

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Guests: Alex Alvarez (Bike Kitchen), Roan Reimer (Bike Co-op), Etienne Hossack (Bike Kitchen), Avery Thorp (Bike Kitchen), Aashna Josh (SASC), Ashni Gill (SASC), Anisha Sandhu (LFS Senate), Mimi Neufeld (AMS Policy), Lorris Leung (AMS Services) Nathan Bawaan (Ubysey), Charlotte Alden (Ubysey), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (Admin Assistant)

A) Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Speaker:

- UBC, the AMS Nest, and Vancouver are on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of hul'q'umi'num-speaking Musqueam and Tsleil-Waututh people.
- It's important to reflect on what those words mean, especially the word "unceded."
- These lands were never given to BC or Canada.
- As colonizers, we should recognize the privilege and criminality of what this means.
- It's important to recognize the legal claim in relation to the declaration of the British Crown about the rights to this land.
- We have to consider how best to integrate reconciliation with an acknowledgement of the crimes of the past while going forward to build a more equitable world.

C) Approval of the Agenda

1. MOVED MAX HOLMES SECONDED ROMINA HAJIZADEH:

"That the agenda be amended as follows:

- Move the Bike Kitchen referendum question to before the SES presentation.
- Add a discussion on executive and management performance."

Max Holmes:

- We have guests from the Bike Kitchen.

2. MOVED MAX HOLMES SECONDED ROMINA HAJIZADEH:

"That the agenda be amended as follows:

- Move the Bike Kitchen referendum question to before the SES presentation.
- Add a discussion on executive and management performance."

... No objections

3. MOVED COLE EVANS SECONDED MATHEW HO:

“That the agenda be adopted as amended.”

... No objections

D) Membership and Attendance: Introductions, new member, declaration of vacancies

New members:

Vacancies: Journalism, Population & Public Health, Audiology, GSS x 2

Goodbyes:

E) Speaker’s Business and Remarks (5 minutes)

The Speaker:

- Don’t hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns.
- You are here to hold the Executive and the organization to account.
- You are here to represent your constituency.
- This is your role as an officer of the organization.

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

Anisha Sandhu:

- I have been the Land & Food student rep to the Senate for the past two years.
- I’m now delivering on a campaign promise to announce the launch of the UBC Vancouver student senators website.

G) Approval of Minutes of Council and Committees

- Max Holmes asked to pull the Governance Committee minutes of January 28 because of an inaccurate comment in them.
- This was agreed to.

4. MOVED COLE EVANS:

“That the following minutes be accepted as presented.”

AMS Executive Committee minutes dated January 26, 2022	[SCD334-22]
AMS Executive Committee minutes dated February 2, 2022	[SCD335-22]
Governance Committee minutes dated November 22, 2021	[SCD336-22]
Steering Committee minutes dated November 19, 2021	[SCD337-22]
Finance Committee minutes dated January 28, 2022	[SCD338-22]
Finance Committee minutes dated February 4, 2022	[SCD339-22]

... No objections

H) Consent Items

I) Presentations and Accompanying Motions

Bike Kitchen Referendum

5. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED MARY GAN:

From the President

“That Council adopt a Yes position in support of the Bike Kitchen fee referendum question.”

Max Holmes:

- Council is able to add referendum questions to the ballot, but this one came from a petition:
 - In less than 72 hours, the Bike Kitchen got over 1,000 signatures on a petition to add a referendum question on raising the Bike Kitchen fee from \$1.14 to \$5.
- The Bike Kitchen provides essential services for bikers on campus.
- There has been an increase in bikers on campus.
- The Bike Kitchen helps keep people out of cars.
- This motion is for Council to say we support the fee increase.
- It aligns with our climate emergency policies.

Alex Alvarez:

- I'm the shop manager.
- We have been operating since 1998.
- We do tool rentals and teach people to fix their own bikes.
- Bikes are an accessible, affordable mode of transport, providing an alternative so that people don't have to drive or take the bus.
- We run programs in the community, including an access night for LGBTQ people.
- In the Fraser Valley we provide bikes for migrant farm workers.

Roan Reimer:

- I'm the programs manager.
- We run workshops, teaching people how to ride in the forest, in winter, etc.

Alex Alvarez:

- We recycle metal and rubber.
- We also have a thrift store of parts and full refurbished bikes.

Roan Reimer:

- We originally had a \$1 fee (approved by referendum in 2013) which has gone up because of inflation to \$1.14.
- We want to increase that by \$3.86 to \$5.
- Times have been hard recently; we've been hurt by the pandemic.

Alex Alvarez:

- The last few years we have only been a repair shop.
- We would love to get our programs up and running again.

Roan Reimer:

- We saw signs of support at Clubs Days.
- Your support would help us a lot.

Cole Evans:

- It's super awesome to see the support you have received already.
- It's pretty easy to see that this is something for Council to support.
- What would that mean?
- Would we include the Bike Kitchen question in our campaign material?
- Or leave it to the Bike Kitchen?
- What is the expectation?

Romina Hajizadeh:

- I think we should advertise this.
- Lots of students are attached to it.
- This is important service to current UBC students and alumni.
- The Bike Kitchen is doing a great job.

