

L&L Meeting Agenda – October 10, 2018 (Room 2009)

Present: Rachael, Cory, Karin, Alina, Sarah, Chadd, Kaitlyn, Adam, Simi, Matt, Steph, Manuela, Ashley H, Ashley B

Regards: None

Call to Order

12:33PM

Minutes Ratification

Ashley H puts forward motion to approve minutes, Chadd seconds, all approve. Motion passes.

Law Society of Ontario (LSO) Articling Review

Manuela: This is more of a Student Caucus jurisdiction, but I will fill you all in. For 3Ls, this is worth knowing about because it could change the profession. From the survey sent out, we received over 100 responses from the first day. LSO is looking to change the licensing procedure with respect to articling. LSO has had some consultations and has put forward a 45-page report of suggestions for how we might amend the process for licensing. The survey provides some background and 4 options for people to choose from. I was also in a meeting with the Dean and all the Deans of Ontario law schools will give recommendations as well.

There are 4 options put forward: 1) Keep it the same – still have a barrister and solicitor exam, while continually adjusting to accommodate new developments; 2) LPP and articling, retained and enhanced, and also need to pass another skilled examination (3rd test); 3) Exam based licensing, in other words no articling or LPP if practice somewhere with 6 or more lawyers; and 4) everyone takes LPP.

There is a lot of emphasis on change, since a lot of new lawyers have varied practical experiences. For example, some people only do clinics and intensives, while others only do substantive work. Articling can also be varied so worried that lots of lawyers have the privileges that come with the profession, but don't have the practical experience to be effective in their roles. While some law schools, like Ryerson, want to focus on practical education, a lot of other schools want to focus on substantive work, which many people feel is old school. They don't want to have someone who has only read about the law and now has to take on a client. LSO will make some sort of choice within the next year.

Ashley B: Whom will the changes affect?

Manuela: Possibly the 2Ls, but unlikely. Maybe 1Ls, but we don't know for sure because there's no set timeline. As of now, LSO is just calling for input from Law schools. Feedback is due in October, and people can provide quick or thorough feedback.

Summary Database Submission Incentives

Adam: Some of the courses on the summary database have very few summaries, for example Conflict of Laws and Civ Pro 2. Therefore I was wondering if we have any capacity to incentivize people who have just graduated to send in summaries? I have been contacting people who have graduated and they have provided their summaries to me but no one in Osgoode has this advantage. This seems inequitable. It's also a huge change coming from 1L where there's so many summaries but once students get into niche courses, there's a lack of summaries available, especially when the professor is new. Any thoughts?

Chadd: That is a good idea to compile a list of classes we're missing summaries from and send the list to our alumni network. I can do that and see what courses are missing summaries and create the list. That is true that some courses have a lot of summaries available, while some do not.

Adam: Exactly, and student also don't have time to filter through all the summaries for quality. Just thought we should come up with a strategy to fill the gaps.

Manuela: I agree. That's also a good idea for new classes. It's really hard to get good summaries if class is just in its second year, for example. Chadd will compile the list and we can figure out how to send it out; it can even be via Facebook.

Obiter Article

Adam: There was an article in the Obiter about a student's experience at the Anishinaabe Law Camp, and some students were upset about the language used in the article.

Manuela: It is difficult to control what goes through Obiter, as they have no constitution. Freedom of press was a really pressing issue when Obiter was established.

Sarah: It would be helpful for clubs to have a spot on Obiter so their voices can be heard.

Simi: Is it possible to make it mandatory for some positions of power to have Anti O-training?

Manuela: Anti O-training was implemented last year. Several clubs planned the training shortly after ELGC. We received really positive feedback about the experience. Professor Berger liked the idea of bringing Anti O-training to students. We wouldn't make the full session mandatory, however it would be possible to have a version of it available. Caveat is that we would need funding for it and should still have equity seeking groups running it. It would also be good to have Anti Racial and O-training for faculty, and appoint an Equity Officer for faculty. It would be beneficial for OISA to meet with Obiter and L&L, in order to move forward positively.

Chadd: We should have a retraction of the article and then a meeting as well.

Manuela: We also need to have a mechanism in place for Obiter to ensure such a situation does not happen again.

Trivia Prize

Kaitlyn: I was wondering if people have ideas for prizes for trivia that don't require spending money?

Manuela: So far we have mugs and notepads. Ashley B and I will finalize budget tomorrow but yes there is limited funding for this.

