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L&L Meeting Agenda – September 12, 2018 (Room 2009)

Present: Manuela, Adam, Chadd, Kaitlyn, Ashley H, Sarah, Matt, Stephanie, Simi

Regards: Ashley B*

*Present at 1:30pm

1. Call to Order

* 12:34PM Toronto Time.

2. Minutes Ratification

* Manuela: We haven't ratified the minutes from the two meetings in the summer.

o During our first meeting, we discussed who would receive L&L awards. I suggest that we have that part of the meeting be closed i.e. "in camera portion".

Adam brings motion to ratify minutes and for discussion of L&L awards to be "in camera", Matt seconds, Simi abstains, all in favour. Motion passes.

3. O-Week Debrief

* Matt: This year's O-week went really well compared to the previous ones. Everything went very smoothly, except for one night where there were no buses. Boat was also amazing and the gala location was great.

* Sarah: I have no complaints – it was awesome.

* Stephanie (Steph): Theme was great, it got 1Ls engaged from the get go.

* Matt: Good that the theme was a clearly defined thing that everyone was familiar with and had an opinion on.

* Adam: I agree, given that in our 1L year, the theme was "how to get away with 1L". This was based on a TV show that didn't translate into the execution of O-week.

* Chadd: Diversity training was really well done, the one given by the Centre. L&L should look into getting access to it and the training should be incorporated into the 1L O-week.

* Manuela: I heard there was no inter or sexual violence from this O-week, which is great. I also do think it's important to have this training. Professor Dufraimont also agreed about bringing the training to 1Ls. Initially I thought it should be mandatory for 1Ls, but Professor Dufraimont said that from her experience, it is never good to make things mandatory the first time as there will be lots of resistance. We will have one this semester, around the time when midterms end (because in Criminal Law the 1Ls will have covered sexual assault) and then maybe have it mandatory next year. Come chat with me if you are interested in being involved with this process.

* Simi: I would've liked had the training been incorporated into

the 1L experience, before ELGC. I was working with Professor Dufraimont around anti-black racism and had wanted it incorporated into ELGC. It is also a great idea to do something fun and interactive like that during O-week.

o Manuela: I agree. I spoke with Balsa and they were hoping the training would be in O-week but it was too much to work on. I agree that we should try incorporating it for O-week next year.

* Manuela: Only complaint from O-week was that OUTLaws was surprised that we didn't approach them for the pub crawl. 519 was good, but OUTLaws said it would've been beneficial had they been consulted on this so they could talk about being in a queer space when not queer re: how to be mindful. We should keep that in mind for next year.

4. Health Plan Update

* Manuela: Opinions from people who were at the town hall for the health plan?

o Adam: I hate the L&L plan . I'm using my plan from work in tandem. Example why L&L plan is bad: allergy inspections not covered by L&L plan but covered by YUGSA. If you stacked up numbers versus benefits, it would be clearer. It would be helpful to have a chart illustrating a comparison between the total possible expenditures in one column for each category. I'm speaking to Danielle about that to make the comparison more numbers based.

o Manuela: Has anyone come to the Student Caucus table asking about the health plan?

o Adam: I don't know but I'm tabling tomorrow so I will find out and report back.

o Manuela: L&L should do some tabling as well for the health plan.

* Manuela: We initially were with YUGSA but the reason we switched from YUGSA to YFS is because they kicked us off because we weren't grad students. However they now want us back on the plan. I will send something around in Slack to get the tabling for the health plan started. I also need to call York about the referendum because this involves changes in fees and levies so have to go through York and it's not just an L&L thing.

5. Club Ratification (see checklist circulated)

* Matt: Almost all of them are good. IRAP is good now as well and we will be ratifying them. Osgoode Mature Students' Association hasn't sent in their Constitution as the President is away for Rosh Hashanah. Osgoode Fintech and Blockchain Association also won't be ratified today as they are affiliated with an outside institution so their Constitution hasn't been updated. This will be done in two weeks. Rest is good. Comments?

* Simi: What is the Osgoode Charity Association?

o Matt: They are new and just started last year. Everything is in order with them.

o Manuela: Their members learn about how to be a lawyer for a charity.

o Matt: They weren't initially part of the omnibus application.

