



Executive Meeting - December 1, 2022

LSA Office from 12-1pm

Attendees - Alanna DeCorby, Azan Esmail, Emilio Filomeno, Emily Wagner, Grace Lo, Stephen Raitz, Kaitlyn Viteychuk, Inna Dymouriak-Tymashov, Alexander Akiki, Gabriella Gader, George Gagnon, Emily Szeryk, Chris Boodram, Joshua Kim, Damon Atwood

Regrets - N/A

- Emilio calls meeting to order 12:07 pm
- Review [November 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes](#)
- Review December 1, 2022 Meeting Agenda
- General
 - Last meeting of LSA for this term
 - Shoutout to VP sports re: spin class, lots of good reviews from students
 - Discussion: Student safety on campus: new reported negative interaction with non-student at Law Centre
 - Student's physically threatened by person at the law centre during weekend
 - Security called, response took in excess of forty minutes
 - Incident took place this morning where individual was appropriately interacted with by security
 - Advocacy for OneCard access to LC?
 - Issue previously brought up at last LFC meeting
 - Need follow-up on results of that discussion
 - Should be information to students, active issues are probably more appropriately referred to 911
 - Discussion: Student concerns re: illness and exams – what accommodations are there? Could we be in touch w/ Dean and Vice Dean to discuss?
 - University and LFC has specific policy to deal with testing missed due to illness
 - Emilio to send email to Vice Dean to ask if information regarding this policy can be shared with student body
- President
 - Last meeting!
 - Woohoo student lounge is open!
- VP Academic
 - No updates
- VP EDI
 - Via Emilio: Meeting with faculty re: social media incident went well. There will be more moderation of social media comments. More updates at next meeting.
- VP External
 - No updates.
- VP Finance
 - Presentation to SU re: FAMF proposal



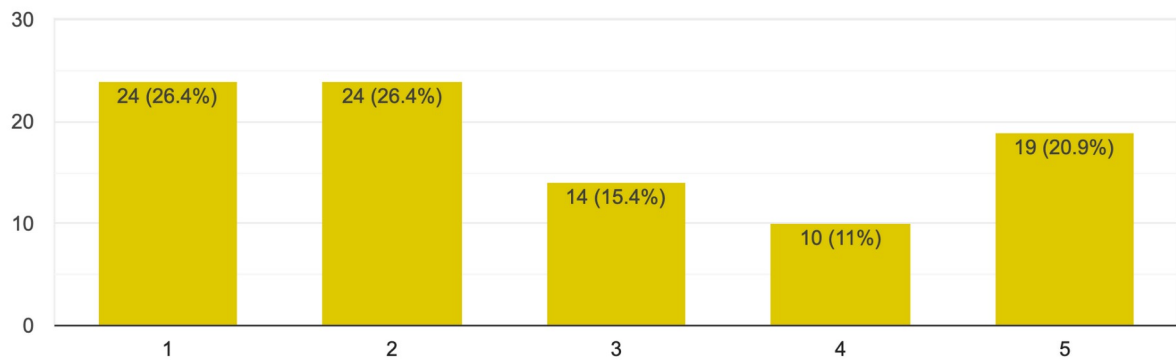
- Decision on approval Dec 13, 2022
- ILSA Rep
 - ILSA Speaker Series March 6 - 10th, 2023
 - The Honourable Justice O'Bonsawin speaking March 10th
- VP General
 - Discussion: Opportunity to raise any student feedback regarding Constitutional amendments
 - Summarized engagement results for Constitution amendments below
 - [Full results here](#)
 - Graphs in Appendix
 - Rough timelines still to be determined, at least 1-2 more meetings next term to discuss potential changes
 - More engagement with students at beginning of next term
- VP Services
 - Discussion: Can we refer firms if firms express interest in working with "us" (unknown whether this means the LSA specifically or UofA Law) to other student groups?
 - LSA's capacity to hold events: we are a large exec but there are still limitations to the quantity of events that we can put together and host (very tangentially tied to things captured by LSA engagement survey)
 - Are there problems with us setting this precedent? (Priority of student groups who get referral? Would firms be less willing/likely to work with us? Prestige/outreach of LSA vs other student groups?)
 - Potential to reach out to firms in May to solicit engagement on the issue
 - Discussion: Delegation of lockers to student group (grad committee?)
 - Tabled for next meeting
 - FOR THE LOVE OF GOD PLEASE SEND US A PICTURE IN A BLACK SHIRT - I WILL CALL YOU OUT (@ Emilio, ALANNNNNNNNNA□□□ Alex, Wagner, George, Chris, Azan, Stephen, Inna, & Josh)
 - Deadline for submission of photos is tomorrow?
- VP Social
 - Winter Week next week
 - Monday is holiday sweater day
 - Tuesday, Steve is sponsoring some free treats in the lounge
 - Welcome Back Food Thing - I need a name and feedback on the date (Jan 5)
 - If someone thinks of name, send it in
 - Carbolic Update
 - Need theme confirmation
 - Mood board
 - Tell me things to buy
- VP Sports
 - Spin event went well



