



commerce
undergraduate
society

CUS Board of Directors Minutes

March 28th, 2011

BOD Meeting Minutes, March 28th

Start Time: 6:04

Present: Paulina, Pia, Niki, Laura, Negar, Lisa, Veronica, Connor, David, Enzo, Jeff, Julie, Vitor, Chrisanne, Johannes, Dylan, Chris, Lilian, Jackie, Mandy, Tim, Jordan,

Late: Moses, Sara, Prina, Lucas, Chad, Andrea, Jacky, Nick

Absent: David Lam, Daria, Kaylee, Michael

Welcome Back/ Introductions: BOD, Execs, Guests

Community Engagement- Michelle Aucion, Managing Director, UBC Community Engagement

- role at university right now is developing strategic plan for community engagement
- meeting with UGOs to have conversation about community engagements and what we think it is, what we'd like it to be

Discussion/ Questions

How has UBC/Sauder engaged itself in the community?

- Enzo: reaching out to community and trying to give back
- Connor: reaching out to stakeholders in the community (students, staff, student residences on campus, other residences on campus)

How do students participate in governance?

- Johannes: Olympics were one of higher points of student engagement (food services, etc used to be thought of as afterthought, often it's only when students know that the organization exists that they engage)
- Connor: CUS has unique relationship with our school (donate money to building, etc) outside of our own faculty I don't think we can name any other dean out of any other faculty, don't interact with other faculties

Is there such a thing as a “student community” at UBC/Sauder?

- Tim: there is definitely a Sauder community, students don't treat building as place to come to lectures; come here to socialize, learn
- Paulina: I agree there's a distinct Sauder community and can speak to rest of faculties, but also distinct community with sororities and fraternities and they're very influential in student politics; different groups like REC are very influential; not “one student community” but niches on campus
- Moses: I don't think Sauder has a strong community yet, we're growing and have a long way to go and levels of engagement and involvement are rising
 - o Other faculties aren't as connected as we are, but student engagement is how much you volunteer, how involved are you, etc
 - o Although may not inter-connected as we'd like, we have small things that unify us (inter-faculty animosity) gives us a sense of community

What's role in undergrad societies to engage/ support student community at the university/ Sauder?

- Connor: our students pay the largest student fees in Canada, we're here to build a community for Sauder students, not arts students (for example)

What do you do to build community? And does the university make it easy for you?

- Johannes: we provide our FROSH, and automatically people that go to FROSH know that we're a part of a “family”
- Veronica: all of the involvement we provide in the CUS alone (over 600 volunteers) and can get involved in any way
 - o We have clubs that involve students with different interests
 - o We provide opportunities and empower students to get involved with things they “want” to get involved with
- David: our standardized time tables make us very close as well
- Enzo: residency also promotes community
 - o The engagement of more residence-oriented universities enhances community
 - o Our building enhances the experience and encourages involvement; it's something we can be proud of and fosters a sense of engagement
- Jordan: under the CUS have lots of clubs; gives students first-hand experience in different positions and options and enhances skill sets
 - o CUS supports these clubs and very effective
- Lucas: makes everyone comfortable with one another; can also organize various events and be in high leadership opportunities; everyone that wants to get involved can get involved

How can students find out where these opportunities are?

- Paulina: we have access to an email list and can email every single person in the school

- Have different marketing tools to help our students with (speaker, visual media team where can upload photos and engage students in social media)
- Advantage: have wide range of control over our marketing channels and other faculties don't have as much freedom as we do (is a positive thing for this faculty)
- Moses: we tried to host an inter-faculty party and didn't get a lot of support; need to focus on our students
- Jordan: social networking creates awareness among Sauder students (Facebook)
 - Word of mouth very important as well

If there were opportunities outside of university engaging community, is there interest in the faculty for engaging in creative ways that build on our academic work?

- Connor: we already do it and do it very well (CCP, conferences)
 - Either involve people directly, or give them opportunity to get involved
- Lucas: commerce students have a burning passion to go out and do something
 - Worldwide case competitions, etc

How can Michelle get student feedback in this strategy development process?

