Student Bar Association Meeting
August 31, 2005

Meeting to Order: 8:30

Roll Call:
Missing
Charece
Dante
Val
Charlie

Approval of Minutes Passed.

One L elections – John

Elections September 14, the winners will be attending the meeting that night.

Treasurer – Budget Proposals due today, budget orientation this past Monday. We do not yet have the total amount available, the number will be excluding the amount used for the Activities Fair last week. Still waiting on the exact amount.

Secretary – No projects.

ABA Rep – ABA conference over summer in Chicago. One of the things Seth is interested in, and working for, tapping the resources of the SBA. The ABA will give money for: diversity, community service. National Recognition for Student Groups through the ABA. Last year VITA was up for an award. Competitions students can participate in through the ABA. This is a heads up on things to do throughout the year.

Brent – What do we have to do to get this money?

Seth – Unsure.

Josh – Must have to have a plan of some sort.

Seth – One thing is if you put the ABA down as being a sponsor they may give you some more money.

Josh – Maybe send that information out to the Student Organizations because they are the ones that need the money.

Aaron – What is in it for an organization to be a part of the ABA?
Seth – It’s a huge networking opportunity.

Josh – Let’s get the information out to the student groups.

General Public Comment Welcome Now.

Committee Reports:

1L Trial Comp. – Nothing to Report
Academic Rules – chair is Val, have not met yet.
Admissions – Brent – Not really anything we can do now that the Lion’s Ambassador thing is being put together.
Josh – There is a reason we have these committees it is a legitimate concern to have our input.
LaKeitha – I asked if we have a say in who gets admitted, they said they do not want to get rid of the admissions committee, but still have it through the Lion’s Ambassadors. They want to have stuff like interview processes.
Josh – There is an opportunity for involvement there.
Brent – What is our role?
Josh – You have to ask that and report back to us about it.
Alumni Relations – Marcy McCollough – she is not here, started but nothing significant to report there.
Budget Committee – Has not met yet because budgets were due just today. Will be busy getting it together this weekend.
Amanda Batz and Jimmy Byrnes One L appointees.
Career Services – Rene – Have not met.
Community Relations – Trying to fill Borough Council Position.
Diversity – Anthony – Sent out emails to organizations, they will get back to us.
Honor Code – Aaron – Has been asked questions, we had planned to do something at orientation, it flopped, but there needs to be honor code awareness.
Josh – why don’t you make a plan on how to raise honor code awareness.
Douglas – Cheat sheet may not be a good idea because then people may interpret the honor code incorrectly.
John Andrews – We are trying to fill the faculty positions for the honor code. There is also supposed to be an Honor Code administrator.
Aaron – is there a vacancy?
John – Well at least four faculty are supposed to be on it, and Dean Mc will want us to take the lead on it.
Library – Dante – No news.
Josh – Carrel system seems to have worked fine, no real complaints.
Social Committee – Sarah – The welcome back party is this Friday, everything is set for that and ready to go.
Sports – Kahn – would like to add One L’s to the committee. Dates – as of next Friday all emails will be through the TWEN site. We are instituting an equipment inventory, trying to arrange for storage. Having problems with Carlisle, raised prices of gyms and fields, try to look for a long term contract, rather than increase our expenses every year. Mini
Golf Tournament – not yet a budget item – Sports Emporium seems interested. Also spoke to Dickinson College – they have facilities, maybe we could use some of there facilities without cost. Dickinson College will also probably be participating in the Mini-Golf tournament. Also setting up an A league and B league in basketball, hopefully to have a battle of the Dickinsons, one night have two games having top teams in both leagues. It should cost us nothing.

Student/Faculty Relations – Nothing to report at this time.

Technology – Douglas – setting up a Google group which has all the organization leaders on it. People must click on the link in the email to sign up. Students still having problems with email. If emails are lost, try to find out from the sender exact time, date, and then IIT can search their logs. Without that information it is hard for IIT to do anything. Websites have been updated, and it is becoming a faster process.

Josh – Have people been having problems and getting complaints?

Matt – The customer service in IIT has been terrible.

Josh – that is a top issue with me and the Dean is aware of the problem. Douglas is carrying the load for IIT.

Matt – It is a problem that IIT will only help you only from 10:30 to 12:00.

J. Reuben Clark Law Society – Representatives present.

Josh – The J. Reuben society has followed all provisions to create a new student organization.

Handout. J. Reuben Clark graduated from Columbia, served in JAG, he was a member of the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. We would fall under the mid-Atlantic region, most law schools have this society. Purpose ? networking, community service, comraderie. Try to get prominent members of the society to come to the school. There is a conference in February drawing people from all over the world.

LaKeitha – will you be asking for funding?

Rep – Yes we will.

Rep – also this group is not restricted to people who are Mormons.

Seth – How many schools have this society?

Rep – Official – somewhere in the 30s, unofficial – no idea.

Josh – someone make a motion to approve

John – Motion to approve

Keitha – Second.

Ayes

Nays - none

Abstain – Dante, Matt.

Dean’s new alcohol policy.

Josh – Dean would like to have a bright line rule. Dean signs off on all beer at the school. He is not willing to sign off on those forms any longer. The events he is willing to sign off on are large, school-wide events.

Anthony – what is a small get-together and a large one?

Josh – it’s ambiguous, but fall finals party, senior picnic, back to school party.

