Student Bar Association Meeting  
October 17, 2005

Not here  
Seth  
Charece

Minutes have been approved from last two meetings.

Treasurer  
So far we have spent $938.23, which leaves $31,661.77. As of today we have $1146.95 in our emergency fund. These figures are from our tracking system.

Now all money that is to be spent must be signed off on by Keitha so that the money can be tracked with more efficiency.

Secretary  
Blood drive will be held on Wednesday, so far signups have been good and food will be donated by Ashley’s Pizza and Faye’s.

President  
Alumni weekend was not well attended. But they do seem to be quite interested in the happenings of the student body.

Matt — talked to the Carlisle PD about residents blocking off parking spaces, but they do not have the man power to do anything about it so he said we could just move the barriers if we have a problem.

Diversity — Good information from Seth about getting money from the ABA, and meeting with Prof. Pratt tomorrow morning.

Honor Code — meeting tomorrow at 8:00am.

Faculty Diversity Committee — next meeting will be Nov. 30, problems with financial aid so Ms. Bogart will be there to answer any questions or grievances with financial aid.

Library — Can we get Gail Partin to sign off on the dates for the carrel acquisition.

Social — Halloween party is next Thursday. Will be starting to sell tickets on Wednesday. The DJ will be Bob Foults and we are looking to have donations from local businesses so that people will feel like they are getting more for their ten dollars.
Speakers Trust — Sharon Watkins will be here on November 8. (Former Enron Exec) Try to get people out because this will be a great event.

Technology — The previous huge problem with email in the last two weeks seems to have been resolved. Other than that Mr. Davie has generally been unresponsive to me about students concerns. We have a new webmaster and if students want to set up a new website they should contact that webmaster or Sherri Whitlock.

Josh — The IT committee came up with some good tips for the first years on IT, maybe I will forward that to the reps because there was some good stuff in there.

New Business

PSU Senator — Dante

Requesting reimbursement from SBA for beer for Penn State day, an event co-sponsored with the Smeal MBA program. As well as parking payment. Total is $62.50. Receipts are photocopied and I have the receipts for Keitha. About 50 DSL faculty and students attended this meeting.

Brent — I move that we reimburse Dante for $62.50.

Passed for funding Dante, Josh abstains.

CJS — Jerri Fuller

Every year law schools around the county throw a Barrister’s Ball. There are always a lot of people at the ball, but because it is $30, we are not making too much. I was wondering if this year the SBA would be willing to help with funding for venue, DJ, food or whatever. This is a school wide event.

Anthony — would us funding the Barristers Ball reduce the CJS dues.

Jerri — No. CJS is going to be solvent technically, but since this is a school wide event I feel that we should have some help.

The last two years it has gotten more expensive, but we just ate the cost, but I don’t want to have to eat the cost.

Anthony — you are pretty much asking for money so CJS will be solvent after?

Jerri — No

John — Won’t the ticket sales help cover the costs.
Jerri — We don’t make a profit on this, there is no guarantee, we just hope that the ticket sales will be enough.

Josh — Because this organization is not recognized by the SBA, and because it is an exclusive organization I have a philosophical problem giving money for this group. If CJS is willing to open its membership and be recognized by SBA then I would be more than willing to fund this program.

Jerri — I feel like we get some bad hype, but the determinations should be based on the people involved.

This event is open to the entire school, we shouldn’t be funding the entire event since it is open to the entire school.

Douglas — I did some calculating, and with 35 members paying $60 that gives you $2100 plus having the ticket sales.

Bobbi Sue — As social there is no possible way that with school, and with all the events that we have, the social chair would not be able to do this event. We should thank CJS for doing this.

Aaron — I don’t see this as an issue with CJS, its about the Barristers Ball, and it is important, and CJS has done this school a favor for doing this. I think to calm concerns we have to see some numbers, because right now we don’t know. Concerns are if CJS would be making a profit.

Jerri — To the extent to where we would be making a profit beyond what we typically make, we would be willing to return that to SBA. I don’t want anyone to feel uncomfortable giving us money, so to the extent that we make a profit that supercedes what we would normally make, we would be willing to return it.

Charlie — I agree with Josh on the philosophical point. You are going to make a profit on this even if its only $100, and that will go to a group that does not have to follow the rules of other groups. Maybe if SBA just took over the food, rather than giving it to CJS.

Douglas — So if there is a profit made, we are going to be giving CJS money, where every other group had to come to the budget meeting, and follow the protocol that the budget guidelines set up.

Robert — Do the students pay for a ticket to go?

Jerri — yes we all pay about $30.

