

# Medical Undergraduate Society

## Special General Meeting minutes - April 6th 2020; 7:00 PM

Date	MSAC	IMP	NMP	SMP	Call-In # 1-877-792-2770
April 6 2020	VC Room				288208 <a href="https://meet.vc.ubc.ca">https://meet.vc.ubc.ca</a>

### Preparation

Review Robert's Rules [here](#).

Add/update/verify your contact information [here](#).

### Minutes

Present: Rhea, John, Justin Fernandes, Aaron, Kevin Liang, Jason, Lucas Arnold, Khash, Vito, Gabe, Paige, Isaac Rodin, Adina, Xuan, Stephen, Rohit, Jordanna Roesler, Alex Monaghan, Vanessa, Zach Sagorin, Lauren Hughes, Kala Draney, Katrina, Allyson Miller, Jeremy, Billy Zhao, Alvin Qiu, Chris, Kajsya Heyes, Curtis May, Parker N, Tribesty, Matt, Morgan, Dr. Lui, Kian, Tomas, Sophie Carr, Regan Mah , Katrina Besler, Monica Hsieh, Gabriel Blank, Rod Vafaei, Kevin Fan, Mark Hwang, Sabrina Wei, Austin Heffernan, Dallas, Maichael, Army Alam, Alec Yu, Privia Randhawa, Sarah Donnelly, Willow Thickson, Sina Safabakhsh, Geoffrey Ching, Morgan Haines, Samuel Kirk, Tyler Yan, Aishwi Roshan, Keiko Petterson, Sarah Poteryko, Ravi Parhar, Peter Singh

### VC:

<https://meet.vc.ubc.ca> **Call 288208**

### Regrets:

title	proposer	time
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<p><b>Approval of Agenda</b></p>	<p>Mover: Monica Seconders: Billy In favour: all</p>	
<p><b>Approval of Previous Minutes</b>  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1q92wKTHxfl_e3t9_nHBO8Wg346mOndzAS3FKnRNrwfg/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1q92wKTHxfl_e3t9_nHBO8Wg346mOndzAS3FKnRNrwfg/edit?usp=sharing</a></p>	<p>Mover: Maya Seconders: Devon In favour: all</p>	
<p><b>Election Results</b>  <a href="https://drive.google.com/open?id=10EFtCrBTMdtw-u5FftusG-vzDWgzB9Er">https://drive.google.com/open?id=10EFtCrBTMdtw-u5FftusG-vzDWgzB9Er</a></p> <p>Turn out was 336 (25.8%) - a bit less than last year which was 425. no appeals, congrats to those elected, encourage those who did not to remain involved</p> <p>A note about transitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• outgoing seniors - please meet with your current juniors and incoming seniors to transition them to the senior roles</li> <li>• Current juniors - please meet with your new incoming juniors to transition them</li> <li>• Outgoing council members - please meet with the newly elected person filling your position next year to transition them</li> <li>• TRANSITION DOCUMENT TONIGHT TO MONICA and VANESSA (superstars) :)</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion</b>  WHEREAS the MUS Spring Elections function to elect membership of the MUS Council  WHEREAS all election rules were followed and no appeals of the election results were made  BIRT the MUS approve the results of the 2020 MUS Spring Elections</p> <p>Votes here: <a href="https://forms.gle/z964eZL2n5dNCcjT8">https://forms.gle/z964eZL2n5dNCcjT8</a></p>	<p>Isaac Rodin (VP Internal)</p> <p>Mover: Isaac Rodin Seconders: Monica Hsieh</p> <p>In favour 32 Against 0 Abstain 0</p>	<p>7:04</p>

## Omnibus Motion For Amendments To Society Positions And Committees

Special thanks to those who contributed to the Constitution & Bylaws Committee:

Stephen McCarthy  
Monica Hsieh  
Chris Pang

[See changes here](#)

Other changes will be discussed in different motions here are minor ones voting to pass in omnibus

- Removed roles/committees that do not exist in Academic Sr, SMP site lead, added MAA Award oversight to VP Coms Sr., change wording of cluster rep recruitment in class president to promote class attendance however only recruit when there is sufficient interest at the discretion of the class presidents

Khash: I have spoken with Annette and Stephen and there is an amendment to add the role of a student rep on the electives director committee. This role was supposed to start before COVID. I believe Alvin is our incoming jr. and he is an MD/PhD student. He will not be in 3rd year next year as the VP Academic Sr.

Stephen: Dr. K was hoping for a year 3 or 4 student to talk about electives. The VP Academic Sr. has an external role to speak with CFMS. She needs to discuss nationally about the AFMC portal and electives. We could pick new student reps each year but the VP Academic Sr. will have this role already.

Khash: How can we rectify this situation so that we could represent the actual 3rd year class that year?

Stephen: We could modify the constitution here as a friendly amendment.

Isaac: As the VP Academic Sr. role, themselves or a qualified designate (year III or IV) be the MUS representative at the electives director committee.

Maichael: One thing I noticed that the faculty has been doing more of is that they are engaging the class council VP Academics less. These people should be regularly engaged in the Year  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  committees to provide adequate representation from the student body. If there is a

Isaac  
Rodin (VP  
Internal)

Mover:  
Isaac  
Rodin  
Seconded:  
Monica  
Hsieh

discrepancy on who sits in the academic role and who is in that year, we still have representation from that class from the class council.