- Students messaged after the event to say they felt so much better after the event
- Planning taking place for winter events
- 1L Reps
 - Motion: To send letter to Vice Dean regarding 1L concerns on course delivery platform.
 - For: 13
 - Against: 1
 - Movember campaign done! \$4830 raised for charity. Woo!
 - Still waiting to hear from Dean about the curriculum coordinator's advice on reading week proposal
- Next Meeting - January 5, 2023 [Tentative]
- Emilio adjourns meeting at 12:55 pm

Question 1/5. The purpose of "Director" position is to give students further opportunities to be involved with the LSA (without needing to run for ...e the Executive would need to delegate more work.

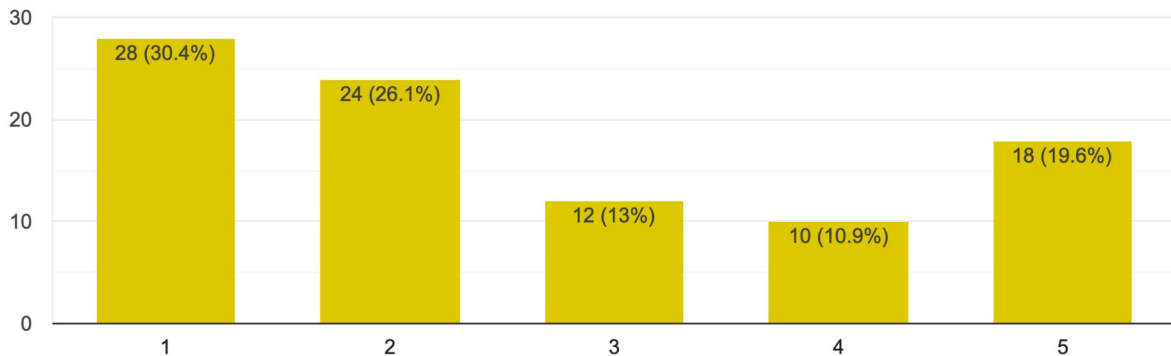
91 responses



Selecting "1" means strongly supportive
Selecting "3" means you are indifferent
Selecting "5" means strongly unsupportive

Question 2/5. The purpose of the JEDI Committee is to give students and student groups further opportunities to help shape the LSA. Are you sure the Executive would need to delegate more work.

92 responses



Selecting "1" means strongly supportive

Selecting "3" means you are indifferent

Selecting "5" means strongly unsupportive

Written feedback

- JEDI Committee should include these groups but also perhaps not be strictly limited to them
- I think it's important to have atleast a couple perspectives on the executive board as permanant positions - so I don't think eliminating the llsa rep from the executive board and delegating them only to JEDI counsel is a great idea - however having a forum for all of our representative associations I think is important
- I LOVE the idea of a VP Community.
- Having been someone who organized events both before and in law school that were trying to achieve this, I truly love it. Also just as someone who is neurodivergent and experiences overstimulation, LSA events can be really overwhelming and some more accessible community initiatives would be great.
- I may be wrong on this, but I think the VP Community should act as co-chair with the EDI Rep as this is more natural to how I understand the VP Community role being a broader community role under/beside which EDI would be an aspect (as opposed to just EDI Rep being Chair). Alternatively VP Community might be a more appropriate chair for the same reason but, again, may be understanding the delineation of the roles improperly.
- Truly I think JEDI and Community VP is the epitome of what is missing from the LSA right now. It is a role I try to unofficially fill simply because I care a lot about community and supporting 1Ls so if a position existed that officially did this that would be EPIC. I



can imagine so many great things that could come out of this. For 1Ls there is a need to reduce the anxiety for incoming students. I think there are SO MANY unknowns that Truly do not need to be unknowns. I would run for this position SO HARD. For community overall, there is a need to build interaction between years. I have so many ideas for what could be done with this role. Even in being more involved with ILSA events this year, they are trying to get more non-Indigenous students involved in their events and this role could help facilitate that.

