I. Call to Order
   a. Roll Call

- Laura Magnotta
- Anna Strawn
- Jason Samuel
- Alisha Falberg
- Andrew Sherman
- Wanika Fisher
- Joe Negaard
- Carolyn Brown
- Melissa Padalino
- Cody Graham - Excused
- Shandra Kisailus
- Elizabeth Asbaugh
- Matthew Bosakowski - Excused
- Kyle Peasley
- Jordan Feist
- Jordan Johnston
- Courtney Monson
- Erin Hayes
- Brian Rans
- Matt Regan
- Marcy McLaughlin
b. Minutes Approval

Laura: Everyone saw the minutes, they’re posted.

Jason: Motion to approve.
Andrew: Second.

No opposition in UP.
No opposition in Carlisle.

II. LLM Class and Honor Code Rep Appointment (5 minutes)

Laura: I was informed that the student asked to be the LLM class rep would no longer like to do it, so still we’re looking. The Honor code rep is here and she is appointing Ahmet Aydin. He participated in the election, but was unable, because of circumstances outside of his control, to get 25 signatures. The time of the year was also a problem.

Wanika: Motion to approve.
Carolyn: Second.

Laura: I’ll open floor for discussion.

Courtney: Please introduce yourself and let us get to know you.

Ahmet: I just graduated last May and wanted to do an LLM. I was a student rep as regular law student and when I came here wanted to continue that role.

No opposition in UP.
No opposition in Carlisle.

III. Public Comment (15 minutes)

Laura: There have been some problems with side conversations during meetings and some people not being able to hear, so I really need to put my foot down about that.

Wanika: I want to warn people about State Paddy’s day. I know that there are law students who have an alcohol violation, and if you get a second one, its $1000 and they will require cash or credit card or property and there will be an around the clock magistrate.
Laura: Yeah, it’s better just to stay away. Moving on to the temperature problems in UP. Dean Toomey would like specifics about times and places. Please get them to me because OPP needs times and places to adjust the temp.

Jason: What about the removal from the Social Committee?

Laura: Alisha sent an email to all three people and they all voluntarily withdrew and were very apologetic.

Missy: When should the Keurig go out everyday?

Laura: It’s supposed to be out at 3:00 but sometimes the 1Ls have class and can’t put it out until 3:45. It’s not supposed to go back in until 8:00. Sometimes people forget.

Brian R: Any progress on a faculty meeting with students in UP?

Laura: I spoke with Professor Farmer. She said that they would be obliged to meet but they don’t know what they could really report on because there is not yet an official faculty committee. She said that they wouldn’t really be able to give definitive answers.

Liz: What about CALI awards being in mailboxes again this semester? Also, we should let the 1Ls know what they are before they go out. Maybe a note in with it so that they know what it is and what it is for.

Missy: Aren’t CALI’s posted publicly anyway?

Laura: That’s what we heard from the deans. It’s public information anyway. Plus, it’s not protected information because it’s a notation, like magna or summa cum laude, so it’s not a negative.

Liz: Ok, I was just wondering. But FYI we don’t actually have Penn State listed on the CALI site.

Matt R.: Echos that on the CALI site Penn State doesn’t post any of the awards. But most other schools do post who gets them. CALI makes it look like this is a decision made by Penn State. Also, it was weird that when people realized what the CALI’s were, everyone was looking at what was in where.

Sara Mullen: They did add an additional white envelope to the package without what class it was for on the outside.

Jordan J.: It’s the professor’s discretion as to whether to issue one or not.

**IV. Transition Committee 1L Co-Chair Appointments (10 minutes)**

**Nominees: John Higgins (Carlisle) and Sean Richards (UP)**
Laura: The nominees are John and Sean. Anna sent out an email soliciting members. John and Sean both volunteered their services as co-chairs. I am confident based on SBA participation that they will be great.

Garrett: Motion to approve.
Carolyn: Second.

Courtney: Introduce yourself please.

John: This committee will be very important and everyone needs to know what’s going on. My classmates want to know what’s going on. I also want to not be getting the information third hand.

Courtney: How do you see your role between the committee and the student body?

John: Being able to talk to classmates and let them know what’s going on. We’re having our first meeting tomorrow.

Sean: I’m mainly interested because I’m really frustrated with how things have been handled so far. There has been a lack of transparency and I’ve told the Dean so. I want to make sure that my classmates know what’s going on. I will certainly communicate with them though person to person contact, or Facebook.

Wanika: Do you know who the Dean reports to in the University?