Zach: Why is this position not assigned by MEC and rather someone that is appointed by the VP Academic? As with most committees, the VP Academics are responsible for overseeing 72 different committees. Why does this position stand out?

Isaac: I think being under MEC would be a reasonable proposition.

Khash: We did consider getting MEC to choose a rep for this. We did consider the advantage that the VP Academics had on a national level. We initiated the MEC process but we did not hear back from them.

Zach: Can we table this one piece of the constitutional change especially since the committee does not have a student rep yet?

Khash: The blended Year 3 and 4 subcommittee has been taking over that committee's role right now so they are not looking for a student rep. This current committee has myself and the class VP academic on it. I agree to table this until after the pandemic.

Stephen: The VP Academic Sr. is fundamentally our student representation for our curriculum. I don't see the problem with enabling our rep who needs to be the most educated on electives to represent all of us.

Zach: Would you and Stephen like to alter the constitution at this point? Should we have a motion to change the current motion based on this conversation.

Isaac: I don't see a problem in removing it for now and it can be decided at a later date. Annette will still be the point person in the interim anyways.

Zach: Regardless of what is written here, Annette will still be responsible for this role. Further conversation and alterations can be decided in the future.

Stephen: Yes, I am fine with this.

Zach: Thank you to the committee for putting this together.

### **Motion**

WHEREAS the Constitution and Bylaws contain the fundamental principles which govern the Society's operation,

WHEREAS annual review of the Constitution and Bylaws allows for updates that help the society function optimally, BIRT the MUS accept, in omnibus, the amendments to Bylaws and its relevant sections (not including those sections/changes voted on in individual motions)

Vote here: <https://forms.gle/iFruCDnmmHsm6ba59>

In favour  
30  
Against  
Abstain 3

### Updated Election Rules

#### Background

We have existing election rules to encourage a fair and transparent process but a few items we wanted to add (1) candidates were always not allowed to make new posts or campaign during voting period, but now also no new posts can be made on behalf of candidates (ie. promotional posts made by students supporting candidates) (2) Candidates shall not run endorse each other or run in blocks (3) Current members of the MUS may not endorse other candidates by sharing promotional materials or attending facebook events

Rationale behind that is if someone from MUS only selectively attended certain events and they were a high position, it could send signals to the general student body of who should be voted for so we wanted to keep a fair and transparent playing field. Happy to hear any comments/changes

John: I agree with the last point, that can be potentially contentious. Attending FB groups used to be something I encouraged but Facebook can be inconsistent so you end up attending one person but not other people's. I usually like it when MUS gets the process going when they click going first but I agree with the last point.

Dallas: I agree with the third point as well. Could you talk a bit about how this will impact the positions. Ex. the Year 3 president, would they directly impact their education?

Isaac: More than being members of MUS, we are also students who have preferences, interests and people we think would potentially advocate for those interests better than others. But the rationale is that we should realize as elected representations, we wouldn't want to unfairly sway the preference of the student body towards candidates not due to reasons in our eyes, but that their facebook event is the only one that shows up.

Isaac  
Rodin (VP  
Internal)  
  
Mover:  
Isaac  
Rodin  
Second:  
Monica  
Hsieh

Maichael: John raises a good point and it is contentious. I was looking at the AMS election guideline but perhaps this is a flag for discussion. There is nothing in AMS election rules that prohibit attending FB events but in the conflict of interest, it could be a gray matter. It could be seen as a conflict of interest if you leverage the MUS position and throw your weight to that particular candidate. This is something to follow up with admin people and clarify for the future. Policy here is a guideline but this can be something to be detailed and finessed by the VP iInternal.

Devon: I had a question about the running groups one. What is the rationale behind that? In any other group, you can form groups in the AMS, larger municipal governments, we have parties. What is the reason for preventing groups?

Isaac: A large part of this is that it's always been that way, even though it hasn't been formally stated in the constitution. In every election email, there is a stipulation that you cannot run in groups unless you are VP Social where you run as three. That has just always been done. None of our positions are part of political parties, or we don't have a shared background (when we are running for positions), positions are independent. That's why we're adding it to the rules.

Devon: Is this for VP Socials

Isaac: No, this is just for Spring Election. So VP Socials would be excluded from this.

Devon: I'll add that as a friendly amendment.

Maichael: The AMS policy prohibits election slates for student representatives. For AMS elections, slates are prohibited for elected positions and student government. We are technically running this on behalf of AMS so technically we need to continue prohibiting slates so that if someone decides to appeal our election results to the AMS, it would open us up to scrutiny to this process.

