



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of August 10, 2022

Attendance

Present: Eshana Bhangu (President), Dana Turdy (VP Academic & University Affairs), Erin Co (VP External), Mitchell Prost (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Ben Du (VP Administration)

Guests: Mimi Neufeld (Policy Advisor)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 10:33 am in Nest Room 3511.

Agenda

- The agenda was approved by consensus.

Minutes

- The minutes of August 3 were approved (Dana, Erin).

Monkeypox

- Keith:
 - Concerns have been raised that there will be an increase of monkeypox on campus.
 - It's been suggested we launch an information campaign.
 - Communications can put something together, but an Executive should be the face of it.
- Eshana:
 - I can do that.

Managing Director's Update

- Keith:

- Found \$185,000 owed us by the University, because under the terms of the lease they have to pay that amount if they close their Childminding service within 10 years, which they have done.
- Eshana:
 - We can use the money to start our own daycare.
- Keith:
 - New menu at the Flavour Lab.
 - Beef tacos are the most popular.
- Erin:
 - The pork skewers are good too.

PC1 and PC2 (Sexualized Violence and Respectful Community)

Decision-Makers

- Mimi:
 - On corrective action, assessing how serious the violation was.
 - VP's are not expected to be experts.
 - There are staff to provide support, e.g., the new full-time equity position, SASC.
 - It's important to have support; there's concern about vicarious trauma.
 - Last time we looked at the President, the Vice-Presidents, and Councillors as decision-makers.
 - Those are all political positions.
 - It's important to have trust in the decision and the process.
 - If political, there can be a perceived conflict of interest.
 - May also be a problem for the Executives themselves going forward in their careers.
 - It's in the best interest of all to include permanent staff, e.g., the HR Manager, the Managing Director, Service Coordinators, UBC personnel.
 - There can possibly be opt-outs by people on the panel.
- Dana:
 - How do we ensure balance and an odd number if there are opt-outs?
- Mimi:
 - Decisions will mostly result from conversation.
 - Not sure an odd number is necessary.
- Dana:
 - If two people on a panel have different views and can't figure out a solution in conversation, what will happen?
- Mimi:
 - In that case, a vote.

Membership of Decision-Making Panel

- Mimi:
 - President: strong knowledge. Makes sense on panel.
 - VP Admin: background with clubs and operations. Makes sense on panel.
 - Third person: A content expert. The new Equity position or SASC.
 - Or both Equity and SASC. Or add a Councillor.
- Dana:
 - Training for Councillors?
- Mimi:
 - At other student unions, people apply, are appointed at the first Council meeting, then get training.
- Eshana:
 - What if the President is too busy?
- Mimi:
 - Could add a designate clause.
 - Could add the Senior Manager of Student Services.
- Mitchell:
 - Services could be a good asset.
- Eshana:
 - Torn between that and a second Councillor.
 - Three students and two permanent staff?
- Erin:
 - Worried that Councillors may not be available.
- Mimi:
 - So President, VP Admin, content expert, Senior Manager of Student Services, and a Councillor?
- *There was consensus on this.*

Review of Decisions (Appeals)

- Mimi:
 - This is not just an opportunity to rehear a case.
 - Anyone appealing will have to demonstrate a fundamental procedural error that caused bias.
 - Or they will have to bring forward facts that were not originally available.
 - The deadline to appeal would be four days after the decision.
 - Some student unions say 2; some 5.
- Erin:
 - What if new facts emerge 8 days later?
 - How strict will we be?
- Mimi:
 - Ideally strict.
 - Could allow discretion; could call for a new investigation.

- Could include flexibility.
 - Can add a clause about discretion.
- Another issue:
 - Who is the appeal person?
 - They have to understand the process, the investigation, procedural fairness.
 - Could be the Managing Director or someone in HR or the Ombudsperson.
- Eshana:
 - Ombudsperson would be good. Or HR.
 - Managing Director is very busy.
- Dana:
 - Does HR have capacity for dealing with general members?
- Mimi:
 - Going to talk with HR.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.