

Massachusetts Senior Classical League
Minutes Regarding the Transitional Meeting
Boston University College of Arts and Sciences, Room 222
A.D. IV NON. IUNIAS MMDCCLXXII A.U.C. : June 2nd, 2019

Board Members Present

Jonathan Yuan	2019-2020 MASCL President
Shreya Murphy (via hangouts; left at 2:46)	2019-2020 MASCL Vice President
Jason Zou (arrived at 12:31 ; left at 2:43)	2019-2020 MASCL Treasurer
Clair Fu	2019-2020 MASCL Secretary-Historian
Masha Leyfer	2019-2020 MASCL Parliamentarian
Ting Wei Li	2019-2020 MASCL Editor
Greta Gaffin	2019-2020 MASCL Webmaster
Rachel Wang (arrived at 1:08 ; left at 2:04)	2019-2020 MASCL Member-At-Large
Ashley Chou (arrived at 1:19 ; left at 2:33)	2019-2020 MASCL Member-At-Large
Dalena Nguyen (newly appointed)	2019-2020 MASCL Member-At-Large
Francesca Fontin (via hangouts)	MASCL Advisor and State Chair

Guests

Andrew Machkasov	2018-2019 MASCL Parliamentarian
Anna Aldins (via hangouts; left at 12:22)	2018-2019 MASCL Member-At-Large
Kevin Rutherford (arrived at 1:00)	2010-2011 MASCL Webmaster

Regrets

Carina Layfield	2019-2020 MASCL Member-At-Large
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Important Dates and Deadlines

- Nationals Merchandise Brainstorming- June 12th, 2019
- Nationals Merchandise Design Finalization- June 24th, 2019
- Nationals Merchandise Order Placement- July 1st, 2019
- National Convention- July 26th-31st, 2019
- Boston Elite Certamen Tournament- September 28th, 2019
- SCL Certamen Tournament- Tentatively December 14th, 2019

Minutes (12:13-2:58)

12:13- Meeting Begins.

12:14- Jonathan provides overview of meeting as well as photo logistics. He also offers his congratulations to newly elected officers.

Advisor's Report (part 1) (12:15)

12:15- Jonathan decides to delay this for later since Jason is not present yet.

Transfer of Accounts/Other Pertinent Information (12:17-12:25)

12:17- Francesca wants to clarify what is going on with the SCL email list.

- Ting says that the Webmaster has access to the email list but cannot make security modifications to some MASCL email accounts.
 - The Webmaster, President, and Advisor email accounts are not changeable in terms of login information.
- Jonathan asks if the Webmaster can modify the email list. Ting replies in the affirmative.
- **12:20-** Shreya asks if the email list is via Google Groups. It is not.

12:21- Greta asks who's in charge of the Twitter account since something was retweeted in March.

12:22- Anna wants to make sure the email list is cross-checked with the member list, since she didn't get any emails regarding State Convention.

12:22- Anna leaves the Hangouts Call.

12:23- Jonathan clarifies that the Webmaster should be responsible for updating the email list

12:24- Greta suggests sending out a mass email to the list to make sure everyone is getting emails who should be and that we don't spam people who don't want emails.

12:25- Masha asks if we have a spreadsheet to show if members have paid their dues. Jonathan clarifies that the spreadsheet is in the SCL folder and how to find said spreadsheet within the SCL folder.

Social Media (12:26-12:31)

12:26- Jonathan says that mentioning the Twitter account makes a good segway to social media in general

12:28- Shreya wants to ask Kevin Rutherford to give ALL the login information for the various SCL accounts.

- Greta suggests that Clair should upload photos onto Instagram to serve as a digital scrapbook of sorts.
- **12:30-** Clair believes that there will be a learning curve for her with social media, but is willing to implement the idea.
 - Furthermore, Francesca says making a digital scrapbook with Instagram, for example, might be easier than a traditional scrapbook.

12:30- Greta interjects that she has found her way into the Twitter account.

12:30- Ting says that Canva might be helpful for scrapbooking and promotional creation.

12:31- Jason Zou arrives.

12:31- Ting says that the Secretary-Historian should maintain Canva and Instagram. The matter shall be deliberated upon sometime in the future.

