

SBA October Meeting Agenda

Saturday, October 10th, 2020

10:30 AM -12:00 PM via Zoom

Special Guests:, John Ficklen, Debika Finucane, Elias Pete

Meeting Called to Order: 10:33 A.M.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:19 P.M.

Notes in purple by Secretary Natalie Hollabaugh

Agenda

Roll Call

1. Secretary will take attendance via Zoom

Welcome 1L Reps!- 1L's Introduce Themselves

Amanda welcomes new folks and gives a nice overview of our role and the unique position we have to have voting members on different committees.

1. Blue Pod
 - a. Radhika Shah
 - i. Said hi!
 - b. Elise Howard
 - . Said hi!
 - c. Blue Pod Best Pod- Many in the chat.
2. Red Pod
 - . Zach Martinson
 - . Reiterates Caroline! Hello- super stoked! Don't have particular red pod issues besides passing contracts!!
 - a. Caroline Shen
 - . Said hi! Happy to be the pod rep and glad that Zach and I are in different halves of the same pod. Will help with communication and teamwork.
3. Orange Pod
 - . Maral Deyrmenjian
 - . Reiterates Emily, excited to work together. Name is pronounced phonetically as "Marl" (Also made a cute other half joke)
 - a. Emily Warchot
 - . Happy to be here! Orange pod has a lot of things to say!
4. Purple Pod
 - . David Mathews
 - . We have a lot of the same thoughts as Emily
 - a. Neeka Dabiri
 - . Excited to be here and looking forward to making some changes with everyone!

5. Green Pod
 - . Zoe Saccio
 - . Excited to be here!
 - a. Frank Morton-Park
 - . Excited to be a part of it, green pod, looking forward to working with folks
6. Share attendance policies for new members
 - . Natalie: 2 excused, 1 unexcused. Don't need to disclose personal details for missing meeting.
 - a. Contact Natalie or SBA@lclark.edu before your absence, or as soon after as possible & we will happily accommodate folks- it's an unusual year!

1L Business

1. Space/time for 1L's to present any issues to the general assembly
 - a. Foundations

New Logo

2. We have a new exciting logo that represents collaboration & nature!
 - a. Thanks to Laura Mark for creating the logo and Cole Downey, VP of Programming for working with her on this venture
 - b. Cole shared our very cute new logo and the graphics are available in the drive for folks who want/need to make graphics.
 - c. The old logo was outdated and gave a different vibe with what we were going for! We are happy with the new logo and happy to pay someone for the labor it took to create it!

Student Organization Activations/ Reactivations

Jewish Legal Society

- a. Elias (Eli) Pite is here to present
- i. Shouts out Blue Pod (wise choice)
- ii. He was a member of the Jewish fraternity at U of O and that sparked his personal interest in reactivating the org on campus
- iii. Amazing opportunity to provide a social, cultural, education, and religious network for students and faculty here at the school
- iv. Due to online schooling it is a particularly important time to create as many connection opportunities for students as possible
 1. The social and cultural aspect alone has been very empowering and impactful in my daily life
 2. The culture connection and discussions of Judaism right now is important
- v. Professor Klonoff will be the Faculty Adviser
- vi. Shares mission statement:
- vii. Libby also shared with Eli that Solomon's Legacy has worked with the society and Eli wants to rekindle that connections and speaks to the fact that in reestablishing this organization it provides a unique way to connect with students but could also serve as a networking pipeline for students who are 3Ls and transitioning into the legal community which could be very valuable
- viii. Eli has connections with some Jewish community leaders in Eugene and Portland and wants to create connections with other law schools with Jewish groups (U of O and Willamette)
 - b. Any Questions?
 - . Planning to coordinate with national orgs?
 1. Interest right now is more towards greater PDX area or other established student groups in Oregon. He has other regional connections but I definitely think at the onset its most important to see what members want connections to look like

