for Anti-Black Racism.
- Keith:
 - Still working on budgets.
 - Q4 report updates.
 - Health & Dental update about refund.

Businesses Budget

- Keith:
 - This is Version 2 of the budget, but working on Version 3.
 - Total contribution of \$219,072. Well down from last year's \$1.2 million.
 - Affected by increases in the minimum wage and by overall wage increases; also by the new employer health tax and the increasing costs of goods sold (produce prices are up).
 - Focusing on communications, advertising, sustainability.
 - COVID-19 effect severe.

- Revenue down to \$9 million, a drop of \$1 million.
- Will probably end up being even lower.
- Conferences & Catering (C&C) has been affected more than we'd hoped.
- But labour costs are down because we have fewer workers
- Decline from C&C: usually summer is a heavy season; not this year.
- Rents from tenants remain strong: 26% of our contribution; next highest is Blue Chip at 22%.
- Only three outlets open this summer.
- Making many small changes to the businesses to keep things fresh.
- More take-out as a response to COVID, so if the building closes again, we could still offer food service.
- Because this building was getting busier (before COVID) and we couldn't accommodate everyone, Conferences & Catering has been looking to expand to other buildings on campus and also off campus.
 - There's an opportunity to get into that market, with other catering companies going bankrupt.
- New credit card and expense management system.
- Replacing finance system.
- Hiring for a new finance position to directly support student government.
- Cole:
 - Good to expand into off-site opportunities for catering.
- Kalith:
 - Is there a market for that, given social distancing?
- Keith:
 - Christine (the Senior C&C Manager) is working on how larger events can continue to take place.
 - There is a market, just a little different.
- Kalith:
 - Pie R?
- Keith:
 - Looking at a delivery model for Pie R to the Constituencies.
 - Also the new chef is looking to improve the quality of the pizzas.
- Kalith:
 - What's our competitive advantage at Pie R besides offering the largest sized slice?
- Keith:
 - We employ students.
 - Quality has been mixed lately.
 - That's why the new chef.
- Sylvester:
 - Still looking at delivery for all outlets?

- Keith:
 - We launched Uber Eats for the three outlets that are open now.
 - Come September, we'll extend that to all.
- Georgia:
 - You talk in the powerpoint of a Mugshare revival for Blue Chip.
 - Will that extend to other outlets?
 - Iwana Taco?
- Keith:
 - Had been thinking of that.
 - But Mugshare will not actually be in Version 3: we can't do reusable mugs.
 - But the plan was to extend to other outlets.
 - Had also been looking at reusable containers for food as part of a campus-wide program.
- Kalith:
 - Do we have our own delivery system?
- Keith:
 - We use Uber Eats for off-campus.
 - But we have our own for on-campus.
- Kalith:
 - Does that make economic sense?
 - And how do we attract attention?
- Keith:
 - Working on it.
- Cole:
 - Good to see we're planning even in this time of disruption.
 - We have the advantage of guaranteed fees.
- Keith:
 - There's our competitive advantage, what sustains us: dedicated fee income.

COVID-19 Response

- Cole:
 - Keith and I are completing a plan to take to Council alongside the budget.
 - Councillors asked for it.
 - Send in a list of what COVID is affecting in your department.
- Georgia:
 - How do the Food & Beverage outlets support food insecurity initiatives? Do they ask customers to donate?
- Abdul:
 - We have regular campaigns.
- Keith:
 - We have a place for donations at the till.

U-Pass Subsidy

- Kalith:
 - Looking at data from the COVID survey.
 - Our decision is to go with a subsidy for the remainder of the summer.
 - About 40% of students are not using transit this summer.
 - Can't get U-Pass up now for July; the earliest would be August, and we see no point to doing it then.
 - The subsidy will be our way of trying to make the barrier as low as possible.
 - Then we'll have enough time to make a better informed decision for the fall in collaboration with the U-Pass Advisory Committee.

COVID Survey

- Georgia:
 - Over 3400 responses.
 - Hoping to send out a reminder.
 - Closing the survey June 28.
 - After that, we'll be analyzing the data and reporting to Council.
- Kalith:
 - Why keep it open till June 28?
 - Will a lot more fill it out?
 - It's a long time.
 - Will there be another email push?
- Georgia:
 - There will be a bunch of pushes.
 - Next update June 11, and then a reminder on June 17.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:01 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of June 17, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:09 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Georgia, Lucia).

Minutes

- The minutes of June 10 were approved (Kalith, Georgia).

Updates

- Kalith:
 - Finalizing U-Pass subsidy proposal. Been approved by Carole Jolly (UBC's Director of Community Development). Speaking to the VP Students next week.
 - Lots of calls from graduate students wanting the U-Pass back.
 - Expanding federal advocacy, reaching out to MP's.
 - Seeking to eliminate federal student loan interest: a fair ask, especially during COVID-19.
 - In previous weeks was spending more time speaking to provincial MLA's.
- Keith:
 - Manitoba has just announced funding for employers who hire students.
- Kalith:
 - I've flagged that to look into.
 - [Later in the meeting Kalith said he'd sent off an email about it to MLA David Eby.]

- Lucia:
 - Final budget completed. Also the Q4 report. Approved by the Finance Committee.
 - Working on Health & Dental mental health subsidy to improve that service.
 - Meeting UBC, TRG, and Studentcare about it.
 - Contracts for ticketing system, financial system.
 - Finished drafting my Executive goals.
 - COVID planning: e-transfers working well.
- Sylvester:
 - Bookings:
 - Reconfigured capacity limits.
 - Trying to put measures in that will allow us to resume some bookings for clubs.
 - But other club operations will not be allowed yet; looking at it, though.
 - UBC Orientations is interested in partnering with us through Campus Base.
 - Campus Groups has created a module that will allow students to fill in their interests and be connected to a club that's relevant to those interests.
 - Club officers and interested students will be able to interact, replicating in-person meetings.
 - All first years will get an early introduction to this.
 - Finishing clubs engagement survey: gauging expectations for the use of the Nest.
 - Goals drafted.
 - COVID-19 response submitted.
- Keith:
 - Are Sprouts, the Pottery Club, and Aquasoc still closed?
 - The Bike Kitchen has had a limited reopening.
- Sylvester:
 - We judge things case by case.
 - We're not making an open call to clubs to operate.
 - The Life Building is still closed, but UBC has allowed the Bike Kitchen to resume by giving access to one or two staff.
 - The Bike Kitchen said they were an essential service, and we don't want them to go into deficit.
- Georgia:
 - Looking into the profiling incident and at structural racism on campus.
 - OER's, accessibility, accommodation for students with low bandwidth or in countries with no access to YouTube or Wikipedia.
 - Impact Grant meeting.
 - Submissions to the Board of Governors on SC-17, COVID, and student consultation: making sure they keep student consultation as a priority.
 - Looking at transcript notations and ancillary fees.

- Ian:
 - Lots going on in Services.
 - Food Bank:
 - Reviving Monday operations.
 - Partnering with Food Mesh, a middleman for donations from grocery stores.
 - Safewalk:
 - Aiming to open by the end of the month, hired a Coordinator.
 - Looking at software for dispatch service.
 - Tutoring: hiring team.
 - Peer Support:
 - Team lead applications going up.
 - Have an outreach person with a harm reduction background.
 - Serious opioid crisis now during the pandemic.
 - Staff volunteer program to provide better training.
 - Data collection options.
- Keith:
 - You can look into using our point of sale systems for data collection.

Athletics & Intramurals fee suspension

- Motion for consideration:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee recommend to AMS Council that the President is given the authorization as per Bylaw 14(7) to notify the Board of Governors and the Registrar to not collect the AMS Fee for Athletics and Intramurals for the 2020/21 Year, totalling \$21.00 per student.”

- Cole:
 - Want to have Council approve waiving this fee.
 - UBC wants to hear soon, so I want to have Council vote by email.
 - Need the Executive to recommend this.
- Sheldon:
 - Bylaw 14(7) is about exempting specific categories of students.
- Cole:
 - Is there another part of Bylaws that can let us do this, then?
 - We can contact the lawyers to check on the legality.
- Sheldon:
 - If they okay it, I can draft some Code.

MOVED COLE, SECONDED GEORGIA:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee recommend to AMS Council that the President is given the authorization as per Bylaw 14(7) to notify the Board of Governors and the Registrar to not collect the AMS Fee for Athletics and Intramurals for the 2020/21 Year, totalling \$21.00 per student.”

... Carried

- Georgia:
 - Is Athletics & Recreation okay with this?
- Cole:
 - Going to want to get written confirmation from them.
 - Registrar’s office needs this really quickly.

Quarterly Reports

- Keith:
 - Looking at changing the way we do the quarterly financial reports.
 - We spend a tremendous amount of time on them and not sure they’re appreciated.
 - Looking at taking a more holistic approach, making them more activity-based.
 - Coming to Council soon with what they will look like.
- Lucia:
 - I love the idea.
 - It’s a very positive approach to focus on what the portfolios are doing.
- Sylvester:
 - This lets people know what we do.
 - People can see how our portfolios align with the funding.
 - Will increase engagement, voter turnout.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of June 24, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Cole, Georgia).

Minutes

- The minutes of June 17 were approved (Sylvester, Kalith).

Updates

- Georgia:
 - Incident involving the RCMP at UBCO:
 - Calls to reassess the relationship with the RCMP and Campus Security.
 - And what does this mean for the broader issues of police brutality and structural racism?
 - Lecture recording technology.
 - Athletics and Recreation.
 - Food Security Initiative conference in October.
 - Conversations about online learning.
 - Statements on Academic Freedom.
 - Making sure there's a new commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in the University budget.
- Kalith:
 - BC budget consultation work, including a video submission. Communications is finishing it.
 - U-Pass subsidy being proposed to UBC today.

- Continuing advocacy. Building relations at the federal level.
 - I'm chair of the UCRU governance committee.
 - U-Pass Advisory Committee: looking into solutions.
- Keith:
 - Are there fees for UCRU (Undergraduates of Canadian Research-intensive Universities)?
- Kalith:
 - Not now. To be determined.
- Sylvester:
 - Campus Groups: Working with UBC orientations:
 - Virtual involvement for Jump Start, Imagine Day, Clubs Days.
 - Objective: To make Campus Groups the hotspot for all campus activities.
 - Finished hiring for my office.
 - Meeting with UBC climate action people about reducing carbon emissions in the Nest.
 - Agreed to resume club bookings.
 - Letting clubs know we are resuming, but decisions will be on a case by case basis.
 - No other bookings.
- Keith:
 - Club bookings as of when?
- Sylvester:
 - From the beginning of July.
 - Told clubs what our COVID-19 guidelines are.
- Lucia:
 - Transitions.
 - Budget:
 - Graphs, data.
 - Trying not to bore while still giving the information people need.
 - Decision to not have clubs submit budgets, but all fee-receiving groups have to.
 - Updating the funds website, the ToR.
 - Working with UBC about a refund for Health and Dental.
 - It's difficult.
 - Might make more sense to invest the money in mental counselling services or other services.
 - Looking for a solution with the GSS.
- Cole:
 - Council:
 - Executive Goals.
 - First ever Indigenous seat holder.
 - Working group receiving Equity Plan presentations.
 - Looks pretty clear who we'll be selecting.

- My assistant Justin and I are working on governance policies, revising Internal Policies and Code to make them more accessible. Also external policies.
 - Meeting Insights West about the AMS Experience Survey.
- Keith:
 - Looking at Code? It's pretty long.
- Cole:
 - Looking at Code to see what might be made into policies instead, e.g., the Elections Code.
 - Will work with Sheldon and the Governance Committee.
- Ian:
 - Revamps to how we hire volunteers and staff in the Services. Streamlining.
 - Trying to get Services started.
 - A little delay for Safewalk.
 - Getting ready to hire Tutors.
 - New Housing service:
 - Been chatting with HR.
 - We've received funding for a position.
- Abdul:
 - Happy to announce that SASC has received a \$10,000 grant.
 - Hoping to expand programs.
 - SASC has temporarily moved to the second floor while we renovate.
- Keith:
 - COVID Recovery Plan.
 - Budget, plus budget version 3 for next Friday.
 - New quarterly report project: going to start soon.
 - New software.
 - Air conditioning project will cost more than we thought.
 - Year-end: the auditors will be here July 6.

Athletics & Intramurals fee suspension

- Cole:
 - Letter to the Board of Governors informing them that we won't be collecting the \$21 fee this year.
 - Will be looking at suspending the MoU about it till we collect the fee again.
- Georgia:
 - Media release?
- Cole:
 - Yes, today.

COVID-19 Response Plan

- Cole:

- Looking good.
 - Any thoughts?
- Keith:
 - Looks like Councillors have read it: the document has been viewed 56 times.
- Georgia:
 - As we roll out the initiatives, we should make clear that there's always room to change, adapt.
 - We should also think about a general Emergency Plan for things like earthquakes.
- Keith:
 - We already have a disaster recovery plan being worked on right now.

UNA

- Kalith:
 - We reached the point where we needed help with the negotiations.
 - UBC offered to help by providing a mediator.
 - Cole and I will represent the AMS in the mediation.
 - Hope we can reach a solution to maintain student representation on the UNA board.
- Sylvester:
 - It's ridiculous that they want to eliminate student representation on their board.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:41 pm.



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of July 8, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:09 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Lucia, Kalith).

Minutes

- The minutes of June 24 were approved (Kalith, Georgia).

Updates

- *Georgia's update:*
 - UBC's Climate Emergency Task Force:
 - Hope its recommendations will be implemented.
 - Meeting with student groups that are working to hold UBC accountable to its climate emergency action plans.
 - Talking to the Advocacy Committee Chair about working towards a just future after the COVID pandemic.
 - Reacting to Proctorio concerns.
 - Student Well-Being Fund:
 - Looking to push for training in mental health.
 - Also recruitment of Black and Indigenous counsellors.
 - Digital meal donation program.
 - Implementation of UBC's Policy SC-17 (on sexual misconduct):
 - Pushing for student representation from SASC and the AMS.

