



**Minutes**

**15 September 2021**

**12:30 PM EST**

**Zoom**

**Present: Alex Mulligan (Chair), Jordan Crocker, Nushrah Amod, Mario Lofranco, Danielle Landry, Jessica Li, Christina Tassopoulos, Courtney Cameron, Valentina Gavis**

**Call to Order (12:35 pm)**

*\*Land Acknowledgement read by C. Tassopoulos\**

**President's Items**

**Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society amend the agenda to move the secretary items ahead of the Treasurer items .**

**(Mulligan/Tassopoulos) CARRIED.**

**President's Items**

1. Updates Roundtable

Jess: Not too many updates for me. I have everyone's video now and will get that ready and posted soon.

Nush: Mental health and wellness week is close to OCIs, so I will need help with that. Am I allowed to do in-person events or not?

Alex: We will talk about that later.

Courtney: Virtual pub night is tomorrow. I was planning a Legally Blonde movie night. People have been complaining and saying U of T is doing things in person and asking why we can't, so trying to handle those complaints.

Danielle: My update is not really an update because I still can't plan homecoming.

Val: Aiiish is still working on the yearbook. I am also planning on reaching out to the 3L rep from 2 years ago because they did in person stuff to see what ideas they have.

Mario: The audit is done, and the budget is done.

Jordan: We had the Clubs Fair, and it seems to have gone well; there were only a few hiccups. I met with Alex and Nush to discuss equity groups, and I will send that to Jess. Now I am just sending updates to clubs about room booking.

Nush: Before we send out room booking stuff, can you let me know so I can send it to the equity-seeking clubs?

Jess: Is the room booking going to be done through the L&L website?

Jordan: Alex will let us know. I think it will be a form.

**Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society amend the agenda to include: "5. Talk about 1L elections" under President's Items**

**(Mulligan/Li) CARRIED**

## 2. Update RE Fall plans

Alex: We had said we would roll out room booking on the 13th. But between then and now, York decided to make another COVID change. To host an event that is not orientation related, you need to fill out a TUUS form, list all event details, submit it CORG and they review for COVID rule compliance. Then they either approve or reject. TUUS implies you only need this form for university space, but we actually need to do this for off campus events too. York, without telling anyone, last week changed the TUUS form request system to say that they weren't accepting or processing TUUS forms anymore. I got an undertaking from the Deans that if it was not temporary, they would advocate for an Osgoode exception. I need to follow up now and we need to move forward on advocacy to get an Osgoode exception. This means clubs cannot host any in-person event. I have a suspicion that clubs will host things anyway without filling out a form. York is making rules that make no sense and are not based on science, they are not consulting anyone, and not giving us any information. Clubs can't technically host something, but if clubs go ahead to do an event, I don't know and won't rat them out; I can't really stop them. In an ideal world, the university would have a system to allow people to host safe events. As Courtney said, U of T is hosting stuff in person. The deans tried to say it's not true but I know they are hosting stuff in person. Not saying we need to do that, but understandable why we are getting asked why other universities are doing in person stuff and we are not. We have to follow what York says because we could get in serious trouble and stop receiving the levy if we don't. I don't have an answer for when any of this will change, but wanted to keep you all posted.

Jordan: My only concern is that the club budgets are due September 20th. I haven't looked yet but presumably some clubs will be wondering about funding for events they want to plan. We cautioned them they might not be able to do in person stuff. What will we do about funding those events?

Alex: I think we should allow them to submit budgets that include in person stuff because at some point presumably the university will allow TUUS forms to be submitted and we have the undertaking that the Deans will advocate for an exception. It should be public knowledge that this is what is happening.

Mario: The issue is that if clubs do an off campus event and then put in a request for a refund, that's a problem. We should make the stance that there will be no in person events unless York allows but maybe clubs should use their fall budgets for winter.

Alex: So if we say no in person budgets, but then in October York allows in person stuff, can we allow clubs to change their budgets? Not ask for new money but change their funding/budgets?

Mario: yeah I think that's fine

Jordan: We can allow the budgets as they are, but put a caveat that they may not be able to do events that are not authorized by York but if York changes, we can allow the clubs to use the fall money in the next term.

Alex: A google form is the best way to do room booking bc we want to give equity groups first access so this way we can just send out the forms in a staggered release.

