

MLSA

MANITOBA LAW

STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MANITOBA LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MINUTES

October 24th, 2016

12:00pm

Moot B

Attending:

Melody Burke – *President*

Abram Silver – *Vice-President Internal*

Stephanie Savoie – *Vice-President External*

Kyle Mirecki – *Vice-President Finance*

Erin Lawlor Forsyth – *Governance
Coordinator*

Sharu Ratnajothy – *Council Chair*

Melanie Wire – *Chief Returning Officer*

Heather Maxted – *Media Coordinator*

Denby Mclean – *MALSA Representative*

Maddie Pearlman – *MBA Representative*

Rhoni Mackenzie – *UMSU Representative*

Bonnie Schott – *Senate Representative*

Elizabeth Czyrnyj – *Desautels
Representative & Academic Committee*

Rachel Wood – *3L Representative*

Dave Grohmueller – *3L Representative*

Paolo Aquila – *1L Representative*

Rebecca Kunzman – *1L Representative*

Arian Poushangi – *1L Representative*

Kelly MacWilliam – *Grad Committee
(Chair)*

Nikki Evans – *Grad Committee*

Sharna Nelko – *Grad Committee*

Jessica Hersey – *Marketing Committee
(Chair)*

Mercedes Ayala – *Marketing Committee*

Kara Moore – *Social Committee (Chair)*

Kelsey Schade – *Sports Committee (Chair)*

Nichole Mirwaldt – *Sports Committee*

Danielle Dubois – *Community Outreach
Committee (Chair)*

Andrew Konopelny – *Professional
Development Committee (Chair)*

Adam Meyers – *Professional Development
Committee*

Erin Evans – *Professional Development
Committee*

Ashley Kaufmann – *Professional
Development Committee*

Renato Di Lorenzo – *Tuition Review
Committee*

Errick Beaulieu – *Academic Committee
(Chair)*

Alex Favreau – *Academic Committee*

Mark Alward – *Academic Committee*

Krista Clendenning – *Spirit Committee
(Chair)*

Tyler Stilwell – *Photo Journalist*

Not present:

Samantha Wong – *Communications Director*
Jesse Gietz – *2L Representative*
Jason Macleod – *2L Representative & Community Outreach Committee*
Rebecca Heller – *Grad Committee*
Amrita Sidhu – *Grad Committee*
Julie Yan – *Grad Committee*
Kaitlan Buchko – *Marketing Committee*
Robyn Fraser – *Social Committee*
Amy Gelhorn – *Social Committee*
Brittney Fehr – *Social Committee*
Brittney Hoyt – *Sports Committee*

Daniel Reimer – *Community Outreach Committee*
Bryn Rieger – *Community Outreach Committee*
Bobbi Jo Henngiar – *Community Outreach Committee*
Jill Giesbrecht – *Community Outreach Committee*
Morgan Lawrence – *Professional Development Committee*
Ben Wickstrom – *Tuition Review Committee (Chair)*
Laryssa Bogucki – *Tuition Review Committee*
Victoria Perrie – *Tuition Review Committee*
Karas Elbardisy – *Spirit Committee*

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|---|-----------------------|---------|
| 1. Call to Order: at 12:02pm | Burke/Savoie | Carried |
| <i>1.1 Approval of September 26th, 2016 Minutes:</i> | <i>Burke/Savoie</i> | Carried |
| <i>1.2 Approval of Agenda:</i> | <i>Savoie/Mirecki</i> | Carried |
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2. Reports & Motions

2.1 President – Melody Burke

- i. UMFA Strike
 - a. The UMSU President has sent out several notices concerning the potential strike. We don't have a lot of details at this point really. There is a meeting Thursday October 27th to discuss this. We don't have to worry yet really; I'll keep you guys posted.
- ii. Lunch with the Dean
 - a. There is a meeting tomorrow with the Dean of Law and the MLSA executive. If you have any questions or issues you'd like us to address at the meeting, please let us know.

Questions/Comments: None

2.2 Vice-President Internal – Abram Silver

- i. Group Ratification/Re-Ratification

- a. Another big thank you to social committee and all groups. Everyone is doing a great job. We are recommending all groups that applied to be re-ratified.
- ii. *Motion re: Club Ratification/Re-Ratification*

- a. AFTER reviewing the submitted Student Club Ratification and Re-Ratification Packages, the Club Governance Committee recommends the ratification/re-ratification of the following groups:

- a) Animal Law Group
- b) Health and Elder Law Group
- c) Manitoba Indigenous Law Students Association
- d) Migration Law Students Group
- e) Pro Bono Students of Canada
- f) Robson Hall Jets

WHEREAS the Clubs Governance Committee recommends the respective ratification or re-ratification of the aforementioned groups, which requires approval by the MLSA Council.