Mathew Ho:

- If we are able to give encouragement, that would be a good idea.
- Can Council endorse referendums?

Max Holmes:

- We can, and if we endorse, it is expected that it would be part of our Yes campaign.
- My experience is that the bigger the base, the better.
- Not only will the Bike Kitchen benefit, but our questions will benefit.
- So I'd expect us to include them in our material.
- Of course, the Bike Kitchen can run their own campaign as well.
- They will get a \$1,000 funding credit from us.

Cole Evans:

- If the Bike Kitchen representatives can send me an email, we can coordinate between them and our referendum coordinators.

6. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED MARY GAN:

From the President

"That Council adopt a Yes position in support of the Bike Kitchen fee referendum question."

... Carried

For (18): Cole Evans, Mary Gan, Saad Shoaib, Cole Quist, Romina Hajizadeh, Mathew Ho, Jason Liao, Jasneet Bal, Jade Law, Emily Reid, Joey Yang, Gabrielle Matheson, Micah Mizushima, Sophie Penniman, Teddy O'Donnell, Kiera Vandeborne, Minaho Chiew, Avery Chan

Executive and Management Performance

7. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED SAAD SHOAIB, THIRDED COLE EVANS:

“That the meeting enter an in camera session.”

The meeting entered an in camera session at 6:36 pm.

The meeting left the in camera session at 6:59 pm.

J) Presentations and Accompanying Motions

Student Engagement Survey (SES) Results – Cole Evans [SCD340-22], [SCD341-22]

- This was the most comprehensive collection of information about the AMS that we've run.
- We can improve our goals based on the data.
- Ran in November and December.
- Received about 2750 responses.
- An internal-facing survey.
- The results show that people are satisfied with the Nest and its diversity of businesses.
- People want more seating and lower prices.
- 76% think the AMS is doing a good job overall.
- They think we're doing a good job engaging, but don't know much about the Executive.
- A lot of students visit the building, grad students less so; also less from older students and those later in their degree.
- Most come to eat and drink; also to hang out and study.
- Those not visiting say it's because of online learning and avoiding public spaces during COVID.
- There's a high level of satisfaction with the Nest:
 - 96% feel safe
 - Lots think it's clean
- But there's less satisfaction with study spots.
- Blue Chip is the most attended outlet.
- They say customer service is great, the food is good; seating less so.
- Some want longer hours: perhaps that's a pandemic effect.
- Even split on preferred new food: Korean and breakfast.
 - Our test kitchen will rotate through these.
- One area to improve on is providing clear allergy information on menus.
- Good results on accessibility and design.
- Less so on noise and study space.
- Students don't know which outlets are AMS (Gallery) and which are not (Delly).
- High numbers are satisfied with our Services, but some are not aware of them.

- Top reason for those not using our Services: they don't need them.
- First years are less aware of the Services.
- Need more information on who to contact.
- Most people find out about us from word of mouth and social media, which is not bad, but we need to limit disinformation.
- People believe the work the AMS does benefits them.
- Need improvement to let them know how to get involved and how to contact their representatives.
- Pretty positive responses about AMS leadership.
- Room for improvement about trusting the AMS to spend money wisely; also on us being transparent and accessible.
- Good scores on EDI.
- 54% of the students do not recognize any of the Executives.
 - 40% recognize the President; the others are less known.
- Strong support for our handling of COVID-19, but not as many recognize the effect of AMS advocacy in influencing the University.
- More Health & Dental coverage wanted for vision, counselling, dental services, and prescription drugs.

Questions

Julia Burnham:

- You have data on ethnic background for restaurant preferences.
- Is there demographic data that can be used to gauge responses on other questions?
- It might help with equity, inclusion, and accessibility.

Cole Evans:

- Great point.
- We could do more cross-tabulations.
- This is just a preliminary presentation.
- We can go back to Leger (the polling company) and ask for more.

Mathew Ho:

- How do we change the perception about financial issues and accountability?

Cole Evans:

- Students don't know what their fees are spent on.
- We need to do a better job telling them.
- Most students don't know how big the AMS is and everything we do.
- On tuition increases, some might feel we're not doing enough.
- We do a lot of advocacy; this ties back in to students not being aware of what we're doing.

Keanna Yu:

- Do we have results from previous years for comparison?
- Especially on the visibility of the VP's.

Cole Evans:

- Unfortunately, this is the first time we have done a survey like this.
- The goal in the future is to show trends.
- A lot of these are brand new questions, especially on leadership.

Julia Burnham:

- Is there a policy on the SES like there is on the AES?
- That's how we protect the AES.
- It tells us we must ask certain questions year to year.

Cole Evans:

- Great question.
- One recommendation is to build this into our survey policy.
- The aim is to have one policy on surveys, for both the AES and the SES.

Mathew Ho:

- How long will you keep COVID questions on the survey?

Cole Evans:

- The COVID questions were designed to only be asked this year.
- I really hope we don't need to ask these questions again.

8. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU

"That Council accept the recommendations from the 2021 AMS Student Engagement Survey."
... No objections

Referendum – SASC Fee – Aashna Josh, Ashni Gill, Cole Evans

[SCD342-22], [SCD343-22]

Aashna Josh – SASC:

General:

- I'm the manager at SASC.
- I have worked in the anti-violence field for the last nine years and been an anti-racist educator.
- SASC is an anti-violence organization and sexual assault support centre.
- We take a grassroots approach and are trauma-centred and people-centred.
- SASC has been on campus for twenty years.
 - We were here before SVPRO, which modelled itself on us.
- We support people of all genders and are here for UBC students, staff, and alumni.
- We help those learning how to respond supportively.
- We have extended hours into the evening.
- We are part of the AMS, but also a social service.
- We have a manager, an assistant manager, a support team, and an education team.
- We have about 25-30 student volunteers.
- We work with those affected by sexualized violence.

- We are professionally trained in best practices, providing emotional support and crisis interventions.
- We do safety planning, accompany people to hospital and the police, and advocate to advisors about academic concessions.
- We work with community partners and collaborate with practicum students/student counsellors.
- We offer free public education and a healthier masculinities program.
- Fraternities and sororities are independent and thus not included, but we do work with them.
- We organize events and campaigns, e.g., a vigil for Trans-Day Remembrance.
- We run volunteer programs and provide free safer sex supplies, menstrual supplies, and harm reduction supplies.
- We do advocacy and have been working with Mimi (the AMS Policy Advisor) on AMS Policies I-17 and I-18.
- We do research, grant writing, and liaising with community partners.
- We do third party reporting, allowing students to report anonymously.

Recent developments:

- Statistics (service appointments):
 - 2018: 726
 - 2019: 1145
 - 2020: 1145
 - 2021: 2028.
- Tripled in four years, despite UBC's creation of SVPRO; might have expected a decline at SASC, but not so.
- The last four months of 2021 saw more appointments than in all of 2018.
- We have made our services more accessible:
 - Drop-in, email, extended phone service, texting, video.
 - This has contributed to the increase.
- Not many changes in structure except added an Assistant Manager.
- Not good to delay appointments:
 - It's hard for people to reach out.
 - We want to be available when they reach out.
- We expect the increase in usage to continue; it's a trend in western Canada.
- Been doing more of our outreach via social media, less in person during the pandemic.
- Fee increase:
 - Not ideal to always come for a fee increase, but our numbers are up.
 - Want to restructure our staff:
 - Currently four part-time support workers.
 - We want three full-time and two part-time to create more consistency and make sure we don't miss drop-ins.
 - This would add \$102,000.
 - Would add a couple of days of support people, helping us meet demand.
 - Would also create safer work conditions for our staff:
 - This is people-centred work.
 - Better if more people around.

- Expanding our support services:
 - External facilitators
 - Practicum student counsellors
 - A counselling fund
 - Transportation to hospital or home
 - Funding to house someone if needed.
 - This would be another \$17,000.

9. MOVED SAAD SHOAIB, SECONDED MATHEW HO

“That the time for the presentation be extended by 10 minutes.”

... No objections

Aashna Josh (continuing):

- Fee increase (continuing):
 - Education:
 - Adding a full-time educator (\$50,000).
 - A part-time social media coordinator (\$20,000).
 - Education is prevention.
 - Working with Elders, BIPOC, anti-racism, anti-colonial perspectives.
 - Policy development.
 - Harm reduction.
 - Add money to the Sexual Assault Initiatives Fund (currently in deficit).
 - Increase retention of staff through wage increases (currently below industry standard).
 - Said goodbye to seven people; high turnover; want consistency of care.
 - Collective bargaining next year.
- Looking for a one-time increase of \$6.42 to \$16.
- Even if we kept our current structure, we'd have a shortfall with the current fee.
- With the increase, no shortfall.

Questions

Emily Reid:

- You will gain about \$400,000 per year.
- Your spending will be about \$180,000.
- You have not accounted for more than \$200,000.
- Can you provide a more detailed budget?

Aashna Josh:

- Some will go towards changes already taking place.
- Wages and benefits.

Emily Reid:

- There's a large amount of money involved and we don't have complete information.

10. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED MARY GAN:

“Be it resolved that Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 7-11 on the following question and the attached preamble:

The AMS Sexual Assault Support Centre (SASC) is an integral part of our UBC community and plays a critical role in supporting survivors of sexualized violence. In addition to survivor support, the SASC runs educational and advocacy programming that supports all students.

The SASC has grown exponentially, and the AMS is proposing a fee increase to ensure the SASC can keep up with support and programming demands.

Do you support an increase in the fee for the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund from \$9.58 to \$16 for the academic year 2022-23?

Note: All money raised through this fee will be deposited in the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund and may be used only for sexual assault support services and initiatives. Any money raised through this fee but not used in a given year shall remain in the fund for use in a subsequent year for sexual assault support services.

Note: The fee shall continue to be increased annually in accordance with the BC CPI.

Be it further resolved that Council adopt a Yes position in support of the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund referendum question.

Be it further resolved that Council authorize the use of the Student Services to promote the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund referendum question being held March 7-11, 2022 and to support the Yes campaign.”

Max Holmes:

- Has this been discussed with the union?

Aashna Josh:

- We talked to the union stewards.
- They said to talk once this passes.
- We're going into collective bargaining anyway.

Max Holmes:

- Last time we saw three years of budget projections.
- When will we see the granular details this time?

