Date and Time of Meeting: April 6, 2017 at 12:45PM
Location: Michael Kingsmill Forum

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 12:47 PM.

Amendments
Moved by Pooja, Second by Arnold
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council suspend SUS Code Bylaw 3, Paragraph 1, Sections 3 and 4.”

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Pooja, Seconded by Nick
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council omnibus all Councillor appointments.”

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Lakshmi, Seconded by Vesta
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council discuss departmental grants after the Budget presentation.”

...MOTION PASSES

Abstentions: Pooja

Moved by Sarah, Seconded by Pooja
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council add to motion to approve Benjamin Chen and Jamie Magrill for SUS Community Leadership Awards and Emilie McConnachie and Quentin for the Undergraduate Teaching Excellence Award as decided by the Academic Committee.”

...MOTION PASSES

Adoption of the Agenda:
Moved by Nick, Seconded by Lakshmi,
“BE IT RESOLVED That Council adopt the agenda.”

...MOTION PASSES
Speaker's Business & Land Acknowledgement

The President acknowledged that this meeting is taking place on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded land of the Musqueam people.

Introductions

All those present in Council engaged in a round of introductions.

Motions

Moved by Nick, Seconded by Nafeel,
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Mohammed Hossein Asadi Lari, Charmaine Lee, Tiffany Chih, and Sina Safabakhsh as recipients of the SUS Achievement Awards as decided by the Adjudication Committee.”
Motivated by: Unanimous approval by committee

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Pooja, Seconded by Isla,
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve 2017/2018 SUS Budget.”
Motivated by: Budget needs to be approved or else a Code suspension is required for Summer spending.”

Akhil: Is the Budget suitable for SUS?
Sheila: Budget Committee met every week, minutes available, notes for all decisions documented.

...MOTION PASSES

Abstentions: Sheila

Moved by Nick, Seconded by Simran
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Benjamin Chen and Jamie Magrill for SUS Community Leadership Awards and Emilie McConnachie and Quentin for the Undergraduate Teaching Excellence Award as decided by the Academic Committee.”
Motivated by: Committee worked hard to reward students.
...MOTION PASSES
Abstentions: Sarah

Moved by Antony, Seconded by Isla,

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the updated version of the SUS Strategic Plan.”
Motivated by: Needed to be updated
Alan: How long does it stretch?
Diane: As we don’t have permanent staff, length of plan is hard to determine.
Caroline: Is there a document with more specific deliverables?
Jeff: Document provides flexibility for Executives to perform roles to their discretion.

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Pooja, Seconded by Akhil,

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting should be extended indefinitely”

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Jeff, Seconded by Antony,

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council create an ad hoc committee that review the current grant allocation process for departmental reps.
- BIFR that this interdisciplinary departmental committee provides a report and recommendation at the first council meeting in the fall.
- BIFR this committee includes outgoing and incoming VP Finance, current representatives from GSA, COGS, PSA, incoming VP Admin, and one councillor from Grants Committee”
Motivated by: more consultation to feedback about grants allocation for future action

...MOTION PASSES
Abstentions: councillor
- add disclaimer at the end that there was a turnover, etc.