BE IT RESOLVED that the aforementioned groups are respectively ratified or re-ratified for the 2016-17 academic year.

Questions/Comments:

Silver: The motion has one group name incorrect. I'd like to change in the official record the group name 'Manitoba Indigenous Law Group' to 'Manitoba Indigenous Law Students' Association'.

Approval of Motion: Savoie/Burke

Carried

iii. Debate Event

- a. We're in the process of organizing a negotiation event with the Asper Business School. If 2L and 3L reps could help by gauging interest in their years, that would be good. We think it will be a good experience to negotiate with people from other faculties with different experiences.

Questions/Comments: None

2.3 Vice-President External – Stephanie Savoie

- i. Nothing to Report

Questions/Comments: None

2.4 Vice-President Finance – Kyle Mirecki

- i. The Manitoba Law Students' Association ("MLSA") has received all of its sponsorship funds from firms, the Law Society of Manitoba, CBA and Scotiabank, exempt from Myers Weinberg. We will follow up with them in the next few days.
- ii. Shout out to Sports Committee for successfully organizing the Pitblado Golf Tournament, Bomber Game Event and Intramurals.
 - a. We have a surplus from intramurals. Some people are upset about this but the money will be used to benefit all intramural participants.
- iii. Shout out to Community Outreach Committee for their recent book sale. As a result of their hard work, we were able to donate \$313.33 each to the West End 24/7, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and Winnipeg Harvest.
- iv. We had a cheque issued to a former grad committee member from last year that was lost by them. We cancelled and reissued it.
- v. We paid a deposit of \$3,000 for a venue for Grad at The Fort Garry Hotel.
- vi. CONFIDENTIAL: The MLSA, without the Faculty Grad Gift of \$13,500 and the \$12,000 endowment request for Carbolic, is projecting a surplus of \$789.64.
 - a. There's rumours that we're running a huge surplus. We're not. We're actually just running a balanced budget. At this moment we are on par. For anything else, refer to the report.
- vii. We received \$4,700 in club funding requests. We were authorized to approve \$3,000 (with a 10% cost overrun). We approved \$3,100. We will continue to accept supplementary requests from student groups; however, students should not plan their budgets in anticipation of additional funding approval.
- viii. *Motion to Approve 2016-17 Manitoba Law Student Association Student Group Funding*

- a. WHEREAS on September 26, 2016, the Manitoba Law Student Association ("MLSA") Council approved its budget that allocated \$3,000 toward student group funding.

WHEREAS section 6 of Policy on Finances and Budget in the MLSA Constitution ("the Constitution"), states that "[n]o one line of this budget can be altered by more than 10% except by a motion passed at a meeting of the MLSA Council."

WHEREAS section 111 of the Constitution states that "...No Student Group has the right to funding from Council, but Council retains discretion to establish a system for funding Student Groups."

WHEREAS according to the MLSA Club Funding Application 2016-17, group executive signed that they understand and recognize that "...the granting of MLSA Club Funds are solely and entirely within the discretion of the MLSA Clubs Governance Committee, and that it is a privilege (not a right) to receive funding through the MLSA Club Fund."

WHEREAS the number of student groups grew from a total of 10 in 2015-16

to 17 in 2016-17.

WHEREAS in 2016-17, the Executive received a total of \$4,700 in funding requests.

WHEREAS the Executive has approved and distributed \$3,200 in funding, reflected in the table in Annex 1.

BE IT RESOLVED that the MLSA Council approves the distribution of \$3,200 in accordance with the table in Annex 1.

Questions/Comments:

Mirecki: You'll see a few cuts to some groups and modest increases to others. New groups have been given only \$100 because its like a test year for you. Next year these groups can then talk about increasing that funding with next year's MLSA executive if they wish. In terms of how we allocated money, if you got close to 20 students roughly in your group, you were given about \$200, \$300 for 30 students and any group in a higher range with lots of student interest was given approximately \$400. We will of course accept refunding applications in future if you use up what was given to you.

