

Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 11th, 2014 at 7:00 P.M.

Henry Angus Building, CUS Boardroom

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

Note: Presentations and/or proposed motions should be requested to be on the agenda at least three (3) days prior to a meeting by contacting the Administrative Director, Braeden Elsaesser, at Braeden.Elsaesser@cus.ca - materials received past this point may be considered for the subsequent meeting's agenda at the Administrative Director's discretion.



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A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:15PM.

B. Amendments to and Adoption of the Agenda

Moved: Will | Seconded: Ben

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

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

C. Presentations to the Executive Council

1. Strategy Consulting Initiative (at 7:15PM)

1. Clarisse and Yong presenting from Strategy Consulting Initiative; requesting \$3,000 from the CUS
2. SCI offers pro-bono consulting services for businesses run by UBC students; Sauder students included
3. Each team of students has a mentor from the business; students gain exposure to real consulting work
4. The mentors will review the students' work and will offer jobs if the work is done well
5. A benefit for Sauder students is that the firms hire directly from the participants; built strong relationships with the firms over the past four years
6. Pro-bono services are provided for both multi-national companies and non-profits; provide a variety of consulting work
7. 40% of participants end up working in the consulting field; building an alumni network
8. The \$3,000 (80% of total costs) will cover events, training, and workshop costs; primarily food, beverages, and gifts
9. An estimated amount of 25 CUS students results in a total of \$120 per student

Questions:

- Jordan: I see the total program cost at \$3,400, you say that you are exploring other sources of funding but essentially we are funding the whole program. I see the value but I am just wondering why you cannot branch out.
 - Clarence: We do not ask for money from our consulting partners, they send mentors to help us.
 - Yong: Firms sometimes pay to fly a consultant out, so we are just happy to have them at the workshops and events.
- Nil: You have \$3,400 in expenses and you will receive revenue from student fees. With the projection of \$900 in revenue, you would be working with a surplus even adding in the buffer. I am curious as to why that does not match.
 - Yong: Last year we were going to pay a \$800 flight fare but the organization ended up paying for it. But that is why we want to have the buffer. This year we do not have funding from any other source yet.
 - Clarence: We only decide on the amount we actually charge at the end of the funding because it is used to cover whatever costs are not covered via funding.
- Nil: If that number is somewhat arbitrary, how much do you think the project is worth for a student?
 - Clarence: That is a very difficult question to answer. Everyone takes something different out of the program.
- Jordan: To rephrase the question, what is the market value of the initiative?
 - Yong: Doing some calculations, if one person gets an annual salary of \$1 million multiplied by 5 and divided by 30, you can see that it will be worth much more than the prices we are asking for.
 - Clarence: Normally we have 7 events plus workshops that consultants attend, so I would say it is worth \$100 per session.

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- Jordan: If it's worth so much, then I do not get the free floating fee. I would like it if you could send a revenue breakdown after the meeting just so we can see where the dollars are going in terms of the gap.
 - Clarence: We can definitely update that and send it to you.
- Hannah: How many non-CUS students are you anticipating? Also, how much will you be charging them?
 - Clarence: Five as there is usually one per team. In the past we have always charged the same rate but we got funding from the other groups as well.
 - Yong: Last year we got funding from three sources: Dean's office, CUS, and MBA student association. But there is no more funding from the Dean's office nor the MBASA.
 - Clarence: This year we will be reducing the number of MBA and opting for students who have consulting experience instead.
- Vanessa: What exactly are you changing from last year?
 - Yong: We are including two additional workshops with the senior consultants. Also, we have two additional workshops for junior consultants.
- Vanessa: I also noticed you have a marketing video this year, why \$300?
 - Clarence: We do not have expertise in that area, so we hired someone to do it. The video has already been made. In terms of the workshops, we will be having formal learning this year as suggested by KPMG.
- Nil: How much do these workshops cost per event on average?
 - Clarence: We are not paying the consultants, so only food and gifts.
 - Yong: It will be about \$170-\$200.
- Nil: I was looking at last year's application and you initially requested around \$80 per student for the subsidy. I am curious as to where the increase in \$40 is going towards if the events are only \$200 each. Where are the additional expenses coming from?
 - Yong: Last year's included the dean's office funding. That is why the number is much higher this year.

