[ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ]

Date: Tuesday, April 3rd, 2018
Time: 6:15-8:15 PM
Location: AMS Student Nest, Michael Kingsmill Forum

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM.

II. Amendments to the Agenda

Moved by Daniel, Seconded by Michelle.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council suspend SUS Code Bylaw 3, Paragraph 1, Sections 3 and 4.”
Motivated by: Michelle → will not be meeting quorum so code will need to be suspended in order to pass motions.

...MOTION PASSES.

Moved by Daniel, Seconded by Poljanka.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT to move Daniel Lam’s motions to after his presentation.”
Motivation: Daniel → want to appoint students before students at large leave

...MOTION PASSES.

Moved by Poljanka, Seconded by Arnold.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Senator presentation be moved before VP Internal presentation.”
Abstentions: Nicholas

...MOTION PASSES.

Moved by Sean, Seconded by Vanessa.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Executive and AMS Reports and Club Reports be stricken.”

...MOTION PASSES.

Moved by Akhil, Seconded by Nick.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT we omnibus the meeting minutes and the SSRA recipients.”

...MOTION PASSES.
III. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by John, Seconded by Lorenzo.
“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 traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ speaking, Musqueam people.

V. Introductions

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

VI. Presentations

Council Attendance Review – Michelle Tse, VP Administration, & Julia Wu, VP Internal
- As long as you don’t miss 5 meetings without a proxy, you can still keep your role
- Attendance has been pretty good
- Should have given more warnings during the year for absences
- CAPC talked a little about changing code so that there would be more restrictions for proxies
- Should have the attendance online for more accountability
- Summer council will start in July
- Amit: Are the dates finalized yet for summer council?
- Michelle: Not yet. May be after exec retreat.
- Akhil: VP External has sent a lot of proxies, what is the reason?
- Cathy: We scheduled this in the summer and this was a commitment that I couldn't compromise.
- Katie: Are the summer council meetings replacing council orientations?
- Michelle: No.
- Azim: What was the issues with proxies?

Moved by Ronan, Seconded by Poljanka.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT time be extended by 5 minutes.”

...MOTION PASSES.

- Michelle: They’re not the best representation and nothing in code states that they must
be updated when their proxies are there. We want to make sure that it’s the representative.

- Nick: Would interim AMS Representatives need to go to Summer Council?
- Michelle: Yes.

Executive Review – Julia Wu, VP Internal

- Based on Feb 26, 2018 version of Code

Moved by Sean, Seconded by Nick.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT time be extended indefinitely.”

...MOTION PASSES.

- Sean: For VP Student Life slides, why were there apostrophes?
- Julia: It just means the same as above
- Yuming: For the VP Communication slide, there is no X for press releases, what happened with the break in press release?
- Miguel: The press release was kept in council.
- Pooja: For archives, if it’s on the website, it’s good. Why weren’t job descriptions updated?
- Michelle: After the summer, we were losing track. Had second term and first term hirings. After the fall, stopped keeping track. Our fault.

Moved by Poljanka, Seconded by John.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT time be extended by 7 minutes.”

...MOTION PASSES.

- Akhil: Julia, how did you come up with the criteria?
- Julia: I met up with the execs and asked other individuals.
- Akhil: To what degree were the other executives involved in your review?
- Julia: They made their own personal review and I read them on my own time to make sure what they had checked off was accurate.
- Caroline: I was just curious as to why some of the were vague and it was contradictory because some of them should be done if the executive has the authority to?
- Antony: These points were just all from code.
- Pooja: Should consider taking out signing authority. Press releases should be approved by the AMS first. It should also be from the President, not VP Communications.
- Antony: That’ll be noted for the incoming executives
- Akhil: I don’t believe the website was updated regularly, what level did you expect the website to be updated?
- Julia: I would believe that he did update the website.
- Nick: There were no press releases so why wouldn’t you check the box for approving press releases if there weren’t any?
- Julia: We just did it to be safe.
The Year in Review

- **President** – Antony Wang
  - Strategic plan is an ongoing process
  - Outreach to other constituencies and faculty
  - Attend many external meetings (eg. Faculty meetings)
  - Represented Science at the AMS Council

- **Vice President, External** – Cathy Jiang
  - Secured sponsorships → $30,000
  - First SUS textbook market
  - First Alumni Speaker Series
  - Hosted Science Careers and Information Fair
  - Student Networking Night
  - Community Engagement Committee → New
    - Fundraisers for many organizations
  - Partnerships → Beat Your Course and The Princeton Review