Someone: The provost?

Wanika: That is correct. I just bring this to your attention because I have the hope for you guys that you can really hold the administration’s feet to the fire. The law school is not a bubble and is in the University system.

No opposition in UP.
No opposition in Carlisle.

V. Transition Committee Member Appointment (10 minutes)

Laura: Anna sent out the email and, in addition to John and Sean, had a response from a number of students. I’ll read the names then ask for a vote in an omnibus fashion unless there are any objections.

Alisha Falberg
Shanie Kisaulis
Matt Bos.
Liz Ashbaugh
Katie Rimpfel
Emily Ward
Jason: Motion to approve.
Sean: Second.

Laura: Any discussion?

Courtney: How many from each class?

Laura: Two 3Ls, five or eight 2Ls, five to eight 1Ls. Six of the names are in Carlisle and eleven or twelve in UP.

Courtney: Thanks. I just wanted to make sure that this wasn’t going to be done in a few months because everyone was 3Ls.

Laura: Nope, there are a lot of underclassmen.

No opposition in UP.
No opposition in Carlisle.

VI. Academic Committee Update (10 minutes)

Laura: I asked Sara Mullen to come tonight because she had put together a great email with all of the information about academic issues that have come up at meetings. I’ve asked her to give us a run down of all of the relevant information so that we are familiar with the contents of the e-mail and can advise fellow students as to who they can talk to about issues that arise out of the e-mail.

Sara: I want to preface this with saying that things seem to be moving very quickly and changing rapidly - transitioning into two separate law schools. The decision is not going to change based on the Dean leaving. The decision was made in consultation with the Dickinson Law Association and was a University decision. The decision is contingent on ABA approval and the current Dean will be starting this process. Dean Pratt stressed the importance of presenting a unified front to the incoming class of 2013 because they will be coming into a unified school. Although faculty will be creating committees, the stress now is on the matriculation of the fall of 2013 class. We haven’t started the search for the Dean yet because of the academic cycle and the best people wouldn’t be looking for a job right now, that’s why it has to wait. How many deans
we get is a decision up to the University. I also have information about degree audits and how to find out who your academic advisor is. A quick “plug” for externships and clinics and co-curricular credits. The committee is going to send out a quick “how to” guide for how to register for fall classes. The anticipated class list for fall 2013 has been removed, but it will be reposted.

Laura: I want to emphasize what she said about the degree audit. If you go on e-lion, it says everything that you need for graduation and it says what you have done and what you need to do. I remember Cody bringing up something like this before. I encourage everyone to do it sooner rather than later so you know what you have to take. That is particularly true for 1Ls.

Sara: One more comment on the academic advisor. I asked about making it more of an essential component or making them reach out to the students or something. Dean Pratt didn’t seem to inclined to make anything more so than it already is, although apparently everyone was informed about their advisor at the beginning of the year. Although I didn’t know and I don’t know any one else who did.

Laura: I think its lists it on e-lion, but I would encourage 1Ls and 2Ls to reach out to professors that you like and are close with and to contact for guidance. Any questions for Sara about the email? No. Thank you, Sara. I’m looking forward to it and if anyone hears of any issues, please let us know so we can address them. And let them know to pay attention to it because it’s important. It might be helpful that it’s coming from a student rather than the administration.

One more thing. Even though it’s not on the agenda - and anyone may object to this if they would rather have it on the agenda for next meeting - but I would like to nominate Kyle Peasley as co-chair of the mock trial committee in UP because there have been issues with that up here. Kyle has really stepped up and has done a great job taking control and helping out and I want him to be officially recognized. Please let me know if there are any issues since its not on the minutes.

Shandra: I will definitely move to nominate Kyle. He has been so helpful up in UP. I’ve emailed him and he has been very helpful to me and useful and I’m happy to have that because it’s hard to be in Carlisle and get everyone up there into it. I would definitely nominate him and would be happy to have him. He’s really stepped up and has been there for me.

Jordan F.: Second.

Carolyn: Who else was chair up here?

Laura: Kira.

No opposition in Carlisle.
No opposition in UP.

Laura: Thank you, Kyle, for taking that responsibility.

