University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
9/6/2011, 9:30 PM, Starr KKB

Attendance (absences in strikeouts):

Executive Board:
Marco Allocca, MA, President
Bethany DiMarzio, BD, Vice President
Brynn Cullen, BC, Chief Administrative Officer
Michael Barrese, MB, Chief Financial Officer

Class Representatives:
1L Day – vacant
1L Day – vacant
1L Day – vacant
1L Day – vacant
1L Evening – vacant
1L Evening – vacant
2L Day – Francisco Russo, FR
2L Day – Matt Loftus, ML
2L Day – Robby Canning, RC
2L Day – vacant
3L Day – vacant
3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST
3L Day – David Shufrin, DS
3L Day – vacant
LLM – vacant
Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace Alvarado, JGA
Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC
Upperclass Evening – Matt Grimes, MG
Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP

Also in Attendance:
ABA Representative – Robert (Bob) Yamartino, BY
Various Members of the Student Body
MA: Open this meeting at 9:34 pm

MA: Prelim – we usually do confirmation of last meeting minutes - from last meeting - those will be typed up and submitted for approval this week for next week’s meeting. Any public comments? welcome – lots of 1Ls in the back. As matter of exec updates –Last year we elected to amend constitution, and there is a parliamentarian but it hasn’t been filled. Until that time - president will run general discussion. There are several committees – social, budget, facilities, campus safety, elections, and constitution and bylaws committee. If you don’t know, Sebastian is chair of social committee and Mike is chair of budget committee. The elections committee is run by Brynn. Safety committee needs a chair, bylaws needs a chair, facilities needs a chair. If you are interested, email us, or come up after the meeting.

Lots of Committee membership open to non SBA members, like Social Committee.

Emails about hiring committee and faculty committee have been going out. Hiring committee is a committee the SBA has in place. 6-8 members that can interview people coming to the students. Contact Wyatt Janson if interested.

Faculty committees - 1Ls not eligible - student reps are on committees with faculty. Those committees are: academic support, career planning and clerkships, educational policy, facilities, international programs, library and research, academic conduct codes. Not much more to explain - titles are self-explanatory - all committees except academic support have 2 student members – students have same vote as faculty. It’s a great idea and I encourage 2Ls to get involved.

There is a New Structure from constitution. Also Bethany is VP but we appointed Sebastian as social chair, and she will talk more about her position next meeting when all the 1Ls are here.

BD: Hi I’m the Vice President, and there are 2 items to go over - first presidents roundtable , second - student services new process for logging events. President’s roundtable is at 5:30 Thursday the 8th, Starr hall - invited President from each student org to get together to share ideas and collaborate on events, to learn more about how event planning works and that everyone is on the same page to make sure events run smoothly.

Make student group leaders aware of the office in knight hall or the paper goods we provide for certain events or to answer questions or concerns student group leaders might have. If student group leader can’t attend any delegate can attend. Over 30 groups can attend, great response, almost all groups on campus. So she will give an update on that when it is finished. If you think they should know anything let her know and she will bring that up at the meeting.

Update from student services, it is sort of a new entity primarily composed of Schmiser, Assistant Dean for Student Life, Dr. Brown, our advisor and Director of Student Services, and Jen Cerny, Assistant Director of Student Services. Offices all on 3rd floor of Chase now. Trying to make the event process a little bit smoother on
campus also trying to keep track of all events moving forward – so if we wanted to
know hey what did we do last year – there will be a catalogue of past events who
attended, budget, etc. so we aren’t reinventing the wheel. What student services is
asking is to fill out a form (passes out form). Form will be revised – a lot of things
will be changed. But student groups interested in having an event should first Speak
with Jen Cerny. Form is daunting but she will tell you what needs to happen out of
those three pages, she can tell you what you don’t need. self-explanatory – please
gather feedback on the form from student groups - positive or negative - really want
to hear it so you can feed back to student services so that we can figure out a way to
make it work. Any questions?

ST: all events, even off campus?

BM: not 100% clear whether it is for off campus events - Main purpose is to make sure
that you talk to the proper person about external relations or facilities – makes me
think it might not apply, but you might want to check with student services to make
sure if that’s something they want to keep a log of, but since it’s a new thing we have
to take each step as it comes and do we want to do this for

DS: how does the timing of the form work with the SBA budget process, do you need
to fill it out before hand, is there a deadline?

BD: they coincide, so as soon as you know you want to run an event you should fill
this out. It might happen before budget meetings, it may happen after. I guess the
hope would be that all events should be planned before the budget is made, so all
should be filled out before the budget ends. It won’t always be the same, though.
some events get planned after the budget is made in a supplemental process, or
sometimes there might be a delay in the form. Not sure exactly what will happen,
but you don’t have to have the budget 100% nailed down or vice versa

MA: this isn’t an SBA form - the admin is doing this. The admin is aware - every
event even if approved on this form still has to be approved by budget, so the
funding process is still separate.

ST: can the inverse happen - can they say no after budget has been approved?

BD: the administration should not be able to say yes or no to events through this
form – we have been in discussion with them and we are still trying to make that
clear. Student groups should be able to run whatever events they want to run. but
they should never be telling you that you can’t have an event on that day, it should
be suggestions – i.e. – you go see student services, and you want to run a big event
with 100 people and they might say “well there’s a similar event the day before or
the day after, are you sure you don’t want to rethink the day?” but they should never
be telling you that you can’t have an event on a certain day. And actually the name is
going to change, it’s not going to be an even approval form, more like an event
planning form, so it’s not a matter of the admin approving it. They explained it to us
that it is more a matter of records so that we know you talked to appropriate resources and we can catalogue it for the future.

DS: Is that a statement that the administration can’t say no ever? There were some events last year that were political or a bad use of space on campus, so they didn’t allow those.

MA: Well we won’t fund political events ever, so that’s aside. This is a very big concern, because this form has the ability to alert the administration that an event is happening, and if they don’t like an event, let’s say for example BLSA is having an event and Career Services is having one too and they don’t like that BLSA is doing it — this is just an example — but the administration shouldn’t be saying no you can’t do that. We said we won’t support a form that allows the administration to deny an event that way. Administration can kind if do what they want, if they don’t want to give you a room then they won’t give you a room, and we know that would happen with or without this form. the form is that the admin wants to know that the events are happening and who is coming to campus — for instance, if you are inviting an alumnus or someone distinguished, then dean Paul can come and greet them. Bethany is correct that it is kind of unclear what is going to happen with this form going forward. All we can tell them is what we don’t want with the form and continue to represent student interests. I think Bethany is showing you the form because you need to fill it out before. If they give any pushback - contact us — but like we said, if they don’t want an event to happen - it’s still not going to happen. BD: obviously the same kind of events that were always prohibited will always be prohibited. there’s going to be events that can’t be done, same stuff that will have been turned down before the form will be turned down after the form. It’s not the be all and end all if you hear stuff about the form let me know, if you fill it out and you have a problem, let me know it’s definitely a very new thing so I am sure there will be some kind of feedback rather be

FR: do we need to fill this out for general body meetings?

BD: yes, but you only have to fill the form out once for all related events like recurring student group meetings. Tiny things like an executive board meeting, you probably don’t need to do the form. Anything else?

MA: We will go to CFO after, so Brynn update on CAO?

BC: Sure I see a lot of you are here as 1Ls and you probably want to know more about the elections. Yes there is an incorrect date saying you should turn in your info in Feb, basically the nominations are going to run until Friday at 5pm, I will send out a reminder on Thursday, and then those will be taken down Friday at 5pm, make sure you sign next to your name. Then I will send all the nominees an email to let them know that nominations are closed, and the 50 word statement and picture is due Sunday, so then I will give those to the technical people for the website, all the voting is online so they need time to get that together. And then elections will be
that Wednesday and Thursday and then we find out Friday, but those dates will be
sent out, and then all of the new people will be at the first meeting for everyone on
that coming Tuesday. Does anyone have any questions about elections?

DS: Do those dates apply to upperclass elections as well?

BC: yes we are doing them all together, and if we need to do any special elections we
will do those through the year.

Janine: Just wondering when we can start campaigning?

MA: You can’t start campaigning until the nomination period is closed, so when the
email confirms that nominations are closed you can start campaigning, so Saturday
Sunday Monday Tuesday and then Wednesday would be elections beginning. What
I will say is take a look at the bylaws, you can send emails, but that is restricted, so
go look at the bylaws to make sure you know election stuff. As a general rule,
chalking sidewalk and posters, look at the school policies, the SBA doesn’t say what
happens there.

BC: I will send out information on that when nominations close – if you want to table
in knight hall all of that runs through me so if you want to sit in the room and tell
people about your platform and stuff, just shoot me an email and we can make sure
you are able to do that.

BY: is that true for student organizations as well, does that also go through you?

BC: Yes.

1L: How does it work for elections, each person gets 4 votes?

BC: Yes, you get to vote on 4 slots, so in addition to voting for yourself if you are
running, you get to vote for 3 other people as well.

MA: you can’t put all 4 into one person, you have to pick 4 separate people.

BD: you also can only vote for your own division, so you should probably target
people in your own division if you are campaigning.

BC: Also you know that the division is divided into sections, but the voting for
divisions is across the board, so you can vote for people in other sections and they
can vote for you. Also, people keep asking me what they should talk about in their
50 word essay – I like to see creative responses, but you should target your voters. I
will send out examples when I send out the nomination closing email. Anything else
about elections? Next thing – if you haven’t given me your schedules I need those so
I can do office hours and see if there is any other time we can meet besides 9:30 at
night.
MA: Just a note, this meeting is mostly just an update since we are missing a few members and all of the 1Ls that will be voted in. It’s a lot of information because we have been meeting all summer, so next meeting will be more about votes and stuff. Budget update?

MB: two budget info sessions last week, went through what they can and can’t do, it went well.
Budgets - due Friday Sept 16th 6:00 pm - meet with student groups individually from 19th to 22nd, then budget committee meets on 23rd.
We have 701 people at the school, so we have about 110,000 to spend on student groups this year.
Discretionary spending - authorized and paid out: CPILJ 57 for supplemental write-on mailings, up to 300 to fix office printer, and PAD got 50 for kickball.

MA: American Bar Association update from Bob

BY: I went to the ABA conference in Toronto, and I was pleased to accept an award on behalf of UConn SBA. Out of all the ABA schools we were the only school to get this achievement award, largely in part to our new 4th floor lounge and our high number of events working with a smaller budget. So for all of that hard work, I’m happy to present this award.

MA: ABA is what it sounds like, and there is a student division, they vote on things.

BY: I can tell you what they voted on. 6 resolutions passed – among them – the law student division has a delegate that sits with the house of governors along with other big people in the ABA like the president. Now the law student division has a VOTING member on that board. Others from crippling loan debt to requiring further proof of ethnicity for Native American status. If you want to know more let me know, they all passed.

DS: just wanted to add a shoutout to the SBA the year before last year, 2009-10 did a lot of work on things like the lounge, and it’s a cumulative effect, so keep up the hard work.

1L: Why was the ABA meeting in Toronto?

BY: I have no idea. I think the next one is in Boston.

MA: Social committee update

ST: If you want to join the social committee send me an email. Busy summer – Bethany put together the entire orientation, so thank her. We put together the wood n tap event. We like to focus it on the 1Ls, and it was a great event and very well attended. We have the BBQ today so thank you to everyone who came out. We
do that with Claudia and the Dean’s office. We do that annually. The holiday party also gets done by the social committee so we can look forward to that.

On tap from this semester - last year we bought sets of season tickets but this year since it’s the home schedule is weak, we are going to focus on 3 big east games - for one of those games we will put together a tailgate and organize a bus, have UConn law being able to take pride in UConn football.

Halloween party and fall ball this year - a lot of people felt like fall ball was a little early in the semester, it was a great event – this year we are thinking about some time in the 3 or 4 weeks between halloween and thanksgiving - that should be on your radars - start thinking about that now

Tell your friends - everyone is welcome - don’t have to be part of the SBA to be on the social committee.

FR: That football tailgating date – is that the homecoming date?

ST: last year we tried that but we weren’t able to get a lot of tickets, so this year I’m going to call and ask when they can give me a good chunk of tickets for

Derek: Do you ever do basketball?

ST: Basketball is an interesting thing - you can put into a lottery for student tickets - it’s weird, some games are some places and then others - it doesn’t really draw the same tailgating atmosphere of football

MA: it’s a lot harder to get tickets, it’s much more expensive as well. Online lottery system – graduate students are entered 2 times into it. SBA has looked into it in the past, but it is much more expensive.

1L: Any way to get just into the civic center games? Those are sometimes not as crowded.

MA: you can apply to get in just the XL center or both. Again we'd have to contact athletic department and they operate separately from university - being SBA has no clout – we would have to price it out and put it on the budget request - this body would have to vote on it and move it forward

ST: I have a contact there who is just in charge of group rates and group tickets - we could go through them and I’d be happy to look into that.

MA: This time we usually do new business but we don’t have any new business, so I’d like to open it up to public comment.
FR: Make sure our ID cards work for access at night.
MA: Yes you do need your ID card
RC: every ID card should have access to every building until 11:00pm
ST: Just want to echo something from last year too, parking has already been difficult already. I know everyone uses AG lot for overflow, but I’m not sure if we
should do that. Can we do something about this? Facilities has stuff parked in Starr as well so we are losing that.

MA: I’m not sure what the reason is, if there are more people

BD: I know a lot of people park without permits, how do you feel about that?

MA: yeah I think what Bethany is saying is should we put pressure on the enforcement.

Dave - first of all - passes are super cheap, but I’m not sure if there is a cap on them. Also, they used to ticket more and those went to an SBA committee and almost all of them were overturned.

MA: also I think a big problem is visitors and adjuncts, there’s no way to track that either. I’m not sure why it is so much worse now. I do know that the field used to be parking, but they grassed it over. Yeah we should look into that, see if there is a solution, speak with facilities as well about the Starr lot.

DS: It could be the class schedule – I notice that they are closer together so there is less movement of the cars.

MA: we can look into it but I’m not sure what we could do besides ask them to make more parking.

FR: At USC they asked a car dealership for a car and money for a driver at night, so that if people walked to campus during the day, they could be assured a ride home at night.

BC: My issue is, I understand not being able to keep track of OCI firm people on campus using spaces, but if it’s an adjunct or someone who isn’t on campus regularly, I think there should be some way to track it and I think it might make it seem like there is some reasoning here.

ST: The reason I brought this up is I was wondering is this a problem for the AG’s lot we are using?

MA: as it is now, that overflow lot has historically been for the students, even though it is theirs. If we wanted to get something in writing to make sure people aren’t getting ticketed for using it like that we can see, but it is one of the only AG lots that isn’t patrolled.

Dave: The safety committee looked into a shuttle service for students carpooling each other – the main issue is insurance. if we get a volunteer, I bet the dean’s office would pay for the insurance

MA: not sure we can get an answer tonight but it is definitely an issue to look into.

Bob: Complaints - lack of mailboxes in knight, I am not sure what the reasoning was

Marco: The boxes were placed by admin. So they owned it. But the admin doesn’t use mailboxes - faculty did and students did. So the dean’s office contacted faculty and told them not to use it, first of all for security and second because it discourages faculty to speak with students about assignments. The only other use was reimbursement checks through those mailboxes. We have talked about library
circulation desk doing it, and they are open to this idea. In terms of everything else - I think people will be used to it, and I think it encourages going green.

MC: evening students used that to get transcripts or stuff because we can’t be there during business hours, so what would we do for that.

MA: well the administration wanted to get rid of this, and they said they talked to places like the registrar to talk about how to deal with that. I think the library circulation desk will become the hub for that, but really they need to make their own arrangements to get things to students. And the SBA wasn’t consulted really, they were just told it was being done. We did express concerns about how we were consulted. But we were planning on getting rid of them anyway when we remodel the space.

BY: I think most of the concerns you addressed.

MA: If you need something like a transcript, they will make arrangements.

MC: So circulation should be our default?

MA: I think that you should communicate you need arrangements, and they will figure it out

DS: Another thing is that they wanted things to be kept more confidential, the open boxes weren’t working for that.

MA: Yeah and there was some talk of more secure mailboxes, but that wouldn’t really be worth it for the 2 items we might get back. One other thing, we were hoping to get a better meeting time than 9:30, so once we get everyone’s schedules we can look at that. One other idea was doing a rotating meeting – a 9:30 meeting and then a 5:30 meeting every once in a while. We can talk about that more with all the 1Ls when they are here.

MC: One thing is asking for the coop to be open Saturday the week before classes start?

MA: yeah, we can talk to them about it. I am sure they are going to say that they need to staff it then, but it’s good for upperclassmen and night students who need to get their books before the first day of class. Anything else?

BC: I have heard a lot of complaints about the library closing early, they weren’t good hours to begin with, and when we are talking about things like rankings, everything like this goes into those, and the fact that our library hours are being cut and other services are being cut in the library, they ARE understaffed, but there are places they could have cut besides the library, and they didn’t even talk to us about that.
RC: What about making that first lounge area a 24/7 area? That might help.

MA: I will bring that up at the board of trustees meeting. As a note, I am very upset that the SBA wasn’t consulted about this.

BY: are there any figures floating around here? How much would it cost to get those hours restored?

MA: We are looking into things and it is definitely one of our concerns. We will address this at other meetings. So 1Ls, we do like a lot of discussions so please think about running, our next meeting will be more organized, and our number one goal looks like getting the rooms open past 10:30. Motion to adjourn?

Motion to adjourn – ST
Second – MB
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
Motion passes
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1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB
1L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
1L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
1L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
1L Evening – Philip Liu, PL
1L Evening – Jess Signor, JS
2L Day – Francisco Russo, FR
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Also in Attendance:
ABA Representative – Robert (Bob) Yamartino, BY
Various Members of the Student Body
Tamara Kramer, Parliamentarian Nominee, TK
MA: Open this meeting at 9:31 pm

MA: Welcome new reps! Public comment?

FR: Concerned about the perceived lack of participation of the student body in the SBA. We still have positions open, for 2Ls and 3Ls. Is there a plan to fill positions?

MA: Yes, it will come up in exec updates.

[no further comment]

BD: We take minutes at every meeting, and send them to the SBA to correct or comment on the minutes, and then we approve them at the following meeting. Last week, I sent out minutes from 9/6 and 4/11/11 (last semester). Did everyone get them?

[general assent]

BD: We’ll entertain a motion to accept the minutes one at a time. Vote yes to accept them, no to reject them, or you can abstain. In general, if you weren’t at the meeting, you should feel free to abstain from voting on them, because you don’t know if they’re right or not. You don’t have to abstain but you may.

**Motion to accept minutes 4/11/11 – ST**
Second – MC
Yes – all but seven
No – none
Abstentions – seven
Motion passes

**Motion to accept minutes 9/6/11 – ST**
Second – MC
Yes – all but eight
No – none
Abstentions – eight
Motion passes

MA: We usually just have one set of minutes to pass, which will start next week.