- i. Political aspect to the org?
 - 1. Sees it more as a professional or social network far more than political ideology. Thinks it is important to talk about political and social implications Jews face in the legal and social community because of systemic oppression of the Jewish community but providing the opportunity for folks in the Org itself to pursue that
- a. Org won't take a particular stance
- c. Discuss and **vote**
- . YES- 34, NO- 0, ABSTAIN- 0 PASSES
- i. Amanda informs about student org funds!
- ii. SBA will reach out to help with Student Org resources
- 3. Sunrise Society
 - . John Ficklen is here to present (Rebecca Atwood is also involved but not available today)
 - . Political action group committed to bringing about the Green New Deal and in the process bring about an economic benefit to all cultural groups
- i. MO: Political action ranging from postcard parties and teens in swing states up to high profile actions like sit ins (Not envisioning anything quite like that for awhile)
- ii. There is a pretty good amount of interest from other 1Ls
 - 1. Mainly all the interest is around the fact that with the slog of first year courses people are looking for something socially or spiritually rewarding
 - 2. Enough interest to make it a worthwhile endeavour
- iii. Robert Doeckel will be the Faculty Adviser
 - a. Been in communication with the PDX hub and has been creating relationships with them and next step is reaching out to affinity groups to get the ball rolling and find out how to support.
 - b. Questions:
 - . Akriti can share affinity priorities with John so send her an email
 - c. Discuss and **vote**
 - . 35 YAY, 0 NAY, 1 ABSTAIN (potty break)

Committee - General Assembly Updates

- 1. Updates shared at this time
 - a. Faculty Committee Update
- i. Meeting 10.09.20
- ii. Sara Slabisak shares update:
 - 1. Faculty met yesterday and discussed mostly scheduling and grading.
 - 2. They have been in the process of revamping audio in the classrooms since it has been difficult for remote students
- a. Classroom 2 is the incubator/test classroom for audio
- b. Since that has gone well they have ordered those materials for every classroom
- c. Not sure on a timeline yet
- i. Ordered everything Wednesday
 - 3. **JB Transition Plan**
 - . Faculty are creating a plan to help fill the void until they find someone permanent to replace JB
 - . Can we really replace JB :(
 - a. Volunteer faculty to step in and help
 - 4. Creating some kind of election programming for election week
 - . They are looking for ideas!

- . Their vision is to host a series of talks with professors. For example a topic: What happens if a Prez won't relinquish power?
- a. Send Sara any ideas on the kinds of things you would like to see
- . She isn't 100% sure of scope yet but open to ideas!

5. Breaks/Scheduling

- . Undergrad campus got rid of spring break
- a. Law has decided not to
- . Financial aid was one of those reasons
- b. Fall Break
- . They debated between 11/2 and 11/3 and 10/26 and 10/27. They are trying to figure out how to do makeup classes.
- i. They are worried about the makeup class burden on all
- ii. Sara S. will keep us updated

6. Grading

- . Most law schools are doing grades
- . Dean Johnson is in an ABA law schools group
- a. Some are doing an optional credit/no credit system
- . Faculty seem pretty solid that there will not be a mandatory or default credit/no credit system
- b. U of O has changed their curve
- . From B to B+
- c. Proposal at LC to do that for smaller classes at least
- . No decision made yet
- d. Generally they are working on this. Sara S encouraged them to make decisions sooner since people rely on them.

7. Petitions

- . Really don't like them
- . Lots of chat dialogue re: petitions
 - 1. If they aren't implementing policies that are beneficial what are the options?
 - 2. Petitions make their lives easier to an extent
- a. Instead of getting a ton of emails they get one nice petition with statements
 - 3. Acknowledgment in the past couple of years what people needed to do was petition because the school wasn't coming up with forward thinking policies
- a. Maybe a better system is to email Sara or Amanda or others through a conduit that tends to help
- b. Libby is hesitant to take on the role as intermediary and rightly so
- c. Amanda: We're working on this communication and being solution oriented

8. Questions For Sara

- . Was Otter.ai and the issues with it brought up this meeting?
- . Sara shares Otter is not ideal, she is a note taker
- i. Now there are notetaker for folks with accommodations b/c of the Otter issues
- ii. Amanda: DALSA also brought these concerns before Dean Davis
 - 1. Note taker budget went to Otter.ai
 - 2. Pilot program between other LC campus presidents to have meetings re: the accommodations process LC wide
- . Outdated
- a. Possibly not in compliance
- b. Def not ADA best practices

- i. Many concur

iii. Caroline: The Ethics Committee could work on Honor Code provisions to prevent sharing of Otter.ai transcripts

1. This was also brought up by DALSA

a. Does faculty seem interested in curve change especially given U of O's change?

. Sara sounds like they are inclined to do it and the Q is is this moving forward or permanent?

i. Sara mentions the job market and competitiveness being a factor

b. Is the hesitation re: petitions only related to grading petitions?