Discussion:

- Cole: I think the students would be willing to pay much more than \$30 per student.
 - Nil: Last year the price was from what I remember \$40 per student. If they have lowered it, then I am highly concerned.
 - Cole: I cannot see why someone would not pay \$100 for this program. The average student should be able to pay for it.
 - Jordan: This is one of the most value-add programs I can see us funding. I see this as extremely valuable. I do want to fund this.
 - Hannah: Last year we funded them \$38 per CUS student and now they are asking for \$120 per student.
- Nil: They are under pricing themselves so that they can have more money in case they run into trouble.
 - Jordan: That is where it did not make sense because \$800 last year could have gone to a plane ticket. That is a 30% buffer.
- Nil: Based on the questions, would we feel more comfortable waiting for an updated budget before making a decision?
 - Jordan: Yes, because otherwise there would be too much speculating.

D. Professional Updates

I. President

1. Currently attending CABS conference this weekend
2. Meeting Chi'nook representative and Sauder representative; possible mentorship program developing
3. Several of the presidents have been going back and forth as there is an orientation committee meeting; all of the other faculties have changed their names not to include frosh
4. Meeting with a AMS designer about their buildings
5. Talking to Shannon and Jen regarding The Spark
6. Planning the meet the dean session

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- II. Vice-President, Academic Affairs
 - None.

- III. Vice-President, Finance
 - 1. Need to figure out the banking fees situation as a group; scheduling a meeting with VP Finance of AMS
 - 2. Top 40 venue issues; sense is that Yuna could come in under budget if she was more stern in negotiations or more flexible with the hotel
 - 3. Contract for JDC West Retreat has been submitted
 - 4. Sending out the important finance email tonight

- IV. Vice-President, Internal Affairs
 - 1. Finished first set of clubs review; three more clubs to meet (UBCMA, Consulting Club, and Biztech)
 - 2. Suspended Consulting Club from all CUS privileges due to lack of communication
 - 3. Emailing de-constituted clubs as they will be able to re-apply in September
 - 4. Awards Night has been collecting information from the clubs; exec and board expected to evaluate the events
 - 5. Attending an orientation tomorrow
 - 6. Big Four firms have decided they do not want to do individual events for business week this year

- V. Vice-President, Marketing and Communications
 - 1. Picking up the CUS banners tomorrow; sent Jordan the invoice
 - 2. Sending out a CUSunday next week; need application from Will for the Buddy Program
 - 3. Bizcomm and IB Club changed the name of their events in August
 - 4. Visual Media is wondering when we can do exec and board headshots; last week of August and first week of September
 - 5. Going to begin working on the logistics of the booth at Business Week

- VI. Vice-President, External Affairs
 - 1. Top 40 was looking at \$33 a plate pre-tax and gratuity; follow-up from VP Finance's update (Jordan)
 - 2. CR is putting together a progress report for 2013-14; been difficult due to inaccessibility
 - 3. NSCC is looking at options for lunch; execs believe that Subway/Pita Pit is a good option
 - 4. Should meet up with Hannah to work out who oversees Chasing Sustainability

- VII. Vice-President, Student Engagement
 - 1. Spoke with Garret on Monday; SoCo does Kickball logistics are basically complete with the plan to have a beer garden next to the field
 - 2. Ski trip will be in Revelstoke; expecting a big university weekend but there will only be hotel rooms, no condos (it will be 19+)
 - 3. POITS wants a photographer that is not affiliated with visual media; dedicated photographer
 - 4. Constructed questionnaire/application for the upper years as mentor position; looking to make a three/four person evaluation committee
 - 5. Planning to booth at The Spark to attract first years, as well as in their commerce Facebook group
 - 6. Looking for a Grad Chair

Questions/Discussion:

 - Nil: Where is the field located?
 - Will: One of the fields near the rugby fields; it is a UBC field. There will be a section fenced off with two security guards and you are only allowed to drink within it.
 - Will: On that point, are we restricting attendance? If not, then there needs to be an increase in the amount of money allocated for the event.
 - Nil: This does not conflict with a POITS event?
 - Will: No it does not (September 20th).
 - Nil: Then can they come back with an estimate because we might need more fencing. We need them to come in and be approved for the funding.
 - Will: I think the participants should receive a drink voucher and others will just pay.