- Great meeting with UBC's Andrew Parr (Student Housing & Hospitality):
 - About the 8% commission on the UBC card.
- Keith:
 - Did he have an update on numbers?
- Georgia:
 - 50% occupancy across the residences.
 - The only first year residence will be Orchard Commons.
 - There will be a low number of first-year residents.
 - There will be 95% occupancy for year-round residents: pretty high.
 - Fairview and Walter Gage will have 50-60% occupancy.
 - Going to be receiving weekly reports.
- Keith:
 - That's good news.
 - It means there will be quite a few people on campus.
- Georgia:
 - About 7,000 to 8,000 residents.
- Georgia:
 - One more update: about UBC reporting Taiwan as a province of China.
 - We are affirming our position as a supporter of democratic institutions.
- *Ian's update:*
 - Finally have a Safewalk Coordinator.
 - Full Services team now.
 - Tutoring moving forward with tutoring in residences.
 - Food Bank:
 - Too much fresh food now because of our FoodMesh partnership.
 - Need to expand and advertise.
- *Lucia's update:*
 - Health and Dental fee: looking into supporting students.
 - Bike Kitchen:
 - Deficit.
 - Working with them on MoU for a repayment plan.
 - Also deficits for 10 other clubs:
 - Working with them to arrange how they can repay.
 - If they don't, they will be deconstituted.
 - Funds & Grants meeting: approved funding.
 - Got rid of the IT Committee.
 - Working on Deck and Gallery presentation to HR and Finance.
- Cole:
 - I'd suggest we don't sign MoU's with clubs.
 - They're our subsidiaries; we should just be establishing procedures for them to follow, or a deficit payment plan.
 - MoU's are usually with external organizations.

- *Sylvester's update:*
 - Completed one of my goals:
 - Was aiming for a one-third submission rate from clubs on the engagement survey, and have received 127 responses (which is one-third).
 - Looking to better support clubs during COVID.
 - Campus Base implementation: still working with UBC IT.
 - Hatch Art Gallery:
 - Call for submissions.
 - Received 50, will choose 5-10 for in person or other programming.
 - Planning workshops, panel discussions: finding ways for artists to have personal interactions with the student body.
 - Working on updates on sustainability:
 - Working with Kalith and Georgia and the Climate Hub on climate justice.
 - Giving Council an idea of where our sustainability investments are.
 - Looking to make the resubmission more ambitious.
 - Georgia and I met someone about the Canadian Enabling Accessibility Fund:
 - Looking to improve accessibility in the Nest.
 - Sensory room project.
- Keith:
 - Have you talked to Michael Kingsmill about accessibility?
 - We talked about it last year.
- Sylvester:
 - Not yet.
 - If we get the federal grant, we'll start researching.
- Georgia:
 - It's a conversation with a group on campus.
 - A student is spearheading.
- *Kalith's update:*
 - We should do a land acknowledgement before Exec.
 - Two speeches to City Council on July 21:
 - Wellness checks.
 - Policing budget.
 - UCRU:
 - First governance committee meeting: I chair.
 - Great conversation about goals and policies.
 - Will be some fee restructuring: every member organization will have to bear some costs.
 - Housing:
 - Spoke to Andrew Parr.
 - Reaching out to organizations.
 - Looking at AMS housing.

- Manitoba government subsidy:
 - Had a meeting with Premier Horgan about doing something similar here.
 - Submitted a recommendation for a wage subsidy.
 - Also spoke to the Minister of Employment.
- Equity based grants almost done.
- *Keith's update:*
 - HR stuff.
 - Next version of the budget: won't be very good, because of COVID.
- *Sylvester's update addendum:*
 - Update on completing one of my goals: actually have received 200 responses to the club engagement survey.
 - We are making repairs to the runoff garden next to Pie R Squared.
 - Later will be repairing the rotating garden near the Great Hall.
- *Georgia's update addendum:*
 - We received 7,410 COVID survey responses. Working through all the data.

UNA MoA

- Kalith:
 - Mediation last week with the UNA about the issue of student representation on their board.
 - We explained our perspective.
 - The meeting lasted 11 hours.
 - We were able to come up with a tentative agreement.
 - Subject to approval by the UNA (and they have now approved it).
 - Also subject to approval by the AMS: bringing it to Council next week.
 - The AMS will have ex officio status on the UNA Board.
 - They will amend their constitution to recognize students as being an integral part of the University community.
- Ian:
 - Why will there be no student voice on financial matters?
- Kalith:
 - Our priority is governance, which doesn't include finances.
 - The AMS never sat on the finance committee; it's not particularly relevant to students; it's mostly internal operational details of the UNA.
 - One of the biggest wins we got was that if a student who is a member of the UNA board resigns, then a student must be appointed to fill the vacancy.

MOVED KALITH, SECONDED COLE:

"That the Executive recommend the Memorandum of Agreement to Council for approval."

... Carried

Proctorio

- Georgia:
 - Sending an open letter on Proctorio to the community, Santa Ono, etc.
 - There's a coalition between SUS, NUS, LFSUS, AUS, FUS, CUS, KUS: all signed on to oppose the use of Proctorio for final assessment and remote proctoring
- Sylvester:
 - Where is the open letter being shared? Just email? Is it being published?
- Georgia:
 - It's going to the public.
 - There was a Reddit firestorm which led the undergraduate societies to take action, and we support our undergraduate societies.
- Keith:
 - Will it be in the Ubyyssey?
- Georgia:
 - We're sending it to the Ubyyssey.

A/V

- Keith:
 - Presented to Fincom, now to the Executive.
 - Replacing the A/V in the bookable rooms.
 - Conferences and Catering uses these room and historically has been our largest generator of revenue through them: \$700,000 last year. This year much less.
 - But 86% of the bookings are for clubs.
 - The A/V has been getting a lot of use; we expected a longer life, but the usage along with heat issues (now we're getting air conditioning for that) has meant we need to replace now.
 - The cost will be \$72,968 for scalars, amplifiers, podiums, etc.
 - To come from SUB Repairs and Replacement.
- Ian:
 - Any opportunity for teleconferencing from these rooms, installing microphones?
 - Increasing our capabilities?
- Keith:
 - UBC IT hasn't allowed that.
 - They see that sort of thing as commercial rather than student.
 - We will be raising it again.

MOVED LUCIA, SECONDED GEORGIA:

"That the Executive recommend that Council approve \$72,968 from the SUB Repairs and Replacement Fund to replace worn-out audio/visual equipment."

... Carried

Sustainability

- Sylvester:
 - Report update:
 - Georgia and Kalith contributing to the climate justice part.
 - Also including a part on sustainable investments (following Policy I-8).
 - Also other projects:
 - Creating plan to make the Nest carbon neutral by 2030 or 2025.
 - Main priority again is to ensure our subsidiaries are pursuing sustainability.
 - Also fostering communication with other student unions: a sort of coalition on climate advocacy, helping others be as sustainable as we are and also allowing us to learn from them.
 - Looking at other projects, looking beyond the VP Admin portfolio to the whole organization, developing a holistic understanding about what we are doing, what we want to do, what we can do.
- Cole:
 - For making the Nest carbon neutral, instead of trying to set a date, just say as soon as possible.
 - In general, let's touch base on Friday. Council asked for this.
- Sylvester:
 - Will send it out so it can go on Friday's Council docket.

Transit Form

- Kalith:
 - Worked on the subsidy form we've been talking about.
 - Going live today on the website.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of July 15, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:07 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Kalith, Lucia).

Minutes

- The minutes of July 8 were approved (Lucia, Sylvester).

UNA MoA

- Kalith:
 - Hope Council approves the agreement.
 - A few amendments when the UNA passed it: we'll talk about that.
 - Tomorrow the UNA Board is to pass it.
- Cole:
 - Really good mediation.
 - We were able to get as much as we could for the students and the AMS.

Updates

- *Georgia's update:*
 - COVID survey done: over 7,000 responses.
 - Presenting on it and on the AES on August 5.
 - ToR for UBC's SC-17 implementation committee:
 - We had to push for SASC representation on it.
 - Student Well-Being Fund and Strategic Well-Being Fund online.

- Got funds for medical-dental program that hope to get established for the end of the year.
- Harm reduction.
- Met UBC's Andrew Parr for updates on data:
 - Looking at 50% occupancy on campus.
- Discussions on climate justice.
- KPI's.
- Going to talk to accessibility and disability groups about accessibility of the Nest.
- Proctorio: sent off the open letter.
 - Advocacy surrounding that: academic integrity, best practices.
- Consulted on budget.
- Keith:
 - How firm is the residency data?
- Georgia:
 - Not 100% sure. Maybe in August we'll know for sure.
- Sylvester:
 - Looking forward to working with Georgia on an accessibility audit of the Nest.
- *Lucia's update:*
 - Working on subsidy for Health & Dental.
 - Looking at possibility of opt-outs for international students who can't enter the country.
 - Talking with the Bike Kitchen about a deficit repayment plan:
 - They've had no sustainable plan.
 - Have often been asking for short-term loans.
 - They're also thinking of going to referendum to increase their fee.
 - I told them that's a last resort.
 - I suggested cutting back; they say they already have.
 - Other clubs: some have repaid their deficits.
 - Looking into how we collect data:
 - We used to collect club data (for AMS fee subsidies) through Clubhouse.
 - Now that's moved to the website: want to make sure it's secure.
- *Sylvester's update:*
 - Looking to find out about four things through our club survey:
 - Demand for club bookings in the fall.
 - What are clubs planning to do? So we can see if we can help (with virtual events etc.)
 - Issue of clubs retaining members because of lack of in-person activities: people won't see the clubs.
 - Are there other ways the AMS can provide for the clubs?
 - Asked in the survey about doing workshops on marketing, SASC, mental health.

- Clubs are concerned there won't be people on campus, but are happy with our guidelines for bookings.
- Working with them to make sure things are as smooth as possible.
- We're encouraging clubs to continue their programming: looking at our subsidy fund and at alternative online platforms.
- Providing resources outside the Nest.
- They want access to the Clubs Resource Centre.
- Clubs Days: The clubs are excited about virtual Clubs Days.
- They will have to be more creative in their recruiting.
- One barrier is the membership fee: we're allowing clubs to change the fees.
- The clubs loved the workshop idea, especially for marketing and recruitment and for how to host an event in the COVID world.
- Also looking at financial training to help them better manage their funds.
- Also educating clubs on EDI related to their activities.
- Keith:
 - What is happening with the MoU on data collection?
- Sylvester:
 - Working with UBC to update the data collection MoU.
 - Making sure we're doing due diligence on privacy.
- *Kalith's update:*
 - Transit subsidy: only 50 applicants. Less than expected.
 - Putting out more messaging.
 - Hopefully we'll get more applications.
 - Submission to Premier Horgan's office.
 - Equity-based grants research: Finalized summer timeline:
 - Policy page
 - Looking at other groups and a pilot program
 - Pursuing further research with grad students.
- *Ian's update:*
 - Safewalk finally hiring.
 - Hopefully can start service in a couple of weeks.
 - Coordinator arrives in mid-August.
 - Tutoring:
 - Developing marketing plans with Nimbus.
 - Reaching out to different groups, Constituencies.
 - Revamping hiring process.
 - Peer Support:
 - Want to make it appeal more to students.
 - Looking at text and chat support.
 - Food Bank:
 - We have lots of food; we need more people to use it.
 - Services Orientation Day.

- Housing: Looking to hire someone.
 - Looking into joint presentation with SASC at Jump Start.
- Cole:
 - That's a good avenue to showcase our services.
- *Keith's update:*
 - Working on next version of the budget.
 - Auditors are here.
 - Nest cooling project: still looking like it will cost a lot more than we hoped.
 - Uncertain what we will do.
 - Helping Lucia on the Health Plan subsidy.

Norm Theatre

- Cole:
 - Working with the GSS and the University on the allocation of money to student priorities.
 - We agreed that a portion should go to long-term capital development.
 - One such development is the Norm Theatre.
 - We just invested \$300,000 to get it operational, but it's still barebones and very under-utilized.
 - There's a lot of opportunity to create something exciting for students.
 - There's also a business case: it could generate revenue.
 - Will keep working with the University on it.
 - Reached out to the Faculty of Arts: they're interested.
 - Lots of traction with this; lots of positive feedback.
- Sylvester:
 - Really excited to see the project develop momentum.

Get Thrifty

- Sylvester:
 - The Thrift Store is working on potential expansion and reopening in the fall.
 - They're working with Michael Kingsmill (the AMS Designer) on options.
 - Funding is from their referendum fee.
 - Because of the pandemic, students have not been able to appreciate their activities.
 - We've said they should just expand for storage.
 - Once we understand the effects of the store, we can suggest what they may want to do.
 - We haven't had much time to evaluate.
- Lucia:
 - We're waiting for the business budget.

- Sylvester:
 - Their club executives were looking at extending their retailing position.
 - That might not be beneficial this year because of COVID.
 - Delayed the business plan.
 - Now that we've decided on options, the business plan should come soon.

Q1 Budget Reforecast

- Lucia:
 - Reflecting on business numbers.
 - Did a projection with a \$1.2 million deficit.
 - But now we're getting an extended wage subsidy from the government and have heard the good number about percentage of occupancy on campus: not 5% but 50%.
 - So I'm remodelling our business projection.
- Keith:
 - If we're going to have a deficit, we want to make sure it's as small as possible.
 - Our businesses are doing better than others.
- Georgia:
 - Do we have data on who's using our businesses?
 - Commuters versus residents?
- Keith:
 - We don't have any stats, but it's an interesting question.
 - We're reaching out to residents: there are few options on campus.
- Cole:
 - We probably won't see that many changes for Services and the Executive from the passed budget.
 - We're going to reduce operational costs on the business side.
 - We should be fine.

Fee Restructure

- Cole:
 - Lucia, Sylvester, and I are working on how to make the administration of fees more efficient.
 - Thinking of a working group model.
 - Have a group like the RGAC (for the Resource Groups) to administer funds.
 - Give more power to groups that run referendums.
 - Currently groups run referendums; then it's up to the AMS to implement their fee even though we didn't ask for it.
 - Want to decentralize and create more accountability.
 - Also a question about a general fee restructuring, but that's down the road.

- Lucia:
 - Happy we're working on it.
 - Fincom ends up doing the administration for fees brought in by the Food Access groups or the Campus Culture and Performance group or others.
- Sylvester:
 - Get Thrifty ran a referendum to collect fees.
 - They feel entitled to the money, but at the end of the day they're part of the AMS.
 - The AMS has the final say on AMS space.
 - The money is the responsibility of the fee-receiving group.
 - We should be able to address this.

Wage conversation

- Lucia:
 - In meetings, gathering information, outlining proposals.
 - Looking at a wage structure model for Student Government and the Student Services.
 - Re-evaluating job descriptions.
 - Looking to categorize properly: Tier 2, Tier 3, etc.
- Sylvester:
 - This is much needed.
 - It's time we compensated the students, who often overwork themselves.
 - The structure we have isn't working. Need to improve it.
- Kalith:
 - Could pay the living wage.
- Keith:
 - Where will the money come from?
 - In Vancouver the living wage is \$21 an hour.
- Kalith:
 - Just my opinion.
 - I know with the reforecast things are not looking too good.
- Lucia:
 - Qualifications for Tier 1 are similar to Food & Beverage staff.
 - Looking at updating the JD's to see if people are at the right tiers, as opposed to changing the whole Tier system.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of July 29, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Keith Hester (Managing Director)

Guest: Michael Kingsmill (AMS Designer)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:07 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Cole, Lucia).

