

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Guests: Anabelle McElroy (Ubyyssey), Tova Gaster (Ubyyssey), Nathan Bawaan (Ubyyssey), Iman Janmohamed (Ubyyssey), Himanaya Bajaj (Ubyyssey), Leanna Resurreccion (Sulong UBC), Clarissa Cox (Sulong UBC), Kai Fenix (Sulong UBC), Anna Shubina (AMS), Joshua Kim (AMS), Karisma Jutla (EUS), Rowan Bapty (EUS), 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 6:12 pm with Eshana Bhangu in the chair.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Chair:

- UBC Vancouver and the AMS Student Nest are situated on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Musqueam people.
- It is a privilege to be here.

C) Approval of the Agenda

1. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI:

"That Council suspend the relevant sections of Code and Policy to allow the Executives to give verbal updates, to allow a policy amendment on Executive Goals to come from Governance Review rather than Governance, to allow the Chair to take part in debate, and to allow committee reports to be not done at this meeting."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... No objections

2. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI:

"That the agenda be amended to add an amendment to the Goal Setting Policy."

... No objections

3. MOVED RACHEL KIM, SECONDED MATHEW HO:

"That the agenda be approved as amended."

... No objections

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

New members:

Vacancies: Architecture, Audiology, Journalism, Library-Archival, Pharmacy, Planning, Population & Public Health, Regent, Science, Social Work, VST

Goodbyes: Charlene Yang (Pharmacy), Hussein Elhagehassan (Planning)

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

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

Leanna Resurreccion (Sulong UBC)

- We are a progressive organization for Filipino students.
- We are here to tell you about Danilo de Leon, a Filipino migrant worker who is being deported.
- He is Chair of Migrante Canada, a national organization for Filipino migrants.
- He also founded the union Justice for Janitors.
- A lot of UBC workers are migrant workers.
- They should be allowed to stay and make a life in Canada.
- We have received support from various organizations and professors.
- We plan to submit letters of support.
- Your support will help Danilo and other migrant workers.
- We call on Council to give its support.

Erin Co:

- I'm also from the Philippines.
- Thanks for bringing this to Council.
- I work on advocacy.
- If you want to meet for next steps, come see me.

Eshana Bhangu:

- Thank you so much.
- I'm not able to commit Council support yet.
- But once you speak to Erin, whatever's appropriate we will do.
- Be in touch and we will work together to support you.

Kai Fenix (Sulong UBC):

- Thank you for listening.
- We also have a petition.
- Every signature counts.
- This is life or death for Danilo.

G) Approval of Minutes of Council and Committees

H) Consent Items

Consent Items Requiring a Simple Majority
Consent Items Requiring a 2/3rds Majority

I) Presentations and Accompanying Motions

J) Executive and Committee Motions

4. MOVED KAYSAN ADRIYANTO, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI:

From the Sustainability Sub-Committee

"That Code Section VI, Article 6(1)(g) be suspended to allow the annual sustainability report to be postponed until April."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Eshana Bhangu:

- We want to present these with the VP Admin goals.
- It doesn't make sense that they be done separately.

5. MOVED KAYSAN ADRIYANTO, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI:

From the Sustainability Sub-Committee

"That Code Section VI, Article 6(1)(g) be suspended to allow the annual sustainability report to be postponed until April."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... No objections

6. MOVED BEN DU, SECONDED MATHEW HO:

[SCD372-23]

From the Governance Review Committee

"Be it resolved that Council adopt the report of the Governance Review Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2023: Executive Management and Accountability' and thus amend the Code as recommended."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Eshana Bhangu:

- The highlight is the new Executive Performance and Accountability Committee.
- It will collect feedback on the Executive and make recommendations to Council.
- It's different from the old Oversight Committee, which used to administer a bonus system that turned out to be toxic, too political.
- To mitigate that, we're going to involve the Speaker.
- Feedback will come from permanent and student staff and not just Councillors.
- We're definitely not repeating the mistakes of the past.
- The biggest problem was the bonus system: money was controlled by political actors.

