

UW Mathematics Society
General Meeting

July 17th, 2019

Location: MC Comfy, Time: 4:00-7:00 PM ET

Speaker: Alan Li
Secretary: Alex Lee

The following members were in attendance:

- Shijian Wang
- Patrick Melanson
- Uday Barar
- Debra DeFazio
- Kevin Zhang
- Rajat Malholtra
- Andrew Lor
- Jasper Zhu
- Yan Zhao
- Alex Lee
- Danny Liu
- Yao Li
- Yinghe Yang
- Nicholas Richardson
- David Yang
- Zi Ye Wang
- Alan Li
- Kayalash Vimalan
- Jiejun Lin
- Allen Lam
- Alina Sewani
- Yuqian Wang
- Oujing Liu
- Nicole Tam
- Clarence Hu
- Xian Ting Huang
- Bilaal Hussain
- Nikhil Kumar Gupta
- Gyu Yeon Cho
- Daiwei Liu
- Andean Medjedovic
- Samir Alazzam
- Andrew Yates
- Garrett Hildebrandt
- Jianan Zhao
- Zi Wen Lim
- Samer Zu'Mot
- Siddhant Passi
- Lauralee Gookool
- Matthew Schwarze
- Harleen Bhandal
- Kevin Aby
- Marc Bhopalsingh
- Kanav Ahuja

Preliminaries

Seeing a quorum present, President Li called the meeting to order at 4:15 pm ET.

President Li introduced himself and presented a brief overview of Mathsoc and its governance structure. President Li also provided an overview of the general meeting process, including Robert's Rules.

Be it resolved that Alex Lee as secretary for the general meeting.

Motioned by President Li

Seconded by Chairperson DeFazio

Passed unanimously with one abstention.

Approval of the Agenda

Be it resolved that Council approve the Agenda as presented.

Motioned by President Li

Seconded by Vice-President Tang

Alex Lee inquired if a report from the Math Endowment Fund (MEF) was on the agenda. President Li responded that there was not. Alex Lee raised an amendment to the motion: Be it resolved that the following amendment is made to the motion:

Be it resolved that MEF is added to the agenda after councillor reports.

Motioned by Alex Lee and seconded by Alan Li.

Passed unanimously.

The agenda was assumed with the above amendment.

Opening Remarks

Approval of the Minutes

Be it resolved that the Assembly approves the [MathSoc General Meeting minutes](#) from March 28th, 2019, as presented.

Motioned by President Li

Seconded by Rajat Malholtra.

Passed unanimously with one abstention.

Reports

President's Report -- Alan Li

President Li presented his reports, summarizing this term's initiatives, including reducing the number of meetings. He discussed the mission of MathSoc this term: improve math student community by increasing student engagement, and improving academic engagement and learning of students through increased student engagement.

He discussed the establishment of metrics on measuring how engaged students are. He mentioned that MathSoc had a new website and email system, as well as a new voting procedure (STV). He discussed the wide acceptance by volunteers and affiliates for MathSoc communication.

President Li also discussed improved support for MathSoc clubs: he gave a brief overview of MathSoc funding procedures, as well as having a centralized calendar that lists all events under MathSoc and MathSoc clubs on website. He also brought up setting up quasi-account under MathSoc, as well as a MoU for Quantify (a case competition) under MathSoc. He informed members that if they wanted to get sponsorship or run a case competition, they should contact him to possibly set up quasi-accounts and a MoU. President Li also informed members of the possible

collection of demographic info about event attendees to see how to improve diversity at events. He mentioned his involvement in university events to represent math students.

President Li discussed the renegotiation of Societies MoU, as well as the notion of increased collaboration with other faculties and student societies. He brought up the new Feds insurance provider, which is causing insurance coverage changes with events. President Li also discussed the passage of a new alcohol policy which includes safety provisions for events that will be serving alcohol.

President Li discussed Increasing first-year support and engagement, as well as partnering with math undergrad recruitment.

