

Student Bar Association- Lewis & Clark Law School

General Assembly Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Saturday, November 17

Meeting Time: 10:30am-12:00pm

Meeting Location: Wood Hall, Classroom 8



-
1. Roll Call10:30-10:35
 2. Group Recognitions.....10:35-11:00
 - a. See SBA bylaws § 7.02
 - b. Time Allotment: 2 min presentation; 2 min questions from GA; 2 min GA discussion/vote
 - c. CATS
 - Coalition Advocating Transportation Solutions
 - Trying to restart – has existed, not last year
 - Professor Rholf
 - Goal: decrease transportation greenhouse gas emissions from L&C – encourage change in transportation, increase walking/biking/car pools
 - Motion to recognize
 - Motion seconded
 - Motion approved ☺
 - d. CVRA
 - Crime Victims’ Rights Alliance – has existed, no one took board last year
 - Education/awareness about crime victims’ rights
 - Motion to recognize – talk to Stephen
 - Motion seconded
 - Motion approved ☺
 - e. Space Law
 - Professor Parry + 17 names on interest list
 - Explore current national and international state – just had the first UN meeting on this issue – want to open the dialogue with an eye toward the future
 - Work with ILS & IP issues
 - Have looked at other schools’ programs
 - Motion to recognize
 - Motion seconded
 - Motion approved ☺
 - f. Education Law Society
 - Used to exist on campus, lapse of a year or two
 - Want to look at a wide range of educational inequality issues through policy lens
 - Professor Johannsen
 - Motion to recognize
 - Motion seconded
 - Motion approved ☺
 3. Mandatory Motions to Remove Members.....11:00-11:10
 - a. See SBA bylaws §§ 1.04(f)-(g)
 - Vote to keep

4. Treasurer Update.....11:10-11:20
- a. IBC Travel Funds Findings & Recommendations
 - Under existing guideline we have – giving everyone the max still keeps us \$1000 under budget – going forward trying to figure out how to better distribute that money
 - 5 pending travel requests
 - Going strictly by the max of the Bylaws and then redistributing leftover fairly at the end (hopefully giving everyone more at the end of the semester/year)
 - Motion to give 5 pending requests the minimum amount as recommended by the IBC (total approval \$1399)
 - Motion seconded
 - Motion approved
 - b. See spreadsheet shared by Britt Ryan via GoogleDrive
5. Current Business.....11:20-11:55
- a. LC SALDF Presentation
 - Requested an additional \$50 for lunch time budget for vegan food because it's more expensive & have a higher attendance at events
 - Have received \$200 for the past two years
 - Have been trying to be mindful of the amount of the events
 - Fine within the \$150 when co-hosting, only need the increase for their own events
 - Have come in every year to petition for this
 - Option to write SALDF into the IBC guidelines so they don't have to do this yearly (with some caveats about attendance etc. to be discussed at a later date)
 - Motion to approve for the year → IBC write procedure
 - Motion seconded
 - Motion approved
 - b. Bylaws Amendments
 - Move to adopt § 8.02
 - Motion seconded
 - Motion approved
 - §§ 2.05 & 6.04 edited for January
 - c. Proposed Code – Special Committee Update
 - Comments from SBA received positively by the faculty
 - Revised/implemented feedback and returned to us
 - Added procedure for modifying code (Section F) – must have SBA input with cyclical feedback system
 - Conduct code (Section B(3)(c) and (d), B(2)): silent/symbolic protest; “move to back of the room” – accessibility issues
 - Motion to approve pending revisions to B(2), B(3), and F
 - Motion interrupted
 - Motion to approve Committee's recommendation of approving code
 - Motion seconded
 - Motion approved
 - d. ABA LSD Letter to US Senate Judiciary Committee
 - i. Continue discussion from October meeting
 - Brought up to alumni board – expressed concern with it
 - Forwarded them the letter – more supportive because it makes no personal attacks, focuses on legal and substantive issues
 - Alumni board would like to help advise these decisions as well
 - Suggestion to have approval in Bylaws – by exec board minimally, potentially GA

