

## MINUTES

Title of meeting: **SLS Executive Meeting**

Date: May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Online discord meeting room sent via link

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### **(1) Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 10:01 am

### **(2) Roll Call**

In attendance

-Celina  
-Will  
-Emily  
-Kimia  
-Jaicee  
-Alexandra  
-Jana  
-Max  
-Courtney  
-Lucas  
-Arwant (partially)

### **(3) Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

Approved with change of Jana's name spelling.

### **(4) President Report (Celina)**

- What is the COVID committee doing
  - There is overlap between all of the committees working towards next years accommodations
  - Hopefully the COVID faculty committee focuses on course delivery, consistency.
  - The orientation committee focuses on 1L's transition to online and getting all the material an in-person 1L would normally get.
  - Hopefully not too much overlap after future meeting
- When will we know what the actual course schedule is going to be?
  - Was assured on more than one occasion that it was sorted.
  - Uploaded last year's schedule, at the end of the faculty COVID committee mentioned that the schedule was wrong.
  - The new one for the faculty of Law isn't going to be made available until June.
  - Relying on SLS too heavily to deal with these issues with the student body.
  - Faculty and administration should be sending out emails about schedule problems.
  - If they do not address the scheduling mix up by tonight, Celina will follow up with it tomorrow morning.
- 1L handbook
  - Almost all of the information is put together, just needs to be edited into a handbook
  - Jana is getting a territorial acknowledgement from the Kamloops Indigenous band.
  - Hoping to get it out by mid-July, sounds more like the faculty wants it out sooner than that.

-Hopefully done by beginning to mid-June.

4. Missing SLS photos:

-Lucas, Kyle, Will need photos

5. Student led- Covid Recovery committee

-Celina is the chair now

-Sydney must provide meeting minutes, must be posted publicly.

-Communications, the mailing lists are only allowed to be given to the senior members of SLS, and Kyle does get the emailing list for the incoming 1L's. Mailing list cannot be shared with any other student as it would be considered a privacy breach.

-Any time that the committee has to send out an email it has to be given to Celina to send out the email, and have it all blind CC'd for the student body.

6. Unpaid articling and internships

-Turned into a contentious point between faculty and administration

-In no way does the SLS or SLS Covid committee endorse unpaid internships or unpaid articling

-This was instigated without proper consultation from the student body

-A survey and data collection would have needed to be done. None of this occurred, and not prepared to represent unpaid articling at all.

-SLS has nothing to do with this, we will not weigh in on this.

**(5) Reports from Internal Directors**

**(a) Vice Presidents**

**(a.1) VP fundraising—Courtney Mclaughlin**

**(a.2) VP Academic --Alexandra Johnston**

**(b) Class Representatives**

**(b.1) 1L (Kyle)**

→ Orientation committee

-Focus—orientation week for the incoming class

-Collecting information from other schools

-Goal: Having pre-recorded videos up in August

-Meeting on this later this week, will be looking for input of ideas from other SLS members

→Recovery committee (headed by Sydney Snape)

-Using one program in regards to everything for law school communication

-Jana: including some Metis inclusion and awareness into the 1L handbook, Could we add it as a video component to the orientation week?

**(b.2) 2L (Maximillion)**

**(b.3) 3L (Arwant)**

→Arwant: Wants to propose a large meeting of all the club leaders

-With moving online and what we've seen last semester, it's been a pain to get enough people to show up on Zoom for classes, it's going to be tough to get people to show up for webinars when there's no food incentive or networking incentive.

-Meeting with club representatives and have all of them come up with ways to host events. Maybe host small events in different cities.

-Need to get on the same page, all groups need to be uniform.

**Celina:** will help with this project, would love to see clubs continued. It's going to be hard and awkward but if we let the social aspect of law school go, we are leaving a mess for the next board that comes in after Covid.  
-We don't want them to have to rebuild student life from scratch.  
-Arwant and Will should be working together on this.

**(d) Events (Kimia)**

**(e) O-Week Leader (Lucas)**

**(6) External Reports**

**(a) CBA Rep (Emma)**

**(e) ILSA (Jana)**

**(f) Communications and Marketing Officer (Jaicee)**

**(7) Financial Report (Lucas)**

1. SLS and the value it adds to the student body

- If we are going to collect money from students, we need to be able to tell them what that money gets them in return.
- SLS fees: the money made from them cancels out club funding. Not a ton of funding of clubs for the foreseeable future, so why do we need the fees.
- Should we even ask for fees?

**Celina:** SLS fees funds speakers, club meetings, partially the SLS conference, there is a lot of work done sending people to conferences, food for events. We are also trying to get a scholarship and an endowment created with the surplus from last year.

- We want people to be encouraged to still stay connected with clubs.
- Blurb in the handbook about what the SLS does and why fees are important, and there is a link put in this to pay the fees online via the website.
- We foresee that there may be some events that have to be paid for, the conference costs will be happening still.