Aashna Josh:

- We have the projections for this year now.
- We'll have the next two years soon; it depends on the collective bargaining.

Max Holmes:

- I don't think Councillors are asking for actual budgets, just projections for the next three years.

- This would provide an understanding of where the fee will be going.
- That was done three years ago when a fee increase was requested.
- You can look at what was done then.
- I appreciate the presentation today on the how the services will change, but we also want to see how the finances will change.

Aashna Josh:

- Some of that information was in the presentation:
 - The restructuring of staff and maintaining that.
 - Maintaining the services.

Cole Evans:

- We can bring a spreadsheet to the March 2nd meeting.

Keanna Yu:

- A concern mentioned at last Council:
 - While we agree that the services are super-necessary, the amount of the increase is so large that students may be apprehensive to accept it.
 - This is a significant increase.
 - And there's money from this increase that is not yet allocated.

Aashna Josh:

- It's difficult to plan for 3-5 years without knowing what the resources will be.
- The money will not just sit there; it will be utilized.
- SASC is a really valued service.
- If you look at it in those terms, it's not a large increase, about the cost of a cup of coffee.
- We took the guidance of the Executive Committee in setting the number.

Cole Evans:

- The \$16 amount basically matched what SASC wants to do in the short term.
- This is on the low end of what has been discussed.
- SASC would probably say they want more.
- This is a compromise.

Emily Reid:

- I don't think my initial question has been answered.
- There has been talk of potential services, but \$200,000 is not accounted for.
- We should have received a potential breakdown.
- I don't think students will be satisfied with this \$200,000 floating around.
- That should have been solidly planned for before getting to this point.

Ashni Gill:

- We need to note that we are in a \$40,000 deficit; part is going to that.
- Also to the initiatives fund.
- And planning for the future.

- Last time there was an increase from 426 to 726 students using the service in the year before the referendum, an increase of 300, and we asked for a \$6 fee increase.
- This time the increase in students is from 1145 to 2028, or almost 900.
- We should actually be asking for a \$12 fee increase.

Saad Shoaib:

- Students will see that this is an important increase.
- It's up to the AMS to inform students why this is happening.
- I see the concerns, they've been brought up before, but this is a reasonable fee jump.

Mina Chiew:

- Can we reword the question?
- Instead of saying going from \$9.58 to \$16, which some might see as a \$7 increase, can we say it will be a \$6.42 increase?
- Then campaign on \$6.42: cheaper than a Bubble Tea.

Keanna Yu:

- I'm not saying the amount should be higher or lower, but there is an attached risk.
- I want this to pass.
- If it doesn't, there there's no increase at all.

Max Holmes:

- The question is about financial planning.
- The expectation is on the Executive and Management .
- SASC has done what they needed.
- In previous years, this went to Fincom and due diligence was done by the Executive and Management.
- It's better to do that before the referendum.
- That would help pass the referendum.
- I've seen two SASC referendums.
- One passed: it had lots of financial planning beforehand.
- One suggestion for campaigning: saying that \$6 is like a Starbucks drink could backfire.
- Show how this will benefit students and continue the services.
- With fees and the cost of living going up generally, people are asking for financial documents; they want to see the potential future budget.

Julia Burnham:

- The request for more information is from a desire to make this pass.
- Fee increases are not popular.
- There are going to be questions.
- To have these financial pieces will help the Yes side

Lorris Leung:

- We do acknowledge that we never want to increase fees if we don't have to.
- We want to be able to provide continuity, given the increase in usage.

- As to more financial information, we'll be happy to provide a breakdown at the next Council, but I hope Council votes Yes tonight.
- Any money goes into operations; any left over goes back to students in the initiatives fund.

Cole Evans:

- Re Mina's point: should we amend the wording to say do you want to support an increase of \$6.42 instead of stating that the new fee will be \$16?

11. MOVED MINA CHIEW, SECONDED MATHEW HO:

"That the question in the motion be amended to read:

Do you support an increase of \$6.42 in the fee for the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund for the academic year 2022-23?"

Julia Burnham:

- If we make this change, there's a risk students will think we're trying to hide what the amount will be.
- It could do more harm than good.
- It may look like a sneaky move.
- I think we can justify the question the way it is.

Keanna Yu:

- Maybe include both: the increase and the final amount.

Cole Evans:

- Could do both.
- Then people don't have to do math.

Max Holmes:

- I don't think it makes much difference.
- By changing it, you draw attention to the change.

Katherine Feng:

- Having the old and new numbers provides context that students might appreciate.

12. MOVED MINA CHIEW, SECONDED MATHEW HO:

"That the amended question read:

Do you support an increase of \$6.42 in the fee for the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund (\$9.58 to \$16) for the academic year 2022-23?"

... No objections

13. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED MARY GAN:

“Be it resolved that Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 7-11 on the following question and the attached preamble:

The AMS Sexual Assault Support Centre (SASC) is an integral part of our UBC community and plays a critical role in supporting survivors of sexualized violence. In addition to survivor support, the SASC runs educational and advocacy programming that supports all students.

The SASC has grown exponentially, and the AMS is proposing a fee increase to ensure the SASC can keep up with support and programming demands.

