



## Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union Meeting of the Board of Directors

**Location:** Students' Union Boardroom, Waterloo  
**Date:** November 11th, 2016, 3:00 PM

### The Strategic Ends of the Students' Union

The Organization exists to represent, advocate for, and support the primary stakeholders, the students of Wilfrid Laurier University, and to provide them with a holistic university experience and an enhanced student life. The costs of these benefits will be justified by the results.

#### In no specific order of priority, students will benefit from:

An affordable, accessible, and high quality academic experience

A safe, sustainable, and empowering environment

Diverse and inclusive social interaction

Products and services that cater to the financial needs of students

Start	Duration	Agenda Item	Type	Presenter
3:00 PM	3:00 PM	Call to Order	adm	Chair DeSumma
3:00 PM	3:01 PM	Adoption of Agenda	D	Chair DeSumma
3:01 PM	3:02 PM	Adoption of Minutes: <a href="#">October 21st, 2016</a>	D	Chair DeSumma
3:02 PM	3:03 PM	Adoption of Minutes: <a href="#">October 28th, 2016</a>	D	Chair DeSumma
3:03 PM	3:04 PM	Regrets	adm	Chair DeSumma
3:04 PM	3:04 PM	Conflicts of Interest	adm	Chair DeSumma
3:04 PM	3:35 PM	Auditor's Statements	D	KPMG
3:35 PM	4:30 PM	Presentation: Adam Lawrence & Leanne Holland-Brown	fi	Adam & Leanne
4:30 PM	4:35 PM	Comments from the Chair of the Board & CGO	fi	Chair DeSumma
4:35 PM	4:45 PM	Comments from the President & CEO	fi	President VanHerzele
4:45 PM	4:50 PM	Comments from the Executive Director & COO	fi	ED Champagne
4:50 PM	4:55 PM	<u>Committee Updates:</u>	fi	
		Ownership Linkage Committee		Director DeSumma
4:55 PM	5:00 PM	New Business & Announcements	fd	Chair DeSumma
5:00 PM	5:00 PM	Adjournment	D	Chair DeSumma
<b>Total</b>	<b>2hr00min</b>			

#### REMINDERS:

- 1) Make sure to keep an eye out for the meeting evaluation form and **fill it out!**
- 2) The next Board Meeting is November 25th at **3:00pm** on the Waterloo Campus

#### LEGEND:

fi, For Information  
fd, For Discussion  
D, Decision required  
adm, Administrative task

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**Present:** Nick DeSumma, Nick Molkoski, Stephanie Bellotto, Matt DeSumma, Shannon Kelly, Hubert Lee, Genelle Martin, Tarique Plummer, Ryan Price, Jonathan Ricci, Tyler VanHerzele, Colin Aitchison, Carina Gerlings, Kim Hutchings, Kelsey Jenkins, Phil Marfisi, Marley Wildish, Phil Champagne  
**Regrets:** Faraz Iftexharuddin  
**Guests:** Kanwar Brar, Lori Chalmers Morrison, Kevin Crowley, Maddy Cults, Farnaz Yaqubian, Michael Del Bono, Jason Verhoeve, Max Blouw

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting is called to order at 3:04pm on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 on the second floor of the Fred Nichol Campus Centre, Waterloo.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion 1** (Plummer/ Kelly): **Motion to adopt the agenda as presented.**

**Vote: 8-0-0**

**Result: Motion Passes Unanimously**

**Chair DeSumma**

I request a 15 minute in camera session at the end of the meeting.

**3. Adoption of Minutes: September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Motion 2** (M. DeSumma, Molkoski): **Motion to adopt the minutes from the September 30<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting as presented.**

**Vote: 8-0-0**

**Result: Motion Passes Unanimously**

**4. Regrets and Absences**

Director Ricci is currently driving and may be late, if here at all.

Director Iftexharuddin is sick today and Director Jang is writing a midterm.

**5. Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts of interest to declare.

**6. Presentation: Dr. Max Blouw**

**Director DeSumma**

Sadly this is one of his last presentations to the Board of Directors, if not the last, since this is his last year as President. It makes it more special so we welcome you here today.

**Dr. Blouw**

Thank you all for the opportunity to be here again. I normally come in the Fall and the Spring, so you may have me once more. It has been a delight to work with the Student's Union over almost 10 years and it really has been fun. One of the things that I think distinguishes Laurier from other Universities is its constructive relationship with the Student's Union, Administration of the University, and the Senate and Board of Directors. We get along most of the time. While thinking about my comments today, I wasn't sure how to approach all the things on the go. I thought it would be useful to take it geographically or by levels of government.

Locally, in the municipal and on campus scene I am aware of a great start to the year. We had a fabulous Homecoming, wonderful engagement by students as it is one of the hallmarks at Laurier, but this year in particular I have really noticed that the new format of O-Week is really working. The welcoming of students, the move in adventure, and incredible weather has kept everyone happy. I am concerned with the neighbourhood and the development of all these towers. I think of it as the warehousing of off campus students. I am not entirely keen and I have made municipal government aware of this. Later on when there is an opportunity for discussion I welcome your views on how things are going.

At Brantford, I am really delighted that the projects underway are going well. The Athletics Centre which I hoped would be opening at this time is actually coming along nicely. The development of new academic programs is pleasing and student numbers are growing. We had a set-back regarding the concurrent education partnership with Nipissing and are now well beyond that looking forward with optimism.

I am pleased with both campuses. Turning my attention to issues that happen locally there will always be points of conflict. Yesterday an issue came up with the Life Link Group and opposition to what they did yesterday. I would be happy to talk about this later, but I think we have to recognize as a University we have a responsibility and obligation in society to facilitate a safe environment. Going forward we need to think of the balance of safety, open discourse, and rights of all parties. It is a good opportunity for learning.

Provincially, there is a lot going on. You know that the Provincial government is the single biggest stakeholder in the University aside from students. The Provincial government is important to financial and regulatory means and has a lot of initiatives underway, especially what has occurred over the spring and summer which is kind of dramatic. We have had a new Minister, a new name change, and really a new mandate. The new name of the mandate is Advanced Education and

Skills Development. This is very different from other Colleges and Universities so less focus on the institutions and more focus on economic development. The Deputy Minister during a dinner we had spoke and said the new ministry is a ministry for economic development. In government they are aware of the importance of post secondary education to create an environment in which our province is ready for the jobs of the future, the future of the economy, and the initiatives of the future. We are in great shape in terms of the government recognizing the importance of what we do in terms of human capital development as it is really critical to social and cultural prosperity.

Along with the name change there is a new Minister. Deborah Matthews is a person I know quite well and besides the Premier is the most senior person and the most influential person in the Cabinet. That gives you a sense of the importance of "Advanced Education and Skills Development" in the eyes of our provincial government. There is also an active agenda in the plays right now, one part of that is we have to renew our strategic mandate agreement. Or those of you who aren't entirely familiar with what that means, we have currently a strategic mandate agreement like a performance contract between the University and government. This includes us talking and negotiating, setting certain targets and benchmarks measured against expectations that we sign off on. In the document we highlight who we are and mention what Laurier is all about in terms of what we are good at and what we aspire to. It is not only a contract of performance for how many students enrol, how many graduate, etc. It is also aspirational setting the direction by the government endorsing when they sign off. It is an interesting development that took place three years ago, this time three years ago they were doing our first one. It is a wider environment of the provincial government encouraging differentiation amongst Universities. I would argue that the Universities are all quite differentiated for example Laurier and Waterloo we are different in regard to academic programs and culture. The government is keen on encouraging differentiation and niche identification for institutions to identify what they are good at and areas of growth.

The renewal of the SMA is going to be influenced by other initiatives that are underway. The funding formula review that we know needs to be done by the time of the next budget, next month the provincial budget will start to be written. We are in an active set of discussions for what the new funding formula will look like. It is very clear that it is a corridor model where we set targets for enrollment for every institution and then you have an upper and lower bound of enrollment around that target. Right now they are talking about 3% or 5% variation above and below. If you have an enrollment that meets the target line you are funded fully for every student by government above the target line and to the upper bound, there is question

mark will we be funded for those students or not. Historically, we had a situation where we weren't so we had discounted states. We received the tuition from the student but no government grant. Today we don't know whether we will be funded beyond the lines above the upper corridor or not. If you exceed the upper corridor you don't receive any funding from the government. You don't only negotiate the target, the line, but you also are considering how wide the corridor is. There is discussion around should you be held accountable for enrollment on an in year basis or have a rolling average where you average across the number since each year is different. Rolling average will smooth out the increases and decreases in enrollment. The details such as how long are very important because they determine the strategy of the university for recruitment, development, and programming. It is also important in terms of financial planning. We are in these discussions and they are no where near complete. These will be part of how we think about negotiating our strategic mandate agreement.

The tuition framework we have been in for the last four years is up this year in the spring. We have been asking the government with hopes of getting into dialogue with them and so far there hasn't been substantial discussions at all. Various student groups are talking to government and CSF is having a day of action November 2<sup>nd</sup> around issues of the tuition cost of education. We will see what happens with tuition but I hope we enter into some kind of dialogue reasonably soon. It would be good to know what is in the mind of government in this regard if we will stay with a similar regime or if it changes dramatically. It is the combination of tuition plus the government grant that is very important to the University in terms our planning and conception of how we are doing. Not only financially, but in terms of increasing, our enrollments decreasing, and what is the appropriate strategy. I hope that these are settled soon so that as we go into our SMA negotiations we actually have a clear sense of where we would like to go over the next three years. We are not even sure if the next SMA period will be a three-year window. Three years is not a long time in the life of a University, students won't have even graduated. Dramatic change in three years is not all that likely, therefore a longer window may be more appropriate.

Executive compensation doesn't concern you very much, its how executive members of the University like myself are paid. MCE stands for major capital expansion and the promise of the government to call for proposals for Halton and Peel for additional campuses. We have had an ambition to establish a campus in Milton, we have had a long standing agreement now with the town of Milton and it is now 8 plus years we have had a formal agreement. They have agreed to transfer 150 acres of service land to the University if we were to establish a University there which is a substantial gift. It is triggered when the government does approve the

expansion of Laurier to Milton. The mandate letters of the Minister's of government are now public, they are published. In our ministers letter it is very clear that there will be some movement by October 21<sup>st</sup> 2016. By this time in December most people will be sliding off to other places for the holidays, effectively we have two months. I expect again something will be happening fairly quickly. I have been talking to people including the Premiere and Ministers quite a bit over the last little while trying to encourage them to think in terms of a different process than what we had last time. A process where there is more dialog back and forth instead of putting a proposal in a black box and out comes a decision at the end. We will see what happens, but we are in a bit of a waiting game until we know the rules and how this might move forward.