. Sara says yes

iii. Faculty Driven Law School & General Faculty Thoughts

1. We have a faculty driven law school and a faculty that really values academic freedom

. Amanda will try to stay solution oriented and feels we are getting faculty to the table now so we have to figure out how to approach it

. Lots to unpack!

i. Need to meet with folks

a. Mary: The faculty don't look like us or in some cases come from similar backgrounds and that can be frustrating

. There is a lot of institutional knowledge we lack and we're hoping to be more collaborative in these discussions

i. Trying to remember they want us to help and want us to succeed

b. Board of Visitors Update

. Meeting 10/9/20 (Natalie thinks she got that right, sorry yall)

i. Annamarie provides update

1. General

. Sort of felt like a commercial for LC

2. Covid

. Only one law student got sick in the spring

. They are proud of that

i. The law student who had it is less proud as she types these notes....

a. 1 case of Covid in the dorms so far

. They test undergrad students and the water on undergrad campus

b. Dean Johnson said if we had "lots" of cases we would go remote

3. 1L Class

. Biggest in a number of years

. School used to take bigger classes but after the 2008 recession shrunk class sizes to remain responsible/forward thinking re: the local job market

i.

a. Strongest academically in quite some time

b. None have dropped out!

c. Dean Johnson has had 1Ls coming to her with concerns/feelings of isolation and she is working with them

4. Graduate Job Market

. Devra gave a sort of positive update on jobs

. Class of 2019 is doing well

i. Class of 2020 is 59% employed (down 9% from 2019 and 4% from 2018)

5. Events

. They cancelled a fall gala due to Covid

6. Budget

. Is tight

a. Law school "skates by" each year

b. Pointed out that U of O is funded differently and gets some funds from undergrad campus, LC does not

- . Maybe larger 1L class helped offset that?
- c. Tuition isn't going down
 - 7. **Questions** (answered by multiple folks)
 - . Covid testing or quick testing machines? Was under the false impression those were going to possibly be available on the law campus
 - . Justification seems to be we're not a residential campus
 - i. Folks have inquired about CARES funding
 - ii. Students get emails and we feel like they apply to us on the law campus and they don't
 - c. Board of Trustees Update
 - . Eliza Silverman provides update:
 - 1. Met with head counsel of LC to discuss budget after last BOT meeting
 - . We fund ourselves
 - a. One budget from all three campuses
 - . Different from some places
 - b. Room and Board was a big budget hit
 - . Not wanting to be alarmist and close the dorms
 - d. Budget Committee Update
 - . Jessica Bowman provides update:
 - 1. Survey sent out to student body on 10.08.20 with meeting agenda
 - 2. Jessica meets with them on the 16th
 - 3. Gather opinions on how the school is spending their money!
 - . Please do the survey!
 - e. Note: All of this discussion sparked a larger conversation re: Covid Testing which is below
 - . Undergrad prez talked to LC Prez WW to open up testing for law and grad students
 - 1. They have pretty good testing and water testing at undergrad
 - i. Amanda said a lot of nice things and had beautiful words about getting a better picture working with other campuses
 - 1. Natalie should have taken better notes but trust it was great
 - ii. Testing feels a little moot now which is frustrating for people
 - 1. Spring term?
 - 2. Keep pressing them because if there is a spike (there's one now in Oregon) we need folks to have access to testing even during breaks
 - iii. Question: Is there a reason for delayed info? Like if a student tests positive a delay in hearing about it?
 - 1. Speculations about business and disruption
 - 2. They want students to report but....

Executive Board Updates

- 1. Updates shared at this time
 - a. Eden Taylor - VP of Communications
 - i. Introduce Title IX Coordinator, Casey Beiberich
 - 1. She's great! Willing to help talk to people
 - 2. Eden connected her to two groups so far
 - 3. If you want to connect let her know!
 - 4. Eden shared a link for her info
 - a. <https://www.lclark.edu/live/news/43401-get-to-know-associate-dean-of-equity-and-inclusion>
 - b. <https://www.lclark.edu/live/news/43920-revised-title-ix-regulations>
 - c. <https://www.lclark.edu/about/equity-and-inclusion/staff/>