6. Upcoming Business.....11:55-12:00
- a. External Committee Reports – due Saturday, November 17 @ 10:30am
 - i. Academic Enhancement Committee (Leanna Erickson & Stephen Thorpe)
 - ii. Admissions Committee (Jon Bui & Vanessa Aaron)
 - iii. Alumni Association Board of Directors (Max Yoklic & Benjamin Whistler)
 - iv. American Bar Association (Caroline Brinster)
 - v. Board of Trustees (Seamus O'Connor)
 - vi. Curriculum Committee (Kellen Brockman)
 - vii. Faculty Committee (Anne Cox & Reed West)
 - viii. Faculty Appointments Committee (David Sorensen & Chloe Johnson)
 - ix. Natural Resources Committee (Jesse Miles & Carleigh McMahon)
 - x. Transportation and Parking Committee (Natalie Barringer)
 - b. Remaining Events
 - i. Finals Table?
 - Stress relief table
 - Motion to send budget issue to IBC for vote
 - Motion seconded
 - Motion approved
 - ii. Post-Finals Event?
 - Leftover budget
 - Suggestion to do kickoff party instead of post-finals
 - c. Next Meeting
 - i. Saturday, January 12 @ 10:30am-12:00pm, Room TBD
 - Note – want to talk about minority groups wanting more SBA attendance at meetings
7. Adjourn.....12:00

Academic Enhancement Committee (Leanna Erickson & Stephen Thorpe)

No report necessary at this time.

Admissions Committee (Jon Bui & Vanessa Aaron)

I don't think we have too much to report other than we had a training meeting on October 30th, there have been a small number of applications that have come in so far, additional admissions committee meetings will be forthcoming as the season ramps up...likely in January, maybe December.

Alumni Association Board of Directors (Max Yoklic & Benjamin Whistler)

- Students encouraged to attend upcoming Alumni Events
 - o Alumni Happy Hour - November 27, 5:00 pm @ McMenamin's Tavern & Pool
 - o 2019 Distinguished Honors Dinner – February 2, 5:30 pm @ Castaway
 - § Distinguished Graduates: Judith Johansen ('83), Stephen Manning ('01)
 - § Rising Star: Elizabeth Savage ('14)
 - § Community Spirit: Karin Powers ('11)
- The Development Office is partnering with the Student Philanthropy Council for the 2018 Day of Giving
 - o Tuesday, November 27, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
 - o Write a thank you card to our donors and get coffee and donuts
- The Alumni Board of Directors expressed interest in the Letter re: Kavanaugh
 - o Coby Dolan (Earthjustice Senior Legislative Counsel) provided feedback on the letter
- The Alumni Board has shown interest in developing student access to alumni and hopes to get SBA support
 - o The SBA Representatives recommend creation of an Alumni Engagement Committee

American Bar Association (Caroline Brinster)

I finished tabling for the semester and I did a total of 5 tabling events. I'm still ranked in the top 5, at #3 in the country for the most *new* members added to the ABA this year; 172 students from our law school have joined this year as of this last week.

I think this is a pretty high amount, considering that the 1L Fall 2018 entering class is 167 students. Moreover, I cannot sign up students who have already signed up in the past, since they are technically members of the ABA already. My target goal this year was to sign up as many students as there were in the 1L class, assuming that all of the 2L, 3L, and 4L class had signed up when they first came to law school. So YAY!

Board of Trustees (Seamus O'Connor)

The Board of Trustees held their Fall board meeting on October 25 & 26th. Seamus O'Connor and Stacie Damazo represented the SBA. In addition to attending, Seamus participated in the breakout sessions for the Academic Affairs Committee and the Buildings & Grounds Committee; likewise, Stacie participated in the Campus Life Committee.

Some highlights from the meeting include:

1. The Board approved a new institution-wide strategic plan. Available at https://www.lclark.edu/strategic_plan/ the plan highlights the steps necessary to achieve a vision of becoming a leading liberal arts college with a national and international reputation and

two superb professional schools with reputations that enhance the whole. The plan includes six aspirational goals that will lead to that result.

2. Dean Johnson presented several times during the meetings. She included some details about the incoming class and Oregon bar exam results from the past year. Facts about new class:
 - a. 22% self-identified students of color;
 - b. 60% are female;
 - c. Average age is 26;
 - d. 66% from out of state.

The July 2018 Oregon bar exam passage rate for first-time takers from L&C was 78% (statewide average of 78%). The employment rate for the 2018 class is 21.44% higher than the 2017 class at a similar point in time.