- about to release a discussion paper; there are common themes to it; CUS is very sophisticated; every student group thus far has talked about student community
- there is a real desire for student community but we don't always make it as easy for students as we could
- Connor: where does UBC-O fit into all of this?
- Michelle: this is a system-wide strategy; went through strategic planning process recently
- Tactics they've identified fall within the strategic priorities
- Want to work with our community (internal and external)
- Prina: most Sauder student have pride for being in Sauder; I was a transfer student from Arts and I didn't have that pride as an arts student
 - It'd be great to have some UBC pride
- Chris: what kind of model are you duplicating this process on?
 - Ex. compare to US schools, sports draw a lot of attention
 - At UBC, this is more of an academic center
- Michelle: the sense of identity is very powerful, and it's great to see such a community even if it's just through a football game
 - Hoping to create the same sense of connection
 - We want to be proud that the institution makes a difference; we want to move the institution internally
 - Healthy tension between faculties and using it as a way to increase unity is a positive aspect
- Veronica: I think the difficulty of getting unity at UBC is the demographic
 - We're much more diverse here as opposed to the USA and it's harder to relate to one another therefore

- I think Sauder has a lot of international students, and has done a good job giving people the resources to make change happen
- Administration taking students seriously and opening up to change

PNEC Conference- Kim Nguyen, Co-President; Connor McGauley, President

(see powerpoint)

Questions

- Chad: can you tell more about the breakdown between university attendance?
 - 32% from our school, 43% from Fraser Valley, 13% Western Washington, 6% University of Washington, 6% other
- Can you provide commentary on why the breakdown is the way it is?
 - Already had relationships from the year before; communicated with many external schools
 - Early advertisements to USA and UFV, were able to organize own student groups to make it to conference; vs. Sauder started selling later vs. other schools were more organized
- Moses: do present leaders not see on the same page or did they have very different visions?
 - Didn't have to do with clashing views, both chairs had different teams; Lily and rest of IB were just supporters to the conference, by no means was it a distant relationship because we had problems, just very different projects
- Veronica: how long has PNEC been running? What do you see as the value of PNEC?
 - 2nd year it's been running, lots of value; unfortunate not enough people attended to see how much value is in conference
 - see value in putting on conference again, more if someone has the ambition to put it on
 - overall mission of conference is to show them what's available in the pacific north west and opportunities they have but so broad every year has different theme
 - ex. getting students to become aware of one another; this year trying to be more specific by finding new business opportunities; meant bringing in people from different industries and how their industries will be thriving in the future
 - it would be very valuable for students, but the challenge would be finding someone to take it on
 - at this point would be too hard to be under a club because of the financial circumstances; if were to be under CUS, the CUS would be valued in revising the budget, finding venue
- Enzo: I think PNEC fell on the day of several midterms which wouldn't have been helpful
- Jordan: out of attendees, how many are actually Sauder students?
 - 32% UBC students, so 52 were UBC students

Discussion

- Pia: if you are all comfortable with making a decision we can make a decision today
- Enzo: if the option of coming under the CUS were taken, do we absorb the entire debt?
- Dylan: the new exec's position is "no" on this entire matter. We feel we've already had this precedent before with Style and the City and it hasn't necessarily been successful; unfair to give this burden to new executives
- Andrea: we don't want to set the precedent that we'll take on any failing conference
- Paulina: what exactly is your recommendation to the board?
- Dylan: *Motion: (reads) Whereas the UBC IB Club transfers the entirety of their 2010/2011 surplus to the CUS, BIRT that the CUS cover the difference of upwards of \$8000 in outstanding hotel expenses*
- Connor: I talked to Queens and have good system; if a conference goes into debt, they have a memorandum of understanding where next year's team pays back the debt; very viable option for next year's team to cover next year's debt; is possible
- Chad: for the record, Style was a successful conference, that's why it was under the CUS, the problem was that it was too large and the club can't handle anymore
- Moses: could someone specify the restrictions (autonomy, financial) if PNEC is incorporated?
 - o Connor: book all the revenues and expenses and CUS takes all liability
 - We hire and hold the right not to hire and hold right to remove the conference whenever we choose
 - o Chad: re: CIVC, if we were to bring PNEC under, have to do the same thing and assume legal liability and would have to pay off the debt
 - o Tim: to clarify, we want to drain the IB club's account, then pay off the deficit, then not take them under the CUS and then let them start fresh
- Prina: What does Kim think of draining the IB account?
 - o Cindy: \$1000 isn't enough to start with IB club, we spent over \$1000 during the summer
- Prina: what position would this put you all in? What would happen to PNEC?
 - o Lily: still have to find out Global Inc cost, wouldn't be a great idea to wipe out the account right now since still have to pay for conference
 - o Kim: if this were the case, in the past IB has started off with more than \$1000, then personally I think best option would not to run PNEC, from then on can start hiring for the year after for PNEC and see if there is interest for the following year
- Moses: the AMS club isn't an option?
 - o Kim: if we went under your proposal, we'd have the option of separating and having PNEC run by itself without a student group
- David: since incoming execs willing to pay for some of the debt, would it hurt to take PNEC under us and then hire? We did this for Enterprize.
 - o Andrea: PNEC and Enterprize are very different conferences. Taking under the CUS is a large step and just seeing if anything will happen is very risky. The best option I think is not to have such liability under us

