

LSS Meeting: Tuesday April 1, 2014

In attendance:

- LSS Executive
 - Micah (President)
 - Mikey (VP Student Affairs)
 - Nathan (VP Communications)
 - Kat (General Secretary)
 - James (Director of Finance)
 - Sandy and Rachel (Social Coordinators)
 - Dani and Taylor (Sports & Clubs Reps)
 - Kristina (Co-op Rep)
 - Rupi (3L Rep)
 - Sam (2L Articling Rep)
 - Elle (2L Career Options Rep)
 - Isaac (ILSA Rep)
 - Dora (Health & Wellness Rep)
 - Nimrit (Accessibility Rep)
- Visiting speaker – John (outgoing VP Internal)

(1) Introductions and Housekeeping

- Introduce the new LSS Members
 - Informal meeting intended to facilitate introductions and discuss general ideas for next year
 - Two motions to pass
- Role of president as neutral facilitator, consensus-builder, providing support and occasionally giving opinions
- How voting will work
 - Motion must be introduced and seconded; we will then have questions of clarification and discussion; any relevant amendments will be made; finally, someone must call for a vote

(2) Announcement – New Faculty Appointments

- John Burrows: Currently discussing teaching areas; expert in Indigenous law
- Carol Liao: Corporate, commercial and consumer and contracts
- Patricia Cochran: Currently discussing teaching areas; interests in Evidence, Constitutional, Criminal, LLP, Admin, Regulatory Law, Legal Theory, Social Welfare and Equality

(3) Announcement – EDC Meeting:

- Faculty Council Meeting on Equity will continue at the Faculty Council Meeting next Wednesday, April 2nd at 12:00 noon in room 152

(4) Announcement – Dean's Social and Presentation of Awards

- Awards committee meeting tonight, April 1 at 6-8 in room 142; pizza to be ordered
- Dean's social Wednesday, April 2nd at 4:00 in the lounge

(5) Motion to allocate \$50 to the purchase of 10 gift cards worth \$5 for winners of the 10 LSS Awards

- Micah moved, Sandy seconded
- Discussion – whether cards should be from UVic (supports school); however, impractical for outgoing 3rd years
- Taylor calls for vote on unamended motion (John to have discretion as to where cards are purchased)
- All in favour, motion carries

(6) Motion to fund BLA for an additional \$120 due to overspending on pizza

- LSS has about \$800 surplus from club funding
- BLA asked for \$500 at Club Funding Night; they were given \$250 with the understanding that they could ask for more if needed
- Micah moved, Dani seconded
- Questions of clarification – whether BLA members should abstain from voting (no)
- Discussion – reason for overspending (unclear, seems to be accounting error); note that pizza was for end of year exam prep; BLA has residual funds that would cover cost, anything not covered would be covered personally; for next year, clubs need to ask for additional funds PRIOR to spending them
- Sandy calls for vote
- Fourteen in favour, one opposed, one abstention

(7) Our LSS

- No discussion, but seek Micah out if you have thoughts

(8) Discussion on LCO

- Do we need to upgrade?
 - Concerns raised by current students
 - Issues with OCI process; particular frustration with those who were not successful/did not participate in OCIs
 - Excessive focus on OCIs, given the small percentage of students that actually get jobs that way
 - Is the problem that there are no jobs or that we are not allocating enough resources?
 - UBC has a significantly larger LCO (slightly higher tuition, larger volume of students)
 - There may be a lower expectation from firms re UVic students (we seem not to receive the same level of preparation)
 - Problems with scheduling – why is the LCO having sessions just before exams?
 - Perhaps there should be a primer scheduled early in 1L
 - Might be helpful if the LSS circulated a list of LCO events/calendar so students will know in advance – possible to give this out on day 1
 - Possible to do a lunchtime session early in 1L/during legal process

- Balancing increased role of LCO with need for individual student initiative
 - Suggestion that the LCO could hire a student to assist (two birds, one stone)
 - What is the scope of the LSS' authority here – what are we able to do?
 - We can raise tuition/student fees to potentially hire an additional LC Officer
 - We have not had any discussions with the current LCO – we would get their thoughts before doing anything
- Should we raise tuition fees?
 - What kind of increase would be sufficient to implement changes?
 - Importance of our low tuition – makes us more accessible, major selling point
- First step would be to communicate with the LCO and possibly the Co-op office
 - Micah to meet with Heather to discuss
 - We should also look at what is done at other schools – we want to remain competitive

(9) Summer sports registration

- There will be a volleyball and softball team
- If anyone else has a sports team they would like, tell Taylor and Dani

(10) LSS Bios for Website

- We need them for the end of summer – when you are finished your bio and picture, please email it to either Kat (kratclif@uvic.ca) or Nathan (nathanvankampen@gmail.com)

(11) Other Business

- None

(12) Adjournment to September

- Meeting adjourned