[ COUNCIL MINUTES ]

Date: Monday, October 16th, 2017
Time: 5:00-7:00 pm
Location: Michael Kingsmill Forum, AMS Student Nest

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:19 PM.

II. Amendments to the Agenda

Moved by Gurshabad, Seconded by Sean.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adds a motion to appoint three Councilors to the Creative Ad-Hoc Committee.”
Abstentions: Gurshabad

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Gurshabad, Seconded by Sarah.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adds a motion to appoint Simon Zhu, Tatiana Misky, Madeson Todd as members-at-large to the Creative Ad-Hoc Committee.”
Abstentions: Gurshabad

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Jobina, Seconded by Isla.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council creates a SUS Speaker of Council Hiring Ad-Hoc Committee to recommend to Council the feasibility and possible hiring of a Speaker of Council.”
Note: President will sit on this committee
Motivated by: Lorenzo → we will vote on this after we amend this to the agenda

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Sean, Seconded by Esther.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council move the the AMS, Executive and Club reports to after committee and executive motions.”

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Lorenzo, Seconded by Wendy.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council appoint five councillors to the SUS Speaker of Council Hiring Ad-Hoc committee.”

...MOTION PASSES

III. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Wendy, Seconded by Ronan.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.”

...MOTION PASSES

IV. Speaker’s Business and Land Acknowledgement

The President acknowledged that we are on the ancestral, traditional, and unceded territory of the hən̓q̓̑миʔəm speaking, Musqueam people.

V. Introductions

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

VI. Presentations

Speaker of Council - Antony Tsui
- Create an independent chair of Council ➔ speaker of council
- To be presiding officer of council and general meetings for the society ➔ role is to act as the “referee”
- Position currently held by the president
- Article 2 Section 3 Subsection i)
- President is unable to motion or second anything because he or she must remain impartial and neutral
- Goal is to split the role to have a speaker of council and a president
- Speaker of council would be the officer of council and general meetings, can only vote to break a tie, remain impartial, give the land acknowledgement, have the final say/decision to the proceedings of the meetings
- President would then be able to move, second and vote on behalf of the executives and the society as well as committees and commissions
- Rationale ➔ to relieve the President of the duties and responsibilities of being the speaker of council and general meetings of the society
  - Clears bias and conflicts of interest between the two roles
- Allows speaker to act independently and only vote in the case of a tie
- Action items
  - Pass the motion in future council meeting
  - Hire and appoint a speaker
○ Recommend to CAPC to include role in code
  ● Wendy: Are you looking to hire someone for this position or appoint a councilor from council?
  ● Antony: I was looking to hire someone. Hopefully the hired person will have had some experience on council either in SUS or in the AMS. My goal is to hire and appoint someone and have council vote on that as well.
  ● Daniel: The CUS council is chaired by the Senator, in this case Sarah would be chairing. The senator is supposed to represent students at large so they would be considered impartial in some ways. Most westminster democracies have that model as well.

Moved by Gurshabad, Seconded by Ronan.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the question and answer period be extended by 15 minutes.”

...MOTION PASSES

○ Sarah: Would you be able to share the job description at next meeting?
○ Antony: There is little in code that refers to the Chair of Council but essentially under the roles of the President in code, there are a few points that would be shifted over to this role instead. Hopefully CAPC can include a new role for speaker of council under article 5 and shift those responsibilities there.
○ Akhil: What would the hiring process look like and who would do it?
○ Antony: Traditionally the speaker of the AMS was the speaker of GSS. We would have a strict hiring criteria. Council will be the last people to approve of the hire as well.
○ Poljanka: Is there conflict in hiring someone and giving them the vote to break the tie?
○ Antony: Perhaps we could create an ad-hoc committee to alleviate that concern but it all goes through council.
○ Wendy: We should not give them a vote because it wouldn’t be impartial. Would there be a budget for this role?
○ Antony: It would be a voluntary position but in SUS, we usually do not have the budget so they probably wouldn’t be paid but if council believes so then we could consider pay. Traditionally in westminster parliaments, the speaker gets to break ties with a vote but in all other times they are not allowed to vote.
○ Arsh: When has it been an issue when the President was the Speaker of Council?
○ Antony: Every time there is a big issue, the president has to take off their hat and speak on behalf of the executives rather than remain impartial so it became a really awkward situation. Even now I essentially have to police myself and be accountable to council to answer questions. If I do something wrong, there is nobody to call me to order other than myself.
○ Pooja: What plans do you have to train this person to be the speaker of council?
○ Antony: We would like to hire someone with experience in AMS council or SUS council. They would go through training in Robert’s Rules as well. In the first few meetings they could be trained but other than that they could do it themselves.
○ Akhil: It would be against the bylaws to hire someone and have them guide policy. Do...
you expect councilors to be on the panel for the first review?

