

**SBA Meeting 10.19.05**  
**Meeting Commenced at 9:30 pm**

- I. President's Report—Bruce Adams
  - a. Committee Work
    - i. Grad Party—convention center? Discount if we have Spring Fling and Grad Party there? Rough package by committee members on this.
    - ii. Class Gift
  - b. Student Forum

We're here not to pick "pet projects" but to reach out and collect all student voices what the grievances are. Put together a report from a unified student voice about the state of the school. Dovetail with last year's public interest and pro bono commitment. Student forum will be in the next couple of weeks. Will be during the day or two sessions, one at night. Every representative is a representative of the class. You're charged with the duty of representing your school from wireless issues to gender issues. Get out there and find out what the deal is and put together a report or an email.
  - c. Election of 2L Rep—Article II §7, 9, 10 (for when vacancies arise). We solicited nominees and candidates will present themselves and tell us why they should be the representative.

Jason Crawford: 2 candidates will talk to us. Stein Helmerich  
Stein: Why I want to do it is b/c I've been doing stuff w/social committee this year and want to do it whole way, not half way. Have been in student gov't before.  
Mindy: Didn't run last year b/c she didn't think she'd have time. Was VP of co-ed frat in undergrad. Lots of planning and experience.  
Meghan: Do you have any plans, preferences for work to do?  
Stein: Is helping out w/social now.  
Mindy: Social. Fundraiser committee, publicity in undergrad.  
Jon: What do you see yourself doing more of than before, since you've been to the meetings before?  
Stein: I'd do more instead of just being at the meetings. Take a more active role.  
Jon: What's your role been like on campus? (to mindy)  
Mindy: Didn't do as much last year, and is doing more now. Is a mentor. Wants to step it up more now, in general, not just with SBA.  
Bruce: Are you both willing to attend these meetings each week?  
(laughter)  
Jason: Do you feel that you know most of the class? Willing to represent them?  
Stein: Knows a lot of people at school.  
Mindy: Has a pretty good idea of who most people are that she'd be representing.

Jason: Has been helping out a lot w/social, tailgate, Fall Ball. He was very active w/Tovah and Talarico w/the Carnival last Spring. He's been a lot more active from Spring until now, when he moved out of home in Guilford.

Meghan: Wants to promote both. Mindy helped last year with the dance and sat and made the masks at the Spring Formal. Was very helpful last year.

Hosted a party for the 1<sup>st</sup> years last year and she worked in undergrad w/her fraternity a lot. Has good things to say about both of them.

Jason: Both are laid back, open. Easy to talk to. Both can talk to anyone on campus.

Morgan: Stein, speaking from personal experience, has already helped a lot. He gets things done. Not too many questions asked. Stein knows people—has passed along complaints from other people in the school about how things can be improved.

Meghan: yeah, we do need to give more advance notice on the social events.

Bruce: I would like to find someone who you think is really going to get out there and represent. Whoever you think is going to be the person that is going to be able to do that—they both seem perfectly qualified in their skills, but think about who's going to get out there and seek to hear from students.

Jon: I appreciate the fact that Stein's already been involved.

Morgan: Motion to vote.

Bruce: Seconded. All those in favor of voting for Mindy: (2), Stein: (9).

(Candidates back in room) Winner, Stein, announced. Candidates thanked for running and wanting to participate in SBA.

Bruce: Congratulations, Stein. Moving on, we are going to the VP report.

d. Welcome Back Joe Smiga

## II. Vice President's Report

### a. Fall Ball Report

Morgan: Fall Ball went over well, hasn't sent out email for suggestions/complaints, but will do it.

### b. Football Tix

Morgan: All tickets have been sold. Currently working out deal with a tailgate, email is to be forthcoming. Not too much new to report. Questions, concerns?

Jason: On a Fall Ball note, we should start looking for Spring Fling hotels soon, so they don't book up soon.

Morgan: Hilton was great, but they won't take us anymore. Insurance issues.

Bruce: We should build a relationship with the Marriott.

Morgan: We are going to get started on that at the end of 1<sup>st</sup> semester.

## III. Treasurer's Report

Dan: We spent \$17,484 in October, but we should be getting \$2,400 (?) back from Fall Ball. Our student fee is divided into 2 semesters. \$107,500, then cut in half. But everything is going smoothly. People haven't gotten complaints yet.

IV. Old Business

a. approve last SBA mtg minutes

Bruce: Motion to approve?

