Student Bar Association  
General Body Meeting  
April 13, 2010 – 8:00 p.m.  
114 Trickett, Carlisle / 114 Katz, University Park  
Agenda

I. Call to Order  
   a. Roll Call  
      i. Kelly Howard  
      ii. Kent Lloyd  
      iii. Kenny Donnelly  
      iv. Mark Elion  
      v. Rachel Bires  
      vi. Nick Quesenberry  
      vii. Robert Oberly-excused  
      viii. Adam Britcher  
      ix. Kate MacKenzie  
      x. Jonathan Sheehan  
      xi. Matt Vodzak  
      xii. Valerie Eifert  
      xiii. Yasmine Taeb- late  
      xiv. Ashley Ferguson  
      xv. Corey-Scott Smith  
      xvi. Kirk Vroman  
      xvii. Vlad Korolov  
      xviii. Ian King  
      xix. Richard Bradbury-xx. Kevin Hayes  
      xxi. Kai Kaapro  
      xxii. Robyn McAllen  
      xxiii. Kevin Messett  
      xxiv. Zach Brecheisen  
      xxv. Michael Haynes-  
   b. We have quorum  
   c. Minutes Approval  
   d. Minutes Approved  

II. Public Comment (10 min.)  
   a. Mark: I sent out an email to Rachel with my report so everyone please read it.  
   b. Kate: Jim couldn’t make it but the Fashion show for Haiti was a success. Over $1000 raised.  
      i. Nadya couldn’t be here either and people have not been signing up. We need people to sign up.  
   c. Kelly: any other public comment?
d. Ashley: the bathrooms here are still really messed up. I think it’s primarily the ones across from the library. I just wanted to let you know. The toilets aren’t flushing.

e. Nick: do they work if you push the button?

f. Kent: I will talk to someone about it and get it fixed.

g. Corey-Scott: this is about the recent election. Students would like us to look at our election bylaws since our numbers are decreasing here. I personally would like to establish a temporary committee to look at the bylaws. I sent out an email about the lack of participation to the students, but this is what they have asked me to do.

i. Email: Dear SBA Vice President:

ii. The thought down here is that no one cares about Carlisle. No bookstore. No Corporations class offered here next semester. No parking. It's worrisome.

I'm thinking no one from Carlisle wants to run for office because the numbers are against them. For example, even if everyone in Carlisle voted for me, I would still lose if I didn't sway a lot of people from UP. Whereas the people in UP can just cater to their own crowd, the people in Carlisle MUST travel and campaign hard, in order to win. It's unfair.

And even if they win, chances are no one will listen to them because they will be outnumbered. Or am I wrong in my idea of how it really is?

But I have an idea...

We are like states in a union, where Carlisle is a Rhode Island fighting against a Texas for influence. So why don't we do it like the real government?

Why don't they have a "house" and "senate" in the SBA? They could have a set number of positions in the house based on the number of people at each campus, and then a senate where there are equal numbers from both campuses. Every change would have to pass through both.

Thanks,
Addie (Carlisle)

h. Kelly: Thanks for reading the email. It will be up to incoming SBA to handle it. We had 4 positions on the executive board that were uncontested. Last year, the 2L situation…. If no one is going to try, how are we going to be convinced we should restructure the government?

i. Kenny: The SBA fought hard to get a bookstore down there. It was beyond our control. They could've come to us and we would have tried our best to fix things, at both campus. There has been a shift in population, and we have had the same arguments on the other side, and we are trying to make sure both campuses are heard. Correct me if I am wrong, but we did not turn a deaf ear to the concerns of Carlisle. We know how it feels ot be the minority campus so we try to make it as equitable as possible. They
have guaranteed spots in the VP, Class Rep and Honor Code positions. If they are in the SBA and not heard, they have a more legitimate concern.
j. Kate: I think this person doesn’t come to the meetings and doesn’t understand. Even if they would have read the minutes they would have known what we have done.
k. Ian: When Nick and I were running we both came to the other campus so we could hear the concerns of the other campus so we could better understand them. We did travel. I didn’t discount anyone at Carlisle. We made an effort to hear everyone’s concerns at both campuses.
l. Kelly: Any other comments?
m. Nick: Kelly you have bent over backwards for both campuses. I think the divide is very silly. You’ve done a great job.
n. Mark: I just want to remind everyone to read their emails.
o. Kelly: Any other comments?