It is exciting that we have all these things going on, but it feels as if there are a lot of balls in the air and strings that we need to keep hold of simultaneously. Certain things are resolved whereas other things take priority for further resolution. If we know what the funding formula looks like, what tuition looks like, then we can negotiate the maze when we know what the MCE looks like. That also happens to really intersect with our SMA etc. My world is one trying to keep track of these things ensuring that our senior executive team is not only keeping track of all these threads and advocating by that we have a lot of contact with government that we are keeping our constituencies and stakeholders in the loop. Partly why I am here today is for us to discuss what your concerns or ideas may be in that regard. I have only mentioned a few things that are going on there is a whole bunch of other things. We are going to net tuition, I got a letter today inviting Universities to volunteer and apply that kind of sense. We have to make a decision by the end of this month whether we will be asking to be a member of that pilot study and quite frankly I don't know enough today to say if it is a smart thing for Laurier to get involved or if we have the capacity to be involved.

An awful lot on the go and we are trying to stay on top of it all. We are very successfully doing that. Our planning over the last few years has anticipated where we are today and I am pleased that we are ready for a lot of what is happening. This is all going on at the same time that we are moving into the RCM inside the institution. We are going into a new way of allocating budgets of space and basically aligning resources and activities more closely. Also aligning those with priorities more closely. We have an institution where a lot of things are all on flux. I am happy that our Senate is well aware, the Board is well aware, and both are supportive of the direction we are moving in. I think and Tyler, the President of the Graduates Association, and others meet on a regular basis and try to keep open communication. I hope there are no surprises in anything I have told you.

Finally, the federal government and their relationship with us. Principally in our constitution as a nation you know that it directs powers of both health and education to the provinces. Technically, the federal government has no mandate in either health or education. It does have a Ministry of Health for Public Health for not the clinical but for clean water and environment. We don't have an advanced education or even an education ministry federally. We do have however the federal government very engaged in supporting us in two ways. One is through the research. Much of the research funding in Canada is supporting the activities at Universities comes from three granting councils (sciences, humanities, social sciences, and health) plus the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Canada Research Excellence Program. Canada has a number of funding vehicles that support a great deal of activity within the University and quite a few billions of dollars annually flow from federal government into the Universities. We have a strong interest and a strong relationship when working with the federal government. The government is often involved through infrastructure. Canada Foundation for Innovation provides infrastructure for the search but they have also had things like the knowledge for investment, and Knowledge Investment Program which was in response to 2008 and it was stimulus funding. They basically provided a lot of money for new buildings and whatnot. The Research and Academic Centre in Brantford was built largely with federal money. We have recently had competition for the strategic investment fund for money from the federal government, I can't tell what the outcome is but there will be an official announcement. What we propose to the federal government was to have support for a green energy program as we are making great strides on that. It will create for Laurier a real leading edge, very responsible, and will save us about a million and a half dollars a year in energy costs. The second project for the completion of renovations of buildings such as Peters and Schlegel. I think we are doing well with the federal government and I learned this morning again Laurier has switched from a smaller undergraduate institution to now a medium sized institution and we are actually bigger than Dalhousie University and Memorial University. We are roughly the same size as the University of Victoria. We are in a different category of University than we were 10-15 years ago. With that comes an increase priority in research with over 1000 graduate students out of 19000 creating an increased emphasis on research. Over the last 7-9 years we have gone from below the national average and success with our application for federal funding to above the average. Today, I say that our success rate was 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in the province. This includes U of T, Western, and Queens in the latest outcomes from the social sciences and humanities research council.

I am delighted with the progress we are making. The institution has real positive momentum since we are attractive to students, doing well on our campuses, doing well with major stakeholders, the search is going well, and we are transitioning well

with our multicampus. I maybe looking through rose coloured glasses and if there is a reality check that is why I come to take to different groups. Our profile is lifting and we have a very positive reputation in our communities, in the province, with our governments, with our alumni, and donors. As I continue on I am preparing large books for him or her so that they can take on board. You have to learn a great deal when you become President. I can hopefully help in that transition quite a bit. My wife and I have decided to stay in the community since we love it here.

### **Director Kelly**

In terms of the possibility for a Milton campus, I have heard that it will be more science focused. Is this correct?

### **Dr. Blouw**

Not necessarily, it is an opportunity to be more science centred and we have talked about that but it is Senate that makes those decisions. Governments are very interested in education which is work integrated and job ready. In my view this is wrong, but governments are thinking that mathematics and engineering lead directly to jobs. I think it is important that we educate people for life. Students who are graduates or arts, humanities, or social sciences and music programs over the long run have more rewarding careers. I do talk to government about this and try to add nuance to that thinking. I believe it is possible for us if we go to Milton to think about how you establish a University that has three campuses, each with espies of excellence over time. Here we have business, social work, music, and growing areas. In Brantford there are applied humanities and social sciences such as journalism, criminology, social work, undergraduates and so on. Additionally, we have the new policing program which are all the application of humanities and social sciences in society. If we start a campus in Milton it is an opportunity to take the third part which is a science focus. What we have talked about is green clean technologies thinking about the future and as a global population we have great challenges. How can Laurier contribute? If you think of the setting at the base of the escarpment right up against the Enesco World Heritage area, it is at the margin of the green belt. There is a wonderful opportunity to focus not just on the science of green and clean, but thinking about sustainability. If you think about sustainability there is no right answer, there are always trade-offs so you need philosophy, ethics, economics, political science, and you need to think very broadly about not only the technical of what it means to be clean and green but also about what does that mean to people, an economy, and what are you giving up, is it worth it? It is an approach that I hope we will be able to build on our liberal arts tradition as a University. It is also essential for me, when we go to Milton that we have exactly the same kind of vibrant student environment. Engagement is our signature. If you are in a number of locations what is the identity that transcends geography as an



institution. If you have think of three campuses and the types of technology we have, you don't need students moving around very much to get wonderful differentiating academic programming. Think of a university with 10-18,000 students with three locations, suddenly you have opportunity for students to be at a small place but still have a big school academic profile, and academic opportunity. Students can choose where they want to be but at the same time have access to a fairly large University set of offerings.

**Director Belloffo**

Thank you so much for coming to talk to us today. In regards to the Milton campus how could we make it a multi campus feel? How could we accomplish that?

**Dr. Blouw**

The identity of the University to me is all about the people and how you think about the University, how you interact with it, and how you engage with the other people of the University. If you are in three locations it makes it harder to engage, that's why technology is important, cultural connections is important, administrative and governance connections are important, athletics, club connections, and the more that we can connect the better we are. The other thing is it is really tough to tell people clearly and convince them what is special about Laurier. It is hard to bottle it and explain so how do you export it to another place? The best way to do that in my view is to invite the people who know it really well here to think about as we develop to move there either ongoing or temporary. This would ensure that we have the same kind of world in Milton for our students as we do here or in Brantford.

**Director Plummer**

Under the topic of strategic mandate review, you said the aim was to achieve a 3-5% increase in admissions.

**Dr. Blouw**

Sorry if that was unclear. The target enrollment would be negotiated with government and that there might be a 3% corridor (margin of error) around that target or it might be 5%. I did not indicate that we would have a 3 or 5% growth. This is part of what we would need to think about as an institution once we know what the funding formula looks like and what tuition is like whether we are successful with Milton or not. If we are we will have to have growth targets and we need to think about what is the right way to go. I would argue that we need to grow Brantford because there is a lot of capacity with the new properties. Overtime we need to develop these. We are building an excellent athletics facility that will be the envy of this campus and will increase traffic between both campuses. We will likely be

encouraging government to give us negotiating for growth. What that looks like I can't tell you right now.

**Director DeSumma**

I think one of the special things about Laurier is that we are so open to partnerships with the community and other Universities. For example, we had Nipissing and Mohawk before they left and today Conestoga College. I was just wondering what you envision the partnership with Conestoga College and how that will advance in the future.

**Dr. Blouw**

Ontario has been kind of backward in its relationship between Universities and Colleges. It has not been easy for students to take a few College courses and University courses to get a transfer of credits and acknowledgement of learning outcomes and that has been changing. Overtime I hope my personal aspiration and I can't say it is an institutional one because we haven't formalized it as an institutional hope, but I would hope that we could show the way in our relationship with Conestoga here we have some really wonderful programs with Conestoga we also do with Waterloo. I believe Universities should be porous and partnering all over the place. I don't like ivory tower notions of Universities and I think we should be really engaged with our communities and our other educational partners. Wide open to mutual exploring creating relationships with other entities that move along the institution for the benefit of our students. I think it is always for the benefit of our students. We have developed steps in this direction with Conestoga is that it will be developing a very vibrant and clearly defined relationship between the College and University that is for the benefit of students. We have developed template agreements so that if either institution wants to partner or the other agrees then right away we can start organizing our agreement on paper using these boiler plates. These were developed out of programming in Brantford by Tony Araujo took the lead on my behalf and got all of that organized. I think that we have the platform to show a different kind of relationship between Universities and Colleges and I look forward to that.

**Director Bellotto**

You said before that you were concerned with the development of off campus student housing. I was wondering if you have been part of discussions how that could be prevented in the future because there will be further development with a rising population and student numbers.