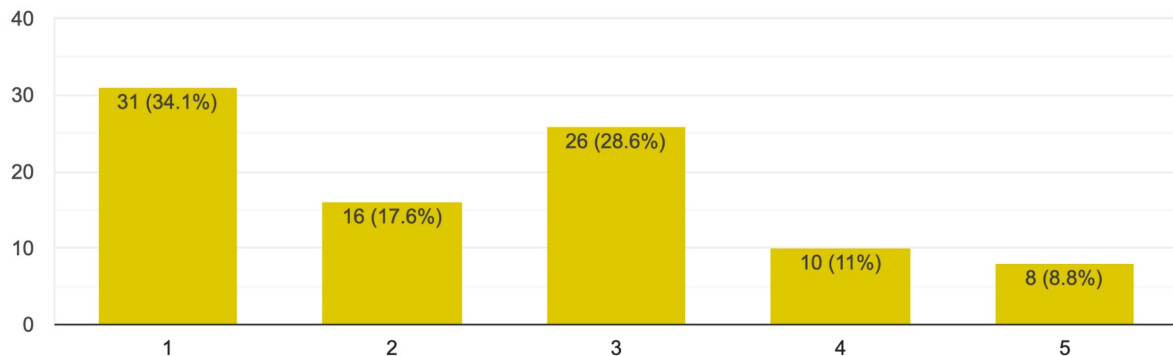
- Anyway, I am tired and rambling. LOVE LOVE LOVE this. I support JEDI so much. YES. LOVE.
- I do not think a JEDI committee is necessary, nor does it appear the EDI position is necessary. Maybe adding the responsibilities of the EDI rep (which appear to be none...?) to the ILSA rep's duties would be a better use of resources.
- A JEDI committee (especially with oversight powers) does not feel democratic as they are not elected or representative of the whole student body.
- I like the idea of this committee but the fact that it would be on the same level as the president and have some sort of veto power (am I reading this correct?) is a little wild
- Why are you shifting the ILSA rep from the executive to the JEDI committee? Are you trying to imply that they belong in a certain category and not with the executive?
- Would the creation of the JEDI Committee once again diverge from the intent of equity-seeking groups having "a voice at the table"? I don't know what powers the JEDI Committee does have in the first place, so even if you make a chart putting them on the same tier as the LSA might just be a performative thing, especially if they only feed into the VP EDI and VP Community (who looks like they have to represent a really large and diverse body).
- I don't have an opinion on moving the ILSA rep to the JEDI, but I do think that the creation of reps for the various student groups is a good idea!
- ILSA should retain voting and speaking rights in Executive functions. I am wary of an ill-defined JEDI committee.
- I support creation of a FACL rep position!
- Based on my limited understanding of the issues, I am not sure that a committee is the solution. Also, would these proposed new reps be involved in the general election or appointed by their various organizations?
- JEDI sounds like a good idea and I like the acronym. If it has oversight responsibilities over the LSA it might be a conflict that the two chairs are on the LSA. Maybe a separate Jedi chair would be better. But I also have never been a part of student government and don't know how it usually works.
- I think that, whichever option goes forward, it ought to be done consistently. If ILSA is on the exec then BLSA, FACL, WLF, OutLaw, and perhaps other identified groups ought to have reps on the exec. If ILSA's exec rep is moved to the JEDI committee, then those other groups should also be represented on the JEDI committee.
- Reps should be part of the executive. And more rep positions should be created, particularly for BLSA and FACL.



