



Science Undergraduate Society

The Science Undergraduate Society of UBC c/o Science Student Information Centre, Room A150 - 6221 University Boulevard,
Chem/Phys Bldg., UBC, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1. Telephone: 604-822-4235 - info@sus.ubc.ca - www.sus.ubc.ca

CODE & POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

SUBJECT: SUS CODE CHANGES TERM 2

REPORT DATE: MARCH 22ND, 2017

DECISION REQUESTED: IT IS REQUESTED THAT the Science Undergraduate Society Student Council approve the following change:

1. The addition of Article 8: Transition Reports
2. Removal of Non Voting Members of Council, including the removal of Article 5 and other mentions of these Non Voting Members of Council in other Articles
3. The addition of criteria of Job Descriptions in place of the removal of Non Voting Members of Council
4. Limitation of the amount of the Science Undergraduate Society Annual Budget spent on the Executive and Council Retreats
5. Other minor changes including various grammatical errors and name changes

This report is a summary of the changes made by the Code and Policy Committee over the second semester of the 2016/2017 Winter Session. This is not a formal report, nor is this report up for approval, but rather, the Code and Policy Committee would like to approve the newly updated Code that reflects all the changes made over the past few months. Each change will be broken down with a short summary of what it means for the function of the Society. It is recommended by the Code and Policy Committee that Council review the Code itself to see what the exact changes are to the Code as they will not be explicitly outlined in this report. Changes are highlighted and/or crossed out.

ARTICLE 8 - TRANSITION REPORTS

The reports should help get new position-holding members up to speed, for a better functioning society quickly after turnover. Transition reports will help introduce incoming position-holding SUS members (excluding members at large) to their new role by providing an overview of the position. This includes a description of the position and responsibilities, current agenda items made by the previous position-holder, and suggestions for future actions for the incoming position-holder and or directions of the committee. The report also includes relevant access codes, passwords, and procedures needed to carry out the responsibilities of the position. A



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brief overview of successes and failures of the actions taken in the previous year should be included for future improvement.

NON-VOTING MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

For more details and rationale, see the presentation to council. These members were removed from code and changed into job descriptions to allow for future flexibility in hiring without going through CAPC. This makes CAPC more efficient (no time is spent adjusting positions that may vary year to year so CAPC can focus on more important projects) and the process of officially appointing non-voting members more expedient. This allows for future flexibility in hiring. This also make code more steady and unchanging, which is a defining trait of a constitution.

JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Job descriptions were created with the striking out of article 5. Non-voting members of council will now be detailed in job descriptions that will be available on the SUS website and in the SUS archives?. They will be created, modified, and annulled by Executive Officers for specific committees to which the job description pertains. Actions that create, modify, and annul job descriptions require a Two Thirds (2/3) Resolution in Council in order to ensure that they are necessary and reasonable.

EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL RETREAT BUDGET RESTRICTION

A soft cap of 4% has been suggested, in the form of a percentage of student fees received in the previous fiscal year, to provide transparency and assurance to the public that SUS is not unfairly using student fees for internal retreats. Prior year's expenditures and budgeting has been considered when deciding the percentage (total spending has been about or less than 4%). This soft cap is better than a hard cap because while SUS can always choose to spend less than the cap (if student fees acquired dramatically increase), it fairly limits how much money SUS spends on its voting members (if student fees decrease). It also appeals more to the public as it more easily shows students where their money is going. Students may be unfamiliar with the typical costs and budget for SUS, so to see in code that their society is working for them, not to pay for special retreats is important in gaining science student favor and trust. In light of the recent AUS retreat trainwreck, having a soft cap codified will also be a preventative measure to protect SUS from bad PR.



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MOTION

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL approve the Science Undergraduate Society Constitution, Bylaws, and Code amended as of March 14th, 2017”.

Pooja Bhatti
Vice President of Administration

Caroline Sutton
Integrated Sciences Department Representative