Brent – how do you get approval if you don’t know how many people are going to be there?
Josh – I don’t have a good answer for that, we are going to come up with a list, but unless its realistic he is not going to approve it. He will probably only approve a few.
Brent – how does that affect the budget?
Keitha – it’s kind of difficult.
Brent – Off-campus funding is difficult if you cannot have it at private residences.
Benji – if organizations are to have parties at home they can do what they want, so basically the Dean is telling us what we can and cannot do with our money.
Josh – Well he can tell us how to deal with our money.
Seth – It would seem to me that organizations would be more successful if they were able to have gatherings in the cafeteria.
Rene – how much student input has he considered, it is our money and our organizations.
Josh – he just basically decided to just do it, we could pass legislation to oppose it.
Brent – are budget guidelines something we can vote to amend.
Keitha – you cannot have it at a students home, would have to be amended by the SBA.
And from what I understand there were students approaching the Dean or Storey about events involving beer. Maybe if there was equal feedback it could make a difference.
Josh – there seems to have been a vocal minority going straight to the Dean.
Seth – I do not think this is a good thing for the students, things will not be as inclusive, and the Dean is not going to change people’s drinking habits, and people will become more segregated.
John – the Dean’s concern is that the Student Body is funding drinking parties. He is willing to concede that. It’s not just the size of the event, but the purpose of the event as well.
Josh – He had a couple different arguments, they don’t all make sense. This will probably affect a significant amount of groups.
Aaron – If he wants too much planning, sometimes things are spontaneous and it would be unfair on the groups.
Brent – Director Story said people with kids did not want them around kegs?
Keitha – I guess that is the problem.
Brent – that would still happen off-campus,
Josh – Do we want to look at the possibility at amending the budget?
Keitha- What about liability?
Josh – Dean said we could do that but that’s a good question. It would still undermine the point of inclusiveness.
Ryan – This does not seem like a totally unreasonable request on the part of the dean. There must be some kind of middle ground. I was surprised by the amount of parties which had alcohol.
Dante – Did he change what he said when we met with him before? Because at the first meeting he said we could bring in an outside alcohol server.
Aaron – Besides the economics of it, we cannot ignore the fact that he has an underlying agenda, and he is overly concerned about the neighbors and the noise level. Maybe having events earlier is a good idea, make guidelines, go to him, try to work with him. It seems that the noise complaints were the main factor on the alcohol ban.
Charlie Kane arrives – 9:30
Benji – Maybe if we just put those time restrictions on the events, has that been brought up to him at all?
Josh – It was brought up to him generally.
Seth – Maybe we should try to get a little more information from the Dean. If his purpose is to try to make us look responsible that is one thing, but if this is just a way to reduce alcohol consumption then we are probably in trouble.
Josh- he has a few justifications, money, noise. He believes we party more than a lot of other law schools.
Rene – Would he be willing to have a question and answer session with the students?
Douglas – We should ask him to have something in writing explaining it because its all rumors right now, and it is not entirely clear what the policy is.
Josh – seemed like he wanted to leave it ambiguous.
Keitha- writing may limit us a little too much.
Brent – We do drink a lot at these functions, but we could budget for things which may not be approved and then we would end up with a surplus.
Keitha – We looked at the proposals that were submitted, and since we don’t know the policy, just approve like the policy was not changing.
Josh – we can count on the small stuff not being approved.
Seth – motion to table the issue till more info
Aaron – second
Ayes – anonymous.
Josh – Is there a good time for people to meet. Charece is not able to meet at this time.
Brent – why are we meeting so late at 8:30.
Douglas – Family Law Clinic – 6-8
Matt – Advocacy
Douglas – maybe we should hold off on doing this until we know the One Ls schedules.
Josh – Yeah I was just checking out the situation. I guess we will look at Mondays.
Josh – There will probably need to be revisions to the SBA constitution, because there will be two campuses. Maybe we need a constitutional convention.
Brent – is there going to be different focuses at each campus?
Josh – I think they are looking at equal capabilities at each place.
Anthony – It seems that business people will be more likely to be at the main campus.
Douglas – Voting for SBA members may be problematic due to the larger numbers at the main campus.
Aaron – I agree with Douglas, it does not seem practical to have one unified SBA.
Douglas – We also don’t know how the organizations are going to work either.
Charlie – one warning towards two SBAs, not much of a platform to keep this campus vital. A separate SBA up there would suck up all the power.
Brent – Maybe two different SBA’s and a governing board.
Josh – Any other new business? Old business? Comments on execution of events to date, let me know or let the pertinent people know. Any of those issues can be brought up now.
Brent – Any idea what people thought about the activities fair?
Josh – nothing negative so far.
Keitha – nothing negative so far.
Anthony – Can there be a question answer session about the new grading system, because I am getting a lot of questions about it.
Seth – Mootz had sent out an email with some outlines, could he do something like that again?
Josh – Anything else?
Douglas – I have the email which Dean Mootz sent out last year and I could forward to the SBA.
Josh – I will ask him to consider sending another email.
Charlie – Maybe on the alcohol policy we could just have a question/answer session with just the SBA.
Rene – maybe inviting the leaders of the organizations as well.
Benji – The smokers. Everybody keeps coming up to me complaining about having no place to smoke if it is raining because people really are complaining.
Seth – motion to adjourn.
Keitha – second.

Meeting adjourned at 9:48.