

Minutes

13 January 2021

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, Danielle Landry, Jessica Li, Christina Tassopoulos, Courtney Cameron, Akshay Aurora

Call to Order (12:32PM)

President's Remarks & Items

1. Updates Roundtable

Motion: THAT the Agenda be amended, and the Updates Roundtable will be tabled to next meeting.

(Crocker/Kazakevich) CARRIED

In favour of time, this item was skipped.

2. Spring Election Dates

Karin: We have to run the elections every year. Overlaps with OCIs but this is unavoidable. If approved, Alina will send to York. More info will be come forward about the elections soon.

A. Aurora joined the meeting at 12:34PM.

Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society approve the proposed 2021 Spring Election Dates beginning on 1 March 2021 and ending 23 March 2020.

(Kazakevich/Crocker) CARRIED

3. Formal Plans

Karin: Spoke to the Dean about this already. Grad formal usually gets \$10K from the Dean. They still want to support this year. Need to think about what this looks like. Can have more brainstorming for Aiish.

Rachael: One meeting we discussed April or May 2021 that maybe we could do something in-person, is that still on the table?

Karin: we need to be realistic. Given the state of emergency we probably won't be able to do it.

Aiish: is it not possible to do something next year? Can still plan it. It's a big deal and I would like to have something for the 3Ls.

Sydney: that is a lot to put on next year's L&L when we're trying to plan something, and we're not affiliated anymore. As much as I would love to do it, I worry about L&L having to plan formals that have been missed.

Karin: I worry the school can also change their mind. It's tough to have the school do something for when students have graduated. If we don't take advantage now, then we'll miss out.

Aiish: agree we should do something now, but I reiterate I am happy to help out again next year despite not being on L&L.

Karin: down the road we could do it independently and without L&L funding. Will try and think about doing something big this year. UOttawa did something where people signed up for a meal and people had Zoom speeches.

Alex: Could do different rooms with tables and can have money to spend on Uber Eats. Speeches and awards can happen through a large Zoom call before being broken into different rooms.

Karin: good idea, there are ways we can make this fun. Any updates on the 2L?

Reilly: cancelling. Wouldn't postpone formals in future either. Looking for a letter from Student Life to confirm and then we will request the money back.

Sydney: folks have been asking about refunds. Need to communicate about what is going to happen with refunds sooner rather than later.

Alex: when we have that letter and it's sent; we post about it.

Karin: the correct move. We don't have to wait until the money is in our account because we do have the money, just would be nice to have a 'yes' from the venue. This banquet hall also hasn't probably have revenue in the past year so that might be tricky.

Mario: we only did pay \$11K and the contact was quite willing to refund.

Alex: was under the impression we paid the full amount.

Rachael: typically, we pay rest of the funds on the day of the event.

Alex: not for this event, we had to have it two weeks in advance.

Aiish: also recall the funds not being in full.

Reilly: not sure if we sent the cheque off.

Karin: we can figure out what happened. I would be willing to refund things if we had some of the money.

Mario: have we decided how we'll do refunds?

Karin: the finance site.

Sydney: would have to be a requisition. Looks like we only paid \$5K?

Karin: I see in the system a \$5K and a \$7K?

Sydney: might have been recorded wrong.

Karin: it is, there is definitely another cheque in there.

Sydney: will get back to you. .

Karin: *force majeure* either way and should be cancelled because the government will not allow. If people are nervous, we shouldn't be silent, might need to post that we are going through the motions because it looks like we'll have the funds now to give people's money back. Mario, if you want to do something for the 2Ls then go for it. Let us know what your ideas are.

4. Continued Initiatives

Karin: Quizzly is very popular. Over 100 people participate. Ozbook we can continue. We can think of another care package/gift thing. It was very successful last semester and it made people happy. If we have something similar that could work.

Nushrah: was quite easy even if it was logistic nightmare. If we stick to the logistical structure this could work. Can use for Diversity Week.

Karin: any item ideas which could be well-received? For sure think about it. On to Alex for social updates.

Alex: more passive social activities for folks. Lots going on through recruits, Mock Trial, Wendy Babcock, Fashion Show, etc. Something we could do might be Themed Mondays where we have pajama day. Spoke with Victor Turcanu about reviving the JCR Bar and maybe he can put a tutorial out which would be a cocktail of the week. Can also put out videos on wellness and have tips. Book of the Month. Ways to not have to sit on Zoom, more passive. Ideas for how to make it seem like people are still part of this broader community.