Moved by Vesta, Seconded by Caitlyn,

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council create a committee that will deal with the money that is going to surplus, previously allocated to club grants in the 2016-2017 budget, and review whether there are changes that can be made to the budgets allocated to the clubs and whether they can receive funding immediately.”
Motivated by: To see if it is possible for clubs to did not get funding in this year to receive the funding.
Jeff: What is the expected timeline for the adjudication if there was a change? Is there an immediate urgency with the money or is it just for retractive situation?
Vesta: This is an immediate matter as we do need the funding for the events that we held this year. We didn’t receive news about not receiving grants until late March and by that point we’ve already hosted most of our events and we spent money that we thought we would be receiving from SUS.
Jeff: Is the idea that the action of this committee should be done by the end of this month?
Lakshmi: After finals are over to talk about it.
Jeff: Reason asked is because if it’s not super urgent, the other committee could do the same thing. What is the turnover from the financial budget? I don’t know if it’s fluid.
Sheila: The AMS this school year ends on April 30th so the AMS is doing their changeover from May 1st to May 18th. Anything submitted after April 21st, can’t be recognised.
Vesta: Until when do we have time to add money into our club accounts for this year?
Someone: April 21st.
Akhil: Question for Vesta. You said that you couldn’t run events of the same scale as you did last year because you didn’t get funding. If you are awarded the funding, based on the budget you have so far, what would you put that towards? I’m just wondering would that be a surplus for next year or what you intend to do with the funding if you do receive it?
Vesta: We did operate this year under the impression that we would be getting SUS funding. It wouldn’t be that we would have more money to run events but rather to keep them as they are for next year and that we won’t run into a deficit.
Caroline: Under the circumstance that we would have to change things and reallocate funds before the 21st of April, would it be possible for your clubs to run a deficit this year and then have this committee meet at the end of April or early May to reallocate so that you have a surplus for next year to compensate for the deficit?
Lakshmi: That’s the best thing to do right now. In this case the the committee members would be the same and fix the money for this year and whatever money gets given to us for this year would go into a surplus for next year.
Akhil: If you do want a deficit, I assume there would be some consequence on the AMS side because they expect a balanced budget so what do you plan to do in that regards?
Pooja: They are not constituted as AMS clubs. They are supported by the AMS but at this moment I am not sure what would happen but I would not worried about that right now.
Alan: Recommend that this is added to the first committee and a duty is to look at the difference in money and how to distribute that over the course of the summer.
Jeff: I would like to reconsider my vote.

Moved by Jiwan, Seconded by Caroline,
"BE IT RESOLVED THAT we reconsider the motion above
- BIFR Council create a committee that will deal with the money that is going to surplus, previously allocated to interdisciplinary departmental club grants in the 2016-2017 budget, and review whether there are changes that can be made to the budgets allocated to the clubs and whether they can receive funding immediately"

Motivated by: Making sure two committees are not doing the same role
- To create a good way of fixing this issue and to make sure we can benefit clubs in the future.

Alan: I would recommend that you change the composition of the committee to make sure it’s not an even number.

Diane: Would someone like to propose a committee composition change?

Daniel: I would like to motion to remove on councillor from the committee

Akhil: As for the reps, they would have to be the current ones and there can be proxies but they cannot be the next President sitting on this committee because there would be a conflict of interest between the departmental representatives since the President would be representing students in the club. They can come as members at large but cannot have voting seats.

Hikari: This committee is going to look into the surplus and is going to determine whether there can be changes to be made to the allocation of club grants for this year. Say that this committee finds that those funds should be allocated to something else, what would that something else be?

Jeff: That would be at recommendation of the committee. Whatever they provide in their report to present to the council in the fall.

MOTION PASSES

Moved by Daniel, Seconded by Caroline,
"BE IT RESOLVED THAT we appoint one councillor to the ad hoc Interdisciplinary Club Grants Committee"

Motivated by: We should put someone in there since we created the committee.

Caroline: Did we decide it was two councillors or one?

Diane: It was a change to one.

MOTION PASSES

Abstentions: councillor

Moved by Pooja, Seconded by Antony,
"BE IT RESOLVED THAT we amend the agenda and make the appointments before the rest of the presentations"
Motivated by: That has to get done before the meeting ends

...MOTION PASSES

Presentations

SUS Elections - Cyndi Yan and Brendan Liaw, SUS Elections Administrators
- Incoming Executives
  - AMS Representatives: Lorenzo Lindo, Wendy Guo
  - Senator: Sarah Park
  - VP Academic: Jennifer Cheng
  - VP Internal: Julia Wu
  - VP Student Life: Gurshabad Singhera
  - VP Administration: Michelle Tse
  - VP External: Cathy Jiang
  - VP Communications: Miguel Oreta
  - VP Finance: Ryan Lou
  - President: Antony Tsui
- Hikari: what were the infractions?
- Cyndi: none significant
- Question: any measures to increase voter turnout?
- Cyndi: social media for student engagement, next year to increase more social media, collaborations with other undergraduate societies
- Akhil: should there be a mandatory attendance to debate?
- Cyndi: should be mandatory for next year, though cannot be enforced
- Daniel: reach out to first years to increase voter turnout
- Jeff: utilizing Ladha to increase voter awareness