- Tim: I feel the incoming execs decision is very generous. Is it possible to have a loan with a memorandum of understanding where we don't clear IB's account right away, but give them a long-term approach for them to pay back the debt? The club can be financially stable then and still make contributions
 - o Dylan: I think this is reasonable, I think we need the mindset of if we want the IB club to pay off loans as the years go by and have future execs be responsible for what last year has done, or pay everything off and give fresh start to new execs?
 - o Chad: The AMS history of these events, many have gone over budget and a lot of other conferences have paid off their debt over time; problem though is that a lot of clubs aren't able to pay it off, not sure if this would work
 - o Paulina: I agree with Tim and Queen's way of doing this, just giving them the money can send a dangerous precedent where CUS takes the hit, accountability needs to be there, so I think the loan system makes more sense
 - o Moses: PNEC would pay or IB would pay? Is it fair to make IB pay for something PNEC did?
 - o Connor: the point of us moving this stuff off the balance sheet is so that we don't have to pay
- Chrisanne: this conference was only given \$8000 in the first place as opposed to larger amounts for other conferences; is why execs are leaning towards paying off the debt outright so we're not putting so much responsibility on people running the conference in the future, because people will be less willing to run the conference
- Pia: PNEC is a completely external conference, and we treated them as such, so the amount of money can't be driving for this discussion
- Connor: Can we just say BIRT that PNEC become a CUS conference?
- Jordon: I think the CUS has the power to make this event successful next year, so I think it'd be a good idea. If we had capable execs for PNEC, and I see a lot of value in this conference, and if we make it successful it will become successful
- Johannes: based on that logic, we should take on anything because the CUS will make it successful. I don't think we can use that kind of logic, otherwise we'll be taking on everything under the clubs
- Veronica: the reason why conferences are so successful in the CUS are because we already gouged out the success before we brought it under our wings; by obtaining PNEC, we don't know if students want PNEC because it's only in its 2nd year. The many companies offered at PNEC are already incorporated to other conferences
- David: to my understanding year 1 was very successful. What made that so successful?
 - o Jacky: 400 people attended, this year it's less because we wanted to be sustainable, didn't see it was necessary to have such a large conference but we fell short
- Paulina: I thought the vision was to be travelling to different schools around the pacific northwest form year to year? What happened to this?
 - o Kim: this was my intention when I went to the university of Washington, and when we talked about it, we thought it'd just be another "American conference", and still wanted to maintain the relationship between the countries, but students in the US wanted the experience to travel to Canada
- Paulina : is it a viable option at all?

- Kim: if conference was older, it would be an option because would be more well-known
- Paulina: so ideally it would be a traveling conference?
 - Kim: Yes

Voting Period

Motion: Whereas the Pacific Northwest Economic Conference (PNEC) has agreed to become a service of the Commerce Undergraduate Society, understanding all operational and procedural changes as a result of becoming a CUS service,

Be it resolved that the CUS Board of Directors accept the proposal of introducing the PNEC as a service of the Commerce Undergraduate Society.

Be it further resolved that Commerce Undergraduate Society and the UBC Alma Mater Society claim the assets and intellectual property of the PNEC as their own."

(Call to question, requires majority)

2) Induction

"Whereas the CUS Board of Directors has accepted the proposal of introducing the PNEC as a service of the Commerce Undergraduate Society,

Be it resolved that the CUS Board of Directors approves the creation of "Chairperson - PNEC" as a new service council position under the VP External Portfolio.

Be it further resolved that the CUS Board of Directors directs the Policy and Procedures Committee to update the Services Council Policy to reflect the introduction of the new Service Council Position."

(Call to question, requires 2/3rds)

For: 1 (Moses)

Against: 12

Abstain: 1 (Chad)

Motion does not pass.