Rachael: I sit on the Osgoode Community Enhancement Forum with Jessica and Alex. Admin would like to spend money on these initiatives. So, brainstorm away.

5. O-Week Stipend

Karin: Need to vote on a stipend for the O-Week Co-Chairs. We can say O-Week is done. Reward for their hard work. There were three people this year: two Chairs and a Coordinator . Will split it three ways. \$350 each.

Rachael: Usually it's \$1000 split two ways, this year it's a little more because of three people.

Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society grant each of the Orientation Week Co-Chairs and the Orientation Week Coordinator \$350 as a stipend for their efforts in coordinating the 2020 Osgoode Orientation Week.

(Everitt-Cunningham/Glassman) CARRIED

S. McIvor abstained

Note: Rachael will submit the requests and approve with Karin so as to avoid Sydney's conflict.

Treasurer Items

6. Bookkeeper Engagement

Sydney: Bookkeeper. We need one. Lots of turnover and many people don't know how to bookkeep. Many groups at York use students to do bookkeepers, but there is a lot of turnover. The person I've found is named Taranjeet and she's been really helpful . If we get to \$4000 on our bill with her, we'll just have her let us know so that we don't go over any budget. The hope is that our audit bill will be lower if our books are better organized. Her rate is \$40/hour.

Rachael: do you have any idea of how you will split up the role?

Sydney: The Treasurer still does everything; the bookkeeper just keeps a proper record of the files.

Reilly: when does her contract start?

Sydney: if approved she'll be appointed right away.

Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society appoint Taranjeet Kaur Jandu as the Bookkeeper of the Legal and Literary Society from 13 January 2021 to 30 April 2021 on an hourly rate.

(McIvor/Crocker) CARRIED

7. 1L Formal 2020 Refunds

Sydney: we spoke about this already in Formal Plans. Can move on to other items.

Third Year Representative Items

8. Future Yearbooks/Agendas

Aiish: starting to work on the Yearbook for this year. Not sure what to do for content. Kyle (Friesens) wants to know if we want to update anything. 150 yearbooks at 56 pages for Class of 2022. What does everyone think? How many people have asked for it from the Class of 2020?

Karin: have 230 people who have signed up for the 2021 yearbook. Sometimes can be hit or miss. Osgoode hates our yearbooks. Doesn't matter because this is an L&L thing. We're getting a lot of traction now probably because it's being delivered and it's free. The contract we're looking at is for 2021. Yearbook levy is a thing as well. So, getting rid of the yearbook would probably mean changing the levy.

Aiish: the reason Osgoode probably doesn't like them is they tend to pile up because not many know about them. They're free and now being shipped to them so that's probably why it's so popular this year. Not much content is going on though. Not sure even what to do with the Formal. Might be even worse for the younger years. Mario could potentially canvas the Class of 2022.

Mario: I spoke with Kyle and I think 150 is too many. There's 300 people graduating per year and because we usually have a lot leftover.

Aiish: But we also have 230 who are interested now.

C. Cameron left the meeting at 1:15PM.

Aiish: this amount that we're putting out there is not binding you. Can change.

Alex: would probably be beneficial to send an email or post on FB, Mario, because I think people will be interested.

Karin: this might be more of an internal conversation because there is a levy for a yearbook.

Aiish: I think people will largely say yes anyhow.

Rachael: when Shvata and I were giving them out to the Class of 2019, the only reasons people didn't want one is they thought it cost money or they didn't know about it. Most were happy to take for free.

Mario: is logistics an issue? Mailing them in June might be a pain. I don't understand why we need to wait to get them done.

Aiish: it's possible you'll have an in-person grad so you might not even need to send them out. That's a later conversation. Right now, the problem is that the Class of 2021 will be delayed because some haven't even had their grad photos done. I am not even sure what content will be there. Also, not ready to sign off on the composite because it's important to have everyone that wants to be there on there. Can stay on and speak to Gary even after I'm off L&L.

Karin: Law Prom is in March and it's why we wait. People also don't always go to convocation or the Open House, so they don't get the yearbook. Also, if we make it too accessible, we may need to order more. I think generally it's just a matter if we want to do this. Might need to put pressure on people to take pictures of their online events. Agendas is also part of this, and Osgoode sent them out this year so you shouldn't have any trouble with them. Ultimately, we have the money to do it and we have the levy. Just practical designing part of it is difficult.

