

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Guests: Annabella McElroy (Ubyyssey), Kamil Kanji (President's Office), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (Admin Assistant)

A) Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:13 pm with Eshana Bhangu in the chair.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Chair:

- We're on the traditional and unceded territory of the Musqueam people.
- It's important to reflect on the fact that we are on stolen land.

C) Approval of the Agenda

1. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED ERIN CO:

"That the agenda be amended to add the following motion to suspend Code."

... No objections

2. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED ERIN CO:

"That the relevant sections of Code be suspended to allow the Chair to participate in debate."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Eshana Bhangu:

- The Speaker is not here.
- I will chair but I also need to take part in some of the debate.

3. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED ERIN CO:

"That the relevant sections of Code be suspended to allow the Chair to participate in debate."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... No objections

4. MOVED DANA TURDY, SECONDED ERIN CO:

"That the agenda be accepted as amended."

... No objections

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

New members:

Vacancies: Architecture, Arts, Audiology, Indigenous Seat, Journalism, Population & Public Health, Regent, Science, Social Work

Goodbyes:

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

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

G) Approval of Minutes of Council and Committees

5. MOVED DANA TURDY, SECONDED AUDREY CHOW:

"That the following minutes be accepted as presented."

AMS Council minutes dated April 20, 2022	[SCD096-23]
AMS In Camera Council minutes dated April 20, 2022	[SCD097-23]
Executive Committee minutes dated July 20, 2022	[SCD098-23]
Executive Committee minutes dated July 27, 2022	[SCD099-23]
Executive Committee minutes dated August 3, 2022	[SCD100-23]
Student Life Committee minutes dated July 4, 2022	[SCD101-23]
Student Life Committee minutes dated July 18, 2022	[SCD102-23]
Student Life Committee minutes dated July 20, 2022	[SCD103-23]
Governance Review Committee minutes dated July 21, 2022	[SCD104-23]
Governance Review Committee minutes dated July 28, 2022	[SCD105-23]
Governance Review Committee minutes dated August 4, 2022	[SCD106-23]
Finance Committee minutes dated August 15, 2022	[SCD107-23]

... No objections

H) Consent Items

Consent Items Requiring a Simple Majority

Consent Items Requiring a 2/3rds Majority

Mathew Ho asked that the Consent item on borrowing and Executive signing be removed to be considered separately.

6. MOVED DANA TURDY, SECONDED ERIN CO:

"That the following Consent Items be approved."

From the Finance Committee

[SCD108-23], [SCD109-23]

BE IT RESOLVED THAT \$755,000 be allocated from the Capital Projects Fund towards the AMS Nest AC Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Code Section IX B, Article 6(5)(a) be suspended to allow an expenditure of more than half the annual CPF intake.

Note: The approximate annual intake in CPF is \$460,000

Note: the current balance in CPF is \$2,134,154

From the Governance Committee

[SCD110-23], [SCD111-23]

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the report from the Governance Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2022: Appointing Interim Executives' and thus amend the Code as recommended.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Policy GV2 (Committee Appointments) be suspended to allow committee appointments to made in August.

[SCD112-23]

... No objections

I) Presentations and Accompanying Motions

***Academic Experience Survey (AES) Presentation
Dana Turdy (VP Academic):***

[SCD113-23], [SCD114-23]

Annual survey

- To help shape our advocacy priorities.
- Used for lobbying the University and the government.
- 10th year

2022

- Opened April 3 and went to May 31.
- 1,090 responses.

Respondent breakdown

- Mostly undergraduates.

UBC Experience

- Satisfaction with the University experience has gone up, but there's been a decrease in the number of students who think the University cares about what students think about tuition fees.

Campus Community

- Students generally feel better now that they're back on campus in person.

Discrimination

- The largest number of reports of discrimination were on the basis of race or ethnicity.
- Next largest: gender.

Affordability

- Huge focus of the survey.
- More students are without textbooks due to cost.
- Many buy texts they rarely use.
- Large number are using open education resources.
- We have campaigns like Textbook Broke.

Food Insecurity

- Food insecurity is rising.
- 43% worry about not having enough money for food due to other expenses (housing, tuition).

Financial Hardship

- Various factors: housing, tuition.

Financial Support & Resources

- Low numbers on awareness of resources if facing financial hardship.

