

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Guests: Anabella McElroy (Ubyyssey), Nathan Bawaan (Ubyyssey), Bernice Wong (Ubyyssey), Tova Gaster (Ubyyssey), Iman Janmohamed (Ubyyssey), Miriam Celebiler (Ubyyssey), Sansian Tan (AMS Elections), Ashley Haines (AMS Elections), Fatima Rua (AUS President), Mimi Neufeld (Policy Advisor), Joshua Kim (AMS President's Office), Kamil Kanji (AMS President's Office), Kevin Nystan (Student), Bernadette De Vera (Sustainability), Annabelle Liao (Sustainability), Celia Chung (Acting Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (Admin Assistant)

A) Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Speaker:

- Vancouver is situated on Musqueam territory.
- Land of the Tsleil-Waututh and Hengeminem-speaking people.
- We live and learn on these lands.
- Traditional and unceded occupied territories.
- We are active participants in colonialism.

C) Approval of the Agenda

1. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI:

"That the agenda be approved as presented."

... Carried unanimously

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

New members:

Vacancies: Architecture, Audiology, Journalism, LASSA, Populations & Public Health, Regent, Science

Goodbyes: Jennifer Lara (Architecture)

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

2. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED KAYSAN ADRIYANTO:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following minutes be accepted as presented.”

AMS Council minutes dated September 22, 2022	[SCD274-23]
AMS Council minutes dated September 28, 2022	[SCD275-23]
AMS Council minutes dated October 26, 2022	[SCD276-23]

... Carried unanimously

H) Consent Items

Consent Items Requiring a Simple Majority

3. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve a change in the Governance Review Sub-Committee Terms of Reference that establishes the President as Chair of the Committee."

... Carried unanimously

Consent Items Requiring a 2/3rds Majority

4. MOVED ESHANA BHNAGU, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council suspend Code Section IX A, Article 1(A)(2) to allow Council to appoint the Elections Administrator without a recommendation from the Human Resources Committee."

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council suspend Code Section IX A, Article 1(A)(5) to allow a member of Council to be the Elections Administrator."

... Carried unanimously

I) Presentations and Accompanying Motions

5. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED KAYSAN ADRIYANTO:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Services presentation be moved to before the President’s remarks.”

... No objections

Executive and Committee Motions

6. MOVED AUDREY CHOW, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI: [SCD277-23]

From the Governance Committee

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled ‘Code Changes 2022: Money Motions at Committees’ and thus amend the Code as recommended.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Audrey Chow:

- We approved a motion earlier to allow Fincom to approve budget changes under \$5,000.
- We realized it’s hard now to keep track of these sorts of changes, so this amendment requires reports to Council on money motions, so we know what’s happening.

Mathew Ho:

- Are there also changes concerning the Student Life Committee?

Audrey Chow:

- Just to say that they will report to Council on the Grad Class gift.

7. MOVED AUDREY CHOW, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled ‘Code Changes 2022: Money Motions at Committees’ and thus amend the Code as recommended.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (19): Eshana Bhangu, Ben Du, Erin Co, Audrey Chow, Ayesha Irfan, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Cynara Onyemordi, Thomas Dunsmore, Rachel Kim, Yash Ahlawat, Sofia Cecic, Kana Kawanishi, Koda Tootoosis, Cissy Zhang, Maddie Elder, Amelia Walker, Samia Ramim, Salva Sherif

8. MOVED AUDREY CHOW, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI: [SCD278-23]

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled ‘Code Changes 2022: Election Appeals Committee’ and thus amend the Code as recommended.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Audrey Chow:

- We saw an earlier version of this a couple of months ago.

- The first time there were problems with the conflict of interest rules for this committee; now they're more elaborate.
- And now both parties can bring representatives to the appeal hearing.
- Also, training will be provided for the committee

Christian Kyle:

- These changes mostly look good.
- Why are we changing from 48 hours to two business days for how quickly the appeals committee convenes?
- With weekends that could delay things for five days.
- Campaigning could be stopped for five days waiting for appeal.

Max Holmes:

- I understand the Ombudsperson being added, but adding people makes it more difficult to schedule meetings.

9. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED AUDREY CHOW:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT this motion be referred back to the Governance Committee."