- I think being able to have more of a direct impact through the LSA would provide clubs with a wider reach.
- I think this is a good idea.
- ILSA Rep should stay on the LSA because Indigenous and Aboriginal law are both legal practices within Canada and within the common law itself. No other student group represents a constitutionally protected group of peoples that have their own governance structures, laws, cultures, traditions, and languages. No other student group has 94 calls to action that must be implemented.
- Putting the ILSA Co-Chair onto JEDI would allow for a more streamlined approach to initiatives within the ILSA Constitution and framework. I think it makes sense to direct positions on the LSA into tiered sub-committees in order be more efficient with peoples time on the LSA as well. The ILSA Co-Chair's redirection is not a step down, it is a lateral move across to a sub-committee that aligns with collective intention.
- Having the ILSA Rep on a JEDI Committee would ensure that this role aligns closer with its intended purpose to support and empower members of ILSA. Forcing the ILSA rep to be involved with all of the LSA's work is not necessarily what both organizations were seeking to do when they created this position. It was about finding ways to support one another, which I think can be more effectively done by within a JEDI Committee. Positive spin-off is that more groups will have similar opportunities via this role.
- General JEDI idea is good but I am concerned about moving the ILSA rep off the LSA executive - reconciliation needs to be a huge priority and doing this risks not having Indigenous perspectives as part of decision-making.
- ILSA should be added to the JEDI committee, and there could be separate directors for each group. It doesn't make sense to give one (or all) groups positions on the executive.

Question 3/5. If the Executive changes, we may work with student groups to delegate further programming and sponsorship opportunities in the F...rship? Selecting "3" means you are indifferent.

91 responses

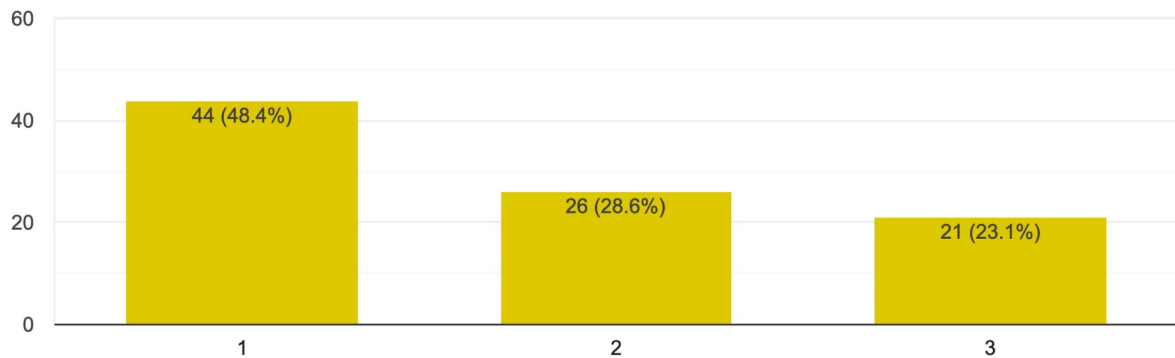




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Question 4/5. Under proposed changes, there is no clear place to delegate Locker responsibility. If the LSA did not facilitate Locker access, it is uncl...? Selecting "2" means you are slightly concerned.

91 responses



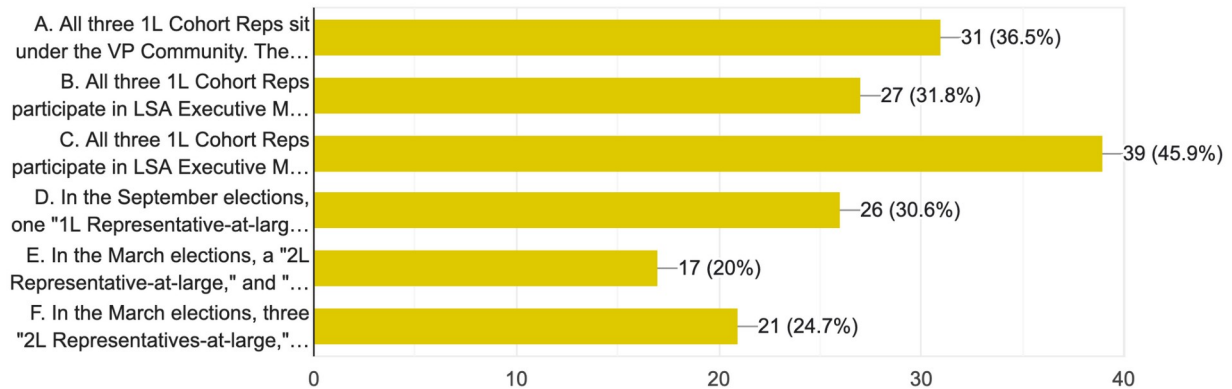
Selecting "1" means you are concerned.

Selecting "2" means you are slightly concerned.

Selecting "3" means you are not concerned.