III. Year-end Committee Updates (30 min.)
a. Michelle Boldon Finance:
i. Office of Human Resources $1.5 Mil Child Care Grant: law students do not qualify because we do not get pell grants. Other schools and campuses contribute to this initiative. The next step to pursue is to meet with Dean Elkin. We can talk with them to see what we can do to participate.

ii. Students, Under 30, who are applying for need-based funding, having to provide their parent’s info on FAFSA.
   1. Susan Bogart is working on a report that will provide data on the number of students that are impacted by this requirement. Next step is to meet with Susan Bogart to review the reports.

iii. Bar Assistance Programs that cover living expenses.
   1. The ABA is advocating for it. The next step should be to appoint a liaison to the ABA’s legislative counsel.

iv. In-state tuition
   1. Received documentation from the 2007/2008 tuition committee. The committee needs to reassess the required next steps. Maybe an informal conversation with the Dean. It is important to address. It is keeping talent in PA from coming here. A small deduction in the tuition rate may encourage more to apply here.

v. Mark: Thanks that was a great report. My question is have you talked to people about scholarship to in-state students.
vi. Michelle: My understanding is that when you compare the number of students getting scholarships, a lot of them don’t get them so it may be relative so I will look into it.

vii. Kai: People might not even apply or know about the scholarship because of the tuition. Unless Penn State tells people about the scholarship opportunities they won’t apply.

b. Jess Less Diversity:
i. One of the main tasks is diversity day which we had in March. Successful here in UP, but not in Carlisle. My suggestion for next year is to start earlier. Also try to encourage more participation. We did get positive feedback.

ii. In addition, we have been partnering with other committees. We have worked with admissions just to see if we could volunteer for certain events.

iii. We have two representatives to the faculty diversity committees. This is the arena that the students need a voice. So we had meetings where we worked with potential faculty appointments. We are partnering with the undergrad department of education.


c. Steph Hill: Admissions

i. Thanks to the SBA especially those that volunteered for the open houses. We did have a tough time with volunteers. I do thank everyone that helped out.

ii. Both events were successful at both campuses. Admissions was pleased.

iii. The admissions office started a speaker’s series. My suggestion for next year, is that because it was new, it needs to be promoted better. It also needs to be promoted to students interested to ask questions b/c prospective students see these emails.

iv. 5321 application, 98.6% increase from 2 years ago, 32% from last year. We will probably get more last year.

v. Kelly: thanks Stephanie for all your work.

vi. Ian: what would you like to see more of next year from the committee?

vii. Steph: More help from committee members in all of the events.

viii. Kelly: Thanks again Steph.

d. Jen Pear Social:

i. First year committees were utilized in the committee. It helped a lot. We used everyone’s ideas to make the best events. The events were very successful. More family friendly and alcohol-free events which I encourage to continue in the future. Also re-instated mixers. For the future I would say continue to utilize committees. We ran into problems with ticket sales by reps. People not knowing, turning stuff in late. If there can be a more structured way to do that in the future that would be great. Also, shorter ticket sale periods. More save-the-dates. We can encourage the professors to tell us due dates earlier.

ii. Kelly: you and Chelsea did a lot for us this year, and we really appreciate all the hard work.

e. Ashley and Kirk Career Services:

i. We sent out the survey at the beginning of the year. Next year the game plan, she asked if we would like to be co-chairs again so we can get the ball rolling in the summer.
ii. Picnic on each campus in the fall. Get to know what career services does. Career services also wants to do a project that entails that would be a geographic information sheet and see which areas are the most concerns to students then we get students interested in those areas to give us feedback and information on their job search.

