

L&L Meeting Agenda – September 26, 2018 (Room 2009)

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

Regards:

**Present at 1:00pm*

Call to Order

12:33PM

Welcome 1L Reps!

Introductions

Manuela:Say your position; responsibilities; and whether you have previous student government experience.

Manuela:I'm President – I oversee everything L&L does; I'm on various committee like Student Council and FC committees, and Law student society of Ontario; please come to me for complaints or an issue you don't know how to address. I did no student government before Osgoode. At Osgoode, I was the Section A Rep in 1L and Equity Officer last year.

Simi:I'm Equity Officer – I promote equity, diversity and inclusion, and mental health; main focus right now is planning the mental health awareness week. I was involved with student council and student government before Osgoode.

Matt:I'm VP External – I do everything clubs related, build budgets and ratify all the clubs. This is my first time doing student government.

Ashley B:I'm Treasurer – I do everything money related. I have no previous student government experience.

Rachael:I am the Section C Rep, I have previous student council experience in high school and I was the music senator.

Cory:I am the Section A Rep, I was involved in a bit of student council before Osgoode.

Ashley H:I'm Secretary – I take down meeting minutes; send out biweekly newsletter; direct general inquiries to the appropriate person. I was involved with student government in high school and was the Section C 1L Rep and 2L Rep last year.

Adam:I'm Student Caucus chair – I chair meetings and facilitate; I'm trying to make student caucus more democratic. I did student government in undergrad and was on the philosophy club in Montreal during the strike.

Kaitlyn:I'm Social convener – I plan pub nights, ski trip, and alternative events.

Chadd:I'm VP Internal – it's a support role to Manuela (President); I also manage the summary database. I did student council in primary school and was the Section A 1L Rep last year.

Steph:I'm 3L rep – I represent 3Ls; handle grad photos; 3L formal. I have some history on student government, including a failed attempt to run as President in grade 8.

Karin:I am the Section B Rep, did student government in high school, bad experience in undergrad so didn't do student government then.

Alina:I am the Section D Rep, I was on the science student council in undergrad.

Ashley H:Sarah is the 2L Rep and she did the agenda for this year, and plans the yearbook, manages clothing at the Osgoode bookstore and plans the 2L 'Informal Formal' (dress formally in an informal location – like a bar).

Swearing in

Manuela, followed by Cory/Karin/Rachael/Alina: "I solemnly affirm that I shall faithfully observe and uphold the provisions of the constitution and bylaws of the L&L society of Osgoode Hall Law School of York University and to the best of my ability shall administer the duties of my position for the benefit of the students I represent and the law school."

Manuela:From the Constitution, the objectives of the society are to provide a united means of administration to promote the welfare of students, activities, facilities, and services that meet student needs and objectives. L&L also safeguards the rights of all students to equal treatment regardless of religion, age, sex etc., and promotes inter university communication and participates actively in the general community and York community.

Platforms

Manuela:Can the 1L Reps tell us about your platform and we will work with you to help you achieve your goals.

Rachael:My platform was based on accessibility. For example, I heard from my section that pub nights were hard to get to especially for people who don't live downtown. People also show up late to pub nights so if you have class the next day or don't feel like drinking, it's hard to get to.

Cory: My platform had 3 prongs: 1) Open feedback culture – accessible to section, online Google forms if people don't feel comfortable coming to office hours; 2) Transparency and Communication – for example, I thought of doing a video recap for people to know what's going on in the Osgoode community if they don't like reading everything posted online; 3) Diversity in events – for example, inter section bonding, alternatives to late night events, events like a late night breakfast bar or a froyo bar at the JCR.

Karin: Also 3 pronged platform: 1) Resources – inform people on what L&L provides and how to access events calendar, summary database etc.; 2) Community – have inter section mixers or events; 3) Wellness – mental health de-stressers throughout the year.

Alina: Focused on alternatives to pub nights and more low key things on campus like movie nights and Monday breakfasts with Tims and coffee once a semester.

Manuela: Your goals are all things we can achieve. We'll touch on a few first and pick up on others throughout the year. This is the first year we've had a Social Convener that also wants to focus on accessibility. In terms of funding, there's not a lot of funding for 1Ls.

Office hours

Manuela: Everyone does office hours. Some of the 1L Reps have put theirs in already. In my experience doing this, people only come to get cheques. Put cheques in turquoise drawer in the L&L office. Office hours will be posted online so if you can't make it, find someone to fill your spot.

Rachael: Can we post our office hours in our section group?

Manuela: Yes that's a great idea.