Executive Review - Katie Gourlay, SUS VP Internal
- A review of each Executive’s fulfillment of their responsibilities
- Please review presentation PowerPoint

Executive Presentations
  VP Finance
  VP Student Life
  VP Academic
  VP Communications
  VP Administration
  VP Internal
VP External
President

Appointments

Nominations: Nafeel and Caroline
Daniel: I nominate Lakshmi.
Lakshmi: I cannot because I am already the current GSA representative.
Nafeel: I would like to nominate myself.
Caroline: Can I nominate Hikari.
Hikari: I respectfully decline.
Lakshmi: I would like to nominate Caroline.
Caroline: I accept.

One minute pitch:
Nafeel: One of the things that came up was changing the way we’ve allocated the money. More for interdisciplinary clubs has to come from somewhere. As a current member of the budget committee, I was involved in that process and I think that it would be beneficial to have someone who knows how we allocated the budget this year to discuss on how we can change it so interdisciplinary clubs can get the money.
Caroline: I sat on grants committee this year and I don’t think it’s a matter of changing the budget for next year but I think we should look into the money that was allocated for clubs this year. I would be happy to sit in and do my best to find a solution.

Moved by Pooja, Seconded by Hikari,
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT council approve Caroline as the councillor to the ad hoc committee on the Interdisciplinary Club Grants”

...MOTION PASSES WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Moved by Jiwan, Seconded by Antony,
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Lorenzo Lindo to the AMS Representative position for the period effective May 1st, 2017 and ending in April 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Wendy Guo to the AMS Representative position for the period effective May 1st, 2017 and ending in April 2018.
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Sarah Park to the Science Student Senator position for the period effective April 6th, 2017 and ending in April 2018.
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Gurshabad Singhera to the VP Student Life position for the period effective April 6th, 2017 and ending in April 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Miguel Oreta to the VP Communications position for the period effective April 6th, 2017 and ending in April 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Ryan Lou to the VP Finance position for the period effective April 6th, 2017 and ending in April 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Michelle Tse to the VP Administration position for the period effective April 6th, 2017 and ending in April 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Jennifer Cheng to the VP Academic position for the period effective April 6th, 2017 and ending in April 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Cathy Jiang to the VP External position for the period effective April 6th, 2017 and ending in April 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Julia Wu to the VP Internal position for the period effective April 6th, 2017 and ending in April 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Antony Tsui to the President position for the period effective April 6th, 2017 and ending in April 2018."

...MOTION PASSES

Approval of Minutes of Council/Committees
Moved by, Seconded by,
That SUS Council approves the following Committee meeting minutes:

CM 2017 03 23
XM 2017 03 14
Budget Comm 2017 02 27
Budget Comm 2017 03 06
Budget Comm 2017 03 20
Budget Comm 2017 03 27
Grants Comm 2017 02 01
Grants Comm 2017 02 08
Grants Comm 2017 02 15
Grants Comm 2017 03 01
Grants Comm 2017 03 08
Grants Comm 2017 03 15
Grants Comm 2017 03 22
Grants Comm 2017 03 29
CAPC 2017 01 31
CAPC 2017 03 14
CAPC 2017 03 28

Executive and AMS Reports
1. President
2. VP External
3. VP Internal
4. VP Academic
5. VP Administration
6. VP Communications
7. VP Finance
8. VP Student Life
9. Science Student Senator
10. AMS Reports

