SUS Code and Policy Meeting
Tuesday, October 24th, 2017 | 5:30 PM
WOOD 215

I. Attendance

Present:
Michelle Tse - VP Administration
Wendy Guo - AMS Representative
Ronan Kerr - Astronomy Representative
Daniel Lam - Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences + Environmental Sciences Representative
Akhil Krishnan - Member-at-Large
Caroline Sutton - Member-at-Large
Kim Vu - AVP Administration

Guests:
Jennifer Cheng - VP Academic
Julia Chai - AVP Academic
Cathy Jiang - VP External

Regrets:
Nick Hu - Math Representative

II. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30PM.

III. Introductions

- Members
  - All those present engaged in a round of introductions.
  - Will be motioning to appoint another councillor.
- Expectations
  - Ways to contact each other
    - Shared Google Drive Folder
    - Email
    - Slack → make a group in a channel
- Recap of 2016/2017 Code changes
  - Deletion of Article 5 - Non Voting Members of Council
    - Caroline: Code changed every year for specific positions so they struck everything.
● Overview of 2017/2018 Timeline
  ○ Article 5 drawbacks
  ○ Bylaws - VP and President’s roles and annual goals
  ○ Legally binding code for constituency in camera sessions
  ○ Remove the designation of Chief AMS Representative and change Academic Committee composition to exclude AMS Representatives
  ○ Interdisciplinary clubs definition + details/representation/funding
  ○ definitions (committee vs. commission etc) - restructure?
    ■ Numbers in each committee
  ○ Will confirm soon and update what areas of code to read up before next Tues

IV. Adoption of the Agenda

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

...MOTION PASSES

V. Committee Formation

● Mental Health Advocacy Committee
  ○ Jennifer: Last year the committee was an ad-hoc committee but this year I’d like to codify it and make it a committee for future years. Last year they worked on long term projects such as Bell Let’s Talk, THRIVE week and worked with other mental health organizations. We plan to work on more short term projects this year. The goal of MHAC is to destigmatize mental health conditions through events via events and long term initiatives. It should be a committee differentiated from health and wellness because it would focus more on mental health rather than physical health. 1 in 5 people have mental health issues and we want to bring the issue to light.
  ○ Julia: We want short term and long term progressions. We plan to have a Humans of New York type of event. Want to work with UBC and out of UBC organizations. Bring in potential speakers to educate and bring out the conversations. We want to provide students with resources and opportunities to students should they need any type of help.
  ○ Wendy: Which groups do you want to collaborate with?
  ○ Julia: Mental Health Network. The tipping point. Youth mental health
association. Bell Let’s Talk. Canadian Mental Health Association

○ Wendy: Any institutional groups? UBC related?
○ Julia: Bring the conversation to UBC Mental Health. A lot of deficiencies with the services we have brought to light on UBC Confessions. Lobbying to the AMS on how we can improve the resources
○ Caroline: Will you plan to advocate along with the professors to help reduce stress and work with student’s mental health?
○ Jennifer: That is one direction we can take it in
○ Caroline: Will you be looking at the framework form the Okanagan Charter?
○ Jennifer: Something that we can consider
○ Akhil: What do you expect the expense to be or budget to be?
○ Jennifer: Last year, MHAC was an ad-hoc so HEWE split their budget in half. Ideally I would like a little bit more money. HEWE has 1500 so maybe we’ll take 500 and ask for 500 more so maybe 1000. Expenses would add up from free food.
○ Daniel: Money from sponsorship?
○ Jennifer: Yes. Cathy would assign one corporate relations member for both HEWE and MHAC so we’ll ask them whenever we need money
○ Ronan: We can look at amending the budget to best allocate the money but i don’t have a problem with including the committee
○ Akhil: Would your events would be bringing students in touch with the resources but you said they were inadequate so how would you go about going to amend the situation and improve resources
○ Julia: More of a fun aspect of lifestyle. MHA is sensitive so it’s something we need to be careful of. One of our key concerns would be giving students resources. Speakers and events and activities. Providing opportunities for students to have a safe space and gain insight from the other side of the spectrum.
○ Ronan: Regarding the more general events, why is it in academic than student life?
○ Jennifer: Academic has this under the umbrella. Student life is more large scale and Academic has more small scale events that are more in touch with the students
○ Caroline: Mental health really affects academics
○ Akhil: We should ask VP Finance to get it recommended to council as well.
○ Wendy: We should have a joint recommendation

