University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
09/11/2012, 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 – Xander Cogbill, XC
2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
2L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL (excused—abroad for semester)
3L Day – Francisco Russo, FR (excused—in Washington D.C. for semester)
3L Day – Hailey Fitzgerald
3L Day – Connor McNamara
3L Day – Yifie He
Upperclass Evening – Nate Valeri, NV
Upperclass Evening – Matt Ringland, MR
Upperclass Evening – Camille Sauer, CS
Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG

Also in Attendance:
ABA Representative, Phillip Liu, PL
Eric O’Dea
Megan Fitzgerald
Laura Ann Keller
Emily Rouleau
Courtney Hays
Katherine Gent
Elizabeth O’Donnell
Erin Daly
Alexandra Roisman
Pamela Bass
Mike Randall
James Anderson
Thadius Bochain
Brendan P. Smith
Rebecca Goldstein
Nisha Vasan
Raymond Withers-Tong
Jennifer Stevens

FP: Open this meeting at 9:34 PM. SBA is a resource to students. Meant for students to help other students. Everything is very straightforward and honest. We are a group with a great sense of transparency. This group has always functioned as a well-oiled machine. We encourage everyone to voice their concerns. We come to resolutions by voting. To campaign be creative, but don’t go over the top. In undergrad people held rallies. Need to advocate on your own behalf. If you don’t make SBA we still encourage people to come to these meetings. This year we’re going to hold meetings at night and in the day to accommodate both day and evening students. I would like the returning members to give a quick introduction. Keep it brief. I’m Franklin Perry and this is my third year on SBA. I think this is a great organization to be involved with and I think it’s a great way to be involved.

BG: I’m Brian Gore and am the VP. I was initially an evening student.

JS: I’m Jess Signor and am Chief Administrative Officer for the SBA. I a 2L Day and was initially an evening student too.

JB: I’m a second year student. I was involved with SBA last year.

ML: Third Year student. Been on SBA since first year. I think this is a great group of people. I have been on the SBA

HF: I’m the chairwoman of the social committee. I’m President of Mock Trial. I’m on Moot Court. I’m on the Insurance Law Journal.

PL: I’m a 2L, ABA Representative. I was a 1L evening student who transferred to days.

XC: I’m a 2L Representative.

NV: I’m Nate Valeri. I’m an upper-class rep. I work at UMASS Amherst.

MR: I’m a 2LE Rep. I work at United Healthcare.

CM: I’m a 3L Day Rep and it’s my first year on SBA>

MG: I’m a 3LE Rep. I work full time as an insurance consultant.

FP: Moving along. We worked very hard over this past summer to come up with a theme. Unity Commitment and Loyalty. We’re at UCONN Law so we’re UCL. While we’re in this period of change, we need to stay united. Last year we voiced to the leadership of the school the student body’s views. We want to look forward and continue to improve our reputation as a reputable law school in New England. Again, we are like a family. There is nothing wrong with disagreement. We welcome input. At the end of the day, when we are
out in the community we support each other. We meet every two weeks, but your role never stops. You need to make a mental note of what you hear in the community. We expect our representatives to be aware of what’s going on in the community at large. We always want to improve the school for the better. We solve our problems here. We don’t take them to a public forum. There is nothing that we are not able to solve. We need to stay loyal to one another. We are going to voice this theme to all student groups. We will send out an email to everyone. I think it’s a concept that everyone will be able to get on board with.

Now for Presidential updates. There are faculty committees on campus that like to have student representatives. We need help still for some committees. If this is something that you’re interested in, then e-mail and I can get back to you. You don’t need to be a SBA member. You would need to attend these meetings and then come to a couple of SBA meetings and debrief us. Next, Dean Selection Committee is a year-long process. I was selected as the student representative. It’s comprised of faculty and members of the other graduate schools. Once we choose candidates, then we will start to bring them to campus to interview. OCI help has been going well.

BG: VP updates. We had the roundtable meeting last week. Student group information is on TWEN. Everything for event planning and budgeting is up there.

JS: CAO updates. Please send in your bios for the SBA website. Please send your contact information to the SBA e-mail. Please submit your schedule so we can put together an office hours schedule.

JB: Any questions? Matt?

ML: Roundtable went well and we answered a lot of questions from student groups. The TWEN page is doing well. We’re aiming to have more done. We are trying to streamline the process. Ideally, when it’s finished you’ll have all resources in one place for students and groups. Budgeting in general: budget due dates are September 20th. We are holding the week after for individual meetings. Within the first week of October we’re holding meetings.

JB: Questions?

XC: We heard budget cuts are from Storrs and enrollment. Any other news?

ML: Mostly from enrollment. There was a serious drop off with night students. We have less than 50% what we usually have. They are making administrative changes to the night program but there are pretty significant drops. Not the end of the world, but the belt will be tighter. We should be able to accommodate most of what we did last year but not too much room for additions.

XC: So reduced revenue.
ML: The money we get is provided by the student activity fee. So there are certain conditions that go along with certain requirements. Like all events need to be for all students.

XC: Were we successful with the referendum?

FP: Yes

HF: Fall Ball and Spring Fling are usually scheduled for Saturdays. We’re curious to see how everyone feels about holding it on a Thursday at the Society Room.

BG: Evening Division is not going to be able to attend or they could attend late.

FP: Hours of operation would close sooner. We usually end at midnight. Usually we like to have the event on the weekend to accommodate people who want to go out after.

HF: WE have the Hartford Hilton booked for October 20th for Fall Ball.

FP: We can help if they need more help.

JB: Do we have questions? Facilities?

FP: Last year I was the Facilities Chair. It’s the person who works on fixing the kinks that come up. This year Mallory is going to serve as the chair. I’m giving the update tonight. The televisions and couches and countertops are new. Those are all the result of the hard work of the SBA. We are in the process of ordering high stools and a Keurig machine to accommodate those who want access to coffee later at night. Going forward, at Truffles we want it to be more student friendly, get a tv and some type of gaming console and maybe a ping pong table. Faculty have come to me and told me that the furniture in the fourth floor lounge is not comfortable. We have two new treadmills in the gym. Check those out. The gym is slowly improving and we’re always looking for donations. There are tvs in there too. So that’s Starr gym. I don’t know if anyone uses the third floor lounge, but there’s a tv in there. I’ll send an email to someone to see if it’s a signal issue. If you hear any concerns, please let me or Mallory know about it. We can’t fix it if we don’t know about it. Listen to what your classmates tell us and we’ll relate this information to the appropriate individuals. The scaffolding is something we have no control over. Let us know what we can do. Lockers, we will send out an email next week to let people know about it. If you get one, please don’t put food in there. Put your books in there and don’t lug them back and forth to home.

What is theory behind these gender-neutral bathrooms?

FP: I think it’s a matter of convenience. Not really sure. They were here before us. I’m assuming enough people were all right with this matter.
ML: I believe we’re also getting a Nintendo Wii from Karen DeMeola, who had one. So that’s happening too.

Brendan Smith: I believe there should be no B median for 2 and 3 year students. Most people think that there should be a B average. I think it’s been building up for many years and I think it should be addressed.

BG: You’re right about that. There are trickle down effects. Off the bat, gpas are affected. We’re not sure how it would affect the way the school is viewed. I’m not sure now with all the changes we’ve been undergoing it’s the right time.

FP: I think it might be the perfect time, especially with a new incoming dean. It’s always a contentious debate to have. The way our OCI process works is a numbers game unfortunately. I’ve never been a fan of the B median. I’ll be sure to bring it up in the first dean search committee meeting. For upper-class seminars there typically is not a B median.

Brendan Smith: I have a few more comments. The New York Times talked about grade inflations. A lot of professors openly flout the fact that they don’t follow the B median. I think it needs to be looked closely.

BG: The B median is a bigger countrywide issue for law school. We can have the conversation, but it’s not an easy conversation to have.

XC: Other schools that inflate grades are noted by other firms.

BG: The upper firms are really looking at class rank.

PL: Robinson Cole is not here because of economic reasons not to reputation.

FP: We’ve expressed to Career Planning that there are fewer opportunities and that the competition is fiercer. Career Services is doing their best. Sometimes in OCI students have not shown the type of interest that employers are looking to have. A tremendous amount of applicants applied to Boston. There are a number of reasons why numbers have been changing. It could be reputation or it could be that they’re not receiving the type of bids that they want to deal with. 1Ls worry about career services in the future. There are many alternative to fall recruiting for those 3Ls looking for jobs. The recruiting process is that the larger firms start early and the smaller firms are recruiting in the spring. Be creative about where you want to work. there are always clerkships available. Molding our formal OCI process is going to take time.

BS: Career services is doing what they can but what can we do to help.

BG: Don’t take this the wrong way. Let’s talk about this in a private meeting so we can let all the tired people go for the evening. It’s getting late.
PL: I don’t have an update.

PL: *Motion to adjourn.*
BG: Second.

Meeting adjourned. 10:27 PM
University of Connecticut School of Law  
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting  
09/25/2012, 12:30 PM, Library 202

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):

Executive Board and Cabinet:
- President – Franklin Perry, FP (excused, work conflict)
- Vice President – Brian Gore, BG
- Chief Administrative Officer – Jess Signor, JS
- Chief Financial Officer – Matt Loftus, ML (excused, CFO responsibility conflict)
- Parliamentarian – Janine Beauregard, JB

Class Representatives:
- 2L Day – Xander Cogbill, XC
- 2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
- 2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
- 2L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL (excused—abroad for semester)
- 3L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR (excused—in Washington D.C. for semester)
- 3L Day – Hailey Fitzgerald (excused, conflict)
- 3L Day – Connor McNamara
- 3L Day – Yifie He (unexcused)
- Upperclass Evening – Nate Valeri, NV (excused, work conflict)
- Upperclass Evening – Matt Ringland, MR (excused, work conflict)
- Upperclass Evening – Camille Sauer, CS
- Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG (excused, work conflict)

Also in Attendance:
- ABA Representative, Phillip Liu, PL
- Prof. Paul Chill, PC
- Laura Ann Keller, LAK
- James Anderson, JA
- Thadius Bochain, TB
- Nisha Vasan, NV
- Eva Kolstad, EK
- Anna Kitslaar, AK

Meeting Called to Order 12:37PM

BG: Swearing in of new members. Introduction of Prof. Paul Chill.

PC: I was an SBA representative here. Special congratulations to you all. Dean Paul made a special curriculum review committee. We were given a broad mandate to look at the curriculum of the law school. We decided that this would be a bad year to accomplish a broad curriculum reform. The law school has been given authorization to hire 5 new committee members this
coming year. It takes a lot of time considering each candidate to vet each person. Neither of the proposed reforms would affect any current students. It would affect the class entering in fall of 2013.

The experiential learning requirement would require a student to take at least one externship or clinic. To satisfy the externship you would need a seminar component and the externship would need to be qualified as a high-quality externship. The idea is that no one should graduate from law school without some live client or office experience so that there is some classroom component so they get the most out of the experience. There are huge networking advantages. It would also be good for the school because there appear to be only about a dozen other law schools that currently do this. It would put us on the map as a proactive school.

There would also be a requirement to take an upper class perspectives class so that students would be exposed to a trans-doctrinal view. It would help people to look critically at issues. There are a number of different views of this proposal. One example would be to take a comparative class or to take a class that has any type of perspective component. Some examples are law in Latin America.

My first proposal would require an expansion of the clinic program, but we would need to have greater choice if this proposal goes through. There are logistical complications that arise under the second proposal and that is that

AL: Are the statistics for the entire student body or just day students?

PC: All students.

AL: What about evening students?

PC: The committee is still grappling with that piece of it. One of the parts we may add to this requirement would be to take a simulation class like negotiation, trial advocacy, which are often offered in the evening.

CM: For this proposal, would it be new clinics or just expanding the existing clinics?

PC: It would be a function of how it all plays out. It could be added in a variety of different ways. We could hire adjuncts or hire more in house clinicians.

AL: I worked at the Chief Disciplinary Committee this summer and they had an externship/clinic experience that Yale law students do and it wasn’t so spectacular. I think it would be doable for our school to join because we would be received with open arms.

PC: This is just my view. I think the best type of clinic is in house clinic whose full time job to teach students how to represent and then supervise them as they do that. We haven’t have an expansion of our clinics for 15 years, not since the Patent Clinic that was legislatively mandated and funded. The clinic experience is better with a greater amount of supervision. There will be mixed growth.
BG: A few representatives e-mailed me with their comments. I think personally the more practical experiences we have are going to make us more marketable. The clinical aspect would really do a lot to support.

CM: I don’t think the second requirement is as justifiable as the first requirements.

PC: The second requirement would be just a minimal three credit class. Your opinion was similar to what we heard from the faculty members. It’s not always doctrine that you need to know in the real world. I personally tell people that I worked for employment discrimination and had never taken a class, so I disclosed it and the partner told me I could read the Nutshell.

JA: In my past experience there was a discrepancy in the quality of experiences that students had when it was required for all students to complete. From a practical standpoint you don’t want students to waste their time.

AL: I think adding to the requirements could be hurtful to students who are trying to specialize in a very special arena. My suggestion is to have a course in both of these requirements so that they can go to clinics and classes that have to do with their interests.

NK: I know that some of the benefits of these clinics is that these classes are smaller as opposed to larger doctrinal classes. Would the school make an effort to keep these courses smaller?

PC: I think that the required classes would have to satisfy the requirement.

NK: For classes would there be a cap?

PC: We haven’t identified that yet. This is by no means our grand plan yet. We are only in the beginning of our plans.

NV: Would these clinics overlap with the summer experiences? What is the balance of all of the other upper level requirements?

PC: The idea is that you can satisfy these requirements in the 2nd, 3rd, 4th year.

BG: President’s updates, working with Prof. Burger to have an open dialogue with the community to discuss the dean search committee. We would make this a requirement for SBA representatives. Stools for the Knight Lounge are on their way. Generate Buzz for the UCONN Homecoming on October 13th. No VP updates. CFO updates are next. Budget season is underway. We need to fill out our budget committee. It will be Friday, October 5th for budget day. You will do it once this semester and once next semester. At our next meeting we’re going to vote about our budget. Matt doesn’t anticipate that it’s going to be easy this year because of a tighter budget. Budget will be posted on TWEN once it’s finalized. Reimbursements can be made once the budget is passed. We need to sort out our Budget Committee meeting. We will be in touch. Matt and Franklin will choose the budget Committee.
JS: CAO updates—send me your information for the website. Also send me an e-mail with your preferred contact telephone number. New Representatives please look for an e-mail from me detailing the student committees you would like to serve on. The Social Chair update for Hailey is to mark your calendars for Fall Ball on October 20th at the Hilton Hartford. It’s a really fun time and everyone is encouraged to attend. Also mark your calendars for October 13th which is UCONN Homecoming. SBA is hosting this event in conjunction with PAD. The SBA is purchasing tickets for this event so look out for those and be on top of your e-mail so you can try and snag a free ticket!

BG: Keep your eyes open for e-mails from the E-board this next week!

BG: Motion to adjourn.

CM: Second.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:13pm
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- 1L Day – Thadius Bochain, TB  
- 1L Day – Nisha Vasan, NV  
- 1L Evening – Eva Kolstad, EK  
- 2L Day – Xander Cogbill, XC  
- 2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK  
- 2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL  
- 2L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL (excused—abroad for semester)  
- 3L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR (excused—in Washington D.C. for semester)  
- 3L Day – Hailey Fitzgerald  
- 3L Day – Connor McNamara  
- 3L Day – Yifie He  
- LLM – Anna Kitslaar, AK  
- Upperclass Evening – Nate Valeri, NV  
- Upperclass Evening – Matt Ringland, MR  
- Upperclass Evening – Camille Sauer, CS  
- Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG (excused, work conflict out of state)

Also in Attendance:
- ABA Representative, Phillip Liu, PL  
- Sarah Mathers, SM  
- Kara Marcello, KM  
- Lauren Kinnell, LK  
- Jack Kauders, JK  
- Joshua Shulman, JSH

JB: Meeting Called to Order at 9:35 pm.

JB: Approval of Minutes for April 24, 2012.  
BG: Motion to Approve.
AL: Second.

