

# Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 13, 2014 at 6:30 P.M.

Henry Angus Building, Room 335

**Note:** Meetings are open to the General Membership of the Society Unless Otherwise Deemed In-Camera

**Note:** presentations and/or proposed motions from parties other than the members of the Board of Directors should be requested to be included on the agenda at least five (5) days in advance of a meeting by contacting the Chair, Cole Leonoff, at [chairperson@cus.ca](mailto:chairperson@cus.ca) – materials received past this point may be considered for the subsequent meeting's agenda at the Chair's discretion.



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## A. Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 6:41PM.

- I. Attendance and Confirmation of Quorum
- II. Amendments to and Approval of the Agenda

*Moved: Lauren | Seconded: Harpal*

1.

*Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted as presented.*

*In favour: all  
Opposed: none  
Abstentions: none  
...the motion carries.*

## B. Membership: Introductions, New Members, Declaration of Vacancies

1. There were a brief round of introductions for the guests in the room who may not have been familiar with all the Board members and Executives

## C. Chair's Remarks

None.

## D. Presentations to the Board of Directors

- I. Campus AmbaSauder Program
  1. Matthew Kan is presenting on behalf of the Campus AmbaSauder Program (CAP)
  2. The purpose of the presentation was in regards to the presentation and slide deck that will be featured in the CAP presentations to High School students across the Lower Mainland; Matthew went through each slide in detail and then opened the floor to questions and comments
  3. The majority of the discussion, highlighted below, focused on suggestions for further improvements of the slide deck and presentation

Questions/Discussion:

- Murat: You spoke about the Co-op and I think you should add statistics about the number of students receiving jobs after Co-op because they are extremely impressive.
- Vanessa: I think you should also mention the acceptance rate, as the people attending are those who have already applied to Sauder.
- Julian: You could also mention the employment rates for Co-Op students and other students after they graduate because the numbers are generally good even if they do not do Co-op.
- Vanessa: You could also include some of the programs that Sauder offers, such as the PMF Program.
- Christopher: Potentially we could add a video showing Sauder life in terms of what goes on like networking and events.
- Julian: Regarding the Entrepreneurship option, also add more information about it.
- Lauren: Could mention something about UBC Rec and other opportunities outside of Sauder. There is a lot to do outside of Sauder at UBC as well.
- Vanessa: Greek life could be something to include, as well.
- Casey: You could include the conferences and clubs that we have to offer here at Sauder and how people can attend, as well as get involved in planning them.
- Alex: Showing emphasis on the CUS budget, which is 1.2 million dollars a year. Other societies, such as Queen's business society have a much lower student society budget.
- Matthew: Thank you for all of your feedback.

## E. AMS Representatives' Report

1. Block Party will be happening this year
2. There is an upcoming transit referendum and the AMS is taking a "yes" stance
3. The new SUB will open around the end of March; unsure what will happen with the old SUB after the new SUB

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4. The university gave Safe Walk a prius car and this will cut down on some fees
5. There is a deficit for the AMS this year partly due to the delays in the SUB; using the car has been much more effective than walking

Questions:

- Casey: Can you explain the transit referendum in more detail?
  - Lauren: That is a “yes” stance on encouraging the government to build a rapid transit line to UBC.
  - Cole: It is not an AMS referendum but the AMS is supporting it.

## F. Commerce Student Senator's Report

1. Missed the December Senate meeting due to an exam
2. UBC's most recent audited financial statements have come out; people can now view them
3. In the November meeting, President Gupta spoke extensively about the international tuition increase and stated that it is necessary to maintain UBC's position as a top university
4. There has been a revision in the requirements for Vantage College; it was required in the past that students must pass the English proficiency exam in order to be considered UBC students but this has now be changed and students will be allowed to continue with their studies at UBC so long as they receive an introductory English class grade of above 60%
5. Not necessarily regarding the Senate but the CUS did release the results of the survey that Sauder students responded to regarding the tuition and housing increases

Questions:

- Casey: Has the international tuition increase been passed?
  - Cole: Yes, to the best of my understanding the Board of Governors passed the tuition increases. I do not have the exact results at this time though.
  - Braeden: To clarify, this only affects incoming international students.
  - Cole: Yes, current international students are not affected by the tuition increase and only will be subject to the traditional yearly tuition increases.

