



THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of July 28, 2023

Attendance

Present: Esmé Decker (President), Kamil Kanji (VP Academic & University Affairs, arrived 11:05), Ian Caguiat (VP Administration), Abhi Mishra (VP Finance), Tina Tong (VP External), Kathleen Simpson (Senior Manager of Student Services), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Justin Lieu (Managing Director)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 10:20 am in Nest Room 3529 and over Zoom.

Agenda

- The agenda was approved (Esmé, Abhi).

Minutes

- The minutes of July 21 were approved (Esmé, Abhi).

PC1 and PC2

- Esmé:
 - Sent changes to the lawyer.
 - He said things look great.
 - Said it still a good idea to have a malicious claims clause noting that corrective action can be taken.
 - The way the proposed version was written was not great.
 - We are thinking of putting it in the zero tolerance section.
 - There have been cases of the policy being weaponized; there is precedent; want to prevent that.
 - Going to ask stakeholders what they think about other issues brought up at the April 28 Council meeting.
 - Going to return to the language of respondent and claimant/complainant.
 - Sometimes a complaint is lodged on behalf of someone else, so we want to be able to use both claimant and complainant.
 - The lawyer said everything looks good legally.

- Gag orders and rape shields are more to do with court cases; we can ban from our building, but can't ensure people won't see each other elsewhere.
- Talking about communicating with departments to meet staff where they are to get engagement with the policy.
- Want to have a stable policy in place for the school year.
- Doing reviews every year will provide an ongoing opportunity to engage with the policy and let the Executive know what improvements have to be made.
- We're making flow charts.

Possibility Seeds

- Esmé:
 - This is a non-profit focused on raising awareness about consent culture and gender-based violence.
 - We received an email from them about a campaign in September.
 - We can share the dates with SASC.
- Kathleen:
 - September is a huge month at SASC.
 - It can be a good fit.
- Esmé:
 - They did a campaign last year.
 - They got provinces to do proclamations.
 - There was one in BC.
 - The proclamations were for one year.
 - We can call for them again.
 - This matches our advocacy principles.
 - Our logo is on their report from last year, but not on their current website.
- Ian:
 - We were going to do something on consent last year as part of the 20th anniversary of SASC, but not as part of this campaign.
 - They also asked us to sign on to a policy, but we were busy with Textbook Broke last September.
 - September is a busy time: Textbook Broke, Clubs Fair, Events.
- Esmé:
 - It's supposed to be easy for us to join in.
- Kathleen:
 - Funding was announced for 50 organizations, but not SASC.
 - Did any go to postsecondary? UBC's SVPRO?
- Tina:
 - Can try to find out.

Updates

- *Kathleen's update:*
 - Peer Support promotions: directing students to SAP, the Student Assistance Program for mental health.
 - Safewalk car is back, repaired.
 - Exciting to have two cars again for the first time since I've been here.
 - Training and hiring to fill vacancies.
 - Planning for Orientations, Student Resource Fair, Jump Start (Peer Support/SASC at Jump Start).

- *Abhi's update:*
 - Talking to VP Finances in the Constituencies about the financial literacy program.
 - Haven't met as a caucus yet.
 - September may be better for that.
 - Club treasurers submitting budgets and authorizations.
 - Monthly variance sheets for Executives being worked on.

[Kamil arrives.]

- Esmé:
 - Looking at trial balances to compare projections and actuals.
 - Keeps us all checking our accounts.

- *Esmé's update:*
 - Affiliates Committee met.
 - Going to get a non-voting seat for St. Mark's on the Health & Dental Committee.
 - Food Security Initiative meeting.
 - Going to work on funding from the VP Students for the Meal Share program.
 - Presidents Council discussed Orientations.
 - Lots of Constituencies are having barbecues.
 - We're doing Welcome Back Barbecue September 15.
 - Met the Advisory Board.
 - Going to work on scheduling monthly meetings for Advisory Board, Presidents Council; also between us and the GSS.
 - Discussion about introducing a Nominating Committee to play a role in choosing people to sit on our committees.
 - For the time being drafting revisions for committee applications for September.
 - Giving Councillors space to reflect on their interests and experience.
 - Making things clearer for Students at Large.

- Also, more information about committees on the application form.
- *Kamil's update:*
 - Proposal sent to UBC for the Undergraduate Research Fund.
 - Tina and I are meeting the UBC VP External to talk about collaboration.
 - Working on priorities to present for the UBC budget.
 - Hoping to make progress on issues with the CFA (Centre for Accessibility).
 - International student awards: looking to help shape what these will look like in the next five years.
- *Esmé's update (Part 2):*
 - AGM planned for the evening of Thursday, October 19.
 - Still virtual.
 - No big motions planned yet.
 - Thinking about an information session.
- Kamil:
 - You want appealing questions to draw people.
- Esmé:
 - Awards Night will be February 15 in the Alumni Centre.
- *Tina's update:*
 - Meeting about CASA with people in the observership program.
 - Talk of merging UCRU into CASA, but that may not be possible.
 - Conclusion: We should probably either join the CASA observership or fix UCRU or both.
- Esmé:
 - Best situation would be a strong UCRU and both a UCRU federal lobbying week and a CASA lobbying week, as well as each school doing its own federal lobbying.
 - Council wasn't keen on observership, but there may be benefits, such as speaking at lobby weeks and at conferences.
- Tina:
 - SUDS pretty much done.
 - 97 tickets.
 - Catering being finalized.
 - Workshops, presenters, schedules, and night life being confirmed.
 - Inviting some Constituency Presidents.
- Esmé:
 - CK will let Constituencies know what will be relevant to them at SUDS.
 - We can talk about inviting all the Presidents.
- Tina:

- Would have to up our catering.
- *Ian's update:*
 - Cooling Zone Initiative will be promoted soon.
 - The Nurse on Campus Program is confirmed to booth at the Nest during the year.
 - Helped the AMS Food Bank Expansion with relocation by providing the ISC (the Interactive Sustainability Centre) as a temporary storage space and by clearing out Room 32.
 - Meeting with the Resource Groups about their entrance renovations.
 - Nest Safety and Inclusivity post coming out early next week.
 - New Club Applications will be in Ops Com this Friday.
 - Office/Locker Applications will be followed up on by end of next week.
 - Will send an email to Kathleen about the AMS Workshop at Jump Start.
 - The Return-It Bin Program is confirmed at the Nest - we will have commercial bins and plastic board bins.
 - Admin Volunteer Team Hiring is going well.
 - AMS Student Leadership Training is set – RSVP's are being processed with half online and half in-person; food will be from the Flavour Lab.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.