Yes: All.
No: None
Abstentions: None

[Motion Passes.]

CM: Motion to approve Meeting Minutes September 11, 2012.

BG: Second.

Yes: 9
No: None.
Abstentions: None.

[Motion Passes.]

NK: Motion to approve September 25, 2012 Minutes.

AL: Second.

Yes: All.
No: None.
Abstentions: None.

[Motion passes.]

JB: No we’re on to the budget meeting for tonight. I am trying to keep this as focused as possible. Only speak once you have been called on. Those who have spoken will have to wait until someone else has spoken.

ML: Thank you for the budget committee this year. There is only so much to go around. Before anyone raises any challenges this evening. Many groups had to deal with budgetary cuts. The SBA made a bunch of cuts to the Social Committee this year for our own group. We had to cut an entire event and slash funding. I will take any challenges now from those who are here tonight.

SM: Auction Chair for PILG. We have budget concerns. A lot of the budget that was cut was already spent. We have corporate letters and envelopes in the computer lab and postage through the Dean’s office. We cannot undo that, so would like to have our reallocated $119 for the postage for the corporate letters. The printing of the letters and envelopes and…

KM: and the solicitation expense.

SM: On our personal accounts it was done on my account, Jen Valenti and Gloria Chen’s accounts. It came to $227.30. The printing came to around $80.
LK: It was recorded. We requested $400 and it was listed under something else in our budget expenses.

SM: I spent about $42.60 and Jen spent about $30. I don’t have the exact numbers.

ML: What was that listed under?

LK: It was listed as solicitation materials. $227 is for solicitation expenses.

ML: You’re looking for $227.30 for the solicitation materials and the rest of $119 from the $400.

KM: We are just asking for the two items for $119 for postage for the corporate letters.

AL: You mentioned that the dean’s office did postage?

SM: My understanding is that they charge it to the PILG group with some particular system.

ML: I’ll explain my position on this. Going forward, if you need to do printing, use the communication desk, specifically with printing in Knight and Starr for things like flyers. Going forward this is not something that will be allocated. Since the money was already spent, I don’t have a problem allocating this money. Obviously I don’t have a vote in this matter but I would recommend that these amounts be made.

CM: Motion to approve.

NK: Second.

JB: Discussion? Seeing none we will vote.

Yes: 15
No: 0
Abstentions: 2
[Motion Passes.]

JSH: President of the soccer club. I have two separate points to make. First is that traditionally we do 3 sessions and we usually only ask the SBA to fund two sessions and then we buy our own shirts. We also ask for $100 on top of what we get from the SBA. Our sessions are each $950. We were not funded for a tournament in two weeks and we are fully funded for our indoor. Our entire group is $150, so out of $1100 we only got $600 plus our discretionary. So we look at basketball or golf that are similarly situated clubs. We don’t want it to be too expensive for some of our members to continue playing. We are asking for a little bit more money so that it doesn’t get too expensive for some of our players to play this year.

ML: For the Oakwood Sports Center this was a second quote.
JSH: They don’t let females play. Also Oakwood is a Sunday session.

ML: There are two sets of $950 and you only requested one?

JSH: We ask for the two sessions from SBA because we think three is too much to ask for. We have between 15 and 20 players.

ML: I think there are a lot of groups that were asked to take some out of discretionary. Do not include the Golf Club in this statement because there is not a regular group of people who get together and do that together. It is more of an open matter where people go to play if they want to go and play. As far as basketball goes, I discussed it with Franklin because he knows a lot about what is going on with the Basketball Club. They did have every single one of their sessions cut at the middle school by more than a third. What is the breakdown? Three sessions?

JSH: Fall, winter, spring. Our first session starts in three weeks.

ML: As far as the tournament goes. That is $200, so I think you could use the discretionary. You can cover the tournament with your discretionary. My recommendation would be not to make the allocation but to make the payment from the discretionary. I don’t the Budget Committee was aware that you played three sessions. I wouldn’t have a problem have a problem increasing the funding for the extra session. We didn’t know that you played three sessions. Capital Punishment pays more than a $100. There is an out of pocket expense for many other groups. There are groups that contribute out of pocket, a lot more than soccer does. I don’t have a problem with the Oakwood Sports Center. I don’t have a problem with the allocation the Budget Committee decided. I’ll leave it up to the SBA to decide.

JB: Motion to increase the league fees.

TB: Motion.

AL: Second.

JB: Discussion?

JA: Does everyone pay $100?

JSH: It depends on who decides to play. It depends on who agrees to pay. It is usually between $75-$100.

JA: You have about a $350 difference with this session. With a low number of people then it looks like about $20 extra people. The only barrier to this is if the other groups pay more.

ML: Precedents won’t be considered by the SBA. Precedents are not being set with this budget for future budget committees. We look at everything on a case by case basis. Just because it wasn’t fulfilled in full this year doesn’t mean that it won’t be next year. It’s all a matter of what we have to work with.
AL: 3 leagues, $950 for each league and $250 for the tournament divided by 15 people if we don’t pay anything, that’s $205. That’s if we don’t fund anything. We did a small team last year. I think a good number for a given name for a team is 10 so that people can have a chance to play. Let’s assume that we give them the same amount of money next semester. It’s $127.50. So if we want to bring it down further to $125, we have to cover the difference of $22. My proposal is that we increase the funding by $225 to the total cost to $125 which would be with 10 people.

JB: Alexei is making a motion to modify.

CM: Good math, but you’re not taking into account the discretionary.

AL: No, I am including the discretionary.

CM: You’re right. My bad.

JA: Just to clarify. Alexei, you’re saying to go to $825 a semester. The total funding overall…I guess…I don’t know…my math is based on us keeping $600 plus $200 discretionary in the spring. So it’s $225 total.

XC: I’m on the team and as a result I won’t vote. I think it’s reasonable to fund the league fees. We’re writing off the tournament from discretionary but the tournament is a really good thing where we are playing with other law schools. So I think it’s worthy of having the budget approval for this semester. We need to look at how the spots will be split up. It’s good to have more people involved instead of less. Funding more sessions has been acceptable.

ML: My math for this. I don’t think the tournament should be included. So the $3200 figure is $400 too high which I think is what Connor was getting at. I have for the entire year with the SBA covering nothing, which breaks down to $190/person with 15 people. With ten people on the team it breaks down to a bigger number; however, we need to go by their budget committee. We need to look at what they gave us, which is 20, so to go to 10 people is cutting that number in half. As far as the merits go, Xander mentioned this. I get that it’s a good networking opportunity. At the same time, sports tournaments are not “favored” SBA events, while they are stress relieving and camaraderie building, but it’s not comparable to Hastie, Davis or PILG Auction or anything that brings attention to campus. It’s not like one is favored over the other, but looking at the merits of an event, there are considerations such as competitions, which can potentially bring national recognition to our school. Funding symposium speakers with internationally recognized scholars is different from a sports team tournaments that do not bring the same recognition to our school on a national stage. I’m standing at my same position that it remain at $125/person. We only have the budget proposal to go on.

NK: Alexei, are you taking into account the three sessions or were you only taking into account two? I don’t think that the SBA is responsible for that third session. And looking at last year’s budget I agree that the league fees should be increased and that if we can get it to $125/person would be more than fair.
AL: A question for Josh: What is your projection for how many players will pay?

JSH: There are 10-12 of us who decided to pay for the third session. We had 16-17 on our roster for the rest of the year.

AL: In response to Matt, there are fewer people willing to drive to Glastonbury on Sunday than there are people who are members of the Soccer Club so projected membership is not always the most accurate of those who are playing.

ML: This is the current situation (pointing to projector) assuming ten people and using discretionary and it will be $190/person. Right now at 15 people the out of pocket cost is $86, which is far less than most other sports teams have to play at this point.

JSH: Is this for this semester?

ML: Yes.

AL: Can you show the formulas?

ML: This includes this semester and the winter tournament. [explaining mathematical formulas] The assumption of 15 people is $86. Assumption for 10 people is $130/person. Again, that’s cutting the assumption of the 20 people the budget committee believed were in the group. Even cutting the assumption in half of 20 people it’s still only $130/person for this semester.

JSH: Right now I personally have $1100 out on behalf of the soccer tournament and the session. My true fear is that is that if I tell people it’s going to cost $87 to play that the membership is going to dwindle.

HF: I can empathize position, but I think that people who go on these Mock Trial and Moot Court Events pay more for these events.

FP: I play on soccer and basketball. I have to pay out of pocket for both of my teams. Is $86 our out of pocket for the fall and winter?

ML: $86 is for both semesters.

FP: We pay $86 for both semesters. Ok. I think we should stay consistent with other sports teams. I’m going to have to take on that cost I guess.

AL: I guess compared to other groups, like basketball. They have gym sessions and a tournament, similar to here. I think a tournament is more valuable and cheaper than the winter sessions. I think to exclude a tournament is not in line with the other groups.

ML: I never said that it was being disregarded. I was saying that it should be taken out of the calculation because I said that it can covered by the discretionary.
MR: You said jerseys might be another fee. I think the calculation covers the league fees. So the $86 is not the true cost.

JSH: There are also jerseys for $27/person.

ML: With respect to the to the other sports team, in the spring, basketball cannot get the rest of the money. The rest of the amount can be applied for in the spring. They have received $300 of a potential $500 and thus can only apply for an additional $200 in the spring.

FP: Josh, how much is the registration? How much for the whole team?

JSH: For the whole team.

FP: So $200 total to have everyone play. Ok.

CM: I think every team pays for their jerseys. That’s an added cost for most teams. We buy our jerseys for Capital Punishment. Most teams don’t factor in jersey costs.

BG: What is the breakdown to play in all three sessions for each semester? I think we should look at the total picture. That’s how we should compare.

ML: Assuming you would pay $350, it looks like this (showing on the power point). These are assumptions for this semester. These are the assumptions for next semester.

BG: So to play for the whole year with a projected budget, the same as this year, it would be $86 plus $23 for the whole school year? Am I understanding that correctly?

ML: That’s the full year number (pointing to power point). Could be a bit more, closer to $95.

BG: Like Franklin and Xander I also play on a team and so I won’t vote.

AL: I think we need to look at how many people would on a team for a game with 6 on 6 and judge it based on that.

BG: I think honestly, assuming 15 people are dividing the league fees is fair. I think it’s a fair assessment. We have to work with what comes in on the budget from the groups. With that being said, I don’t think I can remember an indoor game where there were 20 people. I think 15 people is a more reasonable approach. A fair resolution would be to fairly allocate based on 15 people in order to play in three seasons and a tournament that way we meet halfway between 10 and 20.

JB: We are going to vote now on allocating more money.

Yes: (4)
No: (3)
Abstentions: (6)
Motion passes.

AL: Motion to increase $225 for this semester.

HF: Second.

Yes: 1
No: 5

NK: Motion to increase soccer by $100.

CM: Second.

Yes: 10
No: 0
Abstentions: 5

Motion passes.

JK: I’m Jack and am here for the Moot Court Board. We’re cool with things that are tight. One thing we need is for Hastie is that we need have some thing that is catering and we have a Supreme Court Justice coming. We need $18 a person for Hastie. You only gave us $14 per person. We can’t serve pizza to a Supreme Court Justice and other attorneys.

BG: How many dinners do you put on throughout the year?

JK: Three.

BG: Do you have any outside funding besides the SBA?

JK: We are desperately looking for Hastie now. We can try in the next few weeks but it looks unlikely.

JB: Any other questions?

ML: My position is that litigation night (Moot Court and Mock Trial Society) was far more expensive this year than last year. It was a sit down dinner. In a sense you need to choose your priorities. If litigation night is going to be very expensive, then you need to cut something else. There is only so much to go around. Hastie is one of the big things. I understand that there is a prestige factor involved. We cut the total by $580, a little less, around $600 is what we cut. It is our understanding that Moot Court Board not only has outside funding and solicitations, but they also have an entirely separate account that gets replenished from donors in the area. You have an entirely separate account aside from the SBA, which has a reasonable balance year to year. I don’t think it would be unreasonable to think that there is well over $600 in that account. It was our determination that we kicked in $2000 and you could make up the difference in $600 or get it
covered by donors. Moot Court Board has a lot of other options available to them than other student groups do.

JK: Our fall budget is less than it was last year. I’m filling in for some sick people. I know now that we don’t have funding for Hastie. I know we cost more than other groups like soccer. It’s law school and we’re the premier oral advocacy group. It costs more but it fits in with the mission, which is educating lawyers. I wish we could feed the supreme Court Justice pizza but there is prestige behind everyone. There is prestige behind what we do for this group for the entire student body and beyond.

ML: If Moot Court did not bring prestige, then we wouldn’t be dealing with in the budget. Moot Court is a big driver of cost outside of journals. Your money does get replenished with reasonable regularity and frequency. Based on outside funding, we thought that it could be made up.

JK: We’re exploring our other options. I’m sorry I don’t know more details. We have outside funding that is true but we use that funding for standing events like Moot Court tournaments. We use outside funding for going to tournaments. Traditionally we rely on you guys for these big in school events. I know they’re looking for outside funding but right now there is none. I’m just not 100% sure.

JB: Is there any other public comment?

HF: Depending on how Moot Court goes, then I may need to speak on behalf on Mock Trial Society?

CM: I don’t think we went above $14 on any other groups just to bring some budget committee perspective. You could kick some of the discretionary back into the $600. We settled on that number.

JK: I completely understand that. We couldn’t find a caterer for that price. It wasn’t in our control.

NK: We think that you could still do Crause but from a different menu. Maybe you need to go back to the caterer and say that you need something that is more affordable.

HF: I did all the sit down estimates and this was the cheapest sit down dinner we could do.

FP: Would $16 still work? Is there a comfortable medium between $14 and $18 so we’re not feeding Supreme Court Justices pizza?

JK: $16 would help. Anything would help. We are looking for outside funding.

NV: Is there any left over from litigation night?

JK: No.
BG: We need to keep in mind the Moot Court Board and Mock Trial Society sit down dinner because there are outside sources of funding. If we raise your per plate price we likely have to do that for them too.

JK: They already are getting more than us per plate.

BG: We meant for that to happen because it’s their only plated dinner.

NK: For the sake of transparency and get a greater understanding of what you have in your account, do you have the number of someone you can call and ask what is in that account?

JK: Andrea, is the one you should talk to. My understanding is that we do not have a finite amount of money. I know that we are hoping to get money for tournaments that bring much prestige to the school.

LAK: I’m trying to understand where this money comes from. Where is that money coming from? Can that money help toward funding the dinner?

FP: We need to get this budget approved tonight. We want groups to have access to this money this week. We can come to a reasonable judgment on this budget. My recommendation is to vote on the suggestion before us.

ML: After hearing all the arguments, my position is to leave it as it is now. You can submit a supplementary budget. You can determine what is in your account in case you need to ask for help.

JK: To clarify, that can be done before Hastie?

ML: Yes, of course. If we pass the budget tonight, which it looks like we will, then you can submit a supplementary budget starting tomorrow morning. You can have an answer in 2-3 days.

XC: I proffer a motion that we don’t increase the budget and leave room in the supplemental budget for them in the event they can’t secure funding from outside sources including their bank account.

BG: Are you paying out of pocket for Hastie Dinner or wired through?

HF: Traditionally it is wired through.

BG: If you expect a payment wired out. I see that being a problem.

ML: My understanding is that they need a check with their bank account.

HF: We can mention this to administrators later this week when we meet with them.
XC: I motion to leave the budget the way it is, pending outside funding.

BG: Second.

JK: I need clarification. If all of your outside money is already allocated?

ML: If the money has already been spoken for prior to today, then I will consider it no funding available.

Yes: 11
No: 0
Abstentions: 3

[Motion Passes.]

BG: Motion to pass budget before you with all amendments discussed.

CM: Second

Yes: 15
No: 0
Abstentions: 1

[Budget passes.]

JB: Inducting new members.

FP: Swearing in of new 1L evening and LLM representative. We look forward to having you all here. Thank you to the budget committee who spent two days with the budget from an unworkable number to a more workable number. With that said, great job budget committee! Great job everyone!