He mentioned that menstrual products were now available at MathSoc office. He mentioned that overall, his goal was to have MathSoc offer peer support network and improve student life, representing math student's voices.

Bilal Hussein had a question relating to alcohol policy. He asked if it was possible for alcohol to be served at Board Games Night? Chairperson DeFazio responded that it could be a possibility, however it would require a liquor license application. President Li mentioned that there were also rules regarding alcohol reimbursements for club events, and that if anyone wanted to make any further changes to how MathSoc works (including how alcohol should be treated), they should get involved.

It was noted that President Li said "I like alcohol as much as you do."

Rajat asked if a 24 hour coffee machine was possible for MathSoc. Chairperson DeFazio mentioned that it may lead to competition between the Math CnD and the MathSoc office. Alan mentioned that it could be possible to offer all MathSoc services 24/7, but to send any and all suggestions about improving MathSoc to him to bring to MathSoc Council. Rajat: 24 hr coffee machine for MC. Rosie: would lead to competition between CnD and MathSoc office.

VP Academic Report -- Tiana Zhao

Tiana Zhao was not present at this time. President Li summarized the VPA duties and Tiana Zhao's involvement with first year experience, co-op experience, and academic governing bodies. He also discussed how Tiana participated in advocacy for students, improving the textbook library, and exploring the idea of cohorts for math students.

Be it resolved that the executive reports are limited to 5 minutes each.

Motioned by Alex Lee

Seconded by Garrett Hilderbrand

President Li highlighted the importance of discussing reports in detail.

Passes with majority.

VP Internal Report- - Tina Huang

- Tina Huang introduced herself and the VPI role. She mentioned that she took over from David Yang in June. She then introduced the various MathSoc events that have happened during the term:
 - Coffeehouse in May - ~100 attendance - success.
 - Highest number of profs in attendance for Luncheon with Profs.
 - Massage event - good attendance.
 - Second coffeehouse in July - over 200 attendance. Excellent turnout.
 - Paint nite joint with EngSoc.

- Tina also introduced upcoming events: Pi approximation, Ice cream, finals distress, as well as 24 hrs games.
- She also mentioned that there is a team of volunteers to assist with all of this, She encouraged members to follow MathSoc on various social media platforms, including IG, Facebook. She mentioned that if anyone would like more details on these events or her role, they should reach out to her.
- Patrick asked if people got massages during the Knead a Massage event. Tina responded that people did receive massages - 20 people received massages in 2 hours. There were also wellness kits available, in collaboration with Campus Wellness.
- Bilaal Hussein inquired about the signup process for massages. Tina responded that sign ups were announced on the Facebook page, and that overall, 187 people were in attendance, which includes those who took food, drinks, and wellness kits.
- Alan also commented that there were a high number of people who wanted a massage; Tina elaborated further that there were originally 2 massage therapists that were to be available, however only one could attend, causing Tina needing to schedule people at different times.
- Bilaal Hussein asked if the MathSoc Twitter account was being managed. Tina answered no, mentioning that her focus was to market on Facebook and Instagram.

Be it resolved that the MathSoc VPI should use the MathSoc Twitter account.

Motioned by Bilaal Hussein.

The motion failed to obtain a seconder.

President Li mentioned that there was no need to motion for this.

Chairperson DeFazio commented that the General Meeting is the highest governing body in MathSoc, and motioning anything at the meeting had drastic effects on the Society.

Bilaal Hussein apologizes, and said that he would like to “casually comment” that MathSoc should use their Twitter account.

Be it resolved that Alex Lee is appointed as speaker and Garrett Hildebrandt is appointed as secretary.

Motioned by Garrett Hildebrandt

Seconded by Patrick Melanson

Passed with majority, Alex Lee abstained.