Office hours

Rachael: 2:30-3:30

Karin: Monday 12:30-1:30

Cory: Thursday 2:30-3:30

Alina: Thursday 11:30-12:30

Minutes Ratification

Ashley H moves, seconded by Chadd, all approve. Motion passes.

Health Plan Update

Manuela: 1L Reps – we are potentially looking into switching health plans. We used to be on the York grad student plan but years ago they kicked us off. Last year a couple students said that the grad student plan is actually much better, and now the York grad student plan is willing to have Osgoode come back on it. As of now, we have circulated a survey and a town hall to inform people what the health plan looks like and gauged interest in having a vote to switch plans. I got clarification on the referendum – first we need to do a petition of if they want to do the referendum. That petition need 10% of class to say yes but the more the better in case anyone fights it. Need to have that in by the fourth Friday of October. The plan now is to keep the survey open for one week more and have a big push to get people to look at the two plans and fill out the survey. If we do switch, the current 1Ls will be on it the longest so want to make sure everyone is okay with it. I have the link on my personal facebook profile, but I can send it to you directly. Need an especially big push for 1Ls, 2Ls and anyone who is in JD/MBA. Again, need everyone's vote by 4th Friday in October and the real referendum is in February.

L&L will have tabling the following Tuesday and Thursday during 12:30-2:30 to talk to people who have additional questions and get additional votes.

Tabling

Rachael and Kaitlyn: Tuesday 12:30-2:30

Matt and Steph: Thursday 12:30-2:30

Manuela: I'm trying to find the minutes from the townhall. If not, maybe Adam can get Danielle to have the chart made, and then distribute it?

Rachael:Can we get additional information on health plan for tabling?

Manuela:Yes, and I will also ask if the people at the town hall can come in for the tabling to answer additional questions.

CEO and Webmaster Honoraria Ratification

Manuela: CEO is Sam, he ran the fall election and will run the March election, which is more complicated since there's campaigning and a debate. He is paid an honorarium of \$200. Webmaster is Kenny, he runs the web pages. He is paid an honorarium of \$400. The bulk of the work is done now so now he mainly oversees it. Questions?

Ashley B brings a motion to ratify the honorarium of CEO and Webmaster, seconded by Matt, all in favour. Motion passes.

Remaining clubs and clubs budget ratification

Matt:Last week we ratified almost all the clubs. I sent out an e-motion, which passed.

Rachael:What qualifies as a pass?

Manuela:Majority vote.

Matt:Clubs we ratified included the Osgoode Tamil Law Students Association and the Peer Support Network.

Matt:Today, we need to ratify the Osgoode Fintech and Blockchain Association. It's new and affiliated with an outside consulting firm. It's relevant to what people want to talk about. They have support from the outside consulting firm and they have some money allocated if they need stuff here.

Matt brings motion to ratify Osgoode Fintech and Blockchain Association, seconded by Steph, all in favour. Motion passes.

Manuela:I think we're at around 56 clubs.

Matt:We are waiting on signing officers for some clubs.

Ashley B: Yes. These clubs include Field Trip, Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyer, IP society, Law games, Law Union, Health Law Association, Mature Students Association – Adam is meeting with them on Friday. If you know anyone in the clubs, please reach out to them.

Matt:We also need to ratify the budget. In the document circulated, you can see what's been requested and allocated. Most is for the planned events. For the most part, we have over 15K to give out, it's a bit over 16K now but often people don't use everything. All the money is accounted for. Manuela and Ashley B have looked it over and they both think it's fair as well.

Manuela:Do people want to look over it? Generally have a tiered system where certain events get allocated more money. For example, we don't give as much money to printing flyers as we do bringing in a speaker.

Matt brings motion to ratify the clubs budget, seconded by Rachael, all in favour. Motion passes.

Trivia Night, October 17, 2018

Kaitlyn:First I want to address the 1L Rep platforms – so happy that you all want to have alternative events to pub nights. Last year I ran on a platform of having accessible events at pub night. So far haven't had any. Alternative events can't be weekly because pub nights are, and don't want 2 events happening at the same time because that would be divisive. Manuela and I spoke over the summer and talked about ideas for alternative events like trivia, karaoke, and board games nights.

Kaitlyn:The first alternative event is going to be a Trivia Night on October 17 at Osgoode. I would love to have 1L help for this. Kenny is hosting and making questions. He is volunteering his own time for this because he is very passionate about accessibility. We have a \$0 budget so the more free events the better. It will be at the JCR on Wednesday. While it's a drinking location, the bar will stock up on non-alcoholic beverages and snacks so people can have good time without drinking. JCR is an accessible location. Event will be from 7:30pm-9:30pm. Kenny is running it, we just need a projector, microphone and speaker. I already have 4 volunteers, including Trudy and Lauren, who will do the marking.