... Carried unanimously

10. MOVED AUDREY CHOW, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2022: Election Appeals Committee' and thus amend the Code as recommended."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Referred back to committee

11. MOVED CYNARA ONYEMORDI, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE: [SCD279-23]

From the Elections Committee

"BE IT RESOLVED That Council accept Pradyut Mandal and Ciara Albrecht as Polling Officers as recommended by the Elections Committee effective immediately until March 2023."

... Carried

For (18): Eshana Bhangu, Ben Du, Audrey Chow, Ayesha Irfan, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Cynara Onyemordi, Thomas Dunsmore, Rachel Kim, Yash Ahlawat, Sofia Cecic, Kana Kawanishi, Koda Tootoosis, Cissy Zhang, Maddie Elder, Amelia Walker, Samia Ramim, Salva Sherif

Abstained: Christian Kyle

12. MOVED CYNARA ONYEMORDI, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE: [SCD280-23]

From the HR Committee

"BE IT RESOLVED That Council accept Shayan Jahangiri as Communications Officer as recommended by the HR Committee effective immediately until March 2023."

... Carried

For: Eshana Bhangu, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Kana Kawanishi, Samia Ramim, Salva Sherif

Abstained: Christian Kyle

13. MOVED CYNARA ONYEMORDI, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council appoint Max Holmes as Elections Administrator for a period effective immediately and ending April 28, 2023."

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Elections Administrator's work hours be increased to 30 hours per week for a period effective immediately and ending April 28, 2023."

Cynara Onyemordi:

- Our EA had to resign.

Eshana Bhangu:

- Max has served before as EA.
- He has resigned from the Governance Review Committee and will deal with any remaining conflicts of interest.
- The increase in hours allows for better planning.

14. MOVED CYNARA ONYEMORDI, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE:

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"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Elections Administrator's work hours be increased to 30 hours per week for a period effective immediately and ending April 28, 2023."

... Carried

For (19): Eshana Bhangu, Ben Du, Erin Co, Ayesha Irfan, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Cynara Onyemordi, Thomas Dunsmore, Rachel Kim, Yash Ahlawat, Christian Kyle, Sofia Cecic, Kana Kawanishi, Koda Tootoosis, Cissy Zhang, Maddie Elder, Amelia Walker, Samia Ramim, Salva Sherif

15. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT THOMAS DUNSMORE be appointed to the ad hoc Governance Review Committee effective immediately and ending at the first Council meeting of May."

... No objections

Services Review – Kathleen Simpson

[SCD281-23]

Departmental Goals

- Increase awareness of AMS Services.
- Increase consistency and quality of the Services
- Increase departmental resilience.

By the Numbers

- The Services Department is quite large, with many staff and volunteers, and a budget of \$1.6 million.
- The most interactions this year (60%) were with the Food Bank. Second was SASC.

Advocacy Service

- Intended to support students in conflicts with the University, for instance over academic misconduct.
- This service makes a big difference in students' lives.
- Usage has increased so we have added an assistant coordinator.
- Expanding the scope of issues we will take on (housing, parking access, and diversity).
- Aiming to increase collaboration and communication with student advocacy teams

eHub

- Our big recommendation is to eliminate eHub.
- It's relatively new (only five years old) and differs from the model of the other Services, serving only the small group of students seeking to start up businesses.
- There are other resources on campus for this.

Food Bank

- Usage growing at a staggering rate.
- It increases day to day.
- International and grad students use the service most.
- We purchase 1.38 tons of food for every day we're open.
- We project a 2-fold increase from last year.
- Currently supposed to be an emergency service providing emergency hampers.
- We should look at how it's used: some clients rely on it for months or years. It is no longer just for temporary emergencies.
- It should become a full service food bank
- We need to build infrastructure to manage the volume of food.
- We need long-term partnerships with other food banks.
- We are working on getting more money from UBC.
- We are increasing staff to keep up with demand.

Housing

- A very new Service originally meant to help people find housing, but the AMS can't really help with that.
- We can help in landlord disputes or scams.
- That means transforming into more of an advocacy model.

- The recommendation is to move this into the Advocacy Service and hire staff instead of using volunteers.

Peer Support

- This Service is the product of a merger between Speakeasy and Vice.
- It has seen some growth lately.
- Partnering with other campus groups on harm reduction.
- Building out capacity to distribute Naloxone kits.
- Looking at hybrid models for meetings.

