



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of May 5, 2023

Attendance

Present: Esmé Decker (President), Kamil Kanji (VP Academic & University Affairs), Ian Caguiat (VP Administration), Abhi Mishra (VP Finance), Tina Tong (VP External), Celia Chung (Acting Managing Director), Kathleen Simpson (Senior Manager of Student Services), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 10:07 am in Nest Room 3511.

Agenda

- The agenda was approved by consensus.

Minutes

- The minutes of April 25 were approved (Esmé, Kamil).

Food Security Initiative (FSI)/Funding for Food Bank

- Esmé:
 - Received \$350,000 for Food Bank from the University.
 - UBC is reassessing their Meal Share Program.
- Kamil:
 - As much as possible should go to the AMS Food Bank.
 - UBC has \$800,000 altogether.
 - A working group is deciding the distribution between the AMS Food Bank, the Acadia Food Hub, Sprouts, and Meal Share.
- Kathleen:
 - Besides the \$350,000 for the Food Bank, Sprouts is getting \$59,000 and Acadia is getting \$72,000.
- Esmé:
 - Hoping for a discussion outside of formal FSI meetings to come to an understanding.
- Ian:
 - My office is looking to collaborate with Food Bank, for instance through the Sustainability Projects Fund.

- Esmé:
 - There's also procurement through the AMS food outlets.
- Tina:
 - If the Food Bank were a charity, it could get grants.
- Kathleen:
 - We discussed the charity issue last year.
 - Because we're not a charity, we can't issue tax receipts.
 - The legal team said it would be expensive to make Food Bank a charity.
 - It would also mean we wouldn't have control over Food Bank.
 - We did have a charity in the past, and there were challenges.
 - The idea was that we would look at this again this year.
- Celia:
 - Definitely worth looking at.
 - Complex, expensive.
 - Lawyers' fees.
 - Need to create a board.
 - Administrative issues.
- Sheldon:
 - When we had a charity (the AMS Foundation) in the past, one challenge was spending the money it collected.
 - It couldn't be spent directly.
 - Had to be channelled through another charity, such as the University.
- Kathleen:
 - Not sure what we would get if we set up a charity.
 - We haven't focused on big donations.
 - Our staff has a fixed number of hours.
- Kamil:
 - Potential donor campaign.
 - Could direct to services like Food Bank.
 - Create a donor network.
- Abhi:
 - People donate to get tax receipts.
- Kathleen:
 - Alumni UBC offered us training on fundraising.
- Sheldon:
 - We did hire a fundraiser once.
- Esmé:
 - Food security should be a shared goal across the Executive.
- Tina:
 - Has Food Bank ever received government grants?

- Kathleen:
 - Not to my knowledge.
 - Main sources of funding are:
 - UBC
 - GoFundMe (last year we got \$30,000 from private donors)
 - parking fines
 - Add \$1 program (in AMS outlets)
- Tina:
 - Can we partner with Food Banks BC?
- Kathleen:
 - The Greater Vancouver Food Bank told us that we have to be a charity to do that.
 - They've been great partners, but they support the Acadia Food Hub and are already giving a lot.
- Kamil:
 - Sounds like we need to be a charity.
- Kathleen:
 - We can also work on saving money.
 - Investing in a larger vehicle, an electric transit van.
- Esmé:
 - Each of us has an area related to food security.
- Kamil:
 - The \$350,000 is really good.
- Ian:
 - Should we be publicizing the \$350,000?
- Esmé:
 - We may say we're looking at various avenues of funding.

Updates

Goals:

- Kamil:
 - First draft of goals almost done.
 - Eight goals, with action items under them.
 - Had to get them done early because I'm going away.
- Ian:
 - Drafting goals:
 - Six, with five action items under each.
 - Talking to Ben and other predecessors.
 - Looking at Operations Manual and club goals.
- Tina:
 - Main focus is on the BC budget consultation:

- Food Security
- Affordability
- International and Indigenous student support.
- Esmé:
 - Overall mission or goal will draw on the past year or two, post-Covid:
 - Groups are building up on campus.
 - Our goal will be to build connections about advocacy and student experiences.
- Tina:
 - Want to meet various groups to create inclusivity.
 - Other Executives can join.

Teams

- Esmé:
 - My team:
 - CK working on orientation.
 - Dana on scheduling.
 - Asked her to do an environmental scan of other schools related to our policies PC1 and PC2 (sexualized violence and respectful community).
 - Working on those this summer.
 - She's also working on committee applications.
 - We're appointing to CiTR's board tonight.
- Tina:
 - First meeting of my AVP's last night.
- Kamil:
 - My team is hard at work:
 - Land use plan
 - Consultation on fees
 - UBC's Academic Features Plan (complement to UBC's Campus Vision 2050)
 - UBC budget breakdown
 - OER plans
 - Looking into recycling textbooks
- Ian:
 - My office can collaborate on recycling textbooks:
 - Using the Nest
 - Free/lending library.
- Abhi:
 - Team settling in.
 - Finalizing Canvas course.

- Want to create FAQ resource.
- Reimbursements:
 - People filing wrong
 - Could use FAQ for that.
- Ian:
 - Club renewals, Canvas course.
 - Onboarding team.
 - CiTR agreement to be sorted.
 - Muslim Students/Black Students Collective issue.
 - Reusable containers: UBC wants to do bulk purchase.
 - Going to look into Mug Share to see why it didn't work out.
- Tina:
 - Setting up group chat with previous AVP's.
 - U-Pass inquiries.
 - Meeting with the ABCS (Alliance of BC Students).
 - No meeting with UCRU yet (the federal group); I'm the vice-chair.

New Managing Director

- Celia:
 - Arranging orientation for Justin Lieu, the new Managing Director.
 - He'll be meeting the managers.
 - What do the Executives want?
- Kamil:
 - There's the AMICUS annual conference for general managers from the U-15 schools May 29-June 1.
 - Might be valuable for him to attend.
- Esmé:
 - Group meeting with the Exec or one-on-one?
- Ian:
 - Could do both.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 am.