iii. We also talked about externships. We know there is a lot going on in Harrisburg, but not for UP. We are trying to see ways in which people can do externships here from UP. Set up a program that allows people to do this.

iv. Career portal: when you log on, you see the jobs you are eligible for. Not just all of the listings. That might be why people don’t see as much as other schools would.

v. We are trying to move to show students more of how career services works.

vi. We are trying to get more people involved in the committee.

vii. Kirk: I talked to Randy. If we have the picnic here, it has to be catered by an approved cater.

viii. Another idea, senior gifts, trying to get a fund to rent an apartment that students could use for travel to externships.

ix. Ian: How many people do you think we would need to effectively run the committee?

x. Ashley: We would need to see how many geographic areas we focus on. I’m not sure with a direct number.

xi. Mark: I know from experience that we can’t even get all the students to fill out surveys.

xii. Kirk: that is what our concern was. Another idea would be is to start young with the 1Ls. If they input information, then they can utilize the information more by the time they graduate. I think we can make this work.

xiii. Kelly: thanks guys for helping us out here guys.

f. Jon Sheehan Intramurals

i. Fights are down 100% from last year.

ii. Kent: Probationary emails are up 100%.

iii. Chris Walker and Brian Hokamp have been very instrumental in helping me out. They have showed a willingness to take on task at his house. We should probably make Chris the Chair since he has the football equipment so we can make sure we get it back.

iv. Kent: this is the most thankless position on the SBA and I want to thank you for doing such a great job.

v. Jon: I am touched.

g. Kate: Mock Trial

i. 1L Mock Trial was fantastic. We had a decent turn out. I think everyone that did it had a good time. Those that participated seemed like they had an easier time with oral arguments. I don’t
think a 2L was on the committee this year, but I suggest Andy Glover and Chris Jason down here.

ii. Kelly: Kevin McGarry should be involved if he isn't.

h. Nick and Laura Community Relations
   i. Nick: we’ve done a lot
   ii. ABA Work-a-Day pet food drive—very successful.
   iii. Tours of new building.
      1. Much community excitement over new building.
   iv. Through cooperation with Dickinson College, establishing positive relationships with various community organizations.
   v. Laura: I focused a lot on community service. The pet food drive was successful. I went over to the SPCA and they are looking for people to play with puppies. I am going to organize a study break to play with dogs. We had 2 blood drives, both were successful. It was a little touch and go the first time. The new contact for the second drive was good. We lost a lot of eligible donors for travel.
      1. THON: we raised money in certain events. Next year my recommendation for next year is to have our own THON committee. It’s a lot of people to have it under another committee.
      2. We have been reinstated as an organization.
   i. Adam Graduation:
      i. The committee picked names for speakers. Tom Ridge is our speaker this year.
      ii. We did nominations for Senior speakers:
         1. Isai Cortez and Kelly Howard
      iii. Lee Popp Award:
         1. Kenny Donnelly.
      iv. Class Gift: LRAP.
      v. In the future, might have someone dedicated just to fundraising for class gift.
      vi. Hotel rooms was a big concern. My suggestion to the 2Ls is to look into it now and graduation is May 21st.
      vii. Another suggestion in UP is that there are so many schools graduate so there and it causes problem.
      viii. Kelly: next week our graduation is a week after finals so it does not on the same weekend as undergrad graduation.
      ix. Jen: just as an overall thing, for whoever does it next year, bar prep might start before graduation and it might prevent some people from attending.
   j. Kelly: that wraps up our committee reports. I have a speaker’s trust update.
      i. $2,500 left and they had requests in excess of that. They probably have given all they could out. We have had great speakers this year that they have funded.
ii. Thanks to everyone who did work with committees this year and I really appreciate the hard work.

