Student Bar Association Meeting
April 18, 2006

SBA Minutes:

- Welcome
- Attendance
  - Frankie S absent
- First meeting introductions to get to know each other
  - Ryan is from Philly, went to Notre Dame
  - Brent is VP, went to Michigan
  - Maureen from Philly, went to Temple
  - Connie went to OSU
  - Matt Mobilio went to Penn State
  - Matt Cronin went to MI from Detroit
  - Matt Muckler went to St. Joes in Philly
  - Katie is from Philly, Bernardo is from Orange Co, went to UCLA
  - Rebecca is from NC, so is Crystal, Aaron from PA
  - Josh — College of Wm and Mary
  - Lance went to NY tech and happy to be here
  - Katie Maxwell grew up in Philly. Brittney grew up in FL, Sarah from PA
- Public Comment
  - Wayne, election issue — hope you didn’t forget.
  - Ryan — budget by-laws will be this meeting and the photo issue will be discussed before first year elections.
- Exec officer reports
  - Ryan — goal is to bridge the gap btwn SBA and student groups. This created hardship for group leaders and SBA was an impediment to group leaders. We hope budget changes will reflect changes. SBA should move towards more than just giving funding, being more proactive, and much of this is up to the general members. Transition issues going to the new school, a lot of this is up to the people. Leadership team, as all of us SBA members. This will be a great year. Please bring up comments and concerns. Ryan, we met with the dean. There will be an open house this Friday at the new school space. There will be refreshments and tours. The place is in disarray because they are in the middle of construction. Dean LaMont said we could see it from 3-5 on Friday, need to make sure people don’t touch live wires.
  - Ryan — Committees- a list will be sent out so people can sign up. We are all expected to sit on at least one committee. They are a good way to push through student ideas into action. Please let us know your top two or three choices. A lot of committees need chairs. Need to fill committees, please pass on the info to friends, as committees are open to everyone.
Ryan — Dean agreed today to give us a “hefty” budget increase. Dean envisions some bumps in the road, and having to deal with 2 different campuses can be difficult but more money will be good for morale. We are in charge of student morale.

Brent — rental database. Healthy response, but need more responses. The more info the better for incoming students. It will all be on-line, there will be a site just for admitted students. Look for this, and when it comes out tell people to fill out the survey.

Ryan — don’t steal food from the refrigerator. There has been a lot of theft. We have sent emails. Josh said that people who are stealing might not respond to emails. Any ideas about how to solve this problems.
  ▪ Rax — question- can this be addressed better at the transition site.
  ▪ Ryan — talking about putting fridge in the café, and there will be a little kitchen.
  ▪ Rax — don’t call it transition space.

Brent — if you can get to the “new school”, go. It looks really nice; some of the rooms are how they will be. There may be bookshelves and tables, but a lot of it is how it will be.

Maureen — Look at revised budget guidelines. There have been some positive changes and language changes to make things more clear. Instead of groups going to SBA, the treasurer can use discretion under sec 7a.

Connie — turn in your student organization mission statements and contact info.

Brent be thoughtful as these are the first impression

Matt Mobilio — no news.

Douglas — Technology
  ▪ Rumors of charges for printing. John Davie said printing would be free. Don’t know if there has been other info from Deans.
  ▪ New version of webmail, should be better with email problems.
  ▪ More computers working, but still need to report broken ones to IIT.

Ryan — thank you to Douglas for being so diligent and hounding John Davie about the changes. He has done great work and we owe him our thanks.

Social committee — Sara- everything looks good for the picnic. The weather may be bad but everything else ok.