MA: Executive update: Welcome new members! This year is one of the most highly participated elections, with 12-13 1LDs and 5 1LEs, so congrats! We’ll have everyone introduce themselves.

[All members introduce themselves]
MA: You're required to hold office hours and be on one committee. Some of you have already been recruited for Social or Budget Committee. We're passing around a sheet with your name and two bullet points. Please list the committee you want to serve on and a backup. Don't put the Budget Committee unless you've already been contacted about that. Choices are: Constitution and Bylaws, Facilities, Social, Elections, Campus Safety, Pro Bono and Public Interest, Evening and LLM Division Committee.

RC: Can you discuss responsibilities/time requirements?

MA: Budget Committee makes a recommendation to SBA for budget allotments. The SBA holds the student activities fees you pay as part of your tuition. Student groups then ask for funding for their events. The Budget Committee is the CFO and President, plus a few upperclassmen SBA members so far. BC will meet this Friday starting at 9 AM and go through every request to determine what cuts need to be made, whether requests follow guidelines and state law, etc. There are seven members and our bylaws are specific as to who can serve. Most upperclass students have been preliminarily selected.

MB: Friday will be hard but we'll get through. There are also meetings with student groups in the next few days.

MA: Elections Committee is usually chaired by the CAO, right now being chaired by MA. They run elections and supplemental elections. The work will mostly be done next semester, setting up for next year's elections. You can be on this committee even if you want to run for SBA next year. Next, Social Committee is chaired by ST, who can speak to that.

ST: Probably talked to a lot of you about it. Social Committee puts on all the big social events. Appreciate those who came out to our meeting last week. We do big off-campus events; Fall Ball, Spring Fling, Halloween Party, tailgates. It's one of the few committees open to non-SBA and SBA members. It's a good way to see an immediate impact of your work. It's a quick return sort of situation that you might not see on other committees. If you're interested, let me know.

MA: Facilities is a fairly new committee. DS had a big push to have it created. It tries to allow for capital improvements on campus. Knight Hall lounge is pretty much SBA space, as is the Fourth Floor lounge in the Library. The lockers in Knight Hall, which haven't been distributed yet, are Facilities Committee work. The tentative chair is FP, who will be working on some of the projects we started last year, such as the Knight Hall lounge. If you have ideas for how campus space can be better used, this is a good choice for you. Constitution and Bylaws is what it sounds like. You propose amendments and changes to SBA documents. Last year we did big revisions, so this year it would be a lot of small stuff and making sure everything is up to date. Pro Bono and Public Interest Committee has struggled in recent years. You get to work with the administration a little more in terms of doing pro bono
work and the pro bono pledge. Campus Safety and Security thinks of ways to improve safety on campus. We're not in a great area, and the committee tries to think of ways to stay safe, such as more lighting in the parking lots. You meet with administrators to push for more funding in those areas. Evening/LLM Committee is a representative to those groups. LLMs include Insurance and International, and we like to help these students feel integrated. Any questions, please ask.

MA: Addressing a concern that was brought up before: CAO Brynn Cullen resigned earlier last week for personal reasons. We want to thank Brynn for everything she did for the SBA. That leaves us without a CAO, and there are also four other positions that are vacant: 1 2LD, 2 3LDs, and 1 LLM. Per our Constitution, there will be a supplemental election. It’s not a campus-wide election; the Election Committee will go and search for new members of the SBA. They’ll bring these members to the SBA to approve or deny by majority vote. Same procedure will be followed for CAO. We hope that by our next meeting, we’ll have five people to fill these spots for you to vote on and approve in our general body. This is not an uncommon problem; every year, spots are vacant, and this is how it’s been done in the past. It won’t just be the election committee finding five people; we’ll advertise it and put up a sign-up sheet in addition to actively searching for candidates. If the Committee recommends one person and another signs up, those two people will be up for vote. The Election Committee right now is MA, BD, and ST. If anyone is interested in actively working on supplemental elections, let us know.

FR: No concerns about supplemental process, but there’s a problem of incentivizing SBA membership.

MA: Right, that’s something that happens. For example, there is interest from LLMs, but due to a miscommunication the SBA’s nomination procedures weren’t followed. That position definitely has interest. There is interest in joining the SBA, and it’s not uncommon to have the 3LD position vacant. 2Ls tend to take on a lot of positions and either forget to sign up for SBA or choose to go in another direction. Also, some people were elected to executive positions so their representative position became open. We share the concern, but based on the popularity of 1L elections, we seem to be OK.

FR: We still went half the year without an LLM rep last year, and now we have no 3Ls. It seems systemic. Is there a way to incentivize? Thinking of a stipend or honorarium.

MB: No way to do that from SBA account.

MA: We owe a fiduciary duty to the students, so to vote to give ourselves a stipend might be illegal and would look horrible to students. We deny groups funding, we can’t give ourselves an honorarium.

MB: Every four years Storrs also reviews whether we can control budget.
MA: Storrs has no honorariums or stipends, don’t think it will happen here.

DS: More practical solution is academic credit or transcript notation, but the administration is against it because what we do here isn’t related. Would be up for revisiting this issue.

JGA: You’re student leaders, find out who is interested and tell them to sign up. We need to reach out and tell them what we do.

MA: Don’t think it’s a lack of interest, think the problem may be we don’t get out there enough and sell how rewarding being on SBA is. People think we just get together and meet and we do have an opportunity to affect the campus. Would like to resolve this in the future. If this is an issue to you, maybe you want to be on Elections Committee.

DS: On the SBA website, our updated Constitution isn’t proper in certain places, just wanted to note that. And where it is updated, it has track changes.

MA: That’s not the completed version. We have to present it to the SBA for final approval. We will then update the website.

MA: For elections, we don’t see a problem filling the spots, but note the concern. Moving on, want to inform body of Faculty Committee Appointments: Conduct Codes, Jeremy Potter and David Shufrin; Public Interest and Pro Bono: Andrea Gomes and Christina Canales; Library and Research: Mike Barrese and there’s one more spot available for those who are interested; Facilities: Franklin Perry; Educational Policy: Ryan Gritter; Career Planning and Clerkships: Erik Russell and Bridgitte Mott; Academic Support: Marco Allocca. Have one SBA committee appointment to make: FP for Facilities Committee Chair.

FP: Was on the Facilities Committee last year. Last year we talked about entertainment for students in Knight Hall, would like to carry that forward. Will get everyone up to date once we have a committee. Wanted to get a game table and a little more relaxation. If there are other things you want, will try to figure out what’s necessary to put on campus. There’s been talk about more benches on campus, need to consider this. Open to suggestions.

MA: Also have to appoint Budget Committee: MB is chair, MA, DS for 3LD, ML for 2LD, NK for 1LD, PL for 1LE. There’s a position for upperclass evening, but no interest has been expressed by upperclass evening reps. The president can appoint someone in this case, so AL is appointed as the seventh member. Once New Business comes, anyone can move to challenge the appointments. Is anyone opposed to replacing the upperclass evening division with another position?

DS: Think that should be by vote.
MA: Bylaws say if there's a vacancy, President can appoint. If you want, we can move to suspend bylaws to appoint a non-upperclass evening student.

MC: Is a 1LE interested?

MA: There's already a 1LE spot filled.

MC: Would prefer to see a 1LE in the upperclass evening spot, if anyone is interested.

JS: Can do it.

MA: Would have to move to challenge appointment in new business.

BD: Executive update (VP): last week we discussed the new event form student services is promoting. You fill it out if you're having an event on campus. This does not apply to off-campus events, so you don't have to fill out the form, but please contact Student Services to let them know about the event so they can promote it to the school via the Students website. The Presidents’ Roundtable was September 8, excellent attendance by almost every student group on campus. A lot of people got a chance to collaborate on events, which is a major goal this year.

MB: Executive update: If people talk about the Budget Process, know that we received $120,000 requests, with $110,000 to spend all year. If people complain about cuts, let them know we received an extraordinary amount of requests and everyone will have cuts.

RC: how much was requested last year?

DS: Slightly less requests. Somewhere between $80-100,000.

MA: While we find new CAO, BD will be acting in her place.

BD: Executive update (CAO): if you're a new member or haven't sent in your schedule, send it in as soon as possible. We ask for it to schedule office hours and SBA meetings. Send it to sba@students.law.uconn.edu. If you already sent it in, great. Need to know times of day you are/are not available. For office hours, if you have a preferred timeframe, let me know and I'll try to work with it. Will work with your requests if possible, so send a couple preferred times. If you already sent your schedule, you can send a preferred time. Need bios for the website; look at the SBA site for examples. No time crunch but we need them soon, e-mail them in. Attendance is required at all general body meetings. If you can't make it, e-mail the SBA as soon as possible. Religious obligations, class, etc will likely be excused if you let me know about it. You'll have advance notice of meetings, which will likely continue to be Tuesday at 9:30 PM. First absence, nobody will say anything. Second
absence, you get e-mail from CAO. Third absence, you get strongly worded e-mail from MA. Fourth absence, you could be removed from the SBA. If you have to miss a meeting, just let us know. Back to office hours, they’ll start up soon, probably in October. You will likely hold two hours a month. You go sit in the SBA office for one hour with the door open so people can come ask questions or share concerns. You can use the computer, same logon as all school computers. There’s a printer, please minimize personal use. People can hang out with you, you can tell your class to come see you, answer the phone if it rings but it never does. It’s really easy and low commitment. Will notify you once the schedule is made.

JGA: Is there a time frame office hours should be?

BD: Last year, we tried to spread them out. There was one hour each day of the week. We tried to do a 5:30-6:30 hour for evening students. We’ll see what hours you want to do, and whatever you want to do is likely the same as when the students would come see you. We usually do a lunch hour, last year we did Fridays but if people don’t want that, we might not do them. Will try to base it off what you want. SBA Office is in Starr Hall, first floor, by the main entrance facing the quad. You get in by key access. The key is at the Library Circ Desk. You can go in any time. Go to the Library, ask for the key, show ID if asked, and return the key when you’re done. All members who were previously elected, your names are on the key access list as of today. Will add new members ASAP. The key list also gets you access to the Knight Hall office, by the Co-Op. Feel free to use that office but please hold office hours in Starr Hall.

DS: Any update on keycard access?

MA: No. Hoping we can do it, but right now there’s no word on that.

RC: Less of a hassle?

MA: Right, but it’s apparently not as cheap as we thought. We’re still looking into it.

DS: At some point, the administration said it was coming, wondered if they followed through.

MA: Will look into it. Speaking of the Circulation Desk, since all the mailboxes in Knight Hall are gone, that’s where SBA checks will be distributed.

ST: Social Committee Update: met with Committee last week, thanks for coming out. Looking at three main events. Fall Ball, 10/15, Saturday, 8-11:59 PM. Wanted to do it then rather than later November because people hibernate after Halloween. This give people the chance to get out there. It’s basically Law Prom. JS is in talks for the Great Hall at Union Station, which is close by, we would have busses, and people can go out in Hartford after. Last year it was at the Marriott and about 350 people attended. It’s a great event. That’s the date of the Hartford Marathon, know a lot of
people are running, but that’s a morning thing and we’re not expecting that much attrition because of it. Halloween Party will be 10/29, Saturday. Reached out to student governments at UConn Med and Dental Schools, who have been in contact with us, so we’re going to work on a venue. Need to try to nail this down early. Football tailgate: SBA was approached by PAD to co-host. Last year it was a good event, this year hopefully we can plan a little more. It’s the 11/5 game against Syracuse. Busses would go to Rentschler, PAD would set up food, and SBA would try to subsidize tickets for students. Working with ticket office to get a group rate/allotment of tickets. Will follow up with them. Holiday Party, yearly, co-sponsored with the Dean’s Office. MA, BD and I met with Dean Schmeiser to discuss it. There’s not a lot of planning that goes into it. It’s good for students and faculty to mingle. Miscellaneous things: last week, people were interested in different types of events, like a wine and cheese event. We can look into it, but we’re not sure it can happen in the fall. After we get past Fall Ball and Halloween Party, we can talk to administration about that. Envision an outdoor spring event. It could be one of those things that has professional implications and the administration can rally behind. If you have questions about Social stuff or ideas, let me know.

MA: thanks for your attention so far; next week will be a busy week with less updates but lots of budget discussions.


[MA swears in 1L reps]

MA: Is there a motion to challenge any Budget Committee appointments?

MC: Would like to talk to new reps first.

DS: Our bylaws say if we want to consider discussing, there has to be a majority vote to discuss challenging an appointment.

MA: Right, then we have to vote by 2/3 to actually challenge it.

Vote to discuss challenging Budget Committee Appointments – DS
Yes – 6
No – 8
Abstentions – 1
Motion fails

MA: Budget Committee appointments stand as listed.

Motion to vote to temporarily suspend bylaws to appoint a member of Budget Committee not within the mandated section – DS
- DS: Not sure if the bylaws mean you can appoint anyone to the vacant spot, or if it has to be someone from the appropriate division.
• MB: The idea of it being vacant is that nobody can possibly fill it in accordance with the appropriate divisions.
• MA: You can make the motion and we'll discuss.

Motion to allow a non-upperclass evening student to fill the upperclass evening position on the Budget Committee – DS
Second – none
Motion fails

MA: no second, the motion fails.

MA: Need to appoint Parliamentarian, who will run the meeting per Robert’s Rules. Nominate TK, who expressed interest in the position. The Parliamentarian takes no position on substantive discussions.

Motion to appoint Tamara Kramer as Parliamentarian – MA
Second – ST
Discussion:
• MG: what kind of publicity was used in the process? Who else applied?
• MA: sent out feelers to qualified people. There was more than one person who was contacted; will keep them anonymous. Some people were current SBA reps and didn’t want to lose their vote. Others weren’t as familiar with Robert’s Rules. TK expressed interest and has done this sort of thing before. She knows the rules and really wants to do it. Believe she can control the conversation while remaining neutral. Can ask her questions. There wasn’t a campus-wide e-mail because it’s an appointment and it had to be someone qualified, so it’s more than just being interested or a friend.
• DS: TK’s past experience?
• TK: was Parliamentarian of high school, active in model congress, experienced with the Rules. It has been a few years and will need to review them. There’s a copy of the rules at the Library that I can bring to meetings. Not a friend of MA so is here as a neutral party. Affiliated with PILG, but will remain substantively silent during budget meeting. No problem telling people to follow rules. Will take this seriously and get things moving because I have class 1-9:30 Tuesday and want to get home.
• MG: This should have been sent out via a campus-wide e-mail. You might not know about talent within the student body. Thought we discussed this last year. Was looking for an announcement to this effect. Take exception to that. Had it been posted, I would have been interested. Have been a Board of Ed chairman, and facilitate meetings all the time. From a process standpoint, to arbitrarily call on people when we have talent on this campus, take exception to that.
• MA: Appointment clause allows President to appoint whom they see fit. Didn’t look within SBA because we value your input as representatives. Take the position in high regard. If people responded to the e-mail and I didn’t know well enough to know they would take it seriously, they wouldn’t have
been appointed. Appreciate your input but nothing was in violation of the constitution. This is who I’m putting up for appointment and I stand by it.

Motion to vote – ML
Second – FR
Yes – 15
No – none
Abstention – 2

**Motion passes**

MA: Congrats to TK, who will take position next meeting.

MB: If you’re on budget committee, see me after the meeting.

MA: Any other open discussion?

JGA: What’s going on with the library? It closes at 9:45 PM. Can we do anything about it?

MA: We have reps on the Library and Research Committee; MB is already on it. There’s one more position open there. Think we have to meet with certain people. Think closing the Library earlier hurts our rankings, but the response is always that the budget cuts are necessary. One of our concerns is that there was no contact to the SBA to offer a possible solution to the budgeting issues.

JGA: Would like to know who goes to library between 8 and 9 AM. There are no options for evening students.

MA: It’s open to discussion. We don’t have someone to contact right now but we want to move forward. Everyone is upset.

JGA: Next step?

MA: Will contact person who runs the library to hear the official reason. Would like them to come to a meeting to address the issue, or at least someone who can speak on the issue. Maybe students would come to the meeting so the Library would get the idea that we’re upset.

JGA: It’s a major concern for evening students. Instead of waiting until our next meeting, can we get an open forum and invite the whole school?

MA: Open to it. Can contact the Library to see if they can do it around the 5:30 timeframe. It’s a great idea. Will contact them to see if they’re willing to do that. Would stand behind that idea.

RC: If you do talk to them, try to get the budget to see the actual numbers.
DS: Wondering if student volunteers would help solve the problem. Not sure if people are willing to help but it’s possible.

MA: Right, or even student workers.

RC: Good solution would be 24-hour study room.

MA: That won’t happen in Hartford.

JB: Is the Library badge access?

MA: No. The only 24/7/365 facility is the Law Review office, and that access is in jeopardy. School doesn’t want to encourage students to be here at odd hours with no police.

MA: next week is budgets.

Motion to adjourn - ST
Second - MC
Yes – all
No – none
Abstention – none
Motion passes
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
10/4/2011, 9:30 PM, Starr KKB

Attendance (absences in strikeouts):

Executive Board and Cabinet:
Marco Allocca, MA, President
Bethany DiMarzio, BD, Vice President
(Vacant), Chief Administrative Officer
Michael Barrese, MB, Chief Financial Officer
Tamara Kramer, TK, Parliamentarian

Class Representatives:
1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB
1L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
1L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
1L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
1L Evening – Philip Liu, PL
1L Evening – Jess Signor, JS
2L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR
2L Day – Matt Loftus, ML
2L Day – Robby Canning, RC
2L Day – vacant
3L Day – vacant
3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST
3L Day – David Shufrin, DS
3L Day – vacant
LLM – vacant
Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace Alvarado, JGA
Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC
Upperclass Evening – Matt Grimes, MG
Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP

Also in Attendance:
ABA Representative – Robert (Bob) Yamartino (BY)
Brian Gore (BG)
Alex Wing (AW)
Yifei He (YH)
Rafe Monroe-Wise (RMW)
Pierre Tardivo (PT)
Matt Zagaja (MZ)
Various Members of the Student Body
TK: Open this meeting at 9:30 pm. Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per individual. We will try to keep things orderly but not necessarily go strictly by Robert’s Rules.

MA: Anyone here to discuss proposed budget?

[no public comment]

BD: **Motion to accept minutes 9/20/11 – ST, Second – MC**
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none

**Motion passes**

MA: Last week, there were concerns about library hours. A representative from the library was at “Are You Happy” Hour tonight to address questions. The hours will remain the same for now, but the issue has been resolved for next semester so they will go back to normal. It wasn’t a budget cut, it was a staffing issue and a hiring freeze. The hiring freeze was recently lifted, so the library is currently interviewing for 8 vacant positions. Extended hours during finals week will be unaffected. Part of the issue is a student worker can’t keep the library open late, which is a union matter. They’re trying to comply with union rules. If you see library staff, thank them, because they all volunteered to take weekend shifts so it could stay open on weekends. Hopefully next semester this will be a distant memory.