Minutes

- The minutes of July 15 were approved (Georgia, Lucia).

CCTV Server Replacement

- Michael:
 - Currently there's an extensive CCTV system in the building and outside and in the Life Building.
 - This server is primarily for the Nest.
 - We're looking for a large capacity server with lots of memory.
 - We've had a problem with quality: we want to upgrade the resolution.
 - Also provide redundancy, a failsafe feature.
 - We had bids from three providers; we're going with Securicom.
 - The price will be \$44,646.
 - This has been approved by the Finance Committee.
 - The amount is just over the line requiring two committees to approve and send to Council.

MOVED LUCIA, SECONDED GEORGIA:

“That the Executive Committee recommend the expenditure of \$44,646 from the SUB Repairs & Replacement Fund for the replacement of the existing surveillance system server.”

... Carried

Updates

- *Lucia's update:*
 - Get Thrifty business plan review.
 - Bike Kitchen deficit repayment plan.
 - Rubric for Fincom-administered funds.
 - Many students don't know what our funds are, and now in COVID people are asking where the fees go to: my team is reaching out to fee-receiving groups.
 - Health & Dental: adding more money into the fund.
 - International Student MSP support.
- *Sylvester's update:*
 - Started the onboarding process for Campus Base: contacting clubs, then public launch.
 - Meeting undergraduate societies about their asks.
 - Office and locker allocation complete.
 - Discussing creating a second assistant manager position for the Hatch Art Gallery:
 - There would be one assistant manager for the permanent art collection and online communications.
 - The other assistant would be a more hands-on position about installations within the gallery.
 - We can afford to do that because we won't be hiring an assistant manager for the Clubs Resource Centre: don't think we'll need them.
 - Found an external website to host virtual exhibitions for programming come September.
 - Rotating runoff gardens across from Pie R being repaired; new plants to give a greater sense of joy.
- Ian:
 - If we go ahead with the cannabis dispensary plan, can we grow marijuana in the gardens?
- Cole:
 - If the whole building gets licensed as a grow-op.
- *Georgia's update:*
 - Climate Emergency Taskforce working to produce recommendations for August 5.
 - Continuing work on COVID-19 survey report and Academic Experience Survey (AES) report.

- Will do AES on August 26 instead of August 5.
- Looking at incorporating Accessibility Technical Guidelines into courses:
 - Giving students income as note-takers.
- Proctorio working group:
 - Best practices for invigilation tools.
 - Funding to go only to courses where it required.
 - A privacy audit to make sure information is not retained.
- On implementation committee for UBC Policy SC-17 (on sexual misconduct).
- Brainstorming about affordability plan.
- Meeting about undergraduate research opportunities: hoping to provide more support for paid and meaningful opportunities.
- UBC Policy SC-12 (on safety abroad).
- Policies that need to be looked into in the light of COVID.
- Half a million dollars for lecture-recording equipment (Allard Law and Forestry).
- *Kalith's update:*
 - Neighbours Agreement passed: We can go forward with the UNA Agreement/relationship.
 - The provincial government has released new money for BC Campus.
 - Just started federal advocacy: spoke to the Prime Minister's Office and MP Joyce Murray.
 - Transit subsidy: Hearing from some faculties that students are unaware of what we're offering: working to get the word out.
 - Prepping for the fall: U-Pass being reinstated, but waiting to see what the fall really looks like.
 - Equity-based grants.
 - Sexual violence prevention.
- *Ian's update:*
 - Safewalk:
 - Interviewing for Safewalkers.
 - Will start operating in August.
 - Demos for software to replace Olivewood: will bring proposal to the Executive.
 - Two accessibility shuttles coming soon.
 - Tutoring:
 - Secured \$25,000 from UBC's CSIC (Centre for Student Involvement and Careers).
 - Interviewing for senior and regular tutors.
 - Marketing plan.
 - Peer Support:
 - Team hired.
 - Revamping hiring and training process (with HR Department).
 - Certificate training.

- Outreach: on board with First Week.
- Food Bank:
 - Busy as ever.
 - Interviewing for a second assistant coordinator to help with the load.
 - More equipment.
 - Trialling food delivery.
- Housing:
 - Doing interviews with applicants.
- Using Campus Base for data collection.
- Cole:
 - Need a proposal for the Safewalk shuttles.

Rec Centre

- Cole:
 - I've been invited to sit on the RFP selection committee.
 - Project is slowly getting up and going.
 - Exciting developments about how we can be more involved.

Student Data MoU

- Sylvester:
 - Consulting about new MoU.
 - Revising old one partly because of efficiency; also to continue the CWL integration with Campus Groups.
 - Also updating how frequently we get data:
 - Adding dates because of the difficulty in reaching out to students, especially in the summer.
 - May increase to 6 updates a year and whenever we need one.
 - Addressed housing the data outside Canada.
 - Affiliated institutions: instead of relying on UBC, we'll create MoU's with each of them (St. Mark's, Regent, VST): the students there are our members.

Norm Theatre

- Cole:
 - Meeting with the Associate Dean of Operations in Arts and the interim Department Head in Theatre and Film.
 - Good conversations.
 - Lots of interest in the space.
 - Looking at Norm becoming a hub for lots of things.
 - Have additional work to do on asbestos abatement.
 - Sending a cost proposal to the University on the project.

Equity Plan Steering Group

- Cole:
 - Meeting with the consultant.
 - Importance of a steering committee for the Equity Plan to get involvement from the students, for guidance of the process.
 - Proposed structure:
 - Me
 - My assistant Niki
 - One Executive
 - Praneet (the HR Manager)
 - 2 Councillors
 - 3 students at large (one named by the Resource Groups, one by the Black Students Union, and one by the Indigenous Committee).
 - Want to develop a ToR.
- Abdul:
 - Perhaps more representation?
 - From the Neurodiverse and Disabled Alliance?
 - From the Pride Collective?
- Cole:
 - The goal would be that the Resource Group representative would represent those two.
 - Obviously, yes, those groups will be engaged with, but there will be just one person on the Steering Committee.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 pm.



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of August 5, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Abdul Alnaar (Senior Manager of Student Services), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:17 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Cole, Lucia).

Minutes

- The minutes of July 29 were approved as corrected (Cole, Georgia).

Updates

- *Lucia's update:*
 - Budgets. Using reserves.
 - Reports for Fincom.
 - Loan rubric.
 - Contacting clubs about deficits.
 - Health & Dental: Qualtrics survey form.
- Keith:
 - Next Health & Dental meeting?
- Lucia:
 - Writing Studentcare about international opt-outs.
 - Waiting on numbers.
- *Kalith's update:*
 - UCRU governance committee developing bylaws. Will bring to Exec.
 - Presentation tonight to Council on UCRU: explaining UCRU to them.

- Transit plan for the fall: Potential opt-out system if TransLink allows.
- Video with MP Joyce Murray (federal Minister of Digital Government): to educate students on what the Minister does.
- Policy papers on equity-based grants.
- Speaking to the Indigenous Committee to build a relationship with them.
- Transit subsidy:
 - More applicants, but still working to get more.
- UNA Special General Meeting coming up.

- *Georgia's update:*
 - Presentations coming on the Academic Experience Survey and the COVID survey.
 - Coordinating anti-racism campaigns on how to empower students, how they can access resources.
 - Culturally appropriate mental health resources.
 - There are pockets of money at UBC, but no dedicated reservoir for these resources.
 - This is a priority.
 - Equity and Inclusion.
 - Big thing: Climate Emergency engagement.
 - Presented to the Associate Deans.
 - Creating inter-disciplinary resources for courses around climate literacy.
 - Looking into collection of data when students register: on non-binary genders; race-based data; income-based data.
 - Scheduling project: accessibility, commuter students.
 - COVID-19 clauses in residence contracts.
 - Reaching out to the RHA (Residence Hall Association): establishing what that relationship will look like.

- *Ian's update:*
 - Food Bank:
 - Interviews for a second assistant coordinator who will manage the volunteers.
 - Safewalk:
 - Interviews to get team ready.
 - Safewalk starting on August 17, later than anticipated.
 - New dispatch software: same price range as previously.
 - Tutoring:
 - Interviews.
 - Revamped the hiring process.
 - Nimbus app.

- Peer Support:
 - Interviews.
 - Changing the hiring process to make it more fun.
 - Outreach: working with First Week.
- Housing:
 - Cole and I interviewed an applicant.
 - Conversation with Concordia about their co-op student housing program.
- Data collection through Campus Base.
- Abdul:
 - Is the Executive interested in joining the Services for a Resource Fair?
 - Did this last year.
 - Jump Start September 1: different times, different time zones.
- *Keith's update:*
 - Auditors.
 - Helping Lucia with budget and Health & Dental.
 - Going to Council for approval of the replacement for the CCTV server.
 - Air conditioning project: sticker shock. Reviewing it. Maybe do it next summer?
 - Opening more business outlets in September.
 - A/V replacement.
 - Expense management system approved at Fincom.

Equity Plan Steering Committee

- Cole:
 - Need to appoint an Executive.
 - Committee already includes me and my assistant Niki (she will chair), along with two Councillors and three students from marginalized communities:
 - We are inviting a representative from the Resource Groups and one each from the Black Students Union and the Indigenous Committee.
 - They'll get honorariums.
- Georgia:
 - Also important to represent all the intersectional groups.
- Cole:
 - This is just for the Steering Committee.
 - We could put 30 people on it, but that would not produce an effective Steering Committee process.
 - Other groups will be consulted.
 - The reps on the committee will speak to and relay from other groups, e.g., if the Resource Group rep is from the Social Justice Centre, they will speak to other Resource Groups.

- Georgia volunteered to serve as the Executive on the committee, and was approved by the Executive.
- Cole:
 - The Steering Committee should get off the ground sometime this month.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of August 12, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:09 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Georgia, Lucia).

Minutes

- The minutes of August 5 were approved (Sylvester, Lucia).

Hatch Strategic Plan

- Sylvester:
 - Last year's manager of the Hatch Art Gallery drafted a strategic plan to accompany SHAPE (the committee on selling Hatch art).
 - It deals with the issues of maintenance and care of the collection, de-accessioning guidelines (i.e., procedures for removing works from the collection), acquisitions (seeking to address under-representation with a view to achieving more inclusivity and diversity), and transition issues.
 - There's a lot in the plan that might be looked at.
 - It deals with more than SHAPE and the selling of art from the permanent collection; it's also about managing the Hatch.
- Cole:
 - The original purpose of the plan was to deal with the permanent collection, not the running of the Hatch. That would be a different conversation.
 - Let's discuss this further offline.

Trans Mountain Letter

- Georgia:
 - A letter about the Trans Mountain pipeline has come to us for endorsement.
 - It talks of a Just Recovery and is generally in line with principles we've endorsed.
 - It addresses climate change in a way that is in line with our positions.
 - The letter calls for freezing the pipeline expansion, honouring Indigenous sovereignty, and directing funding towards green jobs.
 - It's a letter to the Prime Minister's Office and signed by a number of student societies, including the ones at SFU, Concordia, and McGill.
 - Do we want to endorse this?
- Kalith:
 - We have other ways of engaging.
 - Sending a letter is not the most effective way; it's not the route I would take.
- Georgia:
 - Let's discuss offline.

Advisory Board

- Cole:
 - Met last night. Went well.
- Sylvester:
 - Good discussions and take-aways.

Updates

- *Georgia's update:*
 - Climate Emergency report/climate justice.
 - Involved in networks to develop culturally appropriate resources for mental health, race, gender.
 - AES and COVID-19 survey reports.
 - Undergraduate research opportunities: developing momentum, identifying barriers.
 - Food Security Initiative.
 - Creating support for international students.
 - Sexual violence education/prevention initiatives.
 - Proctorio/remote invigilation: continuing momentum for September Senate meeting.
- *Lucia's update:*
 - Digitizing Health & Dental fee opt-out and reimbursement forms.
 - Studentcare sent us a proposal on international students
 - We weren't happy with it and are drafting a response.
 - Looking at the feasibility of international student opt-outs.

- Loading opt-out information onto Campus Base.
- *Kalith's update:*
 - Federal advocacy: Video with MP Joyce Murray.
 - Federal submissions.
 - Indigenous student support advocacy.
 - Equity-based grants.
 - UCRU: formalization/bylaws.
 - TransLink: options for the fall. Reinstating the U-Pass. Building a program for students outside the Lower Mainland so they can opt out.
 - Finding a way to support students at the Affiliated colleges for the transit subsidy.
- Georgia:
 - If a student in the Lower Mainland wants a subsidy, can they get one?
- Kalith:
 - During the year, there's a regular U-Pass subsidy.
 - Will reinstate that.
- *Ian's update:*
 - Some changes in Services, but still going forward.
 - All the Coordinators are hired now.
 - Housing person starts today.
 - Preparing for the fall: recruiting volunteers, etc.
- *Sylvester's update:*
 - Hiring for CRC Manager this Friday.
 - Addressing issues for room bookings for clubs:
 - Rooms have to be cleaned, so that could mean a lot of time between bookings.
 - We're going to provide cleaning supplies.
 - Workshops and programming at CRC.
 - Subsidiary onboarding continuing on Campus Base:
 - Hope to have at least 50% of the clubs onboarded by the August 24 launch.
 - Testing CWL integration: waiting for data from UBC.
 - Finalizing guidelines for Imagine Day and Clubs Days: virtual fairs.
 - Proposing a videoconferencing subsidy for clubs.
 - Monthly Sustainability symposiums for Constituencies and Sustainability groups.
Starting in October:
 - October: AMS Sustainability in general
 - November: Sustainability Projects Fund: past projects; the process of applying; want to make this accessible.

- December: Interactive Sustainability Centre (hoping it will open in January).
 - Bringing the renovation proposals for the Interactive Sustainability Centre to Council in September.
 - Hatch website for online exhibitions.
- Keith:
 - Where will the funding come from for the website?
- Sylvester:
 - From my portfolio. Just the domain cost: \$100.
- Cole:
 - I have an idea for Nest animation.
 - Put AMS messaging on the main staircase.
 - Floor decals telling what we do.
 - There's not a lot of AMS material in our own building.
 - We could be advertising more.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of August 19, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External, left at 12:30), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Keith Hester (Managing Director)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:07 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Kalith, Georgia).

Minutes

- The minutes of August 12 were approved as corrected (Kalith, Georgia).

Updates

- *Kalith's update:*
 - UCRU bylaws: special meeting tomorrow, then coming to all the student unions, will bring the bylaws here for feedback.
 - Video with Joyce Murray being edited; will be posted next week.
 - U-Pass Advisory Committee (UAC) meeting to finalize fall plans:
 - Reinstating the U-Pass.
 - Working on an opt-out mechanism for those outside the Lower Mainland.
 - Fixing our entries in the provincial and federal lobbying registries.
 - Quarterly report.
- *Georgia's update:*
 - Updates on Climate Emergency: distilled to strategic priorities; to go to the Board of Governors in November.