## 3. Headspace

***Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society move in camera.***

**(Mulligan/Crocker) CARRIED**

***Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society move out of camera.***

**(Mulligan/Crocker) CARRIED**

## 4. Insurance

Alex: I have been trying to communicate with York regarding insurance coverage, and I asked if we can get decreased coverage. They said that shouldn't be a problem, but that they would check with risk management. I received no response. I followed up and still did not get a response. We don't need 5 million dollar coverage and liquor coverage. Our insurance coverage expires on the 18th, so Mario budgeted 2,800 dollars. We passed that. We should probably just pay the lower amount to start. Our insurance agent has guaranteed that it will be no issue to increase our coverage at any given time. So if we get the million dollar coverage and no liquor, and then we find out we have to increase, we can pay the difference.

Jess: So wait, what does this all mean?

Alex: The insurance covers negligence, communicable diseases, assets, etc. Once the bar operates, if we serve liquor, its an additional risk and they jack up the premium.

Mario: I recommend we pay the \$8250 so we don't have to deal with the insurance company again. It will save us a headache and it's factored into the budget.

Alex: Yeah the plan is to be in person in the winter so if we think it is better to bite the bullet then we can do that.

Jess: Is there an option for a refund?

Alex: I have never asked for that, so I am not sure. But I will ask.

5. 1L election

Alex: We offered a candidate the position of CEO and they declined the offer within 15 mins. The application was reopened, we have received some applications, so we'll go ahead with that and do the first year election handbook and put together the timeline for elections. I have gotten guarantees from York that they can meet the tight deadlines. Basically, the applications for CEO close tonight. Nominations open for 1L reps on Friday September 17. Candidates meeting is on Monday the 20th. The deadline for nominations closes on the 23rd. Platforms are due on 24th. Elections will be on the 29th. It is similar to last year's timeline but the only difference is that the voting date is earlier, but candidates have the same amount of nomination time, same amount of time to submit platforms.

Jess: Maybe we should check to avoid when the ELGC paper is due.

Alex: Yeah maybe we should check on that.

Jordan: Will there be classroom visits?

Alex: Yeah, we should do that the same day as the candidates meeting. Apparently profs were upset last year that we were using class time, they don't get that people don't volunteer to go on zoom if they dont have to.

### **Secretary Items:**

Canva Subscription Follow-Up

Christina: So I just wanted to follow up regarding the conversation from the last meeting about a potential Canva subscription. I signed up for a free trial and I really like it. As was mentioned in the last meeting, it would be \$150 per year and up to 5 email addresses could have access to it. The only thing is that I don't think we would be able to extend access to all clubs because that would be a lot of people trying to access it and I am not sure if there is a limit to how many people can be on the account at one time. I just think it would be a logistical nightmare.

Alex: I don't think we need to extend access to all the clubs. That's a lot of work for us. I think even if we use it just for us and caucus it would be worth it because we do a lot of graphics.

Jess: Mario, you said there was a thousand dollars in the budget for software right?

Mario: Yes

Jess: So what else would we use that for?

Mario: We can allocate it for anything.

Jess: The only other thing might be using it for virtual events on platforms like Remo. But that still leaves a big amount. I also think it would be too much for all clubs to use, so maybe it is best to keep it between the three clubs like L&L, caucus, senators.

Christina:

***Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society purchase a subscription for Canva for \$150 that can be used by L&L, Student Caucus, and Student Senators. This will be re-evaluated every year.***

**(Tassopoulos/Li) CARRIED**

**Treasurer Items**

1. Budget

*\*Mario began sharing his screen showing the excel spreadsheet containing the budget\**

Mario: Here is the budget that we have allocated for this year. For the formals, they're all break-even events. How much do we think we will make in bar sales?

Jordan: Wait, for the ski trip, how are we making 20,000 dollars?

Mario: Do you have a more realistic number?

Jordan: No, but do we think ski trip will even happen?

Mario: We have to just budget for what we think we will get for everything. It's better to include everything.