**Dr. Blouw**

A number of years ago I got together with my counterpart at the University of Waterloo and we both discussed with city council that we were worried about big towers going up with no amenities, no recreation, and no food. Basically the five unit apartments and you have people not even necessarily knowing each other. I was worried that it doesn't create the kind of healthy human development and environment for students. I can't prevent developers and I have no control over what happens on private property outside the margins of the University. The municipal government has control so I went to them and what has come out of that is the Northdale study and agreement. You'll notice any buildings that go up in this area will now have amenities and if you look immediately behind Lazaridis Hall some of those buildings have shops or restaurants. This is one step forward; we need more than that. How many of you have been at University communities where you have not McDonalds and Quiznos and all that stuff, but funky little restaurants, book stores, jewelry and art shops. University students tend to be the ones who are attracted to alternative shopping venues and the cultural entities that might be difficult to support at a strip mall in a suburban area. We need to encourage and support this so that what happens around the University is a vibrant community where people are engaged in ideas of culture, music, and green space to play. I also think that it is really important for Universities to have in their immediate environment young people, babies, kids, and seniors because we are part of society. How do you create an environment where a bunch of rowdy students, right what is your reputation as students are lively and sometimes maybe a bit irresponsible? How do you incorporate the seniors' component and who does that benefit? Some Universities have taken many steps towards an integrated community feel. What I worry about is we are missing an opportunity. Also encouraging the private sector because they can make money out of it.

**Director Plummer**

What is your professional and personal opinion on the state that Laurier will be left in upon your departure?

**Dr. Blouw**

Better than I found it.

**Director Martin**

Again with the Milton campus, I think of three campus institutions such as University of Toronto and there are three locations. Personally I don't think that all of the U of T campuses have the same feel, I was wondering how you foresee Laurier continuing this? You talked about community building and moving staff, but I think that different area studies how do you feel Laurier is going to make that happen?

## **Dr. Blouw**

When we were doing out multi campus governance review before your times as a student I did it with Docherty who is now the President at Mount Royal University in Calgary. David and I did an awful lot of looking worldwide at multi- campus Universities. U of T was one that we looked at. What we were looking for was models as to who was really getting it done very well and at each campus you had the feel that you were at the University of X. What does that feel like and what is the identity that you are encouraging. The U of T is very different from St. George, Mississauga, and Scarborough. One of the things that I think is important is a cultural identity, more than an academic identity. For Laurier this means the student experience and sense of engagement of community and opportunity to develop the whole person. It is human development in an environment that says yes is what defines us. Wearing the purple and gold, being a part of student clubs, and doing a lot of stuff outside the classroom that students don't do at other Universities. Our graduates are ready for life in ways that graduates at other Universities aren't, I am proud of that. We can do it by being explicit so that you can achieve the goal. Be strategic involves how do you do it, what are the elements, how does it fit together, how you align them, and how do you reward the people for encouraging this? Put it in place, it can never be guaranteed but you can try.

I think it is wonderful that you are all volunteers, it is not easy to manage a Student Union. Our Student Union is really quite special and you are doing all kinds of stuff in a great way. What a learning opportunity for each one of you and responsibility, so thanks for taking it on. Great working with you all.

*Director Ricci arrives 3:53 via phone call.*

## **7. Comments from the Chair of the Board and CGO**

### **Chair DeSumma**

I hope you all had a great reading week.

1. Student Life Levy applications are due on the 25<sup>th</sup> so tell your friends, we would love some more applications.
2. Election dates are set for the 2017 Student's Union elections and they are different than in past years. This year, nomination packages are due and the All Candidates Meetings are taking place on Monday January 9<sup>th</sup>, voting days are January 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>. Results night will be the 26<sup>th</sup> on the Thursday, a week in advance of past years, in order to hopefully increase voter turnout. There is still a two-week campaign period and we are looking forward to getting the ball rolling. Info sessions will begin in November so tell your friends we would love to have a lot of people run and a lot of people vote. Looking forward to #LaurierVotes.

## **8. Comments from the President and CEO**

### **President VanHerzele**

My apologies for not being at the last meeting, I had to be at a wedding.

1. Turret renovation project. You all received an email from me this past week, over the last couple of months we have taken a look into setting up an RFP to have an architect look at the turret. We have selected one and are moving forward with student consultation which is why you all received the email. This is an exciting project as I'm sure you all have Turret stories and hopefully in the future the space will be more geared towards student atmosphere. It will become a night club once a week but throughout the day a multi-purpose space. We are moving forward with other consultation and surveys once the project gets rolling, this is just an initial start.
2. I would like to address the event that was hosted by Laurier Life Link Club yesterday in the quad. I would like to state that the Student's Union, Graduate Student Association and WLU recognize the complex discourse and the fact that harm has occurred. Due to the important nature of the conversation the previously mentioned groups are working in partnership with the Diversity and Equity Office in addressing the event and many future events which could lead to a discourse of similar severity. If you have been effected or know someone who has been effected and is looking for support, there is a link on our website for what the University currently has in place and we will be working with those bodies to come to a solution and a process to ensure student safety on campus moving forward.

### **Director Belloffo**

In regards to the Turret renovations, is this meeting just a beginning or have you decided how much funding there is going to be.

### **President VanHerzele**

This is before we even know what the space will look like, this is essentially what students think the space should look like and what it should encumber as a space on campus. We will have our architects go away with that information and come back with some plans for funding.

### **Director Kelly**

For the student consultations, what students are allowed to go?

### **President VanHerzele**

We have identified a few areas on campus that we will be able to speak to the turret on a couple perspectives so our first consultation will take place with those internal to the organization. The Student Executives, yourselves, the hospitality staff downstairs and people who will work regularly with the space rather than just an events space. We have reached out to our campus partners for specific students across campus who might not interact with the space but might use it socially or

might not have experience with it and might have some unique perspectives at this point. This is the beginning, we have a lot of student consultation as we go through the process but due to the sort time frame we have had to limit where we are able to reach out.

**Director Ricci**

I just wanted to clarify what happened the other day. I understood this group had the right to be there, so what were the concerns?

**President VanHerzele**

The club had the right to exercise as an official club of the Student's Union to be in the space and to be a club in general. The approach and the deliverance of the messages what we are looking at we recognize there could have been processes in place to help mitigate some harm that has happened. We are taking a look at future events from other areas, not just this, but this is a reason to take a more in depth look at how we approach our events at this campus to ensure full student safety.

**9. Comments from the Executive Director and COO**

**ED Champagne**

1. We have an administrative assistant starting on the Brantford campus on Monday, her name is Angela King. We are excited for her to start and alleviate some of the pressure that is occurring on the Brantford campus.
2. We had submitted an offer and had it approved for the Director of Policy Research and Advocacy. We have someone hired.

**10. Senate Update**

**Senator Brar**

1. There is a governance review happening right now. If you have any feedback you can send it to the University Secretary Rebecca Wickens by November 7<sup>th</sup>. It is crucial that we have this feedback because we have had a lot of problems with our governance structure whether it be voting governors or senate and we are looking for any and all feedback.
2. We had a research report by Rob Gordon who is your Vice President of Research about research funding avenues at Laurier. One key take away from that was that for the 2014-2015 period out research funding has increased by 3% which is incremental because if you look in the past that this research goes to Science faculty and a lot of other divisions and all the departments utilize it to benefit students.
3. In regards to academic changes the criminology program, some of the programs were moved online and that was to cater to the students who are moving away from normal that was passed successfully.
4. If you haven't heard, we have fall reading week permanently.

**Director Martin**

I have a question in regard to Life Link, I was wondering because you touched on the possible harm that could have been done by their event. Could you follow up in the future about how it pans out? I found that this is obviously harmful but milder than it could have been. In terms of working with the DEO to make those events less harmful could you just follow up?

**Chair DeSumma**

Thank you to Senator Brar and for Directors Lee, DeSumma, Plummer, and the other student Senators for advocating on behalf of all the students, it is appreciated and we are happy to have a fall reading week.

**President VanHerzele**

I would be happy to follow up as we move forward, it is looking at the full picture of how students are able to express themselves on campus that can allude to positive dialogue and not necessarily what we say yesterday. Although personal opinions are something that we value, we value all personal opinions. We are currently going through the process with appropriate bodies to ensure we can have a process in place that will allow us to continue to celebrate the right to freedom of speech but also the safety of our students on campus.

**Director DeSumma**

Just to follow up as a Brantford student I didn't know much about it. The statement that was released by the Student's Union seems pretty vague and didn't give any information about it. I was just wondering why it was so vague.

**President VanHerzele**

It was just to remind students that we have supports in place. There have been a couple of instances not only the event yesterday and we want students to remember the Laurier Student's Union and our affiliates have supports here for students regardless of what that may be. Today we addressed it right before this meeting.

**11. Department Updates****Finance and Administration- VP Wildish**

1. We are approaching our mid-term of the Student Executive rolls so that means we start writing up our reports appraisals. All student exec reimbursements are due next Friday, and then I will set up meetings with all of them to go over so that we can decide what our strengths and weaknesses are and approve for the second half of our term.
2. There are coordinator report appraisals coming up as well.
3. We are getting O-Week report appraisals in before because that can sometimes happen.
4. I am starting the process of looking over each of the Student Executives job descriptions to make sure we still agree with everything.

5. We are also reviewing our police check procedures to make sure they are actually having an appropriate use.

### **Clubs and Associations- VP Jenkins**

1. The deadline is now officially passed and we have 29 new clubs on the Waterloo campus for this term, it will be reopened in January.
2. We had our first President's Meeting on Monday in which all of the presidents come together and we go through all the rules and regulations for the upcoming year. We got good feedback from this. There were questions on how to improve their presentation for next year and what to put in the President's Manual so they know everything they need to know.
3. The Faculty of Music Association is in the process of accepting a new association of clubs for next year. Their new name, local, external and internal structure is all going extremely well and they are getting good feedback from students within the music faculty.
4. We have our Clubs Fair in the Concourse on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> where all the clubs basically show Laurier what they have.
5. November 1<sup>st</sup> is the close date for special event funding. For the first time rather than just having myself and a governance coordinator vote on the special events funding, we have a committee of general volunteers voting and that way there won't be bias.
6. We have implemented an on campus event form rather than just an off campus event form. Any events that clubs are running we will know about. This was to be implemented at the beginning of this year, so hopefully we can avoid things happening as they did in the quad yesterday. We will be aware of events, details, and other campus partners within the University.
7. Brantford has 5 new clubs for this semester, which is awesome.
8. They are working on adding a new Programs Association. It wanted to be involved last year and now they are working on implementing.

### **Director Martin**

You touched on the volunteers in terms of the governing, did they just apply or how did that work?

### **VP Jenkins**

They applied through the HR website as any volunteer would and my governance coordinator was in charge of hiring for that team. There are 7 volunteers in total, it's an odd number to avoid ties. Essentially she went through and trained them on a large part of policies just basically letting them know about the process of special event funding and how they can have their assessment of all the presentations. After they have all the presentations they will get together and decide whether they approve and if they are not doing the full amount funding how much will each group get.