- **Science Student Senator** – Sarah Park
  - Took Senator out of executive team
  - Gave out Science Student Recognition Awards to 4 individuals

- **Vice President, Internal** – Julia Wu
  - Both elections beat last year’s turnout
  - Planned executive retreat and councillor retreat
  - First Year Committee’s events were successful
  - Human Resources hired all volunteers
  - Committee Chair Orientation → New
  - SUS Board → New
  - Science Student Recognition and Award Night → 80 attendants

- **Vice President, Academic** – Jennifer Cheng
  - 5 committees
  - Sat on many external committees (a lot of award committees)
  - Back2School survey → 1200+ students did the survey
  - Promoted positive mental and overall wellbeing
  - GSS x SUS Mentorship Program
    - 80 pairs - 3x more pairs than last year’s
  - IGNITE Conference → New

- **Vice President, Administration** – Michelle Tse
  - **Building**
    - Worked hard to increase security → limited student access
    - Put in alarms
    - New maintenance tab on the website for the building
    - Approved blinds for meeting rooms → hopefully implemented soon
    - New chairs, beanbags, mics, clickers
  - **Code and Policy**
    - Committee restructure
Summer Council  
Speaker of Council  
Removed senator as exec position  
Codified 2 new committees  
  Clubs Commission  
    One new club  
    Grants workshop  
    New initiatives → socials

- Vice President, Communications – Miguel Oreta  
  - New logos for documents and graphics  
  - New colours → founder’s blue  
  - Revamped the SUS Labrat Page → online community for Science Students  
  - First Week → successful  
  - Sales went well  
  - Produced videos and took pictures throughout the year

- Vice President, Finance – Ryan Lou  
  - Total grants given out → $19,000  
  - Reallocated $8100 in allocated funds

- Vice President, Student Life – Gurshabad Singhera  
  - SUS RXN → 2 day event  
  - Science Week → lots of free food  
  - Social Committee → had collaboration with POITS  
  - Sports Committee → facebook group  
  - Creative Ad Hoc Committee  
  - Science Grad → after exams  
  - AMS Blue and Gold Society

- AMS Representative(s) – Wendy Guo and Lorenzo Lindo  
  - Went to AMS Council  
  - Lorenzo → Student Life Committee Chair and Finance Committee Vice Chair  
  - Wendy → Chair of Human Resource committee

- Pooja: What did you guys learn and what would you change → to all executives?  
- Miguel: Learned about what all science clubs were up to and what opportunities there were for science students. Would reach out to more people for the interests of science students.  
- Jennifer: Learned about a lot of the underlying things that happened for curriculum. Would have more lobbying next time rather than many events.  
- Julia: Learned so much. Would change to work towards a more inclusive community.  
- Cathy: Learned the importance of professional communication. Would have more opportunities for science students. More collaboration with external organizations.  
- Antony: Learned that President is a very difficult role to strike balance. Would have spent more time to get to know more science students and hearing more feedback.  
- Michelle: Learned the most about code. Focus more on clubs, wanted to reach out more to clubs.  
- Ryan: Learned how to manage people and money. Improve marketing of grants.
● Gurshabad: Learned time management. Want to get rid of the stigma that SUS is just for SUS.
● Caroline: Why was Beat Your Course a partnership?
● Cathy: How so?
● Caroline: There have been a lot of negative things about them.
● Cathy: Beat Your Course and Princeton Review had an agreement so we would only be able to collaborate with those two.
● Akhil: Is there still executive reports if we already had a year in review?
● Antony: Will vote on in council.
● Akhil: What did the sponsorships result in?
● Akhil: Where was revenue donated to?
● Ryan: Canucks Autism Network. Not sure about the other one.
● Swati: Some committees were new this year (ad hoc), how will you make sure they will continue in the next years?
● Michelle: In that one year, you are given a budget to work with. If you’ve showcased enough work then the incoming team will acknowledge it and continue it on for future years.
● Julia Chai: What was the resolution for the Academic Committee?
● Michelle: The Academic Committee roles will be transferred into Council meetings.
● Jennifer: The structure of Academic Committee already involves all councillors so it’s more convenient.
● Akhil: You asked $500 to be reallocated from Health and Wellness and Mental Health and Advocacy Committee. What happened?
● Jennifer: There is still a surplus in both committees.
● Caroline: What would your suggestions be for lobbying for academic change?
● Jennifer: It’s important to communicate with all stakeholders involved. Lobby with professors and faculty. If you have more support from more students and stakeholders, the lobbying will happen faster.
● Jobina: So what’s going to happen to Creative Committee.
● Gurshabad: No time to codify it this year. It’s up to Deep if he decides to keep it or not.
● Ronan: What was your biggest mistake this year?
● Miguel: The website was hacked and was down for a month. It was difficult to access the documents for transparency purposes. Could have had more preventative measures.
● Jennifer: Didn’t want to approach the issues with Academic Committee so early. Flu Shot clinic was a bad idea.
● Julia: Should have put more influence on Human Resources. Volunteers should have been more integrated into our community.
● Cathy: Should have put more effort into marketing events.
● Antony: After 8 months, still have not been able to reimburse. Check cannot be issued for the stolen property. It was SUS’s liability. Wanted to get students to sign legal waivers in the future.
● Michelle: A lot of miscommunication with SUS Clubs. Put 4 clubs into bad standing. Wanted to put more emphasis on clubs.
Ryan: Didn’t market the grants as well so there’s still money left over. Could be because we were more strict on grants this year.

