Open Session

Preliminaries

Call to Order

Be it resolved that the meeting is called to order at 6:30 PM.

Consent

Approval of the Minutes

Be it resolved that Council approves the public minutes for 2018-09-20 meeting as presented.

Reports & Updates

Executive Reports

President
Vice President, Academic
Vice President, Internal
Vice President, Finance
Vice President, Operations

General Orders

Ratification of Fall 2018 Council Members

Whereas the Mathematics Society held the nomination period for the Fall 2018 General Election between September 6th and September 17th, 2018;
Whereas the Mathematics Society received more nominations than positions available for First Year and Math/Business representative, and held a vote on September 20th and September 21st, 2018;

Be it resolved that Council ratifies the following individuals for first-year representative for Fall 2018 and Winter 2019:
- Alisa Lin
- Harleen Bhandal
- Jing Yi Wang
- Liban Osman
- Saquib Shahzad

Be it further resolved that Council ratifies the following individuals Math/Business representative for Fall 2018:
- Jennifer Lee
- Sofia Lin
- Bianca Filip
- Candice Lee

Approval of Fall 2018 Club and Affiliates Budgets

Be it resolved that the Fall 2018 budgets for MathSoc clubs and affiliates be approved as presented.

New Business

Adjournment

Meeting scheduled to adjourn at 8:30 PM.
MathSoc Council
Thursday, September 19th at 4pm
MC 3039 (MathSoc Executive Office)

Speaker: Alex Lee
Secretary: Alex Lee

In Attendance:
- Rose Penner*
- Krishna Pasumarthy (VP Finance)
- Clayton Halim (VP Operations)
- Alex Lee (President)
- Kanan Sharma (VP Internal)

*non-voting

Alex Lee called the meeting to order at 4:04pm.
Alex Lee was appointed secretary.

Be it resolved that Council approves the public minutes for 2018-08-13 meeting as presented.  
Alex Lee and Krishna Pasumarthy.
Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Reports

Vice President, Internal (Kanan Sharma)
- For MathSoc Welcome Week, there were approximately 400 students who showed up for free fruit, baked goods and coffee/tea on September 17th. Clubs Days was September 18th and 19th; was a success.
- There was a brief issue with FARMSA sharing keys; the President (Alex Lee) sent a warning to FARMSA.
- There is a plan to host a bonfire in early October with CSC and WiCS; the event is in its planning stages.
- The UW Accelerator Centre approached MathSoc and was willing to provide TA services for MATH 135 free of cost, and possibly scholarships. They would also like to sponsor MathSoc.
- CFSA expressed interest in a club room. There may be a review of clubs and the use of the club rooms; if it is found that the club is not using their room effectively, they may lose the room.

Vice President, Operations (Clayton Halim)
- There were issues with some lockers; many of the dial-type lockers are broken. Additionally, some digital lockers are out of battery. A spreadsheet was created to record the broken lockers.
- Beginning-of-term inventory was completed. Additionally, the office is currently open every day on a temporary schedule, with a minimum of one office manager in the office at all times during official hours. Office manager and office worker acceptances are currently being sent out; there will be approximately 20-30 office staff altogether.
- There is an abundance of inventory for novelties; a possible sale is incoming after consolation with the novelties directors.
- Bookings have been going fairly well; there were many room bookings for clubs, as well as popcorn and cotton candy machine bookings. There have been some issues where the machines were returned dirty.

Vice President, Finance (Krishna Pasumarthy)
- Cash closing is being performed every day.
- During the clubs meeting, clubs were informed of the upcoming budget deadline of September 24th, as well as the budget meeting on September 27th.
- For some club budgets, there was data missing.
- There have been weekly meetings with Gurpreet (from Feds) for financial activity submissions, as well as cheque pick ups.
- Cash from the old photocopier in the MathSoc office was deposited after a lengthy period of time sitting in the safe.
- Finance Director hiring is almost complete; training of finance directors will be in the near future.

