

September 22 AIC Minutes

Room 172

In attendance: Aimee Schalles, Anthony Oliver, Bryan Badali, Dave Peltier, Emily MacKinnon, Eric Gauf, Joe Scafe, Graham Hardy, Kate Phipps, Kelli McAllister (chair), Kyle Johnson, Shirley Smiley, Yun Li

Absent: Sara Hopkins

Introductions & 1L Election Results:

- Kelli: pleased to welcome Graham Hardy, Bryan Badali, Anthony Oliver, and Kyle Johnson the 1L reps for AIC
- Introductions made....

Items for discussion:

- Proposals & Initiatives
 - Professional Development: Upper Years
 - Kelli: Feedback from upper year students is that they would like to see more professional skills development. Opens floor for discussion on how to address this feedback.
 - Dave: More practical/professional development would mean more writing assignments in courses
 - Emily: We (AIC) should talk to upper years and see what skills they need
 - Shirley: Perhaps we need to draw students attention to the resources that are already available, such as the research and writing courses
 - Eric: If we begin focussing on just skills then we are preparing students for the 1st two year
 - Dave: We should consider talking to the firms and see if there are specific things they have noticed
 - Kate: Will fire off email to the director of students at her summer firm, as should the other AIC members who summered with firms inquiring about the performance of students, seeing if there is anything lacking that is not currently being addressed; not today in a couple of months
 - Shirley: It may be more efficient to talk to career services and see what feedback they are receiving from firms
 - Yun: Upper years have commented that small firms are not focussed on at all in the process of applying; talk to Tracey Watchman of CSO
 - Dave: Start with CSO to gather information.
 - Kelli: So we'll start gathering information and then make decisions going forward from there.
 - AIC vision statement
 - Kelli: Issue in past years has been institutional memory and the lag time between the Faculty getting adjusting to the new AIC for each academic year. Perhaps we should develop some sort of vision statement or idea of what AIC does/aspires to achieve to facilitate a more consistent vision/approach to AIC from year to year. Opens the floor for discussion.

- Eric: useful idea, but doesn't like the idea of a "vision statement" maybe framework or operating guidelines
- Kate: We could turn it into a strategic plan with action items
- Yun: Who we are and who we will strive to be....
- Kate & Kelli will put together some stuff from other AIC-similar student bodies and present it in 2 weeks
- (Aside) Emily: How are we communicating with upper years?
 - Kate: Yes, announce in class. (As in previous years).
 - Yun: Remember to ask before class for permission from the prof before class. You are representing the LSS and the student body.
 - Kelli: Please be polite and respectful to the professors.
- Financial/Scholarship tuition strategy—scholarship survey
 - Kelli: This is an ongoing issue, with the faculty lobbying in previous years (at various different times, most notably 5-6 years ago) to raise the tuition for law. This was narrowly avoided when the BC government put a cap on tuition, but at some point the government will change and then it'll be the same discussion. We need to consider what strategy we would like to take to avoid/negate/address this....
 - Eric: provincial gov't put a tuition cap on everything; faculty was ready to increase tuition by \$6k (approximately). The law faculty was to hold budgetary meetings over the summer with student consultation; which didn't happen.
 - Province is doing a student-aid review; lobbying will wait on those results
 - Aimee: keep our eyes on what happens on the budget consultation process (no writing letters to the dean right now).
 - Make sure we're in on the budgetary process
 - Kate:
 - Dean was lobbying to remove tuition cap on professional schools
 - Maybe CBA to lobby to keep student status when articling...same with clerking
 - Dave: will talk to CBA about maintaining student status when articling/clerking so that law students do not need to repay student loans during this time.
- Strategic Planning update
 - Kate: 90% completed; now reflects that UBC law is creating future lawyers, Ben Goold is going to chair a strategic plan sub-committee
- AMS meeting:
 - Kate AMS met last week, Kate will forward the information on what was discussed out to everyone on AIC.
- Photography session at 1PM with Ting!
 - Photos to be used as soon as the LSS website launches....and maybe in the gallery

Meeting adjourned at 1:15