

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Guests: Annabella McElroy (Ubysey), Nathan Bawaan (Ubysey), Iman Janmohamed (Ubysey), Wren-Harlow Gillespie, Zach Kanevski, Quyen Schroeder, Lily Holmes, Michael Kingsmill (AMS Design Office), Kamil Kanji (AMS President's office), 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 6:11 pm with Eshana Bhangu in the chair.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Chair:

- AMS Nest is situated on traditional ancestral Musqueam territory.
- All the work we do is on stolen land.
- It doesn't belong to us.

C) Approval of the Agenda

1. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE:

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

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... No objections

2. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE:

"That the agenda be approved as presented."

... No objections

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

New members:

Vacancies: Architecture, Audiology, Journalism, Library-Archival, Population & Public Health, Regent, Science

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

3. MOVED RACHEL KIM, SECONDED MATHEW HO:

"That the following minutes be accepted as presented."

AMS Council minutes dated August 31, 2022	[SCD338-23]
AMS Council minutes dated October 12, 2022	[SCD339-23]
AMS Council minutes dated January 11, 2023	[SCD340-23]
AMS Council minutes dated January 16, 2023	[SCD341-23]
AMS Council minutes dated January 25, 2023	[SCD342-23]

... No objections

H) Consent Items

Consent Items Requiring a Simple Majority

Consent Items Requiring a 2/3rds Majority

4. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED KATHERINE FENG: [SCD343-23]

"That the amended policy PC3: Workplace Health & Safety Policy be accepted as amended."

... No objections

I) Presentations and Accompanying Motions

Budget Reforecast – Eshana Bhangu and Lawrence Liu [SCD344-23]

Eshana Bhangu:

- Business performance has improved.
- We're forecasting a deficit that is almost \$700,000 less than we what we forecast at the beginning of the year.
- Very happy to see these numbers.

Lawrence Liu:

- Mostly the deficit projection has come down because of business revenue.
- Blue Chip and Conferences & Catering contributions have almost doubled.
- Flavour Lab is making a loss, but that is deliberate to have something affordable for students.
- Pretty much getting back to pre-pandemic levels.
- Slight decrease in expenditures in the Executive offices (some staff left).
- Student Services saw a decrease in spending at Housing, eHub, and SASC.
- Events and Ancillary Services stayed the same.
- Expenditures decreased overall by about \$100,000.
- The deficit is now projected to be just under \$481,000 instead of over a million.

Eshana Bhangu:

- We are not compromising on services.
- If things continue, we will be leaving a very healthy society.
- Business has been doing better.
- There have been more opportunities that our professional staff have taken advantage of.
 - Scholars Catering shut down, providing an opportunity for us to expand our catering.
- Financially healthy, but also providing affordable food at the Flavour Lab, where every item is under \$10.
- The Governance Review Committee has been discussing changes to Exec portfolios:
 - We've already reduced staff in the Academic & University Affairs Office and in the Finance Office.
 - The work can be done with fewer people.
 - A good lesson: we don't need massive Exec portfolios.

5. MOVED CYNARA ONYEMORDI, SECONDED KATHERINE FENG:

"That Council approve the 2022/23 Reforecasted Budget."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Katherine Feng:

- Great news that the deficit is going to be less, but why the discrepancy in the forecasts?

Eshana Bhangu:

- There were fears of not bouncing back from COVID.
- Concerns about labour costs and the supply chain.
- This led to conservative budgeting.
- But the return of student activity to campus and the shutting down of Scholars produced a good scenario for the Society.
- Lots of weddings booked.
- But I agree: financial projections need to be accurate.

Mathew Ho:

- It's good to see the deficit reduced.
- Wondering whether the catering expansion will continue.

Celia Chung:

- Hope to keep the offsite catering going.
- We are expecting the same revenue in the future.
- We expect to see it grow and do well.

6. MOVED CYNARA ONYEMORDI, SECONDED KATHERINE FENG:

"That Council approve the 2022/23 Reforecasted Budget."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (23): Eshana Bhangu, Anisha Sandhu, Lawrence Liu, Erin Co, Audrey Chow, Ayesha Irfan, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Cynara Onyemordi, Thomas Dunsmore, Rachel Kim, Christian Kyle, Sofia Cecic, Kana Kawanishi, Koda Tootosis, Victor Liu, Maddie Elder, Amelia Walker, Rhiannon Terpstra, Hussein Elhagehassan, Cindy Wang, Katherine Feng, Jonathan De Souza

Bike Kitchen Referendum Question

7. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE:

"Whereas Council on February 13 directed the President to call a referendum to be held March 6-10 to increase the AMS Bike Co-op/Bike Kitchen fee to \$4.17; and

Whereas the referendum question as approved was incomplete and thus not clear and unambiguous,

Therefore, be it resolved that Council amend the original question by adding three notes to it so that the complete question shall read:

'Do you support increasing the AMS Bike Co-op/Bike Kitchen fee to \$4.17 to support accessible and affordable transportation through increased programming, alleviate its pandemic-related accumulated debt, and invest in sustainable and active transportation for the UBC community?