## G. Ombudsperson's Report

1. Will be posting the Office Hours for this term on the next CUSunday
2. Have been receiving many JDC West emails and have been handling those accordingly
3. Replacing Thea on the Mental Health Network until the end of my term as Ombudsperson

## H. Executive Reports

### I. President

1. The major motions to go through Executive Council since the last Board meeting were the approval of Party Well and the CLC funding for new equipment; Social Enterprise Club pending proposal for their conference
2. Before the winter break, there were many consultations regarding the tuition increases; several of these were with the other constituency presidents, as well as UBC Professors and Comptroller
3. Program review in the coming years for international tuition increases; will begin over the next few months and will most likely last into 2016
4. Orientation discussions are on-going; been meeting with the orientation committee from the AMS and the CUS' contribution to the report is small because we did not run an orientation this year
5. Two of the Executives, Thea and Hannah, are out of province for the 2nd semester; office hours have been posted on the office doors
6. Revaluation of Policy 71 regarding the consultation of any tuition increases; hopefully there will be more consultations in the near future

Question:

- Julian: What exactly does the program review mean? Will some programs become more expensive or difficult to enter?
  - Niloufar: It is a faculty by faculty review not program by program. So, Sauder as a whole not Finance vs. Accounting.
  - Cole: We do not even have the capability with the current system to adjust prices for different credits within a faculty at this time.

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## II. Vice-President, Academic Affairs

1. Over the past few months, Thea has held seats on various committees and attended those meetings; such as the BCom Governance Committee, among others
2. Have been working with Kin Lo regarding the reimbursement procedure for international case competitions this year and how it should be processed in the future
3. JDC West was a focus during the month of December; given the issues surrounding JDC West, this will not be elaborated upon
4. ExCo has received an amazing response rate this term and looks as though they will spend the whole budget, which has not historically occurred
5. CMP is hiring a new tutor
6. Class Liaison Director posted an appreciation piece for all the Class Liaisons in the Cavalier; it was well done
7. CCC has some of their larger events this term including Premier 32

## III. Vice-President, External Affairs

1. Me Inc. has done very well in the past month as they only need to confirm a couple workshop speakers and one keynote at this point; everything and everyone else has been confirmed
2. EMP will be having their event in collaboration with BCIT ; they will also be hosting another charity event this term, as the one last term was very successful
3. A couple members of the CR team have been assigned to follow-up with conferences to ensure that all of them are completed the CPA sponsorship requirements outlined in the agreement; CR is also working out a sponsorship deal with the Vancouver Whitecaps that will include tickets, as well as potentially a CUS night
4. Imprint is concerned about finding another keynote that will captivate their audience; will be working with them to find another keynote but besides that they are on-track with their speakers

## IV. Vice-President, Finance

1. There was a backlog last semester of reimbursements at the AMS office; hopefully that will decrease and people will receive their reimbursements
2. Still trying to work through outstanding JDC West financial issues; specifically the apparel invoice
3. Working to send out cash prizes for NSCC but hopefully this will occur shortly
4. Mid-year report has been published; not necessarily the best representation due to the events that occur in 2nd semester and have not purchased everything at this point

Questions:

- Casey: Have the clubs received their funding?
  - Niloufar: As far as I know, the clubs all have received their fixed subsidy and this was sent out months ago. The person by person subsidy is sent out at the end of the year.

## V. Vice-President, Internal Affairs

1. AVPI is doing a good job handling all the locker requests and other tasks
2. Awards Night will be a Casino theme this year with poker tables; the Hillel House contract is going through the AMS procedure
3. Contacted the school about the possibility about future sustainability efforts within Sauder
4. Elections are getting ready for the Board of Directors election later this month; they reached out to Vanessa for advice on the marketing plan
5. The CLC sent feedback regarding the number of people in the CLC during the extended Friday hours; they were impressed that over 60 people were in the CLC at closing during the first Friday and will consider staying open later for the next exam session
6. Will be receiving a key to the CUS Boardroom; one person must be responsible for the key
7. Due to the Sauder building users committee fund being approximately \$10,000, there is the possibility of purchasing and installing screens in the breakout rooms in Birmingham

## VI. Vice-President, Marketing and Communications

1. Sauder Squad has one major event left, which is Valentine's Day; they will sending out Candy Grams by boothing and allowing students to come purchase them
2. Possibility for POITS and Sustainability collaborating on St. Patrick's Day; Wally the Bull might make an appearance

