



THE ARTS UNDERGRADUATE SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER

Arts Undergraduate Society Student Council Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: February 26, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Location: Michael Kingsmill Forum – Nest

A) Speaker's Business & Land Acknowledgement

B) Call to order and adoption of the agenda: The meeting was called to order at:

19:08

MOVED: Name SECONDED: Name

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.”

C) Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on January 29th, 2018 be accepted.”

MOVED: Noah SECONDED: Mathew

D) Membership: Introductions, New Members, Declaration of Vacancies

Welcome to our new members:

Attendance:

Daniel Speaker of Council

Kat President

Justin VP Academic

Jina VP Admin

Leo CPSC Rep

Eric History Rep Proxy

Tush Elections Administrator

Chelsea SALSA

Yuval Poli Sci

GRSJ Rep

Stefania

Michelle Sociology Rep

Janhvi Psychology Rep

Cassandra English Rep
Visual Arts Proxy
Yasmin Art History
Art History Guest
Cognitive Systems Rep
Nick Geography Rep
Michelle 1st Year Rep
Hannah 4th Year Rep
David CNEERS Rep
Mathew 3rd Year Rep
Noah 2nd Year Rep
Andy AMS Rep
Yash AMS Rep
Kevin AMS Rep
Jocelyn VP Student Life
VP External Proxy
Jerome Chief AMS Rep
Film Studies
Arts Students Senator
Cole AMS Rep
Lucia VP Finance

E) Presentations (max. 10 mins each)

1. Faculty of Arts Academic - Dr Stefania Burke
 - Invited by Justin to talk about renewing the Arts degree requirements (Science, Literature, Language)
 - Language Requirements are 100 years old. Changes would be necessary.
 - We have done environmental scans of 20+ peer institutions, consulted the Arts Advising, reviews, surveys, etc.
 - More active student consultations will be coming next fall
 - 2 possibilities for proposal: take 6 language studies/comparative language studies, OR pair 3 credits of language studies with a variety of language courses (e.g. Spanish & Italian)
 - Over 50% of students at UBC are proficient in foreign languages but they still end up having to take language courses.
 - VP Admin Jina: Took French 11 and stopped because was fed up with all the conjugations. Happy to see changes are being proposed
 - 3rd Year Rep Mathew: Making students learn languages other than languages may have an influence on international students' enrolments into UBC.
 - Dr Burke: We are working on developing bilingual courses. For example, the research may require to be in Mandarin but the actual paper may be required to be written in English.
 - Michelle 1st Year Rep: This will be a positive change for Arts students. What is the general timeline like?
 - Dr Burke: We are working to bring it by 2021.
 - Yash AMS Rep: To what level are the students involved in the entire project?

- Dr Burke: This project was actually motivated by students since 3 years ago. They have appealed and voiced out their opinions.

MOTION to extend time by 6 minutes.

MOTION passes.

- Dr Burke: Surveys were also carried out by language departments towards the students. We are looking for ways to better engage with them.
- Kevin AMS Rep: Just to confirm, will this be removing the Grade 12 requirements? Personally, I took up to Mandarin 11. I grew up in Canada, moved here when I was 2. My high school grade equivalency did not prepare me for the university-level Mandarin.
- Dr Burke: For placement issues, Mandarin 11 could be seen as a head start. Having done some of it would give some benefit. The new program will provide options for students in different pathways
- Kevin AMS Rep: If the department says no to the appeals of the placements (e.g. lack of proficiency but placed in a high level) how do we cope with it?
- Dr Burke: Bring it up to the Dean.
- Film Studies Rep: How about the languages/practices of the Indigenous people? Have you guys had further requirements of the Science requirements?
- Dr Burke: We are looking into it (bringing in languages of the Indigenous people)

MOTION to extend time by 5 minutes.

MOTION passes.

- Dr Burke: I will be happy to discuss the science credits with you further.
- Yash: Transfer credits usable?
- Dr Burke: Yes.
- Justin VP Academic: I am taking a literature course translated from other languages. Will it also be considered as a language course?
- Dr Burke: No. Current Literature courses will not count.
- Dr Burke: For Science requirements, the topic of science science is too vague. That took us a year to try to figure it out. The notion of "knowing" is very broad. Our requirements differ for every other major. A lot more research and consultations are needed and we are currently working towards it.