IV. Executive Council Reports
   a. President’s Report (5 min.)
      i. Kelly: It has been a great year and I would like to thank all of my e-board members. Kent and Kenny you guys have done a great job and have done a lot of work. Nick, the traveling up here a lot was really appreciated and you never complained. Robbie couldn’t make it…..Mark: even though your post-its infuriate me your budget was right, just $18 off. Rachel, thanks to all your hard work with the minutes and the updating of the website.
      ii. Try to serve on committees.
      iii. Curriculum committee.
      iv. High emphasis on committee structure this year, better reporting and bylaws for the committees.
      v. Started the book buyback program. I think it will be very beneficial in the future.
      vi. We got the library opened 24 hours.
      vii. We got a family law clinic in UP.
      viii. We have taken care of a lot of problems with the buildings.
      ix. We have gotten coffee machines ordered. They will be here soon.
      x. Organization recognition with awards at Soiree. Increased communication with faculty and administrative. Presence at faculty meetings.
      xi. I wish everyone the best of luck and thank everyone for all their service this year.
   b. Vice-Presidents’ Report (10 min.)
      i. Kenny:
         1. Thank you to Kelly. Everything she mentioned all came into play with Kelly’s leadership. None of this would’ve happened without her.
         2. It was a great year. Kevin Messett have fun taking over my position. Good luck to the administration. Kelly set a good foundation.
      ii. Kent:
         1. Thanks to everyone you were all great and you made my life a lot easier.
   c. ABA Representative’s Report (5 min.)
      i. Kelly: Robbie couldn’t make it but he did a great job this year.
   d. PSU Senator’s Report (5 min.)
      i. Student Life Committee Student Services Recommendations—2010 Update draft version.
      ii. Increasing concern over school safety in light of VA tech shootings and perhaps ALS (both within 1.5h of my hometown).
         1. Suggest round-the-clock professional security.
2. Suggest round-the-clock psych services for assault, etc. victims.

iii. There is a disparity in the level of student services available at UP/satellite campuses, and increasing budgetary pressures are making it difficult to address these issues.

iv. Medical services:
   1. Campuses have differing models for provision of medical services.
   2. PSU itself employs 130 medical staff.
   3. MD on the committee expressed concern over:
   v. PSU students under-utilizing PSU/local medical services,
   vi. And placing burden on the local medical services infrastructures.
   vii. Suggest addressing transition for international students via language-related services.

viii. Alcohol:
   1. Still bad.
   2. Ironic enabling by state of alcohol problems in State College:
      a. On the one hand, PSU is a state university struggling with a pervasive alcohol problem.
      b. On the other hand, the state-owned liquor store chain, PXXX, is the sole source of liquor in the state, and is contributing mightily to the problem via sales of alcoholic beverages.

ix. Kai if you need any guidance I will be more than happy to talk to you.

e. Treasurer’s Report (5 min.)
   i. Mark: bet you all think I’m going to freak out because I’m going last, but I won’t.
   ii. Mark: I would like to motion to increase senior picnic funding by $3,000.
   iii. Kent: Second
   iv. Kenny: How much do we have left?
   v. Mark: We have 3,439.15, but we are still waiting for outstanding recaptured.
   vi. Kelly: We will have about $3,500 left, keeping $500 for extra requests.
   vii. Kate: We have concern. We are wondering if could get money for IM football flags.
   viii. Kenny: this budget is in effect to sometime in July. If something happens and things need to be purchased, the budget committee can allocate that.
   ix. Motion Passes
   x. Student services is also giving $500 to each picnic so the total at each campus is $3000.
   xi. This week we approved $1
xii. I want to thank all of the members of the budget committee. I would like to thank the SBA and the e-board. We wanted to start a tradition today. We got a gavel for Kelly.

f. Kelly: Thanks for everything. I am going to pass the reins to Ian.
g. Ian: I’ll entertain any motions.

V. Adjourn
   a. Kelly: Motion to Adjourn
   b. Matt: Second
   c. Motion Passes