SBA General Body Meeting
September 11, 2013 – 6:30 p.m. 114 Katz Hall, Carlisle / 114 Katz Building, University Park

Agenda

I. Call to Order

- Roll Call
  - Jason Samuel
  - Matt Bosakowski - excused
  - Kaitlyn Charette
  - Brian Brodeur
  - Bobby Anderlik
  - Kyle Peasley
  - Aaron Schwartz
  - Jack Tebbetts
  - Erin Hayes
  - Liz Ashbaugh
  - Brian Rans
  - Sean Jorgensen
  - Megan Rooney
  - Garrett Lent
  - Guy Bowe
  - Marcy McLaughlin
  - John Higgins
  - Jared Kephart – not present
  - Jeff Gdovin - excused
  - Jean Cho
  - Sarah Raquel Lopes
  - Ailise Delaney
  - Alexander Park
  - Cynthia Yan
  - Victoria Thorsen

II. Approval of Minutes

- Garrett motion to approve.
- Liz second.
- All in favor - 21
- All opposed - 0
- PASS, 21-0

III. Public Comment (15 minutes)
• Bobby – I like having public comment at the end of the meeting.
• Marcy – The only thing is if we could limit it to extension of topics so we can limit what we already talked about so we don’t drag issues on and on.
• Jason – I will take this under advisement.
• Liz – Sorry I have a list of issues from a bunch of people. One thing is that a couple of different students came and talked to me about stuff going on in the library. Some students think it’s okay to have full conversations in the library and that is very disrespectful. The library is, it is really important to study without being interpreted. It is against the library policy and is rude. If there is anything SBA can do to enforce that it would be helpful. Additionally students have been saving spots in the library by setting stuff at carols the night before and leave their stuff there all day. This is unfair to other students. A number of students have mentioned that is a problem.
• Jason – For the first part, did any of these students go to the circulation desk?
• Liz – Yes, one of the people works at the desk and tells people to get off the phones, but if the person is upstairs they can’t really monitor what happens upstairs. It is a hassle to have to go up 4 or 5 times during their shift to correct people. I don’t think they are effective.
• Jason – Because that is what they are getting paid for, monitoring rules, then I think that is more of an issue for Dean Hinckley and out of our purview. I believe that is for the library staff to handle. I wouldn’t mind if they started taking names and submitting issues on students. I think that is the same as leaving items at the carols for holding, since they are supposed to clean up at night.
• Liz – I believe staff has limited ability to move their stuff during the day. Library staff has been told not to move people’s stuff. So unless they know a person has been gone a certain length of time, it is a difficult situation.
• Jason – Very well.
• Aaron – As a former library staff member, I know Cathy who is in charge of circulation desk was made aware of the situation today, so I would see if a change happens before taking any other actions. Additionally, we have been told to confiscate items if people are saving a seat, etc. I think there are procedures in place for that. I hope something happens now that the staff was made aware of that today.
• Jason – Anything else Liz?
• Liz – Yes. Sorry.
• Erin – Jason, sorry when you guys turn around to talk to Liz we can’t hear you at all.
• Jason – Sorry I will face the front.
• Liz – Three or four different students came to me about the budget meeting. They felt the time was really inconvenient to hold on Friday because events were occurring that time. They also felt some of the information was not as helpful as they liked because apparently there were a lot of examples of what not to do, but not a lot of examples of what to do correctly. There was a lot of talk about what to do or else you lose your funding, but there were also talks about general posts, so they don’t know what is required. Also, I was asked about last year being semester to semester budget, and now it is a year budget. I think it is difficult to ask organizations for a budget for April or May
without warning that they needed to plan events during summer. Giving them a week to come up with entire calendar of events for year is really difficult. SBA doesn’t even know what it is doing a year later, so it is tough to expect same from organizations.

- Brian B.– It is part of the reason why if you can’t nail down a date, then the month is fine. I was aware that it was a year last year as well. We can look into semester to semester but as far as I know it has always been a year.
- Jason – I am aware that it was always a year-long process too. You budget for a year out for all events. Anything else Liz?
- Liz – Yea this one is just me. The soda machines in the law school are always sold out when I go to get something. Since the café closes when it does it is tough to get caffeine after they close. I know we have six or seven of mountain dew or diet mt. dew and only one diet pepsi. That seems disproportionate. If we can balance it or get it refilled more often that would be really helpful.
- Jason – I will bring that up and see what we can do in terms of getting it filled.
- Kaitlyn – I keep getting comments, Brian, about when allocation of budgets will happen. Do we know?
- Jason – We were discussing that. All budgets are due Friday and we will try to make sure we have a budget in place for next Wed which unfortunately means we will have a special meeting to get budget done. Sorry, but we need to do that. Anything else?
- Aaron – So I assume this is a personal grievance, but hopefully I speak for more than myself. I know people saw an email from Professor Riesmeyer for people to attend the Inn and a follow up event saying it was an event for only Carlisle students. I don’t think that is the best thing for our school or our students. I think this should be open for members of the UP community if they want to drive down. Likewise I think any events up here should be open to people in Carlisle who want to come up here. I don’t know if there is anything we can do but I want it on the record.
- Jason – I spoke with her today and she is looking in to see if it is a hard and fast rule. You need to either live in Cumberland County or go to school there. Technically we all go to school in both. She will look into that today. Anything else? Moving on.