## **Programming and Services: Waterloo- VP Hutchings**

1. Winter Carnival is developing their programming and revising and working with what they are trying to rebrand into. We offered an info session on Wednesday of this week for anyone who was looking to participate and we had signup sheets as we are looking to construct free agent teams of what we have always offered but more accessible to students. Also going through events we can explain a bit more for those who are interested. We had three new sets of captains come out which could put our number of teams at 17 which is more than it has been in the last few years. There were only 12 teams last year. We had our theme revealed this past Tuesday the theme is "A Winter Carnival Original" and teams are based on what they are theming their team around is definitely the originals series. We are going through the approval process for this next week.
2. First Year Project is finished hiring and they are doing interviews today for their last few execs. Their next event is Trick or Turret which is next Thursday. It is an all age Turret night that they are planning on decorating and running.
3. The hot wheel program is going well, the farmers market is happening every Wednesday, and Halloween for hunger is also next Sunday so they are going to the community collecting donations. They will be sorting through the donations to stock their shelves for the next few months.
4. Boars Head will take place December 1<sup>st</sup> in the concourse. This year we recently met with hospitality today and they actually took over the different meal options and they are going to create a bunch of different options for us. We will still offer a similar meal to last year and ideally price lower to provide more food. We sold out last year at 250 tickets.
5. Foot Patrol has been discussing how to overall enhance the volunteer experience to get those numbers up since on both campuses we have been fairly short on van drivers. We are looking for different ways to get people more interested in volunteering and utilizing the service.
6. ERT we are starting conversations with Special Constables to look at their usage of our service and different ways that we can engage them and better function as a service. We are working on a survey that is going to go out to all the Special Constables regarding how they use the Emergency Response Team and get working back on that so that we can see how to revise on our end.
7. A team had their Homecoming concert in September and we recently ran We Got Game in the concourse this week which was successful. It was the first event that their first years attended.
8. Shinerama is working on building new campaign ideas such as selling pizza or running a BBQ at the Fall Open House on November 5<sup>th</sup>.
9. Eco Hawks is helping with the Feeding 9 Billion Campaign that is happening tonight.

10. Healthy Lifestyles has been running some Res. Life programming. The next one is Smoothies and Movies and it is a program about nutrition and a presentation they have been working on with the Wellness Centre. They also have their NCAA Campaign this year and they are looking into running a dodgeball tournament with Winter Carnival.
11. Peer Connect is continuing to run their board game nights and they also helped with the Love my Life Walk with MHEG earlier in September.
12. Department wide level I am working on a newsletter that will go out to all of our volunteers within the department that updates them on everything that our committees are doing as well as looking at new ways that coordinators can cooperate with each other and their teams.

### **Director Lee**

In regard to the Halloween Turret night, I was wondering if this was in partnership with the Department of Residence.

### **VP Hutchings**

This was strictly First Year Project; it is running in conjunction with all age's program into the Turret this year so that was something different from last year. It was missed a lot from previous years where it has been a really popular night so it was partly our first all ages night.

### **Programming and Services: Branford- VP Gerlings**

1. Peer Connect they ran love your selfie event in September where they took selfies with students who made a pledge for mental health. They are going to continue the event and post the selfies as a reminder during exam time. In October for Mental Health Awareness Week and every day of the week they will host a de-stresser event in partnership with the food bank. Coming up they also have a cross committee event as well as a partnership from Student Affairs Office and Mental Health Education Group on feeding the mind body and soul. This is meant to be a reminder of being aware of all the aspects of mental health and wellness.
2. Eco Hawks hosted numerous events in September and October. See the change being hosted outside making students more aware of nature around them. Give the bees a change due to the depleting population so students were shown the benefit of bees. They just hosted a Let's Talk Trash event to make students more aware of the bins on campus and which ones to use. They are also participating in mind body and soul, partnering with healthy lifestyles, food bank, and Jack.org. TJack.org is a new group who run the Movember.
3. First Year Integration has continued meeting with Dons and making them aware of training that is coming up, it is great to see a growing relationship with Residence Life. They are also working with Locus which is great. They have

planned events with Hiring and Recruitment which shows the growing number of applications received in September to make students aware of open positions.

4. Foot patrol is working on new ways to promote the service and work on drive team. We are hosting an event next week that Brantford SLL members were invited to. This is to launch our new van and say thank you to Student Life Levy and Brantford Toyota for their partnership. We have tripled our number of volunteer so we are at 65 which is more than the start of O-week. The short presentations during O-Week really helped.
5. The food bank requests are up to 66+ since September. We continued service during reading week and there were students who used the service. They hosted numerous events and food promotions have partnerships with other committees just to show the collaboration between the two. Usually for an event they have upwards of 100 students come out. They are partnering with the French Club, Laurier Student's Association, and the Sustainability Office. Their biggest focus right now is Halloween for Hunger which we have revamped and are reaching out to our Shinerama locations so in Brantford we have 4. We have had a couple locations say they would like to participate. We are going to have all the committees go out one day and hand out flyers and information cards to the different neighbourhoods. Shinerama locations will be acting as drop off locations. We have also received 10 additional departments who want to participate in this event as well and they will have boxes at their locations as well. We have had numerous campus partners offer donations from events they have hosted. We received a small donation from Conestoga in terms of the baseball tournament and their admission was a canned good.
6. Hawk Team hosts trivia nights and we use those nights to promote any events that are coming up throughout the week. The first night every single table at Williams was full. We did a Homecoming Hawk t-shirt contest through partnership with the bookstore. T-shirts here sold through the bookstore which is a growing partnership we are having. There were around 30 student submitting logos and they were voted on by members of the Hawk Team and two were chosen for the t-shirts. They have a Halloween event tonight and are taking a bus to Halloween Haunt. The tickets sold out in 2.5 days and there was only one full day of promotion. This shows the collaboration from joining the two teams from last year.
7. Healthy Lifestyles has hosted a safe drinking event in residence and they headed up the project. There were therapy dogs which is a great de-stressor. They are working with Hawk Team for their Halloween dance so they are working together in collaboration. They are running a stress buster and healthy eating event with Residence Life.
8. As for myself, we received final results from our O- Week feedback survey. We had about 78 participants (57 on campus and 21 off campus). Overall the

students rated O-Week 4.5 out of 5 for experience, it is nice to see all of our events were highly rated and this will be added to the transition report. On November 1<sup>st</sup> we are planning to send out a survey to reevaluate our foot patrol survey as you know 24 hour special constables was approved and we are using this opportunity to see what the student want. We are hosting the Banquet event again. In November Chase and I are going to a national conference on student leadership. Snow Week is beginning and we have our first meeting next week, VP Wildish and I have been talking about the best group of students who would be able to help plan this week. Last year it ended up being overwhelming for the VP in charge. We have reached out to our Orientation Week executive as they still are on contract for the year so we are creating new contracts for them to be able to participate in Snow Week. We have been talking about our plans for next year will be based off of what happens this year in terms of hiring a coordinator and executive team to see where that takes us. Snow Week will happen February 12<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> it starts on the Sunday and ends on the Thursday being mindful that reading week is the week after.

9. All of our transition reports for every coordinator and executive in the department submitted and have already been reviewed. They are all set to go for the summer months. There are now full transition reports to make the transition seamless for next year.

### **Director DeSumma**

This year with the executives from O-Week to assist with Snow Week, if that doesn't work out what sort of hiring will you implement so that students still get the same opportunities?

### **VP Gerlings**

We are set on hiring a Snow Week coordinator, someone to handle the responsibilities for that. Basically this year there are 6 executives from O-Week that were all given a choice whether or not to participate and they all said they would like to. We are going to go based off the responsibilities that each of them entail this Snow Week and see the processing whether we hire two executives and volunteers. We are not really sure at this point what exactly the responsibilities are.

### **University Affairs- VP Aitchison**

1. OUSA is shifting their stance on tuition as of today so there was a lobby conference and they were talking about Sexual Violence and Prevention, the possibility of a mandatory bystander training for all students, as well as pushing to amend the smart serve training with by stander training. This is because the most common places sexual violence occur is places that serve alcohol.
2. We are going to be pushing data from different studies in the past. It no longer exists but the Member of Parliament is planning on reintroducing this goal.

3. Instead of pushing for fully funded tuition like we have in the past we have heard from the government that that is not going to happen. We are shifting our stance to increase funding from the student access guarantee through tuition set aside. Every portion of tuition that is received is going to set aside that goes for guaranteed funding for students in need we are looking to increase this so that more students can access tuition. We are hoping to stay quiet on tuition framework and see it roll over into 2017. That way if it rolls over the government is less likely to make a drastic change. Since right now we can't get what we want this is the best opportunity and then after the next election we will try and get the liberals to create something that is ideal for students.
4. Continuing discussion since August. Obviously fall reading week will stay forever. Starting to push more towards preoccupancy protection in regards to the ICON stuff in the summer. We are waiting to hear back from letters that were sent. Students are starting to push towards this so hopefully we will start to see protection in general.
5. In regards to international student health care, I mentioned last time that we had written a letter to Mr. Hoskin. We have heard back and there will be a discussion with myself and Sarah from the Federation of Students so hopefully these meetings will go somewhere and we will be able to start pushing for international students being able to opt into OHIP and receive that coverage.
6. The Minister of Advanced Education is starting to look at the work we have done around ancillary fees. The problems that we observe is Universities and all the stakeholders aren't wanting to talk about tuition because that is a big ticketed item, but there are also problems surrounding ancillary fees.
7. There have been continued discussion on medical documentation for in class assignments that we talked about. Myself and Leanne Holland Brown talked to academic advisors for departments. It seems there is about 50/50 obviously professors don't want to eliminate the requirement of medical documentation however we don't like that students are paying for these and there is access to private information. This is a discussion that is still ongoing.
8. Ecampus Ontario started to create a strategy on how to support online students better. In my role as Chair we have been doing an internal audit of the website where we are trying to find what resources are needed to be provided.
9. OUSA campus visits occurred in September, they were quite successful and we had a lot of engagement from students especially on the Brantford campus which was great to see. A lot of students from Laurier signed up on the mailing list. It is good for students to realize they are members of OUSA, we are hoping to see that grow. OUSA is also thinking of ways to target the average individual student.
10. We have begun to plan our federal advocacy trip. We are up to 27 meetings, 1 cabinet minister, 6 parliamentary secretaries, and 5 critics as well as two

candidates for the Conservative Party of Canada Leadership. Hopefully we will be able to see some of our asks. We will also be meeting with a Senator who chairs the Indigenous Rights Committee and she is proactive and what she says carries a lot of weight.