### **Motion**

WHEREAS elective rules exist to ensure an unbiased and transparent election process

WHEREAS in recent years some actions by candidates or their designates not covered by our existing election rules were concerning to some students

BIRT the MUS accept the amendments relevant to Election Rules in the Constitution and Bylaws

<p>Vote here: <a href="https://forms.gle/dT8i4gYXh1uoo7hX9">https://forms.gle/dT8i4gYXh1uoo7hX9</a></p>	<p>In favour 33 Against 1 Abstain 3</p>	
<p><b>Move Year I Class Elections to VP Internal Portfolio</b></p> <p>Background VP Internal is the elections officer of the MUS whose role is to run MUS Spring Elections and all by-elections Year I Class Council elections are traditionally run by Year II Class President who acts as Elections Officer - this election includes all positions on the Year I Class Council and several positions on the MUS council (IT Officer Jr, VP Communications Jr, VP Sponsorship and Donor Relations Jr, Club's Rep, VP Finance Jr, site Indigenous Health reps) Year II President runs these elections traditionally to ensure appropriate handover and support to incoming Year I President Year II President has many responsibilities in the fall when these elections are occurring (Camp Make Friends, Body Donor Memorial, etc) and VP Internal's fall responsibilities are relatively light</p> <p>This was a decision made by myself and all of the class presidents to spread out the work to the benefit of both positions.</p> <p>Army: I wanted to share that I feel like that it makes a lot of sense to have this responsibility be allocated to the VP Internal because it takes a bit of transition to get to know all of the MUS positions. Should this motion pass, I will be sure to make a smooth transition for the year 1 president.</p> <p>Jeremy: I agree that this responsibility should be moved to the VP internal because this position was kind of lost in the last elections. I am confused why the MUS elections are run at the same time as the class council elections.</p> <p>Isaac: The reason for that is that the positions for MUS are for year 1 students. During that time, we are more likely to get the year 1 class students to join.</p> <p>Jeremy: Why aren't some positions run for in the fall then?</p> <p>Isaac: This has been an evolving process and a lot of the positions were moved to year 1 positions which is why there were some positions lost in the shuffle. They became year 1 specific position last AGM.</p>	<p>Isaac Rodin (VP Internal)</p> <p>Mover: Isaac Rodin Second: Monica Hsieh</p>	

Stephen: I am in full support of this motion. I understood how busy Tony chae was last year as the year II class president. This would be able to alleviate some of the stress.

Maichael: I am also in support of this and this would foster a connection with the first year students and MUS. Ideally, we should be electing most of our executives in the spring but because we are a bit different in student progression. Due to this, we have to hold some positions later to have continuity with Jr/Sr positions.

Zach: THIS is a great way to offload some of the stress on the class president to reduce burnout.

**Motion**

WHEREAS VP Internal is the Elections Officer of the MUS and responsible for oversight of all MUS elections

WHEREAS Year II President has many responsibilities during the fall when Year I elections are held

BIRT MUS accept the amendments relevant to moving responsibility for running Year I elections from Year II President's portfolio to VP Internal's portfolio in the Constitution and Bylaws

Vote here: <https://forms.gle/N7txW9akpY1AdwVd9>

In favour  
35  
Against 0  
Abstain 3



## Emergency Response Committee

### Background

We faced unprecedented circumstances with COVID-19 and realized we did not have any emergency preparedness or response in place in our constitution.

Emergency Response Committee is new proposed committee whose purpose is to (1) Organize and coordinate the response of the membership of the MUS when faced with an exceptional external circumstance requiring rapid leadership and logistical organization and (2) Disseminate information to the student body regarding decisions made by the MUS with faculty that affect student curriculum and/or student activities.

This can be struck by the MUS President in an exceptional circumstances without the need for ratification at a general council meeting, its membership is at the discretion of the MUS President, however an emergency council meeting is to occur within 1 week of the formation of the committee so it can report to the MUS Council

The committee will have authority to take actions and plan initiatives which would traditionally fall under other executive portfolios, returning those responsibilities at a time the committee sees fit.

In summary, the committee ensures that if a situation like covid arises again, we would be able to respond as a society through already set up mechanisms. Any questions?

Stephen: Point of clarification, is this referring to reporting to the full MUS council?

Isaac: I think we will do a full council meeting.

Stephen: This is a great idea if we have a natural disaster in the future, we know the MUS president is looking out for us. Great idea!

Khash: Can we get a clarification to "what they see fit" means? If the committee is formed and there is a MUS meeting next week, who would be in power? The council or emergency council?

Isaac: It is intentionally vague because during times that would require rapid organization and decision making, I think that things would need to happen quite rapidly and the point is to make sure there is mechanism in place that something can be run through the MUS, with the president leading who has best interests of MUS council and its constituents in their heart. It is intentionally vague. The line was included as a product of discussion from last meeting. I don't have a very good answer, sorry.

Isaac  
Rodin (VP  
Internal)

Mover:  
Isaac  
Rodin  
Seconded:  
Monica  
Hsieh

Khash: I understand but what if the president had ulterior motives? Can we put in a clause that after a week, the MUS would be able to give an ok or modify as they see fit?

Isaac: Can you draft something as a friendly amendment and I can decide?

Khash: Yeah sure I can try.

Dallas: I have a question. With regards to the formation of the committee, is the MUS president forming this committee from the existing student body or from existing MUS executives.

Isaac: The idea is that they can form it with whatever students they want. It is at their discretion.

Gabe: Similarly, I wanted to clarify that vagueness was purposeful? So the discretion of the MUS president referred to being able to call up any number of students from whatever student demographics desired?

Isaac: This is correct.

Zach: Do you think that (in relation to Khash's comment) one week for the potential dissolution for that group could be potentially a challenge. If the president assembles this group and in one week, there may be an initiation cost and things move slower, but with the potential that MUS stops that and creates something else, this can be potentially a bad thing. But, as a whole, MUS would have the best interest in mind. In the first week, it might be a difficult decision and obstacles in maneuvering tasks. It may be difficult for MUS to stop what has started after 1 week may be a greater obstacle. Perhaps we need an updated consultation after 1 week but perhaps the potential dissolution could be up to 1 month. This is as if they were planning something, as necessary.