Question 5/5. If we were to switch to a "Cohort Rep" model, select up to three working arrangements that you most support. Note: In Opt...e direct Executive responsibilities/voting powers.

85 responses



A. All three 1L Cohort Reps sit under the VP Community. The VP Community is specifically tasked with representing 1L interests on the Executive.

B. All three 1L Cohort Reps participate in LSA Executive Meetings as Directors.

C. All three 1L Cohort Reps participate in LSA Executive Meetings as Executive Members.

D. In the September elections, one "1L Representative-at-large" is elected (by the entire student body) alongside three 1L Cohort Reps (who are each elected by one cohort). The one 1L Rep sits on the Executive, while the three elected 1L Cohort Reps sit under and report to the VP Community.

E. In the March elections, a "2L Representative-at-large," and "3L Representative-at-large" are elected. In the September elections, a "1L Representative-at-large," is elected by the entire student body. The Representative-at large positions are members of the Executive. There are also three elected 1L Cohort Reps that are elected by their Cohort and sit under to the VP Community.

F. In the March elections, three "2L Representatives-at-large," and three "3L Representatives-at-large" are elected. In the September elections, three Cohort reps are elected by their cohort. The Representative-at large positions would form a Council/Committee that oversees the Executive.

Written feedback

- You don't need specific positions for each cohort. This is completely ridiculous and a waste of time.
- support switching to cohort rep model, don't think it's necessary for upper years to vote on 1L reps; unless it's clear what the roles/responsibilities of 1L reps are they shouldn't have voting powers



- During 1L elections anyone running for more than one position should be given representative time for speeches - you put yourself at a disadvantage if you run for more than one position as you effectively are given half the time to pitch both. I do think having 3 representatives from each cohort is important, but I would recommend having a 1L at large position oversee them, anyone that is going to exclusively oversee and take into account those perspectives should be a 1L student rather than an upper year that the 1Ls wouldn't even have the opportunity to vote in. The VP community could work alongside that person with other tasks or take part in the committee meetings, but if 1Ls are only overseen and can't actually have any of their voices heard on the executive board this can cause some disparity.
- Okay this isn't on the list and sort of combines some of the roles but here is what I imagine: 1 1L at large (1L) rep with three cohort reps (1L-3). The 1L role could be a director or executive but they represent the 1L students under both the VP Community and with the executive.
- What we saw in our 1L year was that Stephen acted as a single 1L rep (essentially this role) and 2 other students took on the unofficial responsibility of distributing information and reporting information back from their cohorts. Had this been official roles, it would have worked great in my mind.
- Frankly giving 4 positions to the 1Ls on the LSA would result in a disproportionate involvement in the LSA. As 1Ls tend to be a bit overzealous (justifiably, starting law school is exciting) and providing this much of a platform is.. well, risky.
- To prevent this issue, I think the 1L can have the 1L-3s as their directors essentially. The 1L-3s distribute information, report cohort specific concerns to the 1L, and communicate needs/concerns to the 1L. The 1L-3s do not have voting power, they don't attend LSA or JEDI meetings (unless special circumstances require it).
- The predominant responsibility is the 1L who then compiles these concerns to present to the VP Community and LSA. 1L may have a vote with the LSA and if not VP Community is responsible for voting on behalf of the concerns of 1Ls although that might make the VP Community role too large. I think 1L having a vote allows more direct representation without the filter of an upper year who may, with or without valid basis, dismiss the concerns of a 1L.
- So, essentially what I picture is that the 1L-3s provide whatever support the 1L needs and act as the feedback/distribution network. The 1L is the 'real' 1L year rep to the LSA and to VP Community. For me, this addresses the concerns of 1L concerns taking up too much space in LSA meetings while also permitting efficient and effective representation.
- One concern I have with these potential delegations is that having both a 1L and VP Community where the 1L-3s report to both would essentially create a duplication of work between the two roles which isn't ideal. I also think it would be appropriate to have a 2L and 3L rep at the JEDI meetings though this is less needed than 1L as the execs tend to be 2L and 3Ls and JEDI would have 2/3Ls from across all minority groups which I LOVE.



