



**Canadian University Society for Intercollegiate Debate 2023-2024**

**Meeting 1: Executive Transition**

**Via Zoom: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/91082689291>**

**Friday, March 31, 2023**

**6:00 PM**

1. Call to Order
2. Overview of the Current State of the Organization
3. Past Executives' Advice and Ideas
  - a. President
  - b. VP West
  - c. VP East
  - d. Treasurer
  - e. Executive Director
4. Discussion of Immediate Priorities
  - a. Hiring Non-Voting Directors
  - b. Exploring Non-Profit Path
  - c. Bids for Nationals and NAUDC
  - d. Hiring Ombudsteam
  - e. Executive Club Transitions
5. Discussion of Mid-Level Priorities
  - a. Acquiring New Trophies
  - b. Alumni Network/More Effective Communications
  - c. CUSID High Schools Tournament
6. Discussion on Non-Profit Rule and CUSID Fundraising
7. Discussion on Future Expectations
  - a. On-boarding to Google Drive
  - b. Meeting Schedules
8. Adjournment

**Attendance:**

- Anais
- Daniel
- Adam
- Daiyam
- Fiona
- Emma
- Livi
- Sherry
- Jonathon
- Ken

**Meeting Notes:**

1. Call to Order
2. Overview of the Current State of the Organization
  - a. Currently have about \$1700.00
  - b. Growing recognition
3. Past Executives' Advice and Ideas
  - a. President (Adam)
    - i. Main role is oversight
    - ii. Committee creation
    - iii. Improve social environment of CUSID
    - iv. Make CUSID seem important (don't do meetings in the GA)
  - b. VP West (Ken)
    - i. Hard to integrate the region (ie. UBC does not do CP)
    - ii. Clubs are generally quite young, don't have a lot of stability/institutional knowledge
  - c. VP East (Jonathon)
    - i. East circuit shrunk during covid and several clubs died
    - ii. Need to support clubs who want to restart/rebuild
  - d. Treasurer (Livi)
    - i. CUSID HST was great - made lots of money - good idea to share mailing lists
    - ii. Every club that reached out got help
    - iii. Having a sponsorship committee would be good

- iv. Diversity good - we could create forums - Livi is happy to help lead them  
- could involve ombuds
- e. Executive Director (Daniel)
  - i. Clubs guide/tournament guide were successful
  - ii. Programming was good, we should do more and advertise it more
  - iii. Census taking, etc.
  - iv. Try to get a member from every club into the fb group
  - v. Can delegate stuff to Directors
- 4. Discussion of Immediate Priorities
  - a. Hiring Non-Voting Directors
    - i. Tournament director, events director, communications director, sponsorship director
  - b. Exploring Non-Profit Path
    - i. Discussion of benefits of incorporation/non-profit status
    - ii. Pros: legitimacy, easy to get donations, potential tax receipts
    - iii. Cons: higher accountability requirements, responsibility for directors, having to pay taxes, potentially having to have a minimum bank balance
  - c. Bids for Nationals and NAUDC
    - i. Ethan is going to individually bid to host NAUDC
    - ii. We need to get people to do it
    - iii. NAUDC is Canada's job this year, NorAms is APDA's
    - iv. QDU may be interested in hosting NAUDC
    - v. As long as judges aren't from the same institution, people from that school can debate
    - vi. Potential to have inter-club org coms
    - vii. BP and CP nats need hosts - potential to host one of them in the West?
  - d. Hiring Ombudsteam
    - i. Needs to get done in the next few weeks - one of the EDs can be in charge
    - ii. The exec has to do a better job keeping ombuds accountable
  - e. Executive Club Transitions
    - i. It is currently election season - we need to keep in touch with new exec teams and presidents
    - ii. CUSID elections happened before exec elections - this lets us catch new presidents as they come in
    - iii. Regional VPs will get a list of current clubs and need to reach out to figure out who the new presidents are
- 5. Discussion of Mid-Level Priorities
  - a. Acquiring New Trophies (Emma)
    - i. There is no BP champs trophy - we should buy one

- ii. There is a CP nats trophy that we are trying to track down - Ethan knows where it is (pretty sure it's at Isaac Botham's parents' house)
  - iii. The Norams trophy is with HH and needs to get to Harvard
- b. Alumni Network/More Effective Communications
  - i. We should try to name more things after people - perhaps the BP champs trophy
  - ii. National awards would be good - not cringey awards - things like best judge, CA, organizer
  - iii. Do we want a best debater award? Perhaps not - people start calculating stats etc.
  - iv. We probably also don't want a best equity award, but we could have some recognition for volume of equity contributions
  - v. Potential to get alumni to pay to sponsor an award
  - vi. Alumni network
    - 1. There are existing platforms online that let you pay to run an alumni network
    - 2. Cusidnet?
    - 3. Potential alumni event
- c. CUSID High Schools Tournament
  - i. We need to get started on this and hire a TD
  - ii. All clubs should try to send judges - especially clubs that want to use the funds
- 6. Discussion on Non-Profit Rule and CUSID Fundraising
  - a. Distinction between CUSID tournaments and regular tournaments - non-title tournaments can make a profit, title tournaments cannot
  - b. Minimum standard to be a tournament - ie. speaker awards, two plaques for breaking teams, a trophy, minimum food, etc. - perhaps also waivers
  - c. This is likely an issue for the upcoming exec
- 7. Discussion on Future Expectations
  - a. On-boarding to Google Drive
    - i. We should try to get this done over the summer
  - b. Meeting Schedules
    - i. monthly
- 8. Tournament Schedule
  - a. We could open a form right away so that people can fill it out whenever they elect TDs/set dates
- 9. Adjournment