Isaac: Do you want to draft that change and I'll put that in as a friendly amendment?

Zach: If you take Khash's suggestion but at this time, if the dissolution will not be in 1 week, then we do not need this change.

Reem: Just a comment that this is a great proactive thing. With the potential formation of an emergency response committee, I don't know who is there to stop an external committee from forming by just students outside of MUS. Is there a formal thing we want to announce or if there is a way to tackle that, just for people who are not involved in

MUS, they won't know about this and it would be counterproductive to have so many committees formed. Just something to think about.

Khash: I have a potential amendment. Once the emergency committee does report to MUS, all they need is a 50% vote to continue functioning, and if they don't get that, MUS president can suggest modifications. But I have no problem changing the 1 week. Just so that once MUS comes into play and gives their blessing to the committee, they can carry on doing what they need to do.

Isaac: I am fine with that. I will take Khash's friendly amendment and I will change it to say 1 week will be an update and 1 month?

Khash: 1 month is appropriate because at that point, we would have an MUS meeting anyways.

Zach: After that MUS meeting, there would be an opportunity for them to present. Also, we are setting the lowest bar here. Just because it needs to occur at this point does not mean that the MUS president would not call a meeting earlier, which I think they would do and should do.

Dr. Lui: Point of information: According to Robert's Rules of Order, 50% is the required threshold for approving motions

John: Quick comment. We don't want committees popping up, which is what this motion is happening. In the future, if something were to happen, it would be empowering of them to take action and seek out students so that we don't run into issues with transparency and accountability. This is an excellent idea that I do want to encourage. It empowers the president (elected by the student body) so it makes most sense for it to work this way.

Stephen: I have some suggestions. This is a great idea. It depends on the emergency. If there was an earthquake, we would want the MUS president to mobilize our students off the island. If MUS communicates to the student body, it would reduce confusion. As to when to meet, what if we write the MUS must set a meeting date within one week.

Zach: Would that be a friendly amendment?

Isaac: Yes that's good. Thanks stephen.

Dallas: In regards to Reem and Stephen's point. Can we have clear expectations of the knowledge of who's on this committee and the committee has been struck to be out to all the students? We should

have a quick and clear communication strategy that this is happening and these are the people we can contact.

Maichael: Just a comment. This is a great idea and I am in support. For a lot of students who are discussing this, the motion cannot fix everything and something that needs to be done more broadly is that a lot of this organization depends on who lives in the organization structure. This is why it is good to have rigorous protocols regarding lines of communications, who's in charge. How quickly can MUS meetings be called. I don't think the MUS should necessarily call a meeting with the executives, it is separate from the council part of what fell apart is that we maybe want to reflect and improve synergy and communication plans in our society. We cannot fix all of that with just this motion so I don't feel that Isaac should bear the burden to encompass all this. We need robust mechanisms and people in the organization should be aware of these things and respect this. It doesn't seem necessary now but things like this challenge our system. This is a good learning experience and we will come out as a stronger group. We should think about how we rally our troops and organize info and relay information and build consensus quickly around key action items.

Dallas: I said the president will inform the student body within 2 days of the formation. Just like with this emergency, I wouldn't want to wait too long.

Isaac: Yes it is hard to encompass everything and we are doing a good job. That being said, I am happy to include that in the motion as a friendly amendment.

Zach: In reflection of recent events, this has the premise that from related parties, it ended up existing separately in concern of the legitimacy and sentiments to threat and lack of support. This creates a formalized way of legitimizing and responding in an emergency. This allows space for a reminder that when there is an emergency, it is hard to take a step back to think about what else do I need to do to make sure everything is working properly. This reminds us that we need to tell everyone and MUS. Those actions are important and I am in support of this motion.

Gabe: Will there be a general disaster checklist that the committee can follow? There can be different emergencies but is there a protocol?

Isaac: Can you clarify?

Gabe: Is there a checklist, like 1) after formation, must inform the student body. 2) reach out to a faculty member... etc.

Isaac: That's similar to Maichael's point. We can't make it perfect in the constitution and we cannot lay out every little thing but this will just have to be at the discretion of the committee.

Zach: Does anyone have any other comments?

Isaac: I wanted to thank Stephen, Monica and Chris for working on these motinos. I appreciate their commitment to updating our constitution. I know this was a wild time with COVID but if there are changes that you are passionate about, I would encourage you to join the committee so we can work on all of those.

Amendment by Khash:

Once the emergency council meets with the MUS it's formation, the Emergency council will need over 50% of the MUS vote to continue functioning. If the emergency council cannot procure these votes, it will fall on the MUS president to modify the emergency council in a way that does procure 50% of the vote.

Amendment by Dallas:

The president will inform the student body of the Emergency Council formation and its membership within 2 days of its formation.