VP Operations Report -- Krystle Tang

Vice President Tang noted that she has been handling room bookings for MathSoc controlled spaces, and covered some recurring problems she has been having with these bookings. These problems include late bookings (not giving the requisite notice), trying to book these spaces when they are already booked, and trying to book these spaces during office hours when they cannot close the space for their event. Vice President Tang noted that there has been a wider selection of office candy and a \$1600 candy budget. She also noted that there have been some issues with finding staff for the MathSoc office this term, resulting in a schedule that is not full. Vice President Tang also gave some updates on the MathSoc lockers, noting that the emails were telling people the wrong locker number, and noted that these issues have been appropriately escalated.

Nicholas asked if information regarding available booking times is posted. Vice President Tang replied that it is posted on the website, or available through contacting her via email. Patrick asked how many times people have advertised events before having the booking approved. Vice President Tang noted that it has happened once or twice.

Be it resolved that the VPF report and finances presentation are tabled to end of meeting

Motioned by Chairperson DeFazio

Seconded by President Li

Passes unanimously

Report from the Board of Directors -- Rosie DeFazio

Chairperson DeFazio gives some updates on the Business Manager position, and notes that we should hear back from Human Resources regarding this position next week. She also noted the implementation of Board Procedures regarding Executive Appointments and the Audit, as well as a Coffee and Donut catering refusal procedure coming up at the next Board meeting. Chairperson DeFazio remarked on the need to still create procedure relating to Memorandums of Understanding. She also notes that the honoraria for the Spring 2018 and Fall 2018 executives have been issues, along with honoraria to Keegan and Tristain for their roles in website development and bylaw rewriting, respectively. Chairperson DeFazio notes that funding for the CUMC has been approved, and that this does not form a precedence going forward. She also notes that she will be presenting the preliminary plans for the office redesign in new business. Chairperson DeFazio notes that there is a new Quantify Memorandum of Understanding, but 2 expired Memorandums of Understanding that need to be renegotiated. She also notes that she has started work on a google form regarding the potential of starting a MathSoc tool library. Andrew Yates asked what feedback has been received regarding the office redesign. Chairperson DeFazio remarks that she has not distributed the plans, and only received them in June.

Be it resolved that the assembly recesses for 5 minutes to reconvene at 5:25.

Motioned by President Li

Seconded by Danny Liu

Passes unanimously

A quorum being present, the meeting resumes at 5:33.

Math Endowment Fund Report - Alice Wang

Alice Wang explained the different uses of MEF, as well as what a MEF funding request is and how MEF funding is determined. She also presented the data on how much money MEF has and spent on various projects over the past term, and some changes to the MEF board. Alice Wang also noted that 17 groups submitted project funding proposals, and gave an explanation of how to get involved with MEF. President Li notes that MEF has a backlog, and asked when the earliest funding request yet to be processed is from. Alice Wang notes that that request is from September 2017, and that most of the issues are related to improper documentation or incorrectly filled out forms. She notes that she is thinking of ways to reduce errors in applications, and is looking at implementing examples. President Li asked if we can try to process forms differently, and Alex Lee noted that is controlled by the university finance department and they refuse to change that procedure. Alice Wang thinks the best course of action is giving examples. Patrick Melanson notes that MEF is very helpful, and thanks Alice Wang for her work as MEF director. Alice Wang gives a discussion regarding MEF refunds for

Fall 2019, and Alex Lee notes that MEF will be easier to refund. President Lee provides some context on the Student Choice Initiative. Alice Wang asks people not to refund their fee, noting that it is a nice gesture and tax deductible. Patrick Melanson once again thanks Alice Wang for her work as MEF director.

General Councillor / Representative Reports

John Hunte's report is presented on the screen, and members are given an opportunity to read it. The primary focus of this report is looking into tuition increases for international students and first year students, as well as more professional development opportunities for Actsci students. Bilaal Hussein asks if more professional development means more PD courses. President Li clarifies that John Hunte is referring to things like events to help inform people about a new certification, not more PD courses.

General Orders

Election of At-Large Directors - Rosie DeFazio, Alan Li

Whereas the MathSoc Board of Directors contains six independent, at-large seats filled by MathSoc members,

Whereas two seats on the Board of Directors are up for re-election;

Be it resolved that the Assembly elects _____ and _____ to the Board of Directors for a one-year term, commencing in September 2019.