Jason: Seconded.

Bruce: All those in favor? (All)

V. New Business

a. Hold Special 2L elections

b. Jason: 1L Election will be noon tomorrow to noon Friday, online. 9 1<sup>st</sup> year candidates for 4 day spots. 3 for 2 1LE, and 1 LLM uncontested. O'Donnell will send out reminder email. Jason will send out voting address. [www.uvote.com](http://www.uvote.com) (?) However, there is new software, so Jason will check. We will know the winners by Friday afternoon.

c. Dana Betz (AESLA)

Asking to amend the Art Entertainment Sports Law Study Budget. 3<sup>rd</sup> speaker lives in Chicago. She is genuine, well-connected, intelligent and would add greatly to the panel. But she would need money for flight and hotel. Would want to get some money for partial reimbursement for both. Not full, but wants to encourage her to come out. (\$275) This is someone that people in the entertainment field would want to get to know.

Jon: Background? Who she is?

Dana: She is an agent for a number of clients, ESPN, and Dr. Robin (new psych on Oprah since Dr. Phil is out), she's 35, well-spoken. This is open to the public. Some food will be provided.

Bruce: Discussion among SBA automatically opens.

Dana: Class, panelists will be discussing life, work, how-tos, downloading, and the future of copyright law.

Bruce: Well?

Jon: We haven't had anything like this before.

Jason: Most entertainment attorneys aren't really attorneys—this lady is actually an attorney, not just an agent. She isn't law per se, she's actually a practicing attorney.

Bruce: Is it appropriate for members of the class or the AESLS abstain?

Dan: No, b/c Budget Committee doesn't abstain when they know people in groups or are in a group.

Jason: Maybe if they are on the Board.

Jon: How is this presentation going to be made? Bruce, you're in the class.

Bruce: I'll hand that to Dana.

Dana: Small segment of the class have written memos. We're dealing with illegal downloading, there are many challenges to the current copyright system. We're suing 12 year olds. We're going to present research to the speakers.

Jason: Another positive is that we're guaranteed to have 30 people there.

Dan: The only problem is that with other requests, we've had funding requests for speakers, and if we fund this person, then we'll have to consider funding all other speakers on a case-by-case basis.

Jason: Can we say it's synonymous w/giving travel money to a mock trial team.

Bruce: I'm worried about characterizing something as something it isn't.

Dan: It's in line w/our budget principles.

John: What are the guidelines for approval.

Bruce: Well, it's \$275, so she could have just gone to the budget committee.

Dan: Could you defray costs with the food, since some people have to be there?

Dana: Well, I want to encourage other people to be there.

Bruce: How did you get the numbers?

Dana: 2 sandwich trays, veggie trays, and cookies, to feed 80-100 people.

Hugo: If you don't get this speaker, do you have anyone else lined up?

Dana: potentially someone from ESPN.

Bruce: Anyone else, closer, from NY?

Dana: There's something going on in NY that same night w/entertainment lawyers.

Bruce: Move to close discussion and move to a vote. Move to allocate an additional \$200.

Dana: You're just arbitrarily changing the number?

Bruce: I thought we could shave off money for food.

Jon: If she wants \$275, we should vote on \$275.

Bruce: Well, it didn't get seconded.

Meghan: My concern is for next semester and other groups with other speakers.

Dan: Well, next semester is a whole new financial landscape.

Bruce: Is anyone concerned that in approving this other groups will come forward and be upset that we didn't approve their travel expenses?

Dan: Well, it's not in the guidelines as far as guest speakers.

Jason: I think groups know that they can always come back for more money if they need it.

Dan: 2 groups came earlier and had similar things and we decided not to fund it, but they can do the same thing and say that the speaker is willing to pay half, and then come back for more money. We could look at things on a case-by-case basis.

Jason: There are limitations—it's not like we're fully funding it. That's not going to cover her plane ticket and hotel.

Dan: Motion to approve full \$275.

Bruce: Seconded.

In favor (7)

Opposed (4)

d. Ronald Crawley (BLSA)

Appeal of the decision for the directory.

Ron Crawley: Originally submitted request for alumni directory. Ryan Greco submitted request for \$1,000. Doesn't have a document. Asking for \$500-\$1,000. Wants to improve diversity on campus. Main event next Spring is an alumni function. Many black law students have graduated from here and have had similar experiences, sometimes do not return b/c there is no connection with the school. Judge in Hartford and prominent attorney in NYC, to name a couple. Reception in Spring will be open to the whole campus. Directory fits into the budgeting principles b/c it's open to the whole student body. Want to reestablish lost ties.