- Delaying the report on the Academic Experience Survey until September.
- The COVID-19 survey report is probably ready for next week's Council.
- Meeting Thrive, UBC's health promotion unit. Looking to develop culturally appropriate mental health resources and remove barriers to accessing those resources.
- Getting momentum going on Linked-In Learning again, especially in light of our current online environment.
- Impact Grants.
- Steering Committee on student evaluations met; to make recommendations for May 2021.
- Proctorio: Academic Integrity and Remote Invigilation Principles.
- Soft launch for Textbook Broke Campaign:
 - Students nominating professors over the summer for advances in using Open Education Resources (OER's).
 - Discussions of what constitutes an OER.
- Mistreatment resources: What is available to a student if they're encountering mistreatment?
- Centre for Accessibility meeting.
- Problems with email: when writing to Gmail accounts from AMS Outlook, emails are going to spam.
- Cole:
 - Have discussed the email problem with Hong and Keith.
 - Maybe we should move our emails to G-suite.
- Sheldon:
 - Privacy issues if move to the cloud?
- Cole:
 - Wouldn't anticipate more than now.
 - We already do a lot of work on Google drive.
 - In-house is always more secure, but I'll have IT look at it.
- *Cole's update:*
 - Norm Theatre:
 - Good meeting with the Faculty of Arts.
 - Different options for how to proceed; still waiting to hear back.
 - They may foot the bill for exploratory work.
 - We'll see what they want to contribute: they're interested in the academic aspects.
 - Exploring potential donor options with Alumni Development.
 - Conversation with Keith and Praneet about wages for student staff: will come to the Executive. Confident we'll find a balance.
 - New committee appointment policy coming.
 - Out of office next Monday and Tuesday.

- East Side Furniture motion tabled by Council: would like to bring it back.
- Georgia:
 - UBC is concerned about the lack of study space in campus, so is interested in the furniture project.
- Cole:
 - Is everyone good to bring this motion back to Council?
- There was consensus to bring it back.

[Kalith left.]

- *Sylvester's update:*
 - Team getting ready for the CampusBase launch on Monday.
 - Still waiting for AMS member list from UBC.
 - Hired new Hatch assistant manager.
 - Hatch also got a new Wix template for its website for the permanent collection.
 - Sustainability: Runoff garden project still in progress.
 - Helping UBC Orientations
- *Ian's update:*
 - Safewalk starts operations on Friday.
 - Tutoring still working with our partners.
 - Contract negotiations about Nimbus.
 - Peer Support is hiring outreach people; already hired support people.
 - Food Bank busy as ever; finalizing partnership with Food Mesh.
 - Videographer to produce videos on the Services to let students know how the Services work.
 - Housing Coordinator well on way; aiming for a feasibility report for September 30.
 - Accessibility shuttles for Safewalk.
- *Lucia's update:*
 - Health & Dental opt-out period for international students.
 - Implementation of Certify (the new expense management system):
 - To launch to the Finance Caucus.
 - The EUS and the CUS are two constituencies with massive amounts of transactions, so will be meeting with them.
 - Get Thrifty budget approved by Fincom, so they can work on their expansion now.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of August 26, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance, arrived 12:40), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:10 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Georgia, Sylvester).

Minutes

- The minutes of August 19 were approved as corrected (Kalith, Georgia).

AMS-Owned Housing

- Kalith:
 - Had a very fruitful conversation with the Concordia Student Union (CSU) and UTILE.
 - UTILE is a non-profit organization that promotes student housing co-operatives.
 - The CSU and UTILE are starting up a co-op housing project in Montreal called Woodnote.
 - The CSU provides 10% of the funds; the rest comes from loans and grants from government.
 - Priority in the housing project will go to CSU members.
- Ian:
 - An exciting opportunity.
 - Complex governance.
 - Woodnote is a separate organization: the CSU went to UTILE to set it up.
 - It's a \$6-7 million project.
 - And now another one is in the works with McGill for much more.
 - The CSU one is just starting now after several years of work.
 - If we did something like this, it would probably take us four or five years.

- This would be separate from our new Housing Service.
- Cole:
 - It would be good to identify a site on campus rather than spend millions to develop a site in Vancouver.
 - Maybe work with the University (Campus & Community Planning) to see if it's doable.
 - What did the CSU contribute?
- Ian:
 - For the \$6-7 million project, \$1.6 million came from the City of Montreal, \$1.85 million from the CSU, \$150,000 from Concordia University.
 - There were various loans.
 - Location is the difficult part.
 - If not on campus, could look at Burnaby or Richmond. Closer than White Rock and cheaper than Vancouver.
- Kalith:
 - UTILE seems keen on helping us with this project.
 - Looking to expand to the West Coast.

Cannabis Store in Nest

- Cole:
 - Georgia and I spoke to Michael White (UBC Campus & Community Planning).
 - The timing is good: UBC is reviewing its policy.
 - We're going to create a submission to the Board of Governors saying why we'd be the best to do this.
 - Been talking to Canopy, a cannabis producer, about partnership; they have a variety of brands.
 - They're into franchising; we'd be more interested in a partnership; we haven't adopted a franchising model.

Tuition Surplus

- Cole:
 - Everything going well.
 - Submission to Board of Governors.
 - We still need to discuss.
 - Norm Theatre: Waiting to hear back from the Faculty of Arts about a design study for cost determination.
 - By the time we submit to the Board, I hope to have an idea about the cost split.
 - Hoping to find alternative sources of revenue.
 - The GSS is working on renovations to their space.
 - Electric Safewalk vehicles.

- Ian:
 - The electric Safewalk vehicles turn out to be much more expensive than anticipated: maybe as much as \$100,000.

Physical Food Hub

- Georgia:
 - A Food Security Initiative.
 - In addition to the digital food hub.
 - Looking at stakeholders.
 - Accessible, culturally relevant food resources.
 - Getting off the ground at UBCO.
 - Also at UBC Vancouver, probably in the Well-Being Portfolio.
 - Hoping to involve SEEDS.
 - Is the AMS interested in exploring this further?
- Kalith:
 - Is the AMS Food Bank involved in the discussions?
- Georgia:
 - The Food Bank Coordinator was at one meeting.
- Sylvester:
 - The Food Hub is starting at UBCO to see how it goes.
 - The AMS Services team has been part of the conversation.
- Keith:
 - Is Sprouts involved?
- Sylvester:
 - Sprouts is a club, so no.
 - But my Sustainability team has been reaching out to AMS subsidiaries, including Sprouts.
- Cole:
 - What is the University asking for?
- Georgia:
 - Does the AMS want to be a stakeholder?
- Cole:
 - The important thing is to ensure a sustainable structure, so it can continue year after year.

Rec Centre

- Cole:
 - Sylvester, Georgia, and I have been involved in the conversations.
 - A number of sessions with the architect are coming up.
 - We have two seats on the Design Working Group.

- Keith:
 - Government funding?
- Cole:
 - Need to follow up with Athletics & Recreation.

Fee Subsidies

- Cole:
 - What's the plan for rolling out U-Pass, Health & Dental, etc.?
- Kalith:
 - Lucia's working on AMS Hardship Subsidies.
 - The U-Pass exemption form for students outside the Lower Mainland is online now.
 - There's also the regular U-Pass hardship subsidy.
 - The main thing is to make sure that students with no access to transit don't have to pay.

[Lucia arrived.]

- Cole:
 - I'm getting lots of questions.
- Kalith:
 - Yes, there are lots of inquiries.
 - Students ask why they're being charged if classes are online.
 - The explanation is that this is a universal plan: students can use it for other things besides going to class. They have other essential needs.
 - The hardship subsidy is both partial and full.
- Lucia:
 - Subsidy information can go up on the website today.
- Cole:
 - Coordinate with Communications.
 - Need to get the messaging out so people know their options.
- Lucia:
 - Been working on a financial guide.
 - Can send out a newsletter at the beginning of September.
 - Also a web page about financial support
- Cole:
 - We need something for the end of the week.

CampusBase

- Sylvester:
 - Difficulty at the end of last week.

- Nearing final stages for implementation when there was a server crash which exposed some students' student numbers.
- We deactivated the sign-in when this was discovered (we had invited group officers to sign in).
- The numbers would only have been visible to group officers who signed in: probably only 20 people.
- This was August 20-21.
- We have fixed the issues.
- The Ubysey wrote about it.
- We do recognize that students don't want their information shared.
- Going forward, we will not be using the Directory feature on CampusBase; this will prevent people from being searched by group officers looking for members.
 - The is will put the onus on individuals to search for groups they may want to join.
- Launched yesterday; posted a Terms of Service; the system is ready for use.
- 570 students have logged in. Hoping that number skyrockets.
- This is a platform that can revolutionize groups on campus.

Housing Contract

- Georgia:
 - We were raising the alarm that a clause in the contract would mean residents could be terminated without notice and left without housing.
 - The language is being changed because of our recommendations.
 - This is a cool win.
 - We are continuing conversations.
- Cole:
 - I love big wins.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:59 pm.

Vice-President External

- Kalith:
 - Working with GSS and UBC to make sure we are on the same page in terms of communicating about U-Pass.
 - Working with UBC to ensure that exemption form will allow immunocompromised students to be exempt.
 - My team is participating in the Get Out the Vote campaign, which will be launched during the next provincial election.
 - AMS is signing onto this campaign and there will be a 2 day training involved.
 - Video with Joyce Murray coming out next week, excited to show students what Minister Murray does and how it impacts them.
 - Following up with UTILE for housing advocacy and how we can provide students across the country with affordable housing.

Vice-President Finance

- Lucia:
 - All AMS subsidies are ready to be distributed.
 - Health and dental deadline has been extended to September 29th.
 - Communications has all the info, we just need to send it out to students.
 - Terrence said we cannot make a separate tab for financial aid, will follow up with Eric for that.
- Kalith:
 - Could get rid of the COVID-19 support tab on website and put financial support tab there instead.
- Lucia:
 - It's hard to find info on the site even though it's all available, will need to follow up with Communications on that because we need a tab for financial aid.
- Sylvester:
 - Did you follow up with Priscilla for a graphic to put up on Campus Base?
- Lucia:
 - Not yet.
- Sylvester:
 - We can put info on Campus Base as well.
- Lucia:
 - Should we reach out to constituencies to blast the info?
- Sylvester:
 - Yes, if the info is ready, I can send it to constituencies. Let's get materials ready by the end of this week, a full page of info for what is going on and what the AMS is offering then ask constituencies to share with their students.
- Lucia:

- I have their emails, I can send to their President and ask them to circulate it. We have a doc prepared, just need to make it look pretty.

Vice-President AUA

- Georgia:
 - Final report of climate emergency declaration is finally done!
 - Attending accountability and implementation meetings to make sure recommendations from the report have clear pathways for implementation.
 - Had a meeting about equity and inclusion to advance Santa Ono's action plan for anti-racism and establish equity in hiring.
 - Focused on creating anti-racism frameworks and creating more effort in retention and recruitment of faculty members of colour.
 - There has been a lot of momentum for an anti-proctorio movement.
 - A university in New York gathered over 50k signatures against the usage of proctorio.
 - Working to ensure that harms caused by Proctorio are reduced.
 - Textbook broke campaign is back for another year.
 - Continuing to work with UBC for the development of institutional support.
 - Will distribute resources about this campaign.
 - Connecting with UBCO in October about creating open education resources.
 - Continuing to work on creating framework for anti-racism workshops.
 - Made amendments to Housing contract.
 - In the last version, housing said they will not provide alternate accommodation if residence closure happens. We removed this aspect, but wording is still vague.
 - Our goal is to get Housing to provide accommodations for students in the event of a residence closure.
- Kalith:
 - Did UBCO get back to you about that meeting?
- Georgia:
 - Yes, there will be a webinar that is presented for open education.
- Kalith:
 - What about the meeting for student advocacy?
- Georgia:
 - Not yet.
- Georgia:
 - International student advising will issue travel support letters that recognize challenging differences in time zones, this can count as a reason for essential travel to Canada.

- For post graduation work permits, people can continue to study outside of Canada. This has been extended to next April.
 - It will not affect eligibility of post grad permits.
 - All the information is on the travel to Canada guide on the UBC website.

Services

- Ian
 - Continuing to work on getting services up and running by mid to late September, things are going fine.
 - Will continue to work with campus stakeholders and partners to keep things moving along.

President

- Cole
 - AMS Kickoff will be live for Jumpstart students on Friday.
 - Working on Board of Governors things with Georgia.
 - Important to keep pushing to get out communications info.
 - School year will get a lot busier, we will need to regroup and talk about some issues such as revitalizing the Events branch.
 - We need to keep tabs on certain issues so they don't slip away when the school year gets busy.

Mandatory Masks in the Nest

- Cole:
 - I think we need to implement a mandatory mask policy especially as we head into the school year.
 - Talked to Keith about potentially selling masks for people who don't have their own. Maybe for \$2/mask?
 - Services can provide free masks - so people don't feel like they can't access services because they don't have a mask, but need to check in with Senior managers about this.
 - Hoping to make an announcement tomorrow. Effective September 8th, mandatory mask policy for the Nest.
- Sylvester:
 - How do you envision this to be enforced?
- Cole:
 - Impossible to 100% enforce, but possibly refusing to serve people if they don't have masks or asking them to buy a mask at food outlets with their purchase.