IV. THON Committee Approval Vote (5 min)

- Jason – here today we have Megan Janowiak to talk about Thon everyone. You should have emails about THON. I now turn it over to Megan.
- Megan – thanks Jason and thank you all for hearing this. We appreciate that SBA has taken thon for the past several years. We appreciate that you let us be under you. Last year we saw a massive growth in thon. We have a great quarter of students this year and we would like to separate from SBA. Thon has the most ridiculous amount of rules in and of itself, such as a quiz about the timelines and procedures. It is hard to have everything match up with SBA. It makes life easier for us and to allow thon to grow as an organization in the law school if we split. I really appreciate everything SBA has done for us and I still want to cosponsor Mr. Dickinson but we would like to expand.
• Aaron – While I understand that you have taken over and done quite well with Thon, how do you foresee in the future if the chair wasn’t such an energetic go getter, would it be better to still be split from SBA?

• Marcy – I think for next year myself and Dru miller would love to continue to head the organization, so it will be strong at least one more year.

• Megan - I think if someone comes here from undergrad who really loves THON then I think people get energetic about it. You only need two or three people who work hard. So I think there will be continuity here. You need a core group of good people and I think we have that.

• Jason – Any other questions? Seeing no questions, open for motions.
  o Liz – I move to vote for approval for thon committee
  o Jack – Second
  o All in favor, 21
  o All opposed, 0
  o PASS, 21-0

V. SBA Committee Chair Appointments (5 min)

• Jason – We are going to make a couple appointments and amend a couple appointments. I have made a mistake I put Emily ward as grad chair instead of Liliana Garcia. Here are the nominee for appointment:
  o Nailah Williams  UP social co-chair
  o Katie Devanney, Speakers Trust
  o Liliana Garcia, Graduation Chair
  o Seth Kandl, technology
  o Nicole Jensen, Mock trial
  o Vicki Thorsen, Social
  o Jacqueline Schweichler, social
  o Liz Gula, Social
  o Kelsey Kobil, Social
  o Garrett – Motion to vote
  o Alex - Second
  o Jason – Discussion? None so all in favor?
    o All in favor - 21
    o All opposed - 0
    o PASS, 21-0

VI. Speakers Trust Appointments (5 min)

• Jason I will appoint Katie Devanney as the Carlisle Speakers Trust Appointee. I would like to appoint one 1Ls in UP so we have continuity.
• Kaitlyn – Motion to approve Katie as ST
• Marcy – Second
• Jason – Discussion? None.
  o All in favor, 21
VII. Renew Ad-Hoc Transition Committee (5 min)

- Jason – This was tabled last week, or two weeks ago, to get more information on it and let people think a little more. So let’s get a motion on the floor then we will have discussion.
- Kaitlyn – I make a motion to renew it per a conversation with Dean Houck.
- Brian B. – Second.
- Discussion
  - Kaitlyn – we had a Dean’s meeting this week and Dean Houck is willing to meet on both campuses if people want this committee. If Carlisle wants this committee then why should we prevent them if they want another outlet? I don’t think we should suppress this discussion because a few people don’t think it makes sense.
  - Marcy – my issue isn’t with purpose but how it is set up to be. I felt everyone was free to join, but got 1 email about membership. So after the first email if you didn’t sign up you didn’t get any more notice of meetings. So I felt like that is the aspect that concerns me. People felt like it got to a point where they couldn’t contribute to it. I think we should have more than one Dean’s meeting between the two campuses per semester.
  - Erin – Hi, I think the reason we tabled last time so that the 1Ls could be a part of the discussion. Can we bring them up to speed?
  - Jason – Sure Erin would you like to do the honors?
  - Erin – I’m not the best person as I wasn’t here last year.
  - Garrett - I was, but I don’t like this committee so I won’t be that good at it.
  - Jason – The ad hoc committee was created last year to talk about the transition for the SBA; the urgency was a bit more because we were thinking about making 2016 class separate. People wanted more information then. However the transition as pushed back to 2018 and the need for the committee still remain. Students want SBA forum to ask questions. Some reason people wanted committee than open forum for more effective communication. Not much will get done if too many people are there. Is that accurate?
  - Marcy – Then under your description, last year was open. Would there have been a limit? That would be a concern to me.
  - Jason – There are no limits as far as I am aware, but it is very optimistic to think they will be on the committee. Many have an opinion, but not do something about it. That would be up to committee chairs.
  - Vicki – I have a question, is there a specific goal for the committee or just discussion.
Jason – The goal was a bit different for the 1st year because it was coming faster, so they were concerned about journals and moot courts would get split. That was a big concern. Also because we were discussing this around time of consolidation plan, people were wondering what was happening.