President (Alex Lee)
- The voting period for elections ends on September 21st at 11:59 PM. There are 27 first year students running for 5 first year rep positions; as well as 5 Math/Business students running for 4 Math/Business rep positions.
- During the Feds Committee of Presidents meeting on September 18th, there were brief discussions of each society’s goals for the term. There will be a cross-faculty event happening mid-October that will focus on spreading happiness and “smiling”; there will be apples and buttons being given out (fully funded by Feds).
- The math dance flash mob was earlier in the day; there were approximately 25 people who showed up and did the math dances from 2015 to 2018. Any student who performed the dances received a pink tie, where the pink tie they received depended on which dances they performed. In most cases, students received all four ties. This event was featured on the Waterloo Math Instagram account.
- VP Internal suggested more cross-faculty events in the future.

There was a discussion of executives submitting written reports for inclusion in the agenda for the meeting to shorten the length of meetings. It will be expected that councilors will have read the agenda before the meeting and will come to council meetings with their questions and concerns. During meetings, executives will give a very high-level summary of their report and then field for questions. VP Internal (Kanan) expressed concern with this approach; he mentioned that Council was there to hold the executives accountable, and this approach would make it more possible for executives to get away with things. Rose mentioned that having written reports from execs every two weeks and expecting councilors to read agenda and minutes isn’t a lot to ask from them; President (Alex) agreed with this and mentioned that it is expected that councilors read through the agenda before a meeting.
Whereas the Mathematics Society accepted nominations for program representative positions on Council on September 6th, 2018;
Whereas the Mathematics Society did not receive more nominations than positions available for the constituencies of Computing and Financial Management, Pure Math, Applied Math and Combinatorics & Optimization, and Math Studies & Other;
Whereas the Mathematics Society did not receive more than one nomination for the executive position of Vice President, Academic;
Be it resolved that Council ratifies the following individuals for their respective program representative positions for Fall 2018:
- James Bury for Computing and Financial Management,
- Junqiao Lin for Pure Math, Applied Math and Combinatorics & Optimization, and
- Arsheya Jain for Math Studies & Other;
Be it further resolved that Council ratifies the following individuals for their respective program representative positions for Winter 2019:
- Arsheya Jain for the Math Studies & Other, and
- Victor Brestoiu for Computing and Financial Management;
Be it further resolved that Council ratifies the following individuals for their respective program representative positions for Spring 2019:
- James Bury for Computing and Financial Management, and
- Jennifer Lee for Math/Business;
Be it further resolved that Council ratifies Yuqian (Ina) Wang for Vice President, Academic for Fall 2018.

Kanan Sharma and Krishna Pasumarthy.

Motion carried (with noted abstention of Alex Lee).

VP Internal (Kanan) mentioned the issue of honorariums. President (Alex) mentioned that there could be a possible reduction in the honorarium from $500 to $450 or $470; he will talk with Tristan and the Executive Officer of Math about making the honorarium a scholarship.

Seeing no further business, Alex adjourned the meeting at 4:32pm.
Executive Report
President
Alex Lee

Talks with Rose, the Coffee and Donut Shop manager to see what improvements can be made to MathSoc spaces (e.g. Coffee and Donut shop seating area, Comfy Lounge, MathSoc office). Highly suggest Games Director to replace any games in bad condition (and are still in print). Additionally, there may be funding available to refurbish and/or renovate MC club offices.

Meeting with CEC on Wednesday, September 26th; major discussion point was implementing the work term report referendum result (yes for changing from numerical to credit/no credit) from the Spring 2018.

Working with the Computer Science Club to figure out a better key agreement (currently, the Computer Science Club does not go through MathSoc for key approvals; instead they go directly to the Dean’s office to get key fobs).

Meeting with Feds VP Student Life in the coming days to discuss overall MathSoc things.

Meeting with Dean’s office to discuss mathNEWS and the current situation with their finances and the Memorandum of Understanding.