* Matt: "Field Trip" club brings students together to go to court together. I just have a question about their membership policies because they say it's mandatory to attend the excursions (once per semester). However there aren't any meetings so to demonstrate involvement as a member, need to go to the excursions.

o Manuela: Yes, it sounds mandatory to go but doesn't sound like you'll get kicked off if you don't go.

o Adam: Suggested the name "Courtside Seats" but they were against it.

o Manuela: It's also a great idea for a club because many people who don't do clinics don't get an opportunity to go to court.

* Matt: In sum, everything else is good, just holding out on the Blockchain and Mature Students' Associations. I will bring a motion to ratify the omnibus.

Matt brings motion to ratify clubs omnibus, Steph seconds, all in favor. Motion passes.

6. Motion to amend the Club Bylaws (re: club membership fees)

* Matt: A club was charging membership fees for the year. This has previously happened at business schools, but not at law school. Membership fees are very restrictive because you can only join a certain number of clubs and if L&L allowed this, clubs wouldn't come to us.

* Matt: I want to bring a motion to amend the club bylaws to prevent this. The issues are that we are already paying club fees in tuition, so there is no reason to charge double. It is also unfair to charge for networking events and firm tours.

* Manuela: I've spoken to Professor Dufraimont and of her time working at law school, she has never heard of this. We pay so much more at law school and membership fees can be restrictive to clubs. What if it sets a precedent and soon clubs like

OUTLaws and OPSC start charging membership fees? It also goes against a lot of Osgoode's priorities, as the former Dean Sossin had even implemented an Income Contingent Loan Program.

Matt puts forward motion to amend bylaws under s.3.6 to prohibit clubs from charging membership fees, seconded by Simi, all in favour. Motion passes.

7. Fundraising discussion

* Chadd: I have spoken to Manuela and Simi about my plans under the VPI portfolio. One theme that I have in mind is promoting access to legal education. I spoke with Anita Herrmann at Osgoode, and initially the idea was to create an award with funds contributed by an L&L fundraising event in order to meet equity needs. I've met with Anita again today and part of the York Bursary Committee, who suggested we take a different approach. Her idea was that since we already have a scholarship and bursary, why don't we raise money for needs that people don't typically talk about, that have a wider impact. For example, this could include raising money for presto cards, meal plans, or appropriate clothing for articling. Before I get your feedback on this idea, I will explain the event idea to raise money: the event would take place in the 2nd semester and the goal would be to fund two years of this project so next year's L&L would already have money coming into the 1st semester. Open to event suggestions. Simi and I spoke about having the event be a dance marathon and weaving it into a pub night. It could take place at the Underground and there would be a small cover charge to participate and drinks would be on sale there. All proceeds would go to this fund and then we'd decide what to do with it. This fund would be discretionary where every year the sitting L&L exec decides what to do with it by identifying the greatest need of the fund that specific year and then allocating the money accordingly. That way, we don't have to go through Osgoode because if that happened L&L would have no final say as to who gets the award.

o Simi: I love this idea. I had a friend who went the first semester without a textbook because she had to choose between buying a textbook or a metropass. I have a suggestion: instead of dedicating the fund to a sole purpose, such as a presto card, we could have a form where people can apply indicating what they need. We could give them options to pick from, such as a metropass or textbook.

o Manuela: The bookstore has gift cards so that would be good for the textbooks.

o Chadd: That is a good point about individual need.

o Steph: I know we're still early in the brainstorming process, but what is the goal for the amount of money we are raising?

o Chadd: \$2000 but if we're able to raise more, that would be amazing. This committee should also have subcommittees, which the 1Ls could be responsible for. This project consists of 2 big things: 1) planning the event; and 2) deciding and facilitating the distribution of the money.

o Sarah: I agree it's important to have committees, because the more flexibility we give applicants, the more manpower that is going to require.

* Chadd: So in raising money to facilitate access to legal education, we should decide if we want an annual, flexible approach where L&L sets aside a certain amount and students can pick what they would personally like.

o Kaitlyn: I like the flexible approach, particularly with giving free meals, presto cards, and textbooks. These seem to be the 3 most accessible options. However I also like the idea of keeping it the same every year. My concern with having it discretionary every year is that someone could drastically change it, and, for example, justify the fund being used for a soccer tournament for the school.

o Chadd: That is a good point.

o Sarah: I like the idea of something like a free breakfast. It's a lot of work to divide \$2000 into one applicant, but if we did something more general, like free breakfast every week for the whole school, that would involve less labour hours and less decision making.

