

# THE CORD WEEKLY

The tie that binds since 1926

SPECIAL ISSUE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2008

www.cordweekly.com

## WLUSU restructuring

# Management rearranged



SYDNEY HELLAND

**COLIN THE SHOTS** - WLUSU President Colin Le Fevre announced changes to the Students' Union's management that will take effect next year during yesterday's board meeting.

Students Union reorganizes management; reduced number of vice presidents to be supplemented by new assistant vice president positions

**REBECCA VASLUIANU**  
NEWS EDITOR

At yesterday's Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union (WLUSU) Board of Directors (BOD) meeting, President Colin Le Fevre announced the effects of a restructuring project completed within the organization; a great bulk of the changes made called for an overhaul of current management roles.

The main reasons outlined for the restructure were the "unreasonable expectations" of employees, the "confusing structure" of WLUSU positions and the extreme independence of departments in management.

"We had a structure that kept growing and growing with no clear reason," said Le Fevre. "So we've decided to restructure."

WLUSU's management team has been comprised of six Vice Presidents (VPs) on the Waterloo campus in the areas of University Affairs, Finance and Administration, Human Resources, Marketing, Student Activities and Student Services.

The number will be dropped to five when the hiring of the union's next management team occurs, with the positions of VP: Human Affairs and Finance being combined under one general role called VP: Administration. However, each of the other four VP roles has been independently reformed.

One of the main changes has been the addition of paid part-time Assistant Vice President (AVP) positions under three of the VP departments.

First, the VP: Clubs and Activities will be supplemented with two AVP roles. AVP: First Year Experience has also been added to remove the unpaid position of O-Week coordinator and elim-

inate some of the responsibility of the VP to deal with first year experience.

Current VP: Student Activities Laura Sheridan explained, "first-year programming will receive an even greater emphasis next year."

The position of AVP: Campus Clubs and Faculty Associations has also been added to supplement VP: Clubs and Activities, which will replace the role of campus clubs coordinator and will act as a resource to faculty associations.

An AVP position will be added under the position of VP: Administration. While the VP will deal with financial controls and the general overseeing of different financial committees, the AVP: Finance will perform more organizational tasks such as compiling financial snapshots and preparing monitoring reports for the BOD.

While the other three VP positions will not be supplemented with an AVP, they will also see considerable change.

The role of VP: Marketing currently fulfilled by Jackie Donald will be shifted into a VP: Public Affairs title, supplemented by an AVP: Advertising and Promotions.

The VP's job will be changed to include more general visioning in terms of marketing, as the position will require the individual to work directly with the president on crafting WLUSU's public image, distributing press releases and being the union's main media contact.

The AVP: Advertising and Promotions will oversee all advertising in a structure which Donald notes is "more like an actual marketing firm," where committees can go to specific team leads to create their own marketing teams.

During the presentation, management members explained that the VP: University Affairs will change to focus more on "gov-

ernment relations and academic issues". The current VP position filled by Trevor Mayoh oversees many inside and outside groups.

However, the position will be shifted to remove all committees and replace them with coordinators in the following areas: OUSA, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, "town and gown" relations between the university population and the community, as well as academic issues.

"With the new University Affairs position you don't have to choose external or internal. You don't have to spread yourself too thin," said Mayoh.

VP: Services will be similar to the current VP: Student Services but will oversee diversity policy and training and be a link to the Diversity Office, as well as overseeing various WLUSU committees such as EcoHawks.

All VP positions will also be changed from part-time to full-time, requiring 35 hours of work. Each management job will also have a WLJ administrative equivalent who will act as an "indirect mentor" for each VP.

Le Fevre admits that the changes will result in a significant cost increase in the area of salaries, which he believes is "incidental" in relation to the organizational value of the restructuring.

WLUSU's Restructuring Steering Committee - which worked to draft these changes - was comprised of Le Fevre, WLUSU General Manager Mike McMahon, VP: Student Activities Sheridan, VP: Human Resources Dan Preston, BOD Chair Asif Bacchus, Marketing and Communications Manager Phil Champagne and Student Affairs Coordinator Ross Fraser.

"We put together a relatively diverse, over-the-years type of group," said Le Fevre.

## Radio Laurier cut by WLUSU

Pit Krüe and Equality Awareness also to be shifted

**REBECCA VASLUIANU**  
NEWS EDITOR

As part of the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union (WLUSU) restructuring announced at yesterday's Board of Directors (BOD) meeting, Radio Laurier will no longer be funded or supported by WLUSU as of April 30.

Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications (WLUSP) has begun talks with WLUSU to bring the group under Student Publications.

WLUSU President Le Fevre explains that the change has been a possibility for a long time and has now been formalized due to the group's conflicts with WLUSU's mandate.

"Right now I have a very hard time justifying the expense of Radio Laurier into our ends. ... There's an at-what-cost portion and since it's a substantially higher cost than any other committee per person it's not really reasonable for us," said Le Fevre, also noting that Radio Laurier has a media orientation that he believes fits much better under the structure of WLUSP.

Le Fevre admitted that under WLUSU, Radio Laurier does not get great support beyond the area of financing, whereas he believes Student Publications will help nurture the committee and allow it the use of advertising, something that it was not allowed to do under the Students' Union.

While Radio Laurier Coordinator Care Lucas believes the transition to WLUSP is ultimately positive, she is displeased with the lack of planning for transition and certainty that the committee will continue.

"To suddenly hear from WLUSU that they want us to move to WLUSP but they don't really have a plan is very upsetting because I feel like we could've been working towards this all year," stated Lucas.

"We've really been left in the dark to come up with the strategic planning portion on our own ... It could've been something we could all be doing together," she added.

Le Fevre explained that WLUSU will work with WLUSP and Dean of Students David McMurray to ensure that the group will either be allowed to keep their current space or be provided another; however Student Publications President Greg Sacks stated that "the deal is going to fall through" if no space is found.

Along with her fellow Radio Laurier volunteers, Lucas stresses that space is the biggest issue in determining whether the group will be able to continue.

At yesterday's board meeting Lucas asked the BOD to help create a contingency plan so that Radio Laurier would be assured existence whether or not resources can be provided through the shift.

Board members will consider a motion of this kind at their first meeting back in January.

Also being removed from WLUSU's structure are Pit Krüe and Equality Awareness.

Pit Krüe, a committee which helps assure the existence of programming for first-years, will be encompassed within the new role of assistant VP: first year services.

Equality Awareness, a group intended to oversee diversity within WLUSU, has been shifted to the VP Services portfolio.

**THE CORD WEEKLY**

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Next Issue: January 7

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

"I don't want to do Big Brother."

The consensus among Cord editors, as of Tuesday night.

**WORD OF THE WEEK**

**Doublethink** - A simultaneous belief in two contradictory ideas.

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**COLOPHON**

The Cord Weekly is the official student newspaper of the Wilfrid Laurier University community.

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**Preamble to The Cord Constitution**

*The Cord* will keep faith with its readers by presenting news and expressions of opinions comprehensively, accurately and fairly.

*The Cord* believes in a balanced and impartial presentation of all relevant facts in a news report, and of all substantial opinions in a matter of controversy.

The staff of *The Cord* shall uphold all commonly held ethical conventions of journalism. When an error of omission or of commission has occurred, that error shall be acknowledged promptly.

When statements are made that are critical of an individual, or an organization, we shall give those affected the opportunity to reply at the earliest time possible.

Ethical journalism requires impartiality, and consequently conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest will be avoided by all staff.

The only limits of any newspaper are those of the world around it, and so *The Cord* will attempt to cover its world with a special focus on Wilfrid Laurier University, and the community of Kitchener Waterloo, and with a special ear to the concerns of the students of Wilfrid Laurier University. Ultimately, *The Cord* will be bound by neither philosophy, nor geography in its mandate.

*The Cord* has an obligation to foster freedom of the press and freedom of speech. This obligation is best fulfilled when debate and dissent are encouraged, both in the internal workings of the paper, and through *The Cord's* contact with the student body.

*The Cord* will always attempt to do what is right, with fear of neither repercussions, nor retaliation. The purpose of the student press is to act as an agent of social awareness, and so shall conduct the affairs of our newspaper.

# Laurier practices lockdown

SHAGUN RANDHAWA  
 STAFF WRITER

Waterloo Regional police and Wilfrid Laurier University (WLU) Special Constables descended upon Laurier last Wednesday, November 26, as WLU staged its first-ever emergency lockdown exercise.

Willison Hall Residence housed the simulation where an armed intruder, performed by a Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) officer, was "fired" from his job as a residence don.

In the scenario, he returned to Laurier looking for revenge and seeking his ex-girlfriend. At 8:30 a.m., the don arrived on campus carrying a shotgun and taking his ex (performed by another police officer) hostage inside Willison Hall. Laurier Special Constable Service (SCS) notified WRPS, who allocated a tactical team to attend to the situation.

