



THE ARTS UNDERGRADUATE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

## Arts Undergraduate Society Student Council Agenda

**Date and Time:** November 12th, 7:30 pm PT

**Location:** Zoom; **meeting ID:** 822 8973 0097

**A)** Call to order

The meeting was called to order at: 7:40 pm PT

**B)** Speaker's Business & Land Acknowledgement

**C)** Adoption of the agenda

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as presented."

Moved: Yasmine

Seconded: Ria

**D)** Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on October 29th be accepted."

Moved: Yasmine

Seconded: Chelsea

**E)** Membership: Introductions, New Members, Declaration of Vacancies

President - Nealie

VP External - Nibras

VP Internal - Axel

VP Academic - Aadha

VP Engagement - Kana

VP Admin - Peter

VP Finance - Noah

VP Student Life - Chelsea  
Chief AMS Rep - Lawrence  
AMS Rep - Mathew  
AMS Rep - Joshua  
AMS Rep - Carter  
First Year Rep - Hajra  
First Year Rep - Iman  
Second Year Rep - Gina  
Third Year Rep - Lily  
CSSS Rep - Can  
CNERS Rep - Jonathan  
VASA Rep - Jayden  
Soci Rep - Steph  
AHSA Rep - Yasmine  
ESA Rep - Ria  
IRSA Rep - Marcela  
Psychology Rep - Gian  
ASA Rep - Mo  
GSA Rep - Alvin  
MSSA Rep - Naomi  
SALSA rep - Chelsea  
GRSJ Rep - Gabrielle  
Associate Dean Academic - Dr. Stefania Burk  
CTLT - Allyson Rayner  
AUS Designer - Michael Kingsmill  
ASC Chair - Yash  
URO Co-President - Ana  
URO Co-President - Amelia  
Clubs Admin - Elisha  
Speaker - Gahan  
Clerk - Grace

**F) Presentation (max. 10 minutes each)**

**1. Introduction to draft proposal of new BA Breadth Requirements**

- Concerns for Literature, Science, Language requirements:
  - Lack clear rationales
  - Not meaningful for students or clearly integrated into studies



- Admin and student burdens
- Questions
  - Why only literature? What about other specializations?
  - Why so broad as “science?”
  - Language for what end? Why “proficiency”?
  - Where are UBC’s / Faculty of Arts’ priorities and values?

### **DRAFT Recommendations for revisions (18 credits):**

#### Ways of Knowing

- 9 credits
- In one discipline that is categorically distinct from the specialization

#### Language as meaning

- 6 credits
- Approved list of Faculty of Arts options

#### Place and power

- 3 credits
- Approved list of Faculty of Arts options
- BA: 120 credits
- Outside requirement: 60 credits (fewer if double major, honours)
- Most of our students (60%+) have 1 major
  - i.e. 50% of their degree is spent beyond specialization
- Breadth requirements don’t aim at “proficiency” but should provide meaningful entry points into “thematic pathways”
- major/minor combinations
- Other curricular and co-curricular explorations that enhance the BA experience and help make sense of the “whole”

POI (Yasmine): When would these new rules be initiated? Is there an estimated date?

A: Maybe current first year or second year students would see this happening during university. Previous students can still choose to follow the grandfathered requirements. We would like to implement this by Fall 2022. Had hoped for a 2021 start date but was delayed.



POI (Yash): Are these requirements supposed to be completed early on in their degree?

A: There will be no deadline for when you need to finish these requirements.

Motion to extend presentation by 10 minutes.

Moved: Yasmine

Seconded: Mathew

- Motion passes.

Place and Power (3 credits from an approved list of courses):

- Rooted not only in this place (BC)
- Place and power are not just Indigenous issues or minority issues
- Make place and power legible and relevant in curriculum
  - Provide student learning opportunities that connect expressly to some of the most pressing issues of our times

Language as meaning (6 credits):

- Language studies (6 credits) OR Language studies (3 credits) and Comparative language / language sciences (3 credits)
- Ask students to learn in and about a language other than modern English
  - Include ASL and Indigenous and other endangered languages offered at UBC
- Key change: everyone will have to complete this requirement at UBC- there is no “pass” proficiency test

Ways of Knowing (9 credits):

- Help students understand their chosen area of specialization by encountering what lies beyond the approaches and methodologies of the “major”
- At the BA level, students ought to develop a foundation in 2 broad ways of approaching knowledge:
  - Mathematic and Scientific Inquiry
  - Interpretive and creative inquiry
- Students who major in a given discipline will be required to complete 9 credits in a discipline that fall in the other category.

Group 1 - Mathematic and Scientific Inquiry:

ANTH, ARCL, ECON, GEOB/GEOG, LING, MATH, POLI, PSYC, SOCI, COGS, etc.