- b. Cole Downey - VP of Programming
 - . October Event
 - 1. Social distance scavenger hunt!
 - 2. October 31 around 6-9 pm, times being finalized
 - 3. Sara is riddle master
- i. Community Meal Events
 - 1. October 18th Annamarie set these up- they're great!
 - 2. Great chance to sit around and talk with people
 - 3. Cole will be there
 - 4. Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/binzVzsoHA8PBWff9>
- c. Sage Mist - VP of Student Life
 - . 1L Elections
 - 1. We have new 1Ls! 10 of them! They rock! Welcome!
- d. Akriti Bhargava - VP of Equity & Inclusion
 - . Meetings
 - 1. LC E&I has a biweekly meeting every Friday together that was 9/25
 - 2. Chatted about WW email's to campus which outlined some of the institutional commitments towards E&I
 - 3. A lot of those commitments have to do with increasing the # of diverse students and moving money to scholarships and making new funds
 - . One of the things Akriti pointed out is structural change Rather than just increasing the number of students walking in....If you're not changing the structure you're just perpetuating harm for the folks that come in
 - a. We all cheered for Akriti in the chat
 - 4. We're working together on institutional changes and how to open up resources
- i. Community Standards Form
 - 1. Closed in early September and are on the way to LSET
 - . LSET helps increase bandwidth
 - 2. Hoping to have draft for our law school towards the end of October
- ii. Affinity Org Priorities
 - 1. Very close to being done compiling
 - 2. Will work with the SBA E&I committee to figure out how to make tailored plans for these orgs to help and support those goals and priorities
- iii. LC Law DEI
 - 1. Next LC DEI Committee meeting is 10/30 and the affinity org priorities are the focus
- e. Mary Stites - Treasurer
 - . Feedback from the budget allocation meeting?
 - 1. Money!
 - 2. Thanks Eden, Kelsey, Amanda and Cole for the allocation meeting
 - 3. We're probably not gonna spend all of our money its been difficult getting groups to spend their money
 - 4. Flag for a revenue convo with Cole, i.e we don't have revenue this year and normally we do....
 - i. Generally a lot of difficulty with the whole new group merch thing
 - 1. Stand behind that policy- our tuition dollars shouldn't be spent on tshirts
 - . Might open the floodgates for pissed off people/groups
- f. Natalie Hollabaugh - Secretary

- . Rules Committee is still looking for two folks so we can update bylaws! Sign up!
- g. Amanda Pham Haines
- . Newsletter - Jennifer K & APH
 - 1. Wants to send between Monday-Wednesday
 - 2. We need to come up with parameters and APH is working with Jennifer on that
 - 3. Reach out to SBA account and it would be nice to have different folks working on it for info and perspectives
- i. SBA Resources
 - 1. [SBA Notes Template](#)
- . Please "Make a Copy" or download it so the original doc remains unchanged (unless there are errors, you can fix those)
- a. If this is helpful for you awesome! If not that's okay. Just try to cover some of the standard things that are in this doc. I ask that you post notes for the exec board and the committee so info can be passed down.
- i. We want that institutional knowledge yall!
- ii. Dean's Johnson & Davis - Elections
 - 1. How to support students before & through
- . Sorta touched on this earlier, reach out with ideas/thoughts
 - 2. Proactive mental health resources
- iii. Committee Leads - contact APH with items you are working on & when you meet
 - 1. Will put into SBA@lclark.edu calendar
 - 2. Not because she doesn't trust you but because we need the visual to keep track!

Committee Tasks

- 1. APH would like to debrief committees on upcoming tasks:
 - a. Elections
 - b. IBC
 - c. Rules
 - i. Will work on bylaw updates and emergency provisions once we have a complete committee
 - d. Student Life
 - e. E&I
 - f. Ethics
- 2. If you have still not signed up for a committee please do so at this moment!

Outline Bank

- 1. SBA account receiving more questions about Outline Bank
 - a. Alyssa Salstrom reached out to partner on this project with SBA
 - b. If anyone has outlines willing to submit, please do!
 - c. Discussion on purging some outlines from earlier years
 - d. Discussion on how to solicit outlines from students
 - i. We're gonna create an outline committee
 - ii. We are going to do raffles for outlines for incentives!

Office Hours

- 1. What are they?

- a. Space to meet with students. Most of the time students do not come but that is likely due to a lack of publicity/promotion on APH part
- b. Idea came to me over the summer bc I wanted to be proactive about creating community spaces virtually
- i. Did not succeed... yet!
- c. Ideas to get more attendance?
 - 2. Ideally at least 2-3 SBA reps sign up and that way even if other people do not show up you can connect for a bit and hangout outside of our meeting time
 - . You could even schedule it with other members of committees you are on so if no students show up you can talk shop!
- 3. Sign Up Sheet
- . [HERE](#)
- a. PLEASE SIGN UP YALL!