In an effort to get students and faculty to understand risk management procedures and to rehearse Laurier's emergency response plan, this lockdown has been in the planning stage since September.

"Students have had three to four years of lockdown training in high school, and when they come here they are already aware of lockdown procedures," said Rod Curran, director of SCS.

"This lockdown procedure is more to assist faculty and staff and give them the opportunity to train and review critical incident scenarios."

The university itself, Laurier SCS, Laurier's Emergency Response Team, WRPS, the City of Waterloo and the Region of Waterloo's Emergency Medical Services were all involved with planning this exercise. Inspector Bryan Larkin of the WRPS commented "Wilfrid Laurier is the second university in Ontario to instigate this



RYAN STEWART

**MEN IN BLACK** - Regional police played an active role in Laurier's critical incident simulation last week.

lockdown procedure and that itself is incredible."

A lockdown is implemented whenever it is unsafe to immediately evacuate a room or building. Practicing a lockdown simulation has allowed the university to employ its Emergency Response Plan. Throughout the exercise, university officials tested out various internal emergency procedures, including communication and decision making protocols.

This lockdown also gave Regional Police a chance to get familiar with the Laurier campus. Larkin remarked, "these types of lockdown procedures allow us to train

ourselves on university campus, with the residences and buildings. It is the best training exercise, because the situation is real."

The reason for this critical incident is simple: to prepare for when a situation involving an armed intruder could occur. This movement towards risk aversion is in part a response to recent episodes where armed intruders have caused havoc at an educational facility, such as at Dawson College in Quebec or Virginia Tech.

"I think an emergency plan is required, just in case anything does happen," said second-year student Namirah Anis. "I do feel a lot safer

knowing that an emergency plan exists at my university."

Despite the advantages to having an emergency plan, some responded critically to the lockdown, saying it propagates fear amongst students rather than a feeling of safety. In response, Larkin said: "This is reality. Seeing it happen at Dawson and in the states, we know that armed intrusion can happen."

"Although we live in a very safe neighbourhood, we have to be prepared. We look at it as being proactive. It's not about fear motivating, because what these procedures are doing is promoting a healthier, safer environment," said Larkin.

**CORD/ONLINE**  
 > [CordWeekly.com](http://CordWeekly.com)

**Elections update**

The WLU SP BOD has voted to wait on adopting a ranked balloting system.

**Spruce St. robbery**

Morgan Alan reports on a November 20 robbery on Spruce Street that resulted in seven males being charged. Charges include assault, assault with a weapon and breaking and entering.

**Hawking to visit Perimeter**

Cosmologist Stephen Hawking will spend six weeks at Waterloo's Perimeter Institute this summer as a research chair, retiring from his position in Cambridge, UK.

**Ramadan at WLU**

Renowned scholar Tariq Ramadan spoke last week on human rights and Islam.

**Mumbai attacked**

At least 195 dead and 295 injured in terrorist attacks in three-day India massacre.

**VOCAL CORD**

"How do you feel about WLU SP dropping Radio Laurier?"

Compiled by Alex Hayter  
 Photographs by Ryan Stewart



"It seems like an integral part of WLU SP."

- Eli Hoffman  
 Fifth-year political science



"Radio Laurier is the reason why I like the concourse."

- Vicki Lyubchenko  
 Second-year business



"I wouldn't say that Radio Laurier currently offers a service to students."

- Justin Rawn  
 First-year kinesiology



"Personally, I don't really listen to it."

- Rohit Sharma  
 Third-year business

# Letters to the Editor

## Re: Laurier Lockdown

I am writing in response to the letter to the editor that was published in last week's issue, titled "Incident simulation perpetuates fear".

While I can respect that everyone is entitled to their own opinion, what I cannot understand is why, university students such as Alex Hundert and Mark Ceisluk chose to write a letter as blatantly intolerant and reactionary as this.

I think that Mr. Hundert and Mr. Ceisluk need to both take a step back and reevaluate their own narrow-minded and intolerant views of the university and the people who work here. I highly doubt that the first goal of the organizers of the emergency lockdown drill was to make students "afraid and complacent". Rather, I suspect, the goal of the lockdown exercise was to provide emergency personnel both on campus and off with plan of action in the event that an armed intruder does come on campus. Dawson College and Virginia Tech taught us that these things can and do happen and that having people who are well trained in dealing with situations like this could mean the difference between life and death. Furthermore, they suggest that arming the special constables with pepper spray, is putting the safety of the security over the safety of the students. Do you really think that the university would risk its repu-

tation by neglecting the needs of its students? The men and women who work at Special Constable Service are dedicated to making sure that anyone who steps foot on campus has a feeling of safety and access to assistance if they require it; the university, similarly is responsible for making sure that special constables receive the highest quality training to deal with all kinds of situations before they result in use of force. I am betting that if you two were ever in need of assistance while on campus that the first people you would call would be them, and I am certain that you would be thankful that they have the knowledge and skills to provide you with the help you need.

