

SBA Agenda 11.02.05
Meeting Commenced at: 9:30 pm

- I. President's Report
 - a. Welcome to new members
Introductions of 1Ls and LLM
Work hard, talk to your classmates, get to know them so you can represent them well.
Nov. 18th is the PILG auction. In past years, there has been a lot of support and emails, notices on campus. Last year, SBA took a big step forward in their commitment in public interest, and so far, this year's SBA has been no different. Please attend the auction and ask your classmates to attend. If anybody has a connection with someone who has a cool vacation house, people really need them, so speak to us or PILG people.
 - b. Committee Work
 - i. Class Gift
In addition to public interest, our commitment is to making a class gift. So far, what's floating around is the idea of an endowment. If we are successful in our efforts, we can get some space in Starr, 1st floor. Co-op rebates and breakage fees can go into the endowment/foundation and start building some real money.
- II. IP Society—David Galluzo, Grant Erlich, Mark Meyers
Bruce: explained procedure for discussions/budget requests.
Grant Erlich: IP society fairly new, wasn't recognized by the school. We're here to give status reports to give updates and notify SBA that we'd be back to continue to have a presence and make budget requests. There is succession in the existing group w/David, and there will be fewer issues with transitions. A journal for the IP group already exists. In the future, we'll be looking for support from SBA on that. We have 2 meetings already. 1st event is next month. We don't need additional funds at this moment.
David: CT Intellectual Property Notes. Brand new journal, but have big plans. Not sure how much funding we'll actually need. The plan for the journal is to link the University w/local lawyers. Online publication. Publishes articles for students, by students. Link them up w/local lawyers and IP specialists. Compiling a list of these lawyers and saving them and passing them on. Make a greater presence and connection w/the outer world.
- III. Treasurer's Report, Dan Desjeunes
 - a. Financial Report. As of 9/30. \$53,375. Haven't gotten full disbursement of student fees—disbursement is quarterly. We're in good shape. Shouldn't be delays in groups getting reimbursements. Payment vouchers are online on the SBA website. Will make 100 copies to leave in the SBA/Knight mailbox. We need one 1L rep to be a part of the budget committee. (Explained budget committee responsibilities). Bruce: As a part of the budget committee, you

see what's going on and what's happening in the pipeline, but the meetings can be arduous b/c they tend to happen when things get busy at the end of the semester. Dan: In the fall, we did one short meeting and then a marathon 5 hour session. And that was when we got \$150,000 of requests and only had \$100,000. Dan Saltus, new 1L member.

IV. Vice President's Report

a. Upcoming social events

Hugo is heading up the social events that are on their way. Law/med mixer. Salsa nite, some place in Hartford—dinner, salsa lessons on one nite. Other proposed events would probably be relegated to a study break, breakfast break or something. Social committee is pretty fun, and we always need a lot of help. Tomorrow: Vegas Blvd. 7pm-midnite. Encourage everyone to go to that. Law/Med mixer-Hugo: there were 400 people there last year. Bruce: I've had contact w/the administrator people at the med school, and it is a good way to get more closely connected w/them. We're professional schools, regional campuses, and Storrs tries to absorb us, but it's good to stand on our own feet. Morgan: we were unavailable to get group tickets (as low as 5) to the Louisville game. We'll try to make it happen, but it seems doubtful. Jason: for Dan, Entertainment Law Society panel is tomorrow nite. Bruce: It should be pretty cool, if you're interested in doing non-traditional legal careers.

V. Old Business

a. approve last SBA mtg minutes

Motion to Approve: Bruce

Seconded: Hugo

All in favor.

VI. New Business

a. Co-op's Holiday Party

Bruce: we don't have any liability or expenses.

Motion to approve: Bruce

Seconded: Owen ____

All in favor.

b. Bruce: Plaques of old SBA. Exec Board will abstain from vote. This is not out of vain glory, it's out of tradition. It will cost \$400-\$500. The money would be coming out of the SBA Operating Budget. I would ask that SBA approve up to \$500 to restore the plaques.

Connaughton: Why not table it until the end of the year to see if there's money

Eric: How old is it?

Bruce: 50 years.

Eric: Where to post?

Bruce: Haven't thought about it.

Jon: What year did it stop?

Bruce: About 10 years ago.

Cecil: Would it be cheaper to just make more plaques?

Bruce: No, I've looked into it.

Crawford: What is the operating budget?

Bruce: \$5000. We pay the cable bill, phone bill, toner, paper, and part of the BBQ.

Eric: How much is typically left?

Dan: We spend it all on something b/c we reallocate it if there's some left over. Last year, we recovered about \$29,800 from money allocated throughout the year that wasn't spent.

Eric: Did we get that back this year?

Dan: Yes, anything that's not used rolls over to the next year, so we have more wiggle room. We're not spending that this year b/c we're still stuck to the budget that comes out of the student fees. We are more generous w/ our allocations b/c we have more of a cushion.

Bruce: We have a reserve account that got eaten into, so the intent is now to re-fill the buffer.

Dan: And this doesn't include the stiff account which has about \$17,000.

Eric: We might as well do the plaque thing and get it done instead of debate about it every semester.

Kiley: Motion to approve.

Eric: Seconded.

Crawford: I think we did the reallocation of the operating money to fund additional pilg grants. I think putting access to additional pilg grants is a better way to use the money. I'm leaning towards tabling it.

Dan: Well, last spring, we had a large rollover.

Owen: Shouldn't we vote on the motion to approve and then table if we need to?

Genea: We should table it until we get a place to put it.

Motion to table: Genea.

Seconded. Owen.

Opposed: Kiley, Owen, Eric.

All else in favor of tabling until some time next semester (e-board excluded.)