- 2L and 3L reps would be silly imo. If you want to rep 2 or 3Ls you can just run for an executive position
- It seems to me like part of the problem is the election process is too rushed and there's too many cooks in the kitchen at this point to know what positions are needed and what positions are not. Would not to make more sense to have one 1L rep (and one 2L and one 3L rep) and cut down the positions a little, with each position having a "subgroup" of voluntary helpers rather than ever more positions? Additionally, holding 1L rep elections a bit later than the rest seems like it might be a good idea. While yes, this limits 1L governance in the first month or so, we're all working on finding our feet. Heavily cohorting us just invites arguments between cohorts/more division rather than effective governance given the small student body.
- 1L inclusion on the LSA is very important, and most of the decisions made on the LSA will impact them for the longest, whereas 2Ls and 3Ls are leaving school sooner. Taking away their voting rights or taking them out of meeting takes away the 1L voice on the LSA. Strongly against.
- I'm not sure that I understand the current role and what the reps do well enough in order to select an option. I'm not sure that I have ever spoken with a 1L rep.
- I like the idea of three reps one for each cohort! Makes logical sense!
- None of the options allow you to choose the previous way of electing 2 only. There are too many reps.
- No, but I really don't know if there would be any interest at all for people to run for upper year representative positions. What work would they do, if anything, that wouldn't be covered by other Directors or Executive members, who would presumably be upper years as well?
- 1L representation on the executive is essential to ensuring the LSA's evolution aligns with the future intentions of incoming students.
- I am glad to learn of the cohort representation idea. I was in the left-out cohort in 1L, and this might help.
- I selected the three options that I think can represent 1L interests effectively. I think that option D is clearly the best option between those three.
- I like the idea of 3 cohort reps, and I do think they should have voting power.
- Having a Cohort rep better engages all first years. But, adding so many positions to the executive kind of cuts against the intent to create a more streamlined executive. In recent years, we've only had 1L Reps step down or not succeed in the role because the student body just elected someone who was notable/memorable in the first three weeks of school and not necessarily someone who would be effective.
- 1L reps should definitely have a more executive role rather than sitting underneath VP community. It is the only position of power we have as 1Ls and it should not be given away for 1Ls to have another hoop to jump through
- Of all years, I am most concerned about specific 1L representation on the Executive - without that you are creating a structural situation in which no 1L can ever participate in LSA decision-making.



- They should not be on the executive they don't know what's happening.

General feedback on proposed Executive changes

- Need to be cautious about the delegation of events such as Pre-O or First Friday Back. Very impactful and important for first years and establishing a network going into school, and if handled improperly could significantly negatively impact a 1L year's initial experience of law school. I urge caution to delegating events such as these to other student groups with less experience running events at this scale/cost.
- a vote too late in the school year/in the summer might have very low turnout (don't know what a good solution would be though)
- I think this timeline is appropriate as it permits the potential new positions to run at the same time as all other LSA positions.
- My final comment is that i feel relatively neutral about who runs first friday back, but the LSA need some sort of event like a very relaxed panel event during orientation or something of the like so that LSA folks don't feel so exclusive. In 1L my largest issue with the LSA is the upper years Never talked to us. This issue is smaller this year but still prevalent. Anecdotally, it seems a lot of 1Ls come to me with their concerns and I would love to see them comfortable enough to approach an LSA person with their fears/nerves/needs (AKA VP Community, which - and I cannot say this enough - I LOVE).
- Engagement timeline is sufficient.
- It may be prudent to have an odd number of executives in the case of a contentious vote. While this may not be the case this year, changing constitution (even a student group constitution—rip) can be very difficult, so I think anticipating any issues in respect of number of executives and voting is an important consideration.
- I think lockers is a responsibility that makes more sense for VP Community since their role seems to focus on building the Law School community and the lockers are a physical part of that community. Honestly, I also think the VP Sports and Wellness positions could just be made into director positions under the VP Community portfolio.
- I'd recommend talking to ALR and seeing how they organize their committees — treating VPs more as committee heads with dedicated committees than individual powerhouses working on tasks all alone would lessen their responsibilities and encourage more student body participation. Having occasional “open exec” LSA meetings (an exec meeting without decision making lol... more of an update between executives with anyone in the student body welcome to attend). These could be used to update the student body AND get volunteers to take on tasks/director roles.
- I think that the proposed changes to the positions have been laid out clearly, but I am not sure what "timeline for engagement" is referring to. Regarding our LSA more generally, I would be curious to know why ours is larger than other faculties and schools. As well, whether those other associations are functioning better or worse.
- A lot of the options for each question feel like a forced choice at best. There was very little to no consultation from the students prior to springing this Google form. It seems



like all of these options are someone's way of uselessly adding more reps and diluting what currently is the LSA. You've cut but then added more positions to replace those that you have cut. Also, I'm concerned about what seems to be the creation of a board of directors against the one LSA president.