**Motion**

WHEREAS The MUS requires rapid leadership and logistical organization when faced with emergencies or exceptional circumstances

WHEREAS no existing mechanism for this leadership and organization existed before in the constitution

BIRT MUS accept the amendments relevant to Emergency Response Committee in the Constitution and Bylaws

Vote here: <https://forms.gle/ix9EEj9q8nAbQNcv7>

In favour  
42 Against  
0  
Abstain 2

## MUS Budget Proposal

### Budget:

### Presentation:

### Motion:

WHEREAS the MUS fiscal year ends in end of April

WHEREAS the current method of budgeting leads to over-allocation of financial resources for some constituency and under-allocation for others,

WHEREAS site leads require further consultation on funding, the site lead budget will be tabled for the next MUS meeting

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the MUS adopts the 2020-2021 budget as proposed, including the creation of a new MUS discretionary fund, with the exception of site lead budget changes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the discretionary fund aims to provide additional funds to current MUS constituency already receiving financial support from MUS, but not at an adequate level, and that the decision regarding allocation is to be made by the MUS finance committee, and that a maximum of 50% of the fund can be given out by the end of first academic term

Vote here: <https://forms.gle/tsFbYHiK1da7CuEJ9>

Billy Zhao  
(VP  
Finance  
Sr.)

Mover:  
Billy Zhao  
Second:  
Gabe

In favour  
28  
Against 7  
Abstain 3

## External Updates

Before I get started, I wanted to open the floor to outgoing VP External Sr to add something before I begin.

Devon: Go ahead Reem, you always do so well!

Reem: The CFMS Spring General Meeting will be April 18 virtually and I will register you if you're interested. UBC can send 20 delegates but there may be more room for more students to register but on a first-come-first-serve basis if you didn't get a chance to apply. A comment from RoBC, they are very grateful for the work that medical students have provided during this COVID crisis. They wanted to make sure that I portray that they are very thankful and they are happy to see medical students being engaged. They asked for permission to use our resources for wellness and I've shared that. The last thing is that I've received several emails (from OOP) to help with COVID. I have sent centralized documents from different schools. I was wondering, since

Reem Aziz  
(VP  
External  
Sr.)

there are some students from the response team now, if it would be okay to update myself about any initiatives that you are doing so I can relay them to other students from UBC as well as other schools so I am more aware and I can connect people better. If someone can respond, that'd be great.

Zach: There is a briefing note that was prepared and can be shared with you.

Reem: To other students, if you know any other opportunities that would be amazing, just so I have a better grasp of what's happening. It's hard to keep tabs on everything but I just wanted to get your help on doing that.

**COVID-19 Steering Committee accountability**

Hi everyone. Just as an introduction, I am the past president. This year, I've been more behind the scenes but I've been stepping forward to support Zach when needed. This motion has a lot of context on it and I will try to brief you on it. I am sure many of you are aware that the issue of the MSRT COVID steering committee has been rather contentious in the past few weeks. In the last emergency meeting, MUS did pass a motion that it would support the efforts of the steering committee, but it was a little ambiguous as to what the support means. There was no concrete definition of support that MUS would offer and the committee would accept. AND as such, the students would feel like there is little transparency. This is important since it affects many students. I gathered different parties' perspectives. The committee was formed because they wanted to act quickly and nimbly. Understandably, the issue was that there is too much bureaucracy in MUS to get this going. For example, the financial portfolio. But that being said, there needs to be transparency and accountability. To balance, I spoke to both parties and we came to a mutual understanding that this is all about students. We need to act in the best interest of students that they're doing these activities appropriately, and we need to do this transparently. In this motion, we have an action item asked of the steering committee, in that they will agree to regularly update and agree to dissolve or transfer authority in consultation with the MUS. We are striking this emergency committee and they will be in contact and update the MUS to create a plan. This is a good way to move forward. I have spoken to other people regarding this. If we look at this, it's about trust. Do we trust the steering committee to do a good job? I say we do and they have. Do we trust MUS to agree to the things being done? And we should trust the MUS as

John Liu  
(Past President)  
Mover:  
John Liu  
Seconded:  
Stephen

the governing body. If we put the politics aside, I hope we can agree on this but I am happy to hear from everybody (as an executive or general student body) on your opinions.

Stephen: Can I second the motion?

Zach: I will step away from chairing this section, so I will be passing the torch to Maichael.

Maichael: Thanks.

Stephen: Thank you John for your efforts in negotiating this. People might remember there was an anonymous petition. The three student reps have helped put this motion forward. IT is a good way to congratulate and acknowledge the committee and MUS, so good job John.

Devon: I wanted to say we've had a chat with the steering committee and this is a collaborative process and the committee agreed with this. A previous issue was how we were going to coordinate this. The steering committee wants to work with council productively so this is great

Maichael: we can move forth with the motion then. John can you read it?##

Zoom link: <https://ubc.zoom.us/j/7364671596>

**Motion:**

WHEREAS at the Medical Undergraduate Society (MUS) Emergency Meeting on March 23 2020, the MUS voted in favour to support the efforts of the BC COVID-19 Medical Student Response Team ("MSRT") Steering Committee.

WHEREAS the spirit and implications of this motion to support the MSRT Steering Committee may be unclear to some MUS executives and the wider MUS student body.

WHEREAS some MUS executives and members of the wider MUS student body have called for more accountability and transparency in the governance structure of the MSRT Steering Committee.

Be it resolved that the MUS clarifies the support provided to the "COVID-19 Steering Committee" by formally striking an emergency committee known as the "BC COVID-19 Medical Student Response Team

In favour  
29  
Against 8  
Abstain 6



Steering Committee" which will retain all necessary independence and autonomy of operation, but will agree to regularly inform the MUS executive of its activities.

