SBA Board of Governors

Meeting

October 3, 2007 — 7:00 p.m.

148 Advantica, Carlisle / 208 Ford (Beam), University Park

Agenda

I. Call to Order and Roll Call – 7:02
   a. Approval of Minutes
      i. Passed

II. Executive Board Officer Reports
   a. President’s Report
      i. Tiff, Phil and Jose met w/ Dean McConnahey – planning to have forum for the 3Ls regarding the construction but there will be one for the entire school. Joel’s issue regarding legal research curriculum.
      ii. Students should turn back to Holly their particular group description as requested last meetings.
      iii. Presidential ? – many group constitutions don’t have protocol for both campuses. SBA constitution has one, but it is not binding and should not be used as a template for other groups.
      iv. Emails from groups regarding getting funding for certain things:
          1. go back through the email that Jose sent before
          2. all the information is also on the website – including the guidelines and forms
          3. also the organizational guidebook will tell you exactly how to plan an event and who to contact regarding different aspects of the event.
          4. Speakers trust is meeting soon and if plan on having a speaker must go to them first.
          5. SBA does not fund conferences – contact Dean Elkin cause he may be able to provide funding for the conference – contact Jeffrey Johnson or Justin Uram. Speakers probably need to sign contracts or get hotel reservation and 2 weeks to cut a check – so plan ahead.
   b. Vice-President’s Report
i. Tiffany - Meeting w/ the Deans – Career services issue: they should reflect our rise as a top law school. Need to reach out to many more employers – if recruiting from all over the country then need to place people back where they are from. Solution – regional recruiters. Generally law schools do send students back to the region where they were but if we are trying to become a national law school then need to try to reach out for that.

ii. Phil – nothing to add

c. Treasurer’s Report
   i. $250 allocated to Blue and White society has been spend and Jose has receipts
   ii. $500 for Legal Vines has been spend and Jose has receipts
   iii. BLSA’s first meeting $53.35 + $24.05; Valentines day raffle = $5
      1. Bought the tickets now but used some as a membership drive tickets. Can spend money earlier but not later b/c of the recapture provision.
   iv. Current Spent = 3,261.91 in addition to the 19K that was originally allocated

d. ABA Report
   i. Oct fighting homeless project – looking for student volunteers to help plan this project. Need someone in UP to help run that side of the project. Hoping to have it as a community based initiative.
   ii. Email about the regional circuit meeting taking place on 10/12 – 10/14. Do not need to be a member of the ABA, just a law school student. Attys from different places and different law firms and govt agencies. 2 inmates that were on death row and then were released due to DNA evidence. Workshop on first issue too.
      1. First, second, third, and eleventh circuits will be covered
      2. no cost
      3. go online and register
      4. Amala put a sign up sheet on the SBA door
   iii. Kelly Johnstone – lieutenant governor for the 3rd circuit

e. Patrick - Diversity assessment which is done every 7 years. Equity.psu.edu

III. Organizational Leader Reports
   a. Jeff w/ Amnesty – 10/20/07 DC walk to raise awareness for kids in Northern Uganda; 10/24/07 bowling night
   b. Vick w/ BLSA – 10/14 Homecoming at PSU tailgate, have nice RSVP list from UP and hoping that Carlisle will also respond → 10/13 at 3:30 game. Planning to leave Carlisle at 7:30 – 8:00
   c. LLSA – 10/18 – Latin Dance lessons at UP → moved from September date; 10/20 dodge ball tournament in Carlisle – proceeds go to Salvation Army and cost is $5 per team
d. PAD – Octoberfest at Red Devil tomorrow night – collecting used cell phones
e. Outlaw – Mixer tomorrow night

IV. Public Comment
a. Kelly – thank the administration for improving the communication w/ the students
b. Anita - APALSA/SALSA/BLSA – Exhibition Gandhi, King and Iketa - 10/10 leave at 6 to be in Harrisburg by 6:30. Dickinson Law was invited to attend. Free event. Prof. Farrior sent out an email.
c. Jeff – Death Penalty – Sister Hellen (featured in Dead Man Walking) is speaking at Dickinson College tomorrow