Hired only one volunteer (secretary). Training of new councillors happened on Tuesday, September 25th; gave a quick rundown of Robert’s Rules, general format of meetings.
VPI Updates

Alumina VS Students Loop Tournament

- Held the first Elimination Loop Tournament in North America
- Co-organised with the Office of Advancement.
- Had 5 alumina and around 25 students participate.
- Promoted MathSoc
- Photos will soon be posted on our Facebook page

Alumina Reunion

- Organised a Novelty sales on Saturday in M3 Atrium with the Novelty Directors
- Made sale worth $166.00
- Promoted MathSOC

Math Goes Outside (Bonfire Event)

- Joint MathSoc, CSC, & WiCS event
• MathSoc is providing Hot Chocolate, CSC and WiCS will be providing food.
• Open to all University Students, but mostly advertising to Math students.

Other Stuff
• In talk with the faculty about co-hosting a ball
• In talks about opening a Chapter for a Fraternity regarding Actsci, risk management etc.
• In talks with UW accelerator about partnering with them to provide tutoring services for Math 135
Although I was only recently ratified as the Vice President Academics (VPA) on September 20th, I have executed a few tasks before. These tasks include attending the Co-op Student Council (CSC) meeting, as Alex's (MathSoc President) representative and assisting the Data Science Club Resume critique session with Kanan (Vice President Internals). The tasks that I'm currently working on include setting office hours to communicate with students, arranging time to meet and introduce myself to the Dean's Office, and setting meetings with external groups to discuss potential plans and collaboration.

1. CO-OP STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 17TH (COMPLETED)

I attended the first CSC meeting of the term on September 17th as Alex's representative. There were around 6-7 attendees. Out of those, there were only two student representatives: me and an Engineer councilor, the remaining are members of Career Experience Center (CEC). The meeting was mostly to discuss about the change in the higher responsible personnel, the current data on the term's co-op, the co-op fee situation, the plans for upcoming co-op (especially with the legalization of cannabis), and the new implementation of a 3rd party app called Plum.

1.A. CURRENT EMPLOYMENT RATES FOR FALL 2018

The following information are off from the meeting minutes:

- 99.1% (6,621) compared to 99.3 at same point in time in 2017 (as of Sept 13, 2017)
- 2017-2018 fiscal:
  - 1,000,000+ co-op job applications
  - 97.7% employment rate
  - 6,900 active employers
  - Interview volume was just under 60,000
1.B. COOP FEES

The CEC members mostly explained specific details about the co-op fees. The more important information includes (abstracted from the minutes):

- "Last year's notice about the increase to the co-op fee was sent out as late because CE was waiting for the assessment data from [University's Institute of Analysis and Planning]", as they are one of the biggest stakeholders.
- "Co-op fee steering committee meeting booked for early October will determine which additional stakeholders need to be brought on board for the project."
- "Any updates will be placed on the co-op fee website..."

1.C. CANNABIS

Due to the upcoming legalization of cannabis on October 17th, many co-op jobs may be opportunity working in that industry. These jobs may eventually lead to risks for students' future plans, such as travel restriction from countries with strict cannabis policies.

If there were cannabis-related employers on WaterlooWorks, then they will be separated into two different categories:

i) Direct affiliation with the cannabis industry
ii) A distributor such as a licenses grow/producing operator

There will be a disclaimer/warning on WaterlooWorks starting from the Fall 2018 application period, so that students will be aware of these changes.

More information will be discussed in the next Coop Student Council Meeting in October.

1.D. PLUM

Plum is an AI platform that helps determine how well a candidate's soft skills will fit with an organization's culture and environment. It is currently on its pilot stage with a selective group of employers.

**Process:** When a student applies for a position, they will be given an option to fill out a Plum profile. They can do so with their UW account (WATIAM).