New business
  ▪ Toastmasters — Nick Palmer is new president- Nick- we did a lot this year, our group is finally chartered, we wanted to present the charter to the SBA since they helped us pay. We will be able to say that our members are toastmasters certified.
  ▪ Ryan — congratulations. SBA passes the budget and organizations make new money requests. SBA has a contingency fund so groups can ask for extra money and reallocation funds. If you ever have questions just ask.
  ▪ Matt Muckler — we had our charter party and would like $ reallocated for that.
- Ryan — only problem in March any funds groups had not used SBA took into general fund. We do not have accurate records at the moment about where money is. There is $3000 in general fund which we can spend by the end of the year, so we will ask to take the money from that fund. We will use Robert’s Rules though this meeting is less formal. Matt Cronin is parliamentarian, and boy is he strict. Make a motion for an allocation, then there would be a second motion and then debate.
  - Matt — motion to allocate $88 from general fund to Toastmasters.
  - Second. All in favor, with Matt abstaining.
  - Amnesty International. Would like to allocate for final letter-writing event.
  - Motion to allocate $83 to AI made by Crystal. Passes unanimously.
  - Ryan — we will use $600 for the Senior picnic.
  - 4 diamonds fund benefit — Mike and Tom Nason. Members of the Learned Hands, a rock and Roll band. Build community, grassroots battle of the bands to be donated to 4 diamonds to benefit pediatric cancer. They were going to pay to rent the legion and pay out of pocket so all ticket money will go to 4 d. Toastmasters will co-sponsor. Need $300 to make the event happen.
  - Ryan — great event, open to all students. SBA would probably be happy so the students don’t have to pay out of pocket.
  - Motion to allocate made by Bernardo.
  - Debate
    - Aaron — do we have enough money in general fund?
    - Ryan — yes, we totally have the $$. This will benefit the students.
    - Rax — this is a great way to support the local community. We organized the monologues and were able to raise $1200 for women’s shelters, it will raise the profile of the law school.
    - Brent — 4 D is the fund that is a big Penn State thing, so this is a way for us to connect with penn state.
    - Bonacci — pre-thon, hopefully this would become something annual. We can’t go up to PS to participate in thon, so we can raise money and feed into thon.
    - Brent — would it count towards next year if we don’t get it done in time?
    - JB — no there is a strict cut off.
    - Matt — what about allocating from toastmasters, should we break it up. SBA and Toastmasters want to get credit.
    - Tom — question- is there a stipulation about how it should be used. Alcohol?
    - Ryan that is not true. Alcohol can be served offsite.
  - Passes with Matt Muckler abstaining.
- Other stuff.
  - Aaron — his group ELS wants more $$, will reallocate $50
  - Maureen
  - Aaron motion to compensate $50 to ELS for adopt a highway.
Maureen you are in the red
A — request $115.
Motion second, passes, Aaron abstaining.

- Ryan — Group meeting for leaders, wanted to get input, 25 people showed up to talk about budget guidelines. $88. motion to allocate to himself/SBA for the pizza.
- Second. $88.90. passes with Ryan abstaining.
- Crystal — we are getting ready to vote, when will that happen, when will it be effective?
- Ryan — groups will be able to take advantage of this immediately.
- Lance — pizza meetings-
- Aaron — we have a deal with Papa Johns, but they suck.
- Lance — place by Giant tastes like NY pizza. Take a survey, and if people like it maybe we can get it to be our official pizza and we can get a discount.

- Revised budget guidelines
  - Ryan — There had been a lot of complaints, difficult for groups to go through and it took up a lot of time at meetings. A lot of questions and time could have been better spent on substantive issues. Group leaders gave input to revise. Brent and Mo and I worked on this. We changed some of the standard amts like for bowling and movies, we bumped the amts up to reflect real amts.
  - Ryan — Groups should be able to reallocate without getting approval from whole SBA. There would be 2 people having to sign off, but groups would be able to come before the whole body.
  - Ryan — To qualify, in old rules it had to be from one event to a previously existing event. It couldn’t be a new event, but now we are going to allow it to be to new events. They would have to re-submit a request form, but the discretionary function of Pres and Treas would control. Added a letter d that changes have to be reported to SBA.
  - Brent — we changed new orgs. There used to be a cap of $250. for new orgs. So if this group was really active or popular they could not get enough $$. ACLU is a very active group though not official, so they should be able to get funding.
  - Ryan — did not want to punish new groups. The $250 cap did not make much sense. We will place changes before the body.
  - Matt — his concern was that under titles 8, 9,10 an organization needs additional funds. This year, a group not recognized under SBA was not able to get funding. Any unrecognized group should have to come before the whole group.
  - Ryan — motion to accept guidelines.
  - Debate
    - Connie — will reallocations still be subject to debate? Will the President and Treasurer go through the same sort of process that the old debates usually covered?
    - Ryan — it would take into account whether org was open to all students, and whether students can derive benefit from the event.
Wayne — can he get a copy, and has “organization” always been defined?
Ryan — we will send you a copy when they are approved, though email only went to SBA.

Josh — problem with sec 10-c. exigent circumstances. Emergency SBA meeting called—seems unnecessary. There is already a 2 hour rule so pres and tres can approve.
  - Ryan — this is only for unforeseeable expenses. Value to having c in ther is that if there is an event scheduled for tomorrow it will get the money to the organizations.
  - Can there be an email vote?
  - Brent — there is supposed to be debate, and this would circumvent the vote. Ballots in a box would be worse.
  - Ryan — this situation would rarely happen. There could be a situation … as much as we don’t want to come to extra meetings,
  - josh will drop the issue.
  - Sara — this does not come up a lot.
  - Brent — if you are asking for the money and you have to call a special meeting, this is discouraging.
  - Matt Muckler — if over $200 do you need it?
  - Ryan this is another check because under $200 you don’t need the emergency meeting.

Approve — passes unanimously. They will be sent out tomorrow.
  - Ryan — email about committee stuff out to you soon.
  - Adjourn