V. New Business
a. Allocation for SBA Social Chair
   i. Barrister’s Ball – traditionally a private event funded by a private group. Want to keep as SBA event so that can bus people.
      1. Nov 9th at the Comfort Suites; total of $2,435 + gratuity and there is a $500 deposit that Comfort Suites is asking us to pay. Deposit not spent yet
      2. Joel – what if found transportation on their own if keep it private. But this would be private, invite only. Jose explains CJS and how they lost money on it so asked SBA to step in last year.
      3. Issue of having ball here and soiree at UP will be decided.
      4. Counter proposal for Barristers at UP?
      5. The numbers on the UP budget are realistic b/c we didn’t sell that many tickets here at $35 price. Barristers just had appetizers.
   6. Discussion of Hannah’s proposed Budget
      b. Matt – switching campuses b/c of campus unity and easier on the budget.
      c. Hannah – 250 students and busing students up there would cost as much as a whole new soiree in each campus.
      d. Lisa – agrees w/ Joy; the point that it costs as much to throw the party as it is to bus – but unity is more important.
e. Phillip – if the soiree is up there and 250 people at Carlisle buy tickets is enough of a reason to bus
f. Kelly – time frame is really bad b/c the same weekend as the one in Carlisle
g. Phillip – since barristers is the smaller event of the two – wouldn’t it make more sense to have it at UP and then Soiree in Carlisle.

h. Joel – the proposal is the same as last year – is it reliable? Yes and spoke to Jose regarding ticket sales and decided that $35 is too high – want to have it at $25

i. Abbey – Seconds Phillips idea about having barristers in Carlisle and soiree in UP.

j. Issue of transportation should be shared equally among the campuses.

k. Joel – why not a cash bar? b/c wouldn’t be able to have a cash bar b/c wouldn’t sell tickets at $25

l. Joy – soiree calculations would be the same as for barristers so may want to have the soiree there. Per person it would as little as $14 to $20 per person.

m. Rob – if decide to have one event, would there be busing? Busing would be provided but its $1K per bus which seats 50 people

n. Rob – what about selling different tickets? Won’t work b/c the venue only allows for one type

o. Alex – what if do both at each campus, cut open bar from barristers but do cash bar thereby lowering the price and then raise the price at soiree.

p. Jose – People are going to Barristers b/c of the open bar

q. Lisa – feeling at UP that Carlisle doesn’t want to play w/ UP b/c want to have Barristers in Carlisle and then also have Spring soiree here.

r. Warren – dual campus is an allusion when you are 100 miles away. Recommendation – UP has Barristers and Carlisle has soiree.

s. Richard – can the 2 social chairs make the decision. What is the most cost-effective way of doing this so that its best for all students and saves SBA money.

t. Jose – can we table it to the 17th would that give both enough time then to make a decision? Hannah – comfort suites is booked so need to tell them now. UP having Barristers is ok.

u. Jose – recommendation – Barristers will be in Carlisle b/c already have the room etc. the decision as to where the barristers is not a decision of the
board but of the Social Chairs – SBA will vote on the funds to be allocated.

v. Matt – social chairs are appointed by the president and affirmed by us. President doesn’t have authority to make unilateral decision as to where it is – must be approved by the reps.

w. Question – just deciding on barristers or are giving soiree to UP? b/c have a place for barristers now, want to approve that

x. Richard – point of info: strong sentiment for Carlisle to have soiree, if we approve barristers at UP would that give enough time for Joy to make the arrangement. Joy cannot guarantee it.

y. Jose – tonight’s decision is just for barristers; would decide soiree in 2 weeks.

z. Me – pass a barrister’s budget and then give Joy 2 days to get the place.

7. Motion

a. Me: allocate $3000 to Barrister’s Ball, in general and have the rep who secures the place before Friday.

b. Topher – when a budget is presented, have to have something behind it b/c what if we approved Joy’s budget tonight and then she couldn’t get the place?
   i. Joy’s “budget” is just in case people had questions about what could happen at UP
   ii. Topher – must come to a decision before hand so that when come to SBA have everything ready.

c. Transportation funding – will administration fun?

d. Second

e. Friendly amendment to give $3500

f. My friendly amendment – give $3500, with the provision that difference b/w Joy’s amount and Hanna’s will automatically revert back to SBA

g. Yays: Carlisle = 10; UP = 8

h. Nos = Carlisle = 0; UP = 1

i. Absent: Carlisle = 2; UP = 1

j. Motion passes

ii. Spring Soiree
   1. Motion to Table
   2. Passed

iii. Senior Picnic
   1. total requested = $5,900
   2. usually held in cartilage but now since in new location, will have all of these extra costs
3. no negotiation on the amount
4. free event
5. Social chairs are in agreement to have it in Carlisle
6. Motion – to approve; second
7. Friendly amendment by Topher – cut band cost to $700 now and then get more later if necessary
8. No ticket sales – administration will not allow us to sell tickets
9. Topher – attended by faculty, families
10. Patrick – get some money from Dean Elkin? Hannah – no b/c it was a last minute thing.
11. Carlisle: yays = unanimous (13); UP = 9
12. Passed

iv. Halloween Party
1. Hannah – place will charge $350 if we don’t spend $200 in food. But if spend $450 on food, get the place for free
2. Tickets will be $5
3. Cap on 200 students
4. Topher – total allocated for UP is $1500; and Carlisle is $1425 and whatever money is left over, will funnel back to SBA
5. Joel – spend the money
6. Motion – to add $250 to food budget in Carlisle
7. Passes

v. TOTAL ALLACTED TO GROUPS = $28,495.50
vi. TOTAL LEFT TO ALLOCATE = $16,504.50

b. Allocation for the Latino/a Law Student Association
i. Rowan – 9/12 first info meeting and open to whole school. Hispanic heritage month approach so ordered food and are asking to be reimbursed for $200.00
   1. $150 on food to Carlisle; $30 in UP
   2. and then soda, supplies
ii. How many people attended – 60 people at one time and then people filtered in and out and 10-15 in UP
iii. Matt – total drinks $6.14 and $11.66 for supplies – budget guideline only allows for $175
iv. Motion – Tiffany; to allocate funds; second
v. Friendly amendment to change to $175
vi. Carlisle – yays = 13; no = 0; abstentions = 0.
   vii. Up – yays = 8; no = 0; abstentions = 1
   viii. passed

c. Allocation for Amnesty International
i. Jeff – first meeting $45 for food and $30 for UP
ii. Had about 40 in Carlisle and 20 in UP
iii. Motion to approve – Approved w/ 2 abstentions

d. Allocation for the Chess Society
i. Food and guest speaker (at end of month and not enough time to
get to speaker’s trust)

ii. Topher – attendance expectation  Dr. Henry Lee (forensic
scientist, worked on OJ case); will speak to Dean Elkin tomorrow
morning to get PennState undergrad involved.

iii. Alex – how much? $200 for food for the event and speaker will
come for free.

iv. Request withdrawn

e. Change date for LLSA Dodge ball
   i. Change to 10/20
   ii. Dance lessons are on 10/18  was changed last week from
       September
   iii. Motion to change date – Passed.

f. APALSA allocation for Lunar New Year
   i. Open to all students and faculty
   ii. Have a date 2/9/08
   iii. $750 - $250 for space; $170 for drinks and $330 for food
   iv. Rob – Dean Elkin would supplement whatever funds don’t get
       from SBA
   v. Kelley – what is this event? Formal dinner in recognition of
       Chinese new year w/ some entertainment
   vi. Initially allocated - $550
   vii. Tickets? $8 per person and goes to supplementing the event.
   viii. Topher – amendment to allocate what was originally allocated and
        ask Dean Elkin to fund the rest
   ix. Last year about 70-80 attended and are shopping for a venue to
       hold it at
   x. Drinks – pay for own alcohol
   xi. Motion – give them $750 and second
   xii. Friendly amendment – allocate what budget originally allocated
       ($550) and have them ask Dean Elkin for more
   xiii. Not accepted.
   xiv. Carlisle: yays = 6; no = 1; abstentions = 3
   xv. UP; yays = 9; no = ; abstentions =
   xvi. Passed
   xvii. Topher – in our best interest to defer to budget committees original
       allocations b/c they had the broader view.

g. 1L Research Issue – Joel
   i. Issue: academic deans need a formal statement from SBA that this
       an issue that should be looked at. Doesn’t put SBA into a position
       on the matter.
   ii. Not attacking the legal research faculty but the set up of the
       curriculum where the legal writing and research are combined.
       Now taught by legal writing professor and they are combined as 1
       class.
iii. Talked to both locations and students testified that were not as prepared to do legal jobs during the summer and are having problems with law review now.
iv. Do a formal survey to all 2L students to get their opinion in order to remedy this problem and come up with a solution
v. All in Carlisle are generally agreed; UP – survey would focus only on research
vi. Cronin: limit to legal research
vii. Patrick – not take sides and just embrace the idea
viii. Email Joel with any questions
ix. Official Statement by SBA: We as SBA feel that there are concerns with the legal research curriculum and that it merits the SBA and the administration’s immediate attention.
x. Carlisle: yays = 10; no = 0; abstain = 1
xi. UP: yays = 9; no = 0; abstain = 1
h. Books to Prisoners
   i. 11/17 Philly book drop to 10/20 in order to free up books
   ii. Motion for President and Treasurer from now until end of year to accept all date changes and then reported at next SBA meeting so that it can be recorded. Passes. Carlisle: 9 yays and Topher abstains.
   iii. Motion to change the date. Passes.
i. Intramurals
   i. $38.18 for measuring tape, etc.
   ii. Didn’t use money for flags
   iii. Motion to take back $100 and just allocate the money; Second
   iv. Passes

VI. Adjourn