Advisor Report (part 2) (12:32-12:39)

12:32- Francesca says we have about \$2500 in the bank after transferring stuff from Ms. Luong. She also wants to make sure Jason knows the process of using a non-profit account (i.e. lots of paperwork).

- After setup is done, we can get on to transportation reimbursement (for SCLers in good standing).
- Now that we have access to money, we can try to change the account (currently personal) to a nonprofit account.
 - Pro: it's not a hassle transferring to people every year.
 - Cons: we need to hire someone to do the taxes which costs money.
- **12:36-** Francesca also mentions that we don't have enough money to try doing this nonprofit because we'd go bankrupt in twenty seconds.
- **12:36-** Greta asks if the Venmo account name (Venatrix) is the same.
 - Jonathan says that money should go to Francesca's personal account (francescanater) so the money can go the SCL debit card.
 - She also comments that we only get 800 bucks for working at States and some money after.
- **12:38-** Jason asks what to do with his checkbook (in Ms. Luong's name). Francesca wants him to dispose of it while arrangements are made for a replacement.
- **12:39-** Jonathan reiterates that we are not ready for nonprofit status as we have less money than the JCL in general. He suggests testing out merchandise to help fundraise and sustain ourselves.

Travel Reimbursements for 2019 State Convention (12:41-12:43)

12:41- Greta states that she wanted to be reimbursed \$40 from State Convention, but says she's willing to forgo the \$40 reimbursement.

- Francesca insists that Greta should get her travel reimbursed since Francesca now has access to the account.

12:42- Jason asks if anyone else besides himself and Christina needs transportation reimbursement. Shreya and Andrew reply in the affirmative.

12:43- Shreya is very happy that next year's convention is in Sturbridge since she'll only need to drive 30 min.

Social Media (12:44-12:50)

12:44- Ting suggests adding a board introduction on social media so that we look like a 'legit organization' with fun facts (but keep the text 1-2 sentences max).

- **12:45-** Shreya interjects to say that we should put that information on the website rather than the Facebook page
 - Jonathan wants to put it on both. Ting agrees. Also if it were on Facebook, Jonathan says it might just look like a long span of never-ending profiles. Jonathan proposes putting the introduction on Instagram instead
 - Masha suggests captioning each photo via albums on Facebook.

12:47- Greta says we should have a bio page of the board members on the MASCL website.

- **12:47-** Jonathan relays Greta's idea to Francesca.

12:48- Jason asks what's the SCL website. Dalena provides Jason with MASCL website URL.

12:48- Jonathan asks if there's anything else that needs to be discussed. Ting says it'll probably come up again. Deadline for photos is ASAP so we have a functioning bio early. Ting elaborates that BLSJCL did all their officer pics in a consistent location.

- **12:50-** Jonathan says that he'll make sure board members not present today will be able to take their pictures with a consistent background.

Officer Specific Information (12:51-12:58)

12:51- Greta says that she'll send a reminder email for people who still owe dues.

12:52- Shreya asks if she can send her dues via Apple Pay, Jason says to use Venmo. Jonathan offers to take Shreya's dues via Messages (Apple Pay). Problem solved!

12:53- Francesca laments that she could have just made it to the meeting since the graduation she had to attend starts at 1:00 PM.

12:53- Jason says we have \$1300, with \$800 pending. Francesca clarifies where the money is going.

- **12:54-** Francesca says that after the NJCL Convention in July, the funds currently present in the MASCL bank account will be cut in half. Welp. She doesn't know how many SCLers are going to Nationals to issue reimbursements. Clair asks if slashers count under this criteria.
- **12:56-** Masha mentions that Carina has a cheap transportation plan for Nationals. Francesca says we should just keep everything reasonable.
- **12:57-** Andrew suggests using a flat rate of coverage (depending on mode of transport, flight, train, etc)
- **12:58-** Masha asks if the slashers get subsidies. Francesca says it's only for primary and secondary members who performed all duties in the past year. Slashers, therefore, are not eligible for post Nationals reimbursements.

Publications (12:59-1:14)

12:59- Ting brings up the publication, which is currently named *Caligula's Pony Express*.

1:00- Francesca wants *The Onion* style publications, but the SCL constitution specifically names *Caligula's Pony Express*.

1:00- Kevin arrives.