● Community Engagement Committee
○ Cathy: Communications was responsible for PR committee and I found it really strange that they were dealing with charity events. 3 Councillors and 4 members at large). Main motives are outreach and charity events and volunteer
opportunities.
- Caroline: Was this recommended by last year’s VP Communications?
- Cathy: Miguel was AVP Communications last year and he agreed that it was more appropriate for it to be in External as well.
- Wendy: We should not appoint councilors to committees that haven’t been approved yet → not good governance
- Akhil: The PR committee would be renamed and would be switched over to external portfolio so would the budget be the same?
- Cathy: I don’t think they'll be that different. Last year was 1500 so we wouldn’t be asking for more.
- Akhil: In terms of Community Engagement how is it better in External than Communications?
- Cathy: The other two committees under my portfolio are similar in terms of outreach to external organizations such as charities. I’d want the outreach to external organizations to be the same.
- Akhil: Decodify the PR committee and reform the CE committee and put it in the External role.
- Wendy: What type of events would you plan for this year?
- Cathy: Last year they did flu shots and food bank. Flu shots went to HEWE, we were planning to do a fundraiser for Lace Up For Kids. Blood service are something we haven’t collaborated in the past. More outreach to residencies and high schools.
- Akhil: Did the committee meet last year 2017 onwards?
- Wendy: The chair last year had physical issues and couldn’t chair the committee.
- Akhil: What would the outreach entail?
- Cathy: Last year there was a Health Care Conference but the executives didn’t have time. The conference was held in the Nest → lot of boosting opportunity and a lot of philanthropy were there but SUS wasn’t there to get new students involved.

- Appropriate code changes to Article 6
  - To be proposed by Academic and External Portfolio, reviewed by CAPC

VI. Discussion
- Daniel: Look into changing the positions of the representatives → condensing them
  - Smaller council size is a good thing
- Ronan: I don’t disagree with the prospect of making it smaller because there is a lot of overlap.
- Michelle: Committee structuring in SUS is strange. The numbers for committees are too old or can be updated. There’s a lot of fluctuation between committee and commission so we should clarify. Clean up the definitions
- Caroline: One thing we changed last year was Finance to Grants Committee.
- Daniel: Think of moving department rep elections to spring and having council meet over the summer → not often but maybe once a month or every two months to deal with business
- Wendy: Would it be the newly appointed councillors?
- Daniel: Yes
- Caroline: Maybe we should make an outline for how to present to CAPC
- Michelle: We include rationales what else should we put?
- Caroline: Budget, and recommendations from others/previous committee members + professionals.
- Wendy: Encourage them to consult with the other execs
- Akhil: this would be a problem because first years would not be able to vote for their representatives. A lot of 4th year students will start voting for students that won’t be represent them.

VII. Committee Motions

Moved by Wendy, Seconded by Caroline.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the recommendation of the Code and Policy Committee, the addition of the Mental Health Advocacy Committee be added to the Academic Portfolio.

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Daniel, Seconded by Wendy.

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following motions are omnibussed.”

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Wendy, Seconded by Akhil.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Code and Policy Committee recommend to council the removal of the Public Relations Committee from the Communications Portfolio.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Code and Policy Committee recommend to Council the addition of the responsibility of organizing charity events to the executive responsibilities of VP External.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Code and Policy Committee recommend to council the addition of the Community Engagement Committee to the External Portfolio.
VIII. Adjournment

Moved by Ronan, Seconded by Wendy.

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 6:37PM.”

...MOTION PASSES

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Associate Vice President, Administration  Vice President, Administration
UBC Science Undergraduate Society  UBC Science Undergraduate Society