AMS Services

- Good awareness of our services.
- Lowest used is the Ombudsperson.
- We are promoting services more.

UBC Services

- Good awareness of UBC Counseling.

Harm Reduction

- New harm reduction question on spectrometer drug checking.
- My office will work on getting increased access to harm reduction services.

Sexual Misconduct

- Continuing concern about sexual assault at UBC.

Questions

Katherine Feng:

- How many respondents were there this year compared to last year?

Dana Turdy:

- A decrease this year.
- Usually 3,000 or the high 2,000's.
- This year mostly because of timing there was a decrease.
- Usually the survey is done in February or late January.

- This time it was early April, when students are less engaged because of the end of term, finals, etc.
- We recommend doing the survey earlier.
- It was still very effective: 1,000 respondents is still a good number.

Lola Akinjala:

- For grad students, what percentage are you showing?
- What are you doing to contact grad students?

Dana Turdy:

- 10% of those surveyed said they were grad students.
- 20% of the grad students responded.
- This is a small decrease.
- My office worked closely with the GSS.
- It's easy to focus on undergraduates because they're the majority, but grad students have unique challenges.
- Maybe next year we can do a combined survey with the GSS.
- The GSS does their own survey.

Eshana Bhangu:

- The grad students do have input in this survey.

Katherine Feng:

- Food security – what are we doing to support students?
 - UBC did previously provide funding, I think.
- Also, why was the timeline different this year?

Dana Turdy:

- Working to get more funding for food security.
- Last year's funding from UBC was one-time.
- On the timeline, not sure I can answer; I wasn't the VP then.

Eshana Bhangu:

- Last year we introduced the Student Experience Survey and another survey, and that made us push this survey back.
- We didn't want survey fatigue.
- Even this year it's still a concern.

Mathew Ho:

- Did you compare to past surveys?

Dana Turdy:

- I only used 2021 data due to space and time, but am happy to share previous data.

Mathew Ho:

- Why has the use of tutoring has gone down?

Dana Turdy:

- Don't know, but I can check.

J) Executive and Committee Motions

7. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED RACHEL KIM: [SCD115-23]

From the Governance Review Ad-Hoc Committee

"That Council adopt the report entitled 'Governance Review Scope 2022' and thus approve the scope of the AMS Governance Review Ad-Hoc Committee."

Eshana Bhangu:

- Focus on Council, committees; not business and management, apart from how business and management interact with Council.
- Consultation in September-October.
- The AGM in October will be a huge chance to interact with the membership.
- By December we want a draft of final recommendations and a referendum question.
- Finalized by February.
- Tight timeline.

Katherine Feng:

- What mechanism will be used to look at other aspects of the AMS, like staff?

Eshana Bhangu:

- The committee is focused on Council and committees due to the timeline.
- That doesn't mean the committee doesn't think there are other things to look at.
- Could look at other recommendations, but that would mean a separate review.
- The last governance review did look at management and the businesses.
- Council can always do what it likes, but this is a massive undertaking.

8. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED RACHEL KIM:

From the Governance Review Ad-Hoc Committee

"That Council adopt the report entitled 'Governance Review Scope 2022' and thus approve the scope of the AMS Governance Review Ad-Hoc Committee."

... Carried

For (16): Eshana Bhangu, Dana Turdy, Ben Du, Erin Co, Audrey Chow, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Cynara Onyemordi, Rachel Kim, Christian Kyle, Kana Kawanishi, Victor Liu, Cissy Zhang, Kaitlyn Darrach, Katherine Feng, Jonathan De Souza

9. MOVED DANA TURDY, SECONDED KATHERINE FENG: [SCD116-23]

From the Finance Committee

"Be it resolved that Council approve a temporary wage increase for the Elections Administrator position, from \$19.00 to \$23.00 per hour, until April 25, 2023."

"Be it further resolved that Council approve an additional expenditure of \$2,880 in the line item 079-7010-00."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Eshana Bhangu:

- This is an important role in the Society.
- We need to be more competitive with TA's etc.
- We have struggled with recruitment
- This is just for this year because we're talking of potential changes to how the Elections Office works, but there's no time for that now.
- I hope this increase helps attract talent.

Katherine Feng:

- Are there other similar critical positions we need to be raising the salary for?

Eshana Bhangu:

- So far this is the only position we have been having challenges with.

Katherine Feng:

- Where is the money coming from?