MA: Next, we have several individuals here to fill vacant positions. Each candidate will give a brief speech, then the SBA will vote to elect representatives. If you have questions, please ask.

BD: No VP update.

MB: The CFO will provide an update in new business when the budget is proposed.

**Committee Reports**

ST: Deposit placed for fall ball, which is October 15th. Everything is falling into line nicely. We now have to find a Halloween venue, but we’ll cross that bridge when we get to it. Had a meeting with a few other students to discuss another film event this semester; the administration wants our input, so we might add this to social repertoire moving forward.

Motion to suspend the rules for election – ML
Second – FR
MA: Calls up candidates for CAO position. If RC is elected, because he is already an SBA representative, his position would then become vacant.

YH: I have been keeping updated by reviewing minutes on website. If elected, I will come to every meeting, take minutes carefully, discuss general points of interest, keep office ours and the website up to date. Very organized, and speak four languages, so can keep accurate minutes. Interested in functioning of the student body. Live close by so available at all times. This is not my first time running for an SBA position, so hope this time I make it. familiar with the administration; have been dealing with them for a year. Know how to get my points to the administration favorably to get what we want. Know the administrative hierarchies and how to navigate the system, so you can count on me to promote the interests of the student body. Is the VP of the CLSA and is also on a journal, CIPLE. Tries to keep himself busy and hope to commit fully to the position if elected. Thank you.

RC: Running for SBA CAO. SBA bookended day today – was doing office hours this morning and now here again for our general body meeting. I met with MA and he informed me of the requirements of the position; feel I can meet all those tasks. Goals: see school improve as an institution, see student welfare increase. Would make sure we have a great, available, approachable faculty, and make sure student groups get support. Not overextended on campus; can manage time appropriately. Have not missed an SBA meeting, and have been to every SBA event to support, as part of role on Social Committee. Also participated in new student orientation. Care a lot about the school and would be diligent in this position.

TK: Will open it up to questions, try to ask to both candidates.

ML: Last CAO had too many time commitments, so wondering what your commitments are.

RC: Cap Pun Hockey, Justice of PAD, last year did VITA, SBA, Mock Trial, currently in a paramedic program, member of CIPLE.

YH: Already mentioned CIPLE, VP of CLSA. Taking four classes, have M/F off. One class is poverty law clinic, but we can frontload our hours based on availability. Can commit self and time to SBA as needed and structure time accordingly.

ST: Communication is important part of being CAO. Do you regularly respond to e-mail quickly, are you easily accessible, or do you have to carve out time?

YH: Always available on campus, always open to suggestions and comments. Would like to write student body e-mail. Have been writing comment for journal work to improve writing skills.

RC: Having been part of professional organizations, value immediate response, even
if just to acknowledge email. Think it's important to have dialogue. Always available via e-mail or phone.

ST: Can each of you say what you envision this position as being? Get a feeling from YH that you want to e-mail the student body; that's not really position of CAO.

RC: CAO handles process of SBA; reviews minutes, puts them online, takes them down appropriately, manages bios and elections. Those are the principle contributions. It's more about playing a supportive role, reserving rooms, communicating.

YH: Sure RC is aware of requirements of the position. Was under impression that I would be writing e-mails to SBA. Would look for improvements to Constitution and take recommendations from student organizations.

TK: Ask two candidates to step outside.

**Motion to close minutes** – ST, Second – MC
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

[minutes are closed for discussion]

**Motion to go back on record** – DS, Second – PL
Yes – all but one
No – one
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

**Motion to vote** – DS, Second – PL
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

[RC is elected CAO]

MA: Congratulations to RC. Moving on to 2LD position.

TK: Now that RC is CAO, there will be one additional opening. Would candidates please come down. We will repeat the same process.

MA: BG, YH, and AW please come down.
BG: 2LD student. Is treasurer of MTS, member of Cap Pun, play soccer on Saturdays. Think this is great opportunity to bridge gap between student body and SBA. Approachable, friendly, good grasp on 2L community. Dedicated, work hard. If you have questions, ask people who know me, but think I would be good fit.

AW: Also 2LD student. Main other activity is member of CILJ. Also involved in a few other groups, but no leadership positions. Was a 1LE representative last year and was on Budget Committee. Have a good awareness of the time commitment and have experience to build on. Was involved in several groups as an undergrad. Feel free to ask questions.

YH: Since this is my second time up, want to stress what I said earlier, and point out that I’m interested in getting involved in SBA. For this position specifically, in class I talk a lot as my classmates know, so I’d like to learn more about the position as I go along. Open to questions.

MC: Can you give your top priority you’d like to accomplish as a SBA rep.

YH: Want to work on the different committees, especially budget committee. Have noticed as VP of CLSA that there’s a waste of resources. Want to make student body better.

AW: Think library hours are a big problem on campus and the e-mail flood. There are a lot of other little things but those are the big ones.

BG: Would represent class however possible and their interests. Wouldn’t necessarily matter what I was advocating, because I’m here to serve my class. Would speak for those who don’t have time to run for SBA or come to meetings.

FR: Question to AW, did you run for 2L upperclass SBA rep position?

AW: Yes, I didn’t campaign that hard.

DS: For the other two candidates, did you run in regular elections? If no, why not?

YH: During the spring last year, one problem was lack of concern among students, and I was part of that. I was also trying to improve my grades.

BG: Ran 1L year, didn't run last year. Was under the impression that if you’re in, you’re in.

TK: Please step outside.

**Motion to close minutes** – ST, Second – ML
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

**Motion to go back on record** – ML, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

[BG is elected 2LD rep]
[AW is elected 2LD rep]

TK: Congrats BG and AW, new 2LD reps. Now we’ll move on to 3LD reps. We have two positions open.

**Motion to combine 3LD rep and LLM vote, as there are as many candidates as there are positions** – MA, Second – ST
Yes – all but two
No – one
Abstentions – one
Motion passes

RMW: 3L day. Want to help give back to the community in my brief time remaining here. Hopefully can be good voice for student body. Will act as representative of students here and do whatever is asked of me. Can bring a bit of a unique perspective as a transfer student last year.

MZ: 3L day. Current member of CJIL, serving as VP of ACS. Last year served as ABA rep. Attended these meetings and represented UConn at ABA circuit conferences. Last year this organization won a best SBA award; aware of prestige of organization. Good relationship with class and can represent their interests well. Would work on concerns with dealing with snow days, administrative issues. Think I would serve well.

PT: LLM rep candidate, from France. In France finished law school, worked in private equity, now doing LLM. Want to represent all students, especially LLMs who are here for just a year.

TK: Any questions, minding the time and lack of opponents? Feel free to ask.

AL: Who is running for what?

[RMW and MZ indicate running for 3LD reps]

DS: For LLM rep, was it same as last year where he was recommended?
MA: International division recommended two candidates, but they didn’t sign the nomination sheet. Ensured that both divisions had a chance to nominate someone. Insurance division did not nominate anyone. Made sure we gave them the opportunity.

**Motion to vote on all three candidates** – MC, Second – ML
Yes – all but two
No – none
Abstentions – two
Motion passes

[MZ, RMW, PT elected class reps]
[MA swears in newly elected CAO, 2L Reps, 3L Reps, LLM Rep]

MA: We have a full SBA now, so congrats to all new members.

**Motion to reinstate the rules** – DS, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

**Motion to present the budget** – MB, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

MB: Budget Committee met 9/23, we deliberated from 9am-6pm and came up with what will be shown by projection. We had received requests of in excess of the allotted budget for this semester. After setting a budget at $68K, we received a few requests to change a few budgets. Via friendly removed from WLSA’s budget, which brought us down to $66K. Gave ST discretionary amount of $500 for Fall Ball deposit, since we needed a check before today. The SBA Social Committee budget stays even. Based on $72K fall budget, we have $5K for supplemental requests, which sounds like a lot, but some groups’ events weren’t funded due to errors in requests, improper quotes, etc. We’re really only at $2,200 for supplemental after those requests are considered.

TK: We’ll do questions and answers with MB, then open up to general discussion.

RC: Wasn’t at the Budget meeting, some of these allocations are thousands of dollars off from what was requested, is there a general reflection on this?

MB: Some groups requested a lot of money. It came down to money restraints. Some requests were things the SBA can’t do, inappropriate uses of SBA funds.
TK: Any further questions?

**Motion to discuss budget generally** – ST, Second – DS
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – one
**Motion passes**

MA: As member of Budget Committee, thank you to all the members. We worked hard. This budget reflects a lot of hard work. No cut was made randomly. There were some big cuts, but a lot of thought was put in to all cuts. This was one of the first years where not a lot of people came to discuss the budget. The Committee did a good job of making appropriate cuts.

MZ: The fact that there isn’t as much outside comment as in the past is a reflection of collaborative effort with MB and the committee. MB did a great job of explaining what the SBA could and couldn’t do.

AW: How much would you say you anticipate in supplemental requests, and what do we have?

MB: We have 5K. Anticipate that we will have about $2K left for other events or zero allocation events. Other things are bound to come up. It will take the whole $5K.

ST: Can you explain $0 allocation for PILG fellowships.

MB: PILG requested three fellowships. Those are $4,000 awards to students for working in the public interest. This year, we got an e-mail from Storrs regarding the SBA scholarship. They said we can’t provide SBA funds to individual students. The fellowships are almost identical to the scholarship. We’ll also be audited in the spring, so we don’t want to make that allocation in light of input from Storrs. We didn’t have that info in the past and now we had it.

TK: Any other questions?

DS: Has PILG reached out to you to discuss this?

MB: MA e-mailed them to explain the situation.

TK: PILG knows of the situation. Everyone is OK with what happened.

MA: Sent out an e-mail the weekend of the Budget meeting notifying president of PILG about the allocation. That’s not traditional protocol, but given the history behind PILG fellowship requests, it warranted out of respect to reach out to them.
They know this is in light of a university policy we just became aware of. Explained
the reasoning, and never got official response, but members of PILG seem to
understand. Think that’s reflected in the lack of outcry to contest funding.

RC: Based on your experience budgeting last year, and DS as well, do we have
fiduciary duty to reserve more money for the spring?

MB: We have to reserve money. Last year we budgeted $80K, didn’t want to go that
high this year. We probably won’t spend that much this year. We usually try to
spend 60% funds in the fall, 40% in the spring. Confident that this budget will
accomplish that. There will be enough money for the spring, but not if we go higher
than this.

AL: Each event and each group got a lot of discussion. We tried to come to a
decision that would suit everyone. The majority of budgets were approved
unanimously, including PILG.

DS: Do groups that got discretionary funding, but have no events, have e-boards?

MB: As far as we know, yes. Every group on the budget has leadership. Basketball
almost didn’t, but they approached me at a budget meeting, and they have one.

RC: What happened with CJIL symposium?

MB: Symposium was cancelled. There ended up being only one panel that would
follow through. The Committee didn’t think it was good use of funds to send
students to London for one panel that is no longer associated with the symposium.

MA: There are members of CJIL going, the Dean’s office is paying for the CJIL e-
board. That request was to have more students go.

ML: Believe the request was the original request for what symposium would cost,
but by the time the Budget committee sat down, CJIL realized the amount they
requested would have been reduced anyway.

Motion to close discussion – MC, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions
Motion passes

Motion to vote on budget – ML, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – MA
Motion passes
[Budget passes]

MB: Davis competition needs witnesses and judges. E-mail Hailey Petruccelli.

MA: That was fantastic. First time we got more than one thing done at a budget meeting. Sorry for discrepancy with voting in new members, but the discussion on budget went really well. Hopefully all new business goes that way in the future.

RC: What should we tell people who aren't happy with the budget?

MB: Tell them to email SBA account.

**Motion to adjourn – ST, Second – ML**
Yes – all
No – none
Abstention – none
**Motion passes**
University of Connecticut School of Law  
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting  
10/18/2011, 9:30 PM, Starr KKB

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough's):

Executive Board and Cabinet:  
President - Marco Allocca, MA  
Vice President - Bethany DiMarzio, BD  
Chief Administrative Officer - Robby Canning, RC  
Chief Financial Officer - Michael Barrese, MB  
Parliamentarian - Tamara Kramer, TK

Class Representatives:  
1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB  
1L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK  
1L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL  
1L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL  
1L Evening – Philip Liu, PL  
1L Evening – Jess Signor, JS  
2L Day – Francisco Russo, FR  
2L Day – Matt Loftus, ML  
2L Day – Brian Gore, BG  
2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ  
3L Day – Rafe Monroe-Wise, RMW  
3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST  
3L Day – David Shufrin, DS  
3L Day – Matt Zagaja, MZ  
LLM – Pierre Tardivo, PT  
Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace-Alvarado, JGA  
Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC  
Upperclass Evening – Matt Grimes, MG  
Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP

Also in Attendance:  
ABA Representative – Bob Yamartino, BY
TK: Open this meeting at 9:30 pm. Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per individual. We will try to keep things orderly but not necessarily go strictly by Robert’s Rules.

[no public comment]

MA: Motion to accept minutes 10/04/11, Second – MC
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – JGA
Motion passes

Executive Updates

MA: President Update: Express gratitude to BD for her work as CAO during the interim period without a CAO (applause). Thank you to Sebastian for a well-attended and enjoyable Fall Ball.

MA: Motion to suspend the rules, Second – MC
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

MA: Proceed with discussion on an open forum for students regarding ways to improve school rankings and general feelings toward the administration. MA would like to propose an open forum to students in order to express concerns. What does the body think of a possible event open to all students?

JB: Forum should be differentiated from “Are You Happy?” Hour with Dean Paul.

BG: Proposes setting up booths for getting out the word for event and having SBA members accept student comments.

JGA: Evening students are consistently left out of the decision-making process and feel like voice is being left out the conversation. Should propose forum at a time when evening students can attend (~5:30-6:30 PM).

ST: Proposes really using SBA office hours to express student concerns.

BD: Forum allows students to brainstorm and build a consensus. Could establish forum topics to feed off each other comments in order to get a more rounded discussion.

AL: Suggests merging all previous ideas into tabling, booths and comment box.
MZ: Supports public forum because will allow individuals to voice concern.

FP: FP supports a student run forum but feels input from informed administration will aid in the conversation. A faculty presence will aid in providing additional factors to consider.

JB: Is it possible to use social media such as Twitter or FaceBook.

SL: How do we get students to attend?

ST: Important to get students to attend but already a lot of apathy on campus.

MB: Thinks Administration should see student response but feels students will not speak their mind.

RY: May be a chilling effect if administration is present. Based on previous experience, administration can be very evasive.

MA: Important for SBA to take a leadership role and get out in front of issue. Real issue is to pin down why students are unhappy. SBA needs to develop a uniform voice as well as take ownership role of change.

BG: Thinks maybe multiple scaled meetings may be appropriate.

JGA: Administration should definitely be present. Proposes gathering questions ahead of time and supplying them to the administration so that they can provide real answers.

MZ: Suggests SBA reach out to the law review and journals for additional student involvement.

BD: One thing to weight when considering whether to invite the administration is the ability to find an appropriate time for everyone to attend.

MA: In order to focus, the plan will be to hold office hours to garner student comments then hold a special SBA meeting with administration. SBA needs to reach out to students for input, advertise the event, get honest feedback by providing questions ahead of time to the administration.

**MA: Motion to reinstate the rules**, second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
Motion passes
BD: Vice President Update – After conversation with administration, there may be more funding for the journals that is not SBA funding. This would save the SBA money for other student groups. BD is working to develop a student group leadership contact list. Additionally, BD wants to increase SBA touches with student groups in order to foster relationship between groups and SBA.

RC: CAO Update: Please send me BIOs, contact information and schedules.

MB: CFO Update: SBA is continuing to receive supplemental budget requests. Mock Trial Society requested money for a competition, which was awarded. Lamba requested additional funding for bowling, a decision is pending.

Committee Reports

ST: Social Chair Update: Fall Ball was a success with over 280 attendees. Committee is trying to work with Faculty to arrange a movie night. For Halloween, ST is looking at City Steam or Black Bear. Football game and tailgate is scheduled for November 5. Holiday Party is originally two events, one for the Foundation and one for the First Years. Donors wish to combine with the students. Looking to move forward with a combined event with the Foundation.

MA: What would be SBA’s funding allocation for the combined event?

ST: There is no indication that the Foundation would require funding. The event would be the last week of classes in the evening, most likely that Tuesday.

FP: Facilities Update: Facilities will donate eight of the lockers to the PILG auction. Forty lockers are available for the rest of the students. Students should email FP directly if interested in a locker. The Starr gym is in disrepair and Facilities is looking to improve the treadmills and TV screens. Students have approached FP about having a vending machine in Starr. FP must meet with Dr. Brown regarding space previously used for Knight mailboxes.

JB: Is it possible to have more lockers?

MA: Lockers have only been on campus for one full year. Right now the demand for lockers has not justified adding more.

MB: I have a key to the lockers.

ST: Demand for lockers is minimal.

MB: Can you get Facilities to change a light bulb in Starr 202?

NK: Can the squeaky doors be fixed in Chase 110 and Chase 210?
TK: Let’s proceed with committee reports and process specific Facilities requests after the meeting.

BY: ABA Update: Interviewed recently by the ABA in response to winning an award. Look in upcoming editions for the article. ABA Representative will be hosting a tabling in the coming weeks.

**New Business**
MB: Arts, Entertainment and Sports Law Society requested funding for ESPN Meet ‘N Greet. Funding request denied in original budget because of lack of specifications. Group came back with much more detail in their request.

ST: Is group getting insurance for events?

MB: Insurance was not originally recommended.

BD: Did you recommend that the group use Student Orgs office to print signs?

MB: I will.

MB: **Motion to grant supplemental budget request**, second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – MA
**Motion passes**


MA: **Motion to adjourn**, second – FP
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
11/15/2011, 9:30 PM, Starr KKB

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):

Executive Board and Cabinet:
  President - Marco Allocca, MA
  Vice President - Bethany DiMarzio, BD
  Chief Administrative Officer - Robby Canning, RC
  Chief Financial Officer - Michael Barrese, MB
  Parliamentarian - Tamara Kramer, TK

Class Representatives:
  1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB
  1L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
  1L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
  1L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
  1L Evening – Philip Liu, PL
  1L Evening – Jess Signor, JS
  2L Day – Francisco Russo, FR
  2L Day – Matt Loftus, ML
  2L Day – Brian Gore, BG
  2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ
  3L Day – Rafe Monroe-Wise, RMW
  3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST
  3L Day – David Shufrin, DS
  3L Day – Matt Zagaja, MZ
  LLM – Pierre Tardivo, PT
  Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace-Alvarado, JGA
  Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC
  Upperclass Evening – Matt Grimes, MG
  Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP

Also in Attendance:
  ABA Representative – Bob Yamartino, BY
TK: Open this meeting at 9:30 pm. Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per individual. We will try to keep things orderly but not necessarily go strictly by Robert’s Rules.

[No public comment]

NK: **Motion to accept minutes from 10/18/11**, Second – FP
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

**Executive Updates**

MA: President Update: Hope everyone survived the power outage and had a good storm induced week off.