Note 1: This constitutes a \$3 increase from the current AMS Bike Co-op/Bike Kitchen fee.

Note 2: The fee will continue to be fully refundable upon request through a digital opt-out.

Note 3: The fee will continue to be indexed annually according to the BC Consumer Price Index.' "

Eshana Bhangu:

- Without the notes the question was not clear and unambiguous.
- The missing notes should have been included.
- Now the question meets the requirements for a referendum question.
- This was not a material change to the referendum question.

8. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE

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9. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED KAYSAN ADRIYANTO: [SCD345-23], [SCD346-23], [SCD346-23], [SCD348-23]

From the Executive and Finance Committees

"That on the recommendation of the Executive Committee and the Finance Committee, Council allocate \$44,850 from the SUB Repairs and Replacement Fund for new chairs as part of the Corridor Seat Replacement Proposal."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Note: The balance in the fund is \$545,940.

Eshana Bhangu:

- There's been wear and tear on the old chairs.
- Students have complained that they're not comfortable.
- They're also mismatched.
- They've reached the end of their lives.
- We're going to get cushioned chairs; students study for long hours.
- The fund remains healthy; we're maintaining it at 15% of the value of our assets, as required.

Katherine Feng:

- What is the expected lifespan of the new chairs?

Michael Kingsmill:

- About 5-10 years.
- The upholstery takes the most wear.
- If there is a need to replace, you can replace the seat and keep the frame.

Rhiannon Terpstra:

- If coffee spills, will the chairs be ruined?

Eshana Bhangu:

- The cushions are washable.

Mathew Ho:

- What will happen to the old furniture?

Lawrence Liu:

- We will offer them to Constituencies.
- If any of you want them, come talk to us.
- If any are left, we will give to charities.
- If any are still left, we will recycle them.

10. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED KAYSAN ADRIYANTO:

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J) Executive and Committee Motions

K) Constituency and Affiliate Motions

L) Discussion and Consultation

M) President's Business and Remarks – Eshana Bhangu

[SCD349-23]

- AMS awards reception:
 - Dr. Verna Billy-Minnabarriet, an advocate for change in policy structure and spaces for Indigenous education, received the Great Trekker award.
 - We recognized 18 clubs as nominees for six awards.
 - EUS won for Constituency of the Year.
- Interfaculty Cup: Last event coming up.
- Referendum campaigning:
 - Classroom announcements.
 - Waiting for printed materials.
 - We are supporting all questions, but are prioritizing the three AMS questions: Health & Dental, gender affirming, and bylaws.
- Governance review:
 - Bylaw review done.
 - Code changes coming.
- Equity:
 - Black Community Market on now.
 - Revising the Equity Action Plan.
 - Liaising with Equity Office at UBC.
 - Equity specialist position being posted this week.
 - Policy on compensating equity deserving groups is underway.
 - PC1 and PC2 review underway.
- Planning an alumni reunion of old AMS Executives.
 - Inspired by Old Red/New Red event held by the EUS.
- Correspondence to the Board of Governors about consistent food security funding:
 - We don't want one-time funding.
- The Academic Experience Survey is ready to be launched, with the ballot.

Questions

Katherine Feng:

- The AMS spent more than \$20,000 on a strategic plan.
- Last year it was almost done.
- Is work still being done on it?
- If not, why?
- Can we expect it to be done?

Eshana Bhangu:

- The intention fully remains to finish by the end of our term.
- Not working on it weekly, but we are in the process of consolidating the business side, with each department submitting their own plan.
- The mission statement, vision, and values are set.
- Hopefully by next Council, an update.

Kaysan Adriyanto:

- Re referendum campaigning:

- Are the Execs aligning their materials with the materials used by other student groups?

Eshana Bhangu:

- Council endorsed a yes position.
- We're working hard to pass the referendums.
- The Bike Kitchen and Transco have access to our resources.
- We're putting a heavy emphasis on the Health & Dental questions; the other two are a lesser priority.
- More manpower is needed to explain the \$52.50 increase.
- Put out a call for volunteers.

N) Executive Remarks

VP Academic & University Affairs – Anisha Sandhu

[SCD346-23]

Thomas Dunsmore:

- How are the goals coming along?

Anisha Sandhu:

- We have reviewed the goals and their progress.
- We are seeing what is feasible to complete by the end of the year.
- The main focus has been the Academic Experience Survey.
- Fuller update next time.

VP Administration – Ben Du

[SCD347-23]

Rachel Kim:

- Constituency leadership conference – are you doing that this year?