3. A final highlight was a set of walking tours that the Board of Trustees took of the campuses. Apparently it is rare for the Trustees to walk through all of the campuses. They reviewed deferred maintenance at the undergrad and grad school campuses. They also spent time at the Law School campus looking at the recent capital improvements performed.

Curriculum Committee (Kellen Brockman)

Not much of a curriculum committee update, this week we reviewed and approved updates to the distance learning policy, and a new course: Faculty Directed Reading Group focused on criminal law, it will be 1 credit, highly specialized, and likely offered as a spring course (I think Spring 2020 at the earliest).

The other curriculum committee member had to resign due to work conflicts, and I would appreciate another member! The commitment is pretty low (an hour meeting every other week, currently Thursdays at 12pm), and the faculty really does appreciate our input and comments. I'm happy to answer any questions about what we do or the level of effort required, this is my second year on the committee.

A reminder: if you hear of any curriculum issues that need to be addressed, feel free to email me, I am happy to present them to the committee.

Faculty Committee (Anne Cox & Reed West)

Below, my notes from the faculty meeting. Let me know if you have any questions. Hope you're both getting the rest and recovery you need--so sorry you're sick!

1. \$500,000 grant from the Sunderland Foundation, and a \$100,000 grant for scholarship fund from somewhere else, I missed where
2. Honor Code will hopefully be voted on at the December faculty meeting
3. NW re-accreditation visit went well! Dean Johnson pleased that neither the law or grad schools were mentioned at all by the accreditors--apparently that's a good thing? These were the re-accreditors for the entire institution of Lewis & Clark, NOT specifically for the law school
4. Strategic plan: We'll be hiring a consultant to help develop the strategic plan. Dean Johnson will be meeting with the President of the university to figure out a way for the institution as a whole, not just the law school, to cover a significant portion of the cost of the consultant.
5. Toobin lecture tonight has more than sold out. Staff NOT attending lecture have been asked to leave campus at 4 pm this afternoon to maximize parking availability for guests.

6. Higgins Distinguished Visitor: Prof. Klonoff recommends a ridiculously well-qualified health care professor at Yale (I lost track of his list of her extensive qualifications!) Her name is Abbe R. Gluck (I googled to make sure I got the spelling right.) Prof. Klonoff especially excited because he wants a woman in this position (which starts this fall), and wants to revitalize health law, which has been mostly unrepresented at the school for awhile. Faculty seems on board with Prof. Klonoff's recommendation of Prof. Gluck--no one makes any objections or suggestions.
7. Prof. Parry: asking for a faculty volunteer to give a 45 minute lecture to an alumni reunion the weekend of June 21st. No one volunteers; he jokes whatever faculty misses the next faculty meeting will be assigned the task.
8. Curriculum committee--Profs. Parry, Loren, and Blum: the Curriculum Comm. is concerned that Lawyering is "barely making it" in terms of staffing, and also concerned about having enough staffing for the following upper-division classes: advanced writing classes (such as Lawyering II and III), Contract Drafting, Veterans Law, Wills & Trusts, bar prep, CJRC. Of particular concern: writing. Curriculum Comm. concerned that an increasing number of students arrive at law school without sufficient writing skills or writing experience. Committee believes we could fill Lawyering II and III classes if we offered them. Judith retiring, and Toni already retired but is still teaching, but will stop teaching at the end of this year--so we'll be missing 1.75 lawyering teaching positions in the fall.
9. Next year Prof. Bushaw will be on sabbatical; Prof. Belooof will be retiring at the end of this year.