Safewalk

- Cornerstone Service,
- Struggled with lower number of interactions since the pandemic.
- Awareness of the Service has gone down.
- Need more communication.
- Recruiting staff to make more available.
- Looking to reduce barriers to the Service.
- Going to allow groups of two or three.
- Shifting to driving teams only.

SASC

- The online platform is popular.
- Revamping online materials.
- Expanding education and outreach.
- Increasing integration with other services: for the first time all the Services will report to the same person.

Tutoring

- Increased usage rates.
- In the past private appointments were the most popular, but now the free drop-in groups are growing.
- Hoping to build an exam repository and to hire more private appointment tutors.

Questions

Thomas Dunsmore:

- Can you provide more details about shutting down eHub?
- What support will there be after April?

Kathleen Simpson:

- A number have already gone to e@UBC.
- We hope to connect some to Sauder clubs.

Kaysan Adriyanto:

- Re housing service moving to deal with landlord disputes:
- Do you have an estimate of how many students will use this service in the spring?

Kathleen Simpson:

- Don't have projections now.

- Switching it to Advocacy would make a larger team: pooling of resources.
- Once we eliminate finding housing, we'll be able to meet demand.

Rachel Kim:

- Commerce clubs can provide support for the people using eHub.
- How will the transition work?

Kathleen Simpson:

- The main thing for eHub was the Get Seeded event.
- There was a small amount of individual mentoring: that will come to an end at the end of the year.

Mathew Ho:

- AMS Food Bank is not currently a partner with the Greater Vancouver Food Bank, and there was an article that quoted someone at the Vancouver Food Bank being negative about our food bank.
- How would we become a partner?
- Also, is capacity an issue?

Kathleen Simpson:

- That article was in September. I reached out to them, and the quote did not reflect the actual feelings at the Vancouver Food Bank.
- They're working with us now.
- As to capacity, we have several options. There's quite a bit of space.

Cindy Wang:

- Do you hire short term or long term volunteers?
- Is training worth it for short term volunteers?

Kathleen Simpson:

- We generally look for volunteers who will stay for the full school year, but volunteers do drop and we replace them.
- Our new model at the Food Bank requires more volunteers.
- Training the volunteers is important, e.g., for Peer Support; these are our front line workers.

Kana Kawanishi:

- How will you increase collaborative relationships?
- How will you obtain more funding for the Food Bank?

Kathleen Simpson:

- Re collaboration:
 - It is our first goal, increasing the work we do with UBC departments: we want them to be comfortable referring students to us.
 - We want to tell UBC departments about our services.
 - We already do this for Tutoring and Food Bank on an ad hoc basis, but we want to make sure we do it more widely.
- Food Bank funding is our biggest challenge.

- It costs us \$3,000 per day.
- Working with the Food Security Initiative is important.
- We do have a reserve fund, but it would disappear in a year if we received no outside funding.
- We get donations, but they don't go as far as they used to.
- Meeting with UBC Development to discuss.

Max Holmes:

- A realistic report.
- Discontinuing the two services makes sense.
- We need to focus on what we do well.
- Have you explored new services: Bike Kitchen and LSLAP (the free legal clinic from Law students)?

Kathleen Simpson:

- We got feedback about not meeting demand within our current Services.
- Didn't look at creating new ones.
- It would be interesting to look into the Bike Kitchen.
- Am meeting LSLAP; a partnership with them could be beneficial.
 - One barrier is that they don't take cases involving the University.

Ayesha Irfan:

- Re the Food Bank: have we looked at collaborating with food waste initiatives?

Kathleen Simpson:

- We partner with FoodMesh (food recovery from grocery stores).
- We are looking at food recovery from the AMS businesses.
- Also in discussions with UBC about food recovery.
- Always looking for more partners.
- Some suppliers require us to pick up pallets of food which we can't do.

Kaysan Adriyanto:

- How will the greater integration of SASC work?
- On social media?

Kathleen Simpson:

- SASC will maintain their own Instagram, but we will cross-promote with other Services.
- Before, the Services pamphlet did not include SASC, but it's important to include them.

Cindy Wang:

- Students need a housing service.
- Does it make sense to remove ours?

Kathleen Simpson:

- Housing is a huge issue, but we need to look at what we can do.
- We can post some online tips, but we can't actively help find housing.

- But we are well placed through the Advocacy Service to deal with disputes.

Mathew Ho:

- Would Advocacy help with on campus housing issues?
- Would you collaborate with the RHA (the Residence Hall Association)?