BG: Motion to adjourn.

NK: Second

Meeting Adjourned at 10:42pm
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
11/5/2012, 9:30 PM, Library 202

Attendance (absences indicated by strikethrough’s):

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

Class Representatives:
- 1L Day – Laura Ann Keller, LAK (excused)
- 1L Day – James Anderson, JA
- 1L Day – Thadius Bochain, TB
- 1L Day—Nisha Vasan, NV (excused)
- 1L Evening—Eva Kolstad, EK (unexcused)
- 1L Evening – William Fuentes, WF
- 2L Day – Xander Cogbill, XC
- 2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
- 2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
- 2L Day—Sean LaPorta, SL (excused—abroad for semester)
- 3L Day—Francisco Ruso, FR (excused—in Washington D.C. for semester)
- 3L Day – Hailey Fitzgerald
- 3L Day—Connor McNamara (excused)
- 3L Day – Yifie He, YH
- LLM – Anna Kitslaar, AK
- Upperclass Evening – Nate Valeri, NV
- Upperclass Evening—Matt Ringland, MR (unexcused)
- Upperclass Evening—Camille Sauer, CS (unexcused)
- Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG

Also in Attendance:
- ABA Representative, Philip Liu, PL

JS: Meeting Called to Order at 9:32 pm.

JS: Approval of Minutes for October 9, 2012.

XC: Motion to Approve.
NK: Second.

Yes: All.
No: None
Abstentions: None

[Motion Passes.]

FP: Thanks everybody for showing up. We had a lot of people who couldn’t make it because of conflicts. I know we switched the meeting to a Monday. People aren’t here for a variety of reasons, some because of the election. I just want to remind everyone that the PILG Auction is this Friday. I’ve talked to people handling the event and it sounds great so far. Please talk to your classmates to promote the event. I’ve been before and it’s a great event. There are items to bid on. I’ve been able to buy gift certificates to restaurants that I normally wouldn’t be able to afford. Just remember that it’s this Friday.

We started to circulate an idea to foster our relationship with Brooks Brothers. We want to have professional connections. There is no pressure to buy. There is the aspiration to buy a suit one day. We need to have aspirations to foster outside relationships. Let’s try to have an SBA outing. Just like other student groups on campus have bonding activities, we should do something as an SBA group. We do need to remember to do something for ourselves. Let’s try and figure out a date some time before the craziness of finals and the holiday season kicks in and once we get back from Thanksgiving.

Lastly, about three weeks ago the process for the solicitation for candidates for the Dean has started. The committee is comprised of sixteen people which the Provost, Interim Provost put together. I have told them that I think that students should be a part of this process. At this point, they hired a PR firm to cast a wide net for the job. In the next three weeks we should have upwards of 100 candidates. There are then a set of approved criteria that will winnow down these numbers. Once we get down to 20 candidates, then we will get students more involved. I want to be involved because I will have an interest in it as an alumni of the school. We also want 1L and 2Ls because this person will be your dean. The ad has not come out yet. The ad is coming out next week. By December we will have a better idea about who is qualified. Certainly, the part that we play is listening to what people want. A huge emphasis of the meetings is that we want a dean who can raise funds. A school, especially a public institution like us, only gets 20% of its funding from state funds. We need to have someone who is comfortable in all different type of atmospheres. Dean Paul was probably the best at it. At an academic institution we are well respected. The Dean Search committee is focused on some other components. It is very critical to have a strong advocate for the school. The next Dean will be appointed on July 1 for a five-year period. In terms of this process, we want to know that our influence is known and felt as a well-respected school. Academically we are always going to be a strong school. There are just other considerations that we need to look at with dean candidates.

XC: What is the timeline for this entire process?

FP: Prof. Beth Berger is the head of the search committee. I told her the sooner we could have a forum the better. She might want to have this forum before spring. I know that they want to accelerate this process and want the last viable 5 candidates by Spring Break. It’s not possible to have a sit down with every member of the community and each candidate. With the finalists, we can determine if we want to have SBA members or have faculty members choose students to
serve on these committees. I will push to have a forum before break to have students’ ideas about looking for a dean on the table. I will convey that to Prof. Berger and feel her out and let you know by Friday some potential dates, so people feel like they are part of the process and everything is not behind closed doors. Tentatively I will shoot to have those meetings by the end of classes at the beginning of December. Again, we should then meet in the last week of January. I’m not sure what will happen over that winter period but I will let everyone know over e-mail.

JS: Any other questions for Franklin?

FP: Damons tomorrow at 8 after elections. Celebrate or drown your sorrows, I will be there! Also get out there for James’ Birthday!

JS: No VP updates from Brian.

ML: Reiterate Franklin’s encouragement to attend the PILG auction. Generally there is an issue with event attendance. Again, there was an issue with the Brooks Brothers Event. Encourage people to attend. Historically, this is an historical event. People do internships over the summer that are entirely funded by this event.

Fall Ball was a great success. I think I saw most of you there. It is a huge plus that we came in under budget. It is in no small part due to all of the hard work that Hailey put it into it. Due to the price increase, we also raised about $4,000 in terms of the budget going forward.

JS: Any questions for Matt? Hailey, Social Chairwoman update?

HF: Yes, I am trying to find a Spring Fling venue. Talked to JS and FP for some options. Boat House would be nice. Another option does not want us but that is to be determined. There has been talk about doing some professionalism event. I’ve talked to several people on campus to try and co-sponsor it, budget permitting or with tickets. Also, Franklin kindly put me in touch with a 3L to help with the ski trip.

NV: Could we talk about Fall Ball?

JS: Nate, can we come back around to specific general comments once we’ve finished all the committee updates? Mallory, facilities update?

MG: Facilities Update: Meeting with Brown for coffee machines on Thursday before finals this week. I’m trying to figure out about the lack of food situation after 6:30 at night. We have a couple of ideas, either to have cafeteria open for a test run to see if people use it during finals or even just getting a small refrigerator so people have access to it when there isn’t anything else around. There are concerns with each one of the options. Also, in general as far as the Dean Search, we want to put together a centralized plan to put Student Services in once place and have the support of the new Dean behind this project.

JS: Any questions for Mallory?
YH: I want to speak to the 6:30 food situation. No healthy drinks in the library vending machines.

MG: Vending machines and snacks do not always work. It is a very valid point; it is very limited and I think that people would really like to have more options. If anyone has problems, please let me know by shooting me an e-mail.

FP: Anyone heard about the shower in the bottom of Starr?

MG: Jim said he ordered shower part so I’ll check back in with him.

FP: There is gym in the basement of Starr if people want to use after they are in the gym but the door is falling off and there are puddles in the shower that’s why we need to fix it. Hopefully, the sliding doors are fixed.

FP: We have faculty committees with members of the student bodies Academic Support, Career Planning, Clerkships, Facilities, International Programs, Public Interest and Conduct Code, Student Wellness. I’m asking for write-ups from the students in the committees and will send to you all. I’ve heard from the educational policy committee updates, which would want to have a practicum component to the graduation requirement because not everyone does a clinic. Again, that is something that is still tentative and I don’t think that will be done before we have a Dean. It is something that the faculty is interested in. Some faculty members want to add out of the box classes, such a philosophy that is beyond just a doctrinal class, something that expounded upon theories. I think they are gearing more toward a practicum so that people gain experience. I don’t know how that works for evening students, especially if you work during the week. They need to figure out how to make it work for those students. It will be helpful to gain some practical knowledge. This is a progressive educational reform.

XC: Could you send an email about all the updates mentioned in the meeting about all of the faculty committees to all of us?

FP: Yes, I’ll send those out to the group.

JS: If anyone has any concerns they want to share with these student reps, I listed them on the SBA website.

FP: I can speak on behalf of the facilities committee. We are discussing the possibility of renovating the 4th floor lounge of the library. The furniture is not comfortable. There is no way to study in comfort there, might as well just go and sit in a cubby instead of those chairs. We also need to talks about revamping the cafeteria area. Truffles is like a drab dungeon. We would like to turn that place into a place that is warm and welcoming. In terms of an upgrade, school is focusing on those two particular spaces. Hopefully with a new Dean this will be somewhat of a focus. There are also plans in the works to make the empty space across from the 4th floor lounge with
JS: Career planning committee meeting tomorrow at 10:30. Lively debate/meeting. That’s it for that committee. Any general comments? Nate, let’s get back to your Fall Ball comments.

NV: Fall Ball. Since this is the first time we met since then. Great, but complaints from people: (1) Food was a downgrade for the price of admission and (2) Use of Glass for drinks has been a problem, smashing glass and some people were injured.

HF: Some venues let us use plastic, some won’t. When picking a venue, we should factor this in to our decision.

NV: I know it may be cheaper.

HF: I feel badly about the cost of admission; hopefully 1Ls do not mind.

FP: Go into consideration for Spring Fling we wanted to try and balancing the budget.

HF: Social committee needs to be cognizance of under aged kids. Shocked how many people were under aged. Forced ID checks at the door this year, which I’m glad we did.

JS: Any other questions or comments about Fall Ball or general issues for discussion?

FP: During exam week, student affairs department wants to know what are good de-stressers for student or a “mind break.” We will do food and massages. Trivia night? We all need a mind release for at least an hour? Anything?

NK: My undergrad used to put little play doh stations and stress ball stations all around campus.

FP: Talks about Library restrictions.

HF: John Mooney and therapy dogs.

FP: We will have that on a day during finals.

JA: Very few suggestions by 1Ls, but 1Ls would be pleased with dogs during exam period or everyday of the semester.

HF: I’m always happy to bring my dog to campus!

FP: There may be issues with liability in terms of dog biting. I will bring it up again in the meeting with student services.

HF: Some dogs have been trained and maybe if they reach a certain threshold maybe they should be allowed to come to school. Maybe we could have an animal drive event for adopting “kittens.”
ML: I know that dogs coming to schools have their own liability insurance; maybe the school is happy when they have their own insurance.

HF: I agree. What about if we threw pies at professors during finals? Just kidding! Or we could even have it as a fundraiser.

JA: Fundraising can serve more than one purpose.

XC: There are some other low maintenance options too. There are various things behind the circulation desk in the library. We should let people know about Frisbees as a way to destress.

HF: What about having gingerbread houses on reading day for an SBA activity?

JS: Any other suggestions for activities for finals?

FP: Anyone has gone to the knitting or know anyone who has gone to the knitting? Why are you all looking at me like you don’t knit?

YH: This summer I did Karaoke.

FP: We bought a Wii; Karen has it.

JS: Any other suggestions for the finals week?

WF: Can we have time to come up with suggestions instead of now?

FP: Email me before last week of school – by Thanksgiving break.

JS: [Concerned about evening students] Ask the class.

ML: Take a vote? Everyone come in about what is a good idea [3 ideas] Input by the entire community. Overlap = priority

JS: Next meeting, bring the suggestions. Any other general comments?

NV: I’m going to gripe about something else: registration for classes for evening students. We don’t necessarily gripe about our choice but more that day students can enroll before evening students. By the time we get there, the choices have dwindled. People would like more reserved space in the evening spaces for true evening students.

FP: That is fair. I always had to deal with that as an evening student, not getting into an evening class because a day student had already enrolled in the class. There are some reserved spots for evening students, but is it proportional the actual number of evening students? Probably not. I will bring it up with the appropriate group.

ML: Was registration today?
NV: Last week.

JS: Any other comments?

Motion to adjourn

MG: Motion to adjourn.
WF: Second

In Favor: All
Opposed: None
Abstentions: None

Meeting Adjourned at 10:15pm
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
11/27/2012, 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:
   1L Day – Laura Ann Keller, LAK
   1L Day – James Anderson, JA
   1L Day – Thadius Bochain, TB
   1L Day – Nisha Vasan, NVA
   1L Evening – Eva Kolstad, EK
   1L Evening – William Fuentes, WF (unexcused)
   2L Day – Xander Cogbill, XC
   2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
   2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
   2L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL (excused—abroad for semester)
   3L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR (excused—in Washington D.C. for semester)
   3L Day – Yifie He, YH
   LLM – Anna Kitslaar, AK
   Upperclass Evening – Nate Valeri, NV
   Upperclass Evening – Matt Ringland, MR
   Lowerclass Evening – Camille Sauer, CS (unexcused)
   Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG

Also in Attendance:
   ABA Representative, Philip Liu, PL

JB: Meeting Called to Order at 9:32 pm.

JB: Accept a motion to approve minutes.

PL: Motion to approve minutes.

NK: Second.

In favor: 16
Against: None  
Abstentions: None  
[Motion Passes]

FP: Update, I’ll be brief. Today I met with the Dean Search Committee. The ad has officially gone out. There have been over 1,000 contacted and that’s from the database from Whit Kiefer, which the law school decided to use for these purposes. They’ve done searches for various other schools. Our professors have sent out feelers to their constituents, who have shown interest. All said and done, there will be about 1500 people who receive the notice. It will be a while before we have a finalist list. I spoke with Prof. Berger, the faculty lead, and ideally we would like to host an open forum to all students, probably between 5 and 6:30. I’d like to see what day is better for people, based on availability. We’d like to have a sit down with everyone and the Professors on the committee. We would like everyone to tell them what we are looking for. I’ll take comments.

NV: Prof. Fischl has a class Wednesday at 5.

FP: Prof. Berger may be the only person in attendance.

NV: I think a decent number of evening and day students can get there.

BG: How would Thursday work?

FP: Again, they just posted this to date. It was posted during Thanksgiving Break and obviously there is going to be increased interest going forward. Here at UCONN our faculty presence will be greatly valuable. Obviously I have a vested interest in UCONN long-term but you all have a great interest too because you will be here.

XC: Is this preliminary or just with the students?

FP: Preliminary. We won’t have any people there.

XC: I’ll revise my question, is this the student forum?

FP: I think we may need to do it again at the beginning of the semester. We want to get people involved from the beginning phases. It will be informal. I largely stay quiet in these meetings but I’m still learning. I think that the student body would enjoy learning about the process. I think we can do something again, weekly or bi monthly. I think this process will made before commencement and the person becomes the active dean in July.

JS: Is this for the whole student body?

FP: Yes, but I want our group represented so I want to hear from everyone.

AL: Is there a particular topic that we will discuss?
FP: General, ask any questions. Just what you want to learn knowing that we are looking for a new dean. You ask the professors about what you want to see happen with this group.

NVA: Would it be possible to movie it to January since next week isn’t optimal?

FP: Initially, I wanted to do that too but we want to get people involved from stage one once the ad has gone out. I realize it’s rushed, but we want to get everyone involved early on. It is cramped and rushed, but I don’t want students to hear about it after the fact.

NVA: Will that much change between next week and January?

FP: Yes, there will be two meetings for the committee before we come back. I wish we had more time because I want people to feel involved. I don’t want people not to feel included.

BG: Those of you who can attend, please think about what we want from a dean, especially if we’re going to be able to talk to these people who are going to have a real impact on what we’re going to look for. We would like to be a united voice and front.

JB: I’m going to close comments. All of those available Wednesday night meeting (13). All those available Thursday night (16).

FP: Anyone who didn’t vote.

AK: I don’t think the LLM perspective matters.

FP: You do matter! The LLM perspective is very important!

AK: Ok I’ll talk to my classmates and have them let everyone know what’s going on.

FP: Ok let’s plan on next Thursday next 5 to 6:30. Ok I’ll skip to the holiday party next Thursday. I know people have classes. I will not be in attendance at the final class. I’m not advocating skip class. This is a great networking opportunity. Sorry, it’s business formal. Suit up.

LAK: There was an e-mail that said there was a holiday party but I didn’t get an idea from the e-mail. Maybe if there was an e-mail reminder for people.

FP: It’s not really a networking. It’s more like networking within the school or I haven’t seen these people in a while. I say networking because there are people there who are outside of our immediate community. It is a holiday party and it’s meant to be fun.