- Antony: I would start it off in terms of posting the hiring and getting in the applications. I agree that we could maybe strike up an ad-hoc committee to have councilors review applications.
- Ronan: Would it be something you'd consider to put into a SUS election instead of hiring? It may be better in the long run to make this democratic.
- Antony: Speaker of council doesn't have a budget so I don't see a big issue. They wouldn't make any policies or decisions and would not vote, just to break a vote. We could also amend that to have that not be the case. How did the AMS hire their speaker?
- Wendy: They first apply and go through the HR Committee and interview then get recommended to HR Committee and then recommended to Council then approved.
- Jennifer: If there is a year when there isn't a person who is qualified enough, would the role just go back to being the President?
- Antony: No because it would be a role that we would need in council.
- Lorenzo: If there were any conflicts of interest for the speaker on AMS council, the role would go to the President.
- Antony: CAPC could clarify these things in code.

Moved by Ronan, Seconded by Sean.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT council extend the question period by 10 minutes.”

...MOTION PASSES

- Akhil: Is it really a problem that you are unable to speak when there are other executives to speak for SUS?
- Antony: Under code it says that the President is the main spokesperson for the society. In that case, it would be beneficial to split the role so that the President can speak comfortably without having to be impartial. It would add more legitimacy and less bias for the two roles
- Pooja: A suggestion would be to make this committee happen right now in council.

Executive Assistant to the President and Special Projects Coordinator - Antony Tsui

- The non-voting members of council are all scrapped in code article 5. Technically we could add in roles and hire them if needed as long as it is approved by council.
- The EAP would be there to support the overarching responsibilities of the President and goals of the Society.
- Because the President is such a large role, special projects would take a hit. This would help towards the goals in strategic planning.
- There are other miscellaneous tasks that don't fall under any of the VPs so that would be put onto the president and it would be nice to have some help
- They would also be in contact with the faculty of science, science advising etc.
- This is not paid
Lorenzo: Can you elaborate on the non-voting members in council?
Antony: It was struck in code and approved last year. It gave the executives more flexibility to hire as needed but it would still have to go through council.

VII. Appointments

Moved by Poljanka, Seconded by Lee.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Amir Hossein Moradi be appointed as the Science One Representative.”
Note: Requires 2/3rds
Motivated by: Julia -> Amir was elected by his Science One peers and would be a good candidate.

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Jake, Seconded by Daniel.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Monica Hsu be appointed as the Coordinated Science Program Representative.”
Note: Requires 2/3rds
Motivated by: Julia → Monica was elected by her CSP peers and would be a good candidate.

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Poljanka, Seconded by Ronan.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Melissa Lin, Salena Bath, Jiani Lin, Christy Lau, Brandon Huntington, Kelly Wong, and Lulu Lian (Members-at-large) be appointed to the Health and Wellness Committee.”
Note: Requires 2/3rds
Motivated by: Jennifer → Would like to start planning events for health and wellness
Abstentions: Jennifer

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Ronan, Seconded by Jake,
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Amir Moradi, Sean Jeong, and Monica Hsu be appointed to the Creative Ad-Hoc Committee.”
Debate: Sarah: Who are the current councilors on the committee?
Gursh: Swati, Jobina and Isla
Nominations:
Sarah: I would like to nominate Sean
Gursh: Meeting time would be up to those who are in the committee
Sean: I would like to accept
Sarah: I would like to nominate Amir
Amir: I would like to accept
Sarah: I would like nominate Yuming
Yuming: I would like to respectfully decline
Gursh: I would like to nominate Monica
Monica: I would like to accept
Abstentions: Gurshabad

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Gurshabad, Seconded by Isla,
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Simon Zhu, Tatiana Misky, Madeson Todd be appointed as members at large to the Creative Committee.”
Motivated by: Gurshabad → would like to start working immediately
Abstentions: Gurshabad

...MOTION PASSES

VIII. Approval of Minutes of Council/Committees

Moved by Herman, Seconded by Sarah.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following meeting minutes be adopted as presented:
CM 2017 10 02
CM 2017 10 10

...MOTION PASSES

IX. Executive Committee Motions

Moved by Esther, Seconded by Jobina.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the creation of the position of Executive Assistant to the President and Special Projects Coordinator.”
Note: Requires 2/3rds
Motivated by: Antony → mentioned in the presentation.