- It would go a long way just to have this policy in place, it would allow other students to feel more comfortable calling out people who don't wear masks.
- Kalith:
 - If we put up a lot of signs everywhere, it will encourage people to wear masks.
 - We also need proper communication for providing masks to people who can't afford them.
- Cole:
 - We can't afford to give out masks for free
- Kalith:
 - Staff should be aware that if someone comes up to them and says they can't afford masks, we should have some in stock.
- Georgia:
 - We can see if UBC Building Operations is providing free masks
- Sylvester:
 - We shouldn't sell masks, we can partner with the grocery store to get a supplier so the store can sell masks in smaller quantities.
 - People who don't have masks will be directed to the grocery store or Shoppers.
 - We shouldn't have a full stock of masks and giving out to people, they will expect to receive masks from AMS.
 - We should make sure to have adequate communication about wearing masks.
- Cole:
 - What is the issue with selling masks at food outlets?
- Sylvester:
 - For example going to The Gallery, people would go all the way up before they're told to buy a mask. There are better places in the building to sell masks such as the grocery store
- Cole:
 - The point of the policy is enforceability, it isn't to provide a service for selling masks. We will give students the option to either purchase a mask in order to utilize services in the Nest or we will ask them to leave.
- Kalith:
 - My concern is making sure we have masks for those who can't afford them and what is the cheapest we can afford them.
 - I think we need masks, but we need to keep everyone in mind when selling masks.
- Cole:
 - Not to sound insensitive, but currently everyone should already have a mask.
 - If they are walking into a building and are asked to buy a mask, it shouldn't be an issue. The person has chosen to access the building but are not complying with the rules of the building.
- Georgia:

- What kind of masks? Disposable masks don't seem like they should cost \$2, a lot of those masks are free.
 - We are not taking on financial burden by buying them.
- Cole:
 - A pack of 50 masks is around \$60 because demand is so high.
 - We can see if we can get price per unit of AMS branded ones
- Kalith:
 - Those are expensive
- Lucia:
 - Stores will typically charge 50 cents to 1 dollar for cheap disposable masks. After we see how much it'll cost, we can see what the breakeven point is and how much it would cost for us to give them out for free.
- Cole:
 - Looking at this from a business standpoint, companies such as Lululemon can give out free masks because people will come into their store to buy merchandise, so they can afford to sink 1 dollar into a mask.
 - Nowhere else on campus will provide free masks, people will end up exploiting the AMS for masks. It's important to train staff to recognize when people can't afford masks and give them out for free.
 - We can talk more about this but we should move quickly if we want to introduce something by the start of the school year.
- Sylvester:
 - What's the next step?
- Cole:
 - We'll check-in with Daniel and see if there is any movement on this from Keith's end.
 - Launching it next Tuesday will be a bit of a stretch.
 - What we could do is make maska mandatory on Tuesday and gradually enforce it more over time and offer more options for providing masks.
 - Or we can wait a week and roll the policy all out at once.
- Georgia:
 - We can communicate that masks are mandatory and continue providing updates as they come in.
- Sylvester:
 - The main thing is that we don't want to be the group people are relying on to get masks.
 - We should announce the policy today or tomorrow and over time we can get our own stash of masks and see how services and food outlets can collaborate with us on this over time.
- Cole:
 - I'll touch base with managers about this and let you know.

Upcoming Committee Appointments

- Cole:
 - Some major changes about committee appointments.
 - Sylvester and Lucia now have the option to not chair Finance and Operations committee if they don't want to.
 - Joshua is no longer Advocacy Chair, the position is open.
 - Looking into swapping Georgia out of Governance Committee for Cole or another Executive.
 - Sylvester and Lucia, do you guys still want to chair your committees?
- Sylvester:
 - Will wait until other members are on the committee before making a decision.
- Cole:
 - Need to make a decision now and need to appoint committee chairs in advance instead of waiting to see who is on the committee.
 - Actually when we send out committee invitations, we can ask if people are interested in chairing, but get your decision in ASAP.
- Lucia:
 - I would prefer if I don't chair, but if there isn't anyone who feels confident, I can continue to chair it.
 - Want to focus on other more pressing issues.
- Cole:
 - Georgia and Kalith, are one of you interested in chairing?
- Georgia:
 - I do not want to chair Advocacy.
- Cole:
 - Kalith, are you interested?
- Kalith:
 - Not interested but I am interested sitting on Governance Committee
- Cole:
 - Georgia you are currently on Governance Committee, do you want to swap that with Kalith?
- Georgia:
 - Kalith, Are you interested in sitting on it?
- Kalith:
 - I heard that you didn't want to sit on it, so I can.
- Georgia:
 - It was more so to swap for someone who would be more helpful.
- Cole:
 - Justin and I work closely with Sebasatian, I don't need to sit on the committee. Georgia, do you want to sit on it or swap out with Kalith?

- Georgia:
 - I don't always have the capacity to sit on the committee. My time is better spent on other things. If Kalith feels he has the capacity to sit on this, I'm happy to swap.
- Cole:
 - Kalith do you want to sit on Governance Committee
- Kalith:
 - Yes
- Kalith left -
- Cole:
 - We are going to skip updates on Jumpstart Resource Group. Anything else to talk about?
 - No? Fantastic.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:59 PM.

Minutes of the AMS Executive Committee

September 9th, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Kalith Nanayakkara (Vice-President External), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (Vice-President Administration), Lucia Liang (Vice-President Finance), Georgia Yee (Vice-President Academic & University Affairs), Keith Hester (Managing Director)

Regrets: None

Recording Secretary: Haiger Ye

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:16 pm.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Approval of the Agenda

Moved: Kalith Seconded: Sylvester

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

Approval of Previous Minutes

Moved: Kalith Seconded: Sylvester

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes from the September 2nd, 2020 Executive Committee meeting be approved and sent to AMS Council”

... Carried

Executive Updates

President

Cole:

- Imagine Day went well. AMS ran virtual booths on Campus Base with 40-50 people in each booth.
- Met with new board chair Nancy Mackenzie.
- SASC Office on track for completion by end of the month.
- Hiring a new Equity and Inclusion Associate.

Vice-President Academic and University Affairs

Georgia:

- Compiling climate emergency report. Will bring to either November or December Board of Governors meeting.
- Exploring accountability mechanisms for climate emergency process to ensure process is adequately resourced.
- Sustainability and Advocacy Committee looking to host AMS forum for climate change. Will decide on an agreed upon stance to advocate for climate emergency.
- Meeting with Board of Governors in November/December to discuss plans for the Stadium Road neighbourhoods.
- Working with Admin team and Foodbank coordinator to discuss an at-cost grocery store.
- Textbook broke set to launch this week, will be reaching out to different undergraduate societies and clubs.
- Meeting regularly with the Centre for Accessibility to discuss new accommodations for online learning.
- Sending out the academic experience survey and COVID-19 report for Council.
- Working with various groups on campus to create an open letter for Proctorio. Guidance for using Proctorio exists, not sure if it is strong enough guidance.

Vice-President Administration

Sylvester:

- Finalized the Sustainability Symposium program.
 - First couple months will be introductory and informative.
 - October meeting will introduce AMS Sustainable Action Plan.
 - November meeting will introduce Sustainability Projects Fund.
 - Programming will include workshops.
 - We've been working with campus and community planning to address goals for net zero. Putting together a framework for the best way the Nest can meet these goals.

Georgia:

- By 2025?

Sylvester:

- Some feedback we got is that the Nest is an elite platinum building and is quite advanced with sustainability efforts.
 - We are currently carbon neutral because our emissions are paid off by the university.
 - We should consider 2 approaches. Either looking at ways we can consume less energy or more renewable options, or look at what emissions we produce outside of energy consumptions such as supply chain, operations, etc.
 - We are looking to provide frameworks for both options.
- Hatch launched a new website and is preparing to host their first virtual exhibition.
- New club applications open on CampusBase until September 30th.

- Clubs Day is being finalized, set to start on September 21st. Event will be synchronous with two time slots to accommodate time zones.
- Imagine Day was yesterday, we had a technical server crash on CampusBase.
- Imagine Day data updates:
 - Actively using campus base: 13669 students
 - Total number of students on the platform: around 60,000
 - Unique visitors to main mall event: 9523. Users were found to interact with numerous groups with 34000 total interests indicated for groups.
 - Number of groups that participated in Main Event: 342
- As we move forward, I believe we will be able to attract the rest of the students.

Vice-President Finance

Lucia:

- Made small adjustments for MEL/MHLP students this year to not charge them their student fees for 2020W University will normally mail out cheques or make a direct deposit after students leave the country. This year we moved it early so that they are charged only for 2019W.
- All opt out subsidies are now open. Except UPass exemption which is on SSC and the health and dental plan opt-out which is on Studentcare's website. ^[L]_[SEP]
- Financial aid guide is completed and will be circulated early next week, along with the rest of the Communications package. The university is making final touches to the health and dental email before that is communicated to students and all of the communication package from Studentcare is ready. My office will send them to our Communications department to circulate. ^[P]_[SEP]
- Had our 10th treasury orientation of the year. Around 340 people have attended, some are still missing information and some who have attended are presidents. Starting October orientations will transition to more of a workshop style for people to drop in and ask questions. Club and constituency administrator and financial system advisor will be available to answer questions.
- Does anyone have any questions?

Ian:

- I actually have a question for Sylvester. Services will be using CampusBase, how will they be addressing the server crashes?

Sylvester:

- We've reached out to them through calls and emails, they say they've identified the cause of the server crash and will work to prevent them in the future. But we can't really tell what they are doing at the moment.

Cole:

- I'm not surprised the server is overloaded since it's probably the first time they tested the feature with real strain. The system itself is stable but the virtual fair probably overworked it.
- We were only down for a maximum of 30 minutes, which is pretty good.

Sylvester:

- Aside from the virtual fair component, the system works smoothly.
- Services probably won't use the system with the same magnitude as Imagine Day.
- Clubs Day will be the next test of CampusBase to see if the issue has been fixed.

Cole:

- Did anyone have questions for Lucia?

Georgia:

- Does enrollment services have all the information for opt out subsidies?

Lucia:

- Yes. I've cc'ed Maria and the entire Studentcare communication team, funds and grants are on the email thread.

Georgia:

- Is that for all the different subsidies and opt out provisions?

Lucia:

- Just health and dental. Other opt out and subsidies will come from AMS Communications.

Georgia:

- Might be beneficial for student advising to access the info if students are going in for financial help, it will be a one stop shop for all financial information.
- I can send over information so they can update their FAQs.

Lucia:

- I've hesitated to send out information on our subsidy. We don't have enough money to give everyone.
- There will be people who don't actually need it, but for people who actually need it they can access.

Vice-President External

Kalith

- UPass updates:
 - Receiving a lot of questions from students so we got another phone to answer questions. Sent a flowchart over for Communications to distribute that plays out every scenario. Front desk staff also given a guide for answering questions.

- Exemption form has been going well, but there is some confusion with the different websites we are using to host the form. Will learn from this in the future.
- Received budget consultation report from the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services.
- Bylaws are closer to being presented, hoping to bring these to Council.
- Will have an upcoming meeting to discuss advocacy goals for the month and fall term.
- Working with UTILE on national housing advocacy.

Managing Director

Keith

- Budget is almost done, news on that to come.
- Started work on budget version 4. It won't be ready for this council, but will be later on this year.

Student Services Manager

Ian:

- Holding interviews for Assistant Student Services Manager, hoping to have them start by Monday.
- In general, services are running smoothly.
- Safewalk is up and running. Planning to do a big push on promo. Printed posters for open residences.
- Tutoring has been pushed back a week. We've finished interviews and are training staff. Ordering PPE and will be ready to operate online and in person soon.
- Final peer support training is this weekend.
- Met with Nimbus and will be drafting a contract for renewal. Excited to continue working with them, will provide an update on pricing soon.
- Heard back from Campus Groups. Thanks Sylvester and his team for facilitating. We are hoping to use this to set up online appointments and make things more accessible.

Budget Version 4

Lucia:

- Is this version 3?

Keith:

- This is business version 4. Does anyone have questions on why we're doing this and what might be involved?

Sylvester:

- What is propelling the need for a 4th budget?

Keith:

- UBC recently announced term 2 will be online, we didn't factor this into previous budgets.

- B.C. government has announced another change to subsidy and will reduce subsidies slowly to phase out before December, we did not think about this.

Sylvester:

- With food outlets open, is there data for revenue comparing this summer to last summer to see how exactly we are impacted?

Keith:

- That's going into the quarterly report, numbers will be ready by tomorrow.

Tuition Surplus Update

Cole:

- Sent in our submission for tuition surplus and will be moving forward with these proposals.
 - \$25k from Faculty of Arts will also go towards the cost of the project
 - Currently working on cost analysis.
- Ian any update on safewalk vehicles?

Ian:

- We have a basic quote - hoping to hear back from a company that focuses on accessibility.
- Once I hear back from them, I'll let you know what price is and how to get that money.

Cole:

- We need to think about how to spend the rest of the \$1.5-2M.
- Hopefully by the November board cycle we will have more ideas.
- There's a push for using money on short term projects that will benefit students right now.

Subsidy Updates

Lucia

- Subsidies opened on August 27th. We opened early because there was pressure to release them.
- Last day to apply is September 21st for the AMS general and UPass subsidy.
- Might extend the deadline for AMS general subsidy and SUB renewal fee.
- Health and dental opens on September 8th and ends on September 29th
- All other opt outs close on September 18th

Kalith:

- Mostly working with Lucia on subsidies, but working on exemptions separately.
- Summer subsidy is now closed and being finalized.
- Will also be subsidizing students from affiliate colleges.

Lucia:

- Hoping to move our opt outs earlier next year to before students pay tuition.
- Makes more sense this way as fees won't show up on tuition and won't require a refund, students will be exempt from the total amount.

- Opt out dates were set for early September to align with when most communications are sent to students who are paying attention to fees.
- Need to research the best solution for students to access info.

Cole:

- I forgot to talk about mandatory masks in the Nest, but it will be effective next Monday.
- At the next council meeting, we'll look into amending policy I-7 or adding a policy I-7A for mandatory face coverings. Need a policy that gives us the ability to ask people to leave the building if they aren't wearing masks.

- Ian left -

Annual General Meeting

Cole:

- Tentative date is October 29th, we will probably go with this date.
- I'll start planning with my office, we have lots of ideas for hitting quorum.
- Will be discussing bylaws at a future Executive Strategy meeting.
- Will finalize the date at the next Council meeting.

Scholar Strike

Georgia:

- Sent a statement in the virtual meeting chatbox. Scholar Strike Canada is bringing attention to racism and brutality. UBC Faculty is participating in the strike.
- Hoping to gather thoughts in terms of actions or if there are any oppositions?

Cole:

- Thanks for making the statement Georgia. The Most effective way is to put the statement on our website.

Georgia:

- Okay, I'll leave it to Communications to distribute.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of September 23, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:07 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Sylvester, Kalith).

Minutes

- The minutes of September 9 were approved as corrected (Lucia, Georgia).

Updates

- *Georgia's update:*
 - Attending Board of Governors meeting:
 - Presented with the GSS on student priorities, such as affordability.
 - They're interested in having us back, which is exciting.
 - Food Security initiatives.
 - Climate Energy accountability and implementation.
 - Consulting with the VP Students on a Student Strategic Plan.
 - Launching petition on Proctorio.
 - Wrapping up the Academic Experience and COVID surveys.
- Cole:
 - What's the plan for the petition?
- Georgia:
 - Distribute in hot spots. Reddit.
 - Calling for UBC to end the contract with Proctorio.
 - Expressing support for Ian Linkletter, the whistleblower on the Proctorio issue who's being sued by them.
 - Hoping to reach out to the Faculty Association.

- *Kalith's update:*
 - BC election:
 - Partnering with the BCFS and other schools on a get out the vote campaign.
 - Using the website. Running a social media campaign. Postering.
 - Polling station in the Nest.
 - Housing advocacy.
 - UNA Town Hall.