BG: It’s nothing like Fall Ball. It’s run by higher ups. It’s being on your best behavior. It’s not a bring your resume thing. It’s good that the SBA present itself. It’s good to present ourselves and represent.
FP: There were some issues with computers in SBA Knight Offices, so if you went down there it’s there. Because the computers are not working, IT is taking them out and replacing them with others. If it’s a spot here you want to study. Student Organizations have access to it. It’s on the radar. Friday, we are all going out together as a group. Everything is not always business. It is not mandatory, but it is frowned upon without a good reason. We are going to go bowling; we can meet here or meet there. We can do an informal vote. We are going to Silver Lanes in East Hartford. It’s going to be competitive, if you don’t like that then be on my team and I’ll swing with gutter balls. We just want more cohesion among the group. Ok who’s coming? [showing of hands]

NV: How’s traffic then?

FP: Not bad going out to there.

MG: What time is it?

FP: So can we do it at 6?

JS: No, we have meetings until 6.

FP: Raise your hand if you want to meet on campus?

BG: It might be a legit concern if it’s rush hour.

FP: Alright, Mal you’re out! We’ll meet here at 6 for rides. I’ll drive. Jess will drive. Everyone else plan to meet. Bring your shoes if you have them. Bring you’re a game. The last part if the overall message. IN speaking with several people, there have been concerns people have about their role on the SBA. That is natural, I felt the same way. This hasn’t been the type of year we had last year. There are small projects that people want to be involved with, especially in the small subgroups. We obviously need to get back to Unity Community and Loyalty. From the standpoint of the E-Board we have a lot of faculty and administration involvement. You guys don’t get to see our interactions because of a lack of access. We want to make people feel more a part of everything. What you envisioned was probably to be a part of everything. If you are here, then your classmates elected you. It takes some vision and initiative but from our part we need to delegate responsibilities. I want to embrace this collaborative effort where we are here to work for the school and turn it around in a state of transition. The energy is great in this group and with the incoming class. We did not always have this positivity. We need to own this. You need to take it upon yourself to do stuff.

YF: I was wondering about the computer displays in the library. I was wondering that is. It’s not compatible with the Macintosh computers.

FP: Ideally, it was going to be a study room and pull up two outlines and compare outlines and create a synthesis.
JB: If that’s a facilities update. I was more asking for questions directly related to what Franklin was talking about.

BG: I’m going to be brief. Student events have been really good. PILG Auction raised $19,000 to people. Election Night collaborated with four groups to come together. Saving money and doing something cool this semester. Both symposia has been very good. Jumping off from Frank, I think it’s important for us to be present on campus. Perception is reality. I think there is room for improvement. To steal something from Xander, UCL is a great building block. It’s in the clouds now, we need to focus on owning it and putting it on the ground. So, maybe we’re going to do some community service projects and invite the community with us. It was Nisha’s idea. It’s going to come full circle and we’re going to lead the charge and making a difference in the school, making a difference where we can. We can brainstorm further what we can do. I think it’s important that our job is not just sitting in this room talking about these theoretical things.

ML: Agreeing with Frank and Brian, the fall is often confusing. I appreciate everyone being on board and staying positive. I think we need to work on campus to be more visible, both here and at large. I need to take a vote on Exam Coffee. We passed it with $500 and it’s matched by $500 from the administration. IN other years we funded this with $1000 or $1500. This year we hoped that they would kick in more. So at this point, based on this reimbursements we have received thus far this semester, we can leave it at $500 or increase it. We could go up an extra $1000 or $750. There may be Keurig in the Knight Lounge. It’s part of the debate. So I’d like to put that to a vote. Reimbursement period is set to close on December 17th which is a Monday at midnight. No reimbursements will be accepted after. Any questions?

YH: I just had a comment. I just think that we should have the Co-Op sell K-cups.

ML: This ties in closely with what Mallory does. Any non-Keurig related questions?

LAK: How does it work?

ML: Coffee is there until it runs out.

LAK: Free coffee from where?

ML: Free in the Co-Op. Free caffeine. It does run out. It’s usually why we have to throw more money at it. It is likely to run out in different increments this year based on how we structure the payments and when exams fall.

NV: That ran out really fast last year. I remember we had to replenish it.

FP: When people don’t too concerned. It happened last spring and they took to the Internet. Take it into account when you’re voting.

NV: Maybe consider discounting the coffee in the Co-Op.
ML: Your point is well taken. Whichever route we choose.

JB: Any other questions?

JS: Thanks for being responsive with meeting times.

FP: I’ll stand in for Hailey. We’ve come up with activities for finals weeks. Jen Cerney and Dr. Brown are making the schedule now. We want to have people in attendance form the SBA. Grab your friends and come to the events. Once we get that list we’ll e-mail it out. We have the midnight breakfast on Dec. 10th. It’s a feel good moment. You line up buffet style and get some food. They are excited to be involved. The scrambled eggs are ok but the bacon is awesome. Put that on your calendars! And we have the outing on Friday.

AK: When I asked everyone for ideas, but when I told them about the dogs they were so excited!

FP: We are trying to get them to come twice to campus. There will be a formalized list that goes.

JA: I think it would be helpful to have the list as soon as possible. With the way things have been going, the more time they have to get excited the better.

MG: Facilities update, this was alluded to earlier. We have been working on getting a Keurig machine so people have an option when the Co-Op closes. We met with the faculty and they approved for us to get it in the Knight Lounge. It was an issue with getting it in the Library. It was a bit harder. Students can get in the building until 10:30. As finals get closer, we need to determine how to fund it. That will be a question about how to fund it. The options will depend on the long-term usage. We can have the supplies and sugars. We may need to determine if we fund it. Finals will be a trial period. Jess got a bunch of donations from Westlaw, LexisNexis, Barbri, Kaplan to make the machine work, so that would help us with. The most expensive one is $250 and the least expensive one is $130. The main difference is that the water tank is larger on the more expensive one. I’ll be checking on it and hopefully people can be responsible for it as an SBA. Not sure how it will technically work out. If you look at the max prices of all goods we would be at about $450 total. We are also looking at having them travel mug compatible so we have a waste reducing option.

AL: What about the vending compatible machine?

MG: We need to get it from an authorized carrier. It’s going to take a bit longer. It wouldn’t come in for a while.

AL: The problem with the vending compatible machine is that the supply exceeds the demand. What about the Co-Op?

MG: Jess and I have talked about working on this. The way this was phrased was the trial period. It’s taken a while to come up with this idea. I did see that there is a 30 day money back guarantee in case something goes terribly wrong.
YH: I think that pass the trial period when people would finish using the Keurig cups, and we would have to pay for it and the SBA cannot continue to fund it. We need to get the Co-Op to cooperate. It would encourage people to use travel mugs. I think in the trial period we should use powdered creamers.

ML: I think AL and YH’s points, powdered creamer is better. I think that demand is certain to exceed supply. My question for Mallory. Do we know who owns the vending machines?

FP: We contract with a vendor. The vendor contract is expiring this year. We have an opportunity to make a choice. The contract isn’t up until the end of this school year. We would want to look into different options moving forward.

ML: I see as a challenge, the whole reason is so that late night need for coffee will depend on the Co-Op at the time being closed. I don’t think funding it going forward, eliminating theft and waste, that we could probably subsidize going forward.

FP: If the Co-Op sells K-cups and then closes at 6:30, how do you get your cup? We want this to be sustainable. We need to try in the next 20 minutes to come up with a thorough plan.

JA: I think we’re thinking about it wrong. The point is to have coffee and make coffee. You can bring a travel mug and K-cups. They make powdered creamer in single serve. I don’t see any practical way to fund it. I didn’t even think that people would take it. I think it’s great to have it. I think the same people will consistently use it. I don’t think it’s going to be a problem. I don’t think it’s going to be a big barrier to have them sell the K-cups. It’s not like we need to incentivize them like that. We need to think in a direction of trying to give too much. I think people can bring their own stuff.

BG: I think if we want to get this moving for finals. Bring your own K-cups and then the co-op can sell them for themselves. Maybe we can work something out and they can put out a vending machine where they. Long term the Co-Op could take the Keurig in when they close.

YH: I think the solution to the vending machine is to sell in bulk. They can sell the cups and creamers and the cups and the K-cups.

ML: It seems like the most feasible way is to have the Co-Op sell the K-cups. Other people can sell the other ingredients. Mallory, is there a possibility to add vending after the fact?

MG: When I was looking online you have to have it built with the accessory.

AL: I agree with Jim that we shouldn’t be babysitting law students too much. We can take one step, and get your K-Cup hour and staff.

MG: I think a lot of people think we should get the machine in place, I’m wondering what people think about the $130 versus $250 option. If people agree we should get it.

LAK: I think people will be responsible.
FP: I’m not sure. People suck on the filtered water in the library.

CM: Motion to purchase $250 Keurig.

AL: Second.

In favor: 16.
Against: None.
Abstentions: 1.

[Motion passes]

JB: Moving on to the coffee situation for exams.

ML: We talked in the Budget Committee meetings for donating $1000 for coffee which is down from $1500. We can do something in between.

JA: How off are we on reimbursements?

ML: Inevitably they always come in the last week of the semester. Based on the events held and the requests received. If we needed to add $1000, I guarantee you that we won’t use it all. A lot is coming back unused.

YH: I think Nathan’s idea was good to have people pay $0.25.

CM: I think we should vote on this.

BG: Motion to allocate $750 for CO-OP coffee.

JA: Second.

In favor: 15
Opposed: None.
Abstentions: 1

[Motion passes]

BG: Motion to allocate $250 to Keurig.

AL: Second.

In favor: 17
Opposed: None.
Abstentions: None.
[Motion passes].

BG: Motion to adjourn.

CM: Second.

[Motion passes.]

JB: Meeting adjourned at 10:49pm.
University of Connecticut School of Law  
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting  
1/29/2013, 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:
  1L Day – Laura Ann Keller, LAK (excused)
  1L Day – James Anderson, JA
  1L Day – Thadius Bochain, TB
  1L Day – Nisha Vasan, NVA
  1L Evening – Eva Kolstad, EK
  1L Evening – William Fuentes, WF
  2L Day – Xander Cogbill, XC
  2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
  2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
  2L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
  3L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR
  3L Day – Hailey Fitzgerald (excused)
  3L Day – Connor McNamara
  3L Day – Yifie He, YH (unexcused)
  LLM – Anna Kitslaar, AK
  Upperclass Evening – Nate Valeri, NV
  Upperclass Evening – Matt Ringland, MR
  Upperclass Evening – Camille Sauer, CS (unexcused)
  Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG

Also in Attendance:
  ABA Representative, Philip Liu, PL (unexcused)

JB: Meeting Called to Order at 9:30 pm.

JB: Meeting Minutes from November 27. Any Amendments?

AL: Motion to Approve.

NK: Second.
In Favor: (12)
Opposed: (0)
Abstentions: (2)

Motion Passes.

FP: Welcome back! Happy New Year! Hope classes are falling into place aside from the cancelation last night! We want to have a strong spring. Traditionally, spring is the best semester for students. There is way to get involved. We want to be enthusiastic about the events that student groups want to host. We will not be your E-Board for the entire year. There will be a newly nominated and elected E-Board. So in the time that we still have. We want to leave our mark, saying that this SBA group has done something substantial going forward. So on that note, welcome back! I think we need to do introductions for people who were not here last semester! Sean and Frank please introduce yourselves.

SL: I’m Sean LaPorta for those of you who don’t know me. I was abroad. I was in the UK in a small town outside of London. I did some international law. It was a good time. If anyone wants to talk about it, I’m interested in your story if you want to hear mine. I’m excited to be back.

FR: Hi I’m Frank Ruso a 3rd year day student. I was in D.C. and I am not excited to be back.

FP: We made it a point to get involved in the community. I’ve received some emails with suggestions about what people want to do. Put it on your radar screen that we are going to go to a school and try to give back to those in the community. We want to have a group project. This is something where we can work at a food bank, tutor first graders. There is something to be said for giving back to this community. There should be a civic obligation. We will work on that going forward. Subcommittees! We are going to start them. See me after the meeting and I will make a list. I will make it mandatory that you all meet. We need to at least meet, even if there is nothing that needs to be done. I think that for example being on the By-Laws Committee we need to make some changes. This expectation is for the smaller groups. Don’t scamper off after this meeting.

Dean’s Search Committee: we have winnowed down the applicant pool and we are down to 11 people. It is highly confidential. From my own experience interviewing people, the group of candidates are highly regarded in regards to what we project as an institution. We want to find a dean that is invested in the school and the future of the students. Another dean responsibility is to network and raise funds, so we are looking for dean’s who can do that too! We want the dean to work the professors, administrators and students for their networks in addition to their own networks. I will try to push for a larger group of students to meet. I think that younger students will be interviewing. I will know him as an alumnus. It will be announced in late spring with the new dean’s start date of July 1. Make sure to let me know or any of the E-Board members know about your concerns and questions for the deans. Any questions?

NV: We were told that they narrowed it down to 4 people?
FP: We made recommendations yesterday, but the final decision rests with the Provost and President. I think that the four finalists will be here but there may be another candidate that they decide to bring in. We still need to hear back from our higher authorities. Jess is our engine that makes things run, please make sure that you are all responding to hear about this. Don’t let e-mails go. We don’t work without all her work. In terms of efficiency, it makes things run more smoothly. Please write back immediately. We need it right away. I loved our last social outing. I would love to do something sooner rather than later. I can send out an email. Saturday there is Whale game and Friday we have a budget meeting, but I’m always ready to go out! There are several activities we can do. It doesn’t necessarily have to be bowling. Group bonding is fun.

NV: I’m happy to beat you at bowling.

FP: You can coordinate! I’m serious!

BG: Reminder to register your student groups with Jen Cerney. There is a form on TWEN with name and contact information so she has the correct information that can be done. If you know of any E-Board members who have changed on student groups, please pass on to me so we can coordinate our schedules.

JS: Franklin stole a bit of my thunder but please respond to the emails that I send. I promise I’m not trying to annoy you all, but I do need this information and would greatly appreciate it!

ML: This Friday is budget day. All budget requests are due Wednesday at midnight. We will be having a special session next week to vote on the budget; otherwise, we have to wait another week for passing the budget. Right now we are leaning toward Tuesday but we can figure that out during the meeting. I know it was contentious, but I want to revisit the funding for coffee in Knight Lounge. I’ve gone by mid-day and it’s empty. I know people are using more K-cups, but…

MG: Can I cut in? I know the answer to your question. We only supplied it for finals and I have seven boxes left. We can talk about it when I get to my facilities update.

ML: Let classmates and student leaders to contact us.

FP: Budget process is when student groups come in and make a case for getting more money. Then we have to vote on it so we can release the money to the groups. So now it’s Monday or Tuesday.

NK: Motion to meet next week.

CM: Second.

In Favor: (14)
Opposed: (0)
Abstentions: (1)
Motion Passes.
JB: So next week February 5th.

ML: I’m hoping that we can change the Constitution tonight. I’d like my vote back. As CFO I don’t have a vote. It used to be a contentious spot. They depoliticized the position by removing the voting power. It’s annoying to have to ask for motions instead of making them myself.

BG: Move to propose Matt’s proposal.

SL: Second.

JB: Comments.

CM: I don’t have a reason why Matt can’t vote. He’s fair.

BG: I agree. It makes sense for the CFO to have a vote. If there was any doubt about a balancing of power, there is an entire Committee to counteract and act as a balance, provided that the position is still appointed.

JB: Just an update, Matt as CFO doesn’t have a vote, so we want to give him a vote in the hopes of streamlining the process and keeping it an appointed position.

AL: I see the point, but another way is to permit the CFO to put motions forward without voting.

ML: To be clear, this is not changing anything about the position. It does take away the political aspect. Even if we don’t have a quorum, I can’t contribute. The budget committee still operates the same way. This is just whether I get to vote and make motions. I have up on the projector the current amendment and my proposals. The changes would be to remove CFO as a nonvoting member from the constitution.

SL: I understand that it’s cumbersome but I do agree with you not having the voting power. I think it’s good to have a separation. We know that you have input, even if it isn’t a direct vote. I don’t think that voting is ever won by one vote. I think the potential for people on the outside to see it as shady is there.

ML: To clear it up, this is the only year that the CFO has not had a vote. It’s the only time that it has been CFO for the whole time. Last year he had a vote for half the year and then didn’t have a vote for the other side. A couple of years ago there was a really contentious election and so
student groups were asking for funding in exchange for votes. In terms of the vote, it was part of
the discussion and removed for that reason.