Vicki – Wanted to follow up, so is there a new direction it will take this year?

Jason – That will be up to the committee chairs to decide if they will want to take a new direction. We want a standing committee though

Liz – Just to follow up, I know last year when the committee created the bylaws it was specific in doing so the goals we set would be enacted until bylaws changed.

John – refresh my memories did the bylaws ever pass? I was in charge of them putting them together but I’m not sure if they were passed by general body.

Jason – I’m not sure either.

John – I don’t think we ever did because I have them. I have a draft, the draft I have puts us in good shape.

Liz – Never mind then. Aside from that I do have personal concerns with renewing the committee. In my personal opinion in I think a lot of these issues are more effectively considered in deans forums open to all students where they get their voices heard. I was on the committee and I know a lot of students who weren’t on the committee who felt like their voices weren’t represented because it was a closed committee. I think we should have open deans forums simulated. That way there is no question about so and so saying something different in Carlisle and up. I think it would be more effective tackle these especially considering the date was moved back. I don’t know what we can do as students beyond staying informed.

Jason – One second, I am going to give an order to stay on track. Please eliminate sidebars to stay on track.

Sarah – my only concern as a 1L is that we need education and let us 1ls know that there is a committee involved on this and get feedback from them. I would like to know what they feel before I vote.

Garrett- Motion to extend time by 5 min.

Second by Ailise.

Passes

Garrett – To reiterate if we have people interested, why would we limit this to a closed off meeting and when we have a dean available to students? Why would we provide a limited forum and get it second hand? A concern is that we don’t want an overwhelming medium, but I think it is better heated and open than playing telephone. By the end of it we are flooded with more questions than answers.
Alex – I think that as a 1L I would be cool with it being open, and our class would be much more open. Everyone no matter what campus can get involved. What did the committee do last year?

Jason – Did do a whole lot because it was comprised a lot of 2013 class who weren’t affected by it.

Brian – I just, I understand where you come from, but I don’t understand why it can’t be both. Having the transition committee gets it targeted. Emily and Liliana are the potential chairs have no problems sending information emails after every meeting.

Brian R. – I tend to agree with the open forum, but if we do the committee then we should record or do minutes to promote transparency. Information gathering is the best attribute for this thing.

Vicki – I heard someone say the committee gets a vote, but is there something we vote on?

Jason – No that is more for information.

John – I was on the committee last year, and yes I was frustrated, but on the other hand I thought here we are as SBA doing something. The faculty is all over the place. Yes I am optimistic about Dean Houck, but I think it is an important gesture to have something open and on paper. If issues do arise then it is preventative medicine at that point. I really heard no comment that convinced me that the kernel of the idea is a bad one. There are things that we could do better though, but nothing convinced me.

Jason – Dean Houck made an absolute strong commitment and reiterated numerous times, he would definitely go above and beyond to give information to all students. That is a strong commitment the dean has made.

Marcy – A procedural question. Is there any way we can approve the transition committee’s bylaws as soon as we approve committee?

Jason – I think we can make approval conditioned on having bylaws approved timely.

Jean – Just for clarification the dean supports the committee?

Jason – Yes.

Jean – With that being said, is there any way we can motion to table discussion another week?

Garrett – Second.

- Vote.
  - All in favor of tabling – 5 UP and 6 Carlisle.
  - All opposed – 8 UP 2 Carlisle.
  - PASS – 11-10, tabled.