Do you support an increase of \$6.42 in the fee for the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund (\$9.58 to \$16) for the academic year 2022-23?”

Note: All money raised through this fee will be deposited in the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund and may be used only for sexual assault support services and initiatives. Any money raised through this fee but not used in a given year shall remain in the fund for use in a subsequent year for sexual assault support services.

Note: The fee shall continue to be increased annually in accordance with the BC CPI.

Be it further resolved that Council adopt a Yes position in support of the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund referendum question.

Be it further resolved that Council authorize the use of the Student Services to promote the Sexual Assault Support Services Fund referendum question being held March 7-11, 2022 and to support the Yes campaign.”

... Carried

For (16): Cole Evans, Eshana Bhangu, Mary Gan, Saad Shoaib, Cole Quist, Mathew Ho, Jason Liao, Jasneet Bal, Gabrielle Matheson, Micah Mizushima, Emily Gubski, Kiera Vandeborne, Minaho Chiew, Rebecca Liu, Katherine Feng, Jonathan De Souza

Against (1): Emily Reid

Abstained: Kamil Kanji, Teddy O'Donnell

K) Executive and Committee Motions

14. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED MARY GAN:

[SCD344-22]

“Be it resolved that Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 7-11 on the following question with the attached preamble:

The AMS is seeking to collect student fees as efficiently as possible, and therefore is proposing changes and reductions to the fees you pay.

To make fee opt-outs more accessible, the AMS will now require that all applicable fees can be opted-out digitally starting in 2023.

The Childcare Bursary Fund is proposed to be eliminated as the fund is no longer significantly active.

All fee reductions that are being proposed are due to the fact that large amounts of money have accumulated in the funds, and the AMS can reduce the fee while still delivering the same level of programming.

Do you support and approve the following changes and reductions to the AMS student fees?

i) Requiring all opt-outable fees to be opt-outable by digital means. (Note: Organizations collecting opt-outable fees shall ensure there is a digital opt-out option by the 2023-24 year.)

ii) Eliminating the \$1.18 fee for the Childcare Bursary Fund. (Note: This fund currently has approximately \$320,000 in it, and funding will continue to be disbursed from the remaining amount)

iii) Reducing the fee for the Clubs Benefit Fund from \$1.78 to \$0.75. (Note: This fund currently has approximately \$700,000 in it.)

iv) Renaming the Lighter Footprint/Sustainable Projects Fee as the Climate Action Fee and reducing it from \$2.66 to \$1.50. (Note: The fund associated with this fee currently has approximately \$580,000 in it.)

Note: The two reduced fees will continue to be indexed to the BC Consumer Price Index.

Be it further resolved that Council adopt a Yes position in support of the fee change referendum question.”

Cole Evans:

- These fee changes are pretty much in line with what was presented at the last meeting, except we are not going ahead with the reduction in the CPF fee and we are making a larger decrease to the Lighter Footprint Fee, to \$1.50.

Max Holmes:

- The messaging can be that these are all decreases.
- This is an opportunity to show that while we are increasing one fee, three fees are actually decreasing.

Emily Gubski

- There are negative perceptions about the AMS.
- This is a good opportunity to say we care about you and your money.

15. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED MARY GAN:

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i) Requiring all opt-outable fees to be opt-outable by digital means. (Note: Organizations collecting opt-outable fees shall ensure there is a digital opt-out option by the 2023-24 year.)

ii) Eliminating the \$1.18 fee for the Childcare Bursary Fund. (Note: This fund currently has approximately \$320,000 in it, and funding will continue to be disbursed from the remaining amount)

iii) Reducing the fee for the Clubs Benefit Fund from \$1.78 to \$0.75. (Note: This fund currently has approximately \$700,000 in it.)

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... Carried

For (19): Cole Evans, Eshana Bhangu, Mary Gan, Saad Shoaib, Cole Quist, Mathew Ho, Kamil Kanji, Jason Liao, Jasneet Bal, Emily Reid, Gabrielle Matheson, Micah Mizushima, Emily Gubski, Teddy O'Donnell, Kiera Vandeborne, Minaho Chiew, Rebecca Liu, Katherine Feng, Jonathan De Souza

16. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU: [SCD345-22], [SCD346-22], [SCD347-22]

From the President

“Be it resolved that Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 7-11 on the following question with attached preamble:

In late 2021, the B.C. provincial government updated the Societies Act with new legislation. These proposed bylaw changes make AMS Bylaws compliant with those provincial amendments, and also include several other changes that modernize the Bylaws to reflect current practice.

The AMS is also proposing to amend the AMS Constitution to add a land acknowledgement and commitments to equity for members.

Do you support and approve amending the AMS Bylaws and Constitution in accordance with the changes presented in the documents entitled Proposed Changes to AMS Bylaws and the AMS Constitution?

Be it further resolved that Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes.”

Cole Evans:

- Talked about these Bylaw changes last time.
- Decided to add the Constitution change too, the one we intended to pass at the AGM.

Max Holmes:

- Thanks for adding the bylaw on slates.

Cole Evans:

- The AMS hates slates.

17. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

“That the amendment to Bylaw 11 for amending the budget be changed to read:

This provision notwithstanding, Council may create procedures in Code for the finance committee, by Two-Thirds (2/3) Resolution, to approve budget amendments for less than \$5,000.”

