

SBA January Meeting Minutes

Saturday, January 23rd, 2021

10:30-12:00 PM via Zoom

Special Guests: Jess Daly

Meeting Called to Order: 10:32 A.M.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:01 P.M.

Agenda

Roll Call

1. Secretary will take attendance via Zoom (**Natalie**)

New Organization Recognition

1. OCDLSA: Oregon Criminal Defense Law Student Association
 - a. Officers: Roxy Manesh, Colin Bradshaw, Amanda Pham Haines, Anneke Banda
 - b. Faculty Advisor: Susan Mandiberg Faculty Advisor
 - c. Perks for students: OCDLA Membership, and the "Pond" listserv
 - d. Already been in touch with other two law schools
 - e. OCDLA hosted
 - f. **VOTE**
 - i. **32 YAY**
 - ii. **1 ABSTAIN**
 - iii. **PASS**

Next Dean Meeting

1. Anything E Board should bring up?
 - a. Amanda reminded folks who is present at these meetings and what is addressed
 - b. Please send anything you would like addressed to Executive Board
 - c. Law Review
 - i. Sara S: Ask them if they can unfreeze the law review budgets and we use that for funding things that bring the law review community together. Some action items we would like don't include in person events.
 1. Sara will email Mary what types of things they would like to fund it for
 2. Really didn't want to charge members dues when we have money allocated to us that is just frozen
 3. Mary also jumps in with a possible solution with sharing the funds through SBA and then reimbursing from law review budget

4. Anna: ALR works differently then the other two law reviews and historically they fund themselves. They are looking to maybe change that and have a different relationship with the school
 5. Anna would love to hear from anyone with advice on how to approach that with the school
 - ii. FOLLOW UP: Mary will follow up with the law reviews at the meeting for the budgetary nuances, law reviews, etc.
2. Early February is when the meeting will take place

Internal Committee Updates

1. Student Life Committee (**Annamarie & Committee**)
 - a. Would like any ideas/input into an alternative (virtual) event for the Spring Barrister's Ball
 - i.Looking for virtual events or alternatives!
 - ii.Something similar to a scavenger hunt or other event
 - iii.If anyone has ideas please reach out to Annnamarie
 - b. Monthly Trivia Nights
 - .Trivia with Dice! Friday, 1/29 from 7-8:30 pm. Zoom link being emailed around
 - i.These seem to be a big hit! We're going to do it monthly
 - ii.Dice from Tyron Creek is the host
 1. His trivia is hard!
 2. Open for feedback to make it easier.....
 - iii.Prizes for 1st-3rd place
 - iv.Encourage people to attend!
2. Rules Committee (**Natalie & Committee**)
 - . Zoom provisions are being added to the Bylaws
 - a. There are also some sections which require "in person" meetings that will be modified
 - .These will be added in February and voted on
 - b. We were tasked with adding a "State of Emergency" provision. At the meeting we came to the conclusion that since this involves a substantive policy change, the school administration may need to approve/weigh in or a seperate feedback gathering sesh needs to happen
 - .Aime can help draft! It was her great idea :)
 - i.Student Questions/Feedback
 1. Who would invoke them? Faculty? SBA? Mutual?
 - a. Who has the power to flip the switch?
 2. Aime at the outset was hoping there were be more objective criteria instead of just making things up for each emergency as they happen
 - . Thinks criteria and who has the ability to "flip the switch" are most important
 3. Thinks it's a good idea just to get the conversation started, emergencies are increasing
 4. The remote standards were made to be strict but weren't ("I need to be remote. Thanks") and that was approved
 - . Still concerns about students not petitioning for remote status because it still was difficult for folks who didn't think there is a reason they can provide
 5. Amanda provides context about when she gets messages from students she emails Libby and then Libby will typically make statement shortly after
 - . This is typically enough to trigger something from Libby
 - a. I think the goal of this is to not make it a piecemeal thing that goes out to all students regardless

b. It might make sense to just have something there that if GA votes that an emergency is taking place that they President sends formatted things to Deans and asking to have a convo and produce a solution

6. How much do ABA guidelines affect this and what the school is allowed to do with the ABA rules in place.

. I agree it seems like the school is probably following the ABA guidelines but have some flexibility

7. Sometimes the Deans aren't on the same page as students, there is sometimes discrepancy over what is an emergency

ii.FOLLOW UP: People who want to give feedback on these provisions reach out to thee Rules Committee (Natalie)

General Assembly Updates

1. Alumni (**Aime**)

a. Eager to incorporate ideas that came up over winter break and help foster relationships between students and alumni

b. Adding alumni to Newsletter

i.Aime will reach out to Jennifer

c. Events

.Happy Hour this Fri, Jan 22 at 4:30. Public.

