



WLU Student Publications Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
November 8, 2017, WLUSP Board Room

**Attendance:** Andreas Patsiaouros (President and Publisher), Lisa Irimescu (Vice President), Noa Salamon (Board Member), Rosalind Horne (Board Member), Alan Li (Board Member), John Pehar (Treasurer), Sam Nabi (Web Manager)

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Call to Order at 5:07PM

Motion to amend date of agenda from November 6, 2017 to November 8, 2017

**Motion:** Noa

**Second:** Lisa

**2. Approval of Agenda (November 8, 2017)**

**Motion:** Noa

**Second:** Alan

All in favor, Passes

**3. Approval of Minutes (August 29, 2017)**

**Motion:** Noa

**Second:** Lisa

All in favor, Passes

**4. Chair's Report**

Cord and TCE podcasts are now running. Radio Laurier has an abundance of shows and their orientation meeting went well. The Cord and Sputnik are exploring video mediums to produce content. The Sputnik has undergone a redesign by Will, and all of the section editors have contributed to creating a more cohesive publication according to a style guide. The WLUEr is flying off stands on both campuses with a few minor errors in the publication. The WLUSP web team has their first volunteers ever, who are now being trained by Sam to edit the voting tool and redesign Radio Laurier's website. Dirty Bingo was really successful, with a dramatic increase in profit. For next year, we may need to look into capacity issues to accommodate this larger crowd at the end. Our social media and freelancing workshop went well and the contact information for Same Riches will be shared with WLUSP members.

Holiday party planning has begun, and the date has been confirmed for the Button Factory at December 3<sup>rd</sup> for all WLUSP members.

NASH selection has also begun, and department heads are currently selecting volunteers to attend NASH. The conference will be hosted in Toronto this year and is a great networking opportunity.

John: will the cost of NASH be lower this year since it is held in Toronto?

Andreas: Yes, I will get you specifics on the cost of the conference once confirmed.

## **5. Executive Director's Report**

Convocation went well and yearbooks sold a tremendous amount this year. Lakyn is hoping to update the HR and Finances as well as the Governance policy. TCE is launching a coffee table book titled 'If Streets Could Talk' to promote the unique neighborhoods in the Waterloo region. The book will be available for purchase online in mid-December. The WLUer is currently being held for next semester, and we may want to increase production. We are approaching our renewal date for our Linda.com subscription, which provides users with courses on editing software.

Lisa: Have you used Linda.com?

Sam: I use it through my Kitchener Public Library card for free.

John: I think we should look into usage statistics to determine if the cost is justifiable. Perhaps there are promotions available for membership fees.

Lisa: It might make more sense to suggest that members just use the service through the library.

Rosalind: I think we should examine if the five people using the website are benefiting from \$500 worth of services.

Lisa: Perhaps we could look into if the Laurier Library offers the website. We may also want to look into making the course mandatory.

Andreas: I will look into all of these suggestions, and disperse more information on the topic. I will also gather more information at the next department head meeting.

Noa: Will users lose access to the website on the renewal date?

Andreas: I'm not sure, but I will look into specifics.

Alan: I did not know this subscription was available to volunteers, and I would be interested in using it.

Rosalind: I think that it's nice to have professional development opportunities, but that does not necessarily mean we would have to limit our subscription to Linda. There may be another workshop or site of more value.

Alan: What is the process of booking grad photos?

Andreas: It is done through LifeTouch, I will give you the minutes from previous meetings which outline the process.

Alan: Is grad photo promotion going well?

Andreas: Yes, the slots typically fill up very fast.

John: I would argue that most students sign up for the photos.

Rosalind: Will the 'If Streets Could Talk' book be sold at regular distribution partners in addition to online?

Andreas: Lakyn will have to share more of her input on that, but I believe it will be restricted to online sales.

Sam: A partnership on commission with a local retailer would be perfect to increase sales.

Rosalind: Will there be pre-orders to estimate how many books should be published?

Sam: We can add a pre-order to the website, but I'm not sure if it would affect the printing schedule at this point.

Andreas: I will discuss this possibility with Lakyn.

Rosalind: It might also be beneficial to create a promotional video for the book.

## **6. Web Election Process**

Sam: The new proposed elections policy has been circulated. Does anyone have any questions?

Rosalind: If I only vote for one person, do they only get one point?

Sam: Yes, your vote counts differently depending on if you fill your whole ballot. This is to prevent a rigging of the poll, as people could collectively decide to only rank one candidate, thus defeating the purpose of the ranking system.

Rosalind: We should make this very clear on the ballot.

Everyone received an email to test this system out. We used the concept of voting on pizza toppings to decide on 3 out of 6 pizzas. This system tends to produce consensus candidates. The benefit of this system is it does not use any complex mathematical formulations.

Rosalind: We should make it clear that the number you give the candidate does not correlate to the number of points they receive, as I mistook number six for six points.

Noa: Will this all be conducted online?

Sam: Yes, but it could be transferred onto paper.

John: Will the system allow you to update your vote?

Sam: No, you will not be permitted to vote a second time.

John: Are we going to pursue an online option to do on your own?

Sam: There are Laurier policies on mass emails, which may not allow for this. Also, this may stand in the way of us reaching quorum for the AGM, as people would just opt to vote at home.

Lisa: Perhaps we should we put more pressure on students to attend the AGM.

John: Historically, how and when people vote has worked in the past, however the voting system is what we should focus on.

**Motion to vote:** Lisa

**Second:** Noa

A vote by show of hands took place to approve the elections process and all were in favor.

## 7. Final Remarks

N/A

**8. Adjournment**

**Motion:** Noa

**Second:** Alan

All in favor, Motion Passes

Meeting adjourned at 6:05PM.