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Arsh, Seconded by Yuming.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Urim Lim be appointed to the position of Executive Assistant to the President and Special Projects Coordinator, upon approval of Council.”
Note: Requires 2/3rds
Motivated by: Antony → mentioned in the presentation.

...MOTION PASSES
X. Committee Reports and Motions

Moved by Sean, Seconded by Jennifer.

From the SUS Interdisciplinary Clubs’ Club Operations Grant Ad-Hoc Committee:
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, on the recommendation of the SUS Interdisciplinary
Clubs’ Club Operations Grant Ad-Hoc Committee, approve the recommendations and
motions of the minutes.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Motivated by: Ryan → allow interdisciplinary clubs to have some grants because it would have
been a requirement for them to have 60% membership.

Debate:

- Akhil: What was the eligibility for the Interdisciplinary clubs to get grants
- Ryan: We had a prorated grant application by the percentage of science students they
  have out of 60% which is the minimum
- Akhil: How much of the grant is dependent on the prorating?
- Ryan: The entirety of the grant, but we struck out the membership section, since they
  would not be able to achieve that.

Abstentions: Ryan

…MOTION PASSES

Moved by Sarah, Seconded by Gurshabad.

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council appoints Wendy Guo, Lorenzo Lindo, Ronan Kerr,
Herman Samra, and Michelle Tse (5 Councilors) to the SUS Speaker of Council Ad-Hoc
Committee.”

Nominations:
Sarah: I would like to nominate Arsh
Arsh: I would like to respectfully decline
Miguel: I would like to nominate Ronan
Ronan: I would like to accept
Sean: I would like to nominate Sarah
Sarah: I would like to respectfully decline
Michelle: I would like to nominate Wendy
Wendy: I would like to accept
Sarah: I would like to nominate Herman
Herman: I would like to accept
Gurshabad: I would like to nominate Lorenzo
Lorenzo: I would like to accept
Michelle: Nominate myself

…MOTION PASSES

XI. Council Motions
Moved by Sean, Seconded by Jake.

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council creates a SUS Speaker of Council Hiring Ad-Hoc Committee to recommend to Council the feasibility and possible hiring of a Speaker of Council.”

Note: President will sit on this committee

Motivated by: Antony → look to evaluate the purpose of the new position to see if it is feasible and then recommend it to council

Debate:

- Ronan: We already have CAPC so why is this committee necessary?
- Michelle: I suggest that CAPC discuss this first and then bring it to council to vote upon
- Pooja: It would probably be a better choice to make an ad hoc committee because it’s not a policy
- Akhil: I agree with Pooja. Since this issue is changing council and the bylaws they should not leave it just to CAPC.
- Ronan: The main issue would be hiring and we would need an ad hoc committee for that but in term of policy I don’t see a problem in CAPC discussing and recommending courses of action, then having council vote on that.
- Arsh: Maybe we should just form an ad hoc committee so that the process would be faster instead of having it go through CAPC
- Michelle: There is no guarantee that it’ll be faster since there could be disagreements resulting in amendments to the recommendations
- Wendy: The hiring would take a long time so it would take a month or so regardless.
- Akhil: It wouldn’t be beneficial to speed up the process and make it unclarified.
- Lorenzo: This ad hoc committee would look at the feasibility of hiring a speaker and then CAPC to create a proposal to add it into code
- Akhil: There should be an ad hoc committee with councilors to decide on the feasibility first before handing it over to CAPC.
- Ronan: The ad hoc committee would look at the feasibility?
- Akhil: Yes they would look at the roles and responsibilities of the speaker and they would create a preliminary structure to hire the speaker. That’s why there should be an ad hoc committee instead of just going to CAPC

...MOTION PASSES

XII. Executive and AMS Reports

1. President

- Few weeks ago: September: few incidents from RXN, have a few legal consultations to finish up with
- In the next few weeks, Ryan will bring these up to Council for approval
- Attending AMS council and Persistence Project: UBC Science and Arts (Failing/ACPR students)-would normally be asked to withdraw
  - No process for re-admission, currently looking for one
2. Vice President, External
3. Vice President, Internal
   ● Council retreat this week, thank you to those who attended!
   ● Curriculum Committee Meeting: plan to change breadth requirements
     ○ All science students will have to take 3 credits from 6 of 7 categories
       ■ CHEM, PHYS, BIO/PSYC/MICB, CPSC, STAT, EOSC/EVRN/ASTR/ATSC/GEOG, MATH
       ○ Idea: students to have good experience for 6 of 7 categories
       ○ Any other info/feedback: please find Julia after this meeting
   ● Arsh: Other than you who else would we contact to recommend changes to the curriculum?
   ● Julia: At the moment it’s me. In term two we will open up the spots on that committee to councillors.