- Laura Henderson

## The Other Side

I was saddened to read last week's article about Laura Ashfield's experiences in Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza. Mostly because I feel she did not at all show the opposing side of her bleak picture of life in this country. As someone who has been to Israel many times, this is not a one sided story by any means, and the article completely painted it so. There is no questioning as to why all of the checkpoints, and the security fence (it is only a wall in some areas) was

built. The Israeli government does not enforce such strict rules, and put its young people in the army in danger in these areas for fun. The West Bank has been separated by the security fence because of the overwhelming amount of suicide bombings that happened in Israel in the earlier part of the decade. Once there was a physical barrier, the attacks decreased. Laura likened the atmosphere there to one here, so how about imagine wanting to get on the GRT to go see a movie and being killed by a guy who got on the bus with an explosive belt strapped under his shirt. Laura's examples from Gaza, looking at bombed out buildings, made me ask what about the Kasam rockets that are shot every single day, into the town of Sderot, with no aiming system whatsoever, landing in peoples homes. This town is paralyzed with fear, and is the first town in the world to ever build a missile safe playground, just so the children can have some sense of normalcy. While I do agree that the everyday residents in the West Bank and Gaza, those who just want to make a living and support their families are suffering, however their community members are as much to blame about their situation as Israel is. The bigger picture is that Israel is a sovereign nation that needs to protect its own citizens from outside attacks. It is a two way street and looking at

it from one perspective only is not helping anyone.

- Maya Strasser

## Laurier's excellence

Firstly, I must commend Mr. Hayter on his analysis of our academic environment; why it is lacking, and what can be done to improve it. Specifically what we, as students can do.

He explains to us the need to get involved in our studies and help foster the environment of academia we seek at an institution of higher education. I couldn't agree more.

In his closing paragraph, however, Mr. Hayter sends a completely contradictory message.

Don't come to Laurier to challenge yourself in the pursuit of knowledge.

It is clear from the rest of the article that Laurier needs these individuals who are willing to challenge themselves and others in order to create this elusive higher learning experience.

Instead of discouraging bright young minds from joining us and becoming Golden Hawks, we need to draw them here now more than ever before.

And so, I issue a challenge to the students of WLU to get to work and show Mr. Hayter and any other

may sayers, that Laurier is indeed a school of academic excellence.

- Tyler Potter

## Letters Policy:

All letters to the editor must be signed and submitted with the author's name, student identification number, and telephone number. Letters must be received by 12:00 pm (noon) Monday via email to [letters@cordweekly.com](mailto:letters@cordweekly.com) or through our website at [www.cordweekly.com](http://www.cordweekly.com). Letters must not exceed 350 words.

The Cord reserves the right to edit any letter for brevity and clarity. The Cord reserves the right to reject any letter, in whole or in part. The Cord reserves the right to not publish material that is deemed to be libelous or in contravention with the Cord's Code of Ethics or journalistic standards.

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## Your Guide to Summer Student Parking

Starting **May 1, 2009**, students will now **REQUIRE** a parking permit during the **summer** to park on campus in any **WHITE** permit lot.

Applications will be **available starting February 2, 2009** and the **deadline** for application is **March 20, 2009**. Permits will be awarded on a lottery basis and there are only a limited number available so do not miss the deadline.

If successful, the deadline to pick up your permit at the Business Office is **April 10, 2009**.

For more information please see the Parking Services website.

Permits are available for the Intersession and Summer term (**2 months**) for **\$52.58** as well as for the Spring term (**4 months**) for **\$105.16**.

White permits are valid in ALL WHITE permit parking areas 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday– Friday.

**Visitors** may use the **Pay & Display** lots (4 and 20) for \$2/hr (under review), or any of the **meter** parking in lots 2, 3A, 10, 14, and 24 at \$2/hr (under review). Change and more information is available at the Parking & Information Kiosk.