Eshana Bhangu:

- It's a budget amendment.

Mathew Ho:

- If we raise the rate for this year will people think the wage should hold for future years?

Eshana Bhangu:

- Since we are considering restructuring the office there may be different positions with different wages.
- If Council decides to keep this increase, that's next year's decision.

Jonathan De Souza:

- Will the job be competitive if it reverts to the lower rate?

Eshana Bhangu:

- All of these issues are to be discussed as part of the restructuring.
- The EA is highly paid within the AMS, but it's not as competitive campus-wide.

Mathew Ho:

- Why not an honorarium upon successful completion instead of a wage?

Eshana Bhangu:

- That's not an appropriate way of paying employees.

- When we hire, we place faith in them.
- We can't hold wages hostage.

10. MOVED DANA TURDY, SECONDED KATHERINE FENG:

From the Finance Committee

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For (15): Eshana Bhangu, Dana Turdy, Ben Du, Erin Co, Audrey Chow, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Cynara Onyemordi, Rachel Kim, Christian Kyle, Kana Kawanishi, Cissy Zhang, Kaitlyn Darrach, Katherine Feng, Jonathan De Souza

11. MOVED ERIN CO, SECONDED BEN DU:

[SCD117-23]

"That Council approve the additional borrowing of \$3,982,526, and direct two members of the Executive to sign the resolution."

Mathew Ho:

- I would like more context about this.

Keith Hester:

- We took out a loan on the new building, including the lower level of the Life Building (to pay for renovations to the lower level).
- That reno did not happen until after we moved in, so it ended up not being part of the loan.
- We went into deficit to pay for the renovations.
- This loan is to correct that and get rid of that deficit.
- Our loan balance has gone down from \$70 million to \$55 million.
- We're now adding \$4 million, to be paid for from the SUB Renewal fee.

Mathew Ho:

- Why the original delay?

Keith Hester:

- It was partly due to removing asbestos.

12. MOVED ERIN CO, SECONDED BEN DU:

"That Council approve the additional borrowing of \$3,982,526, and direct two members of the Executive to sign the resolution."

... Carried

For (15): Eshana Bhangu, Dana Turdy, Ben Du, Erin Co, Audrey Chow, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Cynara Onyemordi, Rachel Kim, Christian Kyle, Kana Kawanishi, Victor Liu, Kaitlyn Darrach, Katherine Feng, Jonathan De Souza

K) Constituency and Affiliate Motions

L) Discussions and Consultation

M) President's Business and Remarks (5 minutes)

[SCD118-23]

N) Executive Business and Remarks (3 minutes each)

VP Finance – Eshana Bhangu

[SCD119-23]

Jonathan De Souza:

- How is the timeline looking for VP Finance goals?

Eshana Bhangu:

- There's a by-election in September in compliance with the Bylaws.
- We are on track.

Mathew Ho:

- What steps are you taking to ensure that the remaining 20% of Constituencies submit their budgets?

Eshana Bhangu:

- There was some delay in getting and authorizing treasurers.
- It's getting better.

Katherine Feng:

- Is the VP Finance making progress on their Executive goals?

Eshana Bhangu:

- A lot of the goals for the previous VP Finance said to make additions or extensions.
- That's happening.
- I will leave it to the new VP Finance set their own goals.
- Some of the goals are tied to the President's goals.
- We are looking into having quarterly reports done in a different way: more digestible and holistic.
- We're also looking into ways to make life easier for clubs and Constituencies.
 - Publicizing funds.

- Creating a guide to opting out of fees.
- Progress is being made on the goals.

VP Academic & University Affairs – Dana Turdy

[SCD120-23]

Katherine Feng:

- I don't see anything in your report on food security.
- Is there a campaign or initiative?

Dana Turdy:

- The Food Bank is launching a Go Fund Me.
- Looking to support that.
- We also sit on the Food Security Initiative at UBC.
- Looking to do a general awareness campaign.

Mathew Ho:

- Are we doing anything new this year for the Textbook Broke campaign?

Dana Turdy:

- We are looking to get sponsors or partners this year; we've had some in previous years (the Bookstore and other organizations).
- Also looking to mobilize students to initiate discussions with professors about using open education resources (OER's).

VP Administration – Ben Du

[SCD121-23]

Mathew Ho:

- Will we need an accessibility committee for the Nest under the new BC law on accessibility?