Club Reports
1. Astronomy Club
2. Biophysics Student Society (BPSS)
3. Biology Sciences Society (BIOSOC)
4. Biochemistry Physiology Pharmacology Club (BPP)
5. Cognitive Systems Society (CSS)
6. Computer Science Students Society (CSSS)
7. Combined Major in Science Student Association (CMSA)
8. Integrated Sciences Student Association (ISSA)
9. G.M. Dawson Club
10. Environmental Science Student Association (ESSA)
11. UBC Geography Students’ Association (GSA)
12. Microbiology and Immunology Students Association (MISA)
13. Physics Society (Physsoc)
14. Psychology Students’ Association (PSA)
15. Science Co-op Students’ Association (SCOOPS)
16. Science One Survivors (SOS)
17. Storm Club
18. Undergraduate Chemistry Society (UCS)

Discussion

Department grants
- Clubs with under 60% Science students do not get any grants
- A lot of clubs did not have a lot of Science students, SUS money could go to students that are outside of Science
- Unconstitutional, was not aware that was approved by Council. Even under 60% students; they still are paying SUS fees. AUS does not have this rule
- Just because it's not in the Constitution does not make it unconstitutional
- We should not be following other Undergraduate Societies
- This change was highlighted in the Clubs Orientation, very clearly indicated in Grant Applications that released in August. No one ever came forward with issues.
- Department representatives of SUS should liaise with Executives. Club Presidents should not go to Executives, should go through the representatives

Antony: And thus so happened that, like what Julia said, we were all waiting for the AMS council meeting to start so Pooja and Sheila were there and I personally encouraged them to come in. It wasn’t supposed to be a meeting but to be able to provide Lakshmi with more context as I was not able to. Everything that was said there, I believe was professional, was transparent. We wanted to meet with you and we asked him "okay, would you like to have a further meeting? Are you going to let Lakshmi know? If not, we want to continue to meet with her to discuss about this" and he said he’d take care of everything and that was that. I probably should have sent out a followup email to let you know that this had happened and that is my bad so I apologize for that, however he did promise and as incoming President he did say that he would bring this up with you and with the rest of GSA and that if there were any further concerns you guys would approach us again. So from that point onwards I thought, as responsible mature adults and elected representatives, that that would be taken care of and if that wasn’t the case, I would have been more than happy to follow up but because there was an agreement that things were dealt with now. He said he understood, he looked forward to working with me next year in resolving this further as we are at the AGM right now and there’s not much that we can do to come up with solutions until we begin the next year. And again, not too sure if the word useless actually came up. I was quite shocked when you first brought that up because I thought that was completely out of context. Thank you.
Vesta: I would really love for this to be resolved over the next 7 minute because I have class and I skipped class to make it to this meeting so there’s that. I want to go back to the main issue, going off of what you said when you said it was too late. We actually spoke to the VP Finance of the AUS and I know Akhil said we shouldn’t take AUS as a basis but in this case the VP Finance of the AUS and SUS have the same training according to her and she said that the SUS has every right to make a change right now and to give us grants right now. There is absolutely a way that this can be fixed today. If you guys disagree with that, one side is not telling the truth. My main point was that you guys argued that this is to the benefit of SUS students, of science students. I disagree with that. Lakshmi always pointed out, science students are paying funds to SUS so that they get allocated in a responsible manner to constituents and to events that SUS might hold and to Abdul Ladha and all of these are things that SUS students use and science students use and departmental clubs are one of the ways in which SUS can extend their reach beyond just council and SUS meetings and impact a lot more people than you could otherwise. Departmental clubs are integral to that and if you deny funding to those clubs you are denying science students a place where they can have fun, meet and do things they wouldn’t be able to do otherwise. Just because we are receiving funding from the AUS or other places doesn’t mean we do not matter, because we could be taking funding from any other external sources and it doesn’t matter it shouldn’t be taken into consideration because we also heard from one of the representatives that it was unfair that departmental clubs who are both science and arts are double dipping and I believe that that is completely irrelevant. It should not matter where we’re getting our funding from it should matter how qualified we are. If you look at our application and you see that it is not 60% science and you just throw it away without even looking at it. That’s extremely disrespectful because we put effort into that application and we believe that our clubs deserve some type of support from SUS. And yes you guys do offer us ALSSC and other resources and we are grateful for that but without these clubs grants we cannot have events that science students need.

