

**Manitoba Law Students' Association
Council Meeting
April 23, 2009
4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Robson Hall**

MINUTES

1.1 Call to Order

D. Ireland called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

N. Dhillon-Penner conducted the roll call

1.3 Approval of Agenda

Moved by D. Ireland

Second By HB. Guest

Passed

1.4 Approval of Minutes

None available

1.5 Unfinished Business

1.5.1 Official Notice from the University: L-Lot Parking

D. Ireland reported that as of 1 July 2009, there will be no more student pass parking in L-Lot.

1.5.2. Orientation Week

K. Brownell suggested that planning for Orientation Week should begin as soon as possible

C. Wong indicated that while the Marketing Committee as yet has no mandate, the other committees should begin planning for the coming year. He reminded the members that the faculty's law lists were down for the summer and asked all members to forward their personal e-mail addresses to him so that an accurate list could be compiled. This will allow the members to remain in contact over the summer while planning is taking place.

C. Wong surveyed the members present for recommendations for Orientation Week events. Events will be similar to those held in previous years. Following the members' input, C. Wong committed to distribute a calendar of events to the members by the end of May.

D. Ireland reported that the Dean hopes that the faculty can become more involved in this year's events.

J. Prystanski reported that the MALSA intends to make some changes to the Aboriginal Cultural Evening, including a venue change from Thunderbird House to the Aboriginal Centre on campus. It is hoped that the venue change will increase accessibility. A committee of students and faculty members has been struck to plan the event.

L. Miller felt that the activities held last year did not facilitate orientation for the first year students. Members are encouraged to make recommendations for improving the orientation experience for the in-coming class.

T. Petrick - The Law Games Committee indicated their desire to host an Orientation Week event. An evening event following the golf tournament was suggested.

S. Virji and K. Brownell volunteered to organize the Buddy Program. Discussion of the Buddy Program focused on encouraging upper year students to continue their Buddy duties throughout the academic year and conducting more organized tours.

D. Ireland reported that t-shirts will be made for the Members to wear during Orientation Week so that the Members are easily identifiable to the in-coming class. The Marketing Committee will be responsible for having the t-shirts made.

D. Ireland also reported that sponsorships are part of the Association's overall fundraising activities. He noted that J. Wood will be overseeing the MLSA's fundraising.

1.6 Motions

1.6.1 Approval of the MLSA Logo

Be it resolved that the Manitoba Law Students' Association adopt the new logo for all external and internal promotion and marketing.

Moved by D. Ireland

Yeas: 4

Nays: 5

Motion defeated

1.7 Reports

1.7.1 President

The Executive Committee met with Dean Axworthy and Associate Dean Turnbull. Topics of discussion included future graduation ceremonies and increased student involvement on academic committees.

1.7.2 Vice-President

None

1.7.3 Executive Director

None

1.7.4 Treasurer

None

1.7.5 Communications Director

None

1.7.6 Senate Representative

None

1.7.7 MALSA Representative

None

1.7.8 MBA Representative

K. Lamothe reported that he met with the out-going MBA representative to officially hand-over responsibilities. He also attended his first meeting with the MBA.

1.7.9 UMSU Representative

S. Eng reported that she would be attending the hand-over meeting for UMSU immediately following the MLSA meeting.

1.7.10 Third Year Representatives

C. Williamson raised students' request that the exam schedule be finalized prior to course selection.

B. Burns raised the issue with the Associate Dean (Academic) and C. Williamson will follow up on the matter.

1.7.11 Second Year Representatives

None

1.8 Committee Reports

1.8.1 Marketing Committee

None

1.8.2 Social Committee

None

1.8.3 Law Games Committee

None

1.8.4 Future of the Profession Committee

L. Miller - The dates for the 2010 "Match" have not been set. It is likely that changes to the program will come into effect for the 2010 program.

1.8.5 Graduation Committee

B. Murray explained the “graduation” ceremony tradition at Robson Hall to the Members. Associate Dean Turnbull outlined the University’s concerns with the student’s “graduation” ceremony. The Associate Dean has indicated that she is willing to participate in negotiations with the University’s administration. She feels that it is possible that a small ceremony with the Faculty of Pharmacy is a possible solution.

The Graduation Committee conducted an e-mail poll of the class of 2010 for guidance. Of those who responded, the students wanted to continue with the student “graduation” ceremony. Number of responses was not reported.

B. Murray noted that a different venue will be needed for the graduation dinner dance. The graduating class of 2010 will be larger than 2009, so a larger ballroom is needed.

1.8.6 Yearbook Committee

None

1.9 Discussion Items

1.9.1 Graduation

C. Wong reported that while the class of 2010 will likely have the option of the student “graduation” ceremony, later graduation classes will not have an option. As such, now is the time to negotiate graduation details with the University’s administration.

The Members present expressed the opinion that the students’ greatest concern was with a ceremony dedicated to the Faculty of Law.

1.10.2 Tuition Freeze

When asked if the lifting of the tuition freeze would affect the premium currently paid by law students’, S. Eng stated that she would report back to the Association.

1.10.3 The MBA Mid-Winter Conference and the Carboloc Smoke Ball

C. Wong and D. Ireland met with Stacey Nagle of Manitoba Bar Association. Stacey Nagle informed that due to numerous complaints about student behaviour at the Carboloc Smoke Ball, the MBA will not continue the events inclusion in the Mid-Winter Conference.

Members expressed their concerns over this development and noted the importance of the event for building connections between the faculty and the profession. C. Wong and D. Ireland will meet again with the MBA to discuss the situation and to negotiate a continuation of the relationship between the events.

1.11 Notice of Next Meeting

Thursday, June 4, 2009

7:00 p.m. at Robson Hall.

1.12 Adjournment

Moved by C. Williamson

Second by L. Miller

Passed

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.