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- Vanessa: Is there going to be more teams this year?
 - Will: I think it will be the same amount. We have three fields and eight teams.
- Vanessa: How many students per mentor for HYGGE?
 - Will: I want it to be one, but two is the maximum.
- Nil: The one issue is that I am worried about how many applications from 1st years we will receive. It is free for them. We should think about it.
 - Will: I was thinking about doing a first come, first serve.
- Vanessa: Are we still doing an event for it?
 - Will: Yes, there will be planned events.

VIII. Administrative Director

1. Almost finished all the past minutes
2. Dealing with emails; CCP wondering how they can change their website
3. Service Council Retreat negotiations in progress; two possible venues at the moment
4. Received a quote of \$945 for the bus rental to and from the Squamish area with a stop at the Chief included

IX. Ombudsperson

1. Emailing Shirley, the ombudsperson of UBC; she is hosting a breakfast in the coming weeks
2. Thinking about having a get-together with all the Executives once everyone has returned to Vancouver

E. Executive Business and Discussion

I. CUS Calendar Conflicts

1. Reviewing all the conflicts between services and clubs for their events; Thea sent out an email highlighting all the VPs who need to contact certain services
2. Mostly been completed; a few more services need to be contacted in the coming days

II. Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation

1. Vanessa sent out a large document detailing the requirements of the new legislation; looking for a discussion regarding the approach the CUS should take when sending out emails (CUSunday)

Questions/Discussion:

- Vanessa: I know we were thinking of an unsubscribe button but the way the email works is that I have one large contact list given by the school. How do we do this?
 - Nil: Our mailing list is with UBC, so we have no control over it.
 - Cole: UBC needs to create some sort of form that can allow people to be removed from the mailing list.
 - Jordan: I think this is more UBC's problem.
 - Cole: If so, then I think we need to reach out to UBC.
 - Nil: You should reach out to Craig and ask him what our approach should be going forward.
- Nil: Vanessa send an email to the AMS communications director and ask them what they are doing about this and what should we do.
 - Vanessa: Okay, sounds good.
 - Cole: I do not think the main focus on the legislation is us. So, we should not worry too much for the next little bit.

III. Sauder Summit

1. Accepted all the terms in the contract except one; Sauder Summit felt that it was not acceptable to create a minimum quota of 50% Sauder students in the parallel competition as it defeats the purpose of competition
2. Since it is an open invitation, Sauder Summit felt that the quota would detract from the competitive nature of the event

Questions/Discussion:

- Hannah: Who is allowed to apply to the parallel competition? Local schools?

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- Nil: Well anyone can apply but they are only looking at local schools because of the short turn-around during the competition.
- Hannah: If it is only local then it will be SFU.
- Jordan: What is the calibre then.
- Hannah: Personally, I would not change it.
- Jordan: I am bit confused, are they not capping the amount at a certain number of teams?
 - Braeden: I will clarify. So, the plan is that there will be three rounds of the parallel competition. Two of which will be completed online sent via email. The reason why we are not capping it is because they send in the open application and after the first round everyone is eliminated except for the top 12 teams. Then after the 2nd round it goes down to 4 teams who compete in the final round live at Sauder.
 - Nil: Maybe it would be helpful if we specified for what we wanted the 50% quota to be. So, I think the confusion is that they think the 50% is the number of Sauder students that have to apply.
 - Braeden: Yes, that was my understanding of the term.
 - Nil: I would suggest that we have a quota of 50% or more Sauder students who need to make it onto the next round. So that Sauder students get more than the first round, which adds value.
 - Jordan: Yes, the winner could be anyone.
 - Nil: Now an infinite number of people can apply but 50% of the teams need to be in Sauder for round 2. They can then be knocked out after the 2nd round if that is what they wish.
 - Braeden: I think that makes sense to me.
 - Nil: Great, I will go ahead and change the wording of the agreement; we will see if they accept it.