Committee Assignments:
- Social – AL, JB, SL, NK, RC
- Budget - MB, DS, ML, NK, AL, PL, MA
- Constitution and By-Laws – MA, MB, BG, MZ
- Elections – RC, MA, MZ, SL, MG
- Facilities – FP, ST, PT, MB, AW, FR
- Evening – MC, PL, MG, JGA

SBA President has non-voting seat on the Law School Foundation and Alumni Foundation. Fundraising is down from recent graduates and may affect faculty hiring. Alumni Association wishes to do an event with the SBA. MA is seeking an opinion from the school attorney regarding selected guideline questions, particularly regarding insurance for events. E-Board will be meeting with the administration next week to discuss the upcoming forum to air student concerns. The expected date for the event has been pushed to Spring 2012.

TK: Any questions for MA? [*Seeing none*]

BD: Vice President Update: BD had meeting with the four Journals regarding funding and coordination of events. BD encouraged Journals to seek alternative sources of funding early in the budgetary process. BD will be updating the SBA website regarding student groups.

TK: Any questions for BD? [*Seeing none*]

RC: Chief Administrative Office Update: Please continue providing bio’s for the SBA website.
TK: Any questions for RC?

PL: Do we post office hours?

RC: Office hours are available online. Does the SBA have any suggestions for further publication?

ST: Consider posting office hours on the door to the SBA office.

MZ: Consider posting location for office hours on Facebook profile.

MA: Consider posting office hours on weekly digest.

BD: Consider attaching schedule to meeting reminder email.

TK: Any further questions for RC? [Seeing none]

MB: Chief Financial Officer: Have been receiving reimbursements. If you have any reimbursement requests, please turn them in.

TK: Any questions for MB? [Seeing none] We will move to Committee updates.

Committee Updates

ST: Social: Halloween party was a wowing success. Holiday party will occur the last week of school and is being hosted by the Law School Foundation. Invitation emails have been sent out through the Career Services Offices. Football game had a good response. ST thanks Social Committee for all their support.

MA: Foundation Holiday party is an excellent opportunity for student to interact and network. The party is a big deal and a nice event. Please encourage classmates to attend.

ST: PILG Auction is Friday. Please encourage everyone to attend or at least stop by.

FP: Facilities: Library 201 lights above the speakers have been replaced. Notice of squeaky doors in Chase has been forwarded to maintenance. Chase 110 front left row desk outlets have been energized. Facilities Committee is moving forward with Knight Hall remodeling. FP is seeking input on remodeling options. Contact FP for more information. More lockers are available.

ST: Insurance Law Center offered to help remodel space.

MZ: When will the mailboxes be removed?

FP: Will determine next week.
New Business

MB: Two supplemental budget requests from BLSA (January Conference - $650) and Club Basketball (WNEC Basketball Tournament - $975 for three teams).

TK: Any discussion? [Seeing none]

MZ: Motion to pass supplemental budget requests, Second – MG
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – MA
Motion passes

TK: Open floor to additional new business.

MA: Would like to update the by-laws in the spring. MB and MA will work to update budget guidelines. Please forward comments and inputs to MA. MA would like to thank ST for social events, MB for budget, BD for all her help filling in, and FP for Facilities work.

TK: Any additional remarks?

FR: Toner is out in the Knight office.

RC: Will resolve.

TK: Any additional business? [Seeing none.]

ST: Motion to adjourn, second – FP
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

Meeting adjourned. 10:00 PM
University of Connecticut School of Law  
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting  
11/29/2011, 9:30 PM, Starr KKB  

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):  

Executive Board and Cabinet:  
President - Marco Allocca, MA  
Vice President - Bethany DiMarzio, BD  
Chief Administrative Officer - Robby Canning, RC  
Chief Financial Officer - Michael Barrese, MB  
Parliamentarian - Tamara Kramer, TK  

Class Representatives:  
1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB  
1L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK  
1L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL  
1L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL  
1L Evening – Philip Liu, PL  
1L Evening – Jess Signor, JS  
2L Day – Francisco Russo, FR  
2L Day – Matt Loftus, ML  
2L Day – Brian Gore, BG  
2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ  
3L Day – Rafe Monroe-Wise, RMW  
3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST  
3L Day – David Shufrin, DS  
3L Day – Matt Zagaja, MZ  
LLM – Pierre Tardivo, PT  
Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace-Alvarado, JGA  
Upperclass Evening – Mike Calandrea, MC  
Upperclass Evening – Matt Grimes, MG  
Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP  

Also in Attendance:  
ABA Representative – Bob Yamartino, BY
TK: Open this meeting at 9:30 pm. Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per individual. We will try to keep things orderly but not necessarily go strictly by Robert’s Rules.

[No public comment]

MG: Motion to accept minutes from 11/15/11, Second – ML
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – DS, JGA
Motion passes

Executive Updates

MA: President Update: Discussion from our last meeting may have indicated that the Law School Foundation is running a loss. This is not the case. MA is not aware of the current financial state of the Foundation. MA merely meant to represent that donations from recent alumni are down. With regards to insurance, the University business office website states all student organizations are on their own and are not covered by the University policy. Remaining questions exist as to whether individual students are exposed to risk or liability is limited to the student group as an entity. Reminder, the holiday party is next week and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Executive Board is exploring the relationship, composition and mission of the Diversity Committee.

JGA: What is the general purpose of the Diversity Committee?

MA: The Diversity Committee emerged as an attempt to encourage diversity on campus. The Committee is a fairly recent creation and its exact mission is still evolving. The Executive Board wishes to think about how the SBA and the Diversity Committee can interact in order to further its mission.

JGA: What does the Diversity Committee do each year?

MA: The Diversity Committee acts as an advocate for diversity on campus and coordinates affinity group activity. The Diversity Committee is designed to act as a leading body to connect students of all different background with different ideas and different people to make the campus better.

MA: Executive Board met today with Dean Paul to discuss hosting a forum regarding student concerns. The Dean’s Office is excited to work with the SBA to address issues on campus. SBA also asked Dean Paul regarding what students can do to increase the School’s ranking. The Dean made many suggestions for students. The principal suggestion is to have students work to publicize student achievements.
ST: What role does the School currently play in publicizing achievements?

MA: Currently, one administration employee works in the communication department to publicize the School. Resources are limited to expand this function.

RMW: Does the University have a PR department?

MA: It does.

FR: Is there any way to provide incentives to students?

MA: Currently funding is limited.

SL: This activity sounds like networking.

JB: Students may have incentive to publish and get their name out there.

DS: Dean’s Office support is essential to get this project off the ground.

ML: Concerned that student efforts would not translate to real results.

MA: SBA will not approach this task with halfway measures. As a group, MA believes that the SBA should only move forward with complete support.

AW: Happenings on campus are rarely publicized.

BY: Have we explored options with Pro Se, the student newspaper?

MA: This publication is envisioned to exist outside of Pro Se.

ML: Are there any other options for students to publicize campus events?

BD: Just independent students talking to people they know.

ST: Can we use the undergraduate campus as a resource?

JGA: Love that idea. Can we work with a community newspaper?

BY: Can adjunct professors hype their affiliation with the school?

DS: Can we advertise student events to the community, open to the general public?

ML: Echo ST’s comments on marketing.

NK: Is it possible to advertise School events on the Connecticut Bar page?
MA: Executive Board will consolidate ideas into a formal proposal. Thank you for everyone’s input.

TK: Any questions for MA? [Seeing none]

BD: Vice-President Update: None

TK: Any questions for BD? [Seeing none]

RC: Chief Administrative Office Update: Great work on office hours.

TK: Any questions for RC? [Seeing none]

MB: Chief Financial Officer: None

TK: Any questions for MB? [Seeing none]

BY: ABA: Will explore opportunities for a greater ABA presence on campus.

TK: Any questions for BY? [Seeing none] We will move to Committee updates.

**Committee Updates**

ST: Social: Holiday party is next week. Midnight breakfast is on the twelfth of December.

TK: Any questions for ST? [Seeing none]

FP: Facilities: Reviewed space in Knight Hall for potential layouts. Furniture is in great shape. Desire to get a new television and remove circular billboard. The Facilities committee is meeting with Dr. Brown tomorrow morning. Next step is to determine a budget and to talk to facilities staff regarding most cost-effective approach.

TK: Any questions for FP?

DS: Have the lockers been distributed?

FP: There are fifteen remaining lockers. Another reminder email regarding their use will be circulated.

TK: Any further questions for FP? [Seeing none]

**New Business**

TK: Open floor to new business.
MB: Supplemental budget request from CPILJ for symposium funding of $2,475.

TK: Any discussion? [Seeing none]

MA: **Motion to pass supplemental budget requests**, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – MA
**Motion passes**

TK: Any additional business? [Seeing none.]

ST: **Motion to adjourn**, second – FP
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

Meeting adjourned. 10:15 PM
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
01/19/2011, 9:30 PM, Starr KKB

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough's):

Executive Board and Cabinet:
President - Marco Allocca, MA
Vice President - Bethany DiMarzio, BD
Chief Administrative Officer - Robby Canning, RC
Chief Financial Officer - Michael Barrese, MB
Parliamentarian - Tamara Kramer, TK

Class Representatives:
1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB
1L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
1L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
1L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
1L Evening – Philip Liu, PL
1L Evening – Jess Signor, JS
2L Day – Francisco Russo, FR
2L Day – Matt Loftus, ML
2L Day – Brian Gore, BG
2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ
3L Day – Rafe Monroe-Wise, RMW
3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST
3L Day – David Shufrin, DS
3L Day – Matt Zagaja, MZ
LLM – Pierre Tardivo, PT
Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace-Alvarado, JGA
Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC
Upperclass Evening – Matt Grimes, MG
Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP

Also in Attendance:
ABA Representative – Bob Yamartino, BY
MA: Open this meeting at 9:35 PM. For the record, MA will be acting as Parliamentarian for this meeting. Any public comment?

[No public comment]

MG: **Motion to accept minutes from 11/29/11**, Second – ML
Yes – all  
No – none  
Abstentions – none  
Motion passes

**Executive Updates**

MA: President Update: Welcome back. Elections will be taking place short and it is important to get the ball rolling. The forum with the Dean is still planned for this Spring.

TK: Any questions for MA? [Seeing none]

BD: Vice-President Update: Because the Knight Hall Lounge is being renovated, tabling will potentially be moved to the library. SBA is working with the library to determine logistics for the tabling.

DS: What role will the SBA have in monitoring the tabling?

BD: That is an element that still needs to be discussed with the library.

MA: SBA will continue to oversee the space in order to maintain close relations with BarBri and Kaplan.

ST: Typically, SBA looks to funding for student events from these groups.

DS: Expressed concern that the relationship may degrade with the bar review course sponsors.

TK: Any further questions for BD? [Seeing none]

RC: Chief Administrative Office Update: Elections will be held the second to last and last week of February. I will be working with the Elections Committee to manage the affair. E-Board encourages all students to participate in the SBA. Additionally, is there any interest for working with Administration to have them send out an email for when grades are posted?

DS: Believes Administration should first move date up for when grades are due.

MC: Can we get more enforcement for the due date?
MA: Believes that if it possible for limited distribution, then it should be pursued and that cost should be taken into account.

MZ: Professors should post on TWEN when grades have been submitted.

FR: Professors should be encouraged to notify students. Individual professors tend to be the problem.

MA: As the SBA, we should advocate that Professors adhere to the posted grade time.

TK: Grades are always late.

DS: Maybe the SBA can ask the Administration to approach Professors about sending out grades.

FR: Advocacy may be more applicable for B median courses with lots of students.

MA: The SBA is also responsible for running the election for graduation speakers. The graduation speaker elections will occur at the end of February.

BD: There are three graduation speakers: one 3L day, one evening, and one LLM

TK: Any further questions for RC? [Seeing none]

MB: Chief Financial Officer: Fall reimbursements are almost complete. Anticipate having approx. $50,000 for the spring semester. Keep Feb. 3 open for budget meeting.

TK: Any questions for MB? [Seeing none]

BY: ABA: The ABA rep has been quoted in the December issue of Student Lawyer. The link is available and will be posted in the future. There is a new leader for the ABA circuit responsible for UConn. There will be a spring meeting in Boston for interested students. Tabling will occur in a month.

ST: Can the link be forwarded to Michelle?

MZ: Is there any reason the student leader is stepping down?

BY: I do not know.

TK: Any further questions for BY? [Seeing none] We will move to Committee updates.
Committee Updates

ST: Social: Full spring schedule anticipated, including the Spring Fling, ski trip, etc. Social committee will be meeting in the coming weeks. SBA will be helping out at the Lunar Noon year celebration.

TK: Any questions for ST? [Seeing none]

MA: Facilities: Franklin apologizes for not being able to attend. Facilities Committee is working on renovating Knight Lounge. The mailboxes have been removed. The plan for that room is to change it into a social lounge. There are a lot of quiet areas on campus. Knight Hall will be renovated to be a more open, communicative space for students. Budgeting will be submitted to the SBA to pay for the renovations. Some money has already been allocated from the separate capital account. The final estimate for the budget including last year’s allocation is approx. $10,000. Facilities department members on campus have offered their time and labor to help complete the project. The anticipated layout will consist of a lounge area with a TV and a computer counter.

ST: These renovations are needed and desirable.

BD: Student organizations’ mailboxes will be available in the basement of Knight. The SBA should consider doing a housewarming party for the lounge.

MB: The University can requisition the capital account if the SBA is not using it.

DS: Is it possible to put in a fresh water filter?

MA: All options are on the table. SBA is in favor of making it nice.

JB: Cafeteria should be on the agenda for the future.

ST: The cafeteria is not an SBA space so it is more difficult for the SBA to make changes.

MA: The SBA should try to focus first on Knight and then maybe see what ideas there are for cafeteria.

JB: Is it possible to add a frozen yogurt machine to the cafeteria?

MA: Truffles is a separate contractor. There is very little control over the cafeteria.

DS: The SBA should look into installing power outlets.

MZ: Referendum on SBA budgeting will be held by the administration this year.
MA: SBA should be involved to make sure there is a positive response to the referendum.

DS: If the SBA did not control funding, the money would be sent to the Dean of the University in Storrs who would allot money to the Dean of the Law School. Student group requests would then have to be submitted to the Dean's Office

TK: Any more questions for MA? [Seeing none]

New Business

TK: Open floor to new business.

FR: Is it possible to have computer charges available at the library circulation desk?

DS: Random power cords run the risk of frying a computer's motherboard.

TK: Any additional business? [Seeing none.]

ST: Motion to adjourn, second – DS
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none

Motion passes

Meeting adjourned. 10:15 PM
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
01/31/2011, 9:30 PM, Starr KKB

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):

Executive Board and Cabinet:
- President - Marco Allocca, MA
- Vice President - Bethany DiMarzio, BD
- Chief Administrative Officer - Robby Canning, RC
- Chief Financial Officer - Michael Barrese, MB
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Class Representatives:
- 1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB
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- 1L Day – Philip Liu, PL
- 1L Day – Philip Liu, PL
- 1L Day – Jess Signor, JS
- 1L Day – Jess Signor, JS
- 2L Day – Francisco Russo, FR
- 2L Day – Matt Loftus, ML
- 2L Day – Brian Gore, BG
- 2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ
- 2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ
- 2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ
- 3L Day – Rafe Monroe-Wise, RMW
- 3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST
- 3L Day – David Shufrin, DS
- 3L Day – Matt Zagaja, MZ
- LLM – Pierre Tardivo, PT
- Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace-Alvarado, JGA
- Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC
- Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC
- Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP

Also in Attendance:
- ABA Representative – Bob Yamartino, BY
- Ron Johnson, RJ
- Dean DeMeola, DD (Admissions Office)
TK: Open this meeting at 9:35 PM, any public comment?

[No public comment]

ML: **Motion to accept minutes from 1/19/12**, Second – ST

Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – AL

**Motion passes**

DD: Landscape for law school admissions has changed. The Admissions Office is seeking student support to help matriculate a class. One step the Admissions Office is pursuing is surveying admitted students. The Office recognizes it tends to rely on the same students in helping out with Admissions. The Admissions Office is seeking greater diversity in helpers. Ron Johnson is helping Dean DeMeola to encourage student involvement. Additionally, the results of the student survey are in and the Office is trying to implement some of the findings.

RJ: I’m a third year student working with the Admissions Office. I am focused on getting student support for the Office. The Office wants to involve as many student organizations as possible in the recruiting process. (Offering Memo from Admissions Office for SBA to review).

Memo:
1. Looking to the SBA in helping Admissions Office to identify point persons from each group.
2. Save the Date – March 24, 2012 is next admitted students day. Seeking a student speaker
3. Hotline hours from Monday through Friday for prospective students.
   a. February 20-24
4. Facebook Group for incoming classes
5. Jacqlene Nance established a blog for the law school
6. Would like to see the SBA send out an email listing all ways to get involved with the Admissions Office

Overall, would love to see buy-in by the SBA.

JB: Very important to pick tour guides that represent the school, can be an immediate turn on or turn off for potential students.

DD: We have done more training for guides this year in an effort to revamp the process. There have been many changes this year.

ML: I am having trouble accessing the Facebook page.

DD: I will check the settings.
MZ: Should explore ability to link current students with prospective students based on similar undergraduate institution.

DS: Who has access to the Facebook page besides current students?

DD: General admits.

BY: What changes are you anticipating based on the incoming class demographic?

DD: Applicants were down last year but up this year from last year. The application decrease and a lack of scholarship funds made UConn less competitive regionally against higher ranked schools and more competitive with lower ranked schools. Consequently, median LSAT scores are going down. Scholarship funds are the only way to compete. There is just not the money from the University.

ML: Have you looked into a Google hangout solution?

DD: We will check it out.

JB: Is it possible to use AIM?

DD: We will look into it.

TK: Any further questions for DD? [Seeing none]

MA: Thank you DD and RJ.

**Executive Updates**

MA: President Update: Diversity Committee will apply to be an autonomous student group, separate from the SBA due to limitations based on SBA by-laws, as well as, conflicts with Diversity Committee rules. Constitution and By-Laws Committee will be holding a meeting to rewrite our rules shortly for future SBA approval.

ST: How does the process for selecting members of the Diversity Committee effect future funding decisions?

MA: Funding will be premised on abiding by current guidelines for student groups.

MZ: One solution to the composition problem would be to have an elected executive board with several, additional appointed individuals.

MB: I don’t think it matters with regards to funding as long as the initial composition of the executive board is adequate.
DS: Afraid that the Diversity Committee will become a defunct group if left on its own. Is it possible to reformat the Diversity Committee under the SBA?

BD: I agree with DS but also the Administration is heavily invested in this group and the group will be pushed along.

DS: Will it be the Administration putting on diversity week?

ML: I tend to agree with DS. Maybe a solution is to have a point person from each affinity group on campus.

MB: I don’t think we should be sustaining a group on campus. We do have a number of groups that represent a number of different types of people. A separate diversity group would not impact already concerted efforts on campus to promote diversity.