Kathleen Simpson:

- Collaborating with the RHA is a great idea.
- In the past Advocacy's focus was on academic misconduct.
- Now that it's going to be doing more, we can look at other connections.
- Advocacy does already support students about housing issues.

Eshana Bhangu:

- Good job.
- Some of these things should have been done years ago.

16. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED BEN DU:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Entrepreneurship Hub be discontinued as a Student Service as of May 1, 2023."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried unanimously

17. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED BEN DU:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMS Housing Service be discontinued as a Student Service as of May 1, 2023."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried unanimously

J) Constituency and Affiliate Motions

K) Discussion and Consultation

L) President Remarks – Eshana Bhangu

[SCD283-23]

- Excited for the rest of our term.
- For the first time we kept the Nest open 24/7 through the exam period and in our extreme weather conditions.
- Governance review underway.
 - Confident in the direction.
 - Bylaw and Code changes coming.
- Worked on the Services Review.
- Constituency feedback form sent out, getting some great feedback.
- Inter Faculty Cup
 - Food drive – 30+ boxes of food.

- EUS gave 21 boxes.
 - EUS is in the lead.
- Award ceremony being planned.
 - To be called the AMS Awards Reception.
 - Last year it was the Awards Gala; before that it was the All-Presidents Dinner.
- Financial system:
 - Brought in firm to do audit of the problems.
 - Final stages of that.
 - Hope to fix it.
- The VP Academic & University Affairs has requested a leave of absence, probably for more than two months.
 - A job posting is up for a replacement.
 - There will be a meeting next Monday at 6:00 to discuss this appointment.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- Glad the Nest stayed open during exams.
- Why did the libraries not?
- Will you look into steps we can take to have the University keep the libraries open?

Eshana Bhangu:

- Senator Kamil is pushing for that.
- The Library said usage numbers were down, but it was COVID.
- Someone once said that if the University did all that it should, there'd be no need for a student union.
- That said, I don't think it was such a bad thing that the Nest was open, and I will recommend that it be open in future exam periods.
- We will also lobby UBC about opening buildings in extreme weather.

Mathew Ho:

- For reimbursement backlogs, has the consultant firm made recommendations?

Eshana Bhangu:

- We're receiving the roadmap next week and will start fixing things by the end of the week.

M) Executive Remarks

VP Academic & University Affairs

- No report.

VP Administration – Ben Du

[SCD284-23], [SCD285-23], [SCD286-23]

Thomas Dunsmore:

- Re the Net Zero 2025, good momentum: how will you maintain it?

Ben Du:

- This is a 5-year plan with Ostrom Climate.

- The action plans in this report are only a subset of the plan.
- We are in year 2.5.
- We are on pace to complete these goals by 2025.
- We have a net zero plan report which has guidelines and strategies to keep the plan going and meet net zero goals.
- We will review the plan with next year's team and give our recommendations.

VP External Affairs – Erin Co

Max Holmes:

- Where is her update?

Erin Co (on Zoom):

- I was on vacation until yesterday.

VP Finance – Lawrence Liu

[SCD287-23]

Mathew Ho:

- Re credit card roll out:
- How will you troubleshoot issues?

Lawrence Liu:

- We have staff dedicated to financial systems.
- There don't seem to be any major issues.

Mathew Ho:

- Are you doing referendum planning for the Health & Dental plan?

Lawrence Liu:

- Preliminary planning.
- By mid-February we will come to Council.

Interim Managing Director – Celia Chung

[SCD288-23]

Mathew Ho:

- Re Life Building flood:
- How much damage was there?
- Who pays for the repairs, UBC or the AMS?

Celia Chung:

- Good question about funding.

Ben Du:

- A pipe burst and water went into the corridor and some club rooms.
- Some clubs were affected: extent to be determined.
- Restoration company called in within an hour, and the damage was contained.
- Not too much cause for concern.
- We are looking after the affected clubs.

Mathew Ho:

- The clubs can expect to be reimbursed?

Ben Du:

- That's the plan.

Senior Student Services Manager – Kathleen Simpson

[SCD289-23]

N) Committee Reports

Advocacy Committee

- No report.

Steering Committee – Eshana Bhangu

- No report.

Finance Committee – Lawrence Liu

- Held one meeting.
- The next few months will be busy:
 - Reforecast.
 - Budget changes.
 - Referendum planning.