- *Sylvester's update:*
 - Hatch Art Gallery:
 - First exhibition going pretty well, better than expected.
 - Another exhibit in October.
 - Request for installations in the building: maybe in the pocket lounges and in the Hatch itself.
 - Clubs:
 - Not expecting that much traffic at Clubs Days.
 - But a lot of clubs have been gaining members: they are active.
 - Creating an AMS Canvas course/modules for January:
 - Being on Canvas will fix a lot of problems.
 - It will put us in a better position to ensure students know who we are and what we do.
 - We will also produce a one-pager of policies and do other training.

- *Lucia's update:*
 - Trying to fill vacant staff positions.
 - Interactions have tripled.
 - Daily operational duties.

- *Keith's update:*
 - Audit nearly finished. Delayed by the wage subsidy.
 - Traffic in the building is slow:
 - A little bit more people are coming in, but they're not buying coffee or pizza.
 - Reaching out to residents and international students to encourage them to visit the Nest.
 - Conferences & Catering is slow: looking at getting more filming contracts.

- Sylvester:
 - People know they can buy masks at outlets: that should help.

- Keith:
 - PA announcements have helped.

- Georgia and Kalith have recorded announcements that we run telling people to wear masks.
- *Ian's update:*
 - Big first training this weekend: building community.
 - Food insecurity project.
 - Meeting with Kalith about the long-term housing project (not to be confused with the immediate plans for a Housing Service).

Housing Service

- Ian:
 - We've drafted a 20-page report, including historical background.
 - UBC offers nothing for external housing.
 - We don't offer anything.
 - There are some University resources, but they're not meeting the needs of students looking to live off campus: they're mostly for on-campus housing.
 - There are some resources for off-campus housing for staff.
 - We've looked at what Concordia University does in Montreal.
 - Also looked at the model at the University of Bristol: property management generating income from landlords to subsidize students.
 - Also Western has a small housing service with off-campus housing advisers.
 - Waiting for some data from student consultations.
 - Looking at possible structures, a housing database, advocacy about homelessness.
 - To be online for now, but in future to have a place in the Nest.
 - Draft budget of \$18,667.
- Cole:
 - Let's look at this more in depth.
- Ian:
 - Submitting to Council this week, so send me your feedback now.

AGM and Bylaws

- Cole:
 - I've circulated a summary of what I've looked at changing in the bylaws.
- Ian:
 - Will we be trying to change the Records bylaw again?
- Cole:
 - Yes, but we will bring it as a separate motion, separate from the rest of the bylaw changes.

- It's important to frame it appropriately: the bylaw change is just enabling the creation of the Records Policy; it's not an attempt to hide records but giving Council power to restrict access to sensitive materials; it's pretty standard.
- Georgia:
 - I'm excited to get a better job description.
- Ian:
 - Ombuds change?
- Cole:
 - The AMS Ombudsperson doesn't do appeals to the University anymore.
 - This is just recognizing the current situation.
- Georgia:
 - Is there an opportunity to better align what the UBC Ombudsperson does with our Ombudsperson?
 - Something for an MoU?
- Keith:
 - Also looking at funding.
 - There's an Ombuds fee which doesn't say it's for the University Ombudsperson.
 - One thing an MoU should say is that we're keeping some of the fee for our service.
- Sylvester:
 - Need more time to look at these proposals.
- Cole:
 - The Governance Committee is meeting today to discuss them.
 - From there we'll get a direction.
 - Some things may not go ahead: we may not want to remove seats from Council.
 - There will probably be a discussion next week at Council.
 - Then a special Council meeting the following week to send the final version to the general meeting.

AES Approval

MOVED GEORGIA, SECONDED SYLVESTER:

"That the Academic Experience Survey Report be approved."

... Carried

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of September 30, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External, arrived 12:20), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager, arrived 12:15), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:07 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Georgia, Sylvester).

Minutes

- The minutes of September 23 were approved (Lucia, Georgia).

Expenditures for the BC Election

- Cole noted that the Executive had approved these by email vote, and they will now go to Council.

Updates

- *Georgia's update:*
 - UBC Policy SC-17 implementation (sexual misconduct policy):
 - Meeting VP Students and VP HR about hiring a respondent resource specialist.
 - On the UBC committee for appointment of UBC VP Health.
 - Anti-racism campaign.
 - Attended Pharmacy Undergraduate Society Town Hall on Proctorio:
 - Made presentation on why UBC should discontinue Proctorio.
 - Spicy Academic Deans meeting about contract cheating and academic integrity:
 - Students paying for term papers.
 - Students being exploited.
 - Exploring a centralized resource for academic integrity and academic misconduct.

- Meeting with Services about Food Insecurity.
- Looking into how to report mistreatment in classes concerning 2020 COVID adaptations.
- COVID and AES surveys now completed and on website.
- *Lucia's update:*
 - Deposit system/e-transfer.
 - Reopened U-Pass subsidy; had a large volume of applicants.
 - Health & Dental Plan:
 - Looking to increase mental health limit.
 - Revising permanent opt-out policy to make process smoother for students who opted out permanently as undergraduates but now want the plan when they return as graduate students.
 - Audit of student numbers: checking if enrollment numbers are accurate.
 - Daily duties.

[Ian arrived.]

- *Sylvester's update:*
 - Last day for new club applications.
 - Implementing the \$500 start-up grant for new clubs agreed upon by the Finance Committee, funded by the Clubs Benefit Fund.
 - First AMS Sustainability Symposium coming:
 - Showing what we're doing on sustainability.
 - Allowing various groups on campus to have a platform.
 - In the spirit of being more collaborative.
 - One of our future symposiums will be on climate emergency (November or December).
 - Working with the Climate Hub.
 - Attended virtual collegiate panel.
 - The AGM and the Sustainability Symposium are being advertised on Campus Calendar.
 - Hatch Art Gallery:
 - Preparing for next exhibition.
 - Previous one: Very engaging and allowed people to sign up for zines produced by the artists who led the exhibition.
- *Ian's update:*
 - Almost everything has launched, except Peer Support.
 - Safewalk onboarding.
 - Discussions about what eHub can do:
 - Helping Finance portfolio adjudicate projects.

- EUS going to be using Nimbus for tutoring.
- Food Bank doing lots:
 - Moving forward with new models for helping clients on campus.
 - Trialling new things.
 - Branding. Making videos. Reaching a broader student audience.
- Housing: Long-term project with Kalith. Submitted application for funding.

[Kalith arrived.]

- *Kalith's update:*
 - BC election:
 - We'll be having a polling station in the Nest.
 - Working together with UBC to get the student vote out. Sharing resources.
 - Election debates.
 - UCRU Governance Committee meeting: Bylaw discussions. To lawyers.
 - Other advocacy efforts ongoing.
 - U-Pass subsidy extended.
- Georgia (question for Lucia):
 - Can we share the fee chart?
- Lucia:
 - For opt-outs?
 - It can be circulated, but the opt-out period is ending.
 - It's our Affiliated Colleges that need this.
 - It's missing the building fee.
 - For the January opt-in/out period will add a section on Medical students; that hasn't been explained.
 - Working on improving the chart.
 - Circulating it now would not be useful.
 - It is important to circulate the extended U-Pass deadlines.
 - Will send an email about our funds.
 - That's what I'm working on now.
- Georgia:
 - Can we use other methods to let people know?
- Lucia:
 - Can definitely do that in the future: social media.
 - This year just emails.
- *Keith's update:*
 - Audit finished.
 - Meeting auditors Thursday. Letter to Executive after that.
 - Traffic up a little in the Nest: not as much as hoped.

- Mandatory mask policy working well.
- Working on putting overall COVID readiness plan online.
- Back and forth with lawyers on Bylaw changes.

AGM

- Georgia:
 - Helpful to announce date.
- Sylvester:
 - It's October 29, 6 pm.
 - Creating link for the event.
 - Registration through Campus Base to make it easier to check if it's AMS members attending.
 - Checking on using Zoom.
- Cole:
 - Waiting for clarification from Council tonight about the bylaws.
 - Think plan will be to launch next week.
 - Looking into Zoom webinar link.
 - First priority is to put together the bylaws package.
 - 6 pm is the best time:
 - Catches students in Asia.
 - Will miss students in Europe.
 - Best time we could get.

IT and Gmail

- Georgia:
 - Brought this up before.
 - Our emails end up in Junk folders when sending to Gmail recipients.
 - What are our options?
- Kalith and Cole agreed there is a problem.
- Cole:
 - Looking to transition to G-suite. Cloud-based.
 - Even Councillors say our emails go to Junk.
 - Perhaps because we send so many and we get flagged.
 - Also because we don't have names on our addresses; it's all president@ams.
 - Better if we have individual Gmail accounts and use Google drive: better for collaboration.
 - Interested in moving away from Outlook.
 - Maybe to iMacs?
 - It would be good to see a plan from IT.
- Georgia:
 - I like the idea of a strategic IT direction.

- We can establish what's working for us and what's not.
 - By December.
- Kalith:
 - We need to adapt to the times.
 - Our systems are outdated.
- Cole:
 - Should we compile a document of what the Executive is looking for?
- Keith:
 - That would be great.
- Cole:
 - Also interested in remote work.
 - Moving away from being work station based.
 - Maybe purchasing some laptops and also expect staff to use their own devices.
 - We'd save footprint space.
 - Also for the permanent staff.
- Georgia:
 - Moving in a direction.
 - Like UBC.
 - Adopting One Drive.
 - Security concerns addressed.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of October 14, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:11 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Sylvester, Georgia).

Minutes

- The minutes of October 7 were approved as corrected (Kalith, Georgia).

Audit

- Keith:
 - We use fund accounting, not traditional profit and loss accounting:
 - We reset to zero every year.
 - Any surplus goes to the funds.
 - Surplus is usually not from operations but from fees, though last year's business operations did contribute to the surplus.
 - We have assets of \$126 million, including:
 - A 55-year lease on the building (though the building goes back to the University at the end of the lease even though we paid for building it).
 - Art collection.
 - Investments: short term from fees, long term from funds.
 - Property and Equipment.
 - Funds, which are both an asset and liability: they derive from fees that come in, but then we have to distribute the money.
 - Cash.
 - Our total liability is \$94 million, including:

- Debt on the building of \$60 million (we've paid off a fair bit; will pay it off in total in 16 years).
- Clubs and Constituencies funds (owed to them).
- Deferred capital contribution: UBC gave us \$25 million for the building (have to amortize that).
- Accumulated deficit of \$4.2 million.
- Good News:
 - \$2.25 million surplus, our highest ever.
 - Health & Dental fees were over collected.
 - We underused several funds: didn't give out money.
 - Used to give \$100,000 a year to UBC for child care, but now there's money accumulating in a child care fund.
- Bad News:
 - AMS deficit.
 - Been in deficit for a while, back to 2016.
 - As much as \$5 million in 2018 because of renovations in the Life Building.
 - Reduced in 2019 by \$1 million, but it's gone up again this year.
 - 2019-20 saw an increase in the deficit of \$227,000:
 - There was a reduced business contribution: down from \$1 million to \$600,000.
 - Reduction in investments from \$600,000 to \$450,000.
 - Increased spending.
 - Partially offset by student fee revenue.
 - Debt (what we owe externally):
 - We refinanced the Nest loan to make it repayable over 19 years: now there's 16 years to go. This will save us \$70 million. Future students won't have to pay the \$100 New SUB fee after another 15 years.
 - \$68 million loan from UBC for the Nest.
 - With refinancing, speeding up of payments: currently a \$58.8 million debt.
 - So our deficit is \$4.2 million and our debt is \$58.8 million.

Questions

- Sylvester:
 - Giving back the building at the end of the lease, in 55 years.
 - Do we have to do that, or could we renegotiate?
 - Will the AMS no longer exist?
- Keith:
 - It's not that the AMS disappears, just the lease is up.
 - In 50 years time hopefully we'll have a new building and we'll move into that.

- Or if we decide we like our building or its location in the centre of campus, we may want to renegotiate and stay here.
 - It's unlikely there will be any other space in the centre of campus.
- Cole:
 - In 55 years things will be built that are unfathomable to us.
- Keith:
 - The concrete bunker next door (the Old SUB, now the Life Building): everyone thought that was a great idea at the time, but would anyone want to work there now?
- Cole:
 - The Nest will depreciate and be half as valuable in 25 years?
- Keith:
 - Yes.
- Ian:
 - Changing the loan provider led to a jump in the repayment per year?
- Keith:
 - The UBC loan was for 35 years.
 - Now we'll repay much quicker (19 years or even sooner).
- Ian:
 - With the repayments going up, that means more for capital and less for interest?
- Keith:
 - Yes.
- Ian:
 - We could lower the deficit through better performing investments and businesses, and less spending?
- Keith:
 - Or we could look at increasing fee revenue.
- Lucia:
 - Or maneuver funds around.
- Ian:
 - Is \$58 million a healthy amount of debt?
 - If we want to pay for the housing co-op project, what constraints would there be?
- Lucia:
 - We can't borrow any more from the bank.
 - Can't take on any more debt: that's a constraint.
 - Can we borrow from UBC?
- Keith:
 - No, that's not allowed.

- One of the provisions of our new agreement: we can't take on any more debt.
 - Debt/service ratio.
 - We can't guarantee any loans.
- Ian:
 - So any new project would have to come from an increase in fees.
- Georgia:
 - Do we have strategies for utilizing our funds better?
- Lucia:
 - Working on that.
 - Making the Clubs Benefit Fund and the Sustainability Projects Fund more accessible.
 - Lots of factors involved:
 - Advertising.
 - Campaigning.
 - Barriers to access: applications that don't fit criteria.
 - Looking to reduce barriers.
 - Over-collection of Health & Dental fees: going to increase the Mental Health Benefit.
 - Could look into Child Care Bursary Fund.
 - Need long-term planning and consultation: can't just spend it all.
 - E-Hub competitions for the Student Initiatives Fund.
- Georgia:
 - Any possibility of using funds for COVID-related purposes?
- Lucia:
 - Keith and I had conversations about the Mental Health subsidy.
 - But can't use money from restricted funds for other purposes.
- Sylvester:
 - The Mental Health Fund is from over-collection of Health & Dental fees?
- Lucia:
 - Yes.
- Sylvester:
 - So that can go ahead.
- Lucia:
 - Yes, but it's not up to me. Have to consult. Collaborate with various departments.
 - Once a subsidy is established, it's hard to take away.
 - If it's for COVID now, but later it's not needed ...
 - Applications have increased this year, but not significantly.
 - Lots of work and thought needed.

- A lot of funds get set up but are not sustainable: the Student Initiatives Fund at \$5,000 a year.
- Sylvester:
 - The VP Students has offered us money for free masks, but we have to contribute.
 - Georgia and I are working on that.
- Lucia:
 - We can use the Health & Dental fund.
 - Waiting to hear from the VP Students.
 - No set dollar amounts yet.
- Sylvester:
 - Probably getting final quotes soon.