BD: Second MB.

JB: Important to have a Diversity Committee to organize other groups on campus.

AW: Diversity Committee is supposed to be about sensitivity.

TK: To clarify, MA had mentioned a by-law change. Is that consistent with general feelings of the SBA?

ML: Not worth having liability without oversight, but if Committee disbanded, ML feels group will die out. ML feels it should be spun off.

MA: SBA is on notice that there are considerations surrounding the Diversity Committee change.

MA: Forum with the Dean is potentially scheduled for Feb. 20. This date is scheduled before the U.S. News rankings are released. Would the SBA wish to reschedule date?

BY: What are the circumstances of the Dean review?

MA: The Dean review is ongoing from Jan. 1 through the end of the semester.

BG: If we pass up the Feb. 20, can we get him before the end of the semester?

AW: Probably want to have it afterwards to allow constituents to have a voice.

MA: I would prefer to have the date afterwards as well.

MZ: Voice support for doing it before. Kicking it down the road will minimize the current SBA’s ability to constructively address issues after the forum.
DS: Maybe a compromise is to do a two part series, the first allowing a preemptive address and the second is to allow the open forum.

ML: After makes more sense to get the turnout.

BG: Concern that lack of actual rankings gives the Dean an out with questions.

BD: Believe earlier date is better in order to address all the issues, not just the rankings.

SL: The rankings are the legacy of the current students.

DS: First vote whether the 20th is an acceptable date.

**MA:** Motion to have Dean’s meeting on Feb. 20, second – DS
Yes – 4
No – 11
Abstentions – MA
**Motion is defeated**

**DS:** Motion to have two days for a Dean’s Forum, second – DS
Yes – 7
No – 7
Abstentions – MC, RC
**Tie Breaker - MA**
**Motion is defeated** – There will be a one day forum after the rankings are released subject to the Dean’s availability.

TK: Any further questions for MA? [Seeing none]

BD: Vice-President Update: Tabling is officially moved to the Library slate foyer. All reservation procedures will remain the same

TK: Any questions for BD? [Seeing none]

RC: Chief Administrative Office Update: Elections committee will be meeting after the current meeting. Office hours are posted.

TK: Any questions for RC? [Seeing none]

MB: Chief Financial Officer: Week of budget meetings. MB will be meeting with groups the rest of the week. Friday will the budget review.

DS: Has public notice of the actual budget conference gone out?

MB: Yes, notice has been provided.
TK: Any questions for MB? [Seeing none]

BY: ABA: First circuit meeting will be Feb. 25. Tabling will be held soon.

DS: Are you asking for money to send students to that meeting?

BY: Will have to evaluate interest first.

TK: Any questions for BY? [Seeing none] We will move to Committee updates.

Committee Updates

ST: Social: Budget is submitted. Ski trip is being planned. Budget includes certain allocations for next year in order to purchase football tickets and throw the one L orientation event. For the graduating students, please inform constituency of necessity of submitting orders. All regalia orders must be submitted before March 1 to prevent incurring a late fee.

TK: Any questions for ST? [Seeing none]

FP: Facilities: Knight Lounge is progressing. One TV is in. The other has been ordered. Some faculty have expressed interest in contributing towards funding a pool table. FP is meeting with Jen to work on artwork for walls. There has to be a home for projector screen.

PL: When and where is the meeting with Jen?

FP: Could be tomorrow morning.

PL: There have been a lot of interruptions in Chase 110. Can we change the door so that there is a clear window.

FP: I will look into it.

TK: Any more questions for FP? [Seeing none]

New Business

TK: Open floor to new business.

TK: Any business? [Seeing none.]

ST: Motion to adjourn, second – JB
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none

**Motion passes**

Meeting adjourned. 10:36 PM
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
02/16/2012, 9:30 PM, Library 202

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):

Executive Board and Cabinet:
- President - Marco Allocca, MA
- Vice President - Bethany DiMarzio, BD
- Chief Administrative Officer - Robby Canning, RC
- Chief Financial Officer - Michael Barrese, MB
- Parliamentarian - Tamara Kramer, TK

Class Representatives:
- 1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB
- 1L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
- 1L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
- 1L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
- 1L Evening – Philip Liu, PL
- 1L Evening – Jess Signor, JS
- 2L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR
- 2L Day – Matt Loftus, ML
- 2L Day – Brian Gore, BG
- 2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ
- 3L Day – Rafe Monroe-Wise, RMW
- 3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST
- 3L Day – David Shufrin, DS
- 3L Day – Matt Zagaja, MZ
- LLM – Pierre Tardivo, PT
- Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace-Alvarado, JGA
- Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC
- Upperclass Evening – Matt Grimes, MG
- Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP

Also in Attendance:
- ABA Representative – Bob Yamartino, BY
- Ingrid Festin, IF
- Rebecca Arnold, RA
TK: Open this meeting at 9:30 PM, any public comment?

*[No public comment]*

ST: **Motion to accept minutes from 1/31/12**, Second – ML
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – AQ, JGL
**Motion passes**

TK: Diversity committee statement. *[Not present.]*

TK: Budget allocation comments? *[Seeing none.]*

**Executive Updates**

MA: President Update: Law School Foundation has had consistent success with fundraising efforts. “State of the Law School” event is planned for Feb. 27. Refreshments and light fair will be served at 5:30 PM. The event will run from 6-7:30 PM. The event will begin with a statement from the Dean based on previously submitted comments. A microphone passing will occur as well. Please encourage fellow classmates to attend. A Facebook event has been established to help publicize and encourage attendance.

TK: Any further questions for MA? *[Seeing none]*

MZ: What is the difference between the Dean’s “Are you happy? Happy Hour” and this event?

MA: This is about the students asking for answers. The event is organized by the SBA and will express actual student concerns. It is anticipated the Dean will address student concerns directly.

ML: Believe the way to sell it as a town hall meeting.

BD: The event is student initiated instead of put on by the Administration. Popular support behind the event will really change the feel for the better.

FP: Who will be managing the room arrangement, seating and organization?

MA: A student will be appointed as a moderator.

ST: Two moderators may work best with two microphones.

BD: Students will serve as the microphone bearers. MA will operate as the moderator.
DS: MA as the moderator reinforces the fact that this is an SBA event.

AL: Please invite everyone if possible.

BG: Will there be a recording of the event?

MA: If possible we will get permission and orchestrate a recording.

RC: Will we publish a list of questions?

BD: We will put out a list of topics.

MA: I will cede my time to the Diversity Committee.

Diversity Committee: (RA and IF) Here to discuss the mission of the group: who we are, what we do and what the group would be like as a student group. RA mentions it is clearly important to have a group that promotes diversity on campus and that addresses discrimination. The Committee also works to celebrate diversity on campus and to promote affinity groups. The purpose of Diversity Week is to celebrate the amazing differences among the student body.

IF recognizes concerns exist that if the Diversity Committee became an independent group there may be problems with sustainability. Significant thought has been given to the future of the group, however, it is not felt that the future of the group is in jeopardy. IF believes the Committee will continue to exist to promote an open dialogue and provide a venue for conversation. As a student organization, the quota system will be written so that anyone who is interested in the Committee mission is eligible based on merit. The group would have an executive board and a general body. The Diversity Committee would like to separate because the Committee has its own funding, has its own meeting, and as a separate group would reduce liability to the SBA from a committee that has no oversight. Additionally, the Diversity Committee as a student group could bring controversial speakers to campus without potential negative reflections on the SBA as a whole.

MA: Statement is good background for potential future by-law amendment. Potential change would remove Committee from SBA. Diversity Committee would continue to exist as a separate student group. Additionally, SBA may establish an appointed position to particular student group.

ST: How would funding operate if separate funding is involved? Concern regarding conflation of funds.

RA: Currently, Diversity Committee takes funding from outside sources and the SBA. Expect funding to remain consistent with previous years.
IF: Recognize constraints on funding from the SBA regarding certain events. Sees the Diversity Committee student group as promoting collaboration as a point person for other groups.

DS: Is it necessary to completely remove the Diversity Committee from the SBA? Feel it is important to maintain Committee heads as an extension of the SBA. Is the Diversity Committee amenable to extensive by-law changes that do not require complete removal?

IF: Diversity Committee as a student group would continue traditions that have been established over the past four years.

MA: More than just a name thing. Direct connection with the SBA requires oversight and accountability. Diversity Committee does not want this direct control. By-law changes would be inadequate to address concerns over control and accountability.

DS: Name can always be changed. Every group is a sub-section of the SBA. Suggested amendment would prevent SBA from controlling Diversity Committee. Mainly concerned that interest may be lost.

BD: SBA does not force groups to exist or take steps to keep groups in existence.

MA: Move to table the issue for the night in light that the budget is still up for a vote. Offer to bring issue forward at the next meeting after putting together a written by-law.

ST: Motion to table discussion for the evening, Second – AQ
Yes – all
No – AL
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

BD: Vice-President Update: Email distributed regarding Admissions Office request. If interested in being involved, please contact person indicated in email.

TK: Any questions for BD? [Seeing none]

RC: Chief Administrative Office Update: Elections and nominations are proceeding.

TK: Any questions for RC? [Seeing none]

MB: Chief Financial Officer: Budget will be handled later.

TK: Any questions for MB? [Seeing none]
BY: ABA: So far no feedback for Boston conference. Nothing much new to report. Waiting on promotional materials, they are still in transit.

MZ: What happened to boxes of materials in Knight?

BY: Not sure where material was moved to.

FP: An inquiry has been made with Dr. Brown and Facilities staff.

FR: Will you apply for funding?

BY: If there is interest.

MG: What is the date?

BY: Two weekends from now.

DS: You can only be nominated for one E-board position at a time. Boxes may be in SBA closet.

MZ: Try for funding from SBA.

TK: Any questions for BY? [Seeing none] We will move to Committee updates.

Committee Updates

ST: Social: Ski trip is in two weeks. Other social events will be discussed in two weeks.

DS: Is there a different price for guests going on the ski trip?

ST: Currently only one price in order to try to sell all the tickets.

TK: Any questions for ST? [Seeing none]

FP: Facilities: TVs’ have arrived along with the stands. Plan is to have both TVs up for the end of this week. More people are using Knight Lounge. At the next meeting there will be a vote on what to include as far as furnishings.


MA: Have to figure out a better system.

DS: Maybe small sign is all that is necessary.

FP: Were not receptive to sound proofing Chase 110.
BY: Can we put up a do-not-disturb sign?

FR: Sliding sign regarding in session or available.

JGL: Possible to send out an email.

TK: Any more questions for FP? [Seeing none]

**New Business**

TK: Open floor to new business.

TK: Any business? [Seeing none.]

**Budget Discussion**

MB: Thank you to the Budget Committee. SBA spent $54,000 for the Fall. Spring budget goal is $74,000. Spring allotments are at $68,000. Leaving around $4,000 for supplemental requests. Several groups have already requested money. A lot of unfunded events were because groups did not get room reservations or there were not dates. Get your room reservation and date picked as soon as possible to secure best potential for funding. Open forum for questions.

JGL: Softball quote seems way off.

MB: Budget Committee usually requests sports teams contribute at least $100 for season. Allocation is consistent with this amount.

ML: How much supplemental is remaining?

MB: $3,500 is remaining.

TK: Any further comments? [Seeing none.]

ML: **Motion to approve the budget**, second – BG  
Yes – all  
No – none  
Abstentions – MA  
**Motion passes**

BD: Any interest in having SBA meeting on Monday instead of Tuesday?

TK: How many people have class? [Most hands raised.]
MZ: Should look into having a meeting a more regular hour. Might encourage better attendance and participation.

MA: A point that the E-Board deals with every year. Always been difficult to get a quorum.

BG: Office hours provide a venue for students to get involved. If people want to attend they can show up for the late meeting.

DS: Can clarify topics to be covered in notice emails.

ST: For graduating students, graduation regalia needs to be ordered by March 2.

DS: Motion to reopen discussion on the Diversity Committee, second – AL
Yes – DS, AL
No – All
Abstentions – MA
Motion failed

ST: What will we be discussing next meeting.

MA: Will draft a by-law as new business at next SBA meeting.

BG: How can we vote on a by-law without information?

AL: Should propose formation of a committee.

MA: Accepting suggestions.

ML: Will IF and RA be at the next SBA meeting?

BD: Can amend proposals at the meeting.

DS: Are we removing the Diversity Committee from the by-laws?

MA: Envisioned by-law would entail a standing representative from the Diversity student group.

JB: Motion to adjourn, second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

Meeting adjourned. 10:42 PM
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
02/27/2012, 9:32 PM, Library 202

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):

Executive Board and Cabinet:
President - Marco Allocca, MA
Vice President - Bethany DiMarzio, BD
Chief Administrative Officer - Robby Canning, RC
Chief Financial Officer - Michael Barrese, MB
Parliamentarian - Tamara Kramer, TK

Class Representatives:
1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB
1L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
1L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
1L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
1L Evening – Philip Liu, PL
1L Evening – Jess Signor, JS
2L Day – Francisco Rufo, FR
2L Day – Matt Loftus, ML
2L Day – Brian Gore, BG
2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ
3L Day – Rafe Monroe-Wise, RMW
3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST
3L Day – David Shufrin, DS
3L Day – Matt Zagaja, MZ
LLM – Pierre Tardivo, PT
Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace-Alvarado, JGA
Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC
Upperclass Evening – Matt Grimes, MG
Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP

Also in Attendance:
ABA Representative – Bob Yamartino, BY
Mallory Goodwin, MG
TK: Open this meeting at 9:32 PM, any public comment?

[No public comment]

DS: Should change last motion in previous minutes to say motion did not pass.

RC: Correction noted as a friendly amendment.

MA: **Motion to accept amended minutes from 2/16/12**, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – FR
**Motion passes**

Executive Updates

MA: President Update: State of the Law School was successful in terms of turn out. There was a lot of student participation.

MA: **Motion to go off the record**, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

MA: **Motion to go on the record**, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

TK: Any questions for MA? [Seeing none]

BD: Vice-President Update: Nothing to report.

TK: Any questions for BD? [Seeing none]

RC: Chief Administrative Office Update: Good luck on elections. Congratulations to the new E-Board.

TK: Any questions for RC? [Seeing none]

MB: Chief Financial Officer: Approved $150 for diversity week to Diversity Committee. Approved $314.52 to the SBA for the State of the Law School. Additional funds requested by PAD for mock trial competition. Further supplemental budget requests have been submitted and are being processed.
MZ: Can we fund less of the gas expenditure for the PAD Mock Trial trip?

MB: The gas funding has actually been limited. The compromise funding allocation is mostly for other items.

FR: Is the requested supplemental amount similar to what was requested last year?

MB: Request is about the same if not less than last year. Proposing a motion for the additional allocation.

MB: **Motion to provide supplemental budget request to PAD**, second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – BG
**Motion passes**

MB: There is a proposal for countertops for Knight Lounge endorsed by the Facilities Committee. Request is for $10,000 from the capital account for improvements.

ST: Idea is to do countertops in rear and along hexagon. Countertop will be purchased through an outside vendor. Cabinetry will be built by Facilities staff.

BD: May need to confirm that no additional requirements are necessary prior to allocation due to the extent of the allocation.

ST: Administration has already sanctioned the allotment.

DS: Should the SBA recognize that this is a related transaction?

MA: I don’t fee it is necessary but we can.

MZ: Are there any other quotes available?

ST: We are receiving a very specific quote based on a relationship with the vendor. It is highly doubtful we will receive a more favorable quote.

MB: **Motion for the SBA to recognize comfort with using company associated with ST**, second – BG
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – FR, ST, MA
**Motion passes** [Officially comfortable with using ST’s father’s company for countertop]
MA: Reminder that the motion is for general allocation.

MB: **Motion to approve $10,000 from the capital account for renovation of the Knight Hall Lounge**, second – BG
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – FR, ST, MA
**Motion passes**

TK: Any questions for MB? [Seeing none]

BY: ABA: Attended ABA meeting at the New England School of Law. Participated in the election of the First Circuit governor for the ABA. ABA is happy to provide further marketing and recruit materials. Topics of conversation included transparency, outreach and collaboration.

TK: Any questions for BY? [Seeing none] We will move to Committee updates.

**Committee Updates**

ST: Social: Ski trip had a hiccup because the bus broke down. SBA will try to get some money back. Stratton adjusted the price on the lift tickets and rentals. As much of a refund will be provided to students as possible. Thank you to DS for all his help. Spring fling is tentatively schedule for April 14.

DS: Stratton was very accommodating.

JB: Wyatt helped with the reduction in price.

ST: If you are a graduating student, please purchase your graduation regalia soon to avoid a penalty.

TK: Any questions for ST? [Seeing none]

ST: Facilities: Filling in for FP. See above regarding budget request. Both TVs are mounted. Cable boxes will be installed soon.

DS: Any movement on the game table?

ST: FP is working with professors.

TK: Any more questions for ST? [Seeing none]

**New Business**

TK: Open floor to new business.
JB: Propose having a technology committee.

MA: President can appoint ad hoc committees. Just speak to FP and MA.

MA: Thank you for everyone who came to the State of the Law School tonight. Thank you for pulling your weight with everything that has happened this semester.

DS: How do we stand on spreading the word regarding action on the State of the Law School?

MA: Important to have proposal in front of each one of us at the next meeting before we become too vocal.

DS: People should be careful on what they say around campus. We do not want to be limited in options and forced into a certain position.

MA: Request SBA be conscious and discrete regarding what is said. Understand meeting was an open forum but important that the SBA proceed thoughtfully.

TK: Any additional business? [Seeing none.]

ST: **Motion to adjourn**, second – DS
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

Meeting adjourned. 10:32 PM
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
03/13/2012, 9:30 PM, Library 202

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):

Executive Board and Cabinet:
President - Marco Allocca, MA
Vice President - Bethany DiMarzio, BD
Chief Administrative Officer - Robby Canning, RC
Chief Financial Officer - Michael Barrese, MB
Parliamentarian - Tamara Kramer, TK

Class Representatives:
1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB
1L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
1L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
1L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
1L Evening – Philip Liu, PL
1L Evening – Jess Signor, JS
2L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR
2L Day – Matt Loftus, ML
2L Day – Brian Gore, BG
2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ
3L Day – Rafe Monroe-Wise, RMW
3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST
3L Day – David Shufrin, DS
3L Day – Matt Zagaja, MZ
LLM – Pierre Tardivo, PT
Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace-Alvarado, JGA
Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC
Upperclass Evening – Matt Grimes, MG
Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP

Also in Attendance:
ABA Representative – Bob Yamartino, BY
Members of the student body
TK: Open this meeting at 9:35 PM, any public comment?

[No public comment]

ST: **Motion to accept minutes from 2/27/12**, Second – JB

Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – AL, JGA

**Motion passes**

**Executive Updates**

MA: President Update: I have no updates at this time. Anything I have to say will come up in new business.

BD: Vice-President Update: Nothing at this time.

RC: Chief Administrative Office Update: SBA leadership and general body transition will take place at our next meeting, two weeks from today.