1. One person came- shout out to Zach!

i.Trivia Night, Feb 25 from 5:30-7:30

d. Aime has them wooed yall! If you need a job come to Aime and she will connect you!

2. ABA (**Diego**)

. Upcoming Event - excellent speakers

.Justice Nelson

i.AG Ellen Rosenblum

ii.Atty from Richardson Wright, Jovita Wang

a. Format

.Still trying to plan the format

i.Looking for student feedback about how it should go

1. Diego would love the help and ideas

ii.Open to all law schools in Oregon

b. [Virtual Campus Visit Info](#)

.Eventbrite to register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-lunch-w-justice-nelson-attorney-general-rosenblum-attorney-wang-tickets-137487497807>

i.Please register!

c. Budget

.Do we have a budget to give gift cards to lunch?

1. Follow up with Mary

3. Curriculum (**Nicky**)

. I've been researching grading curves at peer institutions and CR/NC options (both during the pandemic and in regular times).

a. Upcoming meetings

.2/2 and 2/16; neither are public

4. Budget (**Stephanie**)

. Presenting final budget proposal with Spring enrollment to the faculty on Feb 5th, before it goes up to the board of trustees the week after. Not really about discretionary spending.

a. Upcoming meetings

.Jan 29 meeting to prep for Feb 5th faculty presentation; neither are public

- b. Lots of listening at budget committee meeting and nodding :)
- c. Student Questions/Feedback
- . Is there a line item in this budget for faculty trainings?
 - 1. Jessica: We haven't gotten a line item
 - 2. Stephanie: Seems more like operating budgets, big chunks of money
 - 3. Specific interest in E&I training....if they keep passing it on and not funding them....
- i. Feel like the committee needs greater access to the actual numbers, or just better input opportunities overall
- ii. They talk about the chunks of money as big pieces of a pie
 - 1. But not clear what things go to, more like they approve the large chunk of money for salaries, tuition stuff, etc. but that it doesn't go into details
- iii. Adjuncts?
 - 1. Adjunct salaries?
 - a. Jessica: They talked about it a little bit basically saying they don't get paid enough
 - 2. Adjunct benefits?
 - . They don't talk about that at the budget comm meeting
 - a. Amanda will find out
 - d. Tuition:
 - . They anticipate raises over the next few years consistently
 - e. FOLLOW UP: Amanda will work on how to amplify student voices in that committee
- 5. Faculty (**Stephanie and Sara**)
 - . Discussion of hiring new faculty for next year and farther in the future, discussion of how to improve evaluations response rates.
 - a. Upcoming meetings
 - . Feb 5th, once monthly through May, not open.
 - b. Course Evaluations
 - . No students do the course evals
 - i. Student Feedback/Questions
 - 1. Students don't feel the evals matter because it doesn't seem to impact anything
 - . The messaging on evals could be better
 - a. If professors talk about how they respond to the course evals and why they have meaning they might engage with them more
 - 2. Neutral or slightly positive folks tend to not do the evaluation so the only feedback tends to be students who didn't enjoy it
 - 3. The timeline for evals is not helpful, i.e. doing it in the middle of the reading period isn't helpful when we are stressed about finals
 - . Stephanie and Sara mention they faculty are toying with changing the date/timeline but possibly withholding grades
 - i. Many members are not into that
 - 4. Committee: We brought up changing the eval in three separate ways
 - . We were met with an immediate no from three strong voices on the faculty committee
 - a. The reasons we were given was that they discussed it last year and they wouldn't really explain it which was very frustrating
 - 5. Statement for Faculty Committee Reps to deliver?
 - . Eval post exam pre grades?
 - a. Anonymity issues?