Approval of Motion: Mirecki/Burke

Carried

2.5 Governance Coordinator – Erin Lawlor Forsyth

- i. Nothing to Report

Questions/Comments: None

2.6 Communications Director – Samantha Wong

- i. MLSA Facebook Page
 - a. Please remember that the MLSA Facebook page is for posting about MLSA related events, notices, issues, etc. Anything else should be posted on the All Students page or individual year pages.

Questions/Comments: None

2.7 Chief Returning Officer – Melanie Wire

- i. Nothing to Report

Questions/Comments: None

2.8 Media Coordinator – Heather Maxted

- i. Nothing to Report

Questions/Comments: None

2.9 MALSA Representative – Denby Mclean

- i. Nothing to Report

Questions/Comments: None

2.10 MBA Representative – Madison Pearlman

- i. MBA Council Meeting
- ii. Mentorship Event
 - a. Nothing to add. See report.

Questions/Comments: None

2.11 UMSU Representative – Rhoni Mackenzie

- i. VPSS Vacancy
 - a. The VPSS resigned so UMSU is looking at options as to what to do with that position. There are essentially 2 options: 1) Have an election in late October/early November. But this would cost a significant amount of money; like \$20 000 plus. 2) The other option is leave it vacant, which I'm in favour for and just have the workload divided between the executive. That's how I want to vote. If there are any concerns or objections to this please let me know.
- ii. UMFA Strike
 - a. The strike date has been set for November 1st. There is a meeting with Minister of Education next week. If you have any questions, let me know and I will keep you updated as get more information.
- iii. Notice went out to appoint Aboriginal Student Rep and LGBTTTQ Rep positions which are currently vacant
 - a. Currently neither of these positions are filled. If you are interested in applying, please let me know.
- iv. Last Meetings – September 29, 2016 and October 13, 2016
- v. Upcoming meeting – October 27, 2016

Questions/Comments: None

2.12 Senate Representative – Bonnie Schott

- i. University of Manitoba Senate Meeting – Oct. 5 at 1:30pm
 - a. There was nothing really at that meeting that is applicable to law students.
- ii. Next Student Senate Caucus Meeting – Nov. 1 at 5:00pm
 - a. I have not received the agenda yet. If there is anything important, I will let the MLSA know.
- iii. Next University of Manitoba Senate Meeting – Nov. 2 at 1:30pm

Questions/Comments: None

2.13 Desautels Representative – Elizabeth Czynnyj

- i. Attempted contact with Desautels Committee

- a. Everything on my report basically says I can't get ahold of Jan Lederman. If anyone knows how to help, please let me know.

Questions/Comments:

Savoie: We'll bring this up at the Dean's meeting as well.

2.14 Third-Year Representatives – Rachel Wood, Dave Grohmueller

- i. Nothing to report other than we will be working with grad committee to try and get a separate convocation.

Questions/Comments: None

2.15 Second-Year Representative – Jesse Gietz, Jason Macleod

- i. Nothing to Report

Questions/Comments: None

2.16 First-Year Representatives – Paolo Aquila, Rebecca Kunzman, Arian Poushanghi

- i. Nothing to Report

Questions/Comments: None

2.17 Grad Committee – Kelly MacWilliam, Rebecca Heller, Amrita Sidhu, Julie Yan, Nikki Evans, Sharna Nelko

- i. Grad Celebration
 - a. The grad celebration will be held on June 23d at the Fort Garry. Also keep in mind we will have the election of valedictorian and guest speaker. There will be a nomination and election process. Melanie will handle this as part of the winter election.
- ii. Law Faculty Convocation
 - a. Provided we don't get a separate convocation; central admin is looking at the week of June 5th-9th for the ceremony. All faculties essentially graduate within 3 days.
- iii. Rumour's Comedy Night
 - a. Big success last year. Going to be selling tickets next week. November 10th at Rumour's Comedy Club. We're having it early in November so exam pressure is not there yet. No school the next day. No reason not to come.

Questions/Comments:

Silver: If we get a separate convocation date, can we decide what day we want to have it?

Grohmueller: We want to try to get it the Friday before most students start articling. Most

Winnipeg articling students start on the same date. If we don't want an official one then we could also just not get an official diploma.

MacWilliam: Previously faculties have done this; they have a sort of dummy convocation where central admin not on bored but the Dean of Law and law professors are there.