Gurshabad: Didn’t push for more collaborations with events.

End of Year Budget Report 2017-2018 – Ryan Lou, VP Finance

- Most budget hasn’t been finalized
- Expenses → $235,000
- Revenues → $248,000
- New budget has been uploaded
- Sean: Will the presentation be posten online
- Ryan: Later.
- Akhil: Are the students who lost items be reimbursed?
- Ryan: No. Will update budget.
- Sean: How often did you upload budget onto the website?
- Ryan: 3 times.
- Akhil: Why did we assume liability for the lost items?
- Antony: Had a lot of discussion about it. AMS President did not sign the cheque.

Moved by Sheila, Seconded by Sean.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT time be extended by 10 minutes.”

...MOTION PASSES.

- Akhil: What justifies the SUS would assume liability?
- Antony: It was a unique incident. The waivers were not legally binding. If they were taken to court then it would not stand in court. Have new waivers with the AMS.
- Gurshabad: I took responsibility and that went onto SUS.
- Akhil: Did you take responsibility before or after?
- Gurshabad: Were in the Great Hall → agreed to watch the bags.
- Antony: Consulted all possible stakeholders. Wanted to reach the best possible outcome. Do not feel that they were adequately supported by the AMS so reached out to the Faculty. Not productive for the Society to keep discuss what’s already been done. Have consulted all stakeholders at all stages. It was an isolated incident.
- Akhil: Disagree that this shouldn’t be discussed because $1600 of student fees being used because of someone’s mistakes is a lot. Where from the budget will they be reimbursed?
- Ryan: From the RXN budget and a little bit from the surplus.

Science Undergraduate Society 2018 Spring Elections Results – Iman Moradi and Oliver Jung, SUS Elections Administrators

Note: This presentation will make the unofficial election results become “official.”

- Larger percentage of turnout this year for spring elections than last year → 2%
- Official Results
  - Referendum → greater oversight and accountability over all portfolio account spendings. → been passed
AMS Representatives → Sarah Park
  ■ There will be a by election for the second AMS Representative in Fall
○ VP Academic → Julia Chai
○ VP Administration → Kim Vu
○ VP Communications → Jacob Ng
○ VP External → Haiger Ye
○ VP Finance → Sean Jeong
○ VP Internal → Emma Karlsen
○ VP Student Life → Deep Dhot
○ President → Jennifer Cheng
○ Science Student Senator → Katie Gourlay

● Issues/Concerns
○ Unprofessionalism of current SUS members → sent messages to favour certain candidates
○ Posters → ripping down posters/covering posters of candidates from other constituencies.

● Infractions
○ Gurshabad Singhera → chalked on multiple chalkboards at one time
○ Deep Dhot → exceeded spendings of the budget
  ■ Unit prices must be included even if no money was spent to obtain the items
  ■ Double-postering
● Reminder to all candidates to take down posters
● Ronan: Are we going to do anything about the infractions?
● Oliver: Infractions were informed during voting period. Not much could be done.
● Iman: Contacted candidates and had penalties.
● Daniel: Would you consider removing VP Internal in future years during elections time?
● Iman: Cannot see a way to solve this conflict of interest.

Moved by Sheila, Seconded by Akhil.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT time be extended by 8 minutes.”

...MOTION PASSES...