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Group 2 - Interpretive and creative inquiry:

AHVAT, ASIA, CENES, CNERS, CRWR, ENGL, FHS, FIPR/FIST, FNIS/FNEL, GRSJ, HIST, MUSC, PHIL, THTR, etc

Motion to extend presentation by 10 minutes.

Moved: Yasmine                      Seconded: Mathew

- Motion passes.

**Point of Information** (Nealie): Regarding place and power - why is there not a class dedicated to Indigenous studies? Is there a system to ensure non-Indigenous professors are not reproducing colonial and post-colonial information?

A: Required indigenous course does not work for everyone. Our research does not prove successful. This requirement needs to be supported by the entire faculty. There will be a committee (with faculty and students) dedicated to this that will vet any course on this list and offer training before they engage with the course.

**POI** (Matthew): Will new system affect comparability of transferable credits from high schools?

A: If I remember correctly, AP credits will get transfer credits. It will be more about placing you in the right course. You will also have to appeal for transfer credits to apply to the requirement, but we won't be accepting high school transfer credits for place and power requirements.

**POI** (Yasmine) : For the language requirement, what is the reason behind not being able to opt-out? There will be no proficiency exams?

A: Proficiency exams will be taken if you want to be placed in courses (turning them into placement tests). Reason behind not opting out is because of the way that language shapes the way we make sense of communities and knowledge and things lost in translation... Language is pivotal to knowledge creation and problem solving.

**POI** (Jonathan): Is this in conjunction with UBC Okanagan?

A: No. Okanagan has different resources. It is in consultation with them, but it's not the same.



**POI (Yash):** On the ways of knowing requirements - Minors can be difficult to navigate and could be oversimplified. Do you think there's another way to approach this divide? Maybe for courses that don't fit in either requirements?

A: This is an archaic binary. You're getting a BA, so there's a core commitment for students to spend time in a space that's different from their specialization. There's always a reason for students to appeal.

The proposed list is not finished because some specializations are very interdisciplinary. Not intended to be prescriptive.

- Organizing a town hall?
- Departmental conversations?
  
- Emails for questions: allyson.rayner[at]ubc.ca

## **2. Arts Student Centre naming discussion**

### Suggestions for names:

- Faculty of Arts Student Centre (FASC)
- AUS Student Centre (AUSSC)
  - Sounds limited to AUS, and many students are not connected to AUS

### Council suggestions:

- Something that connects to our mascot?
- The Haus
- coffeehAUS (would be inviting name)
- ~~The Bosque (name taken)~~
- Arts Student Centre
  - Simple, general, welcoming for all Arts students
  
- We don't have an individual donor/singular person who started this project, and all arts students are donors, so it makes sense to name this arts students centre
- Naming motion will go to AMS Council then Dean's Office and Faculty of Arts, then UBC's naming committee

Motion: BIRT that the AUS Council recommends the name "Arts Student Centre" to the AMS Council and for further referral to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

Moved: Yash                      Seconded: Yasmine

**Motion Passes**



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POI (Mathew): Will Mr. Kingsmill be attend the relevant AMS meeting for providing context?

A: Yes.

### **3. Voting for Fourth Year Representative**

- No nominations. Tabled for next meeting.

### **4. Transfer funds from Student Life to Engagement**

- Transfer \$1203 from budget line 452-7083-07 to 452-7300-10
  - \$1203 comes from extra KickStart Money

Motion:

- Transfer \$2707 from budget line 452-7223-19 also to the above
  - \$2707 comes from TGAS because it's unlikely the event won't be happening in-person

POI (Yasmin): Why did the money run out?

Kana: To recognize the AUS pride, we are allocating more money for merchandise as a form of volunteer appreciation for all the folks working hard in council and in the rest of society.

POI (Yasmin): Will we have enough money for an end of year event since \$2703 comes from TGAS?

Chelsea: Yes we will have plenty of surplus for an in-person event per BC-CDC guidelines. Will not be hosting an event in night clubs, might be for in-person.

Motion: Be it resolved that the AUS council approves the movement of \$3,910 CAD from Student Life to Engagement.

Moved: Yasmin Seconded: Aadiya

Motion passes

### **5. Research Grant with Undergraduate Research Organization (URO)**

- **Presented by Co-Presidents: Amelia and Ana**
- Overall, this is a program designed to help undergraduate students develop skills in research with graduate and post-doc students
- There are multiple opportunities: presentation and award opportunity (Specifically Arts Students)
- Developing questions and rubric for research!
- URO execs will be exempted from applying
- Applications will be open on November 30th, applications will end on December 20th



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- There are 2 versions of rubric: empirical and normative, each with different set of requirements
- Contact: [uro.ubc@gmail.com](mailto:uro.ubc@gmail.com) for more details
- Awards might be adjudicated by two clubs together.