TK: Any questions for RC? [Seeing none]

ST: Next meeting is the last meeting of the current SBA?

MA: Yes.

MB: Chief Financial Officer: I approved a supplemental budget request for the Environmental and Energy Law Society. We also have a supplemental budget request for corporate raw from the corporate and securities student organization. The budgetary committee recommended slightly less than the requested amount because the SBA does not fund gifts.

**MB: Motion to provide supplemental budget request to Corporate and Securities**, second – ST

Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none

**Motion passes**

TK: Any questions for MB? [Seeing none]

BY: ABA: Nothing to report except nominations for ABA awards are due next week.

TK: Any questions for BY? [Seeing none] We will move to Committee updates.

**Committee Updates**
ST: Social: JGA was able to negotiate with the bus company and got half the money returned. Social Committee will work to reimburse students. NCAA event is Thursday. St. Paddy’s Day party is Saturday. Planning for Spring Fling is underway. The tentative date is April 14.

TK: Any more questions for ST? [Seeing none]

BD: What is the time and date of March Madness?

ST: Wednesday at noon until 5/5:30 PM.

BD: Can we send out a save the date for Spring Fling?

ST: Save the date will be going out this week or upcoming week.

FP: Facilities: FP is meeting with the facilities staff and the cabinetmaker to do a walk through of the space next week. Facilities have installed the TVs and cable. MG has suggested purchasing Apple TVs for the space as an additional upgrade. Apple TVs play games and can be accessed by individual students.

MA: Can we get a second quote for the cabinet?

FP: Will take care of after the walk through.

JGA: Can we place different types of food vending machines on campus?

FP: In the past, the Administration has expressed reluctance out of concern for rodents and pests related to the machines. A lot of students have made the same suggestion. Facilities Committee will continue to push the idea and press it with the Administration.

TK: Any more questions for FP? [Seeing none]

**New Business**

TK: Open floor to new business.

MZ: Over break, became aware that the Graduate student representative to the Board of Trustees elections were taking place. MZ alerted Dean Crawford that the Law School had not been alerted to the elections. A new round of elections will take place in the coming weeks.

MA: Important to have the Law School community have an opportunity to run for that position.
MA: **Motion to go off the record**, Second – BD
Yes – all
No – DS
Abstentions – ST
**Motion passes**

[Discussion ensued, off the record, as to whether this meeting should be on the record and whether the names of those speaking should be included in the minutes.]

MA: **Motion to go on the record**, Second
Yes – all
No – DS
Abstentions – MA, BG, JB, JGA
**Motion passes**

ST: Suggest we take a tally of people who do not wish their names to be on the record.

MA: Believe it would be very obvious of who would be left off the record and thus would not accomplish its goal.

MG: Believe the SBA should move to a vote of no confidence. Things will not change unless we take this action. Proffer the motion for a vote. Second by ST to pursue discussion.

ST: Just to clarify, Dusquanne Law School’s vote of no confidence had very particular circumstances. Was to remove the President of the school for his vengeful removal of the law school dean.

BG: Does not support a vote of no confidence. Objectives can be achieved through alternative means.

ML: There are certainly other options on the table that are worth exploring prior to a vote of no confidence. May be jumping too quickly into things.

MZ: Spent time over break looking into the steps other law schools have taken to increase rankings. Many of the examples indicate less than honest attempts to boost the rankings. Not sure how much the drop in rankings is associated with the Dean and what portion can be associated to Storrs and the State. Not comfortable proceeding without the data.

DS: Vote of no confidence against the Dean specifically is a very drastic move. I would like to hear specific failings on the part of the Dean that people are concerned about, such as the lack of a plan mentioned earlier. Believe SBA should move forward highlighting specific failings. Do not believe we have heard any specifics yet that would hold the Dean accountable.
BD: There are two separate goals. The first goal is to increase the Law School’s ranking and the second goal is to pursue a change in the Law School’s leadership. BD believes an alternative approach would be a letter to the President expressing the student body’s concerns.

MG: The State of the Law School forum was an absolute disaster. Believes that nothing is being done to change the school’s direction. Concerned about the perpetuation of the status quo.

SL: Believe the best way for the student body to show the Dean that the student body is not apathetic is to light a fire. Afraid the Dean does not understand students’ concerns.

MB: The vote of no confidence can do more harm than good. Such a vote will make the SBA look bad. An alternative approach of writing a letter accomplishes the same thing as a vote in a more private manner. Normally, would agree with MG, but in this scenario a letter is better.

JB: To go back to SL’s point regarding student involvement, JB was really upset by the Dean’s comment that students are not working hard. Based on an experience at a recent networking event, there needs to be a re-energizing of the student body.

MA: I cannot support a vote of no confidence. Believe it will undermine the SBA’s objectives. Think that a likely response to a vote of no confidence would be the Administration taking the exact opposite response. Believe the best course of action is to take a message directly to the President. SBA must take steps to do something if it feels the Law School is going in the wrong direction.

FP: Echo comments by MB. Right now there is a Deans Review underway. SBA must recognize that it is not at the top of the management hierarchy. There are other bodies that will decide the issue. While the Deans Review process is underway, the SBA’s role should be providing information. The review panel has much greater access to information. Would be more comfortable moving forward after contact the review panel.

NK: Strongly agree with a letter and suggest that we have individual students sign on to the letter. Will convey more broadly the scope of student dissatisfaction.

JGA: Would like to know more about the issues regarding the responses by the Dean at the State of the Law School forum.

AL: How do we know we will get all the data out of the Dean’s Review process? Can we ask for that information in order to make more informed decisions.
ML: Believe that the same result can be achieved from writing a letter when compared to a vote of no confidence.

MG: Wishes to amend previous motion to follow suggestion by MA regarding alternative course of conduct. Wish to withdrawal motion.

ST: Withdrawals second to motion.

MA: Wishes to motion to have the SBA draft a letter to the UConn leadership. Seconded by the ST. Have prepared a statement for the SBA to review. The first page is a cover letter. The rest is the actual statement.

[Distribute letter for review]

TK: Discussion will proceed on the letter with any technical amendments accepted as friendly.

ML: Would reword a sentence on second to last paragraph of the fourth page.

MG: Would prefer to have the Dean as a CC.

MA: Mission is to have the letter convey student concern to the leadership and not to request any particular action, just asking leadership to recognize student concerns.

BG: Should we speak to the Dean directly in the letter?

BD: Believe the proper way would be to have the Dean CC’ed. Concur with MG.

MA: Will incorporate message to Dean Paul in the cover letter.

MG: Suggest each member of the student body sign it.

BY: Believe multiple signatures adds a nice theatrical flourish.

JGA: Concerned that the letter focuses too heavily on the rankings. Have we done anything to address the Dean directly on the heals of the forum?

MA: SBA E-Board has met with Dean Paul on numerous occasions. This topic has been beaten to death and is a carryover from years past.

JGA: What are our other reasons for wishing for change?

MA: No plan moving forward. General lack of leadership. Unresponsive to student concerns. Drop in the rankings.
JGA: Should list concerns in the beginning. We have legitimate concerns as an organization. Want to make it clear that this letter isn’t compelled by just a frustration over the rankings.

BD: Can work on the organization of the letter to create a better structure focusing around concerns.

MA: Can make friendly changes to the structure but not to the words.

JGA: Would like to see it again. See another draft to make sure the end result conveys the proper message.

DS: Would say that it is wise for there to be multiple revisions. May require a special meeting. Suggest invite student body to participate.

SL: If we start going into exact mechanics then believe we would be opening ourselves up to more holes than necessary.

RMW: Dean Paul gave several suggestions for a plan moving forward at the end.

MB: I did not hear a single thing that indicated there was a plan. Did not hear a very specific, formulated plan.

BY: Would like to see a statistics showing clerkship performance over time on first page. In the paragraph immediately following that paragraph, would consider moving the tenure track professors comment. Fine with restructuring and seeing it again or voting tonight.

BD: Does anything else have something they would like to see added or subtracted?

MJ: Discussing issue for fundraising and funding on page four, should make it clearer that State is not contributing more to the Law School.

MA: Dean Paul has indicated that more scholarship money is coming in. Believe the letter should reflect a feeling from the student body. Going into specifics is dangerous.

JB: Going to the plan question, corporate America is very specific and transparent. The Dean did not provide that kind of information.

AL: Data in the most recent Pro Se article regarding scholarships. Article also lists recent accomplishments.

JGA: Concerned about comparison with another law school. Not sure it adds to our position. Why are we including this portion?
MA: When asked directly, Dean Paul stated that the dean plays a very small role in the trajectory of a law school. Striking similarities to UConn make it apt for comparison. Judging from forum response and arguments, then there are inconsistencies.

DS: Can maybe clarify why we are comparing ourselves to another school by moving to an earlier part of the letter the fact that Dean Paul was asked about this other school at the State of the Law School event.

BD: Show of hands regarding whether Dean Paul has a plan.

ML: Revise to say “specific plan” or “clear plan.”

FP: We need to get this resolved as soon as possible as a current group.

MA: There are other factors at play here that necessitate a statement be made by the end of the week.

JB: Would suggest wording to say “clear, transparent plan”.

MA: Propose to have a special meeting tomorrow night.

BD: Not sure there is not enough time to revise by tomorrow night.

MA: There are many rules required for calling a special meeting.

MG: Suggest a recess of this meeting.

DS: What are forces limiting the time frame?

MA: Information collecting portion of the Deans Review has concluded. Believe that no official statement has been submitted to the Provost as of yet. If it is for a better product, then let’s do it next week.

JGA: Do we want to even write a letter?

ML: Is Thursday off the table?

DS: Motion to vote whether the SBA should continue to consider whether to take any action regarding the Dean or the Rankings.

DS: **Motion**, second –
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – FP, MG, MA, BG
**Motion passes**
NK: Body will be more effective if we have the revision meeting this week.

BD: Will have office hours scheduled over the next couple of days to have individual voices heard.

MA: Will propose having a meeting next Tuesday. Can everyone make the next meeting?

TK: Any additional business? [Seeing none.]

ST: **Motion to adjourn**, second – AL
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

Meeting adjourned. 10:58 PM
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
03/20/2012, 9:30 PM, Library 202

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):

Executive Board and Cabinet:
President - Marco Allocca, MA
Vice President - Bethany DiMarzio, BD
Chief Administrative Officer - Robby Canning, RC
Chief Financial Officer - Michael Barrese, MB
Parliamentarian - Tamara Kramer, TK

Class Representatives:
1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB
1L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
1L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
1L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
1L Evening – Philip Liu, PL
1L Evening – Jess Signor, JS
2L Day – Francisco Russo, FR
2L Day – Matt Loftus, ML
2L Day – Brian Gore, BG
2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ
3L Day – Rafe Monroe-Wise, RMW
3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST
3L Day – David Shufrin, DS
3L Day – Matt Zagaja, MZ
LLM – Pierre Tardivo, PT
Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace-Alvarado, JGA
Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC
Upperclass Evening – Matt Grimes, MG
Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP

Also in Attendance:
ABA Representative – Bob Yamartino, BY
Members of the student body
TK: Open this meeting at 9:30 PM.

MA: Is there quorem?

TK: We have thirteen members present in addition to the E-Board.

MA: We have the letter pending from our last meeting.

TK: Since this is new business, we can entertain motions.

MA: Not sure Robert’s Rules are the best way to proceed tonight.

MA: **Motion to suspend Robert’s Rules for the meeting**, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – MZ, MG
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

MA: Meeting will follow a structured conversation allowing members who haven’t spoken yet to speak prior to people who have already spoken being called on. Once, we are ready for a vote. We will keep that simple and clean as well. Believe DS has a motion that he would like to present.

DS: Yes, can someone help me pass out my proposal?

Editor in Chief of the CT Public Interest Law Journal: Had several previous run-ins with the Dean regarding funding and relationship with the Journal. Pretty much all of my meetings have been a mess. At the CPILJ symposium, the Dean left after the first panel and returned only for lunch. Many members from the outside community commented on the absence. During his introduction remarks, the Dean offended members of the audience. Specifically, went to his Happy Hour and met with the Dean in his office because the CPILJ only receives half the foundation money as other journals. The Dean said he doesn’t understand how the journal became a print journal. The Dean recommended that CPILJ form a regional journal. Does not believe the Dean supports journals. Person who the EIC was directed to meet with in the administration has not been responsive to any emails or attempts to meet.

MA: Thank you for your public comment. DS will you propose your alternative?

DS: I propose a short letter as an alternative to the longer letter that the SBA is considering. The letter would be directed to the Provost and would not list all the things the Dean has done wrong but suggest student concerns. The letter would recommend a meeting with students. Main concern with providing a longer letter is the SBA would be putting out a laundry list of all the things wrong with the law school. The laundry list would be making public all the specific reasons that the students are unhappy. Alternatively, a private conversation is a simpler way to get
the same mission accomplished. Generally, I understand that no one is happy with Dean Paul. I spoke with numerous students who have expressed dissatisfaction with the Dean and who want to do something but are also concerned about doing additional damage to the school and the rankings when what we are trying to do here is improve the school. Everyone here has had concerns prior to the rankings release. People feel something is wrong. The Dean is not supporting the students. The decrease in the rankings is more a product of the previous things the Dean has done wrong. The rankings are a signal that things are wrong on campus. Generally, my proposal is to send this letter or something very similar this evening then to continue working on a statement that the SBA can use. Maybe the statement will be more of a guideline that can be used at the meeting with the Provost. General thoughts on that approach?

MA: Thank you to DS for taking the initiative on this issue. I appreciate the sentiment. After looking into it, I think DS’s approach would be okay under different circumstances. Given that the Dean’s Review is coming to a conclusion, the alternative approach would be too late in the game. A prospective meeting would not happen for at least a week or two. The alternative is too little or too late. If this body wants to make a statement in relation to the upcoming Dean’s Review, there needs to be an official statement adopted tonight or it will not be considered by the Dean’s Review Committee.

DS: Understand MA’s point but not sure it is accurate. Believe it is not too late. The Dean’s Review is purely an information gathering body. The Provost will make the final decision. I can’t see the Provost announcing any decision before graduation. The meeting with the Provost may not take place until after the process is over but do not believe that it is actually too late. Believe that this letter alone will result in the Provost calling up Dean Paul and asking why the students are unhappy. We all know there will not be an answer on the other side of the phone. The letter will get the Provost thinking about what is actually going on.

JB: Have we thought about putting a positive spin on this? Consider proposing suggestions and saying what we want.

MG: We spent quite a bit of time on the subject last week. We have an hour and fifteen minutes until we get kicked out of this room tonight. Really thought we know as a body which direction we were going. Much time has been spent by many persons. Thank you DS for your effort but time is of the essence. We are not listing a laundry list of horrible things. We are voicing concerns of the student body. Immediate action is needed now. We knew last week where we were going. Would like to build on last week and not going in an alternative approach. Thought we were almost there last week. MA did a great job with the first draft. Now just have to polish it and get the ball rolling.

AW: Dealing with the issue in a non-public manner may not be feasible. Very important that this current body act. The letter should be well written but we
should not be quibbling. Believe that if anything we should merge the documents but proceed tonight.

AL: Believe we should see the letter that was prepared by the E-Board before making a decision. Many people favor DS’s approach.

ST: To counteract that, cannot afford to give Dean Paul more opportunity to explain away things. The E-Board letter was not a laundry list but a clear articulation where we stand.

MA: Can we all agree to look at the E-Board alternative? Do not want to shun any person’s view. Want to make sure we make an informed decision and are comfortable with the approach that is pursued. [Straw poll on alternatives]

[Addressing SBA E-Board Letter]

MA: Some of the concerns expressed last week were format, style and excess verbiage. Believe format has been resolved. Bullets of issues were put in the front and set up as headers. Much of the top is the same. CC’ing Dean Paul has been reflected. First section is our trajectory. I know a lot of people have mentioned that we do not want to focus too heavily on the rankings. Have taken out a lot regarding the rankings. ASU information has been removed. Trajectory information serves as a foundation for the rest of the statement. Gives context of why writing letter and impression that are professional in approach. The trajectory section provides support for points.

MG: How much is this letter different?

MA: Differs quite a bit. A lot of material has been removed. Letter says our ranking has fallen and that rankings have affected the students. It is more than just a number but something that is affecting us and graduating students. The next section is our Law School lacks a vision for the future.

DS: Can we get individual copies?

MZ: As duly elected representatives, I believe that you can trust us.

BD: I will print copies from the Knight Office.

[BD leaves to print copies]

DS: Given the lack of copies, can you email the letter to each of us?

MA: Would prefer to limit possibility for unnecessary disclosure.
AW: Last week we expressed that we wanted to convey our sentiments rather than speak forcefully. I feel that the headings are too assertive. The first heading feels like we are saying the law school is up a creek without a paddle. Believe we can orient the reader without being so aggressive.

MB: At this point changing the heading is not a big deal. The content is here. What we need to deal with now is if we think the content is right and if the organization is right. Subjects are trajectory, future, etc.

SL: Would like to go through the letter in a more structured way. Let’s go through this in an overview.

BY: Same comment as last week. I want to see a comparison between clerkship numbers.

MA: Will get rid of sentence. Our law school lacks visions section deals with what happened at the law school forum. A lot of students felt that there were not answers to questions. One source of student frustration derives from sense that the law school lacks vision. Also, remember concern about “actual plan” for the future. Phasing was changed to "clear plan". Transparent does not accurate reflect what we are trying to say.

JB: Was dealing with the fact that the findings have not been published.

ML: Using the word “justification” seems to suggest that there is some kind of valid response. First line that you can see. Consider removing entirely.

MA: Delete.

MB: Propose we figure out what approach we consider before more knit-picking.

DS: Feel letter is too focused on the rankings. The problem is that there is no plan, no leadership and no accountability to the students. The problem is that he does not act like a dean.

MA: The question is how specific that we want to get. The point of keeping it broad is to not make this into a personal attack. If we want to say the Dean acts inappropriate at a symposium we can.

CPILJ EIC: What if I wrote a personal testimonial because then SBA could distance itself from personal attacks.

JGA: There needs to be enough information to show that we are not throwing out generalities but also do not want to create a laundry list. Like the idea of DS’s short letter.
MB: E-Board has already given our personal stories and our personal accounts.

TK: We all have conveyed many of the personal stories to the Dean’s Review Committee. We have all individually met with the committee and conveyed concerns. They are aware.

ML: In response to what MB said regarding debating merits between the two approaches. What do people think about combining the two? A big part of DS’s plan is laying out the larger concerns and setting up a meeting. There is no guarantee that DS’s approaching of setting up a meeting will happen. Suggest having a cover letter proposing meeting with specific concerns and then also making a letter with some of the main concerns.

MA: Believe DS’s point is that he does not want full statement going out.

DS: Concerned about the way the statement is distributed. Would like a generalized, very basic formal statement followed by a more lengthy letter.

