



Submission to the UBC Board of Governors regarding the Career Plan

Dear People, Community, and International Committee,

According to the Academic Experience Survey released in February 2020, 70% of undergraduates know what career they are interested in after graduation. Meanwhile, it is evident that graduate students feel more prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation than undergraduate students. These statistics reveal a great deal about the comfort of students with their post-graduation prospects and drive towards employment or opportunities presented in a post-university context. It is clear that undergraduate students require more support and security within their education experience that can solidify their comfort when emerging from university into the job market and beyond. A notable approach that can tackle this includes increasing experiential learning opportunities available at UBC.

The Alma Mater Society recommends the Administration to work with a diverse set of student leaders and faculty stakeholders along with the CSIC to create a shared vision and goal of experiential education at UBC. This is of great importance to increase awareness and action at the UBC Vancouver campus in experiential learning initiatives. A unique opportunity to accomplish this would be to develop targets for UBC student's exposure to experiential learning and Work-Integrated learning opportunities as part of degree requirements. We also recommend that the administration work with faculties and the CSIC in launching a review of all current co-op and internship services to reduce barriers to participation and communication, as well as administrative support for students.

The AMS recognizes the continued career support that CSIC provides for job and volunteering opportunities, however, we recommend that the University invest more towards streamlined support to allow students a greater and individually-tailored career network. In practice, this could be realized through services such as LinkedIn Learning or the appointment of particular faculty staff as career services executives. The AMS notes that particular professional graduate

programs at UBC (such as those available at the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs and the Sauder School of Business) have centralized career support that are closely connected to opportunities within their respective job industries. However, undergraduate programs seem to lack this type of centralized and program-specific support, therefore giving undergraduate students an unfair advantage compared to graduate students. A faculty-based approach to career development services within undergraduate programs would help connect students to paths that are better shaped around their unique career vision.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cole Evans', with a stylized, flowing script.

Cole Evans
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Morgan Lorenz', with a stylized, flowing script.

Morgan Lorenz
AVP University Affairs