Katherine Feng:

- This requires a Code change to allow the Finance Committee to approve budget amendments of less than \$5,000.
- If Fincom does something irregular, then Code can be changed again.
- Better idea than trying to change the Bylaws again.

18. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

“That the amendment to Bylaw 11 for amending the budget be changed to read:

This provision notwithstanding, Council may create procedures in Code for the finance committee, by Two-Thirds (2/3) Resolution, to approve budget amendments for less than \$5,000.”

... No objections

19. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU:

From the President

“Be it resolved that Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 7-11 on the following question with attached preamble:

In late 2021, the B.C. provincial government updated the Societies Act with new legislation. These proposed bylaw changes make AMS Bylaws compliant with those provincial amendments, and also include several other changes that modernize the Bylaws to reflect current practice.

The AMS is also proposing to amend the AMS Constitution to add a land acknowledgement and commitments to equity for members.

Do you support and approve amending the AMS Bylaws and Constitution in accordance with the changes presented in the documents entitled Proposed Changes to AMS Bylaws and the AMS Constitution?

Be it further resolved that Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes.”

Max Holmes:

- Re the digital option for opt-outs.
- If this option is available, it could be used more.
- It's important to know the financial effect on the Society.

Cole Evans:

- All opt-outable AMS fees already have a digital opt-out option.

Mary Gan:

- It's fees for other organizations that would be affected.

Max Holmes:

- Did we consult these other organizations?
- CiTR, the Ubysey, the Bike Kitchen?

Cole Evans:

- We're going to wait till 2023-24 to give these groups time to put digital opt-outs in place.
- The goal of this is: If we're saying a fee is opt-outable, it should be opt-outable.
- It shouldn't be difficult to opt out of it.
- It's more for future fees.

Max Holmes:

- Did you consult the groups?

Cole Evans:

- I briefly chatted. No formal consultation.
- I received an email notification from the Ubyyssey business manager saying he didn't think any change would affect them.
- Haven't received any legal advice on that.

20. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU:

From the President

"Be it resolved that Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 7-11 on the following question with attached preamble:

In late 2021, the B.C. provincial government updated the Societies Act with new legislation. These proposed bylaw changes make AMS Bylaws compliant with those provincial amendments, and also include several other changes that modernize the Bylaws to reflect current practice.

The AMS is also proposing to amend the AMS Constitution to add a land acknowledgement and commitments to equity for members.

Do you support and approve amending the AMS Bylaws and Constitution in accordance with the changes presented in the documents entitled Proposed Changes to AMS Bylaws and the AMS Constitution?

Be it further resolved that Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes."

... Carried

For (16): Cole Evans, Eshana Bhangu, Mary Gan, Saad Shoaib, Cole Quist, Mathew Ho, Kamil Kanji, Emily Reid, Gabrielle Matheson, Micah Mizushima, Teddy O'Donnell, Minaho Chiew, Rebecca Liu, Katherine Feng, Jonathan De Souza, Shadia Qubti

21. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED MARY GAN: [SCD348-22], [SCD349-22]

From the Governance Committee

"That Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2022: Postering' and thus amend the Code as recommended."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Cole Evans:

- We have discussed these changes before.
- This allow the Elections Committee more discretion around posters; gives them more flexibility.
- They must still be sustainable; there are provisions in Code to prevent the complete coverage of campus with posters.

Eshana Bhangu:

- I am planning on being a candidate.
- Am I in a conflict of interest?

The Speaker

- There's no conflict on this motion, because it's about the Elections Committee, but there will be on the campaign material motion.

Eshana Bhangu:

- What does it mean to say the Elections Committee will poster in a sustainable way?
- We decided to scrap posters for sustainability reasons.

Cole Evans:

- The goal is to give the Elections Committee flexibility.
- They asked if they could create displays of the candidates.
- The Governance Committee is satisfied:
 - This will give discretion to the Elections Committee, but Council can keep check through Code.
 - That was the compromise at GovCom.

Max Holmes:

- I would encourage Council to vote against this.
- If posters are put around campus with candidate information, candidates will complain.
- It's a horrific idea.
- No one's begging to read the candidate information, but people will find the smallest things to complain about: posters will get weaponized.
- The Elections Committee can promote elections as in the current Code, but should do nothing else.

Emily Gubski:

- I agree that posters can be problematic, but this should be in the hands of the Elections Committee.
- There are major communities that do not have access to our major social media feeds.
- I read tons of posters.
- We need physical outreach.
- We cannot expect students to go find out about elections.
- When postering was allowed, it meant people knew about candidates.
- It was a mess when individual candidates could poster, but if the Elections Committee wants to do it, it would be remiss of us to deprive them of this opportunity.

Mathew Ho:

- It's hard to reach certain populations.
- The Elections Committee may be best to put out posters to make them aware.

Max Holmes:

- There is no evidence that posters increase turnout.

- Turnout comes from email blasts and candidates campaigning in person.
- 95% of the complaints I received when I was in charge of elections were related to posters.
- If we allow the Elections Committee to do this, we will call their impartiality into question.

22. MOVED KAMIL KANJI, SECONDED SAAD SHOAIB:

“That this motion be referred back to the Governance Committee.”