Dante — I had two different things, this conversation could go on forever, are we trying to determine whether we should be involved or whether we should give money to them. And if there are any conflicts of interest I would like to know of them.
Brent — We almost loan people money sometimes, and then they pay it back to the SBA, so I don’t think that is an issue.

Douglas — Yeah just for the record I was not saying there was anything wrong with you not coming before the budget committee.

Aaron — We are not a student organization so we don’t come to the budget meetings, but we didn’t know what we would need before hand.

Robert — We could do this for hours, but can you just tell us what you need and then we will debate that.

John — If you were to have a normal attendance how much would you be making.

Ryan — If anyone has a conflict of interest, I think that is something to be dealt with, not something we need to disclose. But it would be more clear if you were saying we need $100 for food or whatever you need it for.

Jerri — The number I was sent here with I would be embarrassed to say. But CJS would be asking for $500. I feel like coming and getting a loan from SBA there are concerns about funding CJS, but just to go on record because this is an event open to the student body at large, I think that the SBA should give CJS money.

Benji — If SBA gives you 1/6 of the total cost than you can pay back 1/6 of the total profits.

Anthony — New organizations are only allowed to get $250 from SBA, and I think it would be unfair to give an organization that has not gone through the process of being recognized.

Sara — I would just like to point out that we just funded $62.50 for a tailgate that only 50 people went to, and this is a school wide event that more than 50 people will go to.

Charlie — This is still backdoor funding for a secret society. It isn’t an organization that is recognized by the SBA or whose membership is open to the entire student body.

Bobbi Sue — I just want to say that the fact that CJS does this event is helpful to the SBA, and just as a good gesture I think we should give them some money.

Douglas — I make a motion that we deny CJS any funding.

Anthony — second

Vote by hand as follows:
10 for not giving money
5 for giving
5 for abstentions
Josh — Should we officially say that the Academic resource center has not worked, and withdraw support, or if someone is interested in running it we can talk about that.

Anthony — Has anyone talked to Gregory about doing this?

John — Gregory does not want to do it.

Connie — I had never heard of this, but if it existed I think it would be something that would be valuable.

Josh — It was something where a 2nd or 3rd year student would have a designated subject that he/she is good at and I think it was in the single digits the attendance.

Charlie — Can we have until the next meeting to think about alternatives.

Josh — Unless there is someone who is willing to take it on it isn’t going to work.

Charlie — Motion to table.
Seconded.

Passed.

Douglas — I would like to ask the first year reps to talk to there classmates to see if there would be interest in it and report back to us.

Ryan — It doesn’t need to be a huge program, it could be a much smaller thing.

Anthony — This just sounds to me like something the Student Affairs should be running.

Josh — Ok well talk to your classmates and report back.

Item tabled.

Construction plans for new facilities

Josh — I have attended a whole bunch of meetings so I will try to let you know what is going on with that. There are no facts with the timeline, correct me if I’m wrong, but the Dean wants to go forward as soon as possible, so building may begin next year. The building is going to begin at UP and there will be at least first years there. It now seems to me that he wants to do everything at the same time which would mean moving students. One thing is that the Dean would lease Bellevue Elementary, put in wireless, and some furniture, and also an insurance building where offices would be and there would be buses going back and forth. Once the plan is in place the project is going to have to be bid. This is the biggest obstruction that has ever happened at this school, it is a huge deal to the 2nd and 1st years, and you are not going to be sold out so whatever you want me to fight for I will fight for it. This needs to be our focus for the rest of the year.
We could hold elections earlier so you can do budgeting and planning ahead of time before you have to move, maybe a memorandum about what the SBA can do.

Brent — The architect said that within three weeks we should have something on paper.

John — The Dean hopes to start construction by the end of the summer.

Sara — How is the new stuff being funded, the busing and everything, is that a tuition increase?

Josh — No, the Governor is funding it, Alumni is funding it and PSU is funding it.

Anthony — It seemed as if Dean McCaugnahay really wants student input so please offer your thoughts.

Frankie — Is there a ballpark on when it would be complete?


Connie — What is going to be happening at the other campus, so that we can just immediately move to the other campus, instead of being moved to buildings that are less suited for law students.

Josh — They want to get things done as soon as possible to move this school up. People now are going to be in the Bean building, which is the old MBA building. I don’t think that the Dean wants to wait for the building to be built at State College to be finished.

Douglas — I have other new business. A student has come to me to request that Add/Drop be extended one week until the second week of classes.

Val — I guess the concern is that students will be behind if they add later. Do you want me to go to Dean Mootz and see if he can extend the deadline?

Josh — Yeah lets do that, I think the extension is a good idea.

Brent — I guess people have been asking for a crosswalk at Promfret because people are almost getting hit all the time.

Aaron — People are concerned about Café Per Se.

Josh — No one is losing their jobs.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45