What will happen to PNEC Now- Discussion

Motion: Whereas the UBC IB Club transfers the entirety of their 2010/2011 surplus to the CUS, BIRT that the CUS cover the difference of upwards of \$8000 in outstanding hotel expenses

Voting Phase

For: 11

Against: 2 (Tim,

Abstain: 1 (Chad)

Motion passes.

Sauder Squad (rescind motion March 14)- Paulina Aksenova, VP Marketing

- board passed motion last meeting to cut Sauder Squad Captain from portfolio; Chris/ Paulina not present
- no consultation done with either Chris or Paulina, disappointed
- some of the facts in prior presentations were incorrect
- little discussion and was a rushed decision from Paulina's understanding
- who will take care of the mascot? Needs to be with a more sustainable home (Sauder Squad was considered ideal)
- position of Sauder Squad was already posted on website before was cut
- position posted by blessing of the new executive team, applications were already received
- position has proved to be a great way to engage first and second year students, this year's team is mostly first years and have taken an interest in more involvement opportunities
- board did not consider that due to Olympics, referendums, this position wasn't hired during normal hiring periods (end of September); squad hired by mid-October, by the time squad in place didn't have much time
- perhaps squad didn't do much this year, don't believe entirely was their fault; not because was invaluable service, it just lacked direction and was treated as a "cheering squad"
- wanted next year to be a creative marketing squad, Chris agrees. With new direction, thinks can be good opportunity
- would like to rescind this motion to start a conversation
- Chris: Paulina and I present at meeting but had to leave mid-meeting and was added to the agenda last minute, we've already hired the SS captain (followed procedure of hiring since posted the job)

Discussion

- Chad: Klazina put this forward last meeting, recommendation was from me. I disagree the amount of research that has been done
 - o Sauder Squad over the years have become more and more redundant, because was put in for people who didn't know how to market their events effectively (not the case now)
 - o Perhaps should be part of the marketing commission
 - o Chad: my view is it could be a guerilla marketing tool. We need to get more word of mouth out

- Prina: the point of this conversation was that the board had said no to SS, and I was under the impression we were going to tell the applicants that the position had be cut
- Connor: the Sauder Squad isn't an official part of the service council
- Johannes: not a question of how worthwhile position is, issue is that the main people with the portfolio weren't notified
 - o Pia: that argument has been stated
 - o Johannes: incoming board has passed a motion to say we require 3 calendar days to add to agenda

Voting Phase

Be it resolved that the CUS BoD rescind the following passed motion on March 14th, "Be it resolved that the Sauder Squad Captain position is rescinded as a CUS Service Council position"

For: 11

Against 1 (Chad)

Abstain 2

Motion carries.

Policy Party Time- Chad Embree, Senator

Turnover and Annum Policy

(see attachment)

- a lot of frustration over turnover system

Discussion/ Questions

- none

Be it resolved that IRT the BOD formally approve the turnover and annum policy

For: 14
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

Compassion Policy

(See attachment)

- purpose: to give students under financial hardship the ability to go to conferences and events

Discussion

Dylan: lots of red tape around this; could redirect to UBC financial services as well

- Connor: why do we need this policy if the service already exists?
 - o Making a statement to say we will consider this situation should it arise
- Johannes: (Tom): I feel it's inappropriate to call it a compassion policy; name implies if we don't vote this through it looks like we aren't compassionate
 - o It is inappropriate to make decisions about which of our peers should be given special incentives
 - o UBC is able to provide financial need via student records, this could be open to abuse
 - o There is no way to audit the system
 - o Chad: For the record, this policy is no different than current CUS operations and in the past has been dealt with successfully
 - o Lucas: so why do we need official policy
 - Is a statement
- Moses: how can this system be audited?
 - o Chad: there are ombuds records passed year to year and if same person comes up multiple years can be checked by ombudsperson, but if abused beyond belief, kill the policy. Right now this may be a statement we want to make.
 - o Chrisanne: this has happened in the past, but with regards to records being passed down, I've heard nothing about that. I will speak to Jessie about this however.
- Lucas: I don't think there's a reasonable way to measure something is being abused or not; if this has already happened and we publicize this, there's a greater chance it could be abused
- Enzo: have other schools done this?
 - o Not to my knowledge
- David: I don't think we need this.
- Chrisanne: is it right for us to use taxpayers' money to pay for certain students' financial hardships? My main concern is that it's students determining other students' needs