11. On the Brantford campus meetings have been steady so far continuing to talk about municipal issues as well as Petek and Angel, the Outreach Coordinator who put out a feedback survey on Go bus. This is to ensure that adequate services are being provided.

### **AVP Marfisi**

1. We are hosting the Town and Gown meeting this upcoming Tuesday which is an exciting opportunity for us. We will be discussing many issues and one will be as President Blouw commented earlier on student housing. One was VP Aitchison mentioned was addressing it at a federal level. We have also had steering committee meetings to think of ways the city can help whether it is in terms of awareness of bylaws.
2. We are doing House Hunting 101 presentations in residence next week to educate students what to look for in leases and we have found there is a lack of awareness in what student rights are as tenants.

### **VP Aitchison**

Upcoming includes:

1. The OUSA General Assembly is on November 5<sup>th</sup> so myself, AVP Yurt, AVP Marfisi, President VanHerzele, Kanwar Brar and Jordan Dileonardo from the Brantford campus will be delegates from Laurier. We will be voting on three policy papers on ancillary fees and student response and prevention to sexual violence. I will keep you all updated as those papers are accepted or rejected and if any major findings come from those papers.
2. I have already mentioned federal advocacy week at McMaster. That is November 14, 15, 16, myself and AVP Marfisi will be attending that.
3. OUSA lobby conference is November/ early December
4. We are starting to book 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> meetings with MPs and MPPs. It is harder in Waterloo just because of extra rolls for example speaker of the house.

### **AVP Marfisi**

In November there will be a Waterloo biannual housing survey, the first survey was done two years ago and a tonne of work came from that both provincially and specifically municipally. When that goes out we are looking for support from you all.

### **VP Aitchison**

Just touching on the transparency part, I am just finalizing the details of having every single elected individual for both campuses on the website. There will be information on the Councillor of the campus, the Mayor's office, MPs, MPPs just so that they can have access to that. I am almost done updating all the provincial and federal reviews that

we have had and as soon as these are all updated and nicely formatted they will be added as well.

### **Director Kelly**

Just wondering if I heard this correctly, there will be mandatory bystander training for students. How are you going to administer this?

### **VP Aitchison**

The province has been putting a lot of regulation into this. It will end upcoming down to the institution how they implement it. There are some schools in Ontario that do it through residence and others have mandatory programs. OUSA feels it is important for every student to have that kind of training just because of how common sexual violence is on campus.

### **Chair DeSumma**

Thank you to the VP's for all of your updates.

## **12. Committee Updates**

### **Ownership Linkage Committee**

#### **Director DeSumma**

1. We met to discuss our next events for the term. The first event is our survey which is on both campuses. If you fill out the survey your name goes into a draw for a chance to win a prize which will be determined later. There might be a prize on both campuses, it depends on how many people fill it out and what the costs are. This event is a way for us to connect with students can collect good feedback. In regards to the survey, the committee is currently reviewing the survey that former Director Brar created last year. In order to make changes that it requires our primary goal is to make it shorter because it was lengthy last year. If all goes as planned the booting events will take place in Waterloo on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of November and in Brantford on November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The difference in weeks is just for resources because we want the lpads on both campuses. I will be sending out a doodle poll shortly in order to determine availability for the booth. Just a reminder for the two directors who have yet to attend an event, please try and make it to this one.
2. The second event is the Waterloo Based Board Social which gives us a chance to interact with the students. Last year the event was called pass the torch and took place in the Wilf's Den. This year that is not happening. After discussion about last year's attendance we have decided to hold the event in the Concourse and see if Wilf's will cater it there. The goal is to transform the event from a sole networking event to an information based one as well. Students can come out to meet us and get more information about what we do plus the Laurier Votes campaign will soon be underway. Right now the name of the event is Board of Directors Meet and Greet, but are open to suggestions. I will

soon be reaching out to Jeyas for catering costs, the marketing department for promotion of the event as well as for the survey and looking into booking the space as well as approval from the University. The event should be in November possibly the 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Finance Committee**

#### **Vice Chair Molkoski**

We met on the 6<sup>th</sup> and we had a really good discussion looking in depth at a few specific things. This includes the clarity of definitions when it came to capital purchases and the clarification of currency in terms of purchases. We took a more in depth look at the quarterly financial report to ensure the accuracy of percentage change year to year for numbers. I will have a report for next meeting.

#### **Director Plummer**

What was the definition you agreed upon for capital purchases and speak a bit more about the quarterly report in terms of main features, and what this lead to overall?

#### **Vice Chair Molkoski**

For the quarterly report we were looking at 2015/16 and the factors of 2016/17 because we noticed that some of the percentage changes were negative even though it was a positive range. Even some of the totals when it came to a subcategory weren't always adding up. The definitions include EL2E5 is the capital purchases over \$10,000, that approval compared to EL2F which is the capital purchase of over \$5,000. We wanted to ensure that there were consistent definitions especially with the \$5,000 is where we need to be comparing prices where is the \$10,000 is Board approval.

#### **Director Martin**

We had a Laurier student pass away and it was a first year student. When I was a Don in residence we had a banner put out with the student's name on it. We passed the banner on to their parents. Do we have a protocol in terms of this situation?

#### **President VanHerzele**

The number one thing that we look for in a death notification is to respect the wishes of the family. We have to make sure that we are not overstepping if they would like to remain private. When we receive this we go through our health and dental plan and see if they were registered if we are able to give support there. That is our official stance unless we receive approval from the family or encouragement from the student body.



### **ED Champagne**

Most of that stuff is handled through the Dean of Students Office depending on the campus. The situation you referenced was led by a specific residence as well as the Dean of Student's Office. The Dean of Student's will communicate with the family as much as they wish to. From an operational standpoint Tyler is correct we check to see if they are on the health and dental plan because if they are then there are benefits they have access to depending on the circumstances of the death. This situation is unique because there were some circumstances behind that particular student and their financial situation with the University. Most of this is driven by the Dean of Student's Office. The Student's Union doesn't have a policy in place and that doesn't mean that we can't just currently we don't.

### **13. New Business and Announcements**

#### **Chair DeSumma**

This weekend is Brantford Homecoming, buy your hockey game tickets.

### **14. Motion to Enter in Camera**

**Motion 3** (Bellotto/ Martin): **Motion to enter in camera with President VanHerzele and ED Champagne.**

**Vote: 9-0-0**

**Result: Motion Passes Unanimously**

### **15. Adjournment**

**Motion 4** (M. DeSumma/ Price): **Motion to exit in camera and adjourn the meeting.**

**Vote: 8-0-0**

**Result: Motion Passes Unanimously**

*Meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm*

*Next Meeting Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm Brantford*

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*fi, For Information*

*fd, For Discussion*

*D, Decision required*

*adm, Administrative task*

The preceding reflects an accurate and complete record of the proceedings at the aforementioned meeting of the WLUSU Board of Directors.

Date Signed: October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016

Date Signed: October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016



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Nick De Summa  
Chair of the Board & Chief Governance Officer  
2016-17 Students' Union BoD

Nick Molkoski  
Vice Chair of the Board  
2016-17 Students' Union BoD

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**Present:** Nick DeSumma, Nick Molkoski, Stephanie Bellotto, Matt DeSumma, Faraz Iftekharruddin, Kevin Jang, Shannon Kelly, Hubert Lee, Genelle Martin, Ryan Price, Jonathan Ricci, Tyler VanHerzele, Colin Aitchison, Phil Champagne, Kaitlin Brown

**Regrets:** Tarique Plummer

**Guests:** Kanwar Brar, Anthony Zambito, Michael Del Bono, Elizabeth Thompson, Will Thompson

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting is called to order at 3:01pm on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the Student's Union Boardroom, Brantford Campus.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion 1** (Ricci/ M. DeSumma): **Motion to adopt the agenda as amended.**

**Vote: 10-0-0**

**Result: Motion Passes Unanimously**

Add time slot for consent agenda, if anything is pulled, after committee updates

**3. Adoption of Consent Agenda**

**Motion 2** (Kelly/Jang): **Motion to adopt the consent agenda as presented.**

**Vote: 10-0-0**

**Result: Motion Passes Unanimously**

**4. Regrets and Absences**

Director Plummer has a midterm

**5. Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts of interest to declare

**6. Comments from the Chair of the Board and CGO**

**Chair DeSumma**

1. The Student Life Levy closed on Tuesday. In terms of numbers we have 2 applicants for multi campus, 7 Brantford, and 14 Waterloo. Numbers are down from last years of 17 multi campus, 18 Brantford, and 21 Waterloo. Dan Robert and I are going to meet to brainstorm how to market and figure out why number are down.
2. Nomination packages and policies are out as of noon today. If you are interested or know anyone who is you can get those at the U-Desk or Students Union Office Waterloo. Due Jan 9<sup>th</sup> at noon and election voting days are January 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>.
3. The first information session is November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 pm in the board rooms on both campuses. Liz will be in Waterloo and I will be in Brantford. They will be video conferences encase anyone has questions. Thank you to ACRO Liz

for all of her hard work on elections. We are starting very early so I am excited to see how our elections process goes.

4. Deputy Returning Officer position on the Brantford campus for elections will be opened up Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested or know anyone on the Brantford campus who is interested you can email questions to myself at [suboardchair@wlu.ca](mailto:suboardchair@wlu.ca) or to Liz at [suacro@wlu.ca](mailto:suacro@wlu.ca)
5. Budget training for board will be taking place Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. This was scheduled late to accommodate the audit that will be happening at the next board meeting. The budget gets approved in April so having all the training in March, the year before you approve the budget is unnecessary if we are going to have to refresh everyone anyways.

**Director Ricci**

Regarding the SLL when will we hear back if the applications were pass or fail?