● Yuming: What are the plans for penalties to infractions in the future?
● Oliver: Were unable to implement infractions sooner.
● Iman: Infractions are reported to us. We did all we could to stop infractions.
● Akhil: There was a 65% average requirement? Where did that come from?
● Julia: Talked to Erin Green. Recommended that academic standing be enforced. Will use better wording for next year → recommended instead of required. Mistake of the wording.
● Akhil: The faculty has no standing in SUS. Students should make a decision themselves on whether they can do the job or not. Why was that put in?
Julia: It’s not exactly in our control about who decides to run. It’s a recommendation because we should be in the best place to represent students because we are students first and foremost. At the end of the day we have no power. It’s a recommendation.

Antony: This conversation has reached the Associate Dean. They brought up that this was to benefit students. Some students may have to reach the stage of failing out of university. More of a benefit than a hindrance.

Daniel: In the AUS, the VP Internal’s role is to only make sure elections happens.

Iman: Julia was not involved as an elections administrator.

Moved by Sheila, Seconded by Jacob.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT time be extended indefinitely.”

MOTION PASSES.

Pooja: Do you have any recommendations on how the elections could be better promoted in future years?

Oliver: We tried our best to employ all channels. We have had a few candidates who haven’t been involved in SUS. Deep is an example.

Iman: This job is not something that can solely rely on marketing.

Julia: There was a candidate who mentioned on his/her post that there was an email that was sent to him/her that he/she had an infraction. Did that happen?

Iman: Yes we sent it. We were trying advise him to have a professional attitude. There was no infraction.

Caroline: AMS recently changed their code for elections. Will SUS do this as well?

Iman: How recent was this?

Pooja: This was implemented right before AMS elections.

Iman: Basically said that everyone has a right to campaign against or for certain candidates and it’s allowed as long as they do not use SUS resources. It was unprofessional and not good practice but there is nothing that says that it could not be done.

Caroline: Are you saying that SUS members can pledge to certain candidates?

Miguel: It’s an internal policy that SUS remains impartial. It’s harder to police personal messaging.

Akhil: For the expenses, did it take into account the website? Did you get receipts?

Iman: Some people didn’t buy things so they didn’t have receipts. Go with the market value.

Akhil: I meant generally.

Oliver: Wanted to have in person conversations with candidates if needed.

Ad-Hoc Committee on Improving Science Student Outreach and Engagement – Daniel Lam, UBC Senator and Earth, Oceans, and Atmospheric Sciences Representative

- Important for us to engage all science students and cliquiness can be a barrier
- Consist of VP Internal, President, HR managers when hired, two councillors, 5 students at large. Chair and Vice chair will be elected among members
- Inspired by the Senate ad hoc committee
● Gives a first step to change

Moved by Akhil, Seconded by Ronan.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT time be extended by 10 minutes.”

...MOTION PASSES.

● Create a framework to solve issues rather than actual solving issues → that will be up to the executives
● Swati: Wouldn’t hiring HR managers and having VP Internal and President be defeating the purpose?
● Daniel: There are a majority of students at large and councillors.
● Michelle: There is a difference in appointing and hiring. Appointing would occur and be voted on in council.
● Julia C: Are you considering to expand the committee to include more student at larges? What are the roles of the HR Managers?
● Daniel: Yes as long as there are productive conversations. As for the HR managers, they are the people doing a lot of volunteer hirings. Hope they can help with creating recommendations that surround the idea of involvement within SUS,
● Nick: You should post this on Reddit.
● Daniel: Yes it was put out there.
● Akhil: How do you plan to appoint the members at larges?
● Daniel: Wanted to appoint them today.
● Miguel: What happened in the AMS and Senate?
● Daniel: Mental Health Framework made in Senate → made to recognize those who struggle with mental health and wellbeing
● Gurshabad: On paper it seems like a very good idea but the issue is that how can you market to people that aren’t associated with SUS?
● Daniel: Tried to market on Facebook groups. Will continue to look at ways.
● Kim: There are people who will want to be involved who aren’t in SUS.
● Pooja: Would this be something we have the VP Internal explore? Otherwise what’s the point in having an internal office?
● Daniel: It’s a good way for students at large to get themselves involved.
● Katie: Committee representation may not be representative of the student population. Would you consider changing the composition?
● Daniel: If it is the will of this council then I can amend the motion.
● Sean: Consider an external party to appoint individuals?
● Daniel: Don’t know how to approach that.
● Sean: Was thinking of getting Science club executives to join in.
● Julia: How will you tackle the inclusivity of SUS?
● Daniel: SUS members will talk to executives on this matter as well. Will be works in the committee and will then talk to executives before final framework is pushed forward.
● Swati: Maybe extend it til the winter to have even first year?
● Nick: Talk to Erin Green and Hansel Wu
Moved by Akhil, Seconded by Amir.

