



# Minutes

*Wednesday, March 12, 2025 (12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.)*

**Hybrid:** In-Person (room 0014K) and Zoom (virtual)

**In Attendance:** Karel, Karina, Shreya, Dalraj, Calvin, Alex, Armin, Nathan, Bahar, Harroop, Brandon, Reagan, Serena, Jessica, David

**With Regrets:** Julie

**Guests:** Saarah Furmli, Gabriella Zepeda-Ayala, Angela Xie, Arooba Muhammad, Athaven Nithianantha, Cindy Njoki Kamau, Dania Kassim, Dylan, Hazel w.h. leung, Jacob, Lisa Rankin, Samiha Sanjida, Travis Godfrey, Yandy Zuo, Yasmine Nasereddin, Ayeza Tahir, Sakiena Syed,

## Agenda

### Call to Order (12:34 p.m.)

Land Acknowledgement

*York University recognizes that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which York University campuses are located that precede the establishment of York University. York University acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been taken care of by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Huron-Wendat. It is now home to many First Nation, Inuit, and Métis communities. We acknowledge the current treaty holders, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is the subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.*

## Chair's Remarks & Items

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- Remarks
  - Roberts rules to ensure we keep on time
- Election Updates
  - Special Meeting will take place during/after the exam period but must be “within twenty-one (21) days after the results of the Winter Term elections are released” as per Section 5.4
    - Push back by 1 week; Executive positions voted amongst Caucus
- Distribution room (basement)
  - No set agenda for said room, due to YorkU financial situation there are limits
  - Raised lack of study space to Dean
- Faculty Council Updates
  - Suggested grading profile for LP – note the difference between median and average grade
- Motion to move in camera
- Admissions Committee JD Representatives
  - Motion by Karel, Seconded by Alex to amend the numbering of the current Section 6.8 to Section 6.9 of the Student Caucus Constitution to add the following language as the new Section 6.8 “In consultation with the Black Law Student Association (BLSA) and Osgoode Indigenous Student Association (OISA) Executive, 1 JD Representative from each association shall sit ex-officio on the Admission Committee”
    - Reagan: Is this a situation to going from 4 spots people can apply for to going to 2, or an opportunity to increase spots to 6. Concerns re reduction of seats

- Karel: Not scope of Caucus to add seats; committee itself struggling for capacity (Students and Prof paired for review)
- To recognize historical marginalization of Black and Indigenous communities
- Brandon: Out of Caucus' capacity to add seats; Would it be open to Caucus to pass motion to advocate?
  - Karel: procedurally lack of resources in staffing the committee
  - Brandon: weak reason not to advocate
- Nathan: Clarifying main point: are we trying to increase admissions; Statistics re admission rates
  - Given demographics, given Osgoode's admission statistics is this required
- Karel, Sage: center questions on clarifying concerns.
- Karina: Faculty is tapped out to being able to bring on more students
- Calvin: Motion needs to be renumbered – offering friendly amendment

Motion passes by Majority

- Exam Updates
  - Exemplify concerns
    - Meeting w Mya and Prof. Dufraimont concerns about Exemplify
      - Other institution incident, someone downloaded AI application that didn't require internet
      - Historical background: pre-pandemic, no digital summaries = all printed (in future may need to move back)
      - Admin had to make profs aware of this situation: Prof have discretion to choose whether or not to allow students to have digital summaries when writing exam
      - Open Book exam on Syllabus /= open book digital exam
      - To knowledge, 4 professors elected to FULL SECURE MODE OPEN BOOK = exemplify only, locking out internet and other applications
      - Within Professor's pedagogical reasons
      - In order to hold students accountable and ensure fairness, declaration forms will be signed
      - Info available on Exams
  - Reagan: have those professors communicated changes to students
    - Karel: aware of 1L section communication; Prof will make you aware if this affects you
    - Reagan: Equity issue steep costs of printing

- Karel: issue raised, not a favourable response (students were doing this before)
- Harroop: Think this is bogus
  - Advocacy point for next year: AI available in classes, need to trust students as professional
  - Against moving backwards for unrealized anxieties
- Dalraj: same concerns in 2022; equity concerns, environmental concerns, color vs b&w; compromise with Professors is up to their discretion – may be advocating to specific professors if faculty allows them; Successful FC motion (as reference to future advocacy)
  - Karel: Signing the form is act of good faith that we aren't going to do it; clarifies if the only thing written is "open book" then it is up to Prof discretion.
- March 26th Meeting
  - Next meeting will be from 1:30-2:30pm to accommodate the Dean's Gold Key Awards

#### Vice-Chair's Remarks and Items

- No updates

#### Director of Communications Remarks & Items

- APPC Updates
- ILS – contemplating under 30 seminar profile; tutorial as grading unit
- UYRWR – still looking for historical documents; unsure whether it will be addressed this year
- D/F GRC – likely memo, rather than proposal; Berger coming up with a model, potentially a solution is further guidance on how to exercise discretion, rather than a rules-based solution; update in subsequent meetings
- Sessional Dates will be provided at FC for information
- Notable change is for next year is Reading week one week earlier to align with Toronto recruit Oct 27-Oct 31
- Deferred exam in last week of December Dec 12-Dec 22
- Rule changes to F3.3 and E.3.2.b.; housekeeping, changes that reconcile rule to practice
- Exam and Summary Bank
- Discussion surrounding merits of Exam Bank and L&L Summary Bank
- Potential future L&L/SC/APPC Advocacy