BY: Should probably consider asking FP how he feels about a meeting. We have taken the straw poll already. Believe we should move to a formal vote to see what path the SBA will take. Believe there have been some good proposals but want to get something accomplished.

AL: Basically what BY said.

JB: Even if we do have a meeting with the Provost. There is also the possibility that the meeting could go on Above the Law.

MG: RC should read what we have and see if there will be any major objections otherwise we could be nickling and diming this thing to death.

ST: The fear of negative publicity should not be driving what we are going to do. Take issue with the people who have the biggest concern with the rankings. The rankings are a metric that reflects the school. To say the rankings are not an important issue disregards just how important they are. The rankings encapsulate many of the attributes about the school. Rankings are where we should lead with given the straight downward trajectory.

JGA: E-Board had a chance to talk to the Dean’s Review Board already. What will this letter do that the meetings didn’t.

MA: The Dean’s Review Board took student individual views as well as our views as indicative of the student body. Preference all answers with personal view. Did not want to pretend to express all student concerns. We all met with the Dean's Review Committee separately. Believe one uniform response is much more powerful than we met with five students.
BD: Specific set of questions asked by the Committee did not really address the issues we are looking at here. Many of the questions dealt with how the Dean related to alumni or hired faculty. Most answers were “I don’t know”.

MB: Nothing much more to add to what has already been said by BD.

TK: Committee wanted to know personal opinions. Last question dealt with how TK believed the student body felt. This letter reflects a solidified view from the campus.

AL: Dean’s email was on Above the Law. I do not understand how a letter sent to the President and the Provost can get on Above the Law. I do not see how it would happen.

MA: Publicity would show that someone in a place of power sent it to the news.

SL: Motion to take ten minutes to read the statement.

[Reading new statement]

MA: **Motion to close the minutes**, second – ML
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

MG: **Motion to open the minutes**, second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

FP: Is this letter confidential among the group or will this letter become general knowledge?

TK: Discussion about the letter is in the SBA minutes and is a public record.

FP: Was not sure where we were and did not want to divulge any material.

TK: Last week’s discussion was a public discussion with minutes taken.

FP: Would recommend be cautious about this issue because no action has been chosen.
DS: Would say the opposite. Originally stated that we did not want people discussing the letter when we weren’t sure what path we were taking. Very important to have the student body involved at this point in the game.

ST: **Motion to resume Robert’s Rules**, second - MG
Yes – all
No – DS, JB
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

TK: Can now entertain a motion to adopt the SBE E-Board statement.

MG: **Motion to adopt the statement as proposed by MA**, second - ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

TK: Discussion of the motion.

AW: There are some dangling modifiers but I believe we should adopt the statement.

MA: Can we focus on content?

ML: Would like to move to close the discussion.

RMW: On page 3, where you took out the clerkship sentence. Are there any other statistics, particularly relative to any law schools in the area?

MB: [Showing an excel file indicating US News and Report statistics] Picked information from schools that Dean DeMeola considered equivalent.

MA: Would support adding specific statistics.

BG: What is on the table. Let us vote whether we are going with the letter

MA: Point of clarification.

TK: ML proposed closing discussion and moving to the vote.

MZ: Can we clarify the procedure? Are we voting on the issuance of the letter or will be there further time for comment?

TK: Motion is to adopt the letter and then will proceed with changes.
ML: Motion on the table is whether to take the MA statement path. Motion is to close discussion and to accept this as the path.

MG: Would like to amend motion.

BD: MG are stating that you would like to amend motion to adopt this motion in its sentiment and would allow a final motion to adopt the letter in its entirety.

MG: **Motion to adopt sentiment in statement by MA reserving a final vote on the final draft**, second
Yes – all
No – DS, JGA, MZ
Abstentions – JB, AL
Motion passes

BD: If anyone has a substantive amendment please put it forward. Grammatical changes will come next. A final vote will follow the suggestions.

DS: Would really like to see more things of specific, things like Laura’s story. On page 3, under school lacks a vision for the future, I like the sentence, but I do not like it there.

SL: Isn’t our direction the rankings?

DS: Are we griping about the ranking or the person in charge who affects the rankings?

ML: Can we add a line about “countless other stories” that indicate many people have stories about Dean Paul. Suggest adding a sentence to the end.

MA: Going to accept the idea of this as a friendly amendment.

[Working on wording]

BD: Believe that sentence belongs before the previous sentence.

MZ: Like most of the letter. Only thing that did not sit well with MZ was last paragraph on page 4 about Dean Paul blaming student body. Would propose to strike the paragraph.

MA: That is not a friendly amendment.

BD: Several students have expressed that concern to me. Does that change your mind?
MZ: Propose changing wording where “Administration has created an environment...”

DS: Want to second BD’s comment. Maybe we could focus more on the Administration or the Dean’s Office.

MG: Can we say “condone” rather than “created”?

ML: “Fostered”?

BD: “Perpetuated”?

MA: Going to accept “fostered”

MZ: With those changes, will withdrawal amendment.

AL: Feel that the last paragraph only reflects the State of the Law School Forum. Feel student concerns go further back. Proposal: “Dean Paul has not provided the proper level of enthusiasm, support and respect for several students law school events”.

DS: At the end, would add in “student organization” or “journals, student organizations.” Would like Laura’s comments to be included.

MA: Accept as a friendly amendments.

JGA: On page 2, have a proposed change. Instead of “our current trajectory” would say “students are concerned that our current trajectory is”. Does someone have a better idea?

MA: Accept amendment as friendly.

TK: Does anyone want to change the amendment?

DS: Instead of “our”, would say “the law school” for all three headings.

MA: Had “our” in order to take responsibility for the law school.

DS: Can we go back to the first heading?

MB: Will go through each heading individually.

ML: I understand everyone’s concern about assertive nature but we have headings for a reason. Match with the first paragraph.

DS: I withdraw my amendment.
BY: Would like to see a signature page at the end of the document.

MA: Would not accept as a friendly amendment.

MG: Think we all ought to sign it. MA’s signature is going on the front page. Ours ought to go on the back.

BY: **Motion to have a signature page at the end of the letter where every member of the SBA would sign,** second - MG
Yes – MG
No – all
Abstentions – SL, AW
**Motion fails**

ST: Propose to get rid of Dean Paul in the cover letter.

MA: Would accept as friendly.

ST: Want an oxford comma and to italicize magazine titles.

AL: Change “our” to “our law school” and to change the list.

MA: Accept as a friendly amendment

JGA: Would change the list and the second heading to “our law school lacks a transparent vision for future advancement”.

MA: Would you withdrawal your amendment if it said “clear”?

JGA: Want to be clearer and to use the word advance.

DS: “Clear plan” is better than vision.

MA: Future is fine.

JGA: Withdrawal amendment.

AL: In the title, law school is mentioned twice. Remove the second one.

MA: Friendly amendment.

ML: A few grammatical corrections, on the cover letter, would remove vote count.

MA: Cover letter is from MA personally.

ST: Put a period at the end of every heading.
MA: Accepted as friendly.

BY: Change “not only” and “but also” to more affirmative statements.

TK: Table amendment for a moment. There are five minutes of discussion remaining.

MA: This is a statement from each one of you. Do not want any of you to be forced into voting one way or another. I drafted this because nobody else offered to.

AW: Oxford comma comment makes a substantive change.

JGA: Can we include a statement about evening students?

DS: I am not sure I personally agree with everything in this letter or the way it is presented, but I would like everyone to think about their constituency when voting and how they would want you to vote.

BD: **Motion to accept the letter as is and allow the E-Board to make non-substantive changes at their discretion**, second – ST

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**Motion unanimous passes**

[Applause]
TK: Any additional business?

MA: We need to be more open and transparent and communicative but all in all very proud of this body.

ST: **Motion to adjourn**, second – ML
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
**Motion passes**

Meeting adjourned. 10:57 PM
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
03/27/2012, 9:30 PM, Library 202

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):

Executive Board and Cabinet:
President - Marco Allocca, MA
Vice President - Bethany DiMarzio, BD
Chief Administrative Officer - Robby Canning, RC
Chief Financial Officer - Michael Barrese, MB
Parliamentarian - Tamara Kramer, TK

Class Representatives:
1L Day – Janine Beauregard, JB
1L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
1L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
1L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
1L Evening – Philip Liu, PL
1L Evening – Jess Signor, JS
2L Day – Francisco Russo, FR
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2L Day – Brian Gore, BG
2L Day – Alex Wing, AQ
3L Day – Rafe Monroe-Wise, RMW
3L Day – Sebastian Tornatore, ST
3L Day – David Shufrin, DS
3L Day – Matt Zagaja, MZ
LLM – Pierre Tardivo, PT
Upperclass Evening – Jamie Grace-Alvarado, JGA
Upperclass Evening – Mike Colandrea, MC
Upperclass Evening – Matt Grimes, MG
Upperclass Evening – Franklin Perry, FP

Also in Attendance:
ABA Representative – Bob Yamartino, BY
Alexander Cogbill, AC
Connor McNamara, CM
Mallory Goodwin, MalG
Yifei He, YH
TK: Open this meeting at 9:33 PM. Is there any public comment?

CB: My name is Chris Borcher. I am here tonight because I am running for the graduate student representative to the Board of Trustees. Running as a law student. The idea is to unite the law school. I have a Facebook page. We will have a get out the vote drive. I have a seven point plan. It is all about jobs and degrees. To get more jobs for the graduates and to enhance the value of the degrees.

BG: How do you vote?

CB: Voting will be available online

MA: What about people who do not have Facebook?

CB: UConn will send out emails. I will send out emails. Thank you everyone.

TK: Any additional public comment?

MA: **Motion to accept minutes 03/13/12**, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – SL
**Motion passes**

MA: **Motion to accept minutes 03/20/12**, Second – ST
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – FR
**Motion passes**

**Executive Board Updates**

MA: President – Statement that was sent to the Provost will be available for student review. A copy will be available in the Starr SBA Office. Members can review the document in hard copy by contacting the new SBA executive board.

TK: Any questions for MA?

AL: Anybody can walk into the SBA office and get access to the letter and send it to someone else.

MA: I would recommend that the SBA Executive Board store the hardcopy in the locked cabinet. Thank you for bringing that point up. I would note that I haven’t had anyone ask me to see it but that’s not to say that people won’t.

RMW: Do you know if the letter factored into the Dean’s decision?
MA: I do not know if it had an impact. I do not want to speculate. All copies were hand delivered last Wednesday. I received acknowledgement of the receipt.

AL: Should we tell the student body that a letter was sent and that students can go look at the letter?

MA: We passed the letter in a public fashion. If students are interested they can follow the instructions publicly available. Do not lie to the student body. Just tell them. We made a decision not to put forward a public email. The letter is public information. We have not advertised it. You are all members of the SBA and handle it as you see fit.

TK: Any further questions for MA?

[Seeing None]

BD: Vice President – I have no updates.

TK: Any questions for BD?

[Seeing None]

RC: CAO – Thank you everyone for your diligence reviewing the minutes throughout the semester.

TK: Any questions for RC?

[Seeing None]

MB: CFO – BALSA submitted a supplemental budget request food for Brother Outsider. They are only asking for money for food. They had support from Shipman Goodwin. Although we do not normally go this high on movie nights, because there were student groups, a prestigious law firm and the dean's office participating we should approve.

JGA: How was the food number determined?

MB: It is based off a calculated 75 people times $14 per person plus gratuity.

JGA: Is that number less than what they asked for or the same?

MB: The number is the same as the request.

ST: Motion to accept supplemental budget request, Second – ML
Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none
Motion passes

TK: Any questions for MB?

[Seeing none]

BY: ABA – The transition is well underway. Contacts have been forwarded to PL. Enjoy the summer meeting?

TK: Any questions for BY?

[Seeing none]

FP: Facilities – Transition is underway. There are several people interested. I will keep them updated. We would like to see through our initiative and see through before graduation.

TK: Any questions for FP?

[Seeing none]

ST: Social Committee – Spring Fling is April 14 at the Riverfront Boat House. Also have Midnight Breakfast, free tea and coffee in the CO-OP and a graduation dinner.

ML: Where is River Front Boathouse?

ST: The boathouse is off Jennings Road. It is on land. There is a nice area with tables and there is a deck with lights. We’re going cocktail style.

ML: There will not be a boat?

ST: This will be a turf event rather than a surf event.

MG: Will there be mud?

ST: If there is flooding, the caterer is responsible to changing the venue.

FP: Will there be busing?

ST: Buses will travel to and from the event.

JB: By the boathouse you mean that place that’s always under water?

MA: There was no snow this year.
ST: Google the location. It is very nice.

TK: Any further questions for ST?

[Seeing none]

New Business

MA: Transition of office. Exit speech. Multiple thank you’s to the entire SBA. I appreciate everyone’s efforts. Thank you for being attentive and contributing to the conversation. There has not been a better year of budgeting.

BD: Would like to recognize MA for his hard work this year. For every two hours you see him every two weeks have to know that he did exponentially more work behind the scenes. It is not easy to be the President of an organization and have lots of points of contention. He came through it all with great perseverance. He point in a lot of work and zealously represented the student body.

RC: Thank you, MA!

MA: FP, JS and BG, please come down to be sworn. MG started a ledger for elections. Think it is a really cool tradition to start. It was his own initiative. Thank you MG.

[Administering the Oath, Signing of the Election Ledger]

ST: Do graduating members of the SBA still need to attend meetings?

RC: Yes, you still need to attend meetings if you are graduating. If you were not re-elected then you don’t need to attend.

FP: My first act as President of SBA is to swear in new members.

[Administering of Oath to New SBA members]

ST: Yield to MA to have all new members sign sheet

MA: Please sign SBA election ledger on your way out of the meeting.

TK: Duly noted.

FP: New members please sign on your way out tonight.

TK: New business from president?
FP: New business; email from the administration looking for graduation volunteers to serve as usher; wanted to tap the SBA as a resource because we have the closest relationship to students and know what is going on campus. Need 8 volunteers for graduation on May 20th. Need to know by the end of the week if people are free to help out. If you volunteer then you’ll be finished by the early afternoon on that date. Likely serve as an usher. Help to direct people where they need to go. Pretty simple, need to be present.

PY: What date does the 20th fall on?

FP: Sunday, May 20th.

NK: What time does the ceremony start?

FP: Early morning, around 10am. When does it start?

BD: I did it last year and we had to be there at 9. I highly recommend that you consider doing this.

SL: I can do it now.

PY: How long are we there for?

FP: The ceremony will probably be for a bit. We don’t know how long each speaker will be on for. There is no time limit given to speakers. I will ask again for a specific time frame. You’re looking for at least a couple of hour commitment. You’re likely giving up about three or four hours of your day.

JGA: Are you looking for outgoing SBA members who are not graduating?

RC: I did it last year, and it’s a great way to participate. Need to be there at 9. Out by 12. It’s a good way to understand what graduation is all about. And then I was out of there by twelve.

BG: There will be a sheet upfront to sign up before you leave in order to work at graduation.

TK: Do you have any other new business, FP?

FP: No more new business.

TK: Does the CFO have any updates?

MB: Yes, I do. I’m going to pass around a sheet to see who would like to be on the budget committee. For the remainder of the semester, you’ll need to be available by e-mail to deal with supplemental budget requests. The new CFO will determine next
year’s Budget Committee. Here is a list of budget guidelines. I’ve cleaned up how everything is organized as a way to explain how events can be funded.

TK: Any questions for MB?

FR: Continue to give you reimbursements?

MB: I will continue to sign checks until there is authorization with the new CFO’s name. Then the new person will come in and complete their process.

TK: Any questions for MB?

AL: Should we put the class on the sign up sheet?

MB: Yes, year and division.

ML: I’ve been on the budget committee since I was a 1L. The old way was much more confusing but this is much easier to read and follow especially if you’re not on the budget committee and haven’t been a treasurer.

TK: I’ll entertain a motion to adopt MB’s budget guidelines.

MB: Motion to adopt my budget guidelines for 2012-2013 academic year.

BG: Second motion to adopt new budget guidelines.

Yes: all
Opposed: none
Abstentions: none

TK: Motion passes; Motion carries. Does the VP have any new business?

BG: No new business for me tonight

FP: We have chosen our new CFO. CFO position is appointed by the President. The E-Board sat down with some candidates. Being CFO is a huge responsibility because they appropriate the money to all of our student groups as we’ve seen MB do this year, which we did not have this year. This year we’ve chosen ML. I’d like to make a motion to nominate ML.

TK: Matt can come up to have some questions and answers. ML would you like to come up? Does anyone have any questions for ML?

ML: I’ll give you an overview of myself. I’ve served on the SBA since 1st semester 1L year. I’ve been on the Budget Committee since then. I’ve served under DS and MB.
I’m comfortable with the budget process. I’ve been a treasurer for a number of other groups. Just a general overview in case anyone has questions.

ST: What other positions do you have for next year?

ML: I’m not running for anything. I’m a Notes editor for my journal but I’m not seeking any leadership positions.

[ML leaves room.]

TK: is there any discussion. No discussion. All those in favor of appointing, ML?

Yes: all
No: none
Abstentions: none

Motion Passes.

TK: Would everyone like to congratulate, ML?

MB: I wanted to thank the budget committee one last time. you guys helped make this year go very smoothly. Good luck to ML. I’d like to thank MA, BD, RC, and TK for a great year on the E-Board. I had a great time.

TK: Any more new business?

FP: We’ve also made an appointment for parliamentarian to serve next year, JB.

TK: JB will come in to take questions.

JB: I’ve not had experience with Roberts Rules but I think I could do a good job seeing how it works here. I taught classes in resolution and I think I would have good control over this body and keep everything in order.

TK: Any discussion on the candidate? All those in favor of JB assuming the position of parliamentarian?

Yes: all
No: 1 [NK]
Abstentions: none

Motion passes.

TK: I think you guys were all great. I appreciate all of your patience. Now that we all do this, I think the meetings have worked really well. Our E-Board was a great group to work with.
BG: Already running a bit late. As of right now, no one has been elected to fill Social Committee Chair position. We’re still looking at the candidate pool. If you’re interested in that position then let me know.

JB: I’ll entertain a motion to adjourn this meeting.

FP: Motion to adjourn this meeting.

ML: 2nd motion to dismiss.