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3. Have been working on Awards Night on their marketing plan; the promotional plan will be creating videos with all the clubs presidents
4. CAP had their presentation tonight; message Vanessa if you have any more suggestions for Matthew and she will forward them to him
5. Visual Media is still having issues with their equipment inventory; will be considering the CLC storing option
6. Wendy is doing a great job as AVPM; she is working hard on the social media channels
7. Cavalier had a successful edition in January; it was really well done and they also handed out Menchies with the January edition

**VII. Vice-President, Student Engagement**  
None.

## **I. Committee Reports**

## **J. Amendments to and Approval of Minutes**

### **I. Minutes**

*Moved: Julian | Seconded: Alexander*

2.

*Be it resolved that the Board of Directors approve its minutes dated October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014, November 18<sup>th</sup> 2014, and December 18<sup>th</sup> 2014.*

Discussion:

- Casey: How do you decide what exactly to put in the minutes because I saw that there were some parts that were left out.
  - Braeden: It is a judgment call but I try to keep most of the minutes close to verbatim. That being said, when I listen to the whole minutes again on the recording, I find that there are redundancies in the discussions at times. For example, in the November 18th meeting, which was a 6.5 hour meeting, there is repetition, thus I do not see that as being material information that should be included. For the most part, I try to encapsulate the point that the individual is attempting to make to the best of my ability. Hopefully, that answers your question but I do not leave anything out that is material.
  - Cole: For clarity, I do not see minutes that are verbatim besides the U.S. Federal Reserve. The UBC Senate is as close as we get at UBC and most of the discussion there are still summarized. I believe we produce extensive minutes compared to other undergraduate societies but if anyone feels as though there was anything excluding, bring that to our attention now.
  - Braeden: Do not hesitate to contact me later tonight or tomorrow if you find any grammatical errors, as I was up late finishing the last set for tonight's meeting.

*In favour: all  
Opposed: none  
Abstentions: none  
...the motion carries.*

**K. Business Arising from the Service Council**  
None.

**L. Business Arising from the Executive Council**  
None.

**M. Business Arising from the Committees of the Board of Directors**  
None.

**N. Other Business**  
**I. Constitutional Amendments**

*Moved: Alexander | Seconded: Niloufar*

3.

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***Be it resolved that a referendum be called by the Board of Directors to amend the Society's Constitution as presented.***

## Discussion:

- Cole: There are three main areas that are being requested to be changed, as well as a few miscellaneous grammatical changes. The first being the prohibition of being a president of a CUS club while serving on the Board or Executive Council but it has been suggested that this be removed. The new statement that is being suggested goes as the following “that the members of the Board of Directors show professional judgment when voting on or discussing matters that could be viewed as not being independent or impartial and such members will inform the Chair...”. The idea is to make sure that Board members identify when they are not independent on particular issues and this also addresses any questions surrounding past selective exemptions of the prohibition. The second, is in regards to reducing quorum from 2/3rds to 60%, as 2/3rds is a high number compared to other entities and it is a strange number. Finally, there is a suggested change of the turnover from the first Monday in May to the first Monday in April because this will allow the new Board to meet before individuals leave for their summer jobs or homes. This would mean that this year's transition date would be the first Monday in April if approved. I will open the floor to any questions, discussion, or suggested amendments at this time.
  - Casey: How about the ternary reports?
  - Cole: “All members of the Executive Council shall provide ternary reports to the Board three times a year”.
  - Ben: I spent a good deal of time writing my report. I would potentially suggest doing it a couple times a year. Is this there a reason why we do it three times a year?
  - Cole: This has been the standard. I understand that these can become cumbersome. It could potentially be a paragraph before each Board meeting as an update. This could be a middle ground, as I find that to be valuable. I propose that as a comment.
  - Niloufar: I think it is better not to remove that term entirely because if it is removed then there is no incentive to write transition reports, which are very important. I think we should leave it as it is but have this discussion with the new Executives after they have done their transition. I think these leaves the flexibility for them to decide what they want to do. The three reports are the minimum due to the three phases being the summer, school year, and turnover. I think leaving it the way it is will be good as I think records are important.
  - Casey: Is there a point if people do not follow the obligations because I feel like there is no power.
  - Cole: The Board does have the ability to fire the Executives, so that does create power. That being said, the Board members can only be removed of their duties if there was a referendum from another Board member to do so. That could be a discussion of how this could be changed but the President and AMS Reps need to be filled under the Society Act. We can open discussion on this if any of you would like.
- Niloufar: You mentioned that someone must come forward if it was a reasonable conflict. How are we defining the extent to which the scale of reasonableness is implemented. We do not define the conflict of interest in the CUS specifically.
  - Cole: I shy away from making a list of positions and situations where there is a conflict of interest because they make the documents inflexible and hard to comprehend at times. I would rather the constitution have a more sweeping approach because I do not see how we would realistically state all the instances that there is a conflict.
  - Niloufar: I would define a conflict of interest, given that we do not have one ourselves, as the AMS' conflict of interest and what they have stated is quite narrow.
  - Cole: I did not use the term “conflict of interest” but rather independence. Being independent meaning that you have no association with that group. I think it is important that the Chair be aware of any conflicts of independence but this is up to their discretion at that point.
  - Niloufar: Should there be a requirement that the Chair have no association and be completed impartial? I do not see this as being feasible given that it would be hard to find someone qualified but have no association with other clubs and services.
  - Cole: That is fair. The Chair would act as the messenger to the entire Board of Directors. That could potentially help alleviate that issue but it is never ideal. The key point is that people should be accountable.
  - Murat: What if the person is in the service and thus notifies the Board of Directors and then the Board decides if this person is independent or not, or have a vote or not.
  - Rachel: I think the member of the Board should state to the rest of the Board that they are, for