1:01- Jonathan says that we're stuck with our original name until States. Masha suggests a Patreon. The board points out several impediments towards making an MASCL Patreon. She also proposes removing the name of the publication from the constitution for next year. Ting and Jonathan concur.

1:03- Jonathan says we don't even know our consumer base, so it's kinda hard to sell anything.

- **1:03-** Ting says that we can add advertisement space for extra \$ like BU clubs.
- **1:04-** Jonathan says officers should write articles for this publication.
- **1:04-** Masha suggests buying shoutouts.
- **1:05-** Francesca wants to make a meme out of Kearney's intro to his certamen round. The board collectively finds this hilarious.

1:05- Jonathan tries to get us all to hold our horses (pun intended) because we haven't published anything yet. Whoops.

1:06- Francesca suggests promoting Boston Elite in that first issue right after Nationals, and can also add some satirical content.

- **1:07-** Jonathan says that if we wanted to publicize Boston Elite, it has to be earlier.
- **1:07-** Shreya says that we can time publications to come out during breaks.

- **1:08-** Jonathan says the publications should tentatively be before Elite, mid December, Pre-Harvard, and June. (assuming this is quarterly)

1:08- Rachel arrives.

1:09- Francesca says we should try to do 8 pages, leaving room for horoscopes (two pages) and even BuzzFeed-style quizzes. Ting proposes adding ‘fake news,’ but clarifies that it is not THAT ‘fake news,’ but rather, JCL ‘fake news’ akin to *The Onion*’s style of satire. The board laughs.

1:11- Jonathan says we REALLY SHOULD CHANGE THE NAME.

1:11- Rachel says we need a NJCL theme based thing (like yeehaw)

1:12- Andrew says that Caligula doesn’t appear in the name of the publication in the constitution, period. And there’s the ‘at the discretion of the board’ clause so maybe we do have some hope after all!

1:13- Jonathan says we should find a name later and solidifies the general timeline and how we can ‘lowkey work a little bit harder on it’

1:14- Ting asks of Ashley’s whereabouts.

Fundraising (1:15-1:42)

1:15- Francesca goes on a tangent about Amazon raffle tickets on sale as a potential fundraising idea (like at BLS certamen) and at least break even. She also says we should sell our merch at all events, especially at States and Nats.

- **1:16-** Jonathan also agrees the raffle is a good idea.
- **1:17-** Andrew says we can use an online store- someone else mentions Etsy.
- **1:18-** Masha wants to add an alternate certamen sourcebook that’s only found on our website.
 - **1:19-** Ting says we get that for free already. Francesca also says we can’t re-negotiate this.

1:19- Ashley arrives.

1:19- Rachel says we should get SCL kazoos, since they were a HUGE hit last year at nats.

1:20- Ting catches Ashley up on the board meeting so far.

1:21- Jason says if we need merch, we need it ASAP so we can get it in time for nats. Rachel says she has designs handy for stickers.

- **1:22-** Masha says we can get compliments for \$3 and roasts for \$10. Everyone agrees.
- **1:22-** Jason says SCL merch is VERY small with clientele, so products must appeal to a broader audience.
- **1:23-** Ashley mentions at Nationals 2 years back that there were Certamen “World” sticker at World Series which was a huge hit.
- **1:24-** Francesca mentions drawstring bags and stickers. Rachel inquires about various custom sticker sites.

1:25- Francesca says we don’t have funds to do things like T shirts bc we have to deal with sizes.

- Jonathan says we should do custom stickers/ buttons.
- There’s a cacophony of noise and nobody understands anything.

1:26- Francesca says we can have a cute latin quote or something for a button without labeling it as “MASCL” so it can sell to a wider audience.

- **1:27-** Greta said that Kevin mentioned bumper stickers for the adults/something like that.
- **1:28-** Jon says the idea isn’t as universal for our circumstances.

- **1:28-** Rachel says that drawstring bags are super common, so maybe tote bags? We can research that later for our budget.
- **1:29-** Greta asks Jonathan if we can use ‘redbubble’ because it’s free.
- **1:30-** Jonathan says we can make a few designs, poll people for stuff, than see what happens at Nationals with the merch. If it goes well, then we can try selling online.

1:31- Rachel volunteers the Slashers to run the ἀγορά stand.