#### Legal & Lit Updates

- Referendum voting until March 14th 11:59PM
  - "Do you, as a Juris Doctor student at the Osgoode Hall Law School, agree to increase the levy (per semester) for all Juris Doctor students at the Osgoode Hall Law School by \$20.00; adjusted annually to increase or decrease in accordance with the Toronto Consumer Price Index to support, sustain, and expand the services, activities, and resources offered by the Legal & Literary Society?"
- Motion Brandon to move to in-camera, Seconded by Reagan
  - Motion passes by majority
- Motion Alex to move out of camera, Seconded by Serena
  - Motion passes out of camera

## OISA Updates

- Hosting lunch and learn on Monday in Helliwell re Residential School denialism
  - Email is open for discussions

## Year Updates

### 3L Updates and Items

### 2L Updates

### 1L Updates (Alex, Serena, Nathan, and Harroop)

## Final Items

- Serena – OHLU Presentation
  - Questions:
  - Brandon:
    - To Saarah, share student perspective;
    - Briefly mention war criminals point of clarity
      - Saarah: ICJ ruling risk of genocide, students served in the IVF(?); if allow exchange there is a possibility that there are war criminals in the school
- Serena: Re Admin consultation lack of communications; can you touch on specific concerns/messages from administration

- Ayeza: Have not had conversation; emails vague and conflicting, reply from assistant, invited Dean to go to town hall
- Nathan: Place for YFS and YUGSA to join calls, including no police
  - Ayeza: Calls are for Disclosure and Divestment
- Nathan: Point 53 clarify
  - Ayeza: YorkU enforced policies against YFS and YUGSA – involved
- Harroop: Confirm timelines: final email is Jan and you waited a month and a half. What is the rationale for bringing the motion so late?
  - Sakiena: We've spoken to Dean Farrow to encourage him to engage, club scheduled town halls
- Reagan: concerns from student leaders on student government re proposal from faceless organization; no internal hierarchy, no names of who is OHLU; slides don't necessarily address all concerns; safeguards?
  - Ayeza: valid concern, you are not the same as any person at Osgoode as elected
  - Know students that have gotten jobs despite pro-Palestinian support
  - Saarah: uphold Human Rights code; put interests first
- Shreya: ask OHLU, confirm during the call today or in the Obiter Dicta article did you call any student a war criminal
  - Ayeza: talking about possibility of inviting a war criminal
  - Sakiena: Long history of precedent for boycott in the current climate
- Calvin: What is OHLU timeline for us to complete?
  - Ayeza: would encourage discussion
  - Calvin: Access to student testimonials/data?
    - Unwilling to provide; no access to raw data because it has student information
- Sage: Share of slides?
  - Can send; only changes is adding individual endorsements and changes
- Karel: mentioned went to student equity clubs; explain process, explain if there are overlaps
  - Ayeza: fear; every single club raised concerns, raised Reagan's concerns
  - Did not do a proper democratic process, not everyone knew of the voting process (Environmental Law Association, OUTLaws)
  - Overlap: yes there is some overlap and in the statistic of 1:9

Procedural

Point of Inquiry: Can we vote without quorum: Cannot.

Alex: motion to extend time, Karina seconded

Sakiena: Issue with procedure: procedure has been used to weaponize

Brandon: Do you mind going through the slide with club endorsements; figures are members and execs?

Figures provided by SALSA

Brandon: wasn't part of the vote; would like them clarification from the student clubs

Would appreciate the process of getting to the number

Ayeza: Free to talk to SALSA exec

Students more comfortable with the anonymity

David: Q for Karel: Going forward since this will go into next week, is there capacity to alter or re-propose elements of the proposal motion

Karel: for time, move to Procedural Q later because OHLU in the room

Nathan: of the course endorsement, how many approached, how many declined, how many did the survey.

Sakiena: SC itself does not have a sign on, SC doesn't have process to get student feedback

Karel Point of Information: What OHLU is proposing is different from what previous clubs are bringing (e.g. gender neutral washroom) – it was Letter to admin, came to Caucus to endorse the letter with 12 other equity seeking groups; other initiatives that call on Admin to do something by being signatory; MLSA similarly

This is not what OHLU is requesting

Ayeza: Difference in semantics, more elaborate; maybe will bring you a letter

Bahar : you mention that you have student support; reservation of 1:9, reconcile because that doesn't sound like the majority

Ayeza: 10 days: 1:9, if there was more time; no one talked about Elevator key cards, gender neutral washrooms; people have been talking to you

Bahar: received feedback on both sides of the issue

Shreya: Request at next meeting, would OHLU be able to confirm the number of the clubs that did not sign due to fear. Request to amend the form the students self identified with

Ayeza: Will discuss internally at OHLU

Reagan: rephrase, is OHLU amenable to split the motion into 4 motions?

David: concurs

Ayeza: can break in two; 1st two and 2nd two

Alex Point of Clarification: Failed to provide necessary time

Karel: OHLU got time assigned, more from ceded time, and more from extended meeting time.

Motion to Adjourn

**Meeting Adjourned at 2:55 pm.**