WF: How long has it been appointed?

ML: One Year.

WF: How does it speed up the process?

ML: It helps because I can put motions forward and have a vote. I would have had to have two
people put motions forward then I could begin discussing my topic.

WF: It makes sense for an appointed position that it should have no voting. It takes more than
one person to influence the role.

ML: Franklin can vote on anything.

WF: Can he?

ML: Yes, he can.

BG: Are you saying that by granting the CFO power to vote we aren’t granting him power?

WF: Appointed position should not have a vote. Should have two voting members to bring a
motion.

AL: I think that only democratically elected represented members should vote. We will not be
able to say that to the student body. It’s not a big deal in our group dynamics but it’s how we are
viewed.

JA: Are the parliamentarian and ABA elected?

ML: Parliamentarian is appointed and ABA is elected.

JA: Outside of who is in the office, it seems like the logic regards how you are voted in and I
don’t know why we would do it to one.

ML: ABA has always been elected and non-elected. Parliamentarian is a last year position.
With issues last year, CFO had always had a voting right until last year and then we changed it. I
only have a month or two left but for future officers it hinders.

XC: Can the Social Chair work?

FP: Social Chair is elected by peers to be on SBA, then the E-Board appoints someone from
within the group.
BG: Traditionally the VP can appoint from an elected SBA Member.

ML: Currently, CFO is the only chair of a committee without a vote within the body.

AL: We can amend the rule and let the CFO be the student representative.

ML: I was an elected representative, and then I was appointed.

FP: His space was filled and abdicated his voting spot.

AL: Maybe we can take out language that would remove his in ability to cast votes.

SL: He would still be running as a Treasurer and wouldn’t take away the problem. He could still run with the aspirations of the job.

CM: How many people are on the budget committee?

ML: 8?

CM: I don’t see any perception of impropriety or even that there is something that there is something wrong. I think we are parsing it pretty fine. We could show anyone who questions it a line-by-line showing of the vote. I think it’s worse if you can’t have the vote.

WF: How much time does it cost?

ML: It hinders the job. It’s more or less instead of making the motion or second. It still takes two people. If it’s a hair-brained idea and no one seconds it then it goes nowhere. I have to solicit two other people to do it for me.

MG: Originally, I thought that matt should have the vote, but a concerned was raised is what Alexei said. I think that the non-elected official things are what give me cause to pause.

ML: In the two years we have done this both CFO’s were democratically elected members of the SBA. The Parliamentarian was appointed. I’m not going to say that it’s prohibited, but I’ve never seen a CFO not coming from the SBA. I never considered it because it never entered my brain. I would be interested in it.

NVA: I would be interested in having the by-laws look at this and get back to us.

ML: I understand but I wanted to get it done before the special session.

FR: Can’t we move to give Matt the authority to make motions and votes?

ML: So we suspend the Constitution?
FP: I think we take it as a vote as it’s written right now. I think as a matter of habit, the selections have come out of the elected members. But there is opportunity to appoint outside of that but they were not elected under their peers.

ML: IF we get this done for next week, we can change it in the subcommittee.

WF: Pushing it for next week makes me uncomfortable and to do it is easier than trying to undo.

AL: Motion to propose change to the Constitution as described by Matt Loftus.

CM: Second.

In favor: 5
Opposed: 5
Abstentions: 7

Tied Vote.

FP: I think more conversation will help with the abstentions.

AL: Motion to open conversation.

BG: Second.

WF: Point of order. It was never addressed about tabling.

In Favor: 4
Opposed: 5
Abstentions: 0

Motion Passes.

AL: Motion to postpone until after update.

WF: Second.

In favor: 12
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 2

Motion Passes

BG: Social Committee update. February 10 ski trip to Stratton with a bus. There is a bus with room for 44 students.
FP: You will get an email from Hailey or from Danielle Van Katwyk. It is first come first served. It is a great bonding trip.

BG: March 21-22 is March Madness. It’s sponsored by the SBA provided that our budget is passed. It’s in conjunction with the Arts and Entertainment Society. It’s a cool event. March 23rd will sponsor a Saint PADDY’s. April 13 is Spring Fling likely at the boathouse. April 19th or 20th is the likely day for SBA Carnival. There is still a lot of talk among the administration, but we will keep you May 17th is the graduation dinner at Belle Terrace.

MG: Facilities update. We got a Keurig machine, it didn’t get stolen. We got sponsorship to get it through finals. I still have 7 boxes of K-cups! I guess the question is if we put them out or wait until next finals season. So my suggestion is to save them until the next Finals or a K-cup madness. So I’d like to make a motion to keep K-cups until storage finals.

CM: Second:

In Favor: (14)
Opposed: (1)
Abstentions: (2)

Motion Passes.

JB: Any questions for Mallory?

NVA: Can we not vote in the future?

JB: No we can bring it up later. New Business?

FP: I’m going back to community projects as a way to give back! Nisha and Eva have all suggested various events and even Thad with a movie night. Laura Ann wanted to try to make a community campaign called 26 acts of kindness. So through AHMET, a community program that provides greater structure to kids who don’t have anyone to go home to because they are all at work. They could use some volunteers. Since these people are living in Hartford, we should create a pipeline that provides for a more connected community. Laura Ann has reached out to administrators at these schools. She is sick tonight and would have presented this much better. So from 5-6:30 and you could sit down with some kids, it could have a huge impact! She will send out more information about that. She has a great idea! It is great to think that we are all collaborating. I think as representatives it is not difficult to start. Once we have more concrete days and times it will be communicated to you all! I think that it will go out in the next Pro Se to get everyone on the same page and worked out as a community.

JB: Any other new business?

JB: Entertain a motion to reopen discussion.

AL: Motion.
BG: Second.

ML: I feel like people are more comfortable knowing that the CFO gets vote if he comes from the voting body of SBA? Does not address the concern. There are two things we could do. We could add that it has to be “from this body” or I can kick it to Franklin next week and then it will cut into budget time and potentially student leaders who are coming to protest their budgets.

FP: My concern is that for the number of people who abstained I want you to vocalize. That’s a high number of abstentions. Let’s put it on the table. You can pick one way or the other. We leave here and we are all friends but let’s hash it out.

WF: I’m more comfortable if he was an active member of the organization instead of maintaining seat. He is made chairman of the committee. Instead he could remain a member of the council. It makes more sense to me overall. It is an active member given the title.

SL: Having him be elected, he is still elected, there are still ways to have him seem like he ran for something. I don’t know how being in the General Body gets around it being taken out of the Constitution. But you’re still running direct or indirect.

MG: Matt, your addition to make a CFO as part of the elected body addressed my concern. To Sean’s point, thinking people are acting in unfair or unbiased way. I think the appointment is vetting the people. In government there are always politics that come into play. What you’re doing will change my vote.

ML: I added right here the election part, CFO shall be appointed by the President and appointed by the President. So what I did was added language “from the board of representatives.” So all future CFOs would have to be elected board members. Then would be elected representatives then appointed.

JA: I share Sean’s concerns. We are undoing everything that was done before. I think you go back and have a CFO running and run into politics and that’s life. And then you can say we hope that people don’t campaign but they still may.

ML: The politicization of the position was getting bad. I think that it needs to be someone who has been elected. I share that concern. But in terms of being elected without being able to move and voting, I don’t advocate going back to the way things were done before.

JB: We have five minutes. So let’s move quickly before we get kicked out.

AL: Parliamentarian is an efficient mechanism that helps us work quickly. I see the CFO as the same way. He is an efficient mechanism, here to convey information. CFO is just a number cruncher. Yes, it hinders the speed and the efficiency. It gives a protection to the SBA if you don’t like the way things are done.
NK: To address the election point, the position would still be appointed. Even if you would have someone run who openly wanted the spot. I think this addresses the concern and I am fine with that.

AL: Motion to change the constitution in the two specific ways on the board.

NK: Second.

In Favor: (9)
Opposed: (5)
Abstentions: (3)

*Motion Passes.*

JB: Motion Passes to amend the Constitution.

BG: Motion to adjourn.
ML: Second.

Meeting adjourned 10:39
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:
- 1L Day – Laura Ann Keller, LAK
- 1L Day – James Anderson, JA
- 1L Day – Thadius Bochain, TB
- 1L Day – Nisha Vasan, NVA
- 1L Evening – Eva Kolstad, EK
- 1L Evening – William Fuentes, WF
- 2L Day – Xander Cogbill, XC
- 2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
- 2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
- 2L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
- 3L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR
- 3L Day – Hailey Fitzgerald (excused: graduated)
- 3L Day – Connor McNamara
- 3L Day – Yifie He, YH (excused: graduated)
- LLM – Anna Kitslaar, AK
- Upperclass Evening – Nate Valeri, NV
- Upperclass Evening – Matt Ringland, MR
- Upperclass Evening – Camille Sauer, CS
- Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG

Also in Attendance:
- ABA Representative, Philip Liu, PL (unexcused)
- Laurie Manion, LM
- Jack Kauders, JK

JB: Meeting Called to Order at 9:33 pm.

ML: This year was a record year for the budget committee. It only took us ten hours to complete our budget meeting. There was a technical difficulty with the printer so we’re going to go green with the budget. Please just give me a minute to set up. I’m going to try and be quick about this. We were tight in the fall this year so there is a little more to go around in the spring than we have
in previous years. There was a bunch of money that wasn’t spent in the spring. We were aiming at $80,000 for the semester and we ended up a little above that with administrative costs. That said I will now turn it over to any challenges. I see we have Moot Court here tonight.

JK: I want to say thank you for the money. We know we are an expensive group and you gave us a fair amount of money and we appreciate that. We believe that is reflected in how we help bring prestige and notary to the law school and it is reflected in how many tournaments we go to. Last time I was here you asked me to go and find sources of funding from other areas and we did that; however, one activity we are unable to gain funding from other sources for litigation night where we have justices come and speak to us. We also want to help create that next generation of oral arguers by showing them that there is a future in oral argument and showing them what we have to offer. We would like to do the event for $20 and hotdogs but we can’t; it’s a Supreme Court Justice. You’ve given us a little more this year than last year. We are still looking for outside funding but anything more would help us significantly.

ML: The budget committee’s position on this is that there was more competition this session on the budget request this year. It is prestigious. A lot of these competitions improve our reputation and we agree with that so we dedicated more of our funding this year to that. So Moot Court was funding up to the guidelines and the balance was left to the group; however, in other years we were not able to do that. We believe that asking them to pick up the tab on Litigation Night for $1300 from your outside account, given that we are funding all of their competitions was fair. Additionally, there are a couple of groups on campus that are big spenders. The reality is that when you have a budget to balance you have to sacrifice. The fact is that the groups who spend the most, often have to sacrifice the most not in percentage terms but in terms of actual dollars. It is true of Moot Court, Mock Trial and SBA Social Committee. We have to spend $65,000 and we over budget by $20,000-$30,000 in any given year. As you can see we are up against the $85,000 hard limit. We are up against the hard limit. Does anyone on the budget committee have more to add to my comments?

NK: The other concern is that there isn’t a confirmed speaker. There was not anyone actually confirmed. I think we wanted to see that you had a date and a room or a confirmed speaker, so we didn’t want to fund it.

JK: We have had it in the works, then realized it was on hold.

LM: We don’t want to have a speaker if we don’t have funding. It’s hard to firm up funding and easy to firm up the event.

JK: We have never not gotten our speakers. I also want to respond to something to be clear. I want to be clear that you’re not paying for even half of what we paying to go. Every person who goes on these competitions spends $100s of their own money to go. We are not fat catting off of this money because we are really putting out a lot of our own.

ML: Responding to that, Moot Court Board for the competition where you have to make the difference; it doesn’t come from your personal pocket but through your outside source.
JK: Yes and no. But a lot of the other stuff like dinner, cabs, missed classes is paid for by us.

ML: But that doesn’t differ from other groups going to competitions. We don’t provide stipends. Your expenses while on competition is similar to any other group in a similar situation.

Jack: My point is that no one is getting rich here, everyone is sacrificing.

ML: No one is looking at Moot Court Board like that. You are a well respected group on campus. You are not money grubbing. You do have outside funding. There is definite amount of money in your account, enough to take care of litigation night. Like Nisha said if you want to line up a Supreme Court Justice and use your own funding, then you can submit a Supplemental Budget. Now I am going to recommend that we remain the allocation at $0 to do a little more investigation and set up the event a little more. Once that’s done we would be open to look at funding. Any comments?

NVA: Career Services could help fund some of this. We did this over the Winter Holiday over Moot Course for 1Ls. The administration really tries to have judges come to campus. I agree that it was more important to fund a competition, but maybe it’s something to consider.

FP: Jack, was there a litigation night in the fall?

JK: One in fall, one in spring. One for Hastie and one for Loiselle.

FP: In talking with TA’s from January Moot Court, there has been a dearth in people wanting to participate in Loiselle this spring, but in that sense there is a bit of reluctance. I don’t know what the turnout was in the fall. Maybe you can speak to that. If we want to have prestige brought to the school, we want to bring those justices in. Do you have the numbers from the fall?

JK: We had over 100 people in the fall.

LM: One big difference in litigation night in this past fall and mine from 1L year was that there was a lack of communication between administration and faculty. I’m not sure how it happened. It wasn’t on our radar screen this year that we had faculty telling students not to attend. That is on our radar screen moving forward.

JK: I wouldn’t worry. Interest is always low in the middle of taking moot court class and then it peaks again in a few months so I wouldn’t worry about that.

AL: I wanted to point out that in 2012 there was litigation night in the spring with 5 competitions with $13,500 in requests and we granted $5,600. Litigation night was granted at $300. This year there are 8 competitions with $24,000 in requests and almost $16,000 we have granted. I think that is generous.

Jack: That is misleading. We usually spread out the competition, but we had so fewer less in the fall.
AL: Competitions are great. Maybe we should cut out money for each competition and set it aside to litigation night or give Matt the power to spend the money how you want for Moot Court. I think $15,900 is a good amount of money and shows how much we value Moot Court Board.

ML: I tend to agree with Alexei. We can shift around money from the competitions so Litigation is funded at least in part. Spring Litigation Night is not fair with Fall Litigation Night because fall serves two purposes of trial and appellate advocacy. There are people who have no interest with no appellate advocacy and no trial advocacy interest in the fall, but in the spring there is just appellate advocacy. This spring one is specifically geared toward appellate advocacy. In the spring the turnout may not be as great. This spring 2013 litigation night increase does represent over a fourfold increase in what you requested for litigation night in spring 2012 last year. This year you’re asking for $1300. Was it breakfast last year?

LM: Yes, it was and it was so poorly attended. They found that breakfast meetings on Fridays and Saturdays didn’t have good attendance. That was why we made that shift.

ML: Yeah no one wants to eat SBA eggs on Saturday mornings.

LM: Yes, we wanted to have a good event that was well attended.

ML: I understand that we want to have a Supreme Court Justice come and have them show we are interested. There is a lot of money here and ultimately; you do have an outside account. On paper we can shift it around so things are allocated differently, but that would be something that you guys would decide and it could be done later. Any other questions or comments? No. Ok

JB: Do you have a preference? Do you want to wait until another SBA meeting to make an adjustment or do you want to shift funds now?

JK: I don’t think we can shift funds around. I think money that is allocated. You guys are generous to us. We are not trying to imply that you are not, so I think the best way forward is to see if we can get other funding. If we need a supplemental budget then you will be amenable.

ML: We are always willing to work with you. If you find that you have no other sources of money and you have a judge coming, then we will help. Currently, we are up against our budget limit, so for now I’m going to make a motion if no further comments.

BG: For the record, last year we allocated $9300 to Moot Court Board. This year alone we are allocating $16,000 alone for only 3 more competitions.

Jack: I believe you only allocated $13,000. I can check that. Those are the numbers I have.

BG: Even still, just this one semester, we have already allocated more. Even still we expect $65,000 to be spent of the budget of $85,000 that is almost 25% of our budget so we do allocate your group. But our budget comes from our student activities fee and we can’t stretch too far
just for one group. We should try to have the event and echo Matt’s sentiment. We should try and have it on campus.