THE BUDGET

1. Prof. Loren says that we're about to talk about regarding the budget is HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL--"our competitors would really like this information!" and Dean Johnson re-emphasizes this.
2. Budget committee running multiple projections of possible tuition increases and their compounding affect on the deficit over the next 5ish fiscal years.
3. Many faculty raise concerns about rising student debt.
4. Profs. talk about the law school's lack of a consistent vision for its future, that this budget conversation is similar every year, but without a resolution as to...Is our goal to be an innovative risk-taking leader in the field? Or is our goal to just get by, with focus on fiscal conservatism? Several profs feel the school has never made a clear decision on this distinction, this goal-setting. Dean Johnson and Prof. Loren say that's part of why we're hiring a consultant to work on our strategic plan.
5. Prof. Steverson talks about the need for data about students and recent grads: salary stats, perhaps debt stats including law debts combined with undergrad and other debt--and any correlations between these salary and debt stats with stats about whether students were full or part time... Prof. Steverson concerned that there's a focus on the ideal future students without looking at how current students and recent grads are doing, and using that current student and grad data to inform planning student services for the future, and thus better informed budget decisions.
6. Strong faculty objections to proposal to reduce contribution to Classroom Law Project by \$12k--moral objections (importance of civics education for children and the community), concerns about damage to the L&C Law reputation in Oregon legal community. Could we, instead of paying for CLP's rent, could we have them move here on campus rent-free? Professors who've been at the school for a while raise the analogy to the closing of the L&C Legal Defense Fund several years ago: although closing the clinic saved vast amounts of money (hugely more than the \$12k savings here by reducing CLP funding), faculty say that the closing of the clinic cost our law school in community and regional reputation, so much so that our reputation still has not

fully recovered. Some faculty think this is a fair comparison; others point out that the CLP will not close without our funds. Notably it is a much smaller amount of money we'd be saving by reducing our CLP contribution than the amount we saved by closing L&C Legal Defense Fund.

Faculty Appointments Committee (David Sorensen & Chloe Johnson)

Over the past several weeks, we have had three candidates visit the campus to tour, sit down with the faculty, give a job talk, and engage with the students. Each of these three candidates has a strong background and unique career path, and feedback gathered from faculty, staff, and students has generally been positive across the board. Ideally by the end of Saturday (11-17-18) we will send out a link to the job talks so that any student who has been unable to attend them is able to view and give informed feedback. Moving forward, we will continue to collect the thoughts of the campus, have a committee meeting to discuss the visits and the results, and deliver our thoughts to the broader faculty meeting.

Natural Resources Committee (Jesse Miles & Carleigh McMahon)

Talking Points of Committee Meeting

1. CALS Update
 - a. 26th Annual Conference in Chicago
 - i. Next year conference will be at the Portland Art Museum
2. Discussion of new Animal Litigation Clinic
 - a. CALS wants to start very small, with only a director, paralegal, and a maximum of 5-6 students
 - b. Clinic would work on cases of farmed animals
3. New Proposals for LLM seminar + distance learning LLM updates
 - a. Committee agrees number of credits should be the same for in person LLMs and distance learning LLMs
 - b. Possible re-construction of LLM seminar
 - i. Make it focus on more modern and current topics in environmental law
4. Wyss Scholar updates
 - a. Current recipient is working on an outreach program for state college students in the Western states that have a background in Environmental Sciences and Studies
 - i. Talk about environmental law careers and how the transfer is from STEM fields to the field of law
5. Faculty Hire updates
 - a. Talked about the appointments Comm bringing back the 3 candidates. All would add to the environmental law program, all diverse, with interesting backgrounds
 - i. Duane Rudolph
 - ii. Lisa Benjamin
 - iii. Mohamed R. Badissy

Overall Summary:

The meeting with the NRC was mainly comprised of discussion of the possible new animal law clinic. The committee invited Pamela to speak on the subject as well as be involved in a Q&A within the committee. Overall, there seemed to be a large concern for overlap with the other clinics at the school and the pedagogical benefit it would provide to the students. Pamela

emphasized that the clinic would work on cases of farmed animals in the context of animal law litigation. There was also some concern for what would happen to the clinic as well as the new hire after year three, which is when the funds from the grant will run out. Most of the committee seemed to agree that pedagogically, one expanded clinic makes more sense.

The committee also discussed the LLM seminar for distance learning LLMs, there was round support for allowing the same number of credits for in person LLMs and distance LLMs in the seminar. There was also discussion on re-thinking the seminar, making it more relevant to current Environmental Law topics. The Wyss Scholar was also discussed. The committee reported on the inaugural recipient, they are working on an outreach program for state college students in the Western states that have a background in Environmental Sciences and studies. He would bring them here for a two-day visit and talk about environmental law careers with various students, faculty, and staff.

Finally, the committee discussed the new faculty hire. The committee is very excited that all three candidates are diverse and come from interesting pedagogical backgrounds. They are hoping to come to a decision on who to hire within the next meeting.

Transportation and Parking Committee (Natalie Barringer)

No new information to share at this time.