1:32- Ting brings up the issue of keeping track of monies if we consolidate items with the MAJCL table.

1:33- Ashley volunteers her minion- uh, brother to help with separating money between JCL and SCL.

1:34- Jonathan says we need to 1. figure out table asap, 2. figure out our designs and brainstorming by June 16th, 3. finalize designs by June 30, and 4. order by July 1st.

1:35- Francesca mentions that stickers are cheaper if we buy in bulk, and Jonathan offers to publicize.

1:36- Jonathan revises the deadline so the brainstorming is done by June 12th, designs are finalized by June 24th, gauge interest on the Facebook pages, and order by July 1st in a reasonable quantity.

1:37- Jonathan asks the board to pitch in with ideas- maybe something with bees?

1:38- Ting says we aren’t gonna sell more than 50, but Francesca says we need to buy more so that the marginal cost per item is less. Jonathan says anything will be appreciated.

1:40- Masha mentions a ‘keep calm and something (unintelligible),’ which Rachel writes down.

1:40- Francesca wants to have something with “Old Town Road” and mix it with some Latin quote or something. She also suggests memes that are timeless so we can keep the merch from year to year.

1:42- Francesca says the SCL technically owns the costumes- but Dalena says the JCL reimbursed the cost of costumes.

Board Communication (1:42-1:45)

1:42- Jonathan suggests that everyone should transition to Slack. Ashley asks about the advantages of Slack.

- **1:43-** Ting reiterates why Slack is useful, since we can have a channel for multiple projects and stay organized.
- **1:44-** According to Jonathan and Ting, Slack allows the board to brainstorm and group ideas via channels, which will not get lost, unlike the Facebook Messenger feed.

1:45- Jonathan wants to make sure we all have Slack and check it frequently for better documentation of topics.

Regarding MALs (1:47-2:02)

1:47- Jonathan says that we have to determine what we’re doing regarding Members-At-Large. Currently we have Carina, Ashley, and Rachel as MALs.

- **1:47-** Ting said that we forgot about Dalena at elections at States, even though she expressed interest to run.
- **1:48-** Masha says we can have a by-election right now.
- **1:50-** Francesca calls this a ‘technically’ state of emergency. It’s not an election per se, since this is an appointment.

1:51- Shreya confirms only board members are voting.

1:52- Francesca says we can technically be in a state of emergency for an entire academic year, and we can run an appointment process without any issues.

- **1:52-** Andrew cites the constitution to further confirm the validity of the aforementioned points mentioned by Francesca.
- **1:53-** Greta moves to appoint Dalena to MAL.
- **1:53-** Andrew wants to make a point of order.
- **1:53-** Clair seconds.
- **1:54-** Andrew says that the discussion can be off the record in executive session.

1:55-1:56- EXECUTIVE SESSION AND DISCUSSION OF APPOINTMENT

1:56- The Board appoints Dalena via UNANIMOUS VOTE

- Dalena is officially MAL.

1:56- Jonathan says we can offer a place as MAL to Emma Cohen, as she wanted to run at states but could not amidst the GA chaos.

1:58- Masha says the constitution says there is no block to have elections at a particular time, so technically we can do this now.

1:59- Francesca clarifies that MALs have to contribute, not like take the title and do nothing.

2:00- Rachel offers to have Emma make a speech.

2:01-2:01- EXECUTIVE SESSION AND DISCUSSION OF OFFERING POSITION OF MAL

2:02- Emma is offered MAL position by UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Boston Elite Tournament- Saturday, Sept. 28, 2019 (2:02-2:23)

2:02-2:04- Jonathan reiterates general logistics.

2:03- Ting takes an impromptu photo.

2:04- Rachel leaves. Ting takes her photo.

2:05- Jonathan pulls up spreadsheet for Boston Elite Questions

2:06- Jonathan also shows question breakdown- he also has emails pre-drafted and ready to send.

- Recruit writers by July 1st (already done)
- Send reminders out to question writers by Aug. 1st
- Registration by Sept. 14

2:07- Jonathan mentions we have a separate website for the Boston Elite Certamen Tournament. He asks Ting about that and transferring information to Greta.