- Other changes include making sure neither the President nor the Vice-Presidents are present in Council's in camera performance sessions.
- Also no one can vote on a fellow Executive's removal.
- We're also bringing back oral remarks from Executives.

Salva Sherif:

- So this replaces the Ethics and Accountability Committee, but it will only be for Executives; the old committee was for all Councillors.

Eshana Bhangu:

- We rarely face problems with non-Executive Councillors.
- There are measures that chairs can take about their committee members.
- The old committee was only convened for Executive issues.

Max Homes:

- Perhaps the motion should be amended so that the new committee doesn't have to be formed right away: delay it till May 1.

Eshana Bhangu:

- Yes, let's amend to say May 1.

Salva Sherif:

- Why make an entirely new committee instead of revising the Ethics and Accountability Committee?
- And the other mechanisms for dealing with non-Executive Councillors seem fragmentary.

Christian Kyle:

- The main reasoning is that Councillors acting improperly is a Constituency issue.
- It's up to Constituencies to do something about ineffective Councillors.
- The old committee never did anything about non-Executive Councillors.
- Also, it only met when something went wrong, on an ad hoc basis.
- This committee will be a standing committee, not ad hoc.
- It can evaluate goal performance better; currently Executive goals are not enforced; a lot of accountability is not happening.

Eshana Bhangu:

- This is not called the Oversight Committee.
- The focus will be on feedback, like at other non-profit boards.
- The Ethics and Accountability Committee is punishment-related; it's only triggered when bad things happen.
- As to Councillors, do we need to create something if the problem doesn't exist?
- It's not as urgent if non-Executive Councillors behave in a certain way.

Katherine Feng:

- What about committee chairs?
- Steering could act, but it's not effective at that.

Eshana Bhangu:

- We want to enhance the Steering Committee.

Cynara Onyemordi:

- Why no student at large on this committee?

Eshana Bhangu:

- Lots of sensitive HR information involved.
- You don't want students at large on a performance committee.
- They don't have a legal obligation or a fiduciary duty to the Society.

Mathew Ho:

- Will there be resources and training for the committee on how to be impartial?

Eshana Bhangu:

- HR will be present.
- But the committee members will not be just impartial judges; we need them to appraise.

8. MOVED THOMAS DUNSMORE, SECONDED KATHERINE FENG

"That the motion be amended to change the effective date to May 1."

... No objections

7. MOVED BEN DU, SECONDED MATHEW HO:

From the Governance Review Committee

"Be it resolved that Council adopt the report of the Governance Review Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2023: Executive Management and Accountability' and thus amend the Code as recommended.

Be it further resolved that this motion take effect May 1."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (16): Anisha Sandhu, Ben Du, Erin Co, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Cynara Onyemordi, Thomas Dunsmore, Rachel Kim, Jasneet Bal, Yash Ahlawat, Christian Kyle, Kana Kawanishi, Victor Liu, Cissy Zhang, Maddie Elder, Amelia Walker

Against (3): Cindy Wang, Katherine Feng, Salva Sherif

8. MOVED BEN DU, SECONDED LAWRENCE LIU:

[SCD373-23]

From the Governance Review Committee

"That Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2023: Miscellaneous Changes' and thus amend the Code as recommended."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Eshana Bhangu:

- This will allow non-voting Councillors to stay for in camera sessions.
- It will also require the Affiliates Committee to meet once a month instead of once a term.