4. Vice President, Academic
   ● Finishing up back to school survey results, will be accessible on the website hopefully next week for presentation
   ● Flu shot clinic: Oct 23 and 24 — any students
   ● Academic committee: plan is to meet need to meet basis, will call meetings a week ahead
     ○ Clear goals of committee, and then CAPC to help evaluate goals
     ○ Specific issues about departments/rep: smaller issues- talk to her personally for case to case basis
       ■ Mandatory for all councillors (will need to find proxy) if meetings are called
       ■ Hopefully meetings will be called for next week, will update soon
   ● Akhil: Would the discretion of calling the meeting rely on you?
   ● Jennifer: Yes but by the recommendations of council we can call them based on that as well.

5. Vice President, Administration
   ● Clubs Commission is looking at new club applications and will have a report soon
   ● Office hours have started so now, if you cannot attend please contact Michelle ahead of time. If you can’t attend please find a replacement or make up the time
   ● Keep the area around the office quiet
   ● Council meetings — please find a proxy and contact AVP Administration or VP Administration
   ● Sean: Where can we find the council meetings?
   ● Michelle: They will be posted on the website after they’ve been approved

6. Vice President, Communications
   ● We’ve been working with the webmaster and AVP Administration to upload the meeting minutes
   ● Marketing request form has been posted
7. **Vice President, Finance**
   - In the process of finalizing the budgets for First Week and RXN and trying to find out all the expenses
   - Haven’t finalized the numbers for the buses yet from the retreat
   - Grants Committee has started to review grants

8. **Vice President, Student Life**
   - Meetings with UBC Recreational Strategic Planning Committee
     - Get people involved in recreation and sport and finding ways to use the old SUB to get people more active
   - Blue and Gold society meeting
     - Finding new collaborations
   - UBC REC → faculty cup to see how to create better turnout

9. **Science Student Senator**
   - October meeting on Wednesday
   - Talking about changing undergraduate admission

10. **AMS Report**
    - AMS general meeting happening on Friday
    - Rent with rights petition → renters on campus not recognized BC’s Legislative Act
    - Credit card by the end of October
    - AGM → 515 to meet quorum
    - Pooja: Club presidents got an email from the AMS

XIII. **Club Reports**

1. **Astronomy Club**
   - Potorcove event just happened
   - Lecture on Canadian Space Agency on it’s future
   - Halloween social coming up as well
   - Solar Eclipse event at MOA in the past summer
   - Below 60% threshold Science Students - will cause more discussion in the near future

2. **Biophysics Student Society (BPSS)**
3. **Biology Sciences Society (BIOSOC)**
   - Trying to work on their marketing and advertisements this year
   - Esther: Are Departmental clubs allowed to be on the Distillation?
   - Miguel: No, but on SUS it’s okay.

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**
   - Haunted House Party happening October 27th.
   - Fright Night Field Trip happening October 19th.
   - Geostorm Movie Night is November 7th.

10. **Environmental Science Student Association (ESSA)**
    - The biggest event happening in the ESSAsphere is Three Stages of Environmentalism, happening at Chan Centre on October 21st. A storytelling production featuring stories from three generations of environmentalists. Rumour has it that Santa Ono will stop by.
    - Fall Upcycling Workshop with ESSA happening October 24th.
    - Helping out at the Eco Blitz Urban Tree Planting, the planting of over 2000 native trees in Pacific Spirit Regional Park.
    - A big shout out to Carliana Kim, BSc Environmental Science student, who is in San Antonio, Texas for the AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education) Conference and Expo. Follow her on the UBC Sustainability Instagram page, where she will be taking over the Instagram story there.

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**
    - We’ve been registered to the University of Oklahoma’s Wx Challenge, a weather forecasting contest to see who can be the best weather forecaster in North America.

18. **Undergraduate Chemistry Society (UCS)**
    - Faculty meet and greet and wine and cheese night
    - Grad info sessions
    - Lab tours coming up
    - Professional communication workshops in the coming weeks

XIV. **Discussion Period**

XV. **Adjournment**

Moved by Sarah, Seconded by Arsh.

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 7:01PM.”

...MOTION PASSES
Associate Vice President, Administration
UBC Science Undergraduate Society

Vice President, Administration
UBC Science Undergraduate Society