- **2:08-** Dalena reminds Jonathan about the raffle previously discussed.
- **2:09-** Shreya says either editor or secretary historian should have a flyer so that it can go out to September mailing for JCL (by August 15th).

2:10- Clair mentions the interesting Latin literature books and life advice from old dead guys that she found at Harvard Square.

2:12- Raffle should be \$1 for 1, \$6 for 5, we should have the grand prize and 2 mini prizes.

- **2:13-** Jonathan says tech works usually, or even something themed. Clair suggests a 'treat yo' self package' or merch.
- **2:15-** Budget would be about \$50.
- **2:16-** Ting mentions Amazon Smile as a method of raising money.

2:17- Jonathan adds that he sent out a form for volunteering on Facebook.

2:18- Ting states that all pertinent information is on the website.

2:19- Shreya says that the Google Home is on sale right now. The board debates whether or not to buy right now or wait for Prime Day and buy the Echo Dot.

2:20- Jonathan says we can wait until we get the debit card to do anything.

- Shreya says Prime Day is still unannounced.
- Jonathan changes his mind- we should try buying it right now. If it doesn't work out, we can always raffle it out at SCL.

2:23- Jonathan says again that the information should go on the website by August 5th. Ting says he'll collaborate with Greta on that matter.

SCL Certamen (2:25-2:43)

2:25- Jonathan asks if the tournament is still in December. Francesca says it should be in December especially because there's a whole string of other tournaments at the same time. Also, there's a gap in the wintertime with Certamen tournaments.

- **2:26-** Ting asks if this should be in-state. Shreya said that it was mostly in state, rather than out of state. Francesca says this was intended to be a non-competitive, in-state tournament.
- **2:27-** Shreya says we should open up to NH and Vermont. Francesca says NH and VT count as part of MA. Most people laugh.

2:29- Board discusses when to have SCL certamen. Shreya said it was before Classics day last year but that did not impact attendance.

- **2:31-** Shreya cautions us against making it too late. Dalena says not to make it Dec. 7th which is a Latin SAT Subject Test date.

2:33- Ashley leaves. Jonathan follows to get her photo.

2:33- Francesca says that the primary purpose is to get attendance by JCLers up, but no SCLers sucks, but it's ok.

- **2:35-** Francesca asks for clarification why Dec 7 and 14th not work. The 14th is finals week for many of SCLers, but that will not guarantee that people won't be there. She also cautions against having the tournament right after holiday break.

2:38- Jonathan makes the call to have the date be tentatively Dec. 14, and says we should get flyers done for that.

- Francesca says we can just have the date as people won't be that concerned about logistics this early in the year.
- Ting offers to book the rooms right now, and Shreya gives pointers in getting that set up.
- Jonathan asks who'd be willing to write for SCL- several board members raise their hands.
 - Francesca and Shreya say to give people a 'hard' fake deadline, so we have wiggle room, if needed.

2:43- Jason leaves. Ting follows to take his photo.

State Convention Test Writing (2:44-2:58)

2:44- Francesca says we need test writers as soon as humanly possible- there's 11 tests and there's a key.

2:45- Jonathan asks who's willing to write what tests.

2:46- Shreya leaves.

2:47-2:49- The board tries to figure out who's writing what test.

- Deadline is set for March 1st for tests.

2:49- Jonathan wants to discuss the MAL process at states, but the meeting is already running late.

2:50- Ting suggests a 'cheat sheet' for the board positions to be given BEFORE the election meeting so we don't have to rush before GA.

2:50- Parliamentarian duties could be done at the mixer and the Parliamentarian will have time to talk to potential candidates.

2:52- Jonathan asks if we should do a MAL application to prevent people from just dropping out, like maybe have elections later in the school year.

2:53- Francesca doubts that MAL election timing will do anything with the dropout situation in her many years of SCL experience and wisdom. MALs were also intended to be an honorary position for seniors graduating college, but that's switched to a younger person, like a slasher. She also says we can try to market the position as a more intensive position to help curb the dropout rates.

2:56- Andrew also says it doesn't make sense to elect people after winter break because States is early this year.

2:56- Francesca says we should also have impeachment proceedings for people who do next to nothing.

2:57- Dalena has a minor question and asks Francesca if Pre-Convention Contests will still be handled by Ms. Luong.

2:58- Meeting Adjourned.