9. MOVED BEN DU, SECONDED LAWRENCE LIU:

From the Governance Review Committee

"That Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2023: Miscellaneous Changes' and thus amend the Code as recommended."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (18): Anisha Sandhu, Ben Du, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Cynara Onyemordi, Thomas Dunsmore, Rachel Kim, Jasneet Bal, Yash Ahlawat, Christian Kyle, Kana Kawanishi, Victor Liu, Cissy Zhang, Maddie Elder, Amelia Walker Cindy Wang, Katherine Feng, Salva Sherif

10. MOVED ERIN CO, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI: [SCD374-23], [SCD375-23]

From the Governance Review Committee

"That Council adopt the report of the Governance Review Committee entitled 'Policy Changes 2023: Goal Setting Policy and Reporting Amendments' and thus amend Policy GV4 as recommended."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Eshana Bhangu

- These amendments are what we've discussed:
 - Timeline for goals.
 - Goals must be related to campaign promises (that's actually already in the policy).
 - Monthly updates.
- Because of the monthly updates we've removed the October-November midterm review.
- We are discussing what to do if Executive goals are not approved.

Salva Sherif:

- The clauses being removed also remove the mechanism for changing goals.
- If Executives want to change their goals what do they do?

Christian Kyle:

- If they need to change them because they are failing, that would mean changing their campaign promises.

Eshana Bhangu:

- Goals should be set with intention.
- Executives should not be changing goals.

Mathew Ho:

- How do we keep track of things promised in a campaign?
- Candidates might make adjustments during a campaign.

Eshana Bhangu:

- There must be a level of trust.
- Council could ask for an archive.
- The campaigns are public, so the goals are out there.
- There's coverage in the Ubyyssey, public records.
- Some people leave their websites up.

11. MOVED ERIN CO, SECONDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI:

From the Governance Review Committee

"That Council adopt the report of the Governance Review Committee entitled 'Policy Changes 2023: Goal Setting Policy and Reporting Amendments' and thus amend Policy GV4 as recommended."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (19): Anisha Sandhu, Ben Du, Erin Co, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Cynara Onyemordi, Thomas Dunsmore, Rachel Kim, Jasneet Bal, Yash Ahlawat, Christian Kyle, Kana Kawanishi, Victor Liu, Cissy Zhang, Maddie Elder, Amelia Walker, Cindy Wang, Katherine Feng, Salva Sherif

K) Constituency and Affiliate Motions

L) Discussion and Consultation

M) President's Business and Remarks – Eshana Bhangu

- Significant progress in the search for a Managing Director: hopefully have someone by the end of my term.
 - Working on transitional processes.
- Busy time: on various UBC search committees.
- Just Desserts is April 6.
- More interfaculty cup events to be planned.
 - There's an actual old trophy in the Archives we might be able to use.
- Orientations for incoming execs and staff
- Advocating to the Board of Governors for \$350,000 for the Food Bank:
 - Even with that we have to cut out UBC staff from using the Food Bank.
 - Looking at alternative sources of funding as well.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- Will there be resources for the UBC staff no longer able to get food from the Food Bank?
- Have there been conversations on coordinating this type of service with UBC so everyone is supported?

Eshana Bhangu:

- We direct them to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank.
- They're more able to go off campus than students.
- It was a hard decision, but we have to focus on our mandate, students.
- We're not here to subsidize UBC's low wages.

Mathew Ho:

- Will there be literal desserts at Just Desserts?

Eshana Bhangu:

- Yes, prepared by the Faculty Women's Club.
- It's the tradition.
- They partner with us.
- They provide actual desserts: Sheldon can explain.

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- Just Desserts is a bit of a pun.
- It plays on the phrase "getting your just deserts," meaning getting what you deserve.
- And this reception was originally created in contrast to the reception for the Great Trekker Award because that reception included a dinner while at this reception there was no dinner, just desserts.

Katherine Feng:

- The Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS) is looking to establish a Food Hub.
- There are different food resources on campus.
- Is the AMS trying to collaborate with these other groups?

Kathleen Simpson:

- I was not aware that Arts was doing a food hub.
- I would love to chat with them.
- We do talk to our UBC colleagues about food security.
- I applaud the ambition of the Arts Undergraduate Society, but food banks are challenging: they're expensive and involve a lot of labour.