Kaitlyn:Only thing left to do is advertising. How do I go about doing this? Can I advertise the event as L&L?

Manuela:

Kaitlyn: Okay. Also will have a Google sheet for people to sign up in teams of 5 and I will cap the capacity at 100 people so that will be 20 teams of 5. We can promote the event 2 weeks before.

Kaitlyn:Looking for feedback on this, and if that's what the 1Ls are thinking in terms of alternative, social events?

Everyone:Sounds great!

Manuela:OEO has capacity to get any AV. Have had IT issues, but all that stuff is available through Osgoode. Also found out can get popcorn machine and cotton candy from YFS for free.

Kaitlyn:I will look into that as the event approaches. Also, how do I promote the event? Can I call it L&L trivia – does that imply it's an alternative event?

Everyone:

Sarah:I agree, just having the word “trivia” makes it clear that it’s an alternative event that’s accessible.

Manuela:One suggestion – in the event description you can say that this is one of many alternative events that will be held throughout the year so we can acknowledge that L&L is incorporating feedback on accessibility.

Chadd:You can also say there will be a “fully stocked soft serve bar.”

Kaitlyn:1Ls feel free to reach out if you want to help, just need help with the sound system and with promoting the event.

Communities in Support of Mental Health Week Update

Simi:Changing the name “Communities in Support of Mental Health Week” to “Mental Health Wellness Week” (MHWW). We have people from Osgoode clubs like Peer Support Centre, Mental Health Law Society, Disability Collective, Women’s Network and Balsa, (Manuela is going to get Osgoode Survivor Peer Support Network) all helping out with this week, which is great. If any of the 1L Reps are interested in helping, come join us.

Simi:MHWW will be from November 12 to 17. This is the week right after reading week. We have events from Monday to Friday.

Simi:On Monday, we will have Ellen Schlesinger. Ellen went to law school, was a lawyer, then became a psychotherapist. She’s great and has an infamous breathing exercise, which she’s volunteered her time to do during MHWW. It will be 30 minutes to an hour. We have also booked alternative study rooms to teach people how to study in environments that are friendly to them. We will have them available Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. They will be drop in, and will either take place in the Helliwell Centre or the seminar rooms. The rooms will have calming music, tea, and dim lights, with the purpose of showing people that you can study in different spaces. On Tuesday or Thursday, we will have a Zumba exercise class, which my friend will teach. On Wednesday, we will have a bouncy castle, with free popcorn and cotton candy. It will be like a carnival day, it will be fun and bubbly and people can pretend to be a kid again.

Manuela: We have the bouncy castle once or twice a year and it is really a workout.

Simi:Peer Support Centre had a paint and craft night 2 years ago, and we will do this again on the Wednesday.

Simi:We tried to get therapy dogs, but it is not working.

Manuela:The place supplying therapy dogs has been very unresponsive. Last year we just used York’s therapy dog.

Simi:Also, want to do a 10 minute challenge for the 1Ls. Let me know what you think. From Monday to Thursday there will be different challenges for every section and the incentive to win is a pizza lunch for the whole section.

Monday – 10 minute dance party that you have to take a picture or video of.

Tuesday – 10 minute meditation.

Wednesday – 10 minute group walk.

Thursday – somebody in section getting tips on a healthy recipe.

Friday – On Friday, Mental Health Committee will decide who wins.

What are your thoughts?

Cory/Karin/Rachael/Alina:Sounds great!

Manuela:It doesn’t have to be 100% of your section because we understand that not everyone will want to participate.

Simi:I’m not going to say everyone has to do it, but the more the better. All of this is based on our budget. Let me know if you want to join the committee or have ideas!

Cory:What’s the timing of these events during MHWW?

Simi: On Wednesday, we’re not going to have the alternative study rooms. The bouncy castle will be from 12pm to 4pm and there will be popcorn and cotton candy. Zumba class depends on the instructor. On Monday I think we’ll have yoga from 1pm-2pm and then Ellen will be from 12:30pm-1pm. Everything else is up in the air.

Executive Project Selection for 1L Reps**Board Game Night, Second Semester (Social Convener – Kaitlyn)**

Seeking 1L help

Kaitlyn: This project focuses on alternative social events. Board games night is another idea I had. I couldn’t do it this semester, but I wanted to bring Snakes and Lattes into the JCR and have them facilitate it, which requires funding. Sometimes the JCR puts out a sponsorship package and I’ve spoken to Andrei to ensure that this event will be in the package.