Motioned by Chairperson DeFazio

Seconded by President Li

Chairperson DeFazio discussed the purpose of the Board of Directors and mentioned that it is a year-long commitment of approximately 10-20 hours per term. Samer Zu'mot inquired as to the length of meetings. Chairperson DeFazio responded that it depends on the frequency of meetings, but they can range from 1.5 or 2 to 6 hours, and it ranges from 5 meetings in a term to 3 meetings in a term, all of which are within the same month. Patrick sought confirmation that the commitment is approximately 10 hours per term, and Chairperson DeFazio clarified that it is 10-20 hours per term.

The nominees are Samer Zu'mot, Rosie Defazio, and Bilaal Hussain, all of whom nominated themselves.

Nominees were given 1 minute to discuss justification for why they should be chosen.

Secretary's note: In Bilaal Hussain's speech, he mentioned that some of the current members of the board might not be very fun. President Li took affront to this, asking if Bilaal knew who the current board members are and remarking that he considers himself "very fun". Vice President Zhao would like it noted that she disagrees with President Li's assessment of how fun he is.

Attendees were asked to raise their hands to choose who they would like to join the Board of Directors. Samer Zu'mot and Rosie DeFazio won the election.

Be it resolved that the blanks in the above motion are filled with Rosie DeFazio and Samer Zu'mot.

Motioned by Harleen Bhandal

Seconded by Vice President Zhao

Taken as friendly

Passes unanimously

Business Manager - Rosie DeFazio, Alan Li

Whereas the title Business Manager is preferred over General Manager.

Be it resolved that the Assembly approves the following bylaw amendments:

Section 6.2 composition

"The General Manager, as defined elsewhere in this document;" -> " The Business Manager, as defined elsewhere in this document;"

Article 8 Officers

" 8. the General Manager." -> "8. the Business Manager."

Section 8.2.1 Composition

"The Executive Board of the Society shall be composed of the Executive Officers with the GeneralManager serving as a resource member." -> "The Executive Board of the Society shall be composed of the Executive Officers with the Business Manager serving as a resource member."

Section 8.8 General Manager

"The General Manager is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Society, and shall:"

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Section 8.8 Business Manager

"The Business Manager is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Society, and shall:"

Motioned by Chairperson DeFazio

Seconded by President Li

Chairperson DeFazio notes that this is a change in the bylaws to reflect the decision to change the General Manager and Coffee and Donut Shop Manager into one position, the Business Manager.

Passes unanimously

Council and Operating Procedures - Garrett Hildebrandt, Alan Li

Whereas recently the Mathematics Society has started using Council Procedures and Operating Procedures in addition to Policies in order to keep the governing documents more organized;

Whereas Council Procedures and Operating Procedures are not mentioned anywhere in the Bylaws;

Be it reflected that in Section 7.6 *Duties & Powers* of the Bylaws:

“Council has full power to determine student priorities regarding the general expenditure of members’ dues, to establish student perspective on all matters in relation to post-secondary education, and to set the Policies of the Society.”

Is amended to read:

“Council has full power to determine student priorities regarding the general expenditure of members’ dues, to establish student perspective on all matters in relation to post-secondary education, and to set the **Council Procedures, Operating Procedures, and Policies of the Society.**”

Note: Highlight for visual-aid of differences only.

Motioned by Garrett Hilderbrant

Seconded by President Li

Passes unanimously

VP Finance Report -- Clarence Hu

- Introduced himself and the position. Presented budget. Currently projecting a net loss.
- Alan: discussion on how mathSoc shouldn't be accumulating profits.
- New finance directors
- Insurance provider, reimbursement discussion
- Backlog of reimbursements
- Working w gurpreet on corporate sponsors, case comps

Presentation of Society Finances - Clarence Hu

Vice President Hu showed the budget spreadsheet for the Spring 2019 term.

President Li encouraged people to run for President, Vice President: Academic, and Council for the Fall 2019 term.