JA: In terms of being generous, we are generous to the point that we are funding the 8 competitions. But to a point our hands are tied by how much we can fund it based on the guidelines and SBA constitution. We have funding those events to the maximum. That was the judgment call. We will give you as much money as we can within the budget constraints and then the one we could flip out was litigation night. So to fully articulate shifting money. It’s great to have the event and to bring the judiciary to campus and show our skills to the state. I would recommend that you do that if you have the means. Having litigation night and bringing in judges. It’s a judgment call at this point. Now I’m repeating myself.

ML: I’m looking at what happened last year. In the fall you asked for $10,300 and received $7,400. Then in the spring last year you requested $13,500 and received $5,600 and received around $13,000 give or take for the year. Now in this year your total will be more than last year combined. So I’m going to motion to approve the amount proposed for the Moot Court Board as recommended by the Budget Committee.

WF: Second.

In favor: 17
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 2

Motion Passes.

JK: For next year, we realize you guys are generous and we don’t want to imply otherwise. No one on Moot Court Board thinks otherwise.

ML: This is why we have this meeting, even if we feel we’ve been generous there can still be something we’ve overlooked. It’s my hope that everyone feels like they’ve been treated fairly when they walk out the door.

NVA: We are not trying to shut anything down here.

JK: Have a good one!

LM: Thanks, guys.

JB: Seeing no other public comment to contest.

ML: Going to motion to approve the Budget Committee’s Spring 2013 Budget.

CM: Second.

JB: Any Comments questions?
CM: We spent until 8 o’clock on Friday going through this budget; we went through it as fine as it can be done. Barring any math errors, I think we did a good job with the principal cuts and funding big events. That’s where we our effort was.

JB: Any other questions or comments? All in favor?

In favor: 19
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 1

*Motion Passes.*

ML: Inform your classmates that the budget will be on TWEN tomorrow by noon. I’ll put the basket back in the lounge. All forms can be dropped off there. I still had other people putting them in other places. Put them there if you want expenses reimbursed.

NVA: Motion to dismiss

WF: Second.

In favor: 20
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 0

*Motion Passes.*

JB: Meeting adjourned at 10:01pm.
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
2/19/2013, 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:
  1L Day – Laura Ann Keller, LAK
  1L Day – James Anderson, JA
  1L Day – Thadius Bochain, TB
  1L Day – Nisha Vasan, NVA
  1L Evening – Eva Kolstad, EK
  1L Evening – William Fuentes, WF (excused)
  2L Day – Xander Cogbill, XC (excused)
  2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
  2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
  2L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
  3L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR (unexcused)
  3L Day – Hailey Fitzgerald (excused: graduated)
  3L Day – Connor McNamara
  3L Day – Yifie He, YH (excused: graduated)
  LLM – Anna Kitslaar, AK (excused: sick)
  Upperclass Evening – Nate Valeri, NV
  Upperclass Evening – Matt Ringland, MR
  Upperclass Evening – Camille Sauer, CS (excused: out of town)
  Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG

Also in Attendance:
  ABA Representative, Philip Liu, PL
  Jessica dePerio Wittman, JDW
  Michelle Helmin, MH

JB: Meeting Called to Order at 9:32 pm.

JB: Meeting Minutes to approve from the meeting before the budget meeting.

ML: Motion to approve the minutes.
NK: Second.

In favor: 10
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 1

_Motion Passes._

JB: We are doing the minutes for the supplemental budget.

TB: Motion for the supplemental budget meeting.

LAK: Second.

In favor: 12
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 1

_Motion Passes._

FP: Dean Candidate announcement likely in the afternoon. At that point people are free to research. We are going to try and let people research and do what they need to do. Subcommittees. Have the chairs done that?

JS: I did.

FP: Public safety is not here. Just try and get the subcommittees meeting. Everyone is on a committee. I will hold chairs accountable so hopefully that will get done. The IT department is with us tonight. We will get to you when we get to new business. I guess during the social update. Sunday is the make-up date due to the snow out date. Talking to Danielle there was no SBA participation. My concern is that none of us take part in these events other than taking an active part in these. I will go on the trip but I would love if we could get a few more people from this organization even if you’re not a great skier. Or take a snowboarding lesson like I will be doing with the 6 year olds. If it’s not possible, then no worries. But for perception reasons I would like to have someone go. That’s pretty much all I have. I’m going to meet with Aimee Houghton about some members to be part of the Connecticut Young Lawyer’s Association. Hopefully we can get this teased out for the next meeting. This person would report back to us about these events and any other networking opportunities. That will be an elected position of two people to serve throughout the year.

JB: Questions or comments for Franklin? Seeing none, Vice President update?

BG: I do not have an update.

JB: Questions for Brian? CFO Update?
ML: I also have no update.

JB: Questions or comments for Matt.

JS: Elections are underway for SBA E-Board, ABA Representative and Graduation Speakers this week. Next week will begin Student Representative nominations. Please tell your classmates and get the word our so we have more people running and we have some good competition.

JB: Questions for Jess, comments? Seeing none we can move on to new business.

FP: IT and Communications have graciously come tonight. Dean Search committee met tonight and there is a push to help improve the website. I have met with Jessica to try and make the website work more advantageously. If you can introduce yourselves and tell us why you’re here.

JDW: I’m the IT Director here at the school. You likely get lots of e-mails from me. This is Michelle Helmin head of Communications. WE are aware that the website is in the process of updating our website. The goal is part marketing and part portal. We realize there needs to be one stop shopping for financial aid, class location, class information. We also realize that the Law School needs to be branded. We want potential students and alumni to look to this website and like it. We want to solicit information from you. I’m passing around sign-up sheets for people to come and visit with us to have you come and see mock-ups for the new sites. For example, where would you find information about various things? You will be able to help us with the navigation and help us to pare down what should and should not be on there.

MH: We know that the website is broken. I often refer to it as a ranch house that is now a mall without a map. We are going to make some changes to the website that are small sizes. There won’t be significant changes in the next few months, but hopefully there will be changes soon.

JDW: We have over 15,000 pages on this website. We want to know who owns this or find orphans and get them all taken care of.

MH: We want to make it clear that we are working together as a team. It is an important marketing piece. As faculty come from different places and a new dean…we want there to be a message we are showing to the world. My standing here and Jessica standing here should show you that we are working together to make this happen. The whole branding issue is something we need to work on together. One of the new things we need to do is work on brand development to date. In a competitive market, we need to brand ourselves. What is the brand we want to create for ourselves? Most of our questions were about marketing. We need to work on this as a community. I hope Dean Next is going to be on board with this. He or she is going to be a big part of how we work together here and outside the campus. We want you to know we know and understand the frustration behind the web and are getting the project moving behind the scenes. The site is so broken we are starting fresh.

JDW: We hired our new web programmer and he has already started to build a foundation. He has already started working. He is trying to work on building it around the idea of responsive
design. It should be made so that it will scale to all your devices. We know we need to work on having Google work from our website without having to go to the site separately.

MH: You may have met Bianca. She is going to do some writing and platforms for us and I am trying to work at hiring someone else. We want to have an active presence online. If you have a student group, then please reach out to my office so Bianca can come to your event. We want to message what we are offering to the community inside UCONN Law and the greater community.

JDW: As you think about reaching out to the Communications Office think about your current site. Think of your goal, what do you want to display on your page. What do you want prospective students to see? Is your page current? Seeing as elections are coming up, who will the point person be? The website is a living breathing document so it will constantly evolve and grow. If you have some photos that are applicable to your organization those would be great to show off.

FP: It has made a lot of strides in the direction of making this website work. Student input is going to be valuable. I took the little quiz and failed. You need to help. We need to fix it as a group.

JDW: There is no failure.

FP: And you get food and candy. Thank you for coming! This is all so important! We announce dean candidates tomorrow and we will do our part!

JDW: Thank you!

SL: Did you think of an app for the iPad, or iPhone? They had a helpful app at Exeter where I was last semester. It was set up so you can figure it out quickly.

JDW: Can I fire up the computer to show you that. We are hoping that responsive design eliminates the need for that. So by what I mean by responsive design. So when you open it up it opens in full screen, so as you go ahead and lets say example open it up on a tablet, as you shrink it down it starts accommodating it, so it only lists the important things you need to see. So a good example of an academic institution that uses this is the university of Chicago. I’m not saying we’ll use all the elements but to give you an idea of all the responsive design things. So as you make it smaller, everything condenses. When you get it down to here, it starts listing things in bars so that way it gives you the appearance of what an app would give you. We are trying to do two things but out our eggs in one basket.

SL: Yeah, cool thank you.

BG: Is there a plan to somehow get one tough email? I emailed Ricardo, I wanted to get my email on the one touch?

JDW: Yes, and it bothers me that I can’t get my email on my iPhone. When I came here 9 months ago, my #1 priority was the website. We talked already about the possibility of
eliminating the students.law.uconn.edu account. I know most of you have moved over to Google. But I want to make sure that all those apps will be utilized on Google. We need to figure out a way to get our directory on Google. I recognize it. I would like to move off of lotus notes but with all the other things, I just want to make the move at the right time.

JB: Any other questions or comments?

FP: Comment. Hopefully IT is going to be in the budget for the student groups room on the 4th floor so that there can be presentations, computers, have a centralized group meetings where they can utilized the technology. As we get the information together, make sure to keep Jessica in the loop so that we get the equipment up there to make student groups work together in an easier fashion.

JGW: We do have video conferencing at that law school. I can give you those guidelines if you get in touch with me.

JB: Any other questions? Thank you for coming. Next thing is Laura Ann.

LAK: I know I sent out some emails to you all as an SBA and a law school community. In order not to bombard you all over e-mail I kept it to those of you have signed up so far. If you are not on the list, please email me. I’m meeting with the director tomorrow, especially if you have any interest. We have had a lot of interest so far. Thank you for those of you who have volunteered. People have spread the word so thank you. Pro Se is going to write an article. My goal is try and get a calendar together by the end of this week or next week, but please e-mail me if you want to be included in the emails or this project.

JB: Comments?

FP: I would say that you should get in touch with Bianca so we advertise that.

JB: Any other questions or comments?

FP: Yes, new business. Big round of applause to the first edition of the SBA Newsletter to Jim! And who ever else helped you.

JA: Jess helped too.

FP: Thank you guys! Whatever help you guys need! Let us know! I think that was a fantastic idea. Hopefully that gives people an idea of what we do here. Things do get done here. It is important that people know what we know! So thank you Jim and Jess for that.

JB: Social Committee update?

FP: After spring break let’s talk about the bigger events! If anyone has any availability on Sunday let me know! It could be fun!
JB: Mallory, facilities update.

MG: Just two. One I’ll be going on the tour with the campus with the Dean nominees. So I’ve been in touch with Prof. Bronin about what we want to focus the candidates’ attention on. If you want to know what we’re talking about I’m happy to let you see it. And two, if there are people here on my committee could you hang back so we can talk about things.

JB: Any questions or comments for Mallory. I think that’s it.

PL: ABA updates. Today is the 1st Circuit meeting at Harvard. It’s great to have a presence there. We are voting on the Governor this Saturday. He is quite involved. I want to bring to your attention that the ABA is an elected position but I have no vote here, so I think they should have a vote.

JB: Any questions or comments for Phil?

AL: Motion to open discussion to amend the SBA Constitution to discuss the voting position.

ML: Second.

BG: Do we know why the ABA Rep doesn’t have a vote?

PL: The guy before Bob and before Matt Zagaya didn’t know.

BG: Any reason why the ABA shouldn’t have a vote?

ML: ABA has never had a vote. It has never made sense to me. It is an elected position. The Representative goes out and represents our school. They do represent our school. I don’t think from Matt to Bob and now to Phil I have yet to see one who does not contribute in a big way. It has never been a clearly delineated reason why.

AL: We need to balance the power between 1Ls, 2Ls, 3Ls. An ABA is going to be a 2L or a 3L. You have certain members of the E-Board and the reps. They should focus narrowly. They should focus on their duties and protected from scrutiny from the public. That is why I think that the ABA, Parliamentarian and CFO shouldn’t have votes.

ML: As a more general matter, I understand and appreciate the notion of positions having impartiality. The CFO shouldn’t take a stance. Parliamentarian and ABA rep shouldn’t take a stance. In my view, we all contribute to this body. We all have an opinion and contribute. We all have ideology. They do on the Supreme Court. Everyone lends their voice to this body. It strikes me as odd that people who contribute a lot to these meetings and then take a seat back for voting.

JB: Any questions for Phil or E-Board?
AL: We should have a definitive way that we want to change the text. We can iron it out at a later meeting.

BG: The more I think about it, the more I think Alexei has a point. The CFO is going to be appointed from someone who has been elected. They are being elected from their class then appointed. I understand your concern there. On that point, it is different. It is different.

NVA: I think it is fair for someone being elected by the whole community and representing the whole community should be represented.

AL: I think he should be an ABA rep and one board member.

ML: If I understand you correctly, the idea on the table would be to have the ABA Rep be elected in a capacity as a senator and then chosen from within the body, so you have an independent duty, but you are still a class representative. I think it’s up for discussion.

AL: I think that we would have the ABA rep after the SBA rep. And only those elected as an SBA rep can run.

JA: The only problem is that what if you have 12 people and none want to be the ABA rep.

AL: Then open it up for general election, but he doesn’t have a vote. That is my view.

JB: Any other questions or comments?

FP: There should be a motion to have the constitutional and by laws committee to meet and put out there to help the ABA rep. The ABA rep is chosen from the entire student body. I think limiting it to class elected officials does a disservice. I think as Nisha points out the election of that person should be from the whole group. I fear similar to what Jim said that being an ABA rep is a huge responsibility. And you would have your SBA and ABA responsibilities. I wouldn’t want things to give. For 2Ls you might be busy. For 3Ls you may just be disinterested. That person embodies that role for the entire year instead of this hybrid or duality, or conflicts of interest and commitments.

NVA: I worry that then we’ll be seen as a body possessing too much power. I think we are not going toward a notion that was traditionally elected to now going to appointed positions.

ML: To steer this back to Alexei. I don’t think we would appoint. From what Alexei is saying, everyone would be elected to a class rep and then from that body would then run against any other member of the body and everyone would vote on those people. By the pre-requisite for running would be to be on the SBA and if no one wanted it then we would go outside of the SBA and it would function like it does now.

AL: After hearing all these concerns, I think this construct we created is too cumbersome. I think we should hold ABA elections after and then open it to people and it could be for SBA rep
then so be it. Phil had to make a choice that once he wanted to run as an ABA rep then he couldn’t run for an SBA rep. I think we should give them the power to choose.

LAK: I think the issue with the vote of being within SBA and outside the SBA and voting. And I think we need to have this set in the bylaws.

BG: Alexei, if I understand the last thing you said. So you would have SBA elections, then ABA election and then anyone (outside or SBA) then you vote. If you are a part of SBA then you get a vote otherwise you don’t. That would solve the issue of vote inequality. I think we are one body but for the sake of transparency we could do that. I would be in favor of bringing a proposal to the bylaws and constitution committee.

AL: Motion to have the constitution and by laws committee

NVA: Second.

In favor: 8  
Opposed: 1  
Abstentions: 5  

*Motion Passes.*

JB: The committee will draft. Will this affect this election? Any other new business?

NL: If any of your classmates are asking, we are doing St. Paddy’s Day at the Wood N’ Tap and we are thinking of doing it at the Boat House, so if you have any type of suggestions then that would be great.

NVA: I am assisting Jess with a book drive. We are looking for books for at-risk children in the area. The attorney who contacted us We want people to bring books from home to school after spring break!

JB: Any questions or comments?

AL: Motion to adjourn.

NK: Second.