Yes – all
No – none
Abstentions – none

Motion passes

Meeting adjourned. 10:21 PM
University of Connecticut School of Law  
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting  
04/10/2012, 9:30 PM, Library 202

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):

Executive Board and Cabinet:  
President – Franklin Perry, FP  
Vice President – Brian Gore, BG  
Chief Administrative Officer – Jess Signor, JS  
Chief Financial Officer – Matt Loftus, ML  
Parliamentarian – Janine Beauregard, JB

Class Representatives:  
2L Day – Alexander Cogbill, AC  
2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK  
2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL  
2L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL  
3L Day – Francisco Russo, FR  
3L Day – Yifei He, YH  
Upperclass Evening – Connor McNamara, CM  
Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG

Also in Attendance:  
Sebastian Tornatore, SB  
Matt Zagaja, MZ  
Beichen Chen, BC  
Lisa Tran, LT

JB: Open this meeting at 9:36 PM. Is there any public comment? Seeing none we’ll begin with the President’s update:

FP: We have a very important vote coming up in the next couple of weeks. I’ve been working with Ricardo in the IT department to create an electronic voting system to vote on the Referendum. For those of you who don’t know what the referendum is, we’re required once every four years to have a vote by the student body to determine whether UCONN Law or UCONN Storrs should maintain control of the Student Activities Fee Fund. This Fund is the operating budget of the SBA and how the SBA is able to dispense funds to all student groups on campus. All current students can vote on this matter. Hopefully once the link is live we can set up tables in the Library Foyer to get students to vote and send out e-mails with the link to the student body. It will be an important vote and we’ll need to make sure we have everyone’s help.
AL: I think the student fee is $85 and the student population of 700 and it's about $60,000. So there is some other type of outside fee.

ST: No, I think if you do the calculations we're were we need to be.

BG: I think we're in the weeds. We need to tell them if we're voting yes or no.

JB: Any other voting questions?

FP: looking at the special elections. We have 3 members of the student body who are filled. Please let your friends know that there is a sign-up sheet. We will e-mail the nominees to ask them to tell us why they want to be on the SBA, they will leave and then we will vote on if we want them to be on the board. Next Point of Business is Committees. You all have an obligation to serve on a Committee as a member of the SBA. I will appoint chairs for committees. Let me know if you're interested in chairing a committee. We'll have sign-up sheets at our next meeting. Again, no one knows what their schedule will be like in the fall, just to make sure that you'll think about that over the summer. Just need to collect results for something like election committee. Any questions about Committees? Alright, lastly is the issue with the diversity committee. They are going to try and be completely independent group on campus. It would need approval from Dean Crawford. They would need to write up bylaws. We just got them. If we approve them, then they become their own separate group and we are no longer attached. If they cannot get enough participation then they fold. We think that they can sustain themselves. It absolves the SBA of Diversity Committee meeting. We'll review the bylaws and then send them out to you to review before our next meeting.

JB: Any other questions? Seeing none, BG.

BG: We're going to have the roundtable the second week of the Fall Semester. We're going to do this again from last year. It's essentially getting Presidents and Treasurers of Student Groups on campus for an hour to go over some reoccurring problems. Show people how to reserve rooms and make sure that we share ideas so we can encourage collaboration in order to increase attendance and save money. There will be emails to flag it now. Look out for e-mails about orientation. We will need help. We're going to work with Claudia Norsworthy. Just keep it in the back of your mind.


JS: Please send in your contact information (email and telephone number) to the SBA account. At some point this summer, please submit a bio to be included on the website.

ML: We're going to need a lot of volunteers for the referendum because if it does not pass then our role on campus will be purely symbolic. Some groups have
expressed interest in having orientation events. We have two possible budget contests, one from the JLSA and the CLSA for reimbursements because they were outside of the approved budget.

JB: Are there any questions for ML?

SB: Have you completely taken over for Mike?

ML: We're still waiting for the business office to transfer everything over. Reimbursement requests should still be sent to Mike.

SB: So all my Spring Fling stuff goes to Mike?

ML: Yes.

JB: Does the ABA Rep. have any updates?

PL: I have no updates.

FP: Facilities. We have the TV in the Knight Lounge. Signing the contract tomorrow with Sebastian Countertops. We’ll have a Starbucks style. Jim will go in to install the brackets before. We'll also have outlets installed. People will be here in the summer and fully functional by the fall. We're also talking to Dr. Brown about receiving a donation from the LLM fund to have a pool table. We should talk about if we even want that. Looking at how things have been going in recent weeks, we may not want to put something that big in the area. If you want to watch TV, please go in and enjoy the space. Good luck to the next Facilities Chair. TV will be functional going into exams going into finals.

JB: Any questions for FP?

SB: Is there a plan to bring the ATM back?

FP: We called them and they came and got it and never brought it back. That's certainly something I'll handle.

AC: Is Starr scaffolding still up?

FP: I'm not sure the level of that construction. It's beyond the scope of the SBA. Scaffolding will pop up anywhere and it's something we'll just have to deal with. I can e-mail Jim and ask him.

BG: I know there is information outside of UCONN Law. That information is taken care of by the Storrs Engineering team.

AL: What is going on with the old projection TV?
FP: I talked to Dean Crawford and Dr. Brown to sell it. We need to make sure that it's not school property before we try and sell it. If it belongs to the SBA

ST: Can we look into the receipt history?

ML: I have records going back to 2009. We can look to other records.

ST: I remember that Dean Crawford saying it was always SBA property.

FP: Her concern is if someone at UCONN Storrs says something. We could put it in Truffles. I just want to get it out of that room.

AC: In our archives we have a history of all meetings.

ST: Spring Fling is this Saturday. It is from 8 to 11:59. Tickets are on sale. Drink tickets for the first 160 people. The weather looks good. Next event would be the end of year midnight breakfast, planned by the incoming social chair with Dr. Brown and the class of 2012 Commencement Dinner. If you have any questions, I can answer. There will be buses.

MZ: Will the bars be just cash? or with atm?

ST: I encourage people to bring cash. I will remind people about that so they stop to get cash.

AL: What is the attire?

ST: It's up to you how to dress. It's an event for you to look nice with your classmates.

JB: Any other questions?

FP: Are you sending out a reminder?

ST: Yes, I'll send one out tomorrow and Friday. We sell them at the door.

FP: Spread the word.

ST: We don't look to turn at profit. 270 showed up for fall ball. It's a different style. There won't be as many table. It will be more dancing and we have the deck. There will be buses to the venue. And the bus will stop downtown. Here is the menu.

JB: Any questions? New business. I'll go down the list. JLSA.
ML: Is Karen here? No ok. In our budget application we asked for $760 fees. Things changed, we're asking for $400. The Hartford initially promised to give us money but then they defaulted. We are requesting $250 plus $150 and a total of $400. If we cannot get reimbursed. The members would not be happy with that. It is in the interest of students to participate in this event. We want them to go to a diversity event by a lot of other famous law schools in the North East.

ML: You're asking for $400 for the hotel.

BG: What is the event?

BC: Held by Harvard University. We were the largest group there. There are several speakers. Above the Law Creators was there. Someone running for U.S. Senate was there. Listen to lectures about Asian American culture and law school.

BG: Is there nothing on the budget initially?

ML: APALSA was approved. The SBA will only approve for up to $250 and they will give only 10 people allocations. So conferences are limited to $50 per person up to $500 per event. CLSA did not get the funding. The SBA can override this decision. I can be overridden. You guys can let me know what you think.

NK: How many people are CLSA bringing?

BC: We want to bring 12 more people.

ST: So you’re just asking for $400. Can we write that on the board so we keep site of that? When is it?

BC: It already happened.

ST: I think in light of the fact that it already happened. I’m in favor of breaking the conference rule because they were first to the budget with it. I think we should keep an eye on it in the future.

JB: Does anyone want to entertain a motion?

ML: I was under the impression that you were 4 people to a room.

BC: The event finished pretty late and so some of the students left at midnight because they felt they couldn't share a twin bed.

ML: Were people booking rooms?

BC: No.
AL: How many total attended between both groups?

BC: 24/25.

AL: What was the total approval?

ML: $237 for travel and parking expenses, gave everything that the guidelines allowed. I can't vote but I think it should be approved. It would be right to grant them the money. It's not fair to them. Personally, I'm in favor of overturning that decision.

MZ: I too agree that we should overturn the decision and maybe when they put together the budget guidelines. Maybe we should give them better guidelines.

ML: The only issue with that is the Softball Tournament in Virginia. Breaking it down differently could affect other events that could be construed as a conference. This event is different because this event has scholastic merits of its own.

AL: What was the total APALSA? What did we allocate?

ML: We allocated $500 for registration. And then $1000 minus $237 for travel. They got full funding and CLSA got whatever was left over. There was a huge disparity.

ST: Motion to Approve $400.

MZ: Second.

JB: Further Discussion?

BG: I'm concerned with the appearance that student groups spending and then just show up expecting to get money. I think this includes special circumstances. I don't want groups in the future to think this is the norm.

SL: Spending funds to a group that are greater than a group is allowed, it seems like it's pushing it for a group. I don't know it should be the full $400.

ML: APALSA only did get $250 for their conference.

ST: How much was for the event?

MG: Is there a way for us to require groups to foster collaboration. Maybe it would a good idea to have this at the roundtable?

FP: There may need to be a change in the language. There must be a way to quantify that the budget committee to measure how groups attend an event to
figure out how members can be represent their group. It is certainly something that can be hashed out.

ML: I can look into this issue over the Summer with the Budget Committee. The historic position of the SBA is that conferences are not as important as competitions because it is more beneficial to the group going than the competitions that could bring possible national recognition to the school.

ST: I want to bring it to the attention that there is a motion on the table to vote for the $400

in favor: MG, AL, MZ, NK, AC, ST, FP, BG
opposed: SL, CM
abstentions: none

[motion passes]


FP: I’ve heard that people have ideas to have an image of this SBA. Please bring to the next meeting. Please remember that we have limited funds. Please be creative with how you approach your issue. We want to be collaborative with faculty with administration. Do a little research and be ready to put out there, so we can keep track of everything, so we can define what we want to accomplish for next year. If you have nothing, that’s fine too. Our next meeting is April 24, same location, same time, not sure if there’s going to be significant new business. We’ll be on the precipice of exams.

JB: Any other new business.

BG: Motion to adjourn.

MG: second.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:35.
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
04/24/2012, 9:30 PM, Library 202

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):

Executive Board and Cabinet:
President – Franklin Perry, FP
Vice President – Brian Gore, BG
Chief Administrative Officer – Jess Signor, JS
Chief Financial Officer – Matt Loftus, ML
Parliamentarian – Janine Beauregard, JB

Class Representatives:
2L Day – Alexander Cogbill, AC
2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
2L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
3L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR
3L Day – Yifei He, YH
Upperclass Evening – Connor McNamara, CM
Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG

Also in Attendance:
ABA Representative Philip Liu, PL
Sebastian Tornatore, ST
Matt Zagaja, MZ
Camille Sauer, CS
Matt Ringland, MR
Nate Valeri, NV
Chris Brouchert, CB
Matt Grimes, MG
Hailey Fitzgerald, HF
Jay Riback, JR

JB: Call the meeting to order, it is 9:32.

ST: Motion to accept the minutes from 3-27-12.

BG: Second.

Yes: all
No: none
Abstentions: none
Motion Passes

ST: Motion to Approve minutes from 4-10-12.

BG: second.

Yes: all
No: none
Abstentions: none

JB: Public comment?

CB: I’m a graduate student running for the Board of Trustees as a Grad School Representative. Voting ends tomorrow. It would be a big deal to get a law school representative in there. It would be great. I’d be very grateful for the vote. Please get the vote out to other students.

JB: Any questions for, CB?

BG: Good Luck.

JB: Any other public comment? Seeing none, FP would you like to give your update?

FP: The referendum is the largest issue on our agenda. This vote is for the SBA to maintain oversight of the student activity fund. Daily we need to send a reminder to the community list. Thanks to all of you who have sat in the library to solicit votes from other students. Again, we need to hit 40% of the student body. We want to make sure everyone’s questions are answered. Let’s make sure that we, as representatives of the student body, are represented. I’ve also sent around sheets to fill out committees for next year. Please sign up for a committee. Please be cognizant of the time you have to devote to these committees next year. I encourage everyone to do at least one committee. In terms of the Diversity Committee and their bylaws I sent out a revised copy of their bylaws this morning. Not much has changed except that they added the descriptions of the executive board membership. They will now be independent from the SBA. They will now take on the responsibility. The SBA is still somewhat involved. The SBA President can appoint one chair which I will do.

BG: Motion to approve the bylaws.

AC: Motion to approve the bylaws.

NK: Second.

JB: Discussion?
AL: I don’t see anywhere in the bylaws that the SBA President has the power to appoint a co-chair to the Diversity Committee.

FP: I was reading an old copy. It had been in there but is not now. I guess they will appoint their own chairs. I will inquire about this matter for clarity.

SB: I think that we should not appoint a chair to provide complete autonomy, which is what I think we wanted to have happen.

AL: There are 7 executive board members, what if they only have 6 members?

Yes: All
No: none
Abstentions: none

**Motion Passes**

FP: Spring Fling was a great success. Thank you to everyone who worked the door. Great job, ST! Great night, great venue! Please tell people to stop by to get their favors from the SBA Office. Our next big event is the graduating class dinner. We’ll hear from ST later. Following our meeting tonight we’ll go to Damon’s to celebrate the end of the semester. It will be a nice way to unwind before finals.

BG: John C. Mooney e-mailed me about getting 2 golden retriever puppies coming to campus during finals. ST will update. Remember to check your e-mail over the summer to help out at orientation.

JS: Please remember to send me all of your contact information and a short bio to be posted to the SBA website so we can keep everything updated. Also, please remember to sign-up for a shift for the referendum table.

ML: I have one update. I have a list from many people interested in being on the Budget Committee. I need one representative from each class year. If I don’t get more volunteers, then I’ll have to fill them with day students. Feel free to e-mail the SBA account with your name saying that you’re interested.

PL: ABA update. Reminder that the annual conference is at Chicago in August from the 2nd to the 5th. It’s a great place to meet people. Early registration price must be paid for before May 1st.

FP: Facilities update. TVs are up and running in Knight lounge. Talking to Dr. Brown about getting more furniture in the office. They will finish with the bracketing after finals. Countertops are paid for and will be installed over the summer. We’re going to move the television from Knight to Truffles. We don’t know if it’s school property or not. To avoid issues we’re going to keep it on school property to free up greater space for people to use Knight Lounge.
ST: Social Committee update. Spring Fling was a great success thanks to all who helped. The Ginger and Nutmeg 2 golden retrievers, will visit school. They are trying to bring more than just these two. The cupcake truck will return on Tuesday, May 1st. The rest of the year has exam coffee. We have $1000 from the SBA and $500 from the Dean’s Office. We’re going to talk to the Co-Op about getting a medium sized coffee and maybe iced coffee. There will be a midnight breakfast. We are currently putting together a graduating dinner on May 18th. Please pass the word along to your constituency in the 3L Day and 4L Evening classes. Only other issue is the 1L Bar night which is something for this administration to undertake.


FP: We’ll hold off on getting those sworn in. We’d like to hear from you both.

HF: Hi my name is Hailey and I’m running for a 3L Day Rep. I know many of my classmates. I am a part of Mock Trial and Moot Court Board. I’ve worked on Orientation this past year to help 1Ls get acclimated to campus. I’d really like to get more involved in UCONN in my last year.

ML: What committee would you like to serve on?

HF: I’d like to be on any committee but probably social chair if I could.

MZ: What do you like about UCONN?

HF: Yes, I like it a lot. I went to a different kind of undergrad with very little sports activity. I feel a larger sense of community here. Everyone is very approachable, especially the administration.

JR: Good Evening SBA Reps. I have a strong background in community service. I am president of the JLSA for next year. I am also a newly elected member of the UCONN Co-Op in Storrs. I feel like the SBA’s efforts are not nameable. The central part of governance is communication and I feel the SBA has failed. It seems like if you don’t want to come to campus at 9:30 pm then the SBA doesn’t care about what you have to say. I think the SBA can help to fill that void. I think we need to attach meeting agendas to reminders. I will make a personal effort to reach out to my classmates to create a dialogue. I wish to increase transparency and look for your support in this role.

ST: What you just said struck a tone with me. Did you know that the library hours have changed in the second semester? Have you used the library? Have you attended social events? Those are SBA events. Did you attend the forum with Dean Paul?

JR: I didn’t go
ST: Did you hear about it? Did you check your e-mail? Maybe I’m just being sensitive but I’m hurt by what you said as an outgoing member who has put a lot of effort into what we’ve done. Maybe it’s willful ignorance on the part of students.

JR: I apologize if I offended you in any way but I think we could do more to reach out to students.

AL: You mentioned that you want summaries and agendas for the SBA meeting. Do you have any other ideas?

JR: I’d personally like to talk to my classmates and I think I’d be able to reach out in that way. I’d like to make the SBA’s role better known on campus.

FP: You mentioned that you’d like to see more transparency. What do you suggest would provide more transparency to the student body?

JR: I think a summary would be helpful and I think an agenda would be helpful because this is not a convenient time for most people.

MZ: Are you on a journal or other student committees?

JR: I’m president of the JLSA and on the UCONN Co-Op Board.

ML: Have you thought about what committee you’d like to serve on?

JR: I have an economics background so budget committee.

JB: Questions for both candidates?

AL: Do you think that there is a problem with SBA communication and the SBA activities? And if so, what would you do better?

HF: I personally don’t think there any issues because I check my e-mail throughout the date. I think more notice for events may be helpful to give people enough notice to plan for their schedules. But I think the communication is quite good.

AL: What student groups are you involved with?

HF: I’m interscholastic coordinator for Moot Court Board. I’m the president of Mock Trial Society. I’m on the insurance law journal. I have great time management commitment. I need 16 credits to graduate.

JR: I have one meeting a month in Storrs. I have to put together activities and one meeting a month. I have 25 credits left so I don’t think it should be too much. I have 12 and 13 a semester, so quite light.
MZ: Should we have the UCONN Dairy Bar in the law school?

HF: Who doesn't like ice cream?

JR: Want to support sales in the CO-OP

ST: Motion to close the minutes.

AL: Second.

Yes: all
No: none
Abstentions: none

**Motion Passes**

ST: Motion to go back on the record.

MG: Second.

Yes: all
No: none
Abstentions: none

**Motion Passes**

JB: all those in favor of electing Jay at the 3L Day?

Yes: 1

JB: All those in favor of HF?
Yes: 8

Abstentions: 3.

**Hailey Wins.**

FP: We want to thank you both for coming in and running to be a part of this special election. We appreciate your enthusiasm. Hopefully we’d like to see you both involved in the SBA moving forward. There needs to be greater communication. This is valuable input, which we appreciate. We need our classmates to hold us accountable. We will try to do a better job. Congratulations, HF on your position as the 3L Day Representative. JR feel free to stay for the rest of the meeting. Let’s get the upper-class evening representatives introduce themselves. Could you guys stand up and introduce yourself?
MR: Hi I’m Matt and I live in West Hartford and went to elementary school with Franklin.

NV: Hi I’m Nate and I’m from Massachusetts and I live up the street.

CS: Hi I’m Camille. I work for Pratt Whitney.

FP: Would the newly elected officials please stand-up to take their oath for office as an SBA representative?

[Swearing in of new members.]

BG: Motion to appoint to HF as the Social Chair. According to our bylaws the vice-president can appoint an independent social share to work through the work the vice-president’s duties. Motion to appoint HF to be social chair.

SL: Seconds.

Yes: 11
No: 0
Abstentions: 2

Motion Passes.

BG: Motion to adjourn.
AL: Second.

Motion Passes.

JB: Meeting is adjourned at 10:20.