Eshana Bhangu:

- We have accessibility certification from the Rick Hansen Foundation.
- We do not fall under this legislation; it's for public institutions.

Ben Du:

- My goals include doing an inclusivity and safety audit of the building.
- Accessibility will be included in the scope of the audit.

Katherine Feng:

- Update on Soapstand?

Ben Du:

- We continue to maintain the system.
- We plan to relocate to a higher traffic area.
- Currently it's in the way of the Pit line-up.
- We've identified possible new locations near Honour Roll and the University Boulevard entrance.

VP External Affairs – Erin Co

[SCD122-23]

Katherine Feng:

- Any advocacy on the municipal level, given that municipal elections are coming soon?

Erin Co:

- We met with the Electoral Area A Director to discuss how to keep students feeling connected.
- I'm also on the UNA Board as a non-voting member; we have meetings once a month.

Mathew Ho:

- What are your SUDS takeaways?

Erin Co:

- It was the biggest SUDS ever.
- It was really great to see everyone interacting and getting to learn from seasoned people.
- There was positive response from participants.
- This was our first totally in person SUDS in a couple of years.

Mathew Ho:

- UCRU – what are the priorities?

Erin Co:

- We are finalizing recommendations.

Student Services Manager

[SCD123-23]

Managing Director – Keith Hester

[SCD124-23]

Mathew Ho:

- What does investigating childcare mean?

Keith Hester:

- UBC's Osprey childcare is closing in the Nest, so we're looking at the possibility of operating an AMS childcare centre in that space.

13. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED BEN DU:

“That the meeting be extend by 10 minutes.”

... No objections

Katherine Feng:

- Re the Student Services Manager - is there a timeline to fill this position?
- What is the procedure?

Eshana Bhangu:

- Maybe we'll touch on that next week.
- We're looking to be innovative and practical.

Mathew Ho:

- More elaboration on the culinary training program?
- Will this incur more costs on our businesses?

Keith Hester:

- Looking at setting up our own culinary school.
- People would work in our commissary kitchen for practical experience.
- They'd be paying us to get a qualification and would work in our outlets.

Mathew Ho:

- Would we expect a profit?

Keith Hester:

- We hope it will break even.
- We would need to hire an instructor.
- Could be a net earner, and the big benefit is that it would create a pipeline to get culinary staff.

O) Next Meeting and Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Next Meeting of Council August 31, 2022

Votes and Attendance

	Constituency	Attended	Governance Review Scope & Timeline	EA Wage Increase	Execs signing for additional borrowing
Neal Cameron	Speaker				
Eshana Bhangu	President	Y	Y	Y	Y
Dana Turdy	VP Academic	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ben Du	VP Admin	Y	Y	Y	Y
	VP Finance				
Erin Co	VP External	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Student Services Manager				
	Architecture				
Audrey Chow	Arts	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Arts				
Mathew Ho	Arts	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kaysan Adriyanto	Arts	Y	Y	Y	Y
Cynara Onyemordi	Arts	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Audiology				
Max Holmes	BoG				
Georgia Yee	BoG				
Thomas Dunsmore	Commerce				
Rachel Kim	Commerce	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jasneet Bal	Dentistry				
Yash Ahlawat	Economics				
Jade Law	Education				
Christian Kyle	Engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sofia Cecic	Engineering				
Kana Kawanishi	Forestry	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ezra Yu	GSS				
Sabbir Hossain	GSS				

Mopelola Akinjala	GSS				
Eshita Swain	GSS				
	Indigenous Seat				
	Journalism				
Victor Liu	Kinesiology	Y	Y		Y
Julia Wang	Law	Y	Y	Y	
Cissy Zhang	LFS				
Mandy Furre	Library-Archival				
Maddie Elder	Medicine				
Kaitlyn Darrach	Music	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ayo Lado	Nursing				
Charlene Yang	Pharmacy				
	Planning				
	Population & Public Health				
Alec Lee	Ombudsperson				
	Regent				
	Science				
Cindy Wang	Science				
Katherine Feng	Science	Y	Y	Y	Y
Avery Chan	Science				
Melina Amirsharafi	Senate				
Keannu Yu	Senate				
	Social Work				
Jonathan De Souza	St Mark's	Y	Y	Y	Y
Shadia Qubti	VST				