- b. Feedback on exams
- c. Mid semester eval?
- d. Exam eval?
- e. ***Lots of discussion around this in the chat too***
- ii.FOLLOW UP: Amanda will reach out to Sara and Stephanie to discuss how to share feedback, maybe we send a form out to SBA GA to collect feedback about what people think?
- c. Hiring
 - .They are in a panic!
 - i.They need to hire people and are panicking
 - d. Grading Delay
 - .Student Question
 - 1. Did they discuss any delays with grading? This is sometimes interfering with the job/hiring schedule
 - 2. Lots of discussion happened on this matter in the chat but the SBA Zoom account lost connection so this is piecemeal.
 - . They were really liberal in giving students extensions this year
 - a. They should be turning around grades in accordance with the calendar but wonder how many of those extensions impacted the turnaround (curve, etc)...we want the grace and generosity
 - b. Last spring when I took Klonoff's class he was really liberal and he told us what his plan was grading wise to give incompletes
 - .We still want extensions but we can do that too maybe
 - i.Some folks ask if that impacts the curve
 - 3. Prof got grades in the morning of the 9th and that was not communicated to the students for 1Ls which was difficult
 - 4. Maybe a statement to them like Hey, the hiring timelines and fairs seem to be off kilter with our grading release schedule can we work on something that more closely matches what happens
- 6. Student Health Advisory Board (**Kristin and Shelby**)
 - . We have not had any additional meeting with school admin
 - a. Testing and vaccines are the priority
 - .They are fighting one battle at a time
 - 7. Admissions (**Kassie and Meggie**)
 - . We have had 3 meetings so far to discuss applications and will continue through the spring.
 - a. Upcoming meetings
 - .We meet weekly on Wednesdays, closed meetings
 - b. Newell refers to students as "woke", consensus is that is great
 - c. They're hoping to raise our averages given the increased # of applicants
 - 8. Faculty Appointments (**Clarens**)
 - . The school has hired David Schraub to fill the Con Law vacancy, a strong candidate who I think will be a strong addition to the faculty and was vocal about ensuring student success when I had a chance to speak with him. The Crim Pro position to my knowledge still has an offer outstanding.
 - .Con Law initial folks turned us down but Professor Schraub will be great!
 - i.Crim law there is an outstanding offer
 - ii.Had not heard yet about school hiring additional folks
 - 9. AEP (**Jennifer and Taylor**)
 - . Review of applicants continues

a. Things are going well! We are trying to fill the position of Professor Jones, but that will be an administrative decision. Hopefully, they will choose someone with as much care and empathy as Professor Jones for this very essential task!

.Also a lot of discussion on this and again the SBA Zoom connection was weak. The discussion is summarized below.

- i. Ethan Snyder will be added to the committee
 - ii. There is one prof who just doesn't budge with certain LSAT scores
 - iii. Taylor would love and welcome feedback about how the LSAT is a crummy test and there is data to demonstrate how the LSAT is inequitable
 - iv. Akriti has a multiple point plan from the President's Office to move admission and retention policies to incorporate more humane and holistic standards, she will share them with Taylor and Jennifer
 - v. In AEP we focus a lot on this index and the "main" admissions committee doesn't use that index....
 - 1. That feels counterintuitive to the mission and spirit of AEP
 - vi. Overall consensus between many chats and comments is that there are several folks that would like to provide resources and support because it is really troubling that the committee doesn't appear to be taking into account several layers of concern here including access to resources, concerns about racism and ableism, and more.
 - 1. Especially frustrating when some of the students who are AEP admissions are also held out by the school
 - 2. Wish there was a way to collect data to support this but run into privacy issues
 - vii. FOLLOW UP: Folks will reach out to AEP committee to offer resources and dialogue around support
10. Honor Board (**Caroline**)
- . Faculty proposed revision to student Honor & Conduct Code
 - . Proposed revision to the bylaws (Section 4.08 c)) which states: the Ethics Committee shall only meet when convened under article I, section 1.06 of these Bylaws. I would appreciate SBA's suggestion on whether the following revision is an ethics or rules issue: I would like to propose a revision which would allow the Ethics Committee to convene a meeting outside the bounds of 1.06, such as for the purpose of discussing revisions to the Student Honor & Conduct Code and soliciting feedback from Ethics Committee members on proposed revisions.
 - i. Dean Davis emailed that a faculty member has a fairly substantive revision to the Honor Code. Caroline, Dean Davis and Dean Parry are set to meet.
 - ii. Caroline wants to hear the rationale prior to bringing this before the GA
 - 1. Sounds like it has to do with written materials with exams especially remote exams
 - iii. Bylaws indicate we need an additional faculty member and the Deans said since someone requested the change from faculty they are comfortable moving forward
 - 1. Caroling would like to more closely follow the spirit of the bylaws and request a faculty member be present
 - 2. SBA Votes on this informally and it PASSES
 - iv. Once she gets more info about why they want to propose the change we can discuss at next month's meeting, Natalie will add it to the agenda.

Executive Board Updates

- 1. Updates shared at this time
- a. **Eden Taylor** - VP of Communications

i.No update at this time

b. **Annamarie White** - VP of Programming

.See Above!

c. **Sage Mist** - VP of Student Life

.No update at this time

d. **Akriti Bhargava** - VP of Equity & Inclusion

.Anything to bring up at Law School DEI Meeting?

1. Email Akriti if so!

i.Anything to bring up at Lewis & Clark E&I Committee Meeting?

1. Email Akriti if so!

2. Expecting update on school-wide trainings for faculty and staff

3. 21-Day Challenge to faculty and staff currently

a. Undergrad campus has challenged their faculty and staff to do that and we look forward to seeing their results to see if it is scalable/appropriate for the law school

ii.Community Standards

1. The actual standards will likely come to the GA prior to the accountability piece since Akriti is meeting with the Title 9 office on the undergrad campus

2. The standard data has been gathered from the LSET committee

iii