



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

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of August 23, 2023

Attendance

Present: Esmé Decker (President), Kamil Kanji (VP Academic & University Affairs), Ian Caguiat (VP Administration), Tina Tong (VP External), Justin Lieu (Managing Director, arrived 10:55), Kathleen Simpson (Senior Manager of Student Services), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council, left 11:20)

Guests: Christian Kyle (CK, from the President's Office)

Regrets: Abhi Mishra (VP Finance),

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb/Christian Kyle

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 10:41 am in Nest Room 3529 and over Zoom.

Agenda

- The agenda was approved (Esmé, Ian).

Minutes

- The minutes of August 18 were approved (Esmé, Ian).

IFC (Inter-Fraternity Council)

- Esmé:
 - Proposed MoU is a nice success.
 - Mutually beneficial.
 - Aims to help with the safety of students.
 - There will be three meetings a year between the AMS (President, VP Admin, Senior Manager of Student Services) and the IFC.
 - The President may speak to the IFC Council, and the IFC may speak to AMS Council.
 - The IFC will get discounts on bookings.
 - Most excited about the partnership with Safewalk: extra pick-ups at the fraternities.
 - Fund for the IFC containing funds from before its deconstitution. They can use it to access AMS Services and get training from SVPRO.
 - Question about the last clause about public relations and fear of association.

- Ian:
 - Need to add that their bookings will be at the discretion of our bookings coordinator.
 - They're not guaranteed.
 - We can say they're entitled to apply for them.

[Justin arrives.]

- Esmé:
 - Ferdinand from the IFC is excited; hoping to sign the agreement this week.

Policy Advisor JD

- Justin:
 - Completed edits and have sent it to the union.
 - Waiting for their response, which won't come till September.
 - Will need to wait to post.

Health & Dental

- Esmé:
 - Update to Council tonight.
 - Want Sophia from Studentcare to come and answer questions.
 - Looking at partnership with UBC re mental health.
- Kamil:
 - Need \$500,000 to maintain 100% coverage of mental health.
 - Are we going to put something out about the coverage change?
- Esmé:
 - Would like to.
 - There's been an email already to students.

[Sheldon leaves; CK takes over minute-taking.]

- Esmé:
 - We are in discussions with Transco on how to include them in certain H&D Plan discussions which are relevant to their mandate.
- Justin:
 - I think that's a good idea, ensuring they are the room when we are discussing the gender affirming coverage.

PC1 and PC2 (Policies on Respectful Community and Sexualized Violence)

- Esmé:
 - We received PC1/2 feedback from Transco via our consultation with them.

- Josh and Celia have compiled a rationale document to help explain at Council.
- Some requests in the feedback, like the inclusion of an amnesty clause, are in the draft going to Council.
- We are making a much needed replacement to a sorely outdated policy.
- There was pushback on student decision-makers, but we are a student union and thus the decision-makers are going to be students.
- Our professional staff in SASC and Equity/Inclusion are explicitly survivor first and we shouldn't put them in a place to be impartial decision-makers.
- Much of the feedback is about mistrust in the use of the policy which is not how you write a policy.
- We will discuss more at Council.
- We'll keep improving and the draft being presented now is a significant improvement from 2019.

SASC Manager

- Kathleen:
 - We have published the job posting extensively, paid to put it on a specialty site, and generally made a very strong push.
 - Both of our serious candidates backed out of the process.
 - One of them cited the salary as a serious obstacle.
 - We need both management experience and sexual assault support experience.
 - This is complicated by the complexities of being the manager of a department that is involved in unionization.
 - Interested in expanding to management experience in social work – but even then it is hard to find someone.
 - We want to make sure the SASC team can put their faith in a manager who is specifically trained in the subject matter (sexual assault support).
- Justin:
 - Exploring the feasibility of an increase in the salary.

SUDS

- Esmé:
 - Congratulations to Tina for a great SUDS!
 - No incidents, mostly positive feedback!
 - Only concerns were things like the lack of air conditioning in Totem.
- Justin:
 - Lots of positive feedback from the managers too.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at noon.