Pub Night Attendance

Kaitlyn: I'm thinking of planning the last pub night this semester on November 15. Thoughts?

Simi: That week is Mental Health and Wellness Week. Please let me know when you figure it out. We could advertise it as a Mental Health and Wellness Week bash.

Kaitlyn: There was an issue with the venue for pub night last week. We got a DJ for it and they said only 2 people showed up. I had specified to them that it would run from 9PM-1AM, with last call being at 1:45AM. I also told them that most people wouldn't arrive until closer to 11PM.

Chadd: We showed up that night around 10:45PM, and said we were with Osgoode but they said that it was over.

Kaitlyn: Okay I will explain that to them, because we want to maintain a good relationship as they are a host for O-Week.

Ski Trip

Kaitlyn: I could use some help with planning it and 1L help would be great for the bus. I also wanted to touch base with the budget and was wondering if anyone had general feedback about ski trip?

Manuela: Ashley B and I will figure out the budget tomorrow so we know how much money we have for events like ski trip, town halls, 1L formal, Mental Health and Wellness Week etc. The numbers will be out by the weekend. Also as a reminder, if you have an executive project, please make a channel on Slack.

Cory and Karin volunteer to help with ski trip.

Chadd: For ski trip, I was wondering whether there is an option to opt out of the ski pass?

Kaitlyn: No, because it's a group pass but I will double check. It's minimum 20 packages but last year we only booked 16 packages. So I will see if we can get a package with no ski passes.

Simi: Ski trip is also very expensive.

Kaitlyn: Yes, it's about \$285 each.

Chadd: The layout of the weekend was good, operationally doesn't seem that anything has to change, but maybe an opt in and out skiing package would be good.

Other Business

Steph: 2 quick things. First, I'm trying to pick a day for 3L formal. Last year it was on March 15th on the Thursday. I want to do it on a Thursday again. Fashion Law Society is having a pub night on March 7th, so March 14th or 21st would be better. Intensive

placements end on March 15th, and some of them are out of town. So I think March 21st would be best.

Kaitlyn: Fashion Law Society wants to do their fashion law event on Thursday and make it a pub night.

Manuela: Only the Athletics Association can charge on pub night.

Steph: Perhaps they could do the fashion show earlier and then have it be a pub night after.

Kaitlyn: Yeah that would work, since they can't charge for pub night.

Steph: Second thing is about L&L photos. I will send to the photographer a list of names of people on L&L and you can get your photo taken and there's no sitting fee. I will confirm dates. Adam, that goes for Student Caucus too.

Simi: I have something to say about Mental Health and Wellness Week. On Monday, Ellen will be here and we'll have alternative study rooms. On Tuesday, we should have zumba since we have an instructor at Osgoode and also have alternative study rooms. On Wednesday, there'll be cotton candy, popcorn, and the bouncy castle. Peer Support Centre is also having a paint night. On Thursday getting clubs to do something. Is anyone good with photo shop?

Karin:

Simi: I'm okay, but will need your help.

Simi: I also want to do something that we're all apart of, like a promotional video about learning to breathe. Waiting on budget.

Manuela: Numbers will be out this weekend

Simi: Second thing is to let you know that I'm trying to meet with equity seeking groups because they feel like they don't get funded well enough.

Rachael: Some people came up to me about issues they had when I was tabling. Someone suggested idea of full time accommodations officer because they have that at other law schools.

Sarah: Are there issues with having 2L informal formal on the same day as the 1L formal or 3L formal?

Chadd: It shouldn't be the same day as the 1L formal.

Sarah: It could be the same day as 3L formal.

Sarah: For the yearbook, last year we ordered 250 and there are lots left over. I was thinking of ordering 150 yearbooks this year so we could save some money.

Manuela: We don't give more than 50% of the ordered yearbooks away. Yearbooks are built into 3L fees. I spoke with Professor Dufrainmont about this and she suggested to just buy enough to feel comfortable. Might be worth having a bigger conversation about the yearbook, in terms of whether yearbooks should be an opt in fee. Then could have an online PDF for people who don't want the actual hard copy. We should think about changing the contract.

Sarah: Having an opt in process would just start adding tasks into yearbook. However if ordered 100 or 150 yearbooks that would be a good way to start.

Cory: Might be better to have people opt out of the yearbook instead of opt in.

Adjournment

Chadd motions to adjourn meeting at 1:58 pm, Matt second, all approve. Motion passes.