2. Executive Positions Proposal

- Currently there are 7 executive positions under the president.
- Administration is in charge of a lot of things compared to other executive positions - sustainability just got added, Arts Students' Centre also needs a lot of time.
- If it is a hired position - it makes it easier to resign because you are not held accountable, you cannot vote in Council.
- Communications is solely a production team right now.
- One solution is to create a new VP: VP Internal. He/she will look more at clubs administration, internal socials, we are also looking for a hiring manager to give new members a look into AUS.
- Another solution is to have is VP Engagement: brand management, making communications easier internally. It is easy to pump out information but difficult to get feedback so VP Engagement will help out in that.
- Making it 9 executive members including the president in the year 2019-2020.

- Matthew: It might better to have VP Engagement to be a mentorship role.
- Kat: We want the positions to be embedded into the portfolios.
- Andy: Since we are giving human resources to the VP Internal, we should have a separate hiring policy for this role. I would encourage the governance committee to create a standardized policy to encourage inclusiveness.
- Kevin (AMS Rep): Lucia did briefly mentioned about having Finance representatives for each committee as well.
- Kat: We are looking for a similar model for our sustainability team.

MOTION to extend time by 5 minutes.

MOTION passes.

- Yash AMS Rep: Kevin and I were talking about the Chief AMS Rep position. The arts caucus exists to keep things countable. What we had in mind was that we changed that to a rotating position. The question I had was what was our plan in advertising new upcoming positions?
- Kat: It starts soon. I was hoping to give this presentation 2 weeks ago, it is a concern. We are going to push more for the new roles. VP Communications role will not have any issues finding a new member because social media interests everyone. I believe struggles lie on the Internal. We will try to make it sound like an exciting job, which it actually is for the ads. I do not want to say no to it because exec cohesion is a problem already as it stands thus having a new person every month worries me. We are 9 months into this positions and we still have disagreements. However I am open for any ideas. For this upcoming election, Code will have to be changed for that case.
- Chelsea SALSA Rep: I like the idea of adding/changing positions in the AUS. Would the implementation of VP Engagement overlap with VP Student Life? There is already an outreach team in VP Student Life.

MOTION to extend time by 5 minutes.

MOTION passes.

- Kat: Jocelyn actually mentioned that it could be an upcoming problem. I say that both can exist as separate entities. WHAT I saw this year that everything was thrown to outreach even though there were already a lot of social engagements with Student Life. They will still have an Outreach Team that deals with small social events but VP Engagement will act like a funnel for common questions: how do I get an Arts student engaged in the AUS? It will be helpful to actually have an outreach team who is more focused on data (e.g. Facebook/Instagram being the most effective means of engagement)
- Kevin (VP Academic): Chief AMS Rep Position will be helpful because they will inform us more with what AMS does. If we had to split it up it will not actually make a lot of difference.
- Kat: Being an AMS Representative on top of being a president will be too much work.
- Cole AMS Rep: President of SUS has expressed multiple times she wishes she did not have to sit in AMS Council because it take up too much time. You are expected to read Code and go through a bunch of documents.

MOTION to end debate.

MOTION does not pass.

MOTION to exhaust speakers' list.

MOTION passes.

- Matthias Arts Students Senate: I have seen first hand the amount of effort put into this. I would encourage everyone to move this to other week.
 - Mathew 3rd Year Rep: Chief AMS Rep will be the most experienced one to mentor AMS Reps. I see Chief AMS Rep as another position and I do not think rotating positions would make sense. I am confused about VP Academic needing to handle conference grants because it seems like a VP Finance's job.
 - Kat: I see Finance being bombarded with other types of issues thus I wanted to spread out the work evenly among the executives. I wanted Mental Health team to be another department.
 - Kevin AMS Rep: In such a system, it will still be possible to have that Chief AMS Rep as the most experienced. Yet, we could still implement a rotating system who would keep things accountable. Keep in mind that the role of presidency is very multi-task. Both Yash and I see no harm in having rotating AMS Reps who keep the entire caucus informed.
3. Annual Community Student Expression
- Kat: SEEDS Project! We are trying to make our Arts community more fun because who likes being in Buchanan
 - Downtown Alley (Pink Alley) will not have any attention if it was not as interesting.
 - Carleton University has annual events where students paint blank walls on campus.
 - The pillars in Buchanan could be painted.
 - 64 competitors, winners get a pillar to paint.
 - The cost is being partially funded by SEEDS and Dean.
 - April is the goal to have its first pillar painted. It will be repainted in September by whoever applied to paint.
 - Big thing we are looking for funding: for the initial year, AUS has to pay about \$1001 and about \$4600 yearly if we decide to go with it. Excel spreadsheet available for breakdowns as well.
 - Jerome Chief AMS Rep: I am for this idea. The Council two years from now does not agree with this. Will it never be painted again?
 - Kat: Yes.
 - Mathew 3rd Year Rep: I am for this idea. If it is going to be a competition, I hope that let's say Sociology will be in one team which reflects the diversity in Arts.
 - Kat: I completely agree with that. Reaching out to a lot of students right now is not very desirable. This is why we are giving you guys a chance first to have a pillar.
 - Matthias Arts Student Senate: I am for this idea. However, I do not think I should be painting on a pillar; Visual Arts should. What are we doing to ensure that people like me are not painting on pillars?
 - Kat: We will have competitions. Each year there will be a separate theme and everyone will hand out their drafts. However we do encourage students from any major to participate.
 - Michelle Sociology Rep: It is a great project that incorporates different majors in Arts. Where does the \$4600 yearly go to? Is this competition a yearly thing?