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- example, a representative for such-and-such club.
- Cole: Yes, it could be said that under such circumstances individuals will inform the Board of any such conflicts. There is no clear process on how to stop someone from voting and that is something that I have stayed away from because denying an individual to vote is an extremely tricky situation and one that I do not want to get into. If there is any other discussion on the referendum, please state that now.

*In favour: all  
Opposed: none  
Abstentions: none  
...the motion carries.*

## II. Referendum Position

**Moved: Julian | Seconded: Alexander**

4.

**Be it resolved that the Board of Directors adopt a “yes” position on the previously called referendum.**

- Note: Requires two-thirds (2/3<sup>rds</sup>).

*In favour: all  
Opposed: none  
Abstentions: none  
...the motion carries.*

## O. Discussion

## P. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors shall be: TBA.

## Q. Adjournment

**Moved: Niloufar | Seconded: Murat**

5.

**There being no further business, be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:02PM.**

*In favour: all  
Opposed: none  
Abstentions: none  
...the motion carries.*

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## CUS Attendance:

Name	Position	Present (“X”)	Late (Time)	Proxy (Name)
<b>Board of Directors</b>				
Niloufar Keshmiri	President	X		
Cole Leonoff	Commerce Student Senator (Chair)	X		
Lauren Telford	Alma Mater Society Representative	X		
Vadim Chernenko	Alma Mater Society Representative	X		
Julian Ertelt	Fourth Year Representative	X		
Harpal Kandola	Fourth Year Representative (Vice-Chair)	X		
Casey Chen	Third Year Representative	X		
Murat Suyumbayev	Third Year Representative	X		
Christopher Heathcote-Rey	Second Year Representative	X		
Alexander Lee	Second Year Representative	X		
Rachel Chan	First Year Representative	X		
James Lau	First Year Representative	X		
Grace Kim	Ombudsperson	X		—
<b>Executive Council</b>				
Thea Simpson	Vice-President, Academic Affairs	X (Via Skype)		—
Ben Gardiner	Vice-President, External Affairs	X		—
Jordan Hearne	Vice-President, Finance	X	(7:28PM)	—
Hannah Vandenberg	Vice-President, Internal Affairs			—
Will Pigott	Vice-President, Student Engagement			—
Vanessa Lau	Vice-President, Marketing and Communications	X		—
<b>Other</b>				
Braeden Elsaesser	Administrative Director	X		—
Kellyanne Yep	Public Relations Director			—

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## Guests:

Name	Affiliation	Present ("X")	Late ("X")	Notes
<b>Invited</b>				
Matthew Kan	Campus AmbaSauder Program Chair	X		
<b>Other</b>				
Debbie Pai	2nd Year BCom Student	X		
Ryan Savio Crasta	1st Year BCom Student	X		