VI. Executive Council Reports
a. Presidents Report (5 minutes)

Laura: I attended the faculty meeting yesterday and I reported to the UP faculty that there was this meeting in Carlisle and a discussion came up about having a meeting in UP. So, we will decide that. Dean McConnaughay talked about the admission process and we have declined in the admissions, about 40% since last year and about 60% since the year before, but that is OK because we are still getting the same quality of applicants. So, we are hoping to maintain that same quality. The concern is that the LSAT scores are more disproportionate right now, so school’s that have been taking higher scores traditionally are now looking to accept lower scores and that infringes on our pool. And, as far as the split of the campuses, the ABA said we are free to proceed immediately and that we are free to do what we will and they will follow our lead. They believe the worst that would happen would be that we would be seen as two completely separate schools instead of one. If so, the process would be different and what would happen would be that there would be some study to determine how to handle it. Dean McConnaughay said that Penn State University is supportive of the law school and is supportive of those changes. We need faculty senate endorsement and we have a leg up here because Professor Backer is on the committee. They have been informed and they are hopeful that the approvals will happen quickly. A question came up of will provost be meeting will faculty in light of this.. The answer is yes. Dean McConnaughay said yes and the chair of the search committee will also meet. Dean DiPolvere said the applicant pool is decreasing nationally, but we are still receiving more than other schools near us, but law schools nation wide have seen a decrease. Our school is doing a lot to advertise, like sending emails, holding virtual open houses, asking faculty to call accepted students, hosting mock trials. Then Dean Tatum spoke from CPDO. He encouraged all faculty to support students in their job search and to be aggressive in their job search. They are gathering data now about last year’s employment records and we are on track to be higher than last year. He stressed how important clerkships are and that five students from this year will have federal clerkships in the fall. They have an advisory board to help out with this. There may be changes for faculty recommendation letters because deadlines are earlier. Also, jobs look at these, so he was hopeful to get more students placed there in internships or externships to turn them into full time jobs. The motion for the new curriculum will go into effect for next year. Any question? No, great.

b. Vice-Presidents’ Report (15 minutes)

Anna: There hasn’t been much going on since the last meeting. The big social committee event this semester is spring soiree and that’s not for over a month still. Ticket sales will start soon, but not yet. The other thing I’ve been working on is the transition committee and we are having first meeting tomorrow and I will let you know more about it after that. We had our first faculty meeting yesterday in Carlisle and it went really well. The faculty was very open to suggestions. But there will be differences between how each campus handles the transition. The faculty here has expressed interest and is open to students and wants to meet frequently. They had a nice presentation on their goals. It was concise. There will be differences between how each campus does this and it will be something we just have to work with. Ask me if you have any questions.

Andrew: I would just like to bring this up again: was there any discussion on overlap of the meetings between the two campuses?
Anna: No. We haven’t met as a committee yet and I felt awkward setting everything up by myself without input, so I’m looking forward to the committee meeting tomorrow. We will have a better idea of how we are going to set things up, so after that we should have a better idea. Honestly though, I think the faculties are split, not ideologically or anything, but that they are just split because they will be at different school’s soon and I’m not sure how successful a joint meeting would be.

Laura: My understanding is that the campus of residency would be were they would presumably be after the split, so that’s where the meetings will be and that’s where they will be attending. They will be making sure that there will be full faculty at both locations and the ability for faculty to effect the transition will be based on where they are currently.

Jason: Mine is pretty brief. I would just like to give a reminder about the upcoming e-board elections, which will be on April 8, and the general elections will be on April 15 for class reps and honor code reps. There will be more info to come next month, so put it on you calendars.

c. Treasurer (5 minutes)

Andrew: OK, nothing really new to report other than the reserve is $5284.12. I’m still waiting on some receipts, so the number may be going up. Other big news is there is another Alternative Spring Break we just approved. We’re sending students to New Jersey, so that will get our names out as well. I’m still waiting to hear on our UPAC status and Sue’s been helping, so soon we should have some finality on that as well.

d. PSU Senator (5 minutes)

Joe: I have nothing new from last time. I am your tool, use me.

e. ABA Rep Report (5 minutes)

Wankia: Yeah, so, the ABA 3rd circuit meeting will be February 23rd at Rutgers from 8-5. I will be there and I invited a lot of you on Facebook and will send out an email. It’s a great networking opportunity, especially for those wanting to practice in New Jersey and it will be fun! And that’s it. And remember to sign up for ABA membership.

Jordan F.: How do I get ABA to stop sending me magazines all of the time? I get them, like, everyday.

Wankia: I don’t know, but if I can find out how, I’ll let you know.

Laura: I’ll look into, too, and see if there is a way to unsubscribe. Wankia will ask at meeting, too.

VII. Adjourn
Jason: Motion to adjourn.
Carolyn: Second.

No opposition in Carlisle.
No opposition in UP.