- Prina: You don't have to apply if you don't want to. When you apply you know who's looking at your application.
 - o Paulina: doesn't solve the problem of financial hardships for students
 - o Prina: if you're not comfortable with people looking at your private information, then you wouldn't apply
 - o Moses: I think we see a lot of value in making the statement, but I'm strongly opposed of students making this decision. We should leave it up to the UGO and UBC Financial Services

Chad interrupts debate, withdraws the policy from the table. Discussion on the policy is postponed indefinitely

Discussion of Clubs Policy re: financial subsidy of clubs

(see "clubs policy FINAL" pdf)

- clubs coming to CUS in need of assistance
- how do we want clubs to appear in the budget. Do we cut them a cheque or do we take them on as a part of the CUS?
- I would like to take an extra pole to gauge opinion and open the floor for discussion

Discussion

- Lucas: I think the clubs have been pretty good with staying on their budget, it doesn't add any more liabilities to us as the CUS
- Connor: We looked at different needs of clubs and still want to keep the clubs out of CUS. Some clubs like to be independent, others like more assistance for CUS. While they're still a club we can't do that, but if closer to becoming a CUS industry club, then this can be looked at differently
- Connor: this was discussed last summer
- Lucas: club members can't be execs
 - o Only small clubs may be an issue like SIFE (no execs, just "people")
- Pia: there are no major changes from the last time we saw this?
 - o Looking to bring this to the board next week because needs to get rolling for next year, but not much has changed
 - o Trying to figure if we want to take the liability or not take the liability
- Dylan: I'd rather cut a cheque to most clubs
- Paulina: if we do that, how do we mitigate the situation like we did with a club event going over budget
 - o If industry club, we'd look more into this
- Connor: they'd sit under the VP Internal?
 - o Yes
- Chad: Julie would be able to direct people to different services so club execs
- Connor: you lose your autonomy
- Enzo: would we provide anything or would they directly going to AMS if are over budget?

- Wouldn't provide anything
- Johannes: we should be focusing on laissez faire of clubs and don't want to take too much control; a lot of good things can happen to autonomous clubs and with independent students
- Tim: clarification on autonomy: if a club becomes a CUS industry club, regardless of whether we cut them a cheque or not, at the end of the day we call the shots.
 - Makes sense if we have the financial liability, not for cheques
- Lucas: I'm not convinced we should have any authority over these things
 - Clubs can control general operations BUT if things go really wrong, that's when the CUS will step in and take control

Extra pole taken

(will be discussed next meeting)

Chad will be looking more into this

Queens and Discipline Policy Discussion

- very reluctant to bring this in
 - is the CUS ready for this new policy?
- Dylan: over the past years, something has to be done because it's every six months it seems, and we need some kind of accountability policy

Board of Director Updates

AMS Rep (Dylan)

- Christy Clark increased minimum wage to \$8.75 but we have no policy to change that. For the next 3 days need impact group and ensure wages are at correct rate
- Approved Cassa as an associate member

Ombudsperson

- No updates

Senator

- 30-60 students evacuated from Japan because of earthquake; misunderstanding over rights to evacuate UBC students in danger; problem: evacuated students had their terms cancelled (tuition, etc)- don't get compensated, nothing. Evacuations at their expense.
- Overall response wasn't overly positive; will see this coming up in the future again

- Passed \$30,000 in awards
- A lot of push towards NCAA, students who are athletes pushing for NCAA, non athletes pushing away because feel benefit is only towards athletes and not university as a whole
- Commerce last lecture coming up next week

Board of Director Members

- Enzo: possibility of recording final review session lectures, people thought it'd be worthwhile for students
 - o Pia: have you liaised with VP Academic yet?
 - o Enzo: not yet
 - Niki: I know some people on visual media team film
- Moses: scarf sample for CUS execs and BOD here; still need a lot of feedback

Presidential and Exec Updates

Connor: going to lunch with CGA

Awards night tomorrow

Meeting with deans from Berkley, Washington, , ; wrote 100 page report on Sauder and should be coming out soon

Moses

- interfaculty cup last week; Sauder won

Johannes

- hired people; interviewed 90 people, 30 hours of hiring over the weekend,
- over 1000 cranes, over \$3000 raised for Japan
- planning camping trip to Oregon
- student council retreat 2nd weekend of September

Julie

Sauder exchange café

- positive response, but please try to generate more responses

Other Business

Meeting Adjourned: 9:25pm