Ben Du:

- We will.
- It's a nightmare to schedule over the summer.
- Will be done in April when the new execs are elected, before they take office.
- This will be more effective timing.

VP External Affairs – Erin Co

[SCD348-23]

VP Finance – Lawrence Liu

[SCD349-23]

Cynara Onyemordi

- How is the Blue Chip move going?

Celia Chung:

- It is still on track.

Eshana Bhangu:

- Mid-April to mid-May opening.
- I would prefer April.

Interim Managing Director – Celia Chung

[SCD350-23]

Senior Student Services Manager – Kathleen Simpson

[SCD351-23]

O) Committee Reports

Advocacy Committee – Anisha Sandhu

- Meeting tomorrow.

Steering Committee – Eshana Bhangu

- No update.

Finance Committee – Lawrence Liu

- SPF applications and budget reforecast for this year.
- Going to start discussing next year's budget.

Operations Committee – Ben Du

- New club applications (45 in January).
- Vandalism in the building.
- Working with the authorities.
- Making repairs.
- No danger to students.
- Not a targeted incident.

Eshana Bhangu:

- An individual went around with a bottle smashing things, including the Food Bank window, a television, and a Council composite.

Governance Committee – Audrey Chow

- Meeting next week on external policy guidelines.

HR Committee – Cynara Onyemordi

- Posting job openings.

Student Life Committee – Christian Kyle

- Student Life Caucus.
- Bubble soccer went well.
- Interfaculty cup almost done.
- Interfaculty first year committee met and is planning a social event.

Indigenous Committee- Koda Tootoosis

- Two events coming up:

- A gala for Indigenous students.
- A town hall for the Indigenous Constituency.

Advisory Board – Eshana Bhangu

- Discussed hiring of the new Managing Director.
 - This is a massive thing.
 - We want this to go smoothly
 - Hope to have this done by the end of April

Ad Hoc Committee on AMS Events Principles and Ethics

- No report.

Katherine Feng:

- If the committee hasn't met or given an update, does it need to exist?

Eshana Bhangu:

- Have to dig up their report.

P) Report from President's Council – Eshana Bhangu

- Probably meeting next week.

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

R) Historical Update (10 minutes each)

Sheldon Goldfarb

- Referendum time.
- Most societies use general meetings.
- We have always held general meetings, but it became hard to get quorum, so we started doing referendums.
- First one in 1946 when the Communists came to campus wanting to form a student club.
- Council dithered over whether to allow political clubs and finally went to a referendum, at which the students said no (but a year later, a general meeting reversed that decision).
- Our most effective referendum:
 - 1967, when we asked the United States to stop bombing Vietnam and they did.
- An overwhelming No vote in 1984 when the Executive asked students to join the Canadian Federation of Students.
- In 1963 a referendum was interrupted by the assassination of JFK.
- In 1961 a referendum created the Science Undergraduate Society by splitting up the old Arts & Science Undergraduate Society.
- One of the biggest Yes votes was in 1982, when the Executive asked students to double their student fee.
- But there was even bigger turnout for the U-Pass referendums.
- In 1995 a referendum granted independence to the Ubysey.

- In 2010 we had a referendum whose result could not be determined, because of election fraud.
- According to a PoliSci term paper on AMS referendums, the way to get a referendum passed involves:
 - The Executive working really hard.
 - Easy access to the voting system.
 - Publicity in the Ubyyssey.
 - The issue being important.

Questions

Eshana Bhangu:

- What was the worst fail in a referendum?

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- Probably the massive no vote from the students for joining the CFS.
- Also the time the Executive went to referendum as a confidence vote, saying if you don't like our program so far, we will resign.
 - The students voted no confidence, and the whole Executive resigned.
 - Very honourable.

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

The meeting entered an in camera session at 7:08 pm.

T) Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting of Council is March 15, 2023.

Votes and Attendance

	Constituency	Attended	Budget Re-forecast	Bike Kitchen Ref ?	Corridor Seat Replacement
Neal Cameron	Speaker				
Eshana Bhangu	President	Y	Y	Y	Y
Anisha Sandhu	VP Academic	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ben Du	VP Admin	Y			
Lawrence Liu	VP Finance	Y	Y		
Erin Co	VP External	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kathleen Simpson	Sr. Student Services Mgr.	Y			
	Architecture				
Audrey Chow	Arts	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ayesha Irfan	Arts	Y	Y	Y	Y
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	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rachel Kim	Commerce	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jasneet Bal	Dentistry				
Yash Ahlawat	Economics				
Damian Spence	Education				
Christian Kyle	Engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sofia Cecic	Engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kana Kawanishi	Forestry	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sabbir Hossain	GSS				
Shisir Nurul	GSS				
Franziska Mey	GSS				
Samia Syeoti Ramim	GSS				

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