



ams
student society

THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT

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Alma Mater Society

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INTRODUCTION

Dear Constituents et al.,

Now with the first term of the 2009-2010 school year under way, it

For the sake of brevity, time, and digestability I will write the majority of this quarterly report in point form.

That said, as I stated in the last two quarterlies and will continue to state in this one, AMS code mandates that our quarterly reports include the following:

- a) outline all the duties of that Executive as prescribed by the Bylaws and the Code;*
- (b) outline specific additional duties assigned by Council;*
- (c) report the progress and work done for each duty as outlined in (a) and (b);*
- (d) report any other matter on which the Executive member is working; and*
- (e) outline the goals being pursued by the Executive member and the timeline for achieving those goals.*

I continue to hope that this report meets these and your expectations. If there are any questions that arise from your reading and interpretation of the document, do let me know. I am most contactable via email (vpacademic@ams.ubc.ca) and phone (604-822-3092).

In the meantime, I will continue to try and fulfill my duties as VP Academic to the best of my abilities over the fall and the rest of the year!

Most sincerely,

Johannes

Rebane



CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT AND RELATIONS

LIQUOR POLICY

- Have worked with UBC to finally get updated SOL distribution policy on the UBC website
- Meeting with RCMP to now look at the level of justification behind their SOL distribution policies
- Working with Campus Safety Committee to take a few more steps on this issue by the end of the year

UNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Did consultative work with the Campus Planning and Development committee and other student groups throughout the development process of the UNA Noise bylaw (still undergoing a consultative process, by the way, so if you have any feedback, let me know!)
- The UNA saw the termination of Saltspring Coffee's lease as of October 30th and has been working on finalizing the lease agreement for a new coffee vendor to come in for January 2010.

GOVERNANCE

- Have been working with Ian Turner to develop a report and presentation re: the AMS's stance on governance. The report's first draft is slated for completion by the end of November, and the presentation will be coming to council in January.
- Bill 13 came and passed over the last quarter, so I spent a good time researching and discussing the implications of the bill on potentially governance options with various campus stakeholders

VANCOUVER CAMPUS PLAN

- For this, I spent a good deal of October really pushing students to get involved with the official consultation process of the UBC VCP, especially since this was
- As a result of the Campus Planning and Development Committee's and other students' efforts, student response was the highest proportionally out of any response groups

GREEK COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- Working with Campus Development Commissioner, Campus Safety Committee, the UNA Board, Rezlife, and the Greek Communities to coordinate regular meetings between the different community stakeholders for March 2010.

THEMED HOUSING

- Met with Janice Teasdale, Janice Robinson and Andrew Parr re: the institution of a formalized themed housing program/living learning community at UBC. Currently undergoing the process of putting together an advisory committee that will oversee the implementation process.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

- Recited “In Flanders Fields” at the UBC Remembrance Day ceremony at War Memorial Gym

ACADEMICS

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE

- CRAM didn't happen this year due to some slip ups at another coordinating university in a neighbouring province...
- Regardless, have been talking to Debbie Harvie about how it could be possible to get textbook lists out earlier for students
- For more information about the Advisory Committee, let me know and I can send over minutes!

LEAD INITIATIVE

- Finalizing approach for fundraising efforts
- Determining precisely in what capacity Sage | Kotter may collaborate with UBC on teaching innovation change endeavours.
- Discussed with LEAD committee the potential for improvement in the Wieman Fellows program and the further incorporation of students on curriculum development committees.

SUSTAINABILITY ACADEMIC STRATEGY

- The final draft was presented to AMS council for support, which it was given
- Again, thanks go out to Anthony Smith for all the wonderful work he has done on this front! Hopefully the final product will pass through the UBC BoG.

CAREER RESOURCES

There continues to be a good deal of support for more department and faculty-specific career coaches and advisors. In addition to the creation of two new career coaching positions for the FoGS, I have been pushing for ways to bring more of these positions into science departments, non-coop engineering, and arts.

FIRST YEAR SEMINAR PROGRAM

- Wrote an article regarding the FYSP which will soon be published in TAG's *Tapestry* publication
- Submitted TLEF application for the program, specifically for funding for the creation of a First Year Seminar Coordinator position for the university
- Have been working with Eunice on meeting with various faculty and administration and putting together an advisory committee to oversee the further development of the program beyond its pilot year.

VP ACADEMIC CAUCUS

- Held another successful VP Academic Caucus meeting where we looked primarily at midterm policies, career services, TA Training, exam database information, and other academic efforts happening throughout the different constituencies,

TRIP TO NORTHEASTERN US SCHOOLS

- Visited Harvard, MIT, and UPenn in September to research program offerings in Freshman Seminar programs, Freshman writing courses, Faculty research dissemination, themed housing, and general student/residence life.
- Please refer to the attached trip PowerPoint for more details regarding the trip

FACULTY RESEARCH DISEMMINATION

- As a result of the Harvard and UPenn trip, I have been looking at ways to work with UBC to create more accessible and relevant channels of communication

UNIVERSITY POLICY

INTERNATIONALISM STRATEGY

- As was mentioned in the last quarterly report James Lin, UComm's International Student Commissioner, has been working on the revitalization of the Global Citizenship Project as well as the compilation of a report outlining the AMS' stance on the UBC Internationalization strategy.

STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING

- The VP Academic office and the Academic Quality Committee have been looking at ways to increase the percentage of professor participation in the SEoT process. One proposed method that we have been working with over the past while is getting a list of all professors who *haven't* yet opted in and delegating the responsibility of recruiting those professors to opt-in to individual student constituencies. Once committee reform is more sorted out, we will try to get the delegations out in a timely manner.

AMS INTERNAL/EXECUTIVE ISSUES

APPOINTMENTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

- Though this committee will no longer exist as of this meeting, what with Committee Reform and all, we met a few times over the last quarter with David Hannigan, the new Senior HR Manager for the AMS, to discuss what best practices to implement re: compensation review and the creation of new positions.

ELECTIONS

- Hired Isabel Ferreras on to be the 2009/2010 AMS Elections Administrator. Very excited about her enthusiasm and competence coming in. Be nice to her and help her out as she has a really genuine interest in making elections work as smoothly and wonderfully as possible!
- Currently hiring for Elections Committee
- Motions on this week's agenda to amend the elections code, so we'll see what comes of that

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES & THE AMS

TAKING FOUR COURSES DURING THE TERM

- It hasn't been the easiest thing ever, but with the proper delegation of tasks to staff members and a proper work-life balance, it is totally possible. Granted, one of the courses is an online distance ed course, but

FILING SYSTEMS

- Get one in place earlier rather than later. I have had a bit of a hodge podge of filing systems over the past little while, and am just currently starting to get everything in order for archival

purposes. A lot harder to do that three quarters in without a consistent filing system than if you start off at the beginning of the year!

POST-SCRIPT

Just wanted to say that my staff is awesome and that, Eunice, Selena, James, and Ian have been doing an amazing job and have really kept the UComm together over the last quarter. Props!