I have expressed my concerns about it as some student aren't comfortable about "bragging" their soft skills, whether it's their culture or just their personality wise. This could be a disadvantage to the more introverted and shyer students from getting a job they want and applicable for.
1. E. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Some other relevant information that I’ve gathered from and after the meeting:

- Honours Math is a Focus Program (a program where students struggle to find employment);
- Lauren (a member from Career Action) is looking to promoting the Career Leader role directly for math students.

2. DSC RESUME CRITIQUE SESSION (COMPLETED)

The Data Science Club held a resume critique session with MathSoc on September 20th. There were volunteers specializing in areas ranging from Finance to tech areas such as CS and Data Science. Additionally we had a volunteer who specialized in grammar and word choice.

For more information, please refer to Kanan's VPI Report.

3. OFFICE HOURS (IN PROGRESS)

I will be holding office hours on Tuesdays and Thursday from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. During these times, students can come to discuss about academic situations that they don't feel comfortable discussing with the faculty directly.

Announcements about the office hours have been posted on Facebook (with the faculty’s support) and on WeChat. One of the main goals is to spread awareness of MathSoc and its services to international students. I have already been contacted a few and some scheduled office meetings are proposed.

Lastly, I have emailed Francis Poulin, the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, to arrange a meeting with me (and potentially Alex) to train me in advising student and the extent of the advices that MathSoc and I can provide before legal issues may surface.

4. UWATERLOO ACCELERATOR CENTER – MATH 135 (IN PROGRESS)

I was recently contacted by Akshay Kapoor from uWaterloo Accelerator Center. The center, with the collaboration of a previous Math 135 Teaching Assistant, is providing a help service in the course for students throughout the semester. It will be free of charge for Math 135 students and all salaries for the tutors will be provided by them. The tutors are all former experience students in Pure Math and Engineering, meaning they have graduated from their respective undergraduate curriculum. These sessions are currently planned to be held at the Accelerator Center and Engineering buildings.
Their second project is to provide a $100 "scholarship" to three Math 135 students at random.

They approached us to spread awareness on the program and the scholarship. They also proposed that they can sponsor us in future events.

More can be discussed further in the meeting. I’ll be meeting with Akshay on Wednesday around 3:30 PM to discuss further about the project and MathSoc’s collaboration (if applicable).

5. UPCOMING EVENTS AND PLANS

I am still in the progress of meeting with members of the Dean's Office to discussion how the faculty and MathSoc can collaborate to provide more services and benefits the student.

There is an CEC meeting on Wednesday, September 26th, that I will be attending with Alex.

I will be meeting with Kumar, the student representative of Career Experience Center, in the near future on plans for math students.
It has only been a few days since my last exec report, so there is not much to report. I just have a few brief notes about what I’ve done and what’s to come next week.

1. **CANDY ORDERS**

I have ordered

- 2 boxes of kisses
- 2 boxes of Sour Patch Watermelons
- 2 boxes of Sour Patch Peaches
- 2 boxes of Mike & Ikes
- 2 box of Starbursts

And they will arrive on Thursday morning (September 27, 2018).

2. **PERMANENT OFFICE SCHEDULE**

I’ve reached out to the people who have applied as office works / managers. Day 1 of training was held today and will continue until tomorrow. About 20 people will attend both days. With Alex’s help, the permanent schedule is almost finalized. The schedule is aimed to be active starting Monday next week (October 1, 2018).

3. **LOCKER SIGN-UPS**

A couple people from outside the math faculty have approached me about locker sign-ups. Since there are still a little under 100 lockers still available, my plan is to contact Keegan to allow locker sign-ups to everyone starting Monday next week (October 1, 2018).
Things I have been working on since the last meeting:

- Completed getting the signing authorities transferred from previous execs to the current one.
- Hired volunteers, trained them about cash close.
- Met with Gurpreet to discuss about the upcoming budget and gave her copies of financial documents for this term.
- Handled other tasks such as replying to budget related questions, closing cash on a daily basis, depositing cash in the bank from time to time and reviewing/signing the reimbursement checks.
- Working right now on Spring 2018 honorariums to be processed.