Alex: To hop in, the L&L budgets have been in a budget deficit. When we do the audit, we have to show where all the money came from and where it's going. So that's why we put the ski trip at \$20,000 in anticipated revenue because in expenses, there is a \$20,000 expense in the event that we host it. So I don't want to pass a budget that has expenses but no revenue. Mario, I told insurance for bar sales it would be around \$12,000 dollars. That number came from looking at historical amounts of bar sales that we've reported to insurance in past years, divided by 8000 by each term, then divided each \$8000 in half to \$4,000 because I think there will be a late bar start.

Mario: We are getting a levy. We will get more money from York after the audit. The yearbook levy is included. Expenses stay the same basically every year. Everything else is pretty much standard. The only thing that is different is the L&L donations. Now sitting at a healthy balance at \$51,000 dollars. But again, things will change.

Alex: One request: for L&L events, can we raise that to \$5,000 for more flexibility.

Jordan: Orientation revenues are not us so how does that affect us?

Alex: O-week is technically part of L&L. I suppose that we could be audited based on O-week receipts. We haven't been, but I guess they could ask for it. And O-week does make requests to be reimbursed for stuff. The money flows through us.

Mario: yeah, in general when O-week makes a request, we will either take that pdf and add it to the books, and then we have to check where the money went when we pay it out. The budget is just to know where the money is going.

Jordan: How different is this budget from last year?

Mario: The budget last year wasn't really complete but we had a net operating income of \$52,182.98.

Alex: When we passed the budget last September, we did not budget for care packages. The budget last year was extremely flexible, Mario's is less so. That doesn't mean we can't change things, but Mario's budget includes everything that we would normally have and we will roll from there. We will have more money to use, we just don't know right now how much.

Jess: i'm confused why Osgoode pub expenses is empty but we are accounting for revenue

Mario: Yes, great point.

Alex: Yeah, we should be making a profit.

Mario: So where do we put the bar expenses? Syd had it in miscellaneous

Jordan: There might be a way to find out. You can probably find it in one drive.

Mario: The first budget we were looking at, is redundant. We budgeted \$400 for liquor license. Right now, we do have a surplus of \$41,221.92. There are things we can use the leftover funds for.

Jess: Well, the final number that we are projecting next year will be significantly lower than this year.

Alex: Yes, but we are getting another levy, just not sure how much yet. It's also not necessarily a practice to leave money for next year. We just got significantly more in levy money this year.

Mario:

***Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society approve the L&L budget for the 2021-2022 school year.***

**(Lofranco/Crocker) CARRIED**

2. Obiter accounting/audit issue

Mario: I'm going to pause the obiter stuff bc Tomi hasn't gotten back to me. Regarding the audit: I did some research for updating the finance website. I reached out to some companies, got some quotes. Do we want to conjoin them or keep them separate? I still want to talk to Dan so we can table it for the next meeting.

**VP External Items**

1. Club Ratification

Jordan: Just have two more clubs that I want to ratify.

***Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society, given that the Osgoode Legal Philosophy Club has attended the All Clubs Meeting and that they have submitted all ratification documents to the satisfaction of the Vice-President External, hereby ratifies the Osgoode Legal Philosophy Club for the 2021-2022 year.***

**(Crocker/Tassopoulos) Carried**

***Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society ratifies the newly formed Osgoode Panhellenic Association for the 2021-2022 year.***

**(Crocker/Tassopoulos)CARRIED**

**Other Business**

Jordan: I would like to meet with the CEO.

Alex: Jordan wants to do a ranked ballot for 1L elections. We can do that without changing the constitution. How we vote is not specified anywhere in By-Law XV. Ranked ballot means someone needs to get 50% of the vote to win. York would have to do the work. If we want to do this, we have to decide now. Do you want us to pass a motion to do this?

Jordan: We would approve that in principle and the CEO would have to bring this change.

***Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society empowers and encourages the CEO to alter the 1L election process to be conducted similarly to Student Caucus in a ranked ballot.***

**(Crocker/Lofranco) CARRIED**

Jess: Do we need to have the CEO decided before we open up elections?

Alex: No, it doesn't matter.

Jordan: This is an online environment. Last year we didn't know what would happen. A lot of people ended up running. In this environment, there isn't enough info and a lot of people end up running so getting 50% is a big hurdle and will make the election process better.

***Motion: THAT the meeting be Adjourned.***

**(Mulligan/Li) Carried.**

***Adjournment (2:09 pm)***