Akhil: I just have a response, not to misunderstand what I said. When you said that VP Finance from SUS and AUS have the same training what I said was that we should not take what the AUS uses as a basis because they represent arts students and their interests and I don’t think that we should look at them to represent science interests and if we don’t find that they represent our interests we should ignore it and find something that best suits science student interests.

Imman: Direct question to Sheila. Why did you decide to set 60% as a borderline as giving or not giving grants rather than using a model to grant money for clubs with more or less science students. I think it’s fair to allocate less money to clubs with less science students because we can’t spend money on other students but what if they have like 59%. I feel they should get some
things rather than nothing. I feel that would be more fair and that would make more sense to do something like that so why did you go for 60%.

Sheila: Yes I agree with the fluid system you were talking but the 60% was decided by an ad-hoc committee that was appointed by council from the previous year so I did not make the decision autonomously. Once again I would be open to changes but my term ends now so-

Diane: Order. Please be recognized before speaking into the microphone.

Sheila: What I'm saying is my term ends now but this will be something that I will seriously consider in my transition report with Ryan.

Diane: If I could just have a moment to speak and take my speaker hat a bit. If you would like to see changes with this, keep in mind that there is an option to propose a motion to look into this or make a committee to look into this if you would like to make some concrete changes.

Lakshmi: I would like to address Antony, sorry. When you sent out that first email I was going to send out an email to Pooja and Sheila but Raj talked to you before even I could and it messed things up. Thank you for doing something that was outside you role and approaching us. Matter of timing, I was going to send out a message but he already talked to you. On behalf of GSA I would like to say sorry and thank you. On the issue of funding, you just seem like you're trying to wash your hands by saying that your term is ending but you're still going through the transition period until the end of this month and you still should be able to answer questions that we have. Who else will we raise our concerns to? If we talk to the VP Finance of next year they'll probably tell us to go to the person from the year before. So who do we talk to? Who do we fix this with? You because you are the only one that we have been working with all this while and you are the only one who knows what is going on and to be continuously told that the role is over. It's not over yet.

Diane: Just to clarify about Sheila saying that her role is over. I would like to speak in defense that I don't believe that she is trying to wipe her hands clean. It literally says in code that her term ends today at the AGM but she will work with the incoming VP Finance to make sure that this is addressed.

Lakshmi: She did not mention that she would talk with them she said “go and talk to them”. Those are two different things and I know I'm going to get told that she did say she would work with them. A lot of time that GSA has talked it has been told to go and talk to the new VP Finance. It's never been addressed wholly as to how.
Pooja: Something that I said a number of times in council and to the President is that yes we understand. We are not trying to wash our hand clean we are at a point where one it’s transition but two it’s final exams. We are students before we are student leaders. We are not trying to disregard the situation. I mentioned to the President that after finals we would discuss this with all the Presidents alongside myself, VP Admin, VP Finance, work together to come to some sort of resolution before the school year starts. It was proposed and your President was extremely receptive to that.

Caroline: There are things that needs to be fixed. We should figure out what should be done next year and what should be done right now. I would like to say that transition reports are very important and Sheila’s term does end at the end of this AGM. I think after sitting on Grants Committee, I agree we need a more fluid model to support students even if they are in a club less than 60%. I believe that every department representative should bring this up with their club and perhaps a student-at-large on Grants Committee next year if this is a really big concern and this should be put on the transition report for VP Finance. We should make a motion to look into the amount of money that was previously this year allocated to clubs. If any of that was not given to clubs and put into surplus I think we should reevaluate that at this time because that would best support science students who payed for their clubs this year.

Adjournment
Moved by Katie, Seconded by Alex,
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adjourn”
Motivated by: People have class.
Akhil: Will the presentations be available to everyone?
Diane: Yes they will be circulated online on the SUS website.

...MOTION PASSES

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Nick Pang
AVP Administration

Pooja Bhatti
VP Administration