



**THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER**

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of February 28, 2023

Attendance

Present: Eshana Bhangu (President), Anisha Sandhu (VP Academic & University Affairs), Ben Du (VP Administration), Lawrence Liu (VP Finance), Celia Chung (Acting Managing Director), Kathleen Simpson (Senior Manager of Student Services), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Guest: Michael Kingsmill (AMS Design Office)

Regrets: Erin Co (VP External)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 11:38 am over Zoom.

Agenda

- The agenda was approved by consensus.

Minutes

- Minutes were postponed till next time.

New Chairs

- Michael:
 - Corridor Seat Replacement Proposal.
 - Seeking to buy 150 new chairs/stools for the study counters in the Nest to replace the current mish mash and create a consistent look.
 - Out to bid to three suppliers.
 - Staples had the best price: \$299 each, including delivery and set-up.
 - The chairs will have durable/washable leatherette vinyl cushions and will last about five years.
 - Total of \$44,850, to come from SUB Repairs and Replacement.
- Lawrence:
 - Current balance \$545,940.

- Sheldon:
 - The Bylaws require us to keep an amount in the fund equal to at least 15% of the replacement value of our furnishings and equipment.
- Ben:
 - It looks like we can't quite take the full \$44,850, then; but we can take \$41,850.

MOVED ESHANA, SECONDED BEN:

"That the Executive Committee recommend that Council allocate \$41,850 from the SUB Repairs and Replacement Fund for new chairs as part of the Corridor Seat Replacement Proposal."

... Carried

Budget Reforecast

- Lawrence:
 - The deficit is now at \$480,000.
- Eshana:
 - That's \$700,000 less than was projected at the beginning of the year.
 - We're in a much better position.

RBC Protest

- Ben:
 - Climate Justice is launching a protest against RBC on March 2.

Updates

- *Eshana's update:*
 - Referendum Coordinators are out there.
 - It's been tough promoting the referendum, because of the weather.
 - Also slow getting material.
 - Awards Reception went well.
 - Black Community Market is happening.
- *Ben's update:*
 - Progress with new club applications; getting more and more; students are discovering new passions.
 - Painting the Lending Library; it will come online by the end of term.
- Anisha:
 - For the new chairs, would it be possible to add hooks for bags and coats?
- Ben:
 - Great question. Can bring that up.
 - Low cost, but high value.

- *Anisha's update:*
 - Working to have the Academic Experience Survey (AES) go live.
 - Collecting Constituency questions.
 - Hoping to share test link.
 - Revisiting idea of a Canvas module for onboarding student senators.

- *Lawrence's update:*
 - Credit cards.
 - Reimbursements going great, except for a bug about GST.
 - MNP moving on to the next stage.
 - Online e-commerce platform closed down; looking at new one.
 - Renewing agreement with Square. Popular with clubs.

- *Celia's update:*
 - Reporting structure changes:
 - Sheldon reporting to Kathleen.
 - Vince to Vishwa.
 - Employee survey next week.
 - Getting last of managers' budgets to Fincom.

- *Kathleen's update:*
 - Food Bank usage the highest ever; driven by students, not staff.
 - Battery on our Prius is out of commission; deciding whether to repair.
 - Supplier issues: outages, some prices high (e.g., for pasta).
 - Advocacy:
 - Working on an event with UBC Student Housing about students' rights.
 - Safewalk campaign to raise awareness of Safewalk: usage doubled in February.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.