2.18 Marketing Committee – Jessica Hersey, Mercedes Ayala, Kaitlan Buchko

- i. Robson Hall Clothing
 - a. We'll be selling clothing Tuesday through Friday this week. We did a Facebook post. We have quite a few of the samples but not all, so people can see sizes and colours. Its cash only; this is just easier for us. We're hoping to put the full order in the first week of November and hopefully get the clothes back by the 2nd week of December. That's the dream.

Questions/Comments:

Ayala: Do people want us to put the mock-ups on our Facebook page? Yes? We'll do that.

Dubois: Did we ever do anything about having formal cash out sheets?

Mirecki: I'm still the only guy who is carrying money to and from the bank.

Dubois: Should we adopt a formal record?

Mirecki: Yes, I could draft that and have it approved. We're happy to do it.

Grohmueller: There should be a policy.

Mirecki: Maybe we'll pitch a motion next meeting.

Burke: Lets make a motion now.

Mirecki: I will write it and we'll return to the motion at the end of the meeting.

2.19 Social Committee – Kara Moore, Amy Gelhorn, Robyn Fraser, Brittney Fehr

- i. Nothing to Report

Questions/Comments: None

2.20 Sports Committee – Kelsey Schade, Brittney Hoyt, Nichole Mirwaldt

- i. Pitblado Gold Tournament
- ii. Bootcamps
 - a. This will not be happening this term because it doesn't work with the schedule at the Active Living Centre.

Questions/Comments: None

2.21 Community Outreach Committee – Danielle Dubois, Daniel Reimer, Bryn Rieger, Jason Macleod, Bobbi Jo Henngiar, Jill Giesbrecht

- i. Recent Activities
 - a. Quickly, we gave the money from the book sales to speakers from Big Brothers Big Sisters, West End 24/7 and Winnipeg Harvest. The CanU kids start coming tomorrow. The will come Tuesdays and Wednesdays until the end of November, in the evenings at like 4pm.
- ii. Upcoming Events
 - a. See the report for more details.

Questions/Comments: None

2.22 Professional Development Committee – Andrew Konopelny, Adam Meyers, Erin Evans, Ashley Kaufmann, Morgan Lawrence

- i. Mock Interviews
- ii. OCIs
- iii. Law Banquet – January 12th
 - a. As its January 12th, we're still deciding between the Manitoba Museum, Winnipeg Art Gallery and Millennium Centre.
 - b. I've had a few ppl approach me about the Crown or Legal Aid attending. This would increase the numbers but the Millennium Centre also offers the highest accommodation rate. We just have to work with the budget. This is the only thing holding us back at this point. The lawyers don't pay to attend. The students pay a subsidized rate. The lawyers have already paid through sponsorships. We just need to make sure the budget works. Good student interest in it.
 - c. There are some minor renovations happening at the Millennium Centre so I will go and check it out and see what was changed.
- iv. Upcoming Activities
 - a. There's an upcoming CDO event; a judge from the tax court. We'll be promoting it even though its not hosted by PDC. Also maybe running another event on clerking. If you guys have any ideas for presentations, just let us know.

Questions/Comments:

Konopelny: We need to ask the executive who is the signing authority for booking the venue.

MacWilliam: Erin could you summarize what the law banquet is for 1Ls?

Evans: The law banquet is where firm sponsors come. The tables are half lawyers, half students. Great networking event. There are speeches given too; last year the Dean gave a speech. Its a good opportunity to learn about the firms.

Di Lorenzo: What do you mean you need to find room in budget to invite the Crown?

Konopelny: The basic response is that last year, tickets were made available to either Legal Aid or the Legal Help Center (I'm unsure which one) because Fillmore Riley had a conflict and as such donated their tickets elsewhere. The problem with the MLSA "donating" or giving tables to other non-MLSA sponsor organizations is two-fold: 1) the Law Banquet access is one of the major selling points of MLSA sponsorship, if the MLSA gives tables to non-sponsors it will undercut the purpose of sponsorships and possibly result in negative consequences from sponsor firms and 2) the budget of law banquet is based on the sponsorship money covering the dinners of the lawyers as well as subsidizing student dinners – adding other non-sponsor tables would alter the funding model, and it is probably too late to do so at this point. I'd also add that the PDC is pursuing events related to practicing criminal law (which seems to be part of the concerns): we will be having a presentation on criminal law recruitment from third years with positions in criminal law and also having another Criminal Law Wine and Cheese as we did last year.