IV. The Spark CUS Boothing

1. They will invite all of us to a networking lunch on the Saturday; including chairs of services
2. They are running a carnival on campus on the Friday night and are going to send an invitation for all services to booth; also asked the CUS to booth
3. The discussion is whether or not the CUS wants to booth and how to approach it

Questions/Discussion:

- Nil: We could give out blue cotton candy because it is a carnival theme. But I want to see if anyone else has any suggestions.
- Vanessa: They are doing a carnival theme too? I wanted to give out cotton candy for Business Week. What are we supposed to be doing while boothing at The Spark?
 - Hannah: Promoting the services and us.
 - Nil: We would be boothing for two hours on the Friday night. All we would be doing is talking to first years and promoting first year committee. We would not be handing out anything besides cotton candy.
 - Vanessa: Yes, but that was exactly the plan I had for business week.
 - Nil: Well this is technically only for 1st years. Whereas business week is for everyone.
 - Vanessa: Maybe we could go without a booth and walk around instead of wait for them to come to us.
 - Nil: We could maybe have something that could be rolled around and be the moving booth. Maybe if you have crazy suggestions, email me.

V. Commerce Student Centre

1. Looking to recreate discussion surrounding a possible Commerce Student Centre
2. Two years ago there was a group who did work to try to create a free standing Commerce Student Centre; similar to sciences, arts, and engineering centres
3. The group worked everything out and was close to being approved then Dean Dan left and put it on hold; now that every class is increasing in size and the Sauder population is growing, it is a good discussion point

Questions/Discussion:

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- Nil: This would need a lot of support from the students because \$30/\$40 a year from student fees would go towards the centre. It would mean campaigning for student support and raising funds. But I wanted to bring it up with all you.
 - Hannah: Do we know what the situation is with the powerhouse?
 - Nil: They are still looking to demolish it in 2017, and it is available still, I believe. It would be cheaper to simultaneously build our building and it would be 10,000 square feet.
 - Hannah: How big is the Abdul Lada building?
 - Nil: Just under 10,000 square feet. The university mandated that they all have to be around the same size.
 - Ben: Personally I am not a huge fan of it. My feeling is that this is not the thing students would passionately be behind. Are people really interested in going out of their way for this to happen. If we were to pick one big project, I would not necessarily choose this.
 - Cole: When this was going to happen, I was the elections chair. I remember that the response from the students were 2/3 to 3/4 in favour of having the centre.
 - Jordan: I think the increase needs to be mentioned to make it relevant.
 - Nil: Given the money we have and the special project funding, we might be able to build a decent building without increasing the fee. So we would keep our fee but allocate a certain amount of it to the building.
 - Hannah: I think it is a good idea because I have to turn down many events just because we do not have the space. It would be nice to have more options for studying and events.
 - Cole: We really cannot function well as an organization here. We do not have a meeting room large enough for the board. It makes it hard when we want to hold multiple events at the same time.
 - Jordan: I am somewhat against a free standing building because I am not sure if it is the best allocation of our money.
 - Cole: I do not think we are just doing it because we have the money. It does make the job easier as that was a major challenge asking for student support and funding.
 - Grace: The scope of the project seems very large. So what is the timeline Nil for us to say yes.
 - Nil: This was mostly just to bring it up and get everyone's sense. We do not have the finances in place at the moment. It is just an idea. If we wanted to bring it back this is our only window because of the powerhouse. It is a once in a twenty-five year window to get a space near the Sauder building.
 - Grace: Is there any point where we can open it up to the Sauder students?
 - Nil: We will have to take it to students. But first we would need a majority of our support.
 - Cole: There are a certain number of steps. First support from us, then from the school before we would go to the students. We would have to have an opinion on this.
 - Will: We need to remember that many students commute and it would be nice to have a space between classes. We should start the ball rolling if we are going to do this.
 - Ben: This building to open up a world of opportunities. We are one of the biggest undergraduate organizations in Canada, so this could elevate us to the next level.
 - Jordan: I am firmly a "no" if I need to pay more for this. The one complaint about UBC is that I am continually paying for things that I will not get to use.
 - Nil: The fee would not come in until the building is opened and there might not even be an additional fee. I am basically in agreement because it could potentially happen without a fee increase.
 - Nil: I wanted to bring it up now so that when it is brought up again in a couple weeks no one is confused as to where this is coming from.