Be it further resolved that the MUS executive requests that the MSRT Steering Committee develop a plan for dissolution or transfer of authority in consultation with the MUS. In the event an election is required, the MUS further requests that one seat on the committee be the MUS President or designate.

Vote here: <https://forms.gle/nH34G2ypyM8TeLio6>

### Planetary Health Rep

I would kindly request Maichael continue to take the reins just due to avoiding chairing my own motion and the conflict of interest. We can discuss after I read the motion to explain some of the terminology. This will be a more formalized structure to integrate a student rep to our governing body in accordance with the CFMS HEART and other initiatives.

Stephen: I support this motion and this sounds incredible. Hopefully viruses do not jump to humans from animals. Is this a 2/3 majority vote?

Zach: At this time, I expect this to be a trial position once it is reviewed after the one year term.

Billy: With this new position, what sort of financial support do you foresee this position will need?

Zach: At this point, it would be a role for coordination and should not need further funding in addition to the enviromed club. Thank you for voting and a lot of different meetings were used to discuss this position. Thank you to everyone who was a part of this.

#### Motion:

Motion to establish a Planetary Health Representative under the Global & Indigenous Health Portfolio:

WHEREAS the degradation of natural systems and climate change during the Anthropocene has resulted in unprecedented deleterious direct, ecosystem-mediated, and indirect health effects that will impact our patients, our descendants, and ourselves.

Zach  
Sagorin  
(MUS  
President)

Mover:  
Zach  
Sagorin  
Secunder:  
Jeremy

In favour  
31  
Against 2  
Abstain 1

WHEREAS the nascent transdisciplinary concept of planetary health extends and focalizes global health on the health of humans and the natural systems on which we depend.

WHEREAS health professionals, according to the Lancet Planetary Health publication "Safeguarding human health in the Anthropocene epoch", are considered a key constituency to potentially link action to reduce environmental damage with improved health outcomes and there exists both national, provincial, and local physician and medical student organizations coordinating and advocating for planetary health (including, but not limited to: Clinicians for Planetary Health, IFMSA, Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, CFMS HEART), yet the MUS does not have a designated position for Planetary Health.

WHEREAS there is an opportunity for local and national collaboration on Planetary Health amongst medical students, capacity to optimize the sustainability of the MUS, and growing interest in planetary health from UBC medical students.

BIRT the MUS establish a new non-voting position on our council for a Planetary Health Representative under the Global & Indigenous Health portfolio for a 1-year term, to be elected during upcoming fall elections, and position subsequently reviewed at AGM 2021 to decide, by majority vote, whether the position should be made a permanent addition to the MUS council.

BIFRT the new Planetary Health Representative will be responsible for liaising with external organizations on matters related to planetary health (including, but not limited to: CFMS HEART, Doctors of BC Environmental Health Committee, and CAPE BC), assist with the planning and coordination of Planetary Health events conducted by UBC medical students and the MUS, develop and quantify a waste reduction initiative for the MUS, advocate for relevant curriculum changes in consultation and reporting to the MUS VP Academic Sr.

Vote here: <https://forms.gle/pHLCejzxpYfDDWcbA>

**MSAC Gym Equipment Rentals**

Background

Matt Madsen (Sports Director)

The MSAC gym has been closed due to the recent social distancing measures with the COVID-19 pandemic. I was approached by a group of students who wished to lend out equipment to fellow students. I asked the interested students to send out a survey to all medical students and they got nearly 150 responses of interested students. After discussion around rental agreements, deposits, safety and MSAC Manager I believe this project has merit and would benefit the study body by helping them maintain their physical health. We are planning on beginning to lend equipment in the middle of April following MUS approval. We believe there are appropriate mechanisms in place to ensure that gym equipment would be replaced if not returned at no cost to the MUS.

Dr. Lui: I think this is a great idea. My only point of caution is that in your agreement, the people who are renting must agree that it is only for individual use because that would defeat the purpose of social distancing. We need this agreement for liability purposes so they can't use it in groups with other people.

Matthew: Yes, that will be added to the lease agreement.

Maichael: I like the principle behind this. I have a question. What are people looking to borrow? I have concerns about whether equipment we lend out will be returned but also returned potentially damaged. The lease agreement should be updated so that it is reflective that the student is responsible for the total cost of replacement should equipment be lost or damaged beyond repair. I would suggest the agreement have a signature and I think that should be included.

Matthew: Yes, your concerns are the same as mine. The cost of the equipment will be agreed upon initially and a deposit will be taken. There is still some discussion as to what will be lent out, since some equipment can be worth \$500. It depends if people are willing to put down the deposit, since we would have collateral to replace the equipment. Another concern is that the gym is used by many people, the MSAC could be somewhat unusable for a couple months if things were lost. I hope medical students will return things in good condition.

Mover:  
Matthew  
Madsen  
Seconded:  
Jeremy

Maichael: Is the deposit going to be different depending on what people are getting? How are we getting the deposit? Cash, e-transfer, cheque?

Matthew: Now the suggestions are cheque and e-transfer since it ensures the money is available. The issue is that it will be in someone's personal account for a while. The deposit will vary by item. The person needs to find the item, find the replacement value and charge accordingly. Deposit will vary per item.

Maichael: Thanks.

Gabe: Just a brief clarification for the return. Since they are responsible for the item being damaged, is there a standard that they are notified about the maximum damage allowed before they are responsible for it?