Lawrence Liu:

- The idea has been floated.
- I did speak to the AUS VP Finance about it.
- It's a great idea and I hope there is collaboration with the AUS.

Eshana Bhangu:

- I have tried to discourage this.

- It does not make sense for every Constituency to have a food hub.
- We are happy to collaborate, but I'm not sure how effective an AUS food hub can be.

Christian Kyle:

- How about support for a beer bank?

Eshana Bhangu:

- No.

Mathew Ho:

- There has been planning for this food hub going on this year.
- I can explain further.

Eshana Bhangu:

- This is not a question, and we have reached our limit of three questions.

12. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED SALVA SHERIF:

"That Code be suspended to allow Mathew to ask his question."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Eshana Bhangu:

- This is not a question.
- Do you want a Discussion Period?

N) Executive Business and Remarks

VP Academic & University Affairs – Anisha Sandhu

[SCD376-23]

- Have received about 3,000 responses to the Academic Experience Survey (AES).
 - Will be giving away a MacBook prize if we receive enough responses.
- Sent in correspondence to the Board of Governors to have a portion of their food allocation go the Food Bank.

Katherine Feng:

- How are the responses to the AES compared to this time last year?
- More responses or less?

Anisha Sandhu:

- Definitely more responses this year.

Mathew Ho:

- Timeline of when we will hear from the Board re the money for the Food Bank?

Anisha Sandhu:

- We asked them to include this piece in a motion.
- We hope to know by the end of the Board meeting on March 31.

Mathew Ho:

- The MacBook is based on going over a certain number of responses?
- Have we passed this number?
- Are Councillors eligible to win it?

Anisha Sandhu:

- We need 3,500 responses. We are 498 away.

Eshana Bhangu:

- Councillors are not eligible.

VP Administration – Ben Du

Hatch Art Gallery

- Art fair tomorrow and Friday.
- 60 vendors selling prints, jewellery, and stickers.

Club renewals

- Till April 15.
- Currently have 368 clubs.

Event Venue Benefit

- Will be released this week.
- Addresses the shrinking availability of the Great Hall.
- Clubs have to go off campus, which is expensive.
- This benefit will pay 50% of the costs up to \$1,000.

HDMI cable project

- Every bookable room will have a cable.
- Won't have to bring an adapter.
- This will increase the convenience of the booking experience.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- Are the clubs told how to conduct their elections?

Ben Du:

- Proactively, we make announcements to the clubs on the procedures for elections, general meetings, bylaw changes, etc.
- Reactively, we have staff to answer questions.

Cynara Onyemordi:

- You mentioned a survey. Can you elaborate?

Ben Du:

- This is about inclusive spaces and safety in the Nest.
- Deciding whether to do it in person.

13. MOVED KATHERINE FENG, SECONDED SALVA SHERIF:

“That Code be suspended to allow more questions.”

... No objections

Christian Kyle:

- The booking subsidy is great.
- Would you extend it to the Constituencies?
- Some Constituencies lack money.

Ben Du:

- This came up last time as well.
- The problem is that the funding comes from the Clubs Benefit Fund.
- Constituencies could use the Constituency Aid Fund.
- We are aware of this demand and will pass it on to the next Exec team.

Mathew Ho:

- Re the benefit for venues:
- Can this be expanded to other times of the year and to clubs that can't use the Nest?

Ben Du:

- My purview only continues till the end of April.
- The root of this benefit was because of a problem with the Great Hall being the only large bookable space.
- This means a lot of clubs have been looking at other venues.
- Other support depends on the demands of the particular year.
- This is retroactive to March 1, and clubs can still apply till the end of April for year-end celebrations and galas.

VP External Affairs – Erin Co

- Launching SkyTrain to UBC Campaign.
 - There will be giveaways, gifts.
- Got approval from UBC on a summer transit subsidy for students who work over the summer (and are not students then).
- Federal Budget dropped yesterday:
 - Student loan limit increased: \$210 – \$300 a week.
 - More money for Canada Student Grant: \$3000 - \$4200. Not \$6000, but more than pre-COVID.
 - Investing \$197 million in work placement program.