Motion to table passes.

c. Cecil Thomas: UConn Law Connections and the South Asian Law Students Association.

Cecil: UConn Law Connections. We had a budget and Dan said it was misplaced or didn't get to it. Budget was before budget committee and was inclined to grant \$500, and Dan said to come here so here we are. We work w/Hartford public high schools, every week for 2 hour mentoring. They are individuals who are interested in law school in the future. We go on field trips, organize mock trials. We're looking for money for a kick off event (dinner) and for mentor groups to be assigned, for students to meet with their mentors and get a repoire, and then other activities. We need money for the fingerprinting of the mentors and a kickoff event. (Submitted copy of budget, itemized, gave to Dan) We're looking to get started, so I'd like to know where we stand on funds.

Bruce: I suggest that we kick out the \$400 kickoff to the budget committee. Stick around to the end of the meeting. It doesn't need to go to an SBA vote. The other request is \$700 even for 10 mentoring sessions, but it can be reduced by 1/2 b/c there won't be 10. So, that can go to the budget committee too. It will save time, rather than discussing it with everyone.

Cecil: SALSA, wants to do something for earthquake relief. Our intention was to host a dinner and entertainment nite the week before or after Thanksgiving week. We've approached South Asian bar. Looking for South Asian dance and music ensembles. Ticket price will raise funds.

Bruce: Do you have a specific request?

Cecil: No, I don't. We're trying to get people to donate their services, but we don't know how much the South Asian bar will donate for food.

Bruce: And you said \$300-400?

Cecil: \$300-500.

Bruce: So, again, I'd say it's under the threshold, so you should meet w/the budget committee.

d. Carrie Field: Public Interest & Pro Bono Committee

On Public Interest and Pro Bono Committee w/Gavan Meehan. Here to talk about letter to faculty that was sent last year. Directly requested to meet w/faculty. 5 specific requests in letter to open up dialogue about what could be the future for UConn Law. (Submitted copy of letter of March 2005). What happened at that meeting was that we divided up the 5 points. Found out who did research for it. This is a program that will require a lot of work and political activity, and a proposal w/in the whole university system. Need to find out what our peer schools are doing in making this possible. This isn't going to happen right away, so it's good to get a start on it. There is a real energy there to work with students. The public interest externship coordinator will require money and time. In the interim, Chill will create a student worker position. Career opportunities—Michele Hoff has joined in this. Pro Bono requirement—some 1L classes are possibly doing this in LP in the Spring. Goal in coming tonite is to report back to people and let you know things are moving forward. There is an interest and a need to understand the priorities from this letter, because not everything can happen at once. You all represent your constituents, so what are the ideas that they will come back with—are they against it or for it? The people here could be creating a new path for the school, but we need to know that students are behind it. The committee is working towards making a calendar to track progress.

Bruce: Carrie, is your main request from the SBA, from an action point, for us to get a sense of what the student body really wants and prioritize it?

Carrie: It's important to have communication and get a sense of the climate of the school. And also, I think we can create smaller working groups to take on some of these tasks, which are quite large tasks. And certain professors want to be present at these meetings. Should we have forums by class? Meet to find out what students want.

Bruce: This was the considered judgment of last year's SBA, very soundly researched and very well-written. How do we get it out there this year? Do we form a working group among us? Do we designate one rep from each class to collect opinion from their class members?

Eric: This could be relatively easy to disseminate among 1Ls and I think our profs are pretty amenable to giving a few moments of time.

Gavan: I think it would also be important to identify a few students in the 1L class who are more committed to public interest, so there is a commitment for the next 2 years. It would be helpful to have some 1Ls on this.

Bruce: I would suggest we get one rep from 1LD and 1LE and LLM tonite. And then each person find 2-3 people from your division.

1LE: Kiley

1LD: Fallon

LLM: Justin

Fallon: have there been any surveys? Polling?

Carrie: We need to come in as a group and discuss what's the best way to go about this, w/o damaging what's been done so far. I don't think you need to start publicizing these things yet, but more to mention/find a few people who would be interested in this.

Bruce: I will re-send the letter to all students and invite it for comment. 2 years and last year, there was a fair amount of surveying done to arrive at these suggestions.

Genea: I'm a little confused about what people will be doing—are they going to be coming to meetings?

Carrie: The first goal would be to sit down at a meeting. Get solid feedback. Small discussion groups w/various faculty. Could be specifically for 1Ls or 2Ls. It would be good to do it w/other students to create a buzz.

Genea: So, 30 faculty and students and then divide them into 5 committees?

Carrie: If there are people on SBA who want to take part. It could be a group of 5-10 students. Faculty members would be there. Formulate a plan. Maybe we want to do the survey, have meetings, etc. I don't see this as a long commitment, but in terms of the actual goal, it's evolving.

Genea: prioritizing? Is that tonite, or is that up to us?

Carrie: I'm going to leave that for later.

Bruce: We are not prioritizing now—that's why we need bodies. To reevaluate, and reaffirm it (or not reaffirm it). This may be a more efficient process within a committee.

Motion to adjourn: Eric

Seconded: Morgan

Meeting adjourned and broke into committee meetings: 10:35 pm

Members Present:

Dan Desjeunes

Bruce Adams

Tanya Bogdanovski

Morgan Scott

Hugo Tomasio

Owen Kloter

Dan Saultus

Samantha Krasner

Justin Li

Shelby Bradford

Meghan Maugeri

Jason Crawford

Genea Bell

Jon Raphel

Eric Reed

Kiley Gosselin

Fallon Depina

Stein Helmrich

Gandhi Lindor

Jessica Ritter

John Connaughton

Joe Smiga

Exused members:

Unexcused members:

John O'Donnell