



Minutes

28 June 2020

12:30 – 2:30 PM EST

Zoom

Present: Karin Kazakevich (Chair), Rachael Glassman, Reilly Everitt-Cunningham, Sydney McIvor, Jordan Crocker, Alex Mulligan, Nushrah Amod, Aiishwariya Haran, Mario Lofranco

Regrets: Akshay Aurora

Call to Order (12:33 PM)

President's Remarks & Items

Updates Roundtable

Motion: THAT the meeting move In-Camera.

(Kazakevich/Glassman) CARRIED

Motion: THAT the meeting be moved out of In-Camera.

(Kazakevich/Crocker) CARRIED

Karin: Health Insurance = acknowledged that L&L treated poorly and have negotiated that L&L will be included and will vote on matters pertaining to health plan. Will not be extended longer than a month. The price hike is in-line with UofT and other schools. Not much to do in terms of advocacy because the decision has been made. Our responsibility to tell students about the hike. Any updates will be sent to Secretary/President/VPI.

Currently negotiating with the OEO for spaces at Osgoode. Will update when negotiating is finished. No updates from Dean because it was pushed. Meeting with LSSO (Friday). Fees from members and some money going towards updating their website. Levy update happened as well so we have some certainty for future.

Rachael: L&L has been very active on websites and social media. Created page for Equity Officer which has a contact form and provides information. Posted information on Facebook. New Student Senator website also created. Student Senators not associated with L&L. Goodwill to connect with L&L. Password is back on Summary Database. Usually lenient with people studying for the bar and for alumni but with students they are encouraged to provide summaries for access. Need summaries from this past year will also need for the 1Ls who will not have as much contact with upper years. Would like to introduce the Executive on social media. Provide me with a fun picture and a small snippet.

Mario: should we re-work how we want people to submit summaries? When I looked, some are great, and others are quite bad. Don't know if the motivation to submit summaries is right.

Rachael: when a summary is submitted, I review. I make sure it's unique and I accept so that it has different formatting/wording (usually pretty relaxed on this). Don't review for content quality, already takes up time looking at formatting. Open to suggestions.

Mario: Trusting people of their own volition could be problematic. As well, it might not be right to ask people to submit a summary because we already pay enough for Osgoode.

Karin: We likely won't get as many summaries that way if we don't ask. We could re-frame the marketing especially as most schools don't have the database.

Rachael: students who need accommodations can also go to Mya Rimon and get the password. Asking for summaries is really just to keep new summaries on the database. Submit 1 get access to hundreds. Good deal. Not sure what can be done on quality.

Karin: it's also the risk you take by using the summaries on the database. It's a nice safety net but should still customize.

Aiish: students have to put in the work. I use L&L summaries, but I make them my own.

Karin: what kind of summaries do we take? Like if the prof is no longer around, do we accept that?

Rachael: summaries submitted must be for a course currently being run by that prof.

Alex: Wellness Monday with Yoga starting up. Map of accessible venues in Toronto and data sharing with another organization. There will be a cooking night in the Fall. Trivia in the Fall (one night a month). Has reached out to bars and if they meet L&L requirements. Should have a roster of fully accessible venues.

Rachael: have you been in touch with Palais Royale?

Alex: We have a week where we would like to meet them. Venue could be for 2L event.

Sydney: trying to get set up for e-transfers. Temporary measure with COVID instead of sending a cheque.

Aiish: Updates on 2019/20 composites. For L&L composites, if you have not had a photo taken, do we want to re-use our old composites? If you want a new photo you need a slot in before August 15th. If you've had a photo taken for the composite already then no worries.

Nushrah: working with BLSA and trying to get an Equity Officer at Osgoode. Will hire a student to do research. Should be a racialized student and posting should go up July 1st.

Reilly: The past couple of weeks have been pretty chill. Wanted opinions on how much to publicize call-outs for new clubs. On one hand, we don't want 10 million new clubs, but this is a transparency issue. Put in next newsletter about what starting a new club entails and that it still needs to be approved by Reilly/L&L.

Sydney: can also look at publicizing with O-Week. Willing to help. Makes students feel part of the community to be part of a club.

Reilly: agreed.

Karin: I worry that we will get 1000s of options for new clubs, but we also want to tell people how to make a club.

Rachael: anyone can make a club, need names and signatures/York number of 10 other JD students, can't be covered by something else at Osgoode, need a Constitution. L&L collectively ratifies all clubs. Reilly also looks over.

Reilly: not all clubs get money, we can ratify without giving money. Would like to get the process started earlier in the beginning of August. We can give suggestions as well. Community building will be extra important this year.

Mario: Agenda things besides advertising is finished. Should be at Osgoode by August 14th. Did we still want to publish on social media the person who created the cover? Or can wait until we have the physical agenda.

Rachael: better to do wait and tag her.

Sydney: do you have an invoice?

Mario: haven't signed anything.

Karin: will probably get invoice in August, we signed a contract with them for 3 years and I think it ends in 2021. Might need to be renegotiated.

Mario: can we see it to make sure it doesn't renew automatically?

Karin: probably will not because it will likely be more expensive.

Mario: who would figure out the new contract?

Karin: depends on the end date, might fall to you.

Jordan: Constitutional Review Committee is meeting weekly and still working. Should be ready to present updates soon. Student Senator website almost completed, will hopefully launch this week.

2. Tuition Updates

Karin: Faculty Council approved tuition reduction in principle and Caucus sent a letter to BoG. Don't even know if they approved it at the next meeting. Dean is thinking about what they can do about tuition reduction. Dean is doing something.

