

SBA meeting minutes September 18, 2008

Attendance:

Chris Malek
Omar Bradford
Jana Blount
Kim Salamone
Jen Pratt

Senators:

Matt Givens
Patrick Sullivan
Ashton Freeman
Sara Neugroschel
Julie Young
Sean Friedland
Mike Kuczynski
Ben Bean
Adam Goldman
Ian Kirtman
Chris Hahn

President's Report- Chris Malek

1. Spanish Classes
 - a. Met with head of HLSA, working w/them to get the project going
 - b. Provide 3 classes once a week during evenings
 - c. Survey sent out about student Spanish experience
 - d. Beginner, intermediate and advanced classes
 - e. Target date Oct 1
2. Alumni Association Retreat
 - a. Alumni initiative to reach out to alums and donate back,
 - b. 3L class gift, start collecting first day of spring semester. All donations made after graduation and counts as alum giving and helps ranking improve
 - c. Alumni event tentatively set for Feb 4th at the Rat, build pride and reach out to students and alums
3. Tailgates
 - a. Next Sept 27 v. UNC, 12 pm game. First tailgate successful.
 - b. Bagels and Beer
 - c. Ian taking over tailgates
4. Hope Auction
 - a. Donate time, solicit donations if you can
 - b. Try to make it

VP's Report—Omar

1. Retreat for SBA

- a. Ian coordinating retreat as chair of social committee. Need new ideas aside from bowling.
- 2. Community Service committee
 - a. Empowered youth event in the Grove. Sara and Omar went. Auction to benefit homeless/underprivileged youth in Miami area.
- 3. Survey committee
 - a. Comprehensive needs assessment. Pushed back a bit until after 1L's have had more exposure
- 4. Office Clean-up
 - a. Thanks from Michelle
- 5. Handbook
 - a. Made changes and had productive meeting with everyone's input
- 6. Increasing alum relations
 - a. Adam Goldman is working on it

Treasurer's Report

- 1. Current Balance
 - a. Around \$20,000; not sure bc its managed by the budget office.
- 2. Book exchange
 - a. Jen, Ashton and Brian work there
 - b. Window clings for \$1, help sell them to everyone else
 - c. Flash Drives for \$12, IGB
 - d. 106 small lockers left, no large and 28 medium left
 - e. possibly expanding book exchange to selling smaller office type supplies, senate input?
- 3. Receipts
 - a. Bring receipts, need to have them approved and signed off by Jenn

Speaker of the Senate

- 1. Dean's Cup
 - a. Claire Zovko and Ian Kirtman appointed for dean's cup chairs
- 2. Elections commissioners appointed
 - a. Matt Weintraub and Seth Feintuch assisting with elections

Historian

- 1. Pictures and awards—cleaned out office and app
- 2. CEPS student advisory board, want to increase rank thru improved clinical programs

AbA representative

- 1. Mental Health Awareness
 - a. ABA initiative, high levels of law school depression.
 - b. Collaborating with Dean of Students, SBA sponsored event during wellness weeeek in October. Professor Winnick will give a speech an SBA lunch with handouts on how to procure help. E-mail Jana if you want to assist

Old minutes approval: 9-4/08

Motion to approve—Adam

2d—Ian

New Business

1. Supreme ct Issues

- a. 2 justices approved nominated for chief justice.
 - i. Andy Lowenstein and Tommy Wang, both SBA experience, and JD/MBA 4L's.
- b. 5 minutes for discussion and questions
 - i. Pratt—explain roles of chief justice
 - ii. Malek—interpret the SBA constitution, when an issue arises make rulings on interpretation issues. Chief Justice has seniority on the ct as well as to decide who write the opinions, and assigns advisory opinions to other members
 - iii. Ian—when did Supreme Court last sit?
 - iv. Malek—Tommy and Andy's 1L year. Hope not to use the Supreme Court, but want the best people there
 - v. Omar—Andy helps behind the scenes and looks nice in a suit
 - vi. Malek—hardworking, president/ VP of many student organizations. Traditionally President nominates and approves, but since close relationship to both want senate votes first.
 - vii. Malek—Need move to nominate
 - viii. Aston—motion to nominate Andy Lowenstein
 - ix. Malek—yes or no vote for motion to approve
- c. Tabled from last week Supreme Court nomination for Allison Freidin
 - i. Allison—I sit on faculty appointments committee
 - ii. Malek—dedicated to the position, known for a long time, drive ad initiative. 2L so would support continuity for next year; lifetime appointment
 - iii. Givens—5 minutes for senate q's
 - iv. Omar—can you explain past experience and qualifications
 - v. Allison—went to UM for undergrad and law school, and dedicated to the school. Loved con law, American studies major in undergrad. Worked for Depoorter this past summer as research assistant, reading into complicated theories and articles in IP. Kept on as research assistance. Dedicated, responsible and driven.
 - vi. Jenn—can you share that you were o orientation committee as well as working full time
 - vii. Allison—put together all the pre-orientation events. I really appreciate this city and want them to appreciate it. Also worked for law firm and worked 2 full time jobs this summer. Have a full plate but can handle it.

- viii. Givens—discussion. Motion to Vote
- ix. Ian—motion
- x. Ashton 2d
- xi. Givens- step out. Approved.

2. Pass fail resolution

- a. Mike, Chris Malek and Kris nelson who is on academic stds committee
- b. Malek—resolution to change the current. Can take 2 pas/fails as 3L's. Below a C is a fail, and either get a P or F on transcript. Chris made resolution to pass fail honors, like ADR and lit skills. If you get an A in the class you get an H on their transcript and get the A. No detriment to GPA. Any questions, ask Kris. Voting today bc Kris going before academic stds committee next week. Read it and ask any questions. Just a resolution, not legislative bill.
- c. Ashton—Is this only A's or B+?
- d. Kris—want to take this in small steps and create additional policy in upcoming years, only for the A right now. No designations right now for any pass fails. Can book a class and get a P. More incentive to work harder for an A. No curve for upper level classes. So everyone would get the same grade. In line with Lit skills, ADR
- e. Sean—do profs know if youre taking their class pass fail?
- f. Kris—send Blind grading numbers to registrar and then they change it to the pass fail, profs submit actual grades.
- g. Sean—worried that profs opposed will
- h. Ian—Motion to vote
- i. Ashton—2d
- j. Givens—vote. Resolution passes will update.

3. Health Initiatives

- a. Help other organizations get healthier food.

4. Senate Handbook-- Ian

- a. Met and took the proposed handbook from 2 meetings ago, changing the tone so its more like guidelines and less binding.
- b. Givens—changes under committee appointments on page 2, number 2. Senators were allowed to submit objections to their committees, but took that out, don't want this process to be arbitrary. Any other questions?
- c. Givens-- Motion to approve.
- d. All in favor.

5. Student Questions—Givens

- a. Open floor to student questions

6. Final announcements

- a. Chris Hahn—elections dates are wrong on the sign up sheet.
- b. Malek—its Wednesday and Thursday, the days are correct the dates are wrong. Wed/Thurs 1st and 2nd
- c. Mike-- can Michelle e-mail times?
- d. Givens-- yes

- e. Malek—regarding elections. Worked with IT set up online on individual computers. Hope to get higher turn out

7. motion to adjourn

Sean

2d- Ashton