MOTION to extend time by 5 minutes.

MOTION passes.

- Kat: There will be a painting party and anti-graffiti coding. The pillar has to be painted white twice a year as well. The \$4600 does not have prizes counted in yet, so it may increase. There are a lot of on-campus funding opportunities who are willing to fund. It will be up to us to reach out and ask for funding. The competition is a yearly thing.
- Cole AMS Rep: How much is the faculty of Arts contributing to the project?
- Kat: I do not have the exact number but the faculty of Arts has agreed to commit for this year. The total number they wanted was \$4734.
- Cole (AMS Rep): It is a fantastic project, my concern is that this is not our building but Arts. I wanted to know how much Arts is contributing.
- Yash (AMS Rep): What is the funding bottom of the Finances slide?
- Kat: we automatically get the funding from SEEDS. It is a one-time thing.

MOTION to extend time for 1 minute.

MOTION passes.

- Chelsea (SALSA Rep): Since this is a very big project, how are we planning to reach out the the Arts students for the project?
- Kat: We will not to reach out for this year if we do get enough people. Our plan in September is to start talking to the AUS. We have 4 months to plan out for September.

- AUS Elections
- Elections Administrator: We were going to start yesterday but we were not able to get the elections handbook passed because council was cancelled. I could extend the period, but we have recently figured out that we need to have 4 weeks between end of nominations and voting period. Which means that if i end on the 8th (beginning of campaigning period), I need 4 weeks. We have a bit of a time constraint. We plan to start nominating period tomorrow, it will be not 10 business days (change of code needed) and we will be able to end on the 8th.
- Elections Administrator: Voting period starts on the 18th and 3 week voting period will be done. I ask that we suspend that one line of Code that requires 10 business days. This will also affect Arts Student Senate race.
- Kat: We will also need to suspend the Code which says Elections cannot start until certain date?
- Cole (AMS Rep): No, I believe it was 23rd or something to allow enough voting time before April starts.
- Matthias (Arts Student Senate): Could you clarify how Senate race will run?
- EA: 4 weeks needed end of nominations and voting period. The nominations end on the 8th, and senate will end on the 5th. There is no way we can end any later on the 5th. That is why I am asking to suspend that one line of code. With senate elections we do the same thing as general elections.
- Andy (AMS Rep): I will like to ask if campaign period would overlap with any substantial events.
- EA: AMS Election had a lot of changes. So far there have not been.
- Andy (AMS Rep): When does campaign period start?
- EA: Saturday, S
- Andy: The first week of voting period will coincide with voting period of AMS elections.

MOTION to extend time by 10 minutes.

MOTION passes.

- By that time AMS elections will be stretching into 3 weeks. Also because we are separating two separate ballots, this might have some impact turnouts. We have lower turnouts than the AMS. I do not know how much we can expect to lower our expectations, I am asking to combine into two ballots and lay the week.
- The final voting week of the AMS Elections will start March 11-15. Close nominations on the 8th. I am asking if we could just delay the campaign period till the 18th and just let it run for 2 weeks and have the 2nd week as the voting week. Senate and the others should have the same ballot and period.
- EA: Are you proposing that I run a voting period from the 1st until the 5th for the combined ballot for arts student senator and everyone else and end on the 8th and give everyone 3 weeks of campaigning period?
- Andy: Yes
- EA: The end of the semester people are not paying attention to the happenings of the AMS. We are also having physical booths and giving out candy for people to vote. All of you wanted candidates confirmed earlier so that you could have an orientation period and start working immediately and have a useful summer. If I end on the 5th which is the last day of classes I am not sure how you could pass a new exec body etc.
- Matthias: Have you discussed this with the university? Traditionally, the student senators term starts on the April 1st. They need different ballots because they are not the same.
- EA: I have spoken to the university about that. For the past 4 years the entire university have been breaking the provincial law because we did not know that it was supposed to be 4 weeks. I have spoken to the Elections Officer and she says it should be fine with 3 weeks.
- Matthias: When would the term of the ARts Student Senator begin?
- EA: I do not know yet.
- Matthias: My term runs until the March 31st.
- EA: I will get back to you.
- Kevin (AMS Rep): If the concern here is voter turnout, we can have two different ballots.
- EA: I agree, however we use SimplyVoting for our voting system thus I cannot create a different ballot because double-counting might happen. I can segregate what kind of options people see. By the system that we run, separate ballot is not possible.