**Chair DeSumma**

The meetings for the Student Life Levy is November 8<sup>th</sup> for the multi campus, 10<sup>th</sup> for Brantford and 11<sup>th</sup> before our board meeting in Waterloo. Once we have these meetings it should be about a week after to hear outcomes, once applicants are aware.

**Director Bellotto**

What is the time for budget training?

**Chair DeSumma**

That is 3:00pm Friday.

**7. Comments from the President and CEO**

**President VanHerzele**

Hope you had an enjoyable trip here and election packages are out, the year seems to keep moving quickly. I will condense my report today but if you have questions I would be more than happy to go into detail.

1. Thanks for listening to VPs updates last meeting, today I am going to focus more on my side
2. The President hiring panel is moving along according to schedule. A replacement for Dr. Max Blouw should be found on time. The search has been going well and parties are happy. The process has been extensive, due to privacy of the candidates, once more developments come out I would be happy to pass those along.
3. The conversation around the Laurier Life Link event and the outcome of the event has continued in partnership with Diversity and Equity Office and we are creating next steps to address the harm that has occurred and reaction it received.

4. There are preliminary discussions taking place about our procedures in regards to booking space, the use of campus event forms, and internal processes. Our primary focus right now is addressing the harm that has occurred and doing so effectively.
5. Turret renovation plan has taken a major step forward with student consultation plans taking place. Thank you to anyone who participated it was great and the architect was excited about this space. We are doing sight visits to similar areas and we will hear back before holiday break.
6. First meeting of the Male Allies group this past week. We met and not much of an agenda/ mandate of the committee, excited to be apart of this and there were staff, community members, and support from the Diversity and Equity Office.
7. One card plan on Brantford campus has been discussed and the impact it has had on students/ vendors. We review this each year and look for new venders. There is more to come it was a good discussion and good to see what has come from those on the Brantford campus who use the convenience plan.
8. VP Wildish, ED Champagne, and I took part in a SAC meeting which is the Student Affairs Advisory Committee. We talked about a variety of topics including the upcoming budget year, new formatted information sheet to keep a better record and increase the transparency level. I commend Student Affairs as they progress through this.
9. The National College Health Assessment was a questionnaire we participated for the first time last year and now have the data to start utilizing. The Dean of Students on Brantford and Waterloo will be looking at what this information means and how to best utilize it moving forward to enhance our services that we provide as well as noticing trends across Universities and our counter parts at other institutions.
10. The sexual violence policy and procedure document has come across my desk and we will have student consultations which I will post to our media pages through the marketing department to encourage those to participate. It is an important document I look forward to the discussion.
11. Market square development is space that has been acquired on the Brantford campus and it effectively doubles the square footage of the campus. There is going to be a large consideration for what goes in the space. We have had a town hall last week as well as upcoming meetings. Those who are open to the rest of the student body we will be posting what those dates are on our social media. We are in a phase of consultation so encourage others to participate as well.
12. Friday November 4<sup>th</sup> is the Brantford open house and Saturday November 5<sup>th</sup> is the open house in Waterloo. The Student's Union will be presenting showcasing what the Student's Union has to offer in terms of student experience. In past years it has been categorized as a tell all. So we will be speaking to areas that

aren't necessarily Students Union. In Brantford we are currently working with the team to see what we can offer, but a letter has gone out to coordinators and programming to possibly be a part of the day.

13. I am encouraging students to utilize #talkwithty on twitter if they have questions about their experience here at Laurier. Connected with this the marketing team has updated an events calendar on our new website which has all of the events the Student's Union and affiliates are putting on.

**Director Kelly**

New budgeting and how will it show greater transparency, how exactly will it show this?

**President VanHerzele**

I haven't gone through it in great detail, it will essentially breakdown what changes have been made throughout the year and reasoning why. The form is better laid out so those looking at it will be able to see trends throughout the year and have reasoning behind why the changes were made.

**ED Champagne**

I don't think it is transparency, but information for people to explain themselves using words instead of numbers. From year to year this will assist new coordinators to trying and figure out what the intentions of the year before was or what the expenses were, why they needed this, and that would influence the next year's budget if it was worth it. The general idea is so that the actual physical excel files don't get messed up. It will provide institutional memory of why we made specific decisions so this will help with that.

**Director Ricci**

The Macleans magazine came out and announced that Laurier was ranked number 1 in student satisfaction for Universities. I was wondering if I could get your response and how we can maintain this as a Student's Union.

**President VanHerzele**

Every year we all work diligently towards Laurier being in the news as a collective of staff, faculty, and students. Macleans is recognizing that students at Laurier are satisfied overall. It goes to show that all of the work that we do has a student focus at its core. I can see that administration move forward with a student focus. I am pleased to hear that and we can all take a lot of pride in the student organization we have. Moving forward I think it maintains, we have to maintain our focus to better ourselves. We aren't going to be perfect, ranking number 1 is great but staying at number 1 is hard. In the coming years we can't fall from this when it comes to changing our programming and adapting.

**Director Bellotto**

Can you elaborate on what Male Allies is?

**President VanHerzele**

There is currently a couple of groups in the Waterloo Region external to us with the Waterloo Sexual Assaults Work Centre. Steven organizes a male allies group and they advocate for sexual assault awareness on campus. We are bringing it internal into our organization and going to have a focus coming from those not only those who are partaking in the process at the Diversity and Equity Office but possibly all areas of the University, specifically males who feel they can contribute. Steven has a wealth of knowledge and has been working on campus and with athletics.

**Director Ricci**

There was an article that came out in the Cord about the pride flag proposed to be raised on campus?

**President VanHerzele**

I received an email to speak to this initiative and I wasn't aware, I support the idea. What this means for the Student's Union moving forward I am not entirely sure because those conversations haven't happened. I received support from the Graduation Student Association President and making this become a reality. I have spoken to David about some of the legalities as there are policies that need to be met, when it comes to flying them internally to our campus, that has changed.

**Director Martin**

SLL update in terms on on campus event forms and use of space. What will that look like in terms of club presidents hosting an event?

**President VanHerzele**

We currently have an off campus event form if a club were to host an event off campus they would need to fill out a form and seek approval plus we want to support them in the best way possible and connect with the partners that they are working with off campus. Last Monday we have instituted an on campus event form so we can have a better understanding of what sort of events are happening as currently students can go forward with planning and we might not know about it. Last Monday this was implemented as an oversight piece that comes from us. It isn't our hands in the weeds but it is nice to see if we can identify a possible area of risk or controversy to work with the clubs and help them execute their event how they wish keeping in mind the wellness of all students across campus. They are seeking approval with these forms from the VP of Clubs and Associations as well as support staff, after the event would continue on as normal.

**Director Bellotto**

Do you have any updates on the President's Council?

**President VanHerzele**

We have met once and I have invited them to take part in the Turret renovations plan. I have received a few emails from them moving forward with questions, it is creating dialogue at this point. It is creating a new relationship on campus. When we meet before the break we will talk about the challenges we faced when meeting the first time and how we can move forward as a unified group as well as getting raw feedback that we are looking to get. The mandate as part of this group is to get raw

feedback and new feedback that we might not be hearing so we can help represent the 17,000 students as a part of our organization not just those who volunteer with us.

## **8. Comments from the Executive Director and COO**

### **ED Champagne**

1. In the process of working on the OPA and we have made a great stride in the major hurdle between the University and ourselves. This is in regards to the utilities issue. Everything is loosening up what has stalled negotiations. I am still not sure what the end looks like, but there are utility discussions taking place. Once that part is resolved the rest should fall into place quickly.
2. The 3-way agreement with the University, ourselves, and Aramark passed at the Board of Governors and should be clear to proceed.
3. The Director of Policy Research and Advocacy has been hired. Their start date is Monday November 7<sup>th</sup>.
4. We are in the process of working on performance appraisal project to clarify and create more vivid documentation that reflects the work that we do and the strategy of the organization.
5. Myself, Tyler, and Jeyas Director of Hospitality Services will be meeting with the ownership group for Williams. This was recently purchased by a new group so we are discussing the direction of the company so we can a better evaluation of our business that exists on the Brantford campus.
6. In the Student's Experience Department that are doing an app review basically taking a look at what we use Guidebook for and how it can be better used. They will be looking at competitive products to see if there is better opportunity out there.
7. In the process of an ERT review specifically around the space allocation that happened over the summer, a program review, and I believe that the SHERM Department of the University is looking into helping us out with the storage of our oxygen.
8. Jason is working with University partners on the Leadership Summit. It is taking place through the Centre for Student Leadership and Engagement on I believe January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and will be guest speakers and alumni.
9. We are currently taking a review of the programming and promotions manager's portfolio and trying to decide if it would be best served as a multi campus portfolio to eliminate some of the pressure of the Director of Brantford operations and student staff that exists in Brantford.
10. Jason is also working on developing a conference report which is whenever our student leaders attend a conference it would be what they learn, best practices, and was there value. There is nothing really developed but we are working on it.
11. Within finance and administration, the auditing statements are being prepared and should be ready for presentation on November 11<sup>th</sup>.



12. One of our staff members is on long term disability, but as of today it is looking like they will be back to work by the end of November. Director Turner is working on a compensation package to evaluate where the staff sits with regard to itself but also across the province and country ensuring pay equity and that they will have that to be better informed.
13. In regard to marketing, most of the update was done by Tyler I'm not sure if he mentioned University Affairs Not My Will campaign which is educating students in Ontario about the work integrated learning.
14. They are working closely with the History Student's Association and Programming Department on the Remembrance Day Ceremony which will take place on Friday November 11<sup>th</sup>.
15. We are looking into our use of copyright materials and how that impacts the work that volunteers will be doing on social media. We have had some issues using materials that don't belong to us.
16. In regards to Brantford, Angela King has started as the Administrative Assistant and she will be working Tuesday- Friday from 10am-4pm to help with administrative work on Brantford campus.
17. There was a Foot Patrol event to commemorate the purchasing of the van in Brantford.
18. Ongoing consultations with market square
19. Tony is working with VPs to review contracts for volunteers and see if there is a better way to phrase things and keep controls that are reflective of reality to help with student to student interactions.