- Director positions could help with the perception of the LSA being a really insular student group. From the outside in, I also don't know what's happening so maybe it could help information spread.
- Not sure if this would change but I liked the grant application process for student groups this year. It should be two execs making the decisions giving weight to the rankings of all other execs. I wouldn't want the final decision to be only the vp finance.
- I like the idea of revising the Constitution, though I think adding in positions may be difficult as its difficult to get people to sign up to volunteer for the positions in various law clubs and committees already. But maybe making these roles less workload heavy by distributing them into more roles will make them more appealing. I do think it gets complicated getting agreement on certain things when you add it so many voices.
- Is the sufficient engagement of NCA (I forget the new acronym) students on LSA?
- That seems like plenty of engagement, if you want to get involved that is plenty of time
- The time appears to be more than enough, but there should be a re-circulation of the constitution stuff in early 2023 before it's put out for a vote.
- The executive has seemingly become its own entity separate and distinct to the student body. It should be the voice for the student body. It would also be nice to have the ITLP included more within the student body. This doesn't have to be an elected position or director, but having a way to ensure the ITLP is integrated as part of the UAlberta Law fam jam.

FURTHER FEEDBACK

Do you have any feedback on any of the changes to executive positions? This could comments on proposed changes to the VP General, VP External, VP Social 2L/3L, VP Services 2L/3L, and VP Sports Male/Female

- does President have any explicit roles? what are the workloads of current VP Events (since it seems like the LSA has a lot of events)? otherwise no issues - getting rid of the second VP sports seems like a good idea
- LOL I just realized that VP COM and VP EDI are co chairs so that is beauty. I would just redraw the chart so that VP community is also connected to that box as opposed to just VP EDI.
- SORRY I PUT THIS ANSWER IN THE PREVIOUS Q. TLDR: put sports/wellness role as director position(s) under VP community. Put lockers under VP community too!
- Having a smaller executive is better however, that must not come at the cost of sacrificing adequate representation of the study body. Creating more 1L positions while removing positions tied to upper years runs the risk of the future LSA being dominated by 1L students.
- I like doing away with the gendered nature of VP sports!



- Interests won't be represented by cutting VP sports to one position only and ignoring the other. Representation matters for both sides. Why does there need to be a specific new director for planning carbolic? It makes no sense to have a position specifically for planning carbolic separate from the other events.
- Re-delegating VP Externals duties makes sense to me, but I do not understand the need for both a VP Comms as well as the director positions beneath it. I am not sure why a VP of comms would be on the executive committee and have voting power, how are they representing the student body in any decision making?
- A VP Community sounds great, and could maybe in charge of Lockers. Or that could be passed off the Grad Committee as a fundraiser.

Do you have any other feedback

- this looks good, thank you for your hard work!
- Love this feedback form and great work team. Truly, I can see you all put a lot of effort into this and I appreciate it.
- Also strongly against delegating certain events such as First Friday Back to other student groups to run. These events are very important to making the 1Ls meet each other and get a sense of the social events before midterms start to take over, and the risk of another student group falling behind the ball or running it to a lesser quality is a big concern. Experience with running these events are very important and the connection between the LSA and the firms/venues is important as well, and these events are too big to risk jeopardizing. Delegating smaller events would be okay, just not Pre-O, First Friday or the Ha-Law-ween
- Does this new proposed structure not isolate more power with the president by getting rid of the vp general position? How does the relationship with JEDI work? These are huge changes and I'm not sure students will support them. It also doesn't really appear to streamline the exec process at all to me looking at the before and after structures. Why do 1Ls need a VP community when they have reps? Is each VP position so much work that they need directors? I'm all for giving students chances to get involved but this seems to be me to the absolute opposite of streamlining and simplifying the structure. If anything it bloats it. I don't think directors will help the LSA with the problem of disconnect with the student body, if anything it will likely just make the "exclusive" group bigger. Connecting with students and hearing their concerns is what helps with the disconnect (which I actually think the LSA does amazing at!) but at the end of the day it's just law school. People will find reasons no matter what to feel "excluded"! Law students love to complain!