AGM

- Cole:
 - Launched our email yesterday.
 - On track to hit quorum. Exciting.
 - Collective Executive update at the AGM:
 - Really quick, just the top three cool things from each Executive.
 - Then open up the floor to ask questions of the Executives.
 - A semi-Town Hall.
 - Want to keep the AGM as brief as possible: don't want to drag students through a 90-minute-long meeting. Want to keep people engaged.
- Keith:
 - Need to adopt the financial statements.
 - Do you want a presentation?
- Cole:
 - Probably need a quick presentation.
- Keith:
 - Not very exciting.
- Cole:
 - Have to look into the technology of talking on Zoom.

Climate Emergency

- Georgia:
 - Resent document.
 - Identifying priorities.
 - Intent is about directing the AMS Executive.
 - Want a motion to show the University we have the backing of AMS Council.
 - \$1.5 million surplus: allocation to climate emergency.
 - Hoping to get matching funding.

- Endorsing the climate strike.
 - Important to show our support.
- Sylvester:
 - This will show we are committing to the priorities.
 - Clarification: The money is going to the Climate Hub for student projects?
- Georgia:
 - The report outlines student-facing projects.
 - Not the Climate Hub: looking at UBC departments or units, e.g., the Climate Emergency Action Task Force.
 - A committee to adjudicate proposed projects.
- Cole:
 - Still have to figure out where the money's going.
 - It's not established how it will be administered.
 - A report is coming.
 - This is very much at the proposal stage, not really at the funding breakdown stage.
 - Waiting to hear back.
 - The Board of Governors is still deciding.
 - We haven't seen the numbers yet.
- Sylvester:
 - Don't want the funds administered by someone else.
- Georgia:
 - Next step: governance of the fund.
 - Looking at BIPOC-specific projects.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of October 21, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Guest: Rish Das (Events Manager)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:15 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Sylvester, Georgia).

Minutes

- The minutes of October 14 were tabled until next time.

Social Media

- Rish:
 - Have taken over as manager of social media.
 - Trying to centralize social media: there are too many AMS accounts. Working with Eric (the Communications Manager) on this.
 - Over the summer reduced the number of accounts to 6 or 7 (AMS, AMS Events, Peer Support, etc.).
 - AMS Instagram:
 - We follow 1,000 that don't follow us; going to reduce those.
 - Want to increase the number of our followers: we have 3,080 now; aiming for 5,000.
 - Want to add more highlights based on the Executive portfolios.
 - Going to archive posts once their purpose is served.
 - Focusing on making the branding consistent: colour etc.
 - One issue is the number of things we're asked to post.

- It would be good to have fixed dates for when things have to be submitted; unless it's something urgent, the aim would not be to post everything right away as soon as it's submitted, but to follow a schedule.
- Aiming for more video content.
- Our elections video got lots of views and shares.
- Now we mostly have graphics and text, but that's less likely to catch someone's attention, and the chances of anyone stopping to read a paragraph are close to zero.
- Want to feature students more.
- We should post about things like what the Executive is working on, or Council notes.
- Twitter: Looking for direction on what to post there.
- Sylvester:
 - There should be some sort of routine or process for social media.
 - We need check-in meetings with the social media people.
 - There's a disconnect between the Executive and the social media team.
 - It would be good to have more consistency about graphics, logos, font size.
 - More video, showing student faces, would be good.
- Cole:
 - Thanks, Rish. What you're saying is on track with what we're talking about.
 - Been discussing this at the Student Life Committee.
 - We want to transition from being just about events to be more the events and promotion department.
- Rish:
 - Reaching out to get more engaging context.
- Georgia:
 - Twitter and other platforms can be versatile, useful.
 - What are the audiences? Different on different platforms? Twitter versus Instagram?
- Rish:
 - It would be good if the Execs could provide material weekly or biweekly, almost like office hours.
- Sylvester:
 - Are the Executives going to be the ones responsible for making sure the work is good and on brand before it goes out, or will it be the social media coordinators?
- Rish:
 - This would mostly be the social media coordinators.
- Cole:
 - We don't actually have brand guidelines, except for something pretty high level.

- We don't have details about colour, placement, etc.
- It would help if we could just go to guidelines.
- That would help the process.

Student Leadership Conference

- Sylvester:
 - For January.
 - Planning for this is happening later than usual.
 - We've had one meeting.
 - This year it's going to look very different.
 - It would be great for the AMS to be more involved this year.
 - Focus on revitalizing student leaders, given the obstacles and challenges of Term One.
 - Possibility of a Student Caucus, potentially run by the AMS.
 - Potentially a Town Hall.
 - Also looking at getting Resource Groups involved.
 - Other collaborators: clubs, for more fun events during the conference.
 - Planning is still preliminary.
 - Any other ideas?
- Ian:
 - Mini case competitions. Talked of last year, but not done.
 - Food Bank and other groups running them: coming up with best ideas for issues.
- Sylvester:
 - Discussion of what future education will be?
- Georgia:
 - Empowering students/activism.
 - That's a good way to shape conversations.

Eastside Furniture Fund Change

- Cole:
 - Thinking of taking the money from the dormant SUB Management Fund (use up the money sitting there) instead of from SUB Repairs & Replacement.

MOVED COLE, SECONDED LUCIA:

"That the Executive recommend to Council that it allocate the funding for the new Eastside furniture from the SUB Management Fund instead of the SUB Repairs & Replacement Fund."

... Carried

Housing

- Ian:
 - Had a conversation with UTILE, who we're working with on the potential development of co-op housing.
 - They're going to start looking at four different structural scenarios for a housing project:
 - AMS ownership
 - Non-profit
 - Co-op
 - Hybrid models.
 - The questions they are going to start answering for each of these structures include:
 - Affordability
 - Ease of financial/access to capital
 - Tenant involvement/student democracy
 - Long term viability
 - Growth capacity (the ease of growing into even more housing)
 - Other implications/other strategic dimensions (other catch all).
 - Hope for answers in the next couple of months.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:59 pm.



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of October 28, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Lucia Liang (VP Finance)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 3:09 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Kalith, Georgia).

Minutes

- The minutes of October 14 and October 21 were approved (Kalith, Sylvester).

Updates

- *Sylvester's update:*
 - Hosted first AMS Sustainability Symposium: great success. Had buy-in from the undergraduate societies.
 - Prepared October Sustainability Update for Council tonight: Focusing on campus coordination and advocacy.
 - Progress on Interactive Sustainability Centre:
 - Discussing who will use it.
 - What will go in there? A scale for weighing our waste bins? And a dashboard.
 - Aiming for net zero carbon emissions by 2025: submitted a report from Carbon Offsetters to Council.
 - Second Hatch Art Gallery exhibition is ongoing.
 - Planning a workshop for clubs with eHub.
 - Preparing staff training to put on Canvas.
- Keith:
 - Location of the Interactive Sustainability Centre?

- Sylvester:
 - A bookable room in the Life Building that no one is using.

- *Georgia's update:*
 - Climate Action: ethical sourcing of construction materials.
 - Food security/digital food hub: culturally appropriate food: sustainability and empowerment.
 - Chipping away at Proctorio:
 - UBC is probably not continuing with it.
 - There is going to be an RFP process.
 - Meeting with Keith, Lucia, and the UBC Ombudsperson about an MoU and raising awareness about ombuds services.
 - Exam policy: Foregrounding student well-being. Looking at midterms: exam clashes. Scheduling after class hours and on weekends.
 - Anti-Racism programming.

- *Kalith's update:*
 - With the ending of the BC election, wrapping up.
 - Had a successful Get Out the Vote campaign.
 - Preparing for lobbying now that there's a new government.
 - Working with groups like the ABCS and BCFS on advocacy.
 - Preparing a welcome package for MLA's to tell them about our priorities.
 - U-Pass: Conversations with the U-Pass Advisory Committee about Term 2.

- *Ian's update:*
 - Working with Sylvester on the clubs workshop.
 - Safewalk is running:
 - Restarting collaboration with Varsity teams to have athletes be Safewalkers.
 - New software.
 - eHub: RBC Get Seeded.
 - Tutoring: Uptick in private tutoring.
 - Peer Support running normally.
 - Food Bank is at a severely higher capacity than usual.
 - Interested in the Aspiria student assistance program, which will offer legal assistance. Will be offering it as a resource for housing and advocacy.

- *Keith's update:*
 - Working on Budget Version 4. To Council in November.
 - Finalizing the process for next year's budget.
 - Held first All-Staff meeting in years.

- Lucia and I are working on amendments to the Health and Dental Plan and dealing with the fee surplus.
- Looking at a fee restructuring for a referendum next term.
- *Cole's update:*
 - AGM:
 - Close to 3,000 registrations. Huge engagement. Super-exciting.
 - We've done a good job of engagement this year. We always hear the AMS needs to do a better job at that.
 - Mundane as this AGM is, if we can get 2,000 students out, they will learn about the AMS, and that will be a big win.
 - It will be a history-making AGM
 - SFU's student union did something similar and got good uptake.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 pm.



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of November 4, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager, arrived 12:15), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:07 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Georgia, Sylvester).

Minutes

- The minutes of October 28 were approved (Kalith, Georgia).

Free Masks in the Nest

- Georgia:
 - UBC has completed an RFP for a mask provider; will probably hear from the vendors to evaluate.
 - UBC may provide funding to us for masks.
 - We can wait for them to get masks and tell them the numbers we need.
 - Or we can ask for funding to get our own masks.
- Sylvester:
 - We are pursuing UBC's RFP provider for consistency.
 - However, we should outline the quantity needed and follow up with our request for the funds, since that was offered by the University.
- Lucia:
 - Do we have to pay for masks from the University?
- Sylvester:
 - There would be cost-sharing.
- Lucia:
 - How much can we get from UBC?
- Georgia:

- They didn't say how much.
- They could provide some funds.
- I could ask how much.
- Cole:
 - I'd like us to get masks as soon as possible.
 - How will we make them available once we have them?
 - Food outlets? Services? Offices?
 - Probably better than at the doors to the building.
- Keith:
 - Then people would have to travel through the building without masks.

[Ian arrives.]

- Georgia:
 - Could refer people to the places in the building that have masks.
- Keith:
 - We already have Health Ambassadors going out and handing out masks.
 - We bought a small quantity, a couple of hundred.
- Sylvester:
 - We already have free masks?
 - Can we start communicating that?
- Keith:
 - Leery of doing that.
 - We'll quickly run out.
 - I'd get the larger quantity in first.
 - The Health Ambassadors give out only 6-10 a day.
- Kalith:
 - Will the ones from UBC be reusable or disposable?
- Georgia:
 - Fairly certain they're reusable.
 - I'll confirm later today.
 - Might be better to obtain funding from UBC and order our own.

AMS Events

- Cole:
 - AMS Events posted pictures of a bar crawl, which was disappointing to see.
 - Time for us to revisit the Department to make sure it's in line with our values.
 - Talking of suspending all in-person AMS events, including special nights and days in the Gallery (Thirsty Thursday etc.).
 - We're in the second wave of COVID.
 - Looking at suspending club events that have alcohol.

- Sylvester:
 - We have protocols for group bookings.
 - In light of certain cases, to maintain the safety of our students, we're going to codify these in the Operations Manual and duly enforce them.
 - Public health governs us.
 - The AMS should offer encouragement to abide by the rules.
- Georgia:
 - We should have a dashboard on the website for people's information.
- Kalith:
 - Has AMS Events been informed of everything being suspended?
- Cole:
 - Telling them tomorrow.
 - Plan to let them resume posting AMS content, but will suspend the Events brand: no more Events content.
- Kalith:
 - Want to use our platforms to talk about student debt.
 - Can I still do that?
- Cole:
 - Yes, exactly. That's what we want to post about.

Updates

- *Georgia's update:*
 - Climate Emergency.
 - Work Learn opportunities.
 - Open Learning Awards: increase in nominations.
 - Anti-racism programming in Orientations.
 - Pushing for outdoor learning spaces.
 - Preliminary discussions about the summer of 2021, including the use of hybrid learning.
 - Pushing for A/V infrastructure.
 - New trust fund for funding the Centre for Accessibility..
 - Time to be ambitious about imagining the campus landscape: make UBC one of the most accessible campuses in Canada.
 - Naming Policy changing: being looked at through an equity framework.
- Kalith:
 - Will this apply to the new Rec Centre?
- Georgia:
 - Yes, to every building on campus.
 - Shift to donor naming.
 - Reflecting values of the UBC community.

- *Sylvester's update:*
 - Hatch Art Gallery:
 - Second exhibit at the Hatch has ended. Went pretty well.
 - Currently working on one with the Black Student Union. A mini-exhibit November 6-12.
 - November 16 planning a performance-based exhibit, our first in person.
 - Considering how to ensure safety.
 - Sustainability:
 - Next symposium will focus on the Sustainable Projects Fund.
 - Last week met with the UBC-led initiative, Amplifying Indigenous Voices; coordinating with the UBC Indigenous Plan.
 - Reimplementation of weigh scale and the dashboard to show our initiatives as part of the Interactive Sustainability Centre.
 - Presenting to Council in January.
 - Clubs:
 - Tough to obtain panelists for the first workshop.
 - In contact with the Lululemon marketing director as a potential panelist.
- *Kalith's update:*
 - Debt Free Degree Campaign.
 - Headed by Western and UCRU
 - Our social media overhaul was successful.
 - Operational funding:
 - Mission to encourage various student unions to advocate for increased funding for postsecondary institutions in the province.
 - Finishing up report on advocacy strategy for the new year.
 - Setting up meeting with the Indigenous Committee; will present to Council.
 - Prepping for U-Pass communication:
 - Discussing with the UAC.
 - Likely the U-Pass will be reinstated again in second term, but this time with stronger communications.
- *Georgia:*
 - What's your connection with the University for operational funding?
 - UBC's External Team?
 - The NDP government may be more enthusiastic about trade schools.
 - UBC may be hesitant.
 - Can we align with UBC?
- *Kalith:*
 - As students we're hoping to reduce tuition fees (by advocating for other funding for postsecondary institutions).
 - Trying now to get all student associations in line.

- Also a research focus: do we want to incentivize lowering fees or improving services?
- Reaching out to institutions' advocacy teams is definitely on our agenda, including reaching out to UBC's External Team to find common ground, but first we're organizing the student associations.
- Also faculty associations.
- Trying to make it a movement of the whole PSE sector and not just students.
- NDP to produce a budget.
- Keith:
 - Earlier in the pandemic, we sought funding for SASC and Food Bank, but we weren't eligible because the money is only for registered charities.
 - That was something we were going to ask for.
- Kalith:
 - That ask won't be included now because it's unique to a few of us, but I will bring it up with David Eby. It's still on our agenda.
- *Ian's update:*
 - Video for Peer Support.
 - Looking for feedback.
 - Also videos for other Services.
 - Looking into using UBC's Work Learn system: seeking diverse funding sources. Looking into becoming one of the top employers on campus.
- Sylvester:
 - Love the fact we're taking marketing seriously.
- *Keith's update:*
 - Recruitment for several positions.
 - Working on next iteration of the budget for Council.