Kaitlyn: Alternatively, I want to do an alternative event at Snakes and Lattes. I could work with the 1L Reps to figure out a mid-day thing in October and if we do want to do something off campus we could go to Snakes and Lattes as an alternative event. I

would like to have a meeting to start brainstorming and planning, and a different person can take on a different event. I will start a Facebook group with the 1L Reps to get started on the planning.

Manuela: A quite note to 1L Reps about the exec projects. This is in our Constitution and the hope is that you can do at least one, although it's not mandatory.

Discretionary fund (VP Internal – Chadd)

This year, L&L will be creating a discretionary fund geared towards facilitating access to legal education at Osgoode. The fund will be built via an annual fundraising event planned and executed by the VP Internal's Subcommittee. The fund will soon be constitutionalized, and plans for the future of this fund include expanding to partner with other law schools in the fundraising initiative. It's a pretty big project, and we would love to have an enthusiastic 1L rep on board!

Chadd: I ran on a platform of promoting access to legal education. L&L will do this by creating a discretionary fund, which we will be constitutionalizing. We will put together the fund from money raised at a fundraising event, which will take place in the second semester. It will be a dance event that turns into a pub night on campus. The dance event will be at the Underground. It will be a dance marathon, where people pay a certain amount to enter, there is tapping in and out dance marathon style, and the competition is non-drinking. The bar area will open when it ends.

Chadd: We need L&L people as well as people outside L&L on the committee. The 1L Rep would help with the logistics of the fund since it's brand new in determining how we allocate it. We decided to leave it semi-discretionary and have a list of things we think it should be allocated towards, which may change after a few years. At least one 1L Rep help would be great!

Chadd: One thing that would be good for the fund is that it would assist in a financial way that's not as obvious as a scholarship or tuition contribution. For example, it could go towards a presto card or metro pass, load up on meal cards or facilitate the purchase of textbooks – essentially less obvious, but still areas of need. Goal is to raise at least \$2500. Let me know if you're interested in helping.

Yearbook (2L Rep – Sarah)

i. *Seeking help from all four 1L Reps*

Sarah: As the 2L Rep, I am in charge of the yearbook, which consists of 54 pages. The more 1L Reps that help, the better, but if you are really opposed you can opt out. I will be taking on the heaviest workload, but the more help the better. The task will be picking pictures and putting them in frameworks run by the company. We will meet once a month for 20 minutes to catch up and see where we are at. This won't start until in a couple of weeks, and most of the pictures will be of the 3Ls, but there will be different events throughout the year. I'll gather the pictures into a dropbox and can give you a page to be responsible for.

Manuela: I helped with it in 1L, it's fun and super easy.

Sarah: It would also be interesting to have a theme and I am open to suggestions for themes.

Social Media (VP Internal – Chadd)

Manuela: Adam has been doing a big push on the social media front for Student Caucus since they are less public. L&L has social media channels but they're very underutilized. Chadd oversees it but if you guys want to get involved with it that would be a really great thing. Contact Chadd if you want to help with that.

Which 1L Reps are helping with what project

Alternative social event committee – Rachael and Karin

Discretionary Fund – Cory, Karin, Alina

Social media – Karin (**Manuela:** Karin I will send some pictures to Karin, you can share anything that L&L is doing, anything promotional.)

Chadd: We'll have a structure in place for this

Mental health wellness week – Rachael

Diversity Week – Cory

Yearbook – Alina, Karin, Cory

Other Business

Adam: I have a general question. Does anyone know of any rooms that are low on whiteboard markets?

Manuela: Let people know that if they notice anything wrong, to email oeo@osgoode.yorku.ca and they should fix it in a semi-timely manner.

Simi: Let me know if you want to join the Mental Health and Diversity Committee.

Adam: Can an event be added to Osgoode's event calendar?

Manuela:They don't want clubs telling Osgoode to broadcast events on the events calendar, that information needs to be through L&L.

Manuela:We can make our committee be a public channel on Slack. The calendar is just on our website. I have emailed all the 1L Rep section emails to invite people to it.

Cory:Chadd, when do you want the information for the L&L website for the 1L Reps?

Chadd: As soon as possible but no big rush.

Chadd: I will contact the photographer to have group photography for our team.

Manuela:We will also be doing a social.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Matt, Steph seconds, all in favour. Meeting ends at 1:54PM.