Matthew: This will be agreed initially and the condition will be noted. Usually if an item breaks it will really be broken, as in it would usually be noticed anyways. I don't think there will be an issue of damage vs non damage.

Dr. Lui: Two questions. 1) Who has the legal title to this? Is it MUS or MSAC? Because if it is not owned by MUS, do we have the right to rent it? 2) This could be oversubscribed since there are 150+ students and there may not be enough items. Will it be a lottery system or first come first serve?

Matthew: I don't know who has a legal title. I believe it would be MUS but I am not sure. I do have approval of the MSAC general manager who is okay with this project moving forward. We are planning for a lottery system since there are students looking for certain items that are more popular. It is safer not to return the items before this is over, so some students would not get leftover items.

Zach: I do think the items are owned by MSAC, funded by MAA. But if Adrienne is in agreement with this, it should be okay.

Parker: Who is the counterparty of this project. I don't believe MUS can enter any legal agreement. MUS is quite stingy in legal agreement that constituent organizations can enter into. I would not want someone to be liable to negligence somewhere.

Zach: Documents are sent by AMS representatives. That being said, this could be signed from MSAC or MAA, and something should be investigated from that perspective. I think that if that is the concern, then this motion could move forward in terms of how to appropriately continue this, in spirit of renting out equipment if possible.

Maichael: There are 150+ students who want to rent equipment. Does MSAC have that much equipment to go out and stay out there until potentially COVID resolves. We'd have to track people down and aside from the legal side, it seems like a lot of work. The other thing is the lease agreement may be difficult to do with social distancing but some people have to go into the MSAC, or could just go in and take stuff.

Matthew: I agree, you are totally right. I love the spirit of the application and it has the right nature but it sets itself up for many legal complications. The optics seem not beneficial if not proceeded with correctly. The group has done a good job in social distancing in terms of sanitizing and timing for handing out equipment, ensuring passing on and transfer. If we don't get equipment back, I hope that we will get enough time to reintroduce equipment to come back. Within 7 days, people would have to return their equipment. There are so many unknowns in regards to what they are doing and returning things can be quite difficult. The incoming Sports Director could be responsible for helping people bring equipment back in. I believe that this could be beneficial but I agree it does have a big risk.

Billy: I took a quick look at the contract. I don't think this needs to go through AMS. AMS is very slow when it comes to responding to these things and given the vast number of students to pass this (given this passes), it would be very slow from AMS perspective.

Dr. Lui: I would be worried about citing Adrienne Hammond saying this is okay. Being a formal MAA board member, I am not sure that Adrienne has the line authority to approve this. It would be safer to her to go a little higher. We are talking about university assets and I would hate to see her get burned since she approved something, when she shouldn't have. That is my additional word of caution.

Zach: There is a MAA board meeting that me and site leads are attending tomorrow. It sounds like there are some pieces of information that will impede us from making us a firm decision.

Matthew: I do agree with Dr. Lui's point. I'd like to speak about this on conditional approval with MUS and continue talking to this with MSAC and MAA. What pieces of information would help you make a firm decision?

Zach: Just the assurance of who directly owns this. If it is MAA, that this is cleared by them and that in terms of liability agreement, that it has also been reviewed from their side as well. It is a shame to make a unilateral decision that would result in a loss of assets, especially from a group that funds various events and sponsors initiatives. It is better to have a clear line of communication before moving forward. That being said, I do agree in the spirit of this motion, which would be appropriate at this time. Matt, could you edit the motion that we will continue evaluating this and it will be pending

Maichael: Can we just table this and move it to the next MUS meeting?

Matthew: When is the next meeting?

Zach: It is unclear. Usually this would be the last meeting but given curricular changes it might be next month?

Maichael: The motion must be approved or not. If we don't, then it goes to the table anyways. I understand if you want to put it to the vote, that's totally cool but I don't think it's appropriate to

modify the motion so that it is conditional to what the MAA says. It needs to be iterative.

Zach: There are just other things we need to know before we agree to do this.

Dr. Lui: I don't think MAA owns these assets, but rather MSAC. We gave MSAC the money to purchase assets, and since MSAC reports to the university, these assets likely belong to the university.

Zach: We will vote on this motion.

Dr. Lui: We can modify the motion to include "provided confirmation that MUS has the legal authorization to rent this equipment on behalf of the owners"

- After vote -

Dr. Lui: Is this the total votes must be over 50%, or the votes for and against must be over 50%. Or else we are essentially saying the abstain vote is effective as a no.

Stephen: I thought abstain is neutral.

Maichael: I thought it was the total vote because abstain adds to the denominator but not to the numerator, since we still need to count that vote.

Zach: According to online, we would only ignore blanks.

Dr. Lui: For other organizations, abstains don't get counted as no votes. But it depends on the organization. Perhaps MUS has made a decision earlier, but the general idea is that an abstention does not count towards or against it.

Zach: From our Robert's Rules powerpoints shared to all of us, it should be for vs against, ignoring abstentions.

John: Can I move to revote? Will someone second?

Maichael: I will second!

Zach: We will revote considering total members, excluding blanks and abstentions.