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- Just to let people know: If we don't make this change now, it can't happen for this election.
- We can't change election rules during the campaign period.

Kamil Kanji:

- We may look at this for future years.

23. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

“That the question be called.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (13): Cole Evans, Saad Shoaib, Kamil Kanji, Jade Law, Emily Reid, Ezra Yu, Gabrielle Matheson, Teddy O'Donnell, Kiera Vandeborne, Avery Chan, Rebecca Liu, Minaho Chiew, Shadia Qubti

Against (6): Cole Quist, Mathew Ho, Jason Liao, Emily Gubski, Jonathan De Souza

24. MOVED KAMIL KANJI, SECONDED SAAD SHOAIB:

“That this motion be referred back to the Governance Committee.”

... Carried

For (9): Cole Evans, Mary Gan, Saad Shoaib, Kamil Kanji, Emily Reid, Gabrielle Matheson, Kiera Vandeborne, Minaho Chiew, Rebecca Liu

Against (3): Mathew Ho, Emily Gubski, Teddy O'Donnell

25. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED MARY GAN:

[SCD348-22], [SCD349-22]

From the Governance Committee

“That Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled ‘Code Changes 2022: Postering’ and thus amend the Code as recommended.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Referred to committee

Max Holmes:

- When we call the question should we stop the chat function in Zoom too?

The Speaker:

- Good point.
- We will do this in the future.

26. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED MARY GAN:

[SCD350-22], [SCD351-22]

From the Governance Committee

“That Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled ‘Code Changes 2022: Campaign Material’ and thus amend the Code as recommended.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Cole Evans:

- We also talked about this before.
- Want to reduce the backlog for the Elections Committee.
- It doesn't mean restrictions won't be enforced, just candidates can go ahead and publish campaign materials without getting them approved by the committee.

Emily Gubski:

- How are we moderating this?
- It could get out of hand.
- Will we rely on complaints?

Cole Evans:

- The Elections Committee would track what candidates are posting.
- There'd be peer enforcement; reporting to the Elections Committee.
- I don't foresee a huge issue.
- Violations will be dealt with.

Julia Burnham:

- Great to see this amendment.
- In the past, depending on the Elections Committee, every caption on Instagram would have to be approved.
- It was a real hindrance.
- There were 48-hour delays.
- Egregious violations used to happen anyway.

Emily Gubski:

- Getting everything approved can be tedious, I agree.
- Just have to be mindful:
 - The Elections Committee has to be clear on what is expected.

- The Elections Committee could still have candidates submit their material, not for approval, but just so they have knowledge of what's out there:
 - It's so easy to block the Elections Committee on Instagram.

Mathew Ho:

- It's stressful and time-consuming getting campaign material approved.
- Sounds worthwhile to look at the material afterwards.

27. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED MARY GAN:

From the Governance Committee

"That Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2022: Campaign Material' and thus amend the Code as recommended."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (12): Cole Evans, Mary Gan, Cole Quist, Mathew Ho, Jason Liao, Emily Reid, Emily Gubski, Teddy O'Donnell, Kiera Vandeborne, Minaho Chiew, Jonathan De Souza, Shadia Qubti

Abstained: Saad Shoab, Kamil Kanji

28. MOVED MARY GAN, SECONDED COLE EVANS: [SCD352-22], [SCD353-22]

From the Finance Committee

"That on the recommendation of the Finance Committee Council amend the budget as presented."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Mary Gan:

- A couple of changes.
- Minor ones for the Executive.
- Remarkable ones in the Student Services:
 - Food Bank increase from \$70,000 to \$140,000.
- Also increase in candidate refunds and elections advertising and promotions.
- Increasing the Clubs Days budget.
- President's project line increased because of the Indigenous Culture Month.
- Less of a deficit projected than before: down from \$835,000 to \$773,000.

Keith Hester:

- \$8,000 decrease in contributions from the businesses.
- Business revenue was actually up, the businesses are doing well, but there was an increase in food costs, a labour shortage, and an increase in janitorial costs from UBC.

29. MOVED MARY GAN, SECONDED COLE EVANS:

From the Finance Committee

“That on the recommendation of the Finance Committee Council amend the budget as presented.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... No objections

L) Constituency and Affiliate Motions

M) Discussions and Consultation

30. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED MAX HOLMES:

“That the agenda be amended to strike everything but the Historical Update.”

Julia Burnham:

- Is it appropriate to strike the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on AMS Events, Principles and Ethics since we are dissolving this committee?

Cole Evans:

- The chair is not here.

Julia Burnham:

- If the chair is not here, then the motion should not happen.
- There was agreement to revise the motion:

31. MOVED COLE EVANS, SECONDED MAX HOLMES:

“That the agenda be amended to strike everything but the Historical Update and to table the motion to dissolve the AMS Events, Principles and Ethics Committee.”

... No objections

32. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED EMILY GUBSKI:

“That Council be extended by 10 minutes.”