In favor: 13  
Opposed: 0  
Abstentions: 0  

*Motion Passes.*

JB: Meeting adjourned at 10:23pm.
University of Connecticut School of Law
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting
3/5/2013, 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 (excused)

Class Representatives:
   1L Day – Laura Ann Keller, LAK
   1L Day – James Anderson, JA
   1L Day – Thadius Bochain, TB
   1L Day – Nisha Vasan, NVA
   1L Evening – Eva Kolstad, EK
   1L Evening – William Fuentes, WF
   2L Day – Xander Cogbill, XC
   2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK
   2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL
   2L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL
   3L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR (unexcused)
   3L Day – Hailey Fitzgerald (excused: graduated)
   3L Day – Connor McNamara
   3L Day – Yifie He, YH (excused: graduated)
   LLM – Anna Kitslaar, AK
   Upperclass Evening – Nate Valeri, NV
   Upperclass Evening – Matt Ringland, MR
   Upperclass Evening – Camille Sauer, CS
   Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG

Also in Attendance:
   ABA Representative, Philip Liu, PL
   Robert Cane, RC
   Jay McCormick, JM

FP: Meeting Called to Order at 9:35 pm.

CM: Motion to approve minutes from our last meeting on February 19th.

TB: Second.
In Favor: 12
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 4

Motion Passes.

FP: E-Board updates. Dean Search. Last candidate is coming tomorrow. I implore all of you to come to Davis Courtroom at 4:45. Make sure to get feedback from your classmates. Any feedback you have at large is welcome to come in. Get those comments to me by Thursday. I need those before my meeting Friday afternoon. There are still moments to be a part of this process. We simply make recommendations. The Provost decides, but the President has a big part in the decision. I will check email up until the meeting. If people don’t want to exercise those opportunities I can’t do much more? Comments?

XC: Is there a difference between emailed you, the SBA, or emailing the Provost?

FP: General comments should come to me to talk out with the Committee. If you have comments directly related to seeing the candidates, those should be made directly to the Provost, so you can provide your own feedback. Comments?

JA: For people who attended, or based on bios, maybe recommend after everyone has come, maybe get a quick pole of people who are best. I don’t know if we want to endorse someone who won’t be our dean, but it might be a good idea for you to say.

FP: Have you looked at the information about each candidate? If so, then I feel comfortable taking that to the meeting, but I don’t want people blindly picking candidates. I just want to make sure that you’re making an informed decision. Don’t send me input if you haven’t researched these candidates. So by Wednesday at 10pm get me input from within our own body. So if there is a clear favorite, then we know?

JS: Is it a straw poll or if there are specifics?

FP: We need to get feedback and specifics. Get it to me by Wednesday night.

JA: Sorry for the extra work.

FP: No it’s important.

BG: SBA Representatives Elections will be voting. We will have elections for 2L Day, 3L Day sections and no vote for the Evening Section because it was uncontested. Last week we had a Social Committee meeting at which I delegated assignments. At this point if we have updates I can defer.

TB: So I’m spearheading a movie night. The idea came to fruition spur of the moment. I think we should make it larger. The idea is to bring students together to relax, but I want to blend it in with the community thing. So I thought we could partner it with opmad. The cost is cheap or in
terms in fundraising. It didn’t come to my mind that there are licensing agreements. The idea is
to help Laura Ann and OpMad have a forum. Hopefully, we can have a relaxing night and get
this great program out in the community, but we could hopefully purchase art supplies for this
program. I was thinking of April 18th/19th on a Thursday night, especially with spring break
coming up. I still need some time for the licensing agreement. I am open to ideas. I think it’s
cliché to have a legal themed movie, but I’m open or any comment.

BG: Any comments or questions?

SL: Where is it?

TB: One proposal is a movie theater, alternatively and the better suggestion is to be on campus.
The function is cheaper, maybe Chase 210. It’s a quasi-movie theater. I would coordinate with
Mallory about fire hazards with a popcorn machine.

BG: Anything for Thad?

AK: Eva and I are organizing March Madness. We booked a room. We got in touch with City
Pizza and Wood N’ Tap. I made an appointment with Jen Cerney for promotion. I have a
question. Are we responsible for getting people to bet? Or can we not bet?

FP: We will not facilitate betting. If I student chooses to print brackets and engages the student
body. There will be no SBA sponsorship of brackets.

AK: Also the funding. Does Sports Law or SBA have the money for the food?

ML: Why don’t we talk at the end?

TB: Laura Ann saw that we had $300 and it was before the licensing agreement. The Popcorn
Machine costs $40. I don’t know how much additional money the SBA has, would I be able to
get a little extra?

ML: Our backs are up against a wall. We have a bunch of supplemental budgets. We’ve had to
turn down $50 requests. We need to do this to keep up with making our present allocations.

TB: I’m talking $25 here.

ML: I don’t see that being a problem. A couple of hundred dollars is another story. Keep me
posted and we can work together.

AK: March madness may have extra. We may have an extra $900.

ML: Some ends up being leftover sometimes. We wanted to be more generous in the spring,
since we were more stringent in the fall. By it’s nature we won’t spend all of it, but it is
contingent on March Madness coming in under budget.
BG: Questions?

FP: Where are we with the Book Drive?

NVA: I’ve gone into every administrative office to have them bring in books. Penny in the Co-Op bought kids books in the Co-Op and gave them to us. Deb king put it on her Facebook.

FP: Relay for life.

EV: It’s set up. I’d like to get more faculty on board.

FP: Have you talked to Dr. Brown? She is the easiest conduit by which to get this information to this. They have a meeting on Friday. I’ll get you her information.

FP: Laura Ann?

LAK: I went on Friday to check on the schools. It was a week ago. I got a lot of response from people, but I sent the emails to require you to sign up. I haven’t heard from anyone. I have my start time soon! So if you are interested, shoot me an email. It’s really flexible. For anyone who hasn’t heard, it’s volunteering at an afterschool program in South Hartford. It’s a non-profit and they can always use extra help. Also with talking with Thad, they take any type of school supplies because it’s all funding based. Again, the volunteers, I need to hear from you. Ideally, I want a strong base in SBA by the time we go and sell it at movie night, so we can speak from experience, so we can say it IS a good thing. I have the forms if you need me to send them again. Keep me posted on when you send them.

FP: Would you send out a reminder? All they ask for is like an hour to volunteer. Coordinate with a friend. We want to try to give back to the community. We are trying to enhance the reputation of the school and we want Storrs to see what we’re doing. We want you to hit the ground running in the fall.

AK: There is a lot of interest among international students. We don’t want to be a hassle but they don’t have a car, so if you can match people up that would be drive.

LAK: Let me know times, so I can match people.

FP: St. PADdy’s day.

NVA: So we’ve been communicating with Shannon Daley. We don’t need any other insurance except venue. We are in charge of making sure there are buses. Shannon is excited to make it a medical and dental school mixer. We are going to make a Facebook page and ask them to join us.

FP: If possible, try to reach out to MBA students too. E-mail Hailey about who their social committee members are.
NVA: If people can spread the word, that would be great!

FP: That’s it for social stuff. Matt?

ML: I don’t have an update. All of the money was allocated to the Social Committee instead of Arts and Entertainment Society.

AK: So what happens?

ML: You can spend up to that allocation?

EK: Was it $900?

ML: Let me check.

BG: If people are tight for cash, let us know. I know I don’t have $900 to front to make sure you’re reimbursed.

ML: There are ways to do it up front. It’s easier to have people front the money, but we can work around that and avail ourselves of those channels.

ML: It was $957.

FP: Any questions for Matt?

FP: Social Committee? ABA?

PL: We had the Spring Circuit meeting two weeks ago. I was only able to make it for the vote. I heard that the vote was for a good guy. If you’re going to the ABA meeting in San Diego it’s the first week in August. You’ll meet him, we’re all in the same Circuit.

FP: Did anyone sign up for ABA Rep spot? Facilities?

MG: I just got an email from the Committee. There are a few things on our agenda. We are going to follow-up with Dean Crawford about the old microfilm room, so we can find out what’s going on with that. There is a Dean Committee Search there has been a focus on trying to promote a centralized student space. So for the committee, our focus is on that space. I think we want to get a framework in place to present to the incoming dean, so he can see what changes we would like to make. I think the dean is in a good position to request those resources. It’s a transition time, so people should bring those up. Lastly, we were talking about the Starr Gym. Jay McCormick wants to use money from the stiff account to purchase new equipment.

JM: I’m from Fit Club. The idea of this club is to take some available funds and put them into capitalizing the gym space because I think we can do a lot more with that space. So I’m here to ask for money to make it better. We have average people per week of 37 in the spring. We had 22 in the fall. We want to bring these services to make our campus more attractive. If you look
at Google, they have a great space with a lot of gym space. Google knows that it’s more than just about work. Fitness has good physical and psychological effects. Anxiety reduction is something that will really help our students. Exercise helps us be less anxious, less angry, more energetic. That way we can see stress not as insurmountable. We could buy $945 on exercise machines that would help us to do many different exercises. That’s a lot more productive use than trying to use that money for treadmills. I think it’s more productive than purchasing weight lifting machines. I think people would come to a gym with a multi-functional equipment. If we add cardio equipment then I recommend a rowing machine. We could also purchase an erodine. If we purchased it all it would be about $2400. We have many options. We could also wait to see what the JCC has left over equipment. I recommend we don’t wait because we need it now. Purchasing used equipment is what got us what we have now. Third, we don’t know what they’re even offering to sell us. Any questions?

AL: Can you do squats in the gym now?

JM: We have a machine but it puts your body into an unnatural range of movement. Plus the Smith machine is limited. You can’t do pull-ups, power cleans. So a Smith machine is basically like a medal bar on runners and you put wrights on the outside. It doesn’t move horizontally. The Smith machine forces you into a bad position because the bar is fixed.

AL: Bench press?

JM: Similar issues. You need more plates. You need more weight.

AL: Is a Smith machine vertical or vertical and behind it?

AL: Can’t you attach a bar?

JM: Not safely. The Smith machine has hooks that hook internally, so there’s

XC: What about the surrounding infrastructure?

SL: The shower works.

JM: Get the door or the buddy system.

XC: I wonder if it’s that there’s the lack of machinery or the lack of other stuff.

JM: I think $400 gives us a bar and some plates. $900 gets us more. A locker room would cost thousands of dollars.

LAK: If you get the new equipment how do you get people interested?

JM: If we get that equipment, I can do tutorials and classes to show people how to use these. The other reason why people don’t know about the gym is that no one is talking about it. Awesome equipment will help.
TB: This whole Microfilm room and maybe moving the gym up there? I want to be able to move it there? The idea I would plant is to make the gym where the old microfilm room is.

JM: That doesn’t mean we need to wait on the equipment.

NVA: Why do we have to pay for the gym equipment, when the Storrs campus doesn’t?

BG: Storrs has a bad gym too.

FP: Let’s keep the conversation going.

RC: Former fitness room attendant here. I would recommend we get rid of certain machines that are bad and get some good benches. We need a little more space. It would open up a lot of extra space. I’m thinking if we can’t get any money then we can change it.

JM: JCC is selling certain things.

NVA: My question is, have you approached Student Services and the Dean’s Office, maybe they can supplement. They should really be supporting this.

MG: So I talked with Dr. Brown about the building in general and she had already gone to the school, and she said that the only funding we could get would be from SBA.

JM: that reflects my conversation with her too.

NV: This is coming from another gym user. The gym needs a lot of help and people don’t use it because it sucks. But there are some good things. I think it also is bad because the management sucks as well. I think the fact that it’s not open on weekends or at night and I think that impacts evening students. I think if we can make it better.

FP: The reason why the hours were cut short was because they look at the attendance and there was no usage. So there was an executive decision made. If we want to broach that issue, then we talk to Dr. Brown about that. We want to deal with are we comfortable with allocating money for funding. Hours is something we take up with our faculty advisor.

ML: Jay and I discussed this briefly on Budget day. The funding for this cannot come from the current year operating budget. It’s a facilities update and it must come from the Stiff Account. There will likely be enough at the end of the year. There will likely be enough to fund it at $900 and maybe on $2400. Not every dollar gets spent in the operating budget. The cushion we have. We won’t know how much is in the Stiff Account until after the reimbursement aspect. I think it will have to be delayed until late April.

RC: I believe two people may use the gym when it’s closed. Can you corroborate?

FP: So two people can get a key from the Dean’s office.
JA: I think this is a good idea. It is a capital improvement. I think we may need to move on to your other issues. Sorry to be cynical.

FP: I want to get this out for public comment, so we can discuss it now, so when it’s time to possibly make this change we’ve already talked about it and just need to implement the decision.

BG: For the record, this is a good idea. I think we should fund this, even minimally at $945. It’s the kind of mindset this SBA should have, especially to improve the wellness of the community. It would look great to say Brought to you By the SBA. Jay put on a great presentation.

ML: I think everyone is in agreement that we should be funding this. At the end of the reimbursement period, we will see how to make some facilities updates. We put in the Keurig and the stools and the countertops. I don’t think we have any other facilities update for this year. It will be the next CFO’s call. I think if there is money, then it should be devoted to gym improvements.

AK: We have a lot of sports society and the international, and we have no cars. I’d rather spend discretionary on gym improvements than pizza.

ML: Indirectly, the money goes to it if it’s not spent but not directly. The Stiff account is for overages and facilities updates. We have to reserve it until the end of the year because we plan on it being there in case we spend all of our budget.

JM: Do all groups spend discretionary of $200?

ML: in our experience they do not.

FP: Comments.

JM: No more comments.

FP: Thank you, Jay.

WF: Motion to table until we know what’s in our Stiff Account.

NK: Second.

ML: Do we want to commit this money?

JA: I think we can say that we can that we would fund it up to $2500 contingent on it being in the fund.

FP: Motioning to make a motion that $2500 is allocated
ML: I recommend that for future CFOs to have a buffer. I’ll make a motion to fund it if there is $7000 in the account for $2500 and $950 if at least $5000.

JA: Second.

In favor: 17
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 1

Motion Passes.

FP: Moving to new business. We are going to address a significant financial matter.

ML: I’m moving at lighting speed but need to get this done at a high speed. If you remember the Moot Court Board. We had voted on an allocation of roughly $10,000 give or take. At that point we had looked at the budget and said that only six events would be considered for each group. MCB sent us a proposal with 9 events. The formula that adds up all the event allocations and adds it up at the bottom was a broken formula and this number here is what we recommend. The three additional events were not included in that formula. The budget pulls from each individual event. The $10,000 was on track to allocate $80,000. As I mentioned we can rely on the Stiff Account for a cushion. What we spend cannot exceed the Operating Budget and the Stiff Account otherwise we are bankrupt. Now we are $6000 in the bankrupt zone as a result of this error. I caught this after the Budget Meeting. I’ve been in discussions with the President of the Moot Court Board to try and figure out an equitable solution, so both SBA and MCB can both rely on a cushion for next year, which has traditionally been there for us. We are relying on this number. They get a certain amount of money from Storrs and within the amount that gets replenished each year the way it’s proposed each year. I don’t think we’ll be bankrupt. Traditionally we don’t spend that, but we need to plan for all contingencies. We are currently in an area where that happened. Going back to this the motion in the minutes, we phrased it as the amount on the display. We want to be fair and try to give them the money we promised them. So I want to vote…it’s unclear if there funding stands at $10,000 or $16,000. Questions can be fielded by me or members of the Budget Committee who have all been apprised of what’s going on.

SL: What’s the number that came up on the screen?

ML: It was roughly $16000.

SL: So this one we are looking at is budget neutral?

ML: MCB is ok spending this money.

LAK: I want to get this straight. The $10,000 is what MCB said it would accept instead of $16000, so that’s what they get instead of…
ML: Now it’s unclear because the $10,600 is what we have. So we worked to come up with this number. This number works with both groups, so we could get a final number up on the budget that works for both numbers.

JA: If we pass this, then we need to update everything online, so there isn’t confusion.

ML: This proposal has been sent to MCB. She will talk to her Treasurer. She is ok with us voting on this. We may need to swing an extra grand their way if we have it in the budget. But if you have questions, I’m here.

XC: How does that balance against the motion we just passed about the left over going toward facilities?

ML: This takes priority because it’s within the operating year.

FP: Comments?

XC: To ask for future CFOs and administrations. How could we avoid this in the future?