New Business

Any Councillor may raise any item of concern during new business. Generally, long discussions without a specific motion before Council should be avoided, and are technically against the rules of procedure. If a Councillor has any questions about the procedure, form, or content, they should ask the Speaker.

Chairperson DeFazio presents the preliminary plans for the office redesign, explains what the various symbols mean, and discusses the differences and benefits of the new layout. She also notes that we intend to get glass doors for the office. Kevin Zhang asks about the couch and chairs that are currently in the office. Chairperson DeFazio notes that there will be chairs behind the desk, but no lounging space in the office. Andrew Yates asked about where the board game collection will be stored. Chairperson DeFazio clarified that there is nothing set in stone yet, but laid out some options for board game storage. Harleen Bhandal asked if the couch in the office is being moved to the comfy. Chairperson DeFazio states that if we want a couch in the comfy, we can buy a new one. Billal Hussein asks if there is an old couch, and both Alex Lee and Chairperson DeFazio clarify that it is in the MathSoc Office. Bilaal Hussein asks if we should vote on what couch to buy, and Chairperson DeFazio notes that would make a spectacle. Samer Zu'mot notes that he strongly supports and encourages the redesign. Kevin Li asks about the completion date for the redesign, and Chairperson DeFazio notes that it was originally August 2019, but the plant operations representative changed, so it is now expected to be between December 2019 and August 2020. Harleen Bhandal asks if the office would close for the redesign, and Chairperson DeFazio notes that it would happen during exams when the office would be closed anyway. Chairperson DeFazio also noted issues with professors getting priority over the students when it comes to plant operations. Matthew Schwarze asked about an estimated budget for the project, and Chairperson DeFazio noted that it was \$17 thousand so far, but that did not include a quote for glass doors. Chairperson DeFazio notes that ideally it would be less than \$50 thousand, but we have money for this redesign.

Vice President Zhao notes that she is the Undergraduate representative on the Applied Mathematics Chair Selection Committee. She noted that some of the concerns she is looking into are questions such as "are students aware of the role of the chair of AMATH?", "is the AMATH department providing sufficient support to clubs?", and "what can the AMATH department do to help clubs?" Harleen Bhandal asked what the role of the chair of AMATH is. Vice President Zhao noted that she had the description sent to her because she wasn't aware of what it is. Alex Lee reads the description, and then clarifies that the role deals with administrative responsibilities.

President Li noted that he is restarting MathSoc's mental health blog, moving it from being hosted under EngSoc to hosted under MathSoc, and asked if there is any interest in helping him run this blog. He noted that the content would include discussions of things happening on campus and strategies for school, among other things.

Vice President Zhao noted that there are currently co-op 101 workshops for use before searching for one's first job which are a crash course on everything WaterlooWorks related. She notes that these are being revamped into four more specific workshops, and asks for questions. Alex Lee notes that if anyone has any questions later, they can email Vice President Zhao.

Be it resolved that the assembly proceeds with a WUSA chant.

Motioned by Matthew Schwarze
Seconded by Chairperson DeFazio

Alex Lee provides the context of FEDS rebranding to WUSA. Harleen Bhandal asks what the chant is. Matthew Schwarze clarifies that it is either "WUSA" repeated or "MESA YOUUSA we all cheer for WUSA". President Li asked anyone with issues with the rebrand to raise those concerns to MathSoc, and Alex Lee points out that it is too late to change the rebrand. Matthew Schwarze asks for clarification on if the namechange is official, and Alex Lee notes that it is. Matthew Schwarze asks if we can support a specific pronunciation, and Alex Lee clarifies that is in the committee's power.

Be it resolved that the current motion is amended to add "**Be it resolved that** MathSoc endorses the pronunciation "WUSA", as read phonetically"

Motioned by Matthew Schwarze
Seconded by Rajat Malholtra

The amendment is taken as friendly.

President Li notes that the motion on the floor is very temporary, and requests a quorum check. Failing quorum, the meeting ends at 6:40.