Vice-President External Items

9. Winter Club Budgets

Reilly: Tried to give out as much money as possible, some more outrageous costs we said no, but we were flexible. Tentative around \$6300 with some discretion.

Sydney: half of what the approved budget was spent. Some requisitions were trickling in. \$4500 all together and we approved about \$9000 and we could have even approved more than that. Clubs sometimes say they'll do five panels and then they don't actually do that.

Reilly: so, we do have some extra money, not sure how we'll use it, but it's there.

Karin: not surprising this is the case. Some things we didn't approve because of precedent.

Sydney: we also had to be fair in the budgets.

Reilly: we also use precedent for funds to approve. **Note for future to not use this year as precedent.**

Akshay: Some discrepancies in the budget document.

Reilly: typo for Mooting. Some clubs are running events together, so we split some funds.

Jordan: personally, abstaining from the vote because I haven't had time to read over the numbers.

Rachael: is there anything you want to bring our attention to in here? I'll trust your judgement, Reilly.

Reilly: pretty typical, same guidelines as last semester. No concerns.

Sydney: we gave some clubs a blanket \$200 for care packages and things. One of the bigger expenses was the MSA wanting to do a Murder Party for \$700. MSA is a club, but they are also trying to build that community. Utility of the event was also a factor.

Karin: think there is also a Zoom cost, correct?

Reilly: Yes, L&L now has a Zoom webinar account and will allow clubs to access, which costs \$200. We now have the account and can loan it to clubs. Monthly account and will only be for this semester, not like a forever thing.

Motion: THAT the Winter 2021 Club budgets be approved.

(Everitt-Cunningham/McIvor) CARRIED

A. Aurora and J. Crocker abstained

Old Business

10. Constitutional Review – Jordan/Rachael

Rachael: Over the summer a Committee worked on reviewing the Constitution, sent out the redline version. Involves quite a throughout review and need to make sure that we are all on board. Proposing having a special meeting to review Constitution and the changes that we've proposed this Sunday, 17 January 2021.

Sydney: how long would the meeting be?

Rachael: proposing the full two hours. Want to make sure there is time to debate. Some minor changes and also some large changes regarding roles so could take the full two hours.

Sydney: do we want to do after the 25th?

Akshay: can we do this on a weekday?

Rachael: not really another time unless we push to a later time in the evening. Would 12:30PM on Sunday, 31 January 2021 work for everyone?

Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society will meet on 31 January 2021 at 12:30PM to discuss the changes to the Legal and Literary Society Constitution.

(Glassman/Kazakevich) CARRIED

Alex: will this be an online vote?

Karin: yes, will be an online one.

Rachael: Jordan can send out the invitation and also have the materials attached.

New Business

11. Professor Thank You (Caucus Collaboration) – Karin

Karin: Corey on Caucus would like to thank the profs for their efforts. Looking here for any volunteers.

Jessica and Rachael volunteered.

Karin: will let Corey know.

12. LLM Involvement in L&L – Karin

Karin: has come up in recent years. My guess is that as the LLM program gets larger than they might start their own student government. LLM students have been asking to get involved and if they reach out to you it's complicated because they are not our constituents and cannot run for your roles.

Akshay: They have a Student Caucus equivalent who shows up at Faculty Council. I don't plan on Caucus to extend to LLMs. I send them to their own body.

Rachael: the interest of grad students can sometimes be contradictory to ours. It's important to have a different body. Different issue for them to join Clubs, no reason why they shouldn't be able to join an equity seeking club. There is a reason for Caucus and the GLSA to be different.

Alex: a lot of internationally trained lawyers in the LLM are typically the people who reach out to me and if they can participate in L&L Social Events.

Akshay: Clubs already have people on their Execs who are LLMs.

Reilly: bigger issue would be the funding portion. Funding goes to JD students. Don't want to micromanage but funding can be tricky.

Sydney: so, the alternative is that we have an LLM on L&L and we get a levy?

Karin: Probably won't happen. Levy would be complicated as well as health plan issues. When they start submitting requisitions and sitting on Exec it could be a problem.

Rachael: might be worth having a conversation with who is in charge of the GLSA now (Joshua Shaw) and we could discuss the idea of what LLMs can do.

Karin: will touch base with you after, Rachael, so we can have this conversation.