Q2 Report

- Cole:
 - Looking to introduce a new type of quarterlies, but the next one is due by November 28.
 - May have to do the regular Q2 report for this quarter and wait till Q3 for the new type.

AGM

- Cole:
 - Went really well. 1625 attendees altogether. The highest number at any one time was 1490. Well over quorum.
 - Doublechecked all the votes; they all passed. The Bylaw amendments passed.

- Maybe a report for Council on what worked and what didn't work.
- The virtual format worked really well.
- One negative: we put forward so many motions that we went very long: we were overly optimistic in thinking we'd get all the Bylaw motions done in 45 minutes.
- But this year had an exceptional amount of backlogged Bylaw motions to do.
- All the Bylaw amendments passed easily; even the Records Bylaw got 70%.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:59 pm.



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of November 18, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council and Privacy Officer)

Guests: Bahareh Jokar (Studentcare), Lilly Callender (AMS Associate, Equity & Inclusion)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:20 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Lucia, Georgia).

Minutes

- Approval of the minutes of November 4 was postponed.

Health & Dental Plan

- Bahareh:
 - The Health and Dental Committee looked at the following issues:
 - Removal of permanent opt-outs.
 - This will mean students will have to opt out every year.
 - We found the permanent opt-outs problematic when students come back for a second degree or age out of their parents' plans.
 - Then there'd be an administration fee to re-enroll.
 - If we end the permanent opt-outs, we'll be very clear in our communication about what is happening.
 - It looks like we'll honour pre-existing permanent opt-outs.
 - A new legal service:
 - This would require a referendum to introduce a new fee.
 - The service would cover students' costs in civil court in cases involving housing, academics, or employment.

- All such costs would be covered; it would be an uncapped model to support students pursuing their legal rights.
 - Plus there would be a legal hotline.
 - We'd like to do a survey of campus to see if students want this.
- Sylvester:
 - Have to look at what the implications would be.
 - Fee restructuring?
- Bahareh:
 - There was a question about international students accessing this. They're going to be able to.
 - As to fees, it would be a new fee of \$27 or \$28 per student per year.
 - It would be made opt-outable for anyone.
 - Unlike the health and dental fee, which you can only opt out of if you have another health and dental plan, anyone could opt out of the legal service.
 - But if you opt out, you would not be able to access the service that semester.
 - I'd also like to do an overview of the Health and Dental Plan at Council.

[Bahareh left.]

- Lucia:
 - Just to be clear: the Health and Dental Committee has not yet decided to go ahead with either of these things.
 - The GSS also has not yet decided.
 - This is consultation time, scoping out how people feel.
 - The legal service is a product being offered by Studentcare.
 - It's not a bad idea, but there are other products out there.
 - Also there's no time for a referendum this year.

Equity Training

- Lilly:
 - Equity Training Program to onboard AMS staff and club executives.
 - Have already been talking to AMS Services about this.
 - Have talked about putting this on Canvas.
 - Aim is to increase the cultural competencies of the staff.
 - Would focus on anti-racism and how to engage with social issues.
 - Is this something the Executive feels would be helpful?
 - There would be role training: how to communicate inclusively and effectively.
 - Discussion of micro-aggressions, unpacking land acknowledgements.
 - This is really important. There isn't any equity/anti-racism training for AMS staff yet.

- The idea would be for the AMS to lead by example by introducing our own training model.
- I've consulted UBC's CSIC (Centre for Student Involvement & Careers): they have a module. Also UBC Equity & Inclusion. And Adeline, our consultant on the Equity Plan.
- Sylvester:
 - I think this is great. I'm fully on board. It's long overdue.
 - How this organization addresses such issues is something to look at.
 - We should have our own training modules, something ongoing, instead of a one-time workshop.
 - I originally wanted to provide resources through a workshop, but we need something more permanent and continuous.
 - Can I send the proposal to the clubs to get their feedback?
 - UBC's SVPRO (Sexual Violence Prevention & Response Office) also has training modules: another avenue to build off.
- Ian:
 - I appreciate this: there's a lot of potential in Services.
- Sylvester:
 - Will there be specific outcomes by March or May?
 - We could have a Canvas course by second term.
- Lilly:
 - Re Timeline: The plan is to consult first and see what people have been trained on.
 - Equity can mean lots of things: how to unpack privilege, sexual assault prevention, anti-racism.
 - After consultation, one idea is to produce a video series.
 - Don't want to have people learn just once; it should be an ongoing educational process.
 - Hope to have script ready (for the videos) by the end of January.
 - Have films ready by the end of the year to pass on to the next administration.
- Sylvester:
 - My team is at your disposal.

CampusGroups

- Sylvester:
 - Hong, Sheldon, and I met with CampusGroups about the bug that was discovered last week.
 - Going to be receiving a forensic study from CampusGroups and we're looking to find out their plans.
 - Luckily, this bug was discovered by a student who brought it to our attention.
 - We informed CampusGroups and they were able to address it in minutes.

- We've received promises from CampusGroups about safety and security.
 - We're preparing a statement for Council on the bug and what will need to be done.
 - It was not really a breach.
- Sheldon:
 - I would call it a breach. An unauthorized person got access.
- Keith:
 - Do we have to notify?
- Sheldon:
 - Just because there's a breach doesn't mean we have to notify.
 - This was a quickly contained breach.
- Sylvester:
 - Our Privacy Impact Assessment team will be meeting soon.
 - We're going to release a statement.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of December 2, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council and Privacy Officer)

Regrets: Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:12 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Kalith, Sylvester).

Minutes

- Approval of the minutes of November 4 (as corrected) and of November 18 was done prior to the meeting, by email vote.

U-Pass

- Kalith:
 - U-Pass will be continuing in second semester.
 - There will be a subsidy to support students and an exemption for students outside Vancouver. Also an exemption for immuno-compromised students.
 - There will be a heavy emphasis on communication before fees are assessed, informing students about options, subsidies, and exemptions.

Saudi Arabia

- Kalith:
 - The AMS, the GSS, and the SUO of UBCO are drafting a statement about Loujain Al-Hathloul, the former UBC student in prison in Saudi Arabia.
 - She is being tried as a terrorist, and we are very concerned about her safety.
 - In the spring UBC published a letter that we endorsed.

- Now with news of her trial, it's time for us to take action in support of her, calling on the federal government to advocate for her immediate release.
- We will reach out to other student organizations about this and will publish the letter with updates on the website.
- Planning to send the letter to the media on Tuesday.
- Will keep it up on the website for a month.
- Keith:
 - Would the Student Legal Fund Society be able to help?
- Kalith:
 - Good idea.
 - I'm sure she has good legal support, but we can see if the SLFS can play a role.
- Cole:
 - They're pretty strict on how they can release money.

U-Pass (continued)

- Lucia:
 - How much have we used of the subsidy money?
- Kalith:
 - We used \$60,000, which leaves \$70,000 for second term.
- Lucia:
 - Can we find more money? From the tuition surplus?
- Kalith:
 - Unused money went back to the surplus.
- Lucia:
 - There was \$60,000 in the summer and \$60,000 in the fall.
 - If we spend \$70,000 second term, there should still be money left over from the surplus.
 - If we can take more from the surplus, it would benefit a lot more students.
- Cole:
 - We're not using the tuition surplus for AMS programs.
 - It's for UBC-administered programs.
- Kalith:
 - Isn't the \$70,000 from the surplus?
- Cole:
 - U-Pass is a bit different; UBC is a major stakeholder in it.
- Lucia:
 - Can we open up the U-Pass subsidy to those who missed the Term 1 deadline and want to apply in Term 2?
- Kalith:
 - We didn't do the best job of communicating last time, but this time will be better and we'll get a lot more students reaching out.

- May be tough to divide the \$70,000.
- Lucia:
 - Can we open the subsidy to more students?
 - We did this for the Health & Dental subsidy, opening it to Term 1 students in Term 2.
 - If there's more money, can we not do that?
- Cole:
 - It depends.
 - It's not like the surplus is an endless supply.
 - If there's money left over, we can look at that.
 - Logistically, though, Term 1 has passed.
- Lucia:
 - If the AMS can help, that'd be great.
- Cole:
 - We no longer have the original \$1.2 million surplus to work with.
- Lucia:
 - The Health & Dental Committee used up its entire fund and added \$20,000.

Simply Voting

- Sheldon:
 - Isabelle (the Chief Electoral Officer) and I had a meeting with the UBC IT people who liaise with Simply Voting on our behalf for the running of our elections.
 - Simply Voting is upgrading its system and moving to the cloud.
 - This raised issues of security, though the UBC people are pretty confident that the new system will be secure; in fact, sticking with the old system would be more of a problem because it will no longer be supported, and that might become a security issue.
 - There will also be a cost to changing over, plus there will now be an annual subscription fee.
 - We originally paid \$43,000 to purchase the Simply Voting system; it was a one-time fee.
 - Now we would be paying \$5,500 a year.
 - We've been using Simply Voting for close to ten years and have been quite happy with it.
- Cole:
 - Cloud-based is pretty secure. We have other things in the cloud.
 - As to price, we could negotiate.
 - We could also be invoicing our Constituencies for the cost of running their elections.
- Lucia:
 - That won't go over well with the Constituencies.

- Cole:
 - It's not unreasonable to ask for a few hundred dollars.
 - They're getting software they don't have to pay for.
- Action Item: Sheldon to send details to Cole and Lucia.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 pm.



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of December 9, 2020

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Georgia Yee (VP Academic & University Affairs, arrived 12:30), Lucia Liang (VP Finance), Sylvester Mensah Jr. (VP Administration), Kalith Nanayakkara (VP External), Ian Stone (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:13 pm and took place by videoconference.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Sylvester, Kalith).

Minutes

- The minutes of December 2 were approved (Sylvester, Kalith).

Executive Committee

- Cole:
 - Two committees I sit on are kind of useless: Steering Committee and Executive Committee.
 - Steering Committee maybe did something in Marium's year (goal-setting), but all it does now is approve committee goals.
 - The Executive Committee is important, but it turns into all the Executives giving updates just to get things on record, because we talk outside the committee.
 - Perhaps we should merge Executive Committee and Steering Committee.
 - Then we'd get some Councillor involvement on the Exec.
- Ian:
 - We have off the record conversations at Exec.
 - Do you want Councillors here for those discussions?
 - It may limit frank discussion.
- Cole:
 - We're not usually off the record, and we're supposed to be public.
 - We don't have a good system now: it's just PR: getting talking points on record.
 - Not a committee committee.

- Need to make these meetings more robust.
- Sylvester:
 - Wondering if Steering Committee could be made more effective: does it contribute to committee goals?
- Cole:
 - I'm the chair of that committee too.
 - If that committee does something, it's me doing it.
 - Best way to make committees useful is to operationalize them.
 - Some committees get things done.
 - We don't put things on our agenda if we don't want to talk about them: e.g., the AMS Events situation.
 - If we brought Councillors onto it, before we take things to Council, then we could have a more unified Council front.
- Sheldon:
 - You could bring some of the offline discussions to Executive Committee.
- Cole:
 - We have offline discussions at our Exec Strategy meetings.
 - Some of those shouldn't be public at all, or at least not yet.
 - We talk about things that are very preliminary.
 - Would mean Exec Committee meetings would become very long.

[Georgia arrives.]

Updates

- *Ian's update:*
 - Services finishing up for the Fall.
 - Safewalk continues till the last day of exams.
 - Food Bank will be operating through the break.
 - Peer Support is pausing soon.
 - Advocacy and eHub will resume in the New Year.
 - Tutoring: huge uptick in private appointments.
 - There's a Coordinator stepping down.
 - Food Bank is looking for more supplies.
- Keith:
 - Food & Beverage is looking to donate some more festive food/hot meals.
- *Kalith's update:*
 - Met with UCRU Governance Committee.
 - U-Pass is staying for the second semester:
 - All support initiatives are in place (exemptions, subsidy).

- Deadlines were changed to ensure students will be able to maximize all the programs.
 - The letter in support of Loujain Al-Hathloul has been drafted and is live on the website:
 - Statement from AMS, GSS, UBC SUO.
 - Waiting for other student unions to get back to us.
 - The campaign will run for a couple of months.
 - BC Lobby Week in early January.
- *Sylvester's update:*
 - Clubs:
 - Most recent newsletter went out yesterday.
 - Winter Engagement Survey.
 - Planning for Student Caucus for Student Leadership Conference, which has been pushed back to January 23.
 - Sustainability:
 - Symposium last Friday went okay. Good feedback on questions the Advocacy Committee wanted us to address.
 - Meeting the UBC Building Management Team about the Life Building basement corridor.
 - Want to animate that hallway to be about sustainability.
 - For the Indigenous section of the AMS Sustainability Action Plan, have been in touch with the team lead of UBC's Indigenous Plan. Want to include their framework.
 - Hatch Art Gallery:
 - Planning for Term 2.
 - Volunteer program.
- Keith:
 - For the digitization of the permanent collection, we need to reach out to the estates of artists to make sure we have the right to reproduce their art online.
- Sylvester:
 - Been working on that.
 - For some we have the necessary rights.
 - For others, still pursuing.
- Keith:
 - I can dig up records for you.
- Sylvester:
 - Question about extension of the winter break: will that affect when we return to work?
- Keith:
 - We're still looking to open on the January 4. Residents will be around, and others will be returning in that week too.

- We'll do a phased reopening: Blue Chip first, then the Gallery and the Honour Roll, then (on the 11th) Porch and Pie R.
- The main office will be open from the 4th.

- *Lucia's update:*
 - Budget reforecast.
 - Subsidy planning.
 - Health and Dental consultation.

- *Georgia's update:*
 - Later today presenting to the Senate Teaching & Learning Committee about remote invigilation tools.
 - Academic Experience Survey.
 - Got feedback from the Sustainability Symposium to update policies for a Just Recovery.
 - Continuing conversations with the Climate Hub about Climate Emergency implementation.
 - Winter Break extension:
 - Submitting on withdrawal deadlines, academic concession.
 - Credit to the Student Senators, who've been active on this.
 - UBC budget:
 - Definitely not usual.
 - Our focus is on ensuring there are as few budget cuts as possible.
 - Also on places we want to see sustained development.
 - Anti-racism campaign: Survey on racism on campus.
 - Some investigation into bursary process due to inequities observed re financial aid: some are getting less (and some more) than in other years.

- *Keith's update:*
 - Hiring, recruitment: Senior Manager of Student Services.
 - Lucia and I are working on the budget reforecast.
 - Next all-staff meeting will be in January. The focus will be on Covid safety.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:49 pm.