

Mathematics Society General Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2015

The Winter 2015 General Meeting of the Mathematics Society was called to order at 5:25 PM. Speaker Tristan Potter was in the chair, and Secretary Isabel Ji was present.

The general meeting heard a presentation from Stephanie Tortorici and Diane Bader, representatives from the CECA, regarding Waterloo Works, the job-matching system which will succeed JobMine. Waterloo Works has a number of new features, including (but not limited to) improved search functionality, unlimited number of job applications, one free no-rank per term, and a salary description option on job postings. The CECA is currently piloting the system with their third student group. Testing will continue into the Spring 2015 term; there are no concrete deadlines for launch. The accompanying slides are in [Appendix A](#). Please send any questions and comments to waterlooworks@uwaterloo.ca.

Keegan Parker moved to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2014 General Meeting, seconded by Matthew Silver. The general meeting found that a number of corrections were required. Shale Craig moved to table the approval until the next General Meeting, seconded by Elan Alkhazov. The motion to table was adopted unanimously.

The general meeting heard a report from Elana Hashman, Vice-President, Events. The events run this term were very well-received. The accompanying slides are in [Appendix B](#).

The general meeting heard a report from Elana Hashman regarding her fulfillment of certain Vice-President, Academic duties, including:

- Co-ordinating the filing of formal grievances and appeals against the University of Waterloo for not declaring a snow day closure on February 2, 2015; and
- Meeting with Steve Furino, the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies, to advocate for the following student issues:
 - Setting up an anonymous, university-wide reporting mechanism to report discriminatory faculty or staff behaviour;
 - Improving Accessibility Services' accommodations, especially with regard to services related to mental health; and
 - Improving students' understanding of the Standings & Promotions Committee's workings, policies, and precedences.

The general meeting heard a report from Keegan Parker, Vice-President, Operations:

- Novelties were well-managed this term; many popular items have now been restocked;
- Posters have been regularly printed and posted in a timely manner;
- The new office staffing structure involving Office Managers and Office Workers is operating well; recommendation is that no part-time employee is needed, although the next Vice-President, Operations should investigate how to assign office shifts according to student demand;
- A new MathSoc website is under construction, with planned completion for August 2015 or during Fall 2015; new features include an online booking system, event calendar, mobile compatibility, and back-end interface for Society Executives and volunteers;
- MathSoc is drafting a governance policy with the Faculty of Mathematics to enable the Society to properly manage student data;
- Nominations are open for Spring and Fall 2015 Vice-President, Operations; and
- Nominations are open for Spring 2015 Vice-President, Finance.

The general meeting heard a report from Elan Alkhazov, Vice-President, Finance. The accompanying slides are in [Appendix C](#).

The general meeting heard a report from Tristan Potter, President. The accompanying slides are in [Appendix D](#).

Febrian Sidharta moved to reverse the fee reduction approved during the Winter 2012 General Meeting, seconded by Edward Lee.

Shale Craig moved to call the question, with second from Deanna Darby Barton. The motion was defeated.

Elana Hashman raised a point of order, stating that this motion violates By-law Article *VIII.3: Resolution*, which reads

For a period of eight years after a referendum, the referendum cannot be overturned except by another referendum. After that, any decision of the Society can overturn a referendum.

The Speaker ruled that the wording of the original motion (see highlighted section of [Appendix F](#)) allows the referendum resolution to be amended.

Febrian Sidharta moved to amend the MathSoc fee reduction amount approved in the Winter 2012 General Meeting to \$0.

Elana Hashman moved to appeal the Speaker's ruling, seconded by Elan Alkhazov. The motion was withdrawn after debate.

Julie Sturgeon was appointed as Secretary *pro tempore*.

After debate, the motion to amend the fee reduction amount approved in the Winter 2012 General Meeting to \$0 was defeated 6-12.

Shale Craig moved to ratify Council's amendment to by-law article *IV.1: Membership Fee*, which would enable Council to increase the MathSoc fee in line with the Consumer Price Index once per fall term, seconded by Elan Alkhazov (see highlighted section in [Appendix E](#)). The motion was adopted unanimously.

Sean Harrup moved to add the following roles of the Executive Board to the By-laws and Policy documents, as appropriate:

- By-law article *VI.2: Duties and powers of the executive*:
 - All of the Executive are expected to attend regular meetings with representatives of the Dean's office;
 - The VPE is expected to meet with every club/service executive at least once each term; and
 - The President is expected to attend meetings of the Feds Committee of Presidents.
- Policy:
 - The Executive Board is expected to send out regular communications to students in the constituency.

The motion was seconded by [REDACTED] and adopted unanimously.

[REDACTED] moved to henceforth provide refreshments at MathSoc Council Meetings available to any councillor or guest who attends the meeting. The motion was adopted unanimously.

[REDACTED] called a quorum check. It failed.

The general meeting recessed at [REDACTED], and resumed at [REDACTED] when quorum was reached.

Edward Lee moved to appoint the following individuals to the Executive Evaluation Committee (EEC) for Spring 2015:

- [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] as members of the Society; and
- [REDACTED] as past executive.

The motion was seconded by Deanna Darby Barton. After nominations, Sean Harrap, Patrick Melanson, Tim Zhou were acclaimed fill the blanks for the members of the Society, and Jazbel Wang was acclaimed to the blank for past executive. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Elana Hashman made a motion to modify the Vice-President, Events role to Vice-President, Internal as follows:

- Amend the fifth point in by-law article *VI.2.1: President* from

Work with affiliated organizations on behalf of the Society;

to

*Work with **external** organizations on behalf of the Society;*

- Change all instances of "Vice President, Events" to "Vice President, Internal" in the by-laws and policies;
- Insert the following text as the first point under by-law article *VI.2.4 Vice-President, Events*:

Oversee all internal organizations on behalf of the society, including Clubs and Affiliates, ensuring they are supported in their endeavours and compliant with MathSoc policy and financial/accounting requirements;

- Modify the second point in by-law article *VI.2.4 Vice-President, Events* from

Ensure that all Society events have the appropriate documentation, including insurance coverage and/or event forms;

to

Serve as the final approver for all Society events, ensuring that all Society events have the appropriate documentation, including insurance coverage and/or event forms;

The motion was seconded by Sean Harrup, and adopted unanimously.

Edward Lee moved a motion which, after debate and amendment, was to change the second paragraph of by-law article VI.4: *Remuneration of Executives* from

In the event that an Executive fails to effectively perform his or her duties, a resolution by a General Meeting of the Society may strip them of their honorarium with a two-thirds vote provided that the meeting occurs before the payment is awarded.

to

*In the event that an Executive fails to effectively perform his or her duties, a resolution by a General Meeting of the Society may strip them of their honorarium with a two-thirds vote provided that the meeting occurs before the payment is awarded. **Debate on any such resolution will be held in secret session, without the presence of the Executive(s) in question. Furthermore, if a voting member so desires at the General Meeting, discussion of the Executive(s)' evaluation report (as presented by the Executive Evaluation Committee) will also be held in secret session, without the Executive(s) in question.***

The motion was seconded by Sean Harrup, and adopted unanimously.

Shale Craig moved to require each future President to attend all MathSoc General Meetings during his or her term in costume, seconded by Deanna Darby Barton. The motion was adopted.

Shale Craig moved to require all future Executives to attend all MathSoc General Meetings during their term in costume, seconded by Edward Lee. The motion was adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.