2.23 Tuition Review Committee – Ben Wickstrom, Renato Di Lorenzo, Laryssa Bogucki, Victoria Perrie

- i. Nothing to Report

Questions/Comments: None

2.24 Academic Committee – Errick Beaulieu, Alex Favreau, Mark Alward, Elizabeth Czynryj

- i. Exam writing preparation session
 - a. We had the 1L exam prep session. It turned out really good. Rosa was happy with it and said she'd be happy to collaborate on anything in future. 1L reps really helped out a lot with this a lot so thanks.
 - ii. Outline redesign

Questions/Comments: None

2.25 Spirit Committee – Krista Clendenning, Karas Elbardisy

- i. Nothing to Report

Questions/Comments: None

2.26 Photo Journalist – Tyler Stilwell

- i. Nothing to Report

Questions/Comments: None

3. New Business

3.1 Motion Re: Mandatory Cash Out Form

- i. WHEREAS the Manitoba Law Students' Association (" the MLSA") should always operate in a way that is accountable and transparent.
WHEREAS many MLSA events involve the handling of large amounts of cash.

WHEREAS there is currently no formal system in place for tracking large cash transactions.

BE IT RESOLVED that the MLSA Executive create and shall use a cash out form on all cash transactions larger than \$300, that require the signature of two persons, and require that relevant MLSA committees do the same.

Questions/Comments:

Dubois: So there will be two persons involved and one to sign off?

Mirecki: So two persons.

Dubois: Maybe we should have something in there to do this every day there is cash. Not just one time.

Mirecki: How would this work on a day to day basis? One volunteer counting, one checks. Then give it to me. What if we both calculate incorrectly though?

Dubois: Do we have an insurance fund?

Burke: Someone on the executive should also be signing.

Dubois: But then Kyle needs to be there every lunch hour we do a sale.

Burke: No, someone on the executive could sign off after.

Konopelny: That doesn't align with the motion you guys wrote. We need one person to sign off on the cash. Not two. A two stage process where one person says I'm giving you \$250 dollars and the executive signs off.

Mirecki: I don't know if this is the correct process.

Konopelny: Ok, you could keep the two people from the club and then just need a person to sign off.

Ayala: What happens if the numbers don't match?

Burke: Say you have the money box and you sign it and someone else signs it. Exec counts it and if its wrong doesn't sign it. Basically just extra people looking at how much is going in and out.

Silver: This motion will motivate the exec to make this form and then want to have it approved before start using it. Make sure the goal aligns with what its actually doing.

Konopelny: No, just pass motion to allow the exec to start using the form.

Silver: Ok.

Dubois: I think we should cash out at the end of every day.

Silver: So the minimum of \$300 means you have to cash out if you exceed this but can also do it for less.

Approval of Motion: Mirecki/Grohmueller

Carried

3.2 Student Surveys – Rebecca Kunzman

- i. What capacity is there to survey our membership?

Questions/Comments:

Burke: Academic committee is in the works of doing a survey in relation to academics. Especially teacher/professor reviews. We want to know things like this. As far as school wide satisfaction, we do have a form on the MLSA website for concerns/comments. But no formal survey system is in place yet. If anyone is interested let us know.

Konopelny: PDC will often do surveys with the CDO on where people received job placements. Or last year we did an intake survey in 1L and where they'd be interested in working. If interested, I'd be happy to set it up again. That gave us an idea of how many people wanted to work out of town. We do it purely for career development reasons.

Kunzman: Its useful to include fall reading week in it since it was a pilot year for this.

3.3 Mentorship Program – Danielle Dubois

- i. The Community Outreach Committee is doing a mentorship program with Daniel McIntyre school, so we will have teenagers kicking around too. One girl in particular.

Questions/Comments: None

3.4 Motion Voting – Rhoni Mackenzie

- i. For motions, are we no longer doing up down voting? Can I just ask that before you ask for objections you open the floor for discussion just to make it more clear?

Questions/Comments:

Burke: Yes.

4. Old Business

4.1 None

5. Announcements

5.1 None

6. Notice of Next Meeting:

6.1 The next MLSA meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 16th from 12-1pm.

6.2 Samantha Wong will contact MLSA Members with notice of deadline for submission of RSVPs and member reports.

7. Adjournment

7.1 Savoie/Burke

Carried at 12:45pm