Be advised there will be **NO** parking available on campus on June 3, 4, and 5 due to Spring convocation

### Parking and Transportation Resources Contact Information

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Hours of Operation for Office: Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

<http://www.wlu.ca/parking>



# Nozuka the natural

Solo star Justin Nozuka slipped into Wilf's last week for a night of emotion-filled acoustic soul

**ALEX HAYTER**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Justin Nozuka brought a decidedly bipolar blend of his radio-friendly rock to Wilf's last Thursday night, as the ladies of Laurier lined up in droves to see the man who is fast becoming this campus's favourite crooner.

Transitioning between softly sung acoustic lullabies and harder-rocking electric noise, Nozuka provided a surprising performance, emerging from his once-teenage shell into an altogether more mature package.

Now 20, Nozuka has been aggressively touring to promote fresh material and get his name past the messageboards of Myspace and the hysteric popularity of his earlier tunes.

This aggression certainly paid off, judging by the pre-show Wilf's line that began to descend the stairs to the Fred Nichols Campus Centre.

"It's tough to build an audience," said Nozuka, in a chat prior to the gig. "But Canada is a good place to start a foundation."

Having released his 2007 album *Holly* now in the UK, America and Japan, Nozuka feels confident that his audience has expanded. With this growth comes a collection of new songs – a catalogue that Nozuka has been working on for the duration of his short life.

"The next album is one of the most exciting things I've ever done," said Nozuka. "Trying to create twelve songs that are awesome, and have a concept, is fun."

While his music is changing, Nozuka feels that this is just a natural progression. "It's still me. I think it's more mature, more worked in, more comfortable."

The young artist is certainly comfortable performing in small venues such as Wilf's – but his future tours look to take Nozuka out of his comfort zone. Playing on a boat cruise with John Mayer next year, he also expects to have a show at Massey Hall in the near future.

"Not so much," said Nozuka, when asked if he likes being compared to Mayer. For Nozuka's real realm of musical influence, hit up the respected artistry of Jeff Buckley, Radiohead, Bjork, and Lauryn Hill. "I'm influenced by a lot of different things, different styles of music," said Nozuka.

His new material demonstrated this versatility of style on Thursday, including many tracks that will hold a place on his as-yet-unnamed upcoming album.

Starting off the set with the pounding drums and clanging guitars of "Grey", Nozuka brought a burst of energy to the stage that lasted well into the evening.

Next, "Falling Face First" proved itself a clear audience favourite and



RYAN STEWART

**NOZUKA JOE** - Nozuka's vocals were complimented by well-developed guitar skills and a solid backing band.

a solid choice for the crowd-warming second song.

"My Heart is Yours" came up midway through the set, but began to lose the audience's attention, who became more concerned with their Casio Exilims than the on-stage action.

Among these new tracks, crowd-pleasing old favourites like "After Tonight", "Mr. Therapy" and "Save Him" were bundled closely together, rewarding patient ears while demanding respect for the generally superior new music that Nozuka brought to the stage.

After capo-ing the fourth fret of his Taylor acoustic, Nozuka fell back to another familiar song, "Golden Train", barely restraining

himself from a theatrical singing performance that drew all eyes.

His backing band weren't to be ignored either; they made "the songs come alive," as Nozuka put it, for the duration of the show.

Though an encore wasn't in the cards by night's end, Nozuka threw out some other song titles to The Cord to look out for in 2009. "Put Your Weapon Down" and "Bitter" were just a couple of the new tunes that Nozuka excitedly listed off as his new projects.

Nozuka took to the stage to screams and sighs and left with an equally satisfied grin on his face.

"I'm pretty happy doing what I'm doing," said Nozuka with a shrug, before the gig. "I've figured out

what I want to do." And where does a twenty-year-old see himself in another twenty years time?

"I want to be writing songs, I still want to be performing live," he replied.

"And I want to break into other stuff... like acting."

But until those big aspirations are achieved, Nozuka has something else on his plate: Christmas dinner with his family, who are all fellow musicians. "We don't see each other very often. Christmas will be great for that," said Nozuka.

"My home is with my family."

Judging by tonight's reception, Nozuka will always be welcome at our home.

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**Big Brother Laurier**

From December 4 to 10, editors of **THE CORD WEEKLY** will be partaking in the trial to end all trials.

We, *The Cord*, will be living in our office for an entire week. We will never leave campus. We will sleep on couches, and on the bare floor. We will feed on dust bunnies for sustenance, and drink from a water cooler for our very survival.

And you'll be able to watch it all live on webcam, 24/7.

Video diaries, daily blogs, competitions, list-fights and hours of pun insanity will follow.

Stay close, dear reader. And stay tuned to CordWeekly.com.