## Documents

[MSAC Equipment Rental Proposal.docx](#)

[MSAC Equipment Lease Agreement.docx](#)

### MSAC Equipment Lease Agreement

This Equipment Lease Agreement is made and entered on \_\_\_\_\_, by and between \_\_\_\_\_ (Lessor) and \_\_\_\_\_ (Lessee)

The Parties agree as follows:

**1. EQUIPMENT:** Lessor hereby leases to lessee the following equipment:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2. EQUIPMENT LEASE:** The lease will start on \_\_\_\_\_ (begin date) and end date is subject to provincial health officer recommendations for reopening of non-essential services. Lessee will agree to return equipment within 7 days of email sent date.

**3. LEASE PAYMENTS:** Lessee agrees to pay to Lessor as deposit for the Equipment the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ one time refundable upon return of undamaged equipment

**4. LATE CHARGES AND DAMAGES:** Lessee must guarantee return of equipment within 7 days of email sent date. Late return or damaged equipment will forfeit deposit.

**5. PICK-UP/DROP-OFF:** An email notification will provide the details regarding the pick-up and drop-off processes. These will comply with current physical distancing standards. Lessee is responsible for all pick-up and drop-off of equipment.

**6. USE OF EQUIPMENT:** Lessee shall only use the Equipment in a careful and proper manner and will comply with all laws, rules, ordinances, statutes and orders regarding the use, maintenance of storage of the Equipment. Lessor is not responsible for any injuries resulting as a use of equipment.

**7. CONDITION OF EQUIPMENT AND REPAIR:** Lessee has inspected the Equipment and acknowledges that the Equipment is in good and acceptable condition.

In favour  
11  
Against 8  
Abstain 4

## Motion

Vote to  
revote:  
In favour  
14



<p>WHERE AS we are in unprecedented times with the COVID-19 pandemic resulting in lots of indoor time and inability to access the MSAC Gym.</p> <p>WHERE AS medical students need exercise to ensure their mental, physical and spiritual needs are meet</p> <p>BIRT the MUS council approves the lending of equipment to UBC Medical Students. Provided that MUS can confirm it has the legal authority to lend this equipment on behalf of the owners.</p> <p>Vote Here: <a href="https://forms.gle/p6n8MCRV1dCsLjiY9">https://forms.gle/p6n8MCRV1dCsLjiY9</a></p> <p>Vote to revoke: <a href="https://forms.gle/yz419SZnLe3ZsDoc9">https://forms.gle/yz419SZnLe3ZsDoc9</a></p> <p>Revote: <a href="https://forms.gle/prcB6kfiF85rzTsB6">https://forms.gle/prcB6kfiF85rzTsB6</a></p> <p>Zach: I would say there appears to be interest in MUS supporting this but this should be considered at a later decision if we have more information. In 2 meetings, we can re-evaluate this and can be discussed more if it was decided.</p>	<p>Against 4</p> <p>Revote: In favour 11</p> <p>Against 12</p> <p>Abstain 3</p>	
<p><b>MUS Endowment Fund</b></p> <p>Background</p> <p>The MUS created an endowment fund last year from a stagnant AMS fund from previous MUS budget surpluses.</p> <p>One thing I am thinking of is that people were talking about scholarships from this MUS endowment fund. I think that this is inappropriate because these funds are from student fees so it should not be given to a select few individuals.</p> <p>Zach: Point of information: It has not been created due to communication between the lawyers and the faculty alumni office. This would be a stipulation of future utilization of this fund.</p>	<p>Matt Madsen (Sports Director)</p> <p>Mover: Matthew Madsen</p> <p>Secunder: Dallas</p> <p>In favour</p>	

Maichael: You made some compelling points here. The spirit of the endowment was to create a sustainable way so we can use the MUS funds to contribute to supporting students. The understanding of that time was to put the money into that bottom line to draw for future use. Even though MUS does not explicitly support individual students, we do use it for individual use for PAC travel, travel bursaries etc, It is still doable to have this fund for the majority of students but it is my understanding that the decision has been made to favor fewer students and larger awards. We can possibly approach this by having more awards and smaller funds.

Dr. Lui: Once you set an endowment fund, you set a charter. It is really difficult to undo this so you cannot go back on the charter in the future. Restrictions that are narrow will stick forever.

Stephen: I was curious why now and did you think a majority of the endowment fund will be used for scholarships? Do you want to narrow this so that it should not be used for tuition reimbursement?

Matt: In this case, I figured my term is ending and I have been thinking about this for a while.

Zach: For the current charter, it stipulates that the fund can be used for scholarships, initiatives that support the goals of the MUS as deemed appropriate by the MUS. It gives freedom for future individuals to use this fund as deemed most beneficial. For example, we give out awards at MedBall and for one year the funds do not go through. This endowment fund could be used to replace that. That is the overall goal: to allow MUS to use this fund as they see fit. I would be cautious to add any other restrictions to make the amount as accessible as possible.

Matt: I was not aware of the specifics for this endowment fund. At this point, I am happy to resolve this motion.

Zach: I am happy to share the documents as they stand for the fund. You can pass any concerns you have along and I will raise it to future meetings. It does not mean it is the end of this conversation with your position ending.

Matt: I would like to withdraw this motion.

**Motion**

Against  
Abstain

Where as the MUS Endowment Fund was created from previous medical student funds and therefore should benefit as many students possible

BIRT the MUS Endowment Fund should not be allowed to dispense scholarships to any medical students.

Vote Here: <https://forms.gle/pXtqk7pTRDHSWV7c6>

**Motion to Adjourn**

Moved: Dr. Lui

Seconded: Monica

In favor: all