VI. New Cavalier Position

1. Wanting to create a consultant position; put an individual in an advisor role

Questions/Discussion:

- Vanessa: I do not agree with this because I do not understand why there are co-chairs then. Plus they already know who they want to take the position.

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- Hannah: That goes completely against our HR policies.
- Cole: The position technically needs to be open and let anyone apply.
- Vanessa: I am firmly against this regardless.
- Jordan: What is his value over the co-chairs? I do not understand the difference.
- Vanessa: He is already a writer too. So I think they just want to put him in this position to have a better title.
- Nil: There seems to be a consensus that it does not make sense to create a position for someone who already has a position. As well as a position they already know whom they are going to hire. Just let them know that and how we find that it is inappropriate.
- Vanessa: Linette asked me if it would be fine to have an article comparing Frosh and The Spark. So, I told her that is not going to happen. The issue now is that Linette told Yuna to write solely about The Spark when we decided that we were not going to associate ourselves with it. Are we fine with them writing about The Spark?
 - Cole: Yuna is going to say good things about The Spark.
 - Nil: Yes, we should allow them to write it. But Yuna specifically cannot because it would be the same as one of the clubs writing about their own event. It is about integrity.

VII. Chasing Sustainability

1. There are issues regarding moving off campus and the delayed timeline is causing some concerns

Questions/Discussion:

- Jordan: The main issue is that when they are asking for something they know we are already slightly against, in what way does it benefit them to delaying the process? This lowers my confidence in them having a successful off campus conference. I personally do not think I need to hear them anymore.
 - Nil: My only concern is that since we have delayed it this far. Plus this delay is pushing us farther from accepting their request, so they are not doing the proper planning. I think they should know that we have now spoken about it at two meetings and are still against it.
 - Hannah: I know that all their planning is revolving around the hotel even though I have told them that there is a small chance. So, this two-week delay will be detrimental. Initially, they were upset they needed to wait two weeks but receiving the email today does not make sense.
 - Nil: Go back to them and say that we discussed it and everyone else at the table rejected it. Also say that as much as we want to hear you, we think it is detrimental to your event. So, you are not going off campus. Essentially they would need to sway a majority and that is virtually impossible at this point. Make sure to say that they are not coming in next meeting and they should start planning their event on campus.

F. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Jordan | Seconded: Cole

3.

That the minutes from the June 16th and June 23rd Executive Council meetings be approved for public distribution.

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

G. Next Meeting

H. Adjournment

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Moved: Hannah | Seconded: Jordan

4.

There being no further business, be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:55PM.

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

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Attendance:

Name	Position	Present ("X")	Late ("X")	Proxy
Niloufar Keshmiri	President (Chairperson)	X		
Thea Simpson	Vice-President, Academic Affairs (Vice-Chairperson)			Cole Leonoff
Ben Gardiner	Vice-President, External Affairs	X (Via Skype)		
Jordan Hearne	Vice-President, Finance	X		
Hannah Vandenberg	Vice-President, Internal Affairs	X		
Vanessa Lau	Vice-President, Marketing and Communications	X		
William Pigott	Vice-President, Student Engagement	X (Via Skype)		
Grace Kim	Ombudsperson	X (Via Skype)		
Braeden Elsaesser	Administrative Director/Recording Secretary	X		

Guests: Casey Chen