* Manuela: It could be possible to put in specific parameters in the rules of the Constitution to ensure that the fund, in some way, promotes access to legal education. Another thing – how would the students qualify? How do they show they have financial need?

o Kaitlyn: We could attach it to the bursary and partner with them to understand the financial criteria?

o Chadd: I will have to speak to Anita about this.

o Steph: I have the same suggestion as Kaitlyn. However the only thing with the bursary is that some people have less severe financial needs but still need to apply both to OSAP and the Student Line of Credit. Therefore using the bursary as a determining factor can be problematic.

o Chadd: I need to speak to Anita about how they allocate the funds and if there's a segmented approach for greater need or not. I will speak to her about what suggestions she has for allocating money and distinguishing between different needs. I will report back.

o Adam: Concordia's student union has a program where they give emergency groceries to students. I would be interested in speaking to them to see their criteria. They don't do it in conjunction with the university and use the honour system, allocating maybe \$50 per semester. I thought that was a great program and even though it's not rigorous, I haven't heard of any abuses of it. That might be a good place to look to for implementation ideas.

o Manuela: I have a friend who goes to Concordia so will ask.

* Manuela: We won't finish this discussion today, but it seems to be that more people are leaning towards having an L&L discretionary fund as opposed to Osgoode allocating the funds. Are there any comments on the event idea?

o Kaitlyn: I have a question. What is a dance marathon?

o Chadd: There are instructors who lead a dance routine, who tap you out if you mess up. You can jump back in for fun though if you want. As part of the event, it would be a pub night after.

o Kaitlyn: I like the idea of having it at the Underground because it's accessible and then we could go to the JCR for the pub night.

o Chadd: Who is interested in planning this event?

o Manuela: In our Constitution, 1Ls are supposed to be assigned to an exec member to help them out, which hasn't happened. Involving them in planning this event would be a cool thing to do. We could give them options of projects to get involved in, such as planning a pub night or helping with the yearbook. This would also be a good chance to give them L&L mentorship.

o Chadd: Yes, it would be helpful for that meeting to have a list of projects that they could choose from.

8. Approve Honorarium for O-Week Co-Chairs (+ other positions)

* Ashley B: It is \$500 each for O-week co-chairs. Webmaster is 400. Chief Electoral Office is 200. Have to confirm with Dan about the honorarium for JCR bartenders. So will just approve the honorarium for O-week co-chairs now.

Ashley B brings motion to approve the honorarium for O-week co-chairs, Matt seconds, all in favour. Motion passes.

9. Office Hours

* Manuela: To put in your office hours, go on Outlook, click the group "executive", then the "calendar tab". Also remember to turn the reminder off.

* Manuela: Hours are generally 9am-5pm and everyone's office hours start next week. If you can't attend your office hours, you need to get someone else to go in your place.

* Office hours:

* Chadd: Tuesdays 2:30-3:30.

* Steph: Tuesdays 1:30-2:30.

* Kaitlyn: Thursdays 12:30-1:30.

* Sarah: Mondays 3:00-4:00.

* Matt: Mondays 1:30-2:30.

* Manuela: Thursdays 2:30-3:30.

* Ashley H: Tuesdays 10:30-11:30.

* Simi: Wednesdays 11:30-12:30.

* Ashley B: Wednesdays 4:30-5:30.

10. Other Business

* Chadd: Is there a Student Leadership Dinner this year?

o Manuela: We should have one but not sure. Adam and I will bring it up at our meeting. For those of you who don't know, the Dean used to do a catered dinner for everyone on L&L

and Student Caucus every year.

* Manuela: Remember – 1L nomination elections are due tomorrow, voting next week.

* Chadd: Will we have an L&L social this year?

o Manuela: Yes, Kaitlyn can plan one per semester.

11. Adjournment

* Chadd brings motion to adjourn meeting, Steph seconds, all in favour. Meeting ends at 1:35PM.