ML: In the future, from my standpoint at SBA CFO, it needs to be clear that any deviation from 6 event norm is incumbent on the group deviating to let the budget committee know and the burden falls on the student group, not the budget committee. We need to be clear that 6 is a hard number rule. If you need a deviation, you need to take that into consideration and brings it to the SBA’s attention. If they do let you know and the budget committee makes the mistake, then it lies with the SBA. I think that’s fairest while still protecting our interests. Does that seem fair?

AL: What’s the difference between what we approved?

ML: This is about $600 higher. MCB has special rules about funding competitions and Loiselle. That way they don’t have to go through special channels for the funding. That way they can do this.

FP: Comments?

ML: Motion to approve the updated final allocation for MCB for Spring 2013 semester at a funding level of $10,685.98.

CM: Second.

In favor: 13
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 5

Motion Passes.

FP: This will be updated online.
ML: I’ll have the hopefully final by tomorrow morning up on Twen.

FP: We have two minutes left, is there any new business.

AK: I have a question for Matt. If can change the place of the reimbursement tray. People don’t want to put their receipts in the Lounge.

ML: I place it there because it’s locked. Are there better suggestions?

AK: Behind the circulation desk.

JA: I think they would be very accommodating. As long as people who bring the sheets in there shouldn’t be a problem.

ML: That’s fine as long as the Circulation Desk doesn’t mind. It makes sense because we have checks there.

FP: Any new business let me know.

TB: Motion to adjourn.

XC: Second.

In favor: 18
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

Meeting Adjourned at 10:47pm.
University of Connecticut School of Law  
Student Bar Association (SBA) Meeting  
4/9/2013, 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 (excused)

Class Representatives:  
1L Day – Laura Ann Keller, LAK  
1L Day – James Anderson, JA  
1L Day – Thadius Bochain, TB  
1L Day – Nisha Vasan, NVA  
1L Evening – Eva Kolstad, EK  
1L Evening – William Fuentes, WF  
2L Day – Xander Cogbill, XC  
2L Day – Nisha Kapur, NK  
2L Day – Alexei Lourie, AL  
2L Day – Sean LaPorta, SL  
3L Day – Francisco Ruso, FR (unexcused)  
3L Day – Hailey Fitzgerald (excused: graduated)  
3L Day – Connor McNamara  
3L Day – Yifie He, YH (excused: graduated)  
LLM – Anna Kitslaar, AK  
Upperclass Evening – Nate Valeri, NV  
Upperclass Evening – Matt Ringland, MR  
Upperclass Evening – Camille Sauer, CS  
Upperclass Evening – Mallory Goodwin, MG

Also in Attendance:  
ABA Representative, Philip Liu, PL  
Robert Cane, RC  
Ashkon Roozbehani, AR  
Martin Mack, MM

Called to Order at 9:33PM

FP: Motion to approve minutes from last meeting on March 26th.

CM: Motion.
NVA: Second.

In favor: 19
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 1

*Motion Passes.*

FP: I have no updates. I will give my farewell speech in a few minutes. Please encourage all peers to attend Spring Fling at the Boat House. Brian will give an update. Tonight is our transition meeting. welcome to all of our new members. We are confident that everyone will meet and exceed our expectations.

BG: Social Update. Spring Fling is this Saturday from 8-midnight. As of now we are not expecting flooding, but you never know. We are supposed to have rain tomorrow and Friday. It’s all pretty much taken care of thanks to Sean, Nate and Nisha K. The three of them are responsible. We will hold our applause until the event happens. Only 41 tickets have been sold. Keep talking to your peers.

NK: There is a photo-booth! Plug that.

BG: That’s great! Plug that!

FP: Questions or comments?

FP: To give you a heads up. We are meeting with administrators. In many places where we have held events in the past there is concern about how UCONN Law students have behaved. We are trying to have a comfortable medium, and have our Student Advisor, Dr. Brown, at the ticket desk. She’s not monitoring but we want you to just be able to come up to the ticket desk coherent. To try and curtail that behavior we want there to be another authority, in case there is something even better. We want some type of supervision at the door. They will likely leave in the first hour. We don’t want people to catch up too quickly. The point of these events is not to rage, Barstool Blackout Parties. Brian and I are going to start talking to classes to please tell people to be on their best behavior. We are not telling the student body this. If people want to take the risk and be blackout drunk, that’s not reflective of the conduct of UCONN Law, especially when we are out representing the school. We made this decision as a social committee.

BG: Our thinking is in having Jane Brown there is that it’s likely not going to change the behavior for 95% of the people there. Hopefully for the remaining 5% it’s meant to check that behavior. Additionally, it shouldn’t be our job to self-police. It’s important to have an administrator there. There are other things that happened in previous years that are shameful frankly and we need to curb that. It would be appropriate for you all to say something to an individual or to one of us if you see something going on.
FP: Any comments or questions?

ML: I echo both Frank and Brian’s comments. If you see something, say something. This all reflects on UCONN. In terms of CFO updates we are on track to fulfill our requests. We are on track as of right now.

BG: How are we looking in terms of funding the fit club?

ML: I don’t know what level we are funding it. I can’t remember exactly. We should be able to fund it at some level, not sure if it’s the maximum level.

FP: Comments or questions? Committee updates?

MG: No facility updates. The plan is to develop a facility framework. I’m not sure when the facility chair is coming in but that’s the last thing on the table.

FP: Questions or comments? Now on to new business. We need to take a photo. Motion to go off the record.

CM: Motion to go off the record.

WF: Second.

BG: Motion to go back on the record.

WF: Second.

FP: All reps need to sign the voting ledger. It’s a part of the public record. By signing it you are upholding your Constitutional duties. At this point we are in transition. I’m not going to get sentimental but it has certainly been a pleasure to serve with all of you. As a whole, this room is filled with people who are going to do amazing things. So for me to be “President” of this group, you all give me great credit. I’m just the face. You have all made my job so much easier. It’s a huge testament to each one of you individually. Going forward, don’t lose contact with each other and with me. Look at how far we’ve come. My goal now as an alum is that past SBA members can link up with current SBA members, but there is a huge opportunity for it. You are all individuals and there are others out there. Hopefully I can help facilitate. In terms of SBA E-Board. Matt, everyone wants money. It’s one of the most unforgiving jobs. He bears the brunt of those responsibilities. I had check writing responsibilities but didn’t need to use that because he was on top of his game. Matt has always been very responsible, especially with supplemental budget requests. He’s done the best job of anyone else I’ve ever seen. Matt, I want to thank you. Sorry for any criticisms. He will help whoever is filling his job. My CAO here. I think a lot of the work that gets done for us as a group, especially a lot of the smaller things. Everything is handled by Jess. I mean this effort would not have worked. Laura Ann you’re going to do a great job with it. You always need to be on top of it. She had opportunities to complain and she didn’t. It’s the work horse
position. No one sees you’re doing all that work. I think you’re going to have a great leader with her. Keep the positivity going. I think the student body has had a positive experience this year. People are enthusiastic about being at UCONN Law. Usually people are either checked out or want to get finals. I think people are anticipating that withdrawal. Again, to speak to Jess to everything she’s done. This position has groomed me more than well enough. She’s going to do a great job. Lastly, Vice President Brian. Brian and I started law school together. Initially, you were that kid in my class who sat behind me in class and made off color comments and now he’s a brother. That speaks to the SBA as a whole. When we talked during the summer, we had goals for the summer. Our biggest goal was to change the perception of UCONN Law. There are always going to be tough times for people. Without Brian by my side to vent when I needed to. He was my port when I was in need of light. We had hour-long conversations that started for school and then changed into personal stuff. I’m always indebted to him. Xander you’re going to do a great job. You’ve got similar qualities as Brian. Be supportive of Jess. There are times when Brian and I disagreed, but you and Jess need to work it out! Again, when you leave this room, you need to have each other’s backs when you leave this room. Thank you, Brian. So with that I have nothing else left to say. Thank you to everyone who has served, even those who aren’t planning to serve next year. You are the eyes and ears of the campus. Our ranking is rising. In terms of our collaboration, that’s at an all time high. We are sure that the new E-Board has ideas. Let’s try and get another social event. Have a good event!

BG: I echo everything Franklin said. It’s been a pleasure working with all you. We wanted to change the culture at UCONN law and we did it. We are so happy that all of you bought into it and helped us to make it happen. It’s been a pleasure working with you all. I encourage you all to keep going. Matt, it’s a thankless job. Jess, it’s a thankless job. You did a great job. So I wasn’t in the SBA my first year. I was here second year. It used to be a lot of hierarchy and didn’t feel comfortable speaking. Our group has changed a lot. That tone was definitely set my Franklin. He did a great job setting the tone. He’s very modest. He does a lot of work and really bought into this group. He’s in meetings with people on campus that we don’t know even exist. It’s amazing that he balanced his job. Thank you!

FP: That said, come and take your positions on the mantel.

Swearing in of new executive board: JS, XC, LAK

“I solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, and the Constitution and the ByLaws of the Student Bar Association. I will faithfully discharge, according to law, the duties of the office of SBA Board member, to the best of my abilities.”

JS: Hi everyone, we are actually going to start by sweating in the new members, so all members going forward please rise. If you could all raise you right hand please …..
New Members: Tyler Haynes, Brian Alosco, Martin Mack, Robert Cane, Ashkon Roozbehani –

“I solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, and the Constitution and the ByLaws of the Student Bar Association. I will faithfully discharge, according to law, the duties of the office of SBA Board member, to the best of my abilities.”

JS: So just as a really short intro we know everyone probably wants to get out of here but we are really excited to have all of you with us next year and we had a great year this year. For the coming year we want to outline a few of our goals. we want everyone invested, we want everyone’s feedback, we want everyone involved. we are each going to cover one of the three goals of next year. Professionalism: we want this to be part of the goals of the SBA because it should be part of the goals of the student campus as a whole. It should be every ones goals. Xander will tell you that we want to encourage as a group and as a whole the idea of professionalism and acting like the lawyers that we are going to be one day.

XC: second goal is transparency. We are going to be trying to meet with each of you before the end of the year. It will be a quick meeting but we want you all to be involved as early as possible. Transparency: there has been a perception on campus that has been ebbing that we are a solo campus – That there are different qualified departments that exist in isolation and the communication between those has not been perfect. We are going to try to model a transparent organization in order to promote as a whole this campus communicating better. This will get the word out about what we are going and allow people to know what’s going on. This will require a bit of an initial investment in us; like to news letters we did this semester. The initial investment will yield a lot down the road.

LAK: With involvement, One of the major goals next year is a higher turn out, not just in SBA events but in events as a whole. The SBA community has a duty to attend all events put on at UConn Law. We are looking at panel discussions and social events that other groups are putting on. What we demonstrate will flow to the rest of the community. One of the major goals is to figure out how we are going to get these events attended, and how are we going to promote the things that are going on at the campus. We are open to suggestions on how to get people out of their books and into the events that the school is putting on.

JS: Does anybody have any question for myself, LA or Xander? If you have any questions from here on out, please email the SBA account. Now we would like to appoint the CFO for next year. We would like to nominate Jim Anderson. He served on the budget committee, he is very familiar with the process, he is looking to make a lot of changes, so would Jim come down and answer questions from the general SBA body.

JA: Like Jess said, I was on the budget committee this year, so I have a year of experience. I have seen how the budget committee works and how we can improve the
process. We want groups to be able to know what we are expecting of them when they request money and when we request information from them about an event. Like groups spending money on food for getting people in the door. It seems minor but it really adds up. Like the eboard said before, if appointed, I would be open to suggestions of course. Especially with the new dean coming in there is a lot that we can do to tighten up in some areas and improve the budget.

JS: Any questions for Jim?

ML: How are you going to make this process less than ten hours?

JA: Groups are so used to looking at the same form. If we have a new, simpler form where groups are giving us information and sending out the budget information earlier to do preliminary work we can see how much money we have and how close we are to that ceiling. This would give us a couple different options ahead of time.

NVA: How would you have resolved the moot court situation this year?

JA: I think matt handled it very well. Sitting down with the individual members of the group is a very good way to go. I mentioned tightening up earlier. If we give ourselves a little more wiggle room in the beginning we can deal with a circumstance like that if it comes up. We don’t want to ever leave ourselves with no money. the only way to handle that though is to work with the leaders of the group.

NK: One of the important things is to have good time management and to get students their reimbursements within the week. How will you adjust to that responsibility?

JA: Currently I don’t have another leadership positions in any other groups, so SBA and CFO position would be number one on the list. I would set aside an hour or two a week when I am in the office and people would know that to help streamline the request processes and deal with requests.

JS: Any other questions? Now we can open this up to conversation.

ML: First, thank you to all of the members of the budget committee. Jim will handle this all very well. I have nothing but good things to say about him. Part of the job of CFO is that people are going to be unhappy and you have to deal with that and Jim is very capable of that. He is very good with people and he jumped into the position on the budget committee very quickly very effectively. I would certainly endorse Jim as a candidate for CFO.

NK: I worked with Jim on the budget committee this year and he was great. He looks at the budget with a keen eye. He know where to cut and how to deal with it. I would endorse him as well.
NVA: I was also on the budget committee and it was a great way to see how the school runs. Jim has a keen eye to stay on task and is really meticulous with it. We as SBA give up a lot of our funding to support other students group and Jim would continue that.

AL: I agree with everything that has been said and also that he seems to like taking control of the spreadsheet and he was able to put together a spreadsheet that looked at everything. He is really good with numbers and is very attentive to detail even after hours.

ML: To follow up on Alexi, I have never seen a 1L take the initiative to just start helping with the process. This year, he was following where we were during the meeting with his own spread sheet keeping track of exactly where we were and if we would be able to meet our budget, and we would have been there for hours longer without that.

JS: Questions? Motion to elect Jim to be the new CFO
CM: motion
ML: second

XC: For what its worth for those who have someone replacing you, you are off the hook for the year. If you do not have somebody replacing you, you are with us until the end of the year.

JS: Those in favor of appointing Jim to be next years CFO:

In favor: 17
opposed: 0
Abstentions: 1

_Motion passes_

JS: Congratulations, Jim!

XC: Another position that we have to appoint is social chair. At this point I would like to appoint Nisha. Nisha has been working on the social committee; she has been working on a number of events with us, she can tell you a little bit about her experience but I think she would be a well qualified candidate.

NVA: I am Nisha, 1L and I sit on social, budget, and bylaws committee and I have loved being a part of SBA. For next year I am really exited to be part of social committee if you give me the opportunity to. This year I worked primarily with St. Paddys day and the book drive, and I love the events we have been doing but I am looking to creating new traditions as well. Just because we have always done certain events it doesn’t meant we cant add more. I want to move forward with our school, maintaining a level of professionalism as well with all of the events we do, and hopefully doing everything with a kind, polite attitude.

JS: Any questions for Nisha or comments that anybody would like to put on the record
JA: I think she described it the best herself. She has always been really excited just to be on SBA and that’s what we need from a social chair. St. Paddys day went off really well and that’s what we will see with her.

NK: I also endorse Nisha. She had the idea of doing the med mal mixer, reaching out to the other campuses. She has great ideas and really means it when she says she wants to do some new things and revamp the social committee.

JS: I will entertain a motion to vote on the appointment of Nisha as the social chair.

WF: Motion
CM: Second
In favor: 16
Against: 0
Abstentions: 1
Motion passes

JS: Congratulations, Nisha! I have a couple other things. My apologies that Dean Fisher is not here. He was not able to make it. The other reminder on behalf of Eva, the relay for life is on Friday night. If you haven’t signed up, do so. We have raised over $2000.

EK: Just from the woman who put this on, she is very thankful because we have been one of the highest funding teams. In terms of what to bring, probably bring chairs.

JS: The last thing: Phil do you have an ABA update?

PL: Do we have an ABA rep next year?

JS: No we do not. For anybody who is interested in the position, please come talk to me after. One of the perks is you get to go to San Francisco this year to go to the ABA conference. We are probably going to create two new positions with the CBA, YLS – we are going to appoint two people – I am open to appointing somebody within our outside of the SBA. You would attend all of the networking events. It would be a great networking opportunity.

LAK: There is also a YLS breakfast tomorrow morning in Hartford tomorrow.

JS: Anything else from anybody? I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

CM: Motion to adjourn.
WF: Second.