Jordan: According to the BoG Agenda (as these meetings are open), members did not even receive the Caucus letter. Unsure who it was addressed/sent to. Likely, if the letter was not sent to the University Secretary, that it would have been received.

Rachael: BoG synopsis is up — Osgoode wasn't discussed.

3. Course Selection Resources

Karin: Course election is up and am flagging because Caucus wanted to work with L&L to work on this. Looking like this might fall to L&L. Is there something else we can provide?

Alex: what about the York schedule builder?

Rachael: intend on posting that today with my summary social media post.

Sydney: can Google "York Visual Schedule Builder", but not all classes are on it and can be inaccurate. Probably just needs to be updated.

Rachael: more complicated thing would be to keep track of graduation requirements.

Karin: could make an infographic which tracks all of the requirements. Can design something. Can send to Caucus as well.

Nushrah: a degree tracking sheet would definitely be helpful.

Karin: it could be a lot of work to design course number/time sheet.

Jordan: Nora was able to put this together fairly quickly when on vacation and it was helpful for people.

Rachael: can ask Brittany Town, Caucus 3L Rep, to see if she can update the Excel file from Caucus.

Reilly: like the graphic idea and willing to help.

Alex: can have a nice checklist and can even highlight evaluation methods (100% exams, etc.)

Rachael: any 2Ls with questions on courses?

Nushrah: has anyone taken Cannabis Law?

Alex: Looking at taking Lawyer as Negotiator but there isn't a mark with it, should I take it?

Karin: if your marks are fine, then don't worry, but might want to think about it if you need a grade.

Nushrah: any other classes that are 'A' courses?

Karin/Aiish: ones with popular profs.

Rachael: keep in mind there is a lot of movement in the add/drop period.

Reilly: are there some courses which are synchronous, where can we find that information?

Rachael: course descriptions, but there is also a page where they list that info.

Social Convener Items

4. Winter Term Event Planning Committee

Alex: we don't know what Winter will look like, but we also don't have much time because 1L/2L recruits in the Winter now. Was hoping to reach out to the big events (Mock Trial, Wendy) to start a conversation and what we can do to help the planners to coordinate times and how pandemic measures will be taken into consideration. It's very tight.

Karin: good to have a coordinator because things will conflict otherwise.

Aiish: when is the OCI period?

Alex: the week of the 8th is when the online OCIs are. Dress rehearsals for Mock Trial happened in that week. In-firms also in February.

New Business

5. Budget Allocation Brainstorming – Karin

Note: The Agenda Item "Treasurer's Items: O-Week Funding" was moved to occur during this discussion.

Karin: we have money now, as we got our levy from last year. If students are paying into student government, if we have money, I would rather use it and if they aren't getting the same things from clubs then we should think of ways to utilize the budget to provide benefits to students. Do we want pens and highlighters in the office? Help fund events to make them cheaper? If we have the money, we should spend it to provide benefit to the students funding government.

Sydney: For O-Week, we have no money. Firms aren't committing until August, Dean funding not coming through August and not charging for a virtual O-Week. We want to give out things to the new students. Hoping for a loan from L&L or give the money. Looking for \$5000 for the shirts.

Rachael: how much money do we have? I am comfortable with a loan or providing money.

Karin: There are some expenses this year and we do want enough for next year's Executive.

Sydney: clubs submitting budgets that make sense would be good for creative ideas but likely won't be able to spend all of it.

Reilly: agreed. Orientation is important.

Sydney: there is nothing wrong with a little stepping back and holding events when we can. We can hold on to the money to when we can do things for the student body. Not necessarily for spending money just because we have it.

Karin: agreed, but if there is an opportunity to spend money on things we couldn't do before then we shouldn't hold back.

Nushrah: what about our events?

Alex: not spending any money on events so far. Can get \$200 and donate to a place that a chef wants. Other nights will be Osgoode students running them. Most events will be free with no budget.

Rachael: we cannot donate funds because it needs to go to students. Better to pay the chef for their time and they can donate it.

Karin: there can be issues that pop up with donations. For use of the funds, I also think the office needs to be updated as many students ended up coming into the office. Not a huge chunk of money but something like contributing for more office supplies could be helpful.

Mario: like the idea to support students for printing and supplies. Going back to the T-Shirts: like the loan which can be paid back if there is money. The 0L students will also not have the same experience so we might need to help these new students.

Alex: like the idea of the T-Shirts.

Sydney: Alex is working on a Community Day and do a volunteer day. T-Shirt is a good way of showing off Osgoode and building community.

Karin: sounds like we're good with the shirts. Comfortable with granting the money. Two choices: either give O-Week the money as a grant or as a forgivable loan with no interest. Granting the money would be a new precedent but one that should not be repeated (would only happen this year because of the pandemic).

Jordan: more comfortable with a forgivable loan than a grant.

Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society establish an interest-free loan in the amount of \$5000 to be paid to the O-Week Executive in order to buy T-shirts for the incoming 1L students;

AND THAT this loan be forgivable, in part or in whole, in the event the O-Week Executive is unable to pay back the amount by the end of September 2020.

(Glassman/Crocker) CARRIED

A. Haran, K. Kazakevich, S. Mclvor, and A. Mulligan abstained

Karin: keep thinking about other creative ways to spend our surplus to help students.

Jordan: subsidizing events in the Winter Term might be helpful, maybe not free formals, but something to offset the costs for students to attend.

Motion: THAT the meeting be Adjourned.

(Kazakevich/Mclvor) CARRIED

Adjournment (1:58 PM)

Consent Agenda

The item on the Consent Agenda, the Minutes of the meeting of 31 May 2020, was deemed approved.

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Next Meeting

Sunday, 26 July 2020, 6:00PM EST