**Courtney:** In new bylaws, it is discussed that if a student is only returning for one semester they are given a half fee paid exception (they wouldn't be able to use a locker, or attend events, etc.)

- Can we bridge this gap with a partial fee charged. We don't know if study spaces will be open, but we still want to encourage clubs to do things distantly, could we afford a half fee in contemplation of the winter semester being something that we return to.

**Emily:** Working on getting conference planned, the admin has told conference committee that it is mandatory to plan the conference in person but with an online alternative.

- We don't know what that looks like, whether that be pre-recorded lectures, etc.
- Will there be a different in fees? Large grant from conference this year, not as much funding would be needed from the SLS as has been needed in past years. Fundraising events in the fall also will not be possible.
- The promised amount for the conference needs to be looked up and confirmed with the SLS.

**Lucas:** a reduction would be reasonable.

-Endowment: looking at growing funding for this in the future, so that we can have more reserves for funding conferences and such.

## 2. Tuition and fall online delivery accountability

-Administration does not have any time to entertain discussions about going online and paying different tuition cost.

-If the administration is going to have this perspective then they need to be able to justify it, it's not just an arbitrary decision based off of other Canadian law schools.

-We need to know that the online delivery is going to be of a similar value as before.

-Question that needs to be asked: what is the administration doing to ensure that we have a product that's representative of tuition.

-What kind of stress test did the school apply in terms of their forecasting? Did they see something similar to Covid-19 that would affect the school in this way?

-It isn't fair for them to say this is simply going to cost you the same amount even though the delivery is much different.

**Celina:** 35% of our tuition goes to TRU generally and out of the faculty (greater administration or "clocktower")

-Clock tower has refused to provide any books on where that 35% of our tuition leaving the faculty is going.

-SLS has been working on this for years, and asking that they provide that records on where that money goes.

-They have not provided the records for this money.

-Almost insurmountable, no matter how many previous boards have challenged the clocktower on this they have not tried to meet the law faculty half way.

-Law faculty is going to be running on a deficit, there will be no profit made this upcoming year even though we are privatized.

-When we are asking for a lower tuition, our faculty just simply does not have the capacity to lower the tuition right now.

**Kimia:** Is our tuition going to bus passes still even though we aren't going to be getting bus passes?

**Celina:** ^ this is about TRUSU, and it needs to be addressed as many of us will not be here to even use the bus passes.

-135.00 dollars per student for campus improvement, why would we pay this if we aren't on campus this year.

-Will draft a letter and ask why we are paying fees for something we aren't using.

**Courtney:** While many of these are TRUSU fees, not all of them are. The list of fees goes to TRU generally.

**Kyle:** fees and tuition are separate categories. Where is our tuition going towards, are you willing to push for a report on that at the next administration meeting.

**Celina:** Might not be able to be provided as it's a privatized institution.

-Friday meeting, discussed mentorship between regular faculty and sessional professors.

**Alexandra:** quality of online delivery, and holding professors accountable. It has been brought up at faculty council, making sure sessional professors keep up the quality of lectures.

-Deans are away of this aspect of moving online.

-Alexandra will be working with the deans on this closely.

**\*Whether to keep the platforms to 1-2 (Moodle, and TWEN) proposed by Celina, we will push for 1-2 platforms only.**

## 3. Online delivery

-Thoughts on why we couldn't go for a hybrid model of some online and some in person classes .

**Kimia:** UBC is planning on doing 1L fully online for the whole year even in the winter semester, but are having problems with 2L and 3L because they want them to be in person. 2L and 3L has been told that they are online the fall, and possible in person in the winter.

**Celina:** We are differing from UBC because MOST of their people live in Vancouver.

-Have to follow gov't directives

-TRU went completely online because so many of our students do not live in Kamloops

-We didn't want to unduly burden those who do not live in the area, would help save on rent.

-Given how small our hallways are, we couldn't guarantee that we would be able to prevent more than 50 people in the hallways at any given time.

## 4. Financial report update

-Sorting through things from the transition

-We have 32,700 in the chequing accounts, 10,000 in the savings for a grand total of 42,813.40. Not all of this money is ours, as we hold accounts for some of the clubs just to save on expenses for them.

-Endowment- Idea is that the 10,000 will go into the endowment, but given the current uncertainty Lucas thinks we should hold a portion of that money so that we can still access some of it.

**Kyle:** We don't actually have an endowment set up yet, and not including the 10,000 what are the liquid assets looking like?

**Lucas:** we don't have the exact number minus the clubs accounts, somewhere in the 30,000 range.

-Last year funding for clubs was budgeted at 11,000, 8,390 used for clubs. SLS fees that were brought in were over 11,000 dollars.

-Should we be cutting the amount of funding given to clubs this year as they will have less opportunity to expend funds.

-clubs should be required to register through TRUSU, if you create a club it has to be something that is something vetted through TRUSU if you want funding.

5. Last faculty council meeting

-Next one was set up to be September 6<sup>th</sup>, between now and September there is a lot of moving parts and it's important to be a part of that.

**(8) Other Business**