Meeting with the Deans- Update from E Board

- 1. Overview
 - a. When was the meeting, with whom, and for what purpose
- 2. Grading
 - . Considerations, ideas, Dean's thoughts
- 3. Breaks
 - . Considerations, ideas, Dean's thoughts
- 4. Tuition
 - . Info sharing/transparency
 - a. Considerations, ideas, Dean's thoughts
- 5. For time while some of this was covered about we have tabled for next meeting

Surveys!

- 1. The following surveys have been sent to students this year:
 - a. Virtual Event Feedback
 - i. 46 respondents
 - ii. Variety of answers related to events
 - b. LSET Community Standards
 - . 109 responses
 - i. Handing over to LSET this weekend.
 - c. Tuition Petition
 - . 260 responses
 - i. Roughly 50% of the student body
 - d. Faculty Vacancy Survey
 - e. Community Pledge
 - . 66 responses
 - i. In general, folks did not approve the proposed pledge as written
 - f. Budget Committee Survey
 - . Pending Results

New Business

- 1. Open floor for discussion
- 2. Concerns about the Foundation Course AND 1L Classes

- a. Foundations
 - i. The general feelings is that our experience coming in is different from every 1L class before
 - ii. Professors are showing up and being prepared and treating everything as normal which has a lot of good intentions but some of that is getting lost
 - 1. We want to be met with compassion and that's not being reflected to us at all in that class
 - iii. There's limited flexibility to converse or discuss important points and we are staying within very strict syllabus and PPT
 - 1. Organic convos are being stifled due to the rigidity
 - iv. The class is attempting to handle a lot of highly charged and emotional topics and it comes off as insensitive
 - v. 1LS have gathered quite a bit of feedback re: classes and will continue to do so
 - 1. There are a lot of grievances, suggestions and solutions and they would love to have a dialogue about this
 - vi. Some Particular Issues/Situations
 - 1. "This isn't about emotions we should get a therapist to deal with those"
 - a. Even if this statement is out of context or lacks some context it's harmful
 - 2. Generalizations and jokes about substance use disorders
 - . "Students become alcoholics."
 - 3. "No resume gaps they will think you went to prison"
 - a. Devra from Career Services said this in a space where we have formerly incarcerated classmates
 - vii. Comment from a Student
 - 0. "We're not paying to be terrorized."
 - viii. Class Content
 - 0. We're all in this remote learning mode and exhausted and last week it was specifically hard when we had to watch three hours of Ted talks about sleep deprivation (the irony is not lost on us) This week was cancel culture videos.
 - . Resume stuff awesome
 - a. Character and fitness awesome
 - b. It seems like it's trying to be group therapy and doing it in a way that makes it worse. I almost feel bad for the profs since they clearly think they are helping but then when we actually get into the subject material it's pretty bad
 - c. If it was once a month where we actually learned foundations of prof practice great
 - d. Right now it isn't great, it is a huge stress
 - 1. Some students have provided professors tangible strategies and feedback (w/o being critical)
 - . Then they come to class and see it ignored or harms perpetuated
 - a. People will be silenced during class discussions, especially folks from non dominant backgrounds (i.e. not cisgender white men typically)

ix. Foundations Origins

- 0. Discussed how the class started and how the class of 2021 requested Equity be a part of it but not led by teachers, by folks with actual experience but then the school would have to pay them....

- b. 1L's Organization

- . Just kudos to the 1L's for being passionate and organized

- 0. Proud of you! Impressed by you!

- c. Other Class Issues

- . Profs just don't get it

- 0. EX: Got info about trauma informed lawyering one session and the next session the class was literally split into white and nonwhite student groups

- . Traumatizing, triggering, harmful

- i. SBA has received reports re: racism, ableism, classism, discrimination in the classrooms this year.

- d. Solutions?

- . Dean Mark Figueora is comfortable being an intermediary

- i. Amanda and Akriti have discussed with him how it is difficult to raise these points with admin. because often admin. are faculty, etc.

- ii. Maybe let's put together a report?

- 0. Mark wants to elevate these issues to the Dean and also includes the involved professors, he's not losing effectiveness by being bamboozled with school systems

- 1. Put together that feedback

- . Here's all the ways your faculty messed up this month

Notes

- Natalie, Sage and Amanda to setup time to meet with new 1Ls
 - Nat make doodle poll for 1L meeting
- Reminder Amanda is always open to debriefing with folks
-

Action Items

-

Next Meeting Agenda Items

- Dean Meeting Debrief/Sharing