Other Business

13. Class of 2020 Yearbooks

Karin: We have the Class of 2020 Composites. Trying to have Alumni and Osgoode to pay for them. Response that I got was that normally these composites go out at convocation but can pay for those to be shipped. Osgoode states that the yearbook has always been distributed by L&L, propose sending the yearbooks out at an in-person convocation. Now an L&L issue. Dean's Office will not fund yearbook shipping. Are we going to charge them? More than 150 people want one. Do we just give to the first 150? How much of L&L's budget do we put towards this. Probably \$10 a book for shipping, so around \$2000 total.

Sydney: technically we are still using last year's levy. Think we could do it.

Karin: would like to ship all through YorkU. Drop off composites and yearbooks. Only way I think we can get these into people's hands.

Rachael: should send. Also, unsure how many people will come for convocation. The issue of more people wanting them versus how many we have is a problem. Would be a lot of money to order more. Might make sense to ask for \$5 just as a disincentive.

Aiish: we have money from last year from the levy, so also fine with shipping. But having more people than books is a problem. Agree with charging some monetary aspect to it. Don't know how open we can be that Osgoode doesn't support us on this?

Karin: \$45/book with 80 more yearbooks.

Jordan: you get another issue if more than 150 people want the yearbook and are willing to pay more the \$5. At the same time, they are not our constituents anymore so how they feel about us is largely inconsequential at this point. Therefore, we may not need to save face as much. We need to be honest with our communications because also it's not our fault here.

Mario: I think everyone has a right to their yearbook, but at the same time people always say they want something because it is free. Weaning out people might work.

Rachael: agree with what Jordan said about having open communication here.

Akshay: also agree, you also shouldn't ask for people to pay money when they have no guarantee that they can get a yearbook.

Karin: 20 people have already picked up their ones in Vaughan as well.

Rachael: figure out how many we have. Put out a post. This is how many we have, too many want it. If you want to pick it up, or want it shipped fill it out. First 130 who want it. First come first serve.

Karin: do we want to order more books?

Rachael: not worth how much that will cost, plus the shipping charge.

Jordan: ran the numbers and looks like it'll be over \$4000.

Akshay: is there any possibility of sending out a digital copy?

Karin: we can pay a digital version fee. Will send out an email. Follow up form.

Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society funds the cost of the shipping for the Class of 2020 Yearbooks.

(Kazakevich/Mclvor) CARRIED

D. Landry and C. Tassopoulos joined the meeting at 2:08PM.

Jordan: don't put out the email right away, Karin. We can try and save face by saying there is a digital copy. Would be worth a shot.

Aiish: can reach out to Friesens and discuss.

14. Future Yearbooks/Agendas (CONTINUED)

Karin: .

Reilly: think it's a good idea to order the 150 for '22.

Alex: also like the idea.

Aiish: would reiterate that we can change the order later. Content might be trickier.

Karin: liked the agendas.

Aiish: With the 2021 yearbook I'll still be dealing with them.

Karin: next year's Exec can also discuss mailing them out or not. Hearing that we'll go forward with the Yearbook order for 2022. The levy does not actually cover all of the yearbook, so if that changes anyone's vote. Sooner we sign, the sooner we can lock in a cheaper price.

Rachael: still annoyed about the agendas this past year. Need things to be delivered on time.

Mario: I think they're fine. Blatantly did not take accountability for the issue this Fall. Did try and fix it though and unless we have an alternative then let's do it.

Karin: they did take off the shipping charge.

Aiish: have been pretty understanding and I have a good relationship, but also separated from what happened with the agenda this summer.

Karin: does anyone have capacity to research competitors?

Aiish: could be something we take note of for the future. For people next year we can say actually look at someone else, but at this point it might be a bit late to change things up.

Karin: future L&L issue.

Aiish: did you sign off on numbers for the Agendas already?

Mario: not yet.

Motion: THAT the Legal and Literary Society approves ordering 150 yearbooks at 56 pages for the Class of 2022 AND approves the order for the 2021-22 agendas, both subject to later confirmation.

(Haran/Lofranco) CARRIED

J. Crocker abstained

Motion: THAT the meeting be Adjourned.

(Kazakevich/Crocker) CARRIED

Adjournment (2:24PM)

Consent Agenda

The item on the Consent Agenda, the Minutes of the meeting of 18 November 2020, were deemed approved.

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Next Meeting

Wednesday, 27 January 2021, 12:30PM EST