

MLSA Council Meeting
Tuesday, March 30, 2010
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Robson Hall – Room # 309

Attended:

Cameron Wong
Heather Belle Guest
James Wood
Natasha Penner
Loren Braul
Rana Bokhari
Joel Myskiw

Mike Jones
Brendan Burns
Connor Williamson
John Prystanski
Kyle Lamothe
Jason Roberts
Selena Eng

Landon Miller
Shannon Patterson
Amanda Faulkner
Katie Brownell
Kevin Eng
Sophia Virji
Sarah Rossman

MINUTES

1.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion: L. Miller

Second: C. Wong

Passed

Motion to enter Committee of the whole

C. Williamson

Passed

CRO Report: MLSA General Election 2010 (D. Ireland & C. Pope)

CRO gave voter stats:

First Year Students

$89 / 112 = 79\%$

Second Year Students

$70 / 98 = 71\%$

Third Year Students

$55 / 94 = 56\%$

NCA & LOP

$0 / 11 = 0\%$

Total turnout = $214 / 315 = 68\%$ voter turn out

Total turnout (without NCA & LOP) = $214 / 304 = 70\%$ voter turn out

CRO raised issue of no campaign – noted there was no governing documents, nothing in MLSA constitution or UMSU bylaws – CRO decided no given the timing and to ensure fairness to all candidates

There was one issue of disrespectful conduct during the debates – result: CRO e-mailed the candidate and reminded that person of the CRO's respectful conduct rules

One Third year rep position was not filled. The MLSA will have to hold a by-election in the fall semester.

Another issue was candidates finding out results before the CRO announcement
There was an issue of borderline campaigning via an e-mail using law lists – The CRO addressed the issue with the candidate

Suggestions for next year: Do not open polls for so long – too hard to find volunteers
Need more concrete rules – New MLSA should approve a comprehensive election policy

J. Roberts congrats to the CRO

Motion to exit committee of the Whole

J. Wood

J. Prystanski

Passed

2.0 Approval of Minutes

2.1 January 19, 2010

Motion M. Jones

Second K. Prystanski

Passed

2.2 February 2, 2010

Motion C. Wong

Second C. Williamson

Passed

1 - abstain

2.3 February 23, 2010

Motion B. Burns

Motion L. Brault

Passed

2.4 March 9, 2010
Motion K. Lamothe
Second S. Eng
Passed

3.0 New Business

3.1 Motion to purchase locker locks from the Materials Distribution Centre (D. Ireland)

BIRT that the 2009-2010 MLSA purchase the surplus combo locks from the MDC for \$222.60

Motion C. Wong
Second S. Eng

L. Brault Motion to Amend: “to be sold for 5\$ in the future”

Motion L. Brault

Noe second – motion dies on the table

Discussion on original motion:

M. Jones – if we don’t buy them – what will they do with them?

No response

J. Wood noted that the price is comparable or less than Walmart

C. Wong – noted that Dollar store combo locks are lower quality and that these locks are a good price. Said we could negotiate a lower price but given time of year and fact that we are here to provide a service to students – I have no problem with the price

K. Brownell – are we paying retail?

C. Wong - a little bit less as per J. Wood

Vote – Motion passed

3.2 Coffee House Report (K. Eng)

We made \$1000

Not as many profs this year

Last year Coffee House was not an official MLSA event, and all proceeds and fundraising was considered profit.

This year with the change in sponsorship program, sponsorship dollars are not directly allocated to the event. Sponsorship is calculated for the MLSA as a whole.

K. Eng recommended that the MLSA allocate money directly towards coffee house and asked if there is money that the MLSA could put towards coffee house?

HB Guest – I need to look at the sponsor package and the budget to see what we spent

3.4 Endowment fund

A. Faulkner asked how it is that some student requests did not get approved

J. Wood explained that the Law Student Endowment Fund Committee is made up of several faculty, staff, external lawyers and two students, and that they have broad criteria for approving funding but that it is based on the original intent of providing services to Robson Hall students that may have been cut or reduced due to budget shortfalls.

J. Prystanski – said there should be more transparency and accountability

Motion J. Prystanski

Second C. Williamson

Motion:

Whereas:

“Students of Robson Hall contribute annually to their fees to the growth of the Law Student Endowment Fund

BIRT:

The MLSA ask for an accounting for the funds, criteria for approval of the funds, who sits on the committee, and any and all minutes from the committee.”

Motion J. Prystanski

Second C. Williamson

Discussion:

J. Prystanski:

This is a motion asking for information to be delivered to the MLSA. This motion is not intended to bind any future council to a course of action. This motion will add support to a future council should they pursue the accountability of the fund by indicating the operation of the fund was a concern during the 2009-2010 student year.

L. Miller – Spoke in favour of the motion saying that it is right in principle, given that students pay about \$200 each per year to the fund.

J. Wood – Spoke against the motion – noting he has conducted a comprehensive and exhaustive analysis of the Law Student Endowment Fund and all of the research that he has done from May 2009 until present and all of the reports that he has presented to MLSA council have indicated that we already have all of this information, therefore the motion is pointless. In relation to how each member of the committee made their decision, J. Wood said one can only speculate how each committee member made their

decision or why they decided to vote for or against a particular funding request, and that this is not reflected in any minutes of the committee. J. Wood reiterated that the committee has broad criteria for approving funding based on the original intent of providing services to Robson Hall students that may have been cut or reduced due to budget shortfalls.

Vote on motion:

6 In Favour

4 Against

3 abstain

Motion Passes

4.0 Reports

4.1 President

NTR

4.2 Vice-President

NTR

4.3 Treasurer

books up to date as end of January

fiscal yr end = end of march

I will not be closing the books right away due to grad

if anyone has any outstanding receipts get to HBG ASAP

HBG will be available to the auditor after the year has ended

note to new counsel - we need to arrange signing authority

cam is leaving from province - so need to get him sorted

final balance at end of year – may be a pos balance in the bank account

three incidents of cash going missing in MLSA to about \$500 dollars

we have done a few things re risk management –

changed lock

using only locking cash boxes and key is in the locker

daily cash out sheets

4.4 Executive Director
Law Student Endowment Fund
Elections

4.5 Communications Director
NTR

4.6 MALSA Representative
MALSA created chamber of commerce pro bono program - TDS is the supervising law firm – currently working out the details

4.7 MBA Representative
MBA meeting on 22nd

4.8 Senate Representative
NTR

4.9 UMSU Representative
Said the faculty is targeted for increase in fee

4.10 Third Year Representative(s)
C. Williamson – J. Eaton confirmed six tables in back of library for law students

4.11 Second Year Representative(s)
NTR

4.12 First Year Representative(s)
NTR

4.13 Future of the Profession Committee
JD passed

guidelines in place for recruiting for articling
good meeting last week re – rules for articling

4.14 Marketing Committee
keep the MC – it's useful

4.15 Social Committee
NTR

4.16 Graduation Committee
had a social – fun but did not make much money – maybe \$100

4.17 Sports Committee
NTR

4.18 Law Games Committee
NTR

4.19 Yearbook Committee
S. Rossman - you can e-mail year book committee to get a yr book

5.0 Question Period

6.0 Notice of Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 6, 2010 from 6:00-7:00 PM
HAND OVER TO NEW MLSA COUNCIL MEETING

7.0 Adjournment