

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



AMS Student Society
6138 SUB Boulevard
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1
www.ams.ubc.ca

AMS Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes of April 28, 2010

Attendance

Present: Bijan Ahmadian (President), Ben Cappellacci (VP Academic and University Affairs), Elin Tayyar (VP Finance), Ekaterina Dovjenko (VP Administration), Jeremy McElroy (VP External), Ross Horton (General Manager), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist-Researcher), Jane Barry (Services Manager), Pavani Gunadasa (Executive Coordinator of Student Services)

Regrets: Kelli Seepaul (Communications and Design Services Manager)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 am.

Approval of Agenda

The Executive approved the agenda by consensus.

Approval of Minutes

The Executive approved the minutes of April 21, 2010 by consensus.

SUBmersion and WOW:

- SUBmersion, 10 am to noon, May 14:
 - Sheldon's AMS history presentation.
 - Trivia contest moderated by David Hannigan, with chocolates.
 - Conversation about values, what the AMS means to staff, students.
- SUBmersion to be attended by all student government appointees (Service Coordinators, AVP's, Commissioners). Discussion with managers about which staff should attend.
- After lunch (1-5 pm), a Ropes course for the Executive and Council, a team building exercise involving real trees, ropes, logs, harnesses, trust.
- 5:30: Bus to Whistler, arriving 7:30.
- Saturday: a business day, followed by a party.
- Sunday check out at 11.
- To ensure a productive Saturday, the idea is to leave the partying till Saturday night; maybe arrange some activities for Friday night, e.g., board games, a hike.

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- Attendance: Only a dozen have so far signed up for Whistler. Bijan to send an email to point out the importance of attending for team building and learning about the Executives' strategic plans.
- Music for weekend? Speak to Events.
- Theme? To be discussed at Council.

Quarterlies

- Should be finished for May 5 to go to Council for the May 12 meeting, since they were originally promised for May 5.
- If detailed or long, an executive summary would be useful.
- Those who want feedback from their fellow Executives can get their reports done earlier and circulate them.
- Jeremy spoke in favour of creating full reports; last year he felt he was not getting enough information.

Strategic Plan

- Executives to produce their plans and timelines for the next nine months.
- Ben suggested waiting till AVP's and commissioners are hired, so they can be consulted.
- Bijan: As long as plans can be ready for WOW. The May 12 Executive meeting should be the deadline, and also there should be informal discussion before then.

Signing Ceremony

- Ceremony for signing the new SUB agreements now scheduled for Friday, 5 pm.
- Pierre Ouillet, Hubert Lai, and perhaps a third person for the University.
- Agenda:
 - Sheldon's presentation on history of the SUB.
 - The actual signing.
 - Violinist.
 - Video being shot to be presented at a later full-scale reception.
 - Speeches by Ekat and Bijan for the AMS; also by someone from UBC.
 - Origami Club to organize parting gifts, something symbolic of overcoming difficult times and going forward in friendship.
 - People to exchange written thoughts on what the new SUB means to them.
 - Mingling, food.
 - Should be done in an hour.

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Executive Wardrobes

- Bijan: Executives often have to attend external meetings and it's important for them to look good. Perhaps there can be money set aside from the Lobbying Fund for buying clothes for the Executive.
- General feeling was that this was not necessary; people can buy their own clothes.

Personal Updates

- Sheldon:
 - Code Wizard seminar.
 - Presentations for signing ceremony and SUBmersion.
 - Updating Code and Student Council Handbook.
- Jane: Preparing procedure manuals for each of the Services, something distinct from the annual transition reports; the transition reports should focus on new things from the past year; the procedure manuals would be more enduring.
 - Bijan asked if this could be done for Ombuds too.
- Ross:
 - SUB agreements; almost there
 - Bijan: Hoping to send documents out today.
 - Budgets for businesses: looking to have a \$900,000 profit this coming year, up from the past year.
- Ekat:
 - SUB agreements.
 - Architects' debriefing lunch, on how the selection process worked.
 - Selection committee Tuesday.
- Ben:
 - Budget Committee ratified the preliminary budget.
 - UBC Strategic Communications Plan meeting.
 - UBC committee on recruitment.
 - ISA meeting, on how to engage international students.
 - Student evaluation meetings.
 - Credit D Fail program.
 - Wrapping up with old commissioners; hiring new ones.

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- Pavani:
 - Coordinator transition.
 - Strategic map for Services Review.
 - Two more hirings to do.
 - Year-end wrap-up.

- Elin:
 - Budget.
 - Hiring AVP.

- Jeremy:
 - Hearing from the new execs at other student unions. Next month will officially welcome them. Lots of meetings, one with University of the Fraser Valley next week. Talking about a new BC student lobbying group: Association of British Columbia Students (ABCS).
 - Away weekends in May on volunteer work. Best to reach him Monday-Thursday.
 - UAERC is reviewing external policies, deciding which to renew.
 - Keeps calling Ministry of Transport re U-Pass, but has not heard back from them.

- Bijan:
 - Arranging lunches with individual Council members to discuss goals. So far has met with Michael Haack and Nancy Wang. Planning to meet with Sedi Minachi.
 - Talking with International House. They were concerned about our elimination of the Council seat for international students. He wanted to assure them that we are still very committed to international student engagement.
 - Speech to international students at their summer Gala.
 - Speech to the club that recruits high school students for UBC.
 - Discussions with David Hannigan about values, also about our employment contracts, which need more detail (on hours, probation periods, confidentiality, etc.) to protect us.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is May 5, 2010.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.