Bruce: You have to make a specific request.

Ron: We're asking for \$1,000.

John: The reception fits better than the directory. The directory seems like something the administration should be doing.

Ron: The directory will remain here for everyone's benefit, housed somewhere in the university.

Tanya: What is the money for—copying costs? Can't we do something online for free?

Ron: binding, copying. But some people might not want to use online services. They might be concerned about having the information online.

Tanya: But if it's printed and published, distributed to anyone who wants it here, then I don't see the difference. Especially if there's some sort of password to access it.

Dan: any contact with the alumni association or administration?

Ron: We have talked to the alumni association. SBA should play a part.

Dan: Dean Newton might want to play a part.

John: Is there evidence that alumni would want to be a part of the directory, if there is such a lack of interest now?

Ron: Talked about alum and thinks they would be interested. Will send out questionnaire and call them.

Bruce: How do you intend to get the data if they don't contact the school after graduation?

Ron: We have access to the information. There are 259 total black alumni. I believe the school keeps statistics and has that information.

Bruce: You believe that, or you know? How will you obtain that information?

This really is an alumni development issue. This is just a subsection of the alumni. What if Alumni Assn falls back on its role of not wanting to fund things? This could set a bad precedent. Just like SBA has been supporting the Insurance Law Journal when the school is charged with doing this.

Genea: We shouldn't deny the request just b/c we think that another part of the school isn't doing their job. I would want to see what your costs are and why the numbers are what they are.

Dan: I see Bruce's point, especially with regard to the Insurance Law Journal. But with this, if we don't fund it, maybe no one else will. What if we allocated \$500 and then sent a letter to Alumni Assn. to match it?

Ron: That's a great idea. I didn't think about that.

Jason: We should have these alumni directories for all alumni. Maybe the BLSA project would be a good experiment for that. Maybe this could be a jumping off board that we could show the administration.

Dan: Is there not a general alumni directory?

Bruce: The Career Services data and Alumni Assn data are incompatible with each other. However, merging these and releasing this info will be slow with bureaucracy. What about directory running into privacy concerns. On a procedural matter, I don't think we are permitted to vote on this tonight b/c you haven't submitted a specific request. You can always come back w/your request properly filled out.

Ron: I would like to leave here with some official inclination with what we should be thinking about.

Bruce: Well, it's in the by-laws, and the word is "specific request."

Ron: Well, it's Ryan's old request.

Bruce: someone can make a vote to go on principle.

Genea: Well, how else would you go on an appeal?

Bruce: Well, we don't have it here to review. We don't have it and Ron didn't bring it.

Meghan: maybe check with alumni for doing it online first before we allocate money for copying and binding.

Jason: and it could be a secured network.

Ron: We really do want to have a tangible booklet.

Bruce: What happens if the SBA doesn't fund it?

Ron: We won't have money for it.

Tanya: What did the Alumni Association say when you talked to them? I heard, and correct me if I'm wrong, that the Alumni Association was willing to fund it next year, but not right now.

Ron: That is absolutely false. They said they are skiddish about funding it. They do want to put something together, but it's not specific at all. People haven't responded b/c of past experiences with UConn.

Bruce: I'm concerned about precedent. What if there are more subsections of groups that want to put together their own directory. Did you get permission to access school's databases?

Ron: We can.

Bruce: If you're not willing to say, then you're not willing to say.

Ron: Well it's not secretive—

Bruce: Are you saying you have access to those databases?

Ron: I'm not saying that, I'm saying we have access to information.

Bruce: If we fund the directory, not the reception, we could have other groups wanting to access those databases. To the SBA, what are your feelings on that?

Ron: The SBA has to deal with that on a case-by-case basis. Look at the equity. BLSA does a tremendous amount of work for the law school and its members. When we ask for money, we generally come through with our programs. The money would be well-spent.

Bruce: given that we don't have an actual breakdown of costs, I move that we table this until next meeting.

Dan: Or you could submit this to the Budget Committee if it's under \$500.

Jason: When is the reception? When does directory have to be out?

Ron: Feb.

Bruce: Motion to table?

All in favor.

Motion to close: Hugo.

Seconded: Tanya

Meeting adjourned. 10:55 pm

Unable to attend:

Ritter (excused)

O'Donnell (excused)

Smiga