## **20. Committee Updates**

### **Ownership Linkage Committee: Director DeSumma**

The planning of survey promotion event and the board social event have been underway. The survey promotion event will now be taking place in Waterloo on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00-3:00 in the concourse. In Brantford it will take place on November 8<sup>th</sup> from 10-1 and on the 9<sup>th</sup> in RCW from 12-4. I have booked 4 iPads from the UDesk for students to use to fill out the survey. I will be sending out a doodle poll for your availability. For the survey itself, Chair DeSumma and I went over last year's final product and made some cuts and changes. It is now complete and will be sent to marketing to promote on Monday. Be sure to share the survey on social media to reach out to networks.

For board social event I have started the planning process but nothing has been really set in stone yet. It will probably be taking place November 29<sup>th</sup>, I will update further when something is set in stone.

## **Finance Committee**

### **Vice Chair Molkoski**

Following up from last week I have included the midterm report at the end of the package and it summarized everything I discussed in our last meeting.

## **21. Finance Committee Midterm Report**

### **Chair DeSumma**

**Motion 3** (Price/ Iftekharruddin): **Motion to replace Chair DeSumma with Vice Chair Molkoski.**

**Vote: 9-0-1**

**Result: Motion Passes**

### **Vice Chair Molkoski**

**Motion 4** (M. DeSumma/ Ricci): **Motion to approve the Finance Committee Midterm Report as presented**

**Vote: 10-0-0**

**Result: Motion Passes Unanimously**

I touched on this briefly last week, some of our main concerns were looking at the dollar amounts and definitions as to capital went. I laid out what we felt the emphasis on capital. The two definitions were in Executive Limitation 2F5 and 2E5. It was a difference between when we were discussing \$5000 capital purchases verses \$10,000 capital purchases. We wanted it to be consistent to ensure the president interprets them as such. We also highlighted the positive and negative changes in dollar and percentage change for the budget summary in that category. We wanted to ensure that was consistent so that all totals equaled up. It is the last page of the document today.

## **22. Strategic Discussion: Elections**

### **Vice Chair Molkoski**

As the nominations packages just recently went out we thought it would be important to discuss what we felt our experience was like last year as we all ran for the board. We all have different experiences how that went, some of us have more years also.

### **Director Ricci**

For those not seeking re-election, what are expectations?

### **Chair DeSumma**

The expectations are pretty much very similar to every other election process. As Board members not seeking re-election you can't actively campaign for a

candidate. Directors not seeking re-election definitely take part in promoting the elections process as ownership linkage takes part in elections. Speak as an advocate for the Student's Union and Students Union elections, just not as someone promoting a candidate. We will talk more about elections in January. This discussion today is mostly about what did you all see during elections, what needs to be changed, what did you like or didn't like. Liz and I are trying to see what we decide where we can best make a great process and where we can get people involved. Lis is a part of the meeting today too so she is taking notes of everything we talk about and can speak to anything as well in regards to what we say.

### **Director Bellotto**

From past years there has been a lack of people running for this position. During our time running we saw a huge increase so I think that we should market it more so that we have more people running this year than even last year.

### **Director Kelly**

Last year we were challenged to find at least one person to run to fill our spot. So if you could find one person that you think would be a good candidate because although marketing on social media is great having those personal conversations is the most effective.

### **Director DeSumma**

I agree what Director Bellotto was saying about getting people to run. I know from a Brantford perspective we have had 1 election for Brantford candidates. Also from experience of being acclaimed, it sucks since you don't feel you did anything. Try and get people to run because it is a better experience if you run for something and get it rather than just being put on it.

### **President VanHerzele**

Also connecting with Director Bellotto's point. Finding one person who you think would be a good fit for the board is a great thing to do. I think it is also important to remember that there are Senate, Board of Governor, and presidential positions as well. With 2 candidates last year and no more than 5 in my time, I feel that the larger variety of people running will allow students to speak their mind as a collective. A 2-person race does not accurately describe the entire student body. Push all positions and speak to those who you think would be good and encourage them to look into it more.

### **Chair DeSumma**

Currently we will have vacancies for 2 Waterloo Senators and 1 Board of Governors which is multi campus position. Hopefully we can get more than 2 candidates for

each of those. The other point being 2 people is not an accurate representation of the students, neither is 25% of voters. 75% of students are not voting so that is something we are trying to target. We are looking for those those people that we are missing and figuring out how can we get them to vote because 75% not voting is not democratic.

**Director Ricci**

Last year we hired volunteers to help out with the elections process of the floats per votes? Can we encourage this again?

**Chair DeSumma**

That was Outreach Committee that assisted with this on both campuses and the Ownership Linkage Committee.

**Director Kelly**

The Outreach Committee will be assisting on both campuses.

**Director Price**

The marketing aspect is something we should concentrate on. Looking at the Student Life Levy and seeing low application numbers and our discussion around marketing issues, we don't want that to be an issue for elections this year. Maybe it is discussing or new creative marketing techniques or acting as a board together. I do like the idea of all challenging ourselves to find one or two candidates to run and hopefully we can go beyond that to have a competitive aspect and hear the student's voices.

**Director Martin**

I think it would be really important for Ownership Linkage to push what the board is and what it does. This is important for people who are running and voting. If you don't know what you're voting for then you don't really care. During open forum there are a lot of questions of what the Board is and what it does. If you are unsure of what the job entails, it is difficult being at a mic and not knowing what to say. Pushing people to be responsible and what they want to do and why they want to run.

**Director Iffekharuddin**

The Student Union has a lot of clubs and there are many students involved in those clubs. Could we use that channel to market the elections and get these people out? Get a VP to go to these clubs and talk to them about the available positions.

**President VanHerzele**

Spreading information through our channels is great but if you are affiliated with the group or another body then you can't campaign. For example, if you are a foot patrol volunteer then you can't wear a shirt to shift and actively campaign while on shift.

**Director Iffekharuddin**

I am referring to a Student Union member going in and telling them about the election and getting them involved.

**President VanHerzele**

Spreading awareness is okay, however it is really difficult to ensure that those people on the campaign team understand when you are allowed to campaign, when you are allowed to speak on elections as entirety and when you are allowed to take part in your other obligations. Even if you are not running for a position and you go to an event and start campaigning then that is a violation of the policy. Spreading the information through our channels is valuable and I think we should go through Clubs and Associations and the entire student body.

**VP Aitchison**

Director Martin talked about finding new ways campaign, I just wanted to give you an idea of how to reach students. One of the great things that John and Shawn did when I was a first year student running was target first year students. They had board members who weren't seeking re-election and the two of them reach out to profs and figured out first year courses by looking at Loris to see what the biggest classes were. They contacted the profs and asked if they could do a quick 5-minute presentation before class and that was a board wide effort. We had a lot of first year students run and become involved throughout the rest of their University careers. I think targeting first years may be a good approach.

**Director Bellotto**

Besides marketing it through social media, I think we should market it throughout campus with posters and reach to those who aren't voting. The ones who aren't voting are people who don't like the page already. When I was running I didn't know about it up until a couple of days before nomination packages were due. I think that we should educate the people who are campaigning more on demerit points so that people don't mess up.

**Director Kelly**

During elections I guess it is more against a board, but I think that it is really helpful for those of us who are currently holding positions to reach out to those who are running. Nick reached out to me last year and it was helpful in terms of questions

that I had. If you attend an all candidates meeting, make sure that you talk to them and see if they have questions because there is a lot of uncertainty

### **Director DeSumma**

Form an Ownership Linkage standpoint, I think one of our goals as a committee is to try and reach out for the elections process. The goal for the Board social event is to talk to people about elections if they have any questions and you can approach them since it will likely be in the concourse. Approach them with information regarding the Board or the elections process. It is a good way to interact with students there. For elections myself and Chair DeSumma discussed the possibility of collaborating with Hawk Team in Brantford. Hawk Team runs Trivia night every other Wednesday and that is a way we can collaborate and reach out. We can advertise the voting process by saying look online to view candidates, make sure that you vote. I would like to do the same in Waterloo as it is a good way for us to attend an event that has a lot of people there.

### **Chair DeSumma**

Formality if you are considering re-election during the campaign term, the Ownership Linkage events regarding election including floats for votes, you are not able to participate. It is because you would actively be pursuing your own campaign, it could be seen as a conflict of interest, and look like you are using your position to get elected to another position.

### **Director Ricci**

Stress for Directors who are helping out individuals who want to run for a position, if you are not sure then pass it to someone who would know. You don't want to give someone mixed information, pass it on to Nick or the election committee.

### **Senator Brar**

The best thing the Board can do for engagement is physically being present. In the past years when the information sessions take place, the Chair is the only person talking. If this is the case and the Chair is the only one speaking about how great the board is then that doesn't speak to the people seeking position because the rest of the board is not there. That is the position I took with Ownership Linkage, if you can show up to those 10:00 sessions, please do because they can see that the current representatives are taking the time to come out and speak to them.

### **Director Price**

Take advantage of technology and accessibility whether that means people on different campuses. During an open mic or information session using things like

Facebook Live to reach students if they can't come to us. Even from the live streaming today, people are actually sharing the footage.

### **Chair DeSumma**

I appreciate that you brought up that point, Liz and I have been planning working on 6 information sessions (2 in November, 2 in December, and 2 in January). Within that time period we plan on recording one of our information sessions. While there are a number of students who go to information sessions there are also people who don't want others to see that they are running for a position because they are maybe unsure of it.

What were some of the things that you did like about elections last year? What were some of the things you'd want to change?

### **Director Ricci**

I liked #lauriervotes branding.

### **Director Iffekharuddin**

The night at Wilf's to get to know the candidates and it was like an icebreaker. The candidates were relaxed and got to know each other and the students got to know us as well.

### **Director Price**

The approval process for the candidates was really effective and fast which should stay the same. The poster, profile picture, and cover photo for the campaign didn't take long.

### **President VanHerzele**

In general, the election process is really exciting as a candidate or not as a candidate it is still a way to get involved. Spreading this excitement as much as we can when it comes to encouraging those to become candidates also. One thing that I noticed last year was that it didn't matter what the event was, the turnout wasn't necessarily what we wanted it to be. The open forums with 15-20 people and maybe 40 in Waterloo it's important to consider the rest. It is trying to get the student body excited for elections as well as the candidates which is important.

### **Director Bellotto**

I never thought I would do something like this, but I did and I loved it a lot. I also got a lot of people involved that have never been involved with Laurier or anything before and they were excited too.