VP Finance – Lawrence Liu

- Working on the preliminary budget.
- Most businesses done.
- Finalizing exec budgets.
- Reviewing the investment policy.
- Drafting report for fee-receiving groups.
- Finalizing fund disbursements.
- MNP Project wrapping up this week.

- We have the material and guides prepared and ready to go for May.

Questions

Salva Sherif:

- How are the reimbursements going?

Lawrence Liu:

- Very well. They are mostly up to date.
- The biggest issue is still user error.
- We hope to set up next year's treasurers for success in their term.

Eshana Bhangu:

- Things are way better.
- Yes, there were user errors, but that was because of bad manuals.
- Now we can see Paradise in a couple of weeks.

Katherine Feng:

- We paid a lot to get this system fixed.
- Are these fixes sustainable?

Lawrence Liu:

- I feel this is sustainable.
- It should last for years.
- There were a lot of factors in last year's backlog.
- I don't foresee major backlogs happening again.
- We will ensure better training.

Mathew Ho:

- MNP's new guidelines and manuals:
- Will there be a new approach to disseminating these?
- Will other students have access and be able to provide feedback?

Lawrence Liu:

- We have an abundance of resources.
- Some for internal staff, some for users.
- We are doing a final review of these.
- I will work with the incoming VP Finance on ways to get this info out.
- All of the documents will be on the website.

Interim Managing Director – Celia Chung

- No updates

Senior Student Services Manager – Kathleen Simpson

- Still recruiting for Food Bank.

O) Committee Reports

Advocacy Committee – Anisha Sandhu

[SCD377-23]

P) Report from President's Council

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

R) Historical Update (10 minutes)

Sheldon Goldfarb:

Indigenous Presence on Campus

- We have just created an Indigenous Constituency, so I thought I'd bring back my report on Indigenous presence.
- First Indigenous student: Frank Calder, 1942.
- Then Alfred Scow, son of Chief William Scow, who in 1948 gave us permission to use the name Thunderbird and also gave us a totem pole.
- Even earlier the Musqueam donated two carvings.
- More recently there was an AMS Club, the Native Indian Student Union, which in 1988 organized Native Awareness Days.
- In 1990 Council had a non-voting Indigenous seat.
- The AMS had an Indigenous President in 2002 (Kristen Harvey).
- Very recently we created an Indigenous voting seat on Council.
- And now we've held an Indigenous Culture Month.

14. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED KAYSAN ADRIYANTO, THIRDED CYNARA ONYEMORDI:

"That the meeting enter an in camera session."

The meeting entered an in camera session at 7:40 pm.

S) Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting of Council is April 12, 2023.

Votes and Attendance

	Constituency	Attended	Code Changes: Miscellaneous	Code Changes: Exec Management	Goals Policy Change
Neal Cameron	Speaker				
Eshana Bhangu	President	Y			
Anisha Sandhu	VP Academic	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ben Du	VP Admin	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lawrence Liu	VP Finance	Y			
Erin Co	VP External	Y		Y	Y
Kathleen Simpson	Sr. Student Services Mgr	Y			
	Architecture				
Audrey Chow	Arts				
Ayesha Irfan	Arts	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	Y			
Georgia Yee	BoG				
Thomas Dunsmore	Commerce	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rachel Kim	Commerce	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jasneet Bal	Dentistry	Y	Y	Y	Y
Yash Ahlawat	Economics	Y	Y	Y	Y
Damian Spence	Education				
Christian Kyle	Engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sofia Cecic	Engineering				
Kana Kawanishi	Forestry	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sabbir Hossain	GSS				
Shisir Nurrall	GSS				
Franziska Mey	GSS				
Samia Syeoti Ramim	GSS				

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