... No objections

N) President’s Business and Remarks (5 minutes)

[SCD354-22]

O) Executive Business and Remarks (3 minutes each)

VP Finance – Mary Gan

VP Academic & University Affairs – Eshana Bhangu

VP Administration – Lauren Benson

VP External Affairs – Saad Shoaib [SCD355-22]

Manager, Student Services – Mitchell Prost

Managing Director – Keith Hester

P) Committee Reports (3 minutes each)

Advocacy Committee – Eshana Bhangu

Steering Committee – Cole Evans

Finance Committee – Mary Gan

Governance Committee – Kamil Kanji

Operations Committee – Lauren Benson

Human Resources Committee – Romina Hajizadeh [SCD356-22]

Student Life Committee – Aryan Mishra

Indigenous Committee – Nakoda Hunter & Kleo Skavinski

Ethics & Accountability Committee - Speaker

Elections Committee – Shania Muthu

Advisory Board – Cole Evans [SCD256-22]

Extraordinary Committee on Affiliate institutions – Lauren Benson

Ad Hoc Committee on AMS Events Principles & Ethics – Lauren Benson [SCD357-22]

Ad Hoc Brewery Committee – Cole Evans

Q) Report from Presidents Council (3 minutes each)

R) Board of Governors, Senate and Ombudsperson Reports (3 minutes each)

Board of Governors – Max Holmes, Georgia Yee

Senate – Keanna Yu, Julia Burnham

Ombudsperson – Oluwakemi Oke

S) Historical Update (10 minutes)

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- Cole asked about hazing a couple of meetings ago, and last time people wanted singing.
- I did sing to Council a year ago and there's a recording that I hope Neal can play later, but first the hazing – and I begin with one of my favourite pictures: The Electrocution.
 - There's a first year student being introduced to UBC by being hooked up to a couple of batteries and zapped with electricity. Quite a jolt, you might say.
- Anyway, that's an example of hazing, which is a form of initiation.
- Initiation began at UBC in Year 2, 1916.
 - Not in Year One, somebody said in the AMS magazine, because that year we were all newcomers, but in Year 2, there was a whole new set of newcomers, along with oldtimers who'd been there a full year already, and so ... Initiation, Hazing.
 - That year there was something called a House of Torture, in which first years were made to crawl on their knees, and other things would be done to them: they'd have cold cream rubbed in their faces or have their hair bleached.
 - Sometimes they'd have to wear green: green ribbons, or green dunce caps and they'd have to recite the UBC yells or sing a UBC song (I played a couple of UBC songs last time).
- In 1919 people thought this was getting out of hand, and called a Special General Meeting of the AMS. There'd been blindfolding, hair cutting, and even branding that year.
- A motion was brought forward to bring in milder forms of initiation, but it got voted down: the students voted to continue what the new student newspaper, the Ubyyssey, called "a barbaric ordeal."
- Other activities were part of Initiation, like dunking people in the library pond.
 - This was especially something the Engineers liked to do. Engineers versus Frosh became an annual event.
- Inter-faculty battles became common and not just at the beginning of the year.
 - The Engineers and the Artsmen had snowball fights that caused lots of broken windows.
 - Sometimes fire hoses were used.
 - One year the Province newspaper reported that there were black eyes and torn shirts.
 - The Senate stepped in and ordered an end to any clashes that "might become injurious."
 - Even the Ubyyssey said it was hooliganism. Green hats are okay, they said, but no more fights or fires.
- Fires, you may ask? Well, yes, there was a tradition of lighting bonfires; there were even bonfire competitions. Not exactly sure how that worked.
- Anyway, all of this died out by the end of the 50's, though there was a bonfire in 2008 as a protest against UBC development. And that is the end of my talk on hazing.
- And now the acronym song.
- The Speaker played a video of Sheldon singing the acronym song.

Questions

Emily Gubski:

- It says on the picture of the electrocution, Ubicee. Is that a typo?

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- No, that spelling was the name of an old publication that preceded the Ubysey.
- It was a literary monthly.
- Then the Ubysey newspaper was created.
- That spelling of the name was created by combining UBC with Homer's Odyssey.

T) Other Business, Including in Camera Discussions, Notices of Motions and Submissions

U) Next Meeting and Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm.

Next Meeting of Council March 2, 2022

Joey Yang	Forestry	X	Y							
Ezra Yu	GSS	X					Y			
Carmen Watson	GSS									
	GSS									
	GSS									
Sabrina Moshenko	Indigenous Seat									
	Journalism									
Ivran Rai	Kinesiology									
Gabrielle Matheson	Law	X	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Micah Mizushima	LFS	X	Y		Y	Y	Y			
Sophie Penniman	Library-Archival	X	Y							
Emily Gubski	Medicine	X			Y	Y		N	N	Y
Teddy O'Donnell	Music	X	Y		A	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Ayo Lado	Nursing	X						N		
Grace Li	Pharmacy	X								
Kiera Vandeborne	Planning	X	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y
Oluwakemi Oke	Ombudsperson									
	Regent									
Minaho Chiew	Science	X	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rebecca Liu	Science	X			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Katherine Feng	Science	X			Y	Y	Y			
Avery Chan	Science	X	Y							
Julia Burnham	Senate	X								
Keanna Yu	Senate	X								
Sajedah Zaki	Social Work									
Jonathan De Souza	St Mark's	X			Y	Y	Y	N		Y
Shadia Qubti	VST	X					Y	Y		Y