Operations Committee – Ben Du

- Looking at meeting times for this term.

Governance Committee – Audrey Chow

- Looking at a meeting time.

HR Committee – Cynara Onyemordi

- No update.

Student Life Committee – Christian Kyle

- Looking at a meeting time.
- Interfaculty Cup going well.

Cynara Onyemordi:

- Block Party line-up?

Eshana Bhangu:

- Can't say.

Advisory Board – Eshana Bhangu

- Consulted on Governance Review recommendations.

O) Report from President's Council – Eshana Bhangu

- Will meet in next week.

P) Board of Governors, Senate and Ombudsperson (10 minutes each)

Q) Historical Update (10 minutes each)

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- Pie R Squared pizza is leaving, and we'll be getting pasta and Mediterranean food.
- We used to have a pasta place called Tortellini's and also, briefly, a place called Mediterra.
- Tortellini's was replaced by the Pendulum: named in honour of Edgar Allan Poe because it was next door to the Pit, so we had the Pit and the Pendulum in the old building.
- Also in the old building was the original Gallery Lounge.
- It developed out of the old Art Gallery. We decided to combine the art gallery with a lounge, so had the Art Gallery Lounge.
- The art people complained about mixing drinks (and smoking!) with art, so we moved the art out into a new gallery, and the Art Gallery Lounge became just the Gallery Lounge.
- Other clever AMS names:
 - Blue Chip, a play on blue chip stocks (for the Commerce students).
 - Honour Roll, an academic pun.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- Did Blue Chip's name change?

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- Yes, we had a consultant who convinced us to change the name to Upper Case (there was also a Lower Case on the Lower Level), but we changed back.

Ben Du:

- How much was pizza?

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- The price of pizza was one thing I don't think we changed over the years.

R) Other Business, Including In Camera Discussions, Notices of Motions, and Submissions

MOVED SECONDED THIRDED

Executive Business – In Camera

S) Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting of Council is January 25, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Votes and Attendance

	Constituency	Attended	Code Changes Money Motions at Committees	Polling Officers	Elections Cooms officer	Elections Administrator	Discontinue EHUB	Discontinue Housing Service
Neal Cameron	Speaker	X						
Eshana Bhangu	President	X	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Dana Turdy	VP Academic							
Ben Du	VP Admin	X	Y	Y		Y		
Lawrence Liu	VP Finance	X						
Erin Co	VP External	X	Y			Y		
Kathleen Simpson	Sr. Student Services Manager	X						
	Architecture							
Audrey Chow	Arts	X	Y	Y				
Ayesha Irfan	Arts	X	Y	Y		Y		
Mathew Ho	Arts	X	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Kaysan Adriyanto	Arts	X	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Cynara Onyemordi	Arts	X	Y	Y		Y		
	Audiology							
Max Holmes	BoG	X						
Georgia Yee	BoG							
Thomas Dunsmore	Commerce	X	Y	Y		Y		
Rachel Kim	Commerce	X	Y	Y		Y		
Jasneet Bal	Dentistry							
Yash Ahlawat	Economics	X	Y	Y		Y		
Damian Spence	Education							
Christian Kyle	Engineering	X		A	A	Y		
Sofia Cecic	Engineering	X	Y	Y		Y		
Kana Kawanishi	Forestry	X	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Cara James	GSS							
Chhavi Mehra	GSS							
Mopelola Akinjala	GSS							

Samia Syeoti Ramim	GSS	X	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Koda Tootoosis	Indigenous Seat	X	Y	Y		Y		
	Journalism							
Victor Liu	Kinesiology							
Julia Wang	Law							
Cissy Zhang	LFS	X	Y	Y		Y		
	Library- Archival							
Maddie Elder	Medicine	X	Y	Y		Y		
Amelia Walker	Music	X	Y	Y		Y		
Ayo Lado	Nursing							
Charlene Yang	Pharmacy	X						
Hussein Elhagehassan	Planning							
	Population & Public Health							
Alec Lee	Ombudspers on							
	Regent							
	Science							
Cindy Wang	Science	X						
Katherine Feng	Science							
Salva Sherif	Science	X	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Melina Amirsharafi	Senate							
Keannu Yu	Senate							
Muge Tiritoglu	Social Work							
Jonathan De Souza	St Mark's							
Shadia Qubti	VST							