

## SBA Agenda 01.25.06

Started: 9:25p

Ended: 10:20p

- I. President's Report
  - a. Referendum on Student Activity Fee
    - i. Traditionally in line w/the rates of inflation at rate of 4%, usually \$4 a year. Due to errors, perhaps by past presidents, there was only an increase of \$1 for the past 2 years, so we've lost in purchasing power. That's why I'm suggesting a one time 5% increase, which is about \$4 and we'll go back to 4% after this. We need 10% of the law school community to vote, which is about 70 people. We need 10% of the populus voting, and then over half of that have to be in favor (simple majority).
  - b. Committee Work
    - i. Grad Party
      1. moving along well.
        - a. To those who aren't graduating, in the future you should know to start around September. It looks like the party will be at the Goodwin again this year. We budgeted around \$15,000, which is somewhat elevated from some years, but last year they went over budget, so this year we strategized to overshoot or get as dead on as possible b/c we don't want to overrun the allocation. We also look like we're pretty fleshed this year and we can replenish the reserves, bump up the budget for the grad party, have another salsa nite, and another carnival, and we're not going to overspend, but still leave next year with an adequate and healthy reserve.
    - ii. Class Gift
      1. not permitted  
Word from the university that the SBA can't give money from one account to another. Tried a number of different ways to make legit, and everyone believes it's legit, and understands the purpose, but the auditors don't like it.
  - c. Pro Bono Volunteers Needed
    - i. Carrie Field came last semester for public interest and pro bono committee. She and the committee would like a few volunteers to work with that committee and come back to SBA to report. Kiley Gosselin, Eric Reed and Tanya Bogdanovski volunteered.
  - d. Food for Katrina event Thursday 1.26.06

- i. Providing lunch for the event. Bruce approves up to \$250. Perhaps Black Eyed Sally's. Motion made. Seconded by Owen. Approved unanimously.
  - e. Evaluate Parking Lot escort program
    - i. Is it working? Do people use it? SBA funds aren't being used. Has anyone heard anything really positive or negative? No.

## II. Treasurer's Report

### a. Balances

- i. Reimbursements from last semester. \$95,141 was allocated for the groups. (That includes full year budgets) About \$41,000 spent. \$10G was allocated to MCB, but they have comps this semester that that was allocated for. We also just cut a big check for the symposium food. We can also allocate \$ for the UVA softball trip. About \$2,100 was recouped from last semester that can be used this semester. About 60% of allocation was spent. Next Wednesday will probably be the budget committee meeting. All student groups knew about the deadline and got most of the budget proposals in. PILG \$? Check w/budget committee and do a statement regarding the \$6,000 allocated—was that out of their endowment or for the auction? More numbers from budget will be broken down at next meeting.

John O'Donnell: Are we considering penalizing groups that don't spend?

Dan: The next Treasurer will get to see what was spent over the past 3 years and can allocate accordingly.

Bruce: I've mentioned that groups who don't spend their allocation, it should be officially taken account into the budgeting process, but that is currently not in our by-laws or constitution. I am going to suggest that it goes into one of those, financial standards.

Also, there is some movement in getting office space in Starr where the 2 old bathrooms are. Laurie Werling and I are trying to get maintenance to "bomb those out"—her words, not mine. One would be SBA space, one would be student group space, like conference rooms. And I don't think we'll end up having to pay any of that. And that would give us a foothold in Starr, because right now we're forgotten in the basement.

Dan: As far as next year, there will be a \$20-30,000 holdover, which will be nice for next year. It was nice for us to have a cushion.

We're not going to not fund things because we have a cushion though.

Bruce: We're not going to set a target for rollover, but our goal is to not spend from the reserve.

b. Announce Budget Committee Meeting

III. Vice President's Report

a. Report on Planned Activities for Spring

Planned activities for the Spring:

Spring Fling.

Carnival: Nick Talarico will head it up. Student groups will join in and they can raise their own money at their tables. We'll talk to Nick and Tovah to clear up any problems from last year.

Happy hours once a month.

Another Law/Med mixer

Ski Trip

Latin Salsa nite.

Casino night.

Possibly another alumni mixer.

Also, we'd like another 1L on the social committee, so contact Morgan if interested. Also if interested in VP, check w/Morgan for briefing b/c work starts in the summer.

IV. Old Business

a. approve last SBA mtg minutes

V. New Business

a. Election of Exec Board

i. Suggested Changes to election process

Would like to move up elections. Change constitution so next year, elections happen in 1<sup>st</sup> semester and pres, etc. are exec board elects, that way you don't start blind and there is some overlap to train.

Alumni Association and Board of Trustees does it that way, and it's a good model. No need for serious discussion now, but if you know someone or if you are interested, or have thoughts on the election process, let us know. A training session or retreat is a good idea.

b. Uconn Grad Student Trustee (next year)

Elections for Grad Student Trustee for the Board of Trustees. Traditionally the position is from the law school, but the guy who won last time was from Storrs. It requires a lot of politicking. It's an honored position. You're in the news. You go to all of the events. It's very beneficial to the law school to have someone from our school there. This is something to think about for next year. It's a 2-year position. The stronger relationship we have with med/dental schools the better.

c. Eric Reed – report on IT issues

d. Volunteers for Graduation Ceremony assistants

- i. SBA members and 1L class typically volunteer to help out at graduation and be a part of the graduation. If interested, get in touch with the E-Board or Blanche Capilos.

e. Restoration of Plaques

Motion: Bruce.

Seconded: Owen.

Cost- \$400-450 range.

Motion to approve: \$550.

Approved: Unanimous (exec board abstains)

- f. Kiley: email. Cabinet will discuss on the 13<sup>th</sup> at their next meeting. Chill said it would be a good thing for SBA to put together a letter that he could take with him. He would like something from us that says what we would like to see changed. I think we should consider it if we can come to a reasonable consensus. Chill thinks that generally certain things like selling books/tickets belongs on another list/message board. Too much student spam—lost and found stuff, discussion threads.

Eric: We've been talking about this on the technology board. This can't be done on huskymail—it's something new and would need to be created. Then there is the question of usage—would people bother to use it if it was outside of email?

Owen: I would be concerned about usage. I don't think people would use message boards. A message board might actually decrease the amount of books people can sell, etc.

Bruce: This is a valuable topic, and we should draft something that states our opinion on the topic. Kiley, please continue drafting it and contact people within SBA to help out, and then we can support or amend the resolution.

Jason: Faculty were upset about the server problems b/c our first week assignments didn't go through, so maybe we can capitalize on that and urge them to get us back to law.uconn.edu. I know this was upsetting to a lot of people last year.

- g. Wireless Access: Next Fall, we will probably have wireless access on campus. It might not be throughout, b/c some faculty are opposed. Probably not in the library b/c of all of the metal in the stacks which prevent the signals from getting through. There won't be any outdoor access.

Motion to adjourn: John

Unable to attend (excused):

Genea Bell

Meghan Maugeri

Shelby Bradford

Stein Helmrich

Members in Attendance:

Bruce Adams

Dan Desjeunes

Morgan Scott

Samantha Krasner

Dan Saltus

John O'Donnell

Eric Reed

Gandhi Lindor

Owen Kloter

Justin G. Li

Kiley A. Gosselin

Jason Crawford

Hugo Tomasio

John Connaughton

Joe Smiga