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT this conversation be tabled until July and have this discussion be held by incoming VP Internal and Daniel Lam.”

...MOTION PASSES.

Moved by , Seconded by .

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Improving Science Student Outreach and Engagement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee develop a report of recommendations and a framework regarding the improvement of science student outreach and engagement for the Executive, which will be presented and approved at the last Council meeting before the start of the 2018W session.”

Motivated by:
Debate:
Abstentions:

Moved by , Seconded by .

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council appoint Jennifer Cheng (President-elect), Emma Karlsen (VP Internal elect), ___________, ___________ (2x Councillors), ___________, ___________, ___________, ___________, ___________ (5x Members at large) as voting members to the Ad Hoc Committee on Improving Science Student Outreach and Engagement for a period effective immediately to the dissolution of the Ad Hoc Committee.”

Motivated by:
Debate:
Abstentions:

VII. Executive and AMS Reports

1. President

2. Vice-President, External

3. Vice-President, Internal

4. Vice-President, Academic

5. Vice-President, Administration

6. Vice-President, Communications
VIII. 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 (CMSSA)
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)

IX. Approval of Minutes of Council/Committees

Moved by Jacob, Seconded by Iman.

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following meeting minutes be adopted as presented:

Budget 2018 03 12  Marketing 2018 01 16
CM 2018 03 19  Marketing 2018 01 30
Creative 2018 03 12  Marketing 2018 03 06
FYC 2018 03 06  SciGrad 2018 03 14
FYC 2018 03 13  SSRA 2018 03 24
FYC 2018 03 20  Grants 2018 03 21
Marketing 2017 10 25  SCIWK 2018 09 19
Marketing 2017 11 08  SCIWK 2018 10 03
Marketing 2018 01 09  SCIWK 2018 10 10
From the Science Student Recognition Award Committee:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve Rachel Ho, Shawna Narayan, Jamie Magrill, and Tina Kia as recipients of the SUS Science Student Recognition Awards as decided by the Science Student Recognition Award Adjudication Committee.”

...MOTION PASSES.

X. Executive Committee Motions

XI. Committee Reports and Motions

XII. Other Business and Motions

Moved by:; Seconded by:
“WHEREAS the Society is a constituency under the purview of the AMS,
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council reaffirm its commitment to cultivating unity and goodwill among its members, encouraging free and open debate, respecting differing views, and solving problems constructively, as outlined in the AMS Mission Statement.”
Motivated by:
Debate:
Abstentions:

Moved by:; Seconded by:
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Improving Science Student Outreach and Engagement:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee develop a report of recommendations and a framework regarding the improvement of science student outreach and engagement for the Executive, which will be presented and approved at the last Council meeting before the start of the 2018W session.”
Motivated by:
Debate:
Abstentions:
XIII. Appointments

Moved by Emma, Seconded by Haiger.

“WHEREAS the Society has a vacancy for the elected position of AMS Representative from the 2018 SUS Spring Elections,
WHEREAS the Society will conduct a by-election in September 2018,
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council appoints Amir Moradi to be the Interim AMS Representative for Science at AMS Council, effective May 1, 2018, until the by-election results of the newly elected AMS Representative is adopted by Council in September/October 2018.”

Notes: The Interim AMS Representative is not eligible for the fall by-election. Current councillors will also resign from their Departmental Councillor seat.

Motivated by:

Debate:

Nominations:

- Julia Chai nominates Swati.
- Nicholas nominates himself.
- Julia Chair nominates Amir.
- Amir Accepts.
- Nicholas: Has sufficient experience.
- Amir: Has required experience as well.

Abstentions: Iman Moradi

...MOTION PASSES.

Moved by , Seconded by .

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council appoint Jennifer Cheng (President-elect), Emma Karlsen (VP Internal elect ), __________, __________ (2x Councillors), __________, __________, __________ (5x Members at large) as voting members to the Ad Hoc Committee on Improving Science Student Outreach and Engagement for a period effective immediately to the dissolution of the Ad Hoc Committee.”

Motivated by:

Debate:

Abstentions:

XIV. Discussion Period

- Akhil: Heard inappropriate things from students in SUS meetings. Must make that unacceptable.
- Antony: Something for the incoming team to take note of.

XV. Adjournment

Moved by Jacob, Seconded by Michelle.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 10:02PM.”

...MOTION PASSES.

_________________
Associate Vice President, Administration
UBC Science Undergraduate Society

______________________
Vice President, Administration
UBC Science Undergraduate Society