I. Attendance

Present:

Michelle Tse - VP Administration
Wendy Guo - AMS Representative
Ronan Kerr - Astronomy Representative
Sean Jeong - Biochemistry 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

Regrets:

II. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:04PM.

III. Amendments to the Agenda

IV. Adoption of the Agenda

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

...MOTION PASSES.

V. Introductions

VI. Presentations

VII. Approval of Minutes of Council/Committees

Moved by Ronan, Seconded by Daniel.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following meeting minutes be adopted as presented:
2018 01 30

...MOTION PASSES.

VIII. Article 6 and 7 restructure
a. Standing committee

- Michelle: Looked at AMS Code and found it really complicated. They had a lot of rules.
- Wendy: Simplify it so it’s flexible for us.
- Michelle: Caroline mentioned to use standing committee to have long-term goals for the portfolio. More fluid. Strategic planning.
- Kim: Talked to Cathy- ok. Wanted anything added can add later on, so will keep general right now. Jennifer - supports combining 2 committees (Academic Committee and Academic Support Committee) because Academic committee doesn’t do that much, even when she’s tried her best to support them. Perhaps we should just add Academic Discussions to Council instead?
- Akhil: I don’t think abolishing because the committee isn’t working this year should be a good reason.
- Kim: She’s not saying that we should abolish the goals of the academic committee but rather place that in council instead rather than meeting with the same group twice. We could also have emergency council meetings if there are extra needs.
- Michelle: Long term planning and discussions in new academic oversight committee. Keep it to council for emergency purposes.
- Ronan: I think it requires all councillors be there.
- Michelle: Are they not able to come up with ideas first and then bring that to council later on?
- Ronan: Do it in council and have ad hoc if there are big issues.
- Caroline: So you’re saying if it was CPSC dilemma then it would go to council?
- Ronan: Yes
- Wendy: Extraordinary or ad hoc committee for everything that comes up then it becomes really messy. AMS has a VP who deals with advocacy related issues and a VP who deals with academic issues and there’s a committee who meets to talk about that and there’s a portion of time in Council where they provide their updates.
- Ronan: For the majority we would go over things in council which doesn’t require a separate meeting for it. If there is a rare case where it can’t be dealt only in council then we can have an ad hoc to deal with it.
- Michelle: So we should discuss academic committee issues in council instead?
- Sean: There are many meetings for academic and there was low turnout as well.
- Caroline: Sarah Park’s academic committee?
- Michelle: Biweekly, not much discussion, tried to have other events going on. The year after had a smaller committee.
- Daniel: They brought up issues and ran campaigns. CPSC waitlist campaign with
CPSC representative last year.

- Kim: Talked to Jennifer → holds academic meetings on the “off” Monday that council doesn’t happen. Upset that people don’t come out even though they probably can so the discussion isn’t productive anymore.
- Michelle: Maybe make it a mandatory discussion in council.
- Ronan: Make it an agenda item.
- Michelle: They can form an ad hoc when it comes up.
- Wendy: Strange to have it as just an agenda item.
- Caroline: Maybe we should research other student unions first.
- Michelle: Generally positive reviews from others.
- Akhil: We should have rationales for changing this.
- Michelle: Primary goal is to keep people accountable for what they do.
- Ronan: Bringing it back to president get advice like the astronomy club.
- Michelle: Don’t want everyone to be there.
- Ronan: We have representatives for each working group in the committee?
- Michelle: Yes.
- Caroline: Concerns for long-term goals because there’s turnover. Need to make sure goals are relevant and consistent. Have to rationalize what we’re doing these events.
- Wendy: Address concerns about long-term goals through transition reports. Traditionally they do take in previous year’s goals.
- Michelle: The transition report isn’t as good as a foundation as thought. Good to have people to remind you where the foundation started from and help you with goals.
- Ronan: The VP will have an environment to have discussions on.
- Wendy: There’s a committee like this in the AMS that pressures standing committees to have goals. Not a good structure. Just a platform to say they looked over everything.
- Michelle: Assuming they meet every week, the goals should be in mind for committees when they’re planning events.
- Kim: The councillors and VP can definitely ask questions and suggest ideas to chairs. They get a second opinion on whether something will work well or not.
- Caroline: Financial discussion?
- Michelle: Yes it’s a subsection.
- Caroline: Should have some type of outline? Would that help?
- Michelle: Checklist?
- Caroline: Yes.
- Michelle: Suggest a ratio for the committee or a percentage for members. Should have a minimum number for each committee.
- Akhil: Want a good number because they’re conducting oversight.
- Michelle: Are we putting in place ratios?
- Akhil: Can discuss.
- Kim: Have minimum number.
- Akhil: Yes we will calculate and decide a minimum number.
• Wendy: Is 6 members a good number?
• Wendy: Should we have members at large?
• Akhil: Yes but as guests with no vote. Helps with transparency.
• Michelle: Leave it as no members at large for now but can change later on.

IX. Article 15
• Akhil: We should strike they part of referring conflicts to the student court and instead refer to the ombudsperson.

Section 2
2. The Executive of the Society shall have the right to appeal any challenges of this nature to the Student Court. Ombudsperson. In the event of a favorable ruling, the Code shall, in this case, be seen as paramount, and a notation to this effect shall be entered into Code.

X. Committee Motions

Moved by Sean, Seconded by Wendy.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Code and Policy Committee recommend to the President of the Science Undergraduate Society, to recommend to Council the updated changes to Bylaw 1, Section 2.”

...MOTION PASSES.

Moved by Akhil, Seconded by Daniel.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Code and Policy Committee recommend to Council the changes in Article 15, Section 2.”

...MOTION PASSES.

XI. Discussion Period
• Michelle: Summer council got passed in council.

XII. Adjournment

Moved by Wendy, Seconded by Sean.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 6:59PM.”

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

Vice President, Administration
UBC Science Undergraduate Society