**Michael DelBono**

Although I wasn't planning on running last year, I still attended many events and I did notice the students and current directors image that they presented. There was an approachability and a welcome vibe which was important since students often feel intimidated and having that friendly approachable image can really go a long way.

**Director DeSumma**

My favourite part of the election process is interacting with new faces and trying to network with them before you work with them. The one part I'm concerned about is the open forum, I love it because it is a good way to get to know other people and talk about the board, however people don't show up and we don't know what it is suppose to be. Is it suppose to be a debate style or is it just answering questions? I feel we have been going back and forth, I'm interested what do you have in mind regarding these events?

**Chair DeSumma**

Still working on it.

**ED Champagne**

What is the purpose of the open forum? At the Board level it may be a bit different than at the presidential level where there is no one who goes to the open forum that is an undecided voter. Everybody knows who they are going to vote for and they set up trap questions for the other candidate. What is the purpose and what are we trying to accomplish there? Can we do it better?

**Director Bellotto**

I liked during elections that Tyler connected with all of us throughout the campaign. I hope that that can happen for the next year's board. Based on what ED Champagne said regarding open forums, I think we should work to prepare better candidates. I know I was pretty nervous and I had to reach out to past board members to see what to expect and how to better prepare.

**Director Martin**

I think the open forum could use re-structuring in terms of what we want it to look like. I thought there would be more debate, but it was more of a stand-up answer the question. I think in terms of what the open forum is, it was a good opportunity to see if your candidates were educated on what they were doing. There were some questions that some didn't know the answer to and it was visible they hadn't researched or put the time in. I think overall we can collectively decide on what we



want it to look like, should that be questionnaire or debates. Once we figure that out it will be easier to market.

### **Director Ricci**

For someone who has done this 3 times, I would believe that when it comes to the open forum is it a debate, am I allowed to disagree with someone? I think that is the problem especially with presidential candidates last year because we wanted to have a debate but you have to watch what you say. When it comes back to the open forum it was hard to find questions last year. I would recommend some fluff questions so that you know what to expect. They should change it up the questions every year but for candidates it would be good for them to have an idea of what to expect.

### **Director Kelly**

With open forum we were talking about what did we want from it? When people see it in the concourse they are wondering what is going on. It promotes elections because people are going to pass by when it is going on. That is something positive to making it more of a quality experience for more people to tune into. Personally, sitting in the concourse you can't hear what is going on. If there was some way to open it up so that more people can hear and are more engaged.

### **President VanHerzele**

For the open forum is a format so last year there were 2 presidential candidates and 20 board candidates and we used the same format for both. It turned into the first 3 people could say something and then the last 17 just repeated. When it came to myself and the other presidential candidate we could have our own opinions and if they overlapped a bit that was fine, but we could speak to those and it was less of a debate. Maybe when it comes to that is it a round table discussions and what does it look like when it comes to more than 2 people running? I agree last year listening to everyone speak was great, but when it got down to the last few people it was already covered and they just sit down. It was unfair for candidates who have great points to address.

### **Director DeSumma**

I think we need to promote the inclusiveness of the campaign and the process itself. Some people may view the Student's Union as an exclusive clique so I think we need to promote that it doesn't matter who you are or where you come from you can run for one of these positions and do a great job. Just promote and market that aspect of it.

### **Director Martin**

I wanted to know, we are having a really great discussion in terms of what we want to do and see but I was wondering how are we going to put this into action? I don't want to walk away without there being some change and a positive impact.

**Chair DeSumma**

A lot of these things are what Liz and I have chatted about. We all know engagement is a problem with our election process as we see with voting turnout and attendance at open forums and debates and all those things. We will be talking this and seeing how we can make open forum better and how can we make so that it is not just 17 people saying the same things. We are going to look at how we can market it better so that more people want to run and ensuring they know what they are running for. Nomination packages are out it is still a consideration with people deciding if they want to run. We brought it to the table to because we want to hear the experience from the people who ran and to see what can be better.

**Director Ricci**

Do you look at other Student Unions and how their election are done and try to implement some of that?

**Chair DeSumma**

Before we changed the dates and learned what we are going to do to market we looked at McMaster's Student's Union, U Waterloo which oddly enough their election and voting dates are the same. It was a coincidence that all of Waterloo is voting at the same time. We did look at other Student Unions.

**President VanHerzele**

Our marketing department has connected with the UW Feds Department as well and since those dates are the same, they are working to see how they can better interact with student body as a general sort of idea. As we double degree students who go to both as well, so there may be a multi institutional push for students votes this year in Waterloo specifically.

**Anthony Zambito**

Something we did really well last year was streamlining the debate and having it online. We already this year have done a great job utilizing social media for the live streams and I think we should expand and include open forums and the open mic night at Wilf's.

**VP Aitchison**

Caution all of you throughout the process to when comparing to other schools to remember that every school culture is completely different. One thing we did poorly last year was trying to hold ourselves to the standard that McMaster has or comparing to Western. Just keep that in mind while comparing strategies it is a good idea, don't necessarily compare outcomes because of different approaches, cultures, and elections since they have different positions. Be sure to remember that and don't think that we failed because McMaster got 44 and we got 28, because UW only gets 9. There are different positions elected at schools all with different processes.

### **Director Ricci**

I just want to make it clear, I was saying it as a solution not that we should follow other Student Unions but to branch out for more ideas whether we implement them or not.

### **Chair DeSumma**

One of the other things we are trying to promote is how easy our election process is. When we are talking about comparing to schools, at McMaster they have to have everyone come to a specific room and U Waterloo is online. Our system is go online and click a few buttons, type your email address to be in a draw for a prize and you are done. It is so easy and simple to do; the voting takes two minutes. How can we get people to vote? Literally go online it is everywhere pushing the links once they are open. They open 8:00am on January 24<sup>th</sup> close 8:00pm on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Director Lee**

We were talking about ideas to explore, can we send out slide decks to faculty and ask them to have it on display at the beginning of class for 2 weeks. I could say check out elections and have the calendar. Even just making sure that all classrooms are consistent with reference points and it would hammer to their memory.

### **President VanHerzele**

I got to the point last year where I was going to professors to ask if I or a member of my team could speak to their students to remind students to vote today. It comes down to freedoms that professors have in their classes and if they want to do something. This is a conversation that Chair DeSumma, the elections committee, and VP Aitchison in his CRO positions to have faculty support and pushing student elections. I don't think it is impossible but there is going to be a conversation that happens there and I think it should happen before elections not during.

### **Director Bellotto**

In the science atrium there are TVs and most people watch the slideshow, why can't we have one slide. It could give updates, for example Board Updates, vote, or nomination packages are here.

**Director Kelly**

Increasing voter turnout is something that is going to be a gradual process, we could start by targeting 1<sup>st</sup> year students. As much as we want to get that voter turnout up this year through all students, if we start targeting first year students every year then it will gradually turn into a school with higher voter turnout.

**Chair DeSumma**

We have reached out to residence as well to explore their policies and see where we can start promoting. It was easy last year for me as I could get all my students to vote, it was easy as a do so we are going to go back into residence and hopefully push there.

**Director Martin**

Do we get an email like we do at Homecoming talking about be safe be smart? People may not read emails but even just a subject line and having an email go around during voting time because if you need to delete it you still read it.

**Chair DeSumma**

That happened last year and the year before so it will continue as well.

**Director Price**

I think its hard to get people to click that link, it might be really easy to get online and vote but it is actually getting people to do that. Can we and will we set up voting booths in the concourse so that it is visible and people will do it while walking by.

**Chair DeSumma**

That is something that is in the policy, there will be physical voting booths on both campuses. It will be iPads or MacBooks so we get people to vote in person.

**Director Iffekharuddin**

Last year there was a booth in the concourse, what about more booths such as in all the buildings (Arts, Peters, Lazaridis)?

**Elizabeth Thompson**

We will be targeting faculties on specific days and going to their academic buildings so we will be in Lazaridis and in Science so that we can reach a greater turnout since there are students who may not walk through the concourse.

**Director Kelly**

Has there been an incentive before to vote? Such as some kind of prize?

**Chair DeSumma**

2 years ago there was a Laurier's luckiest student tuition thing, that will be something we will talk to marketing about. There will be some incentive.

**Director Price**

I think it is good to have some sort of incentive, but you want to be careful because you don't want them going online, voting just because and not being educated. This could be a downside so I think there should be some balance if we take this approach. You want to make sure people are voting because they know what is going on and they want to vote not just for the prize.

**Director Bellotto**

In regards to emails, I know the Law Society emails all political science students on information sessions telling people about it. Why don't we do that with election day because people may not know the link and we want to get a different demographic.

**Chair DeSumma**

That is in the plans.

**Will Thompson**

You said a bit earlier about having packages of various dates and having those slides sent to professors. I think if that is in the works that should also be given to things like associations such as Diversity and Equity office. Especially within the Diversity and equity office there is a lot of politically minded people and some specific clubs as well with opinions that would be able to be addressed.

**23. New Business and Announcements**

**Director Ricci**

Have a safe and Happy Halloween!

**President VanHerzele**

We are not back before open house so if you are around and want to volunteer I believe Director Jang has more information, I remember doing it and it was an enjoyable day.

### **Chair DeSumma**

Nomination packages are out and about, U-Desk on both campuses and Student Union desk in Waterloo. You can get all of the nomination package and policies all printed. If you are interested, know of someone who is interested, or finding someone who is interested those are due January 9<sup>th</sup>. The first information session is November 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00pm in the Student's Union Board room on both campuses.  
#LaurierVotes

### **24. Adjournment**

**Motion 7 (Bellotto/ Kelly): Motion adjourn the meeting.**

**Vote: 10-0-0**

**Result: Motion Passes Unanimously**

*Meeting adjourned 4:14 at pm*

*Next Meeting Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00PM*

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*fi, For Information*

*fd, For Discussion*

*D, Decision required*

*adm, Administrative task*

The preceding reflects an accurate and complete record of the proceedings at the aforementioned meeting of the WLUSU Board of Directors.

Date Signed: October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Date Signed: October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016



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Nick De Summa  
Chair of the Board & Chief Governance Officer  
2016-17 Students' Union BoD

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Nick Molkoski  
Vice Chair of the Board  
2016-17 Students' Union BoD