Motion to extend presentation by 5 minutes

Moved: Ria Seconded: Iman

Motion passes

**POI (Matthew):** firstly, since things under faculty of Arts things under AUS as econ is under VSEUS

Amelia: Econ students can apply for this reward, but it shouldn't be awarded to just Econ students

**POI (Nealie):** How should we adjudicate this award?

Lawrence: I don't think undergraduate students are equipped to adjudicate this award?

Ana: Most of the research is about student distribution

Ana: Award adjudication is more about the delivery, passion, and contribution to the society.

Nealie: You don't need to be an expert to adjudicate this award, it's more about establishing potential partnership and offering an opportunity for Arts students to participate.

**Motion to extend by 5 minutes**

Moved by Peter Seconded by Matthew

## **G) Committee Appointments**

Tabled until next meeting!

## **H) Executive Reports (max. 5 minutes each)**

**President:** Talked to Laura Moss, let's of enthusiasm from Faculty to work with students.

**Academic:** Going to start marketing Undergraduate Research Organizations. In addition, going to partner with AUS E&I team. Mental health coordinators are now trained.

**Administration**



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**Engagement:** Merch stuff is coming along, now with the budget passed, the project will be going along. Doing more research on shipping merch throughout the world as most members are not in Vancouver. We're now thinking about Arts week as well. The new website published date is until end of December, will update the council on the delay. The current website has enough information. Analytic director is now gathering information to better engage with students on social media.

POI (Jonathan): How can we gather hoodies

**External:** We've worked with the CSI&C on an app for West Coast Career Fair. App is for Arts students to navigate the fair and we have created career related content for Arts students. Philanthropy Submissions for November are open. Closes Nov 18th

**Finance:** No new updates, how are clubs feeling about the November 19th deadline for clubs grant?

Jonathan: A week of extension would be great.

**Internal:** Right now, nothing to report. Re-organizing the team for the meantime.

**Student Life:** In-person collab with the plug got cancelled due to rising COVID cases. Permit for Brushes of Buchanan is approved. There is going to be a collab for building music playlists.

**Chief AMS Representative:** Had an AMS event, UCLU (coalition of student association), this is a nation-wide campaign, lobbying for 2 years grace period for student loan and doubling Canada federal student grants. There was a controversy with AMS events for hosting in-person events.

**Motion:** Be it resolved that the AUS Council accepts all reports other than those already accepted

MOVED: Naomi      SECONDED: Iman

Motion Passes

**I) Senate Report**

- Arts Student Senator report

**J) Departmental Club and Year Representative Reports (max. 2 mins)**

**Anthropology Students' Association (ASA):** There will be a movie night upcoming next week.

**Art History Students' Association (AHSA):** Last salon series for the term tomorrow.



**Classical, Near Eastern, and Religious Studies Student Association (CNERSA):**

There will be a Kahoot night coming up next Tuesday.

**Cognitive Systems Society (CSS):** LSRUC (research conference) submissions open until nov 25 and a guided meditation session on nov 18 at 5:30

**Computer Science Student Society (CSSS)** Will have a pictiary event, brainstorming alumni game night and Q&As.

**English Students' Association (ESA)**

**Geography Students' Association (GSA):** Graduate Student information session, share their experiences as undergraduate students. Still looking for editors to apply for Trailmix Undergraduate Journals.

**History Students Association (HSA):** Absent

**International Relations Students Association (IRSA)**

**Media Studies Student Association (MSSA):** releasing newsletter on November 17th. To accommodate for COVID, we're planning to ship hoodies for students outside of merch and have additional days to distribute merch.

**Political Science Student Association (PSSA)**

**Psychology Student Association (PSA):** Hanging out with the Prof night.

**Speech and Linguistics Student Association (SALSA):** There will be an opportunity to submit research and abstract.

**Sociology Student Association (SSA):** Meeting tomorrow to plan events for the following months

**Undergraduate Association at the Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality and Social Justice (GRSJ):** Hosting an literature event, a short story combined with discussions is now in the work.

**Visual Arts Student Association (VASA):** Releasing second call for submission for visual arts students.

**K)** Committee Reports (max. 5 minutes each)

**L)** Old Business

- **AUS Trivia Night Promo (November 26th)**
- **There will be Among Us Social Night and Trivia night**

**M)** New Business (max. 10 minutes each)

**N)** Supporting Documents



- Arts Undergraduate Class Standing at Graduation - DRAFT proposal v2:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rL0oFcTsLRCFDdw-pbC-lfnT-QB0Sd3a/edit>

**O)** Next Meeting: November 26th, 2020

**P)** Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at: 9:47pm