MOTION to extend time by 10 minutes.

MOTION passes.

- Cole (AMS Rep): We should not bend over backwards to make their elections have negative impact on us. Is there a possibility that we can have a shorter nomination periods for the Arts Student Senator? Like a 3 day nomination period?
- EA: I would be apprehensive about that because that does not allow for democratic institutions to exist. We had a Snow Day as well which delayed some of the process.
- Cole: I think whatever solution we pick, we should think about AUS positions first and then worry about the Arts Student Senate elections. We should not accommodate elections outside the AUS. Arts Student Senate election is UBC's election.

MOTION to end discussion.

MOTION does not pass.

- Andy (AMS Rep): We should get more input from Matthias.

MOTION to exhaust speakers' list.

MOTION passes.

- Kat: This issue has been brought about by both AMS and AUS.
- Mathew (3rd Year Rep): I would like to ask the EA if it would be possible to separate Senator elections and AUS elections.
- EA: We already have two elections going by. We could possibly do one thing. I thought of creating two separate ballots and it will essentially be two but they will also overlap.
- Matthias (Arts Student Senate): I agree that this is the best case scenario: I do not agree with the 3-day nominations period which de-legitimizes the situation. The starting date of the position should be discussed. You should serve until the date of appointment, and until someone new comes. I would also be curious to know is that are you able to run two elections simultaneously?
- EA: I do not think that should be a problem. E-mail me and I will pass it onto the elections officer who knows more about the subject. I have office hours 1-3 on Wednesdays and Fridays.

MOTION to extend Council time by 30 minutes,

MOTION does not pass.

MOTION to extend time till we vote on this issue.

MOTION passes.

H) Old Business

I) New Business (max. 10 minutes each)

- Kat: We can send you an updated Code and do an Online vote.
- Andy (AMS Rep): Why not put an e-mail vote?
- EA: If you decide to add the nominations now, it can be added.
- Yash AMS Rep: How are you going to put the positions in a ballot if they do not exist?
- EA: It does not exist in the candidates' handbook at all, those people will be added in the nominations form that I put out by midnight.
- Mathew (3rd Year Rep): That nominations Arts Senate Student opens first and sort of extend the nomination time for others and have the elections end on the same day as AUS positions.
- EA: That is not possible. We have already done catering orders and room bookings according to the initial period.
- Andy (AMS Rep): Can someone motion to vote by tonight? Can we write down something by tonight?

MOTION to table the current motion temporarily.

MOTION passes.

MOTION to recess for 5 minutes.

MOTION passes.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT council amends the Code of Procedures to add to Chapter IV:

Article 15) VP Engagement

l) job description pending further approval by council.

Article 16) VP Internal

l) Job description pending further approval by council.

1. Elections Handbook Approval

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Elections Handbook be approved as presented.”

MOTION to add Council suspends Chapter VII, Article 2, section (A), Subsection 1 and Chapter VII Article 4 section (a) in order to allow elections to determine time and duration of the official campaign period.

MOTION passes.

MOVED: Name

SECONDED: Name

F) Committee Reports (max. 5 minutes each)

1. Executive Committee
2. External Committee
3. Finance Committee
4. Academic Committee
5. Administrative Committee
6. Student Life Committee
7. AMS Arts Caucus
8. Senate Report
9. Arts Student Centre Planning and Execution
10. First Year Committee
11. Governance Committee

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

J) Supporting Documents

AUS Council Minutes – January 29, 2019

Executive Positions Proposal 2019-2020

Annual Community Student Expression

General Elections Handbook – Last Edited: February 8, 2019

K) Next Meeting
March 12th, 2019

L) Adjournment
MOVED: Name
That the meeting be adjourned at 21:28 .