VIII. Officer Reports
President (5 min)

- Sorry to drag this out but this is the first dean and faculty meeting
- Welcome all 1l comments. I would like to introduce the body and reps.
  i. Alex – Hi, I’m Alex and my favorite color is blue and I’m from Mississippi.
  ii. Vicki – My name is Vicki and my favorite color is turquoise.
  iii. Ailise – My name is Ailise, my favorite color is yellow and I’m from Chicago.
  iv. Sarah – My name is Sarah and I am from Atlanta, my favorite color is pink.
  v. Cynthia – My name is Cynthia and I am from Toronto, my favorite color is white.
  vi. Jean – Hi, my name is Jean, I’m from New Jersey and my favorite color is orange.
- Thank you guys again, congratulations on elections.
- More news about the transition, right now as most of you know there is the accreditation of the school being submitted to ABA. On Oct. 6 through 9 we will have sight visits conducted by looking at paperwork sitting in classes, etc. It is similar to what they did to determine if NY bar granted variances for simulated. Let’s inform all students of this to make sure no one is on emails, etc.
- Spring academic calendar should be coming out in October so be out for that. The final count of 1ls is 132. Make sure to introduce yourself and let them know who you are on the sba if they have questions.
- orgleaders@psu.edu is the listserv for all org leaders. That way any correspondence for only org leaders can be sent to them.
- The dean wants to hear from you and ways to get out and interact with students beyond just forums. We have a very open deal willing to talk to all students at any time. He believes, which is the truth, that students are lifeblood of university is.
- I spoke with Dean Gardner about getting students 10-15 more megabytes to DSL accounts. I will press him on this, but he said he doesn’t know why that can’t happen. Deleting emails every week is a problem.
- Efforts to comply with ADA requirements for student orgs are still going on. If you want to hold events off campus as student orgs you need to make sure that all your events are ADA accessible. We have 2 students who are disabled and we want them to be included in events that they and all students are paying for. I sent information to all org leaders about how to make it work for events. I can send that to anyone who wants it.
- Budget for the class of 2014 yearbook is in progress. I am talking to holly parish, Dave Armstrong about making that happen this year. If we have one then it would be a model for all yearbooks moving forward.
A word for 3ls, graduation is coming up, please join the graduation committee. Liliana and Ali would like your help. Grad decisions need to be made soon and they will need a lot of help.

I know someone was asking last meeting about alcohol on the busses and that was a flat no. so again no alcohol on busses.

Put this on calendar, for next Wednesday special meeting.

**Vice Presidents (10 min)**

This will be brief. I wanted to thank everyone for cooperation in org fair. It was a huge success in UP and I believe in Carlisle. If there were any concerns let matt or me know and we can work to better it next year

Also with regards to elections, thank you and contrast to everyone. The forum was quite entertaining. It was also one of the tightest and most competitive races we have ever seen so great job.

Make sure you remember barristers are October 4, three or four weeks away. Hopefully we see a lot of Carlisle people in UP. My couch is always open. I really focus on 1ls to come to these events

We need LLMS to run for elected positions, so we will probably need an appointment.

**Treasurer (5 min)**

So the first thing to do is talk about the budget committee. Matt is out of town and need to replace him down here in Carlisle on the committee. Megan Rooney has begrudgingly volunteered. Motion to remove Matt and replace with Megan

Second by Jack.

i. Discussion – none

ii. Approval – 20

iii. Reject – 0

iv. Abstain – 1

1. Pass, 20-0-1

Budget committee available Friday at 6pm work for everyone in UP?

i. Marcy – yes, so I can go to football on Saturday

ii. Garrett – yes, that is better because getting into the building on tailgate days is really difficult.

All right I will reserve the rooms for 6pm and let you know when it is finalized.

**PSU Senator (5 min)**

Hey everybody, so I finally did have a meeting this week. The senate meeting itself was about orientation and what I have to report on was the committee meeting. I am part of the educational equity and campus environment committee.

The committee is comprised of more than just this campus, so we have to discuss what to do with the different students. Specifically we talked about scholarship funds. Essentially, how to be fair to students at different
campuses. So the best way to do so was to determine the satellites qualifications based on extracurricular like internships, specialization, etc. and be more likely to receive scholarship funds. I voted not to treat campuses fairly in terms of just GPA. All but 2 people agreed with me.

- **ABA Representative (5 min)**
  - Nationally not too much going on with aba. The email I sent out is all I know. Separately we are on Oct. 9, there is a SBA meeting that evening, but someone reached out from Centre county bar assoc. and she is interested in starting a monthly trivia night with young lawyers. First is held at Dark Horse. That info will be forthcoming in the next week or two. Great way to mix and mingle with practitioners.
  - The first one will just test the waters. If that becomes regular we will want student orgs or social chair get involved. But as of now, just testing the waters.
  - Career service office will get involved as well. Should be a fun time and I encourage everyone to come out.

**IX. Adjournment**

- Garrett: Motion to adjourn.
- Bobby: Second.
- Vote:
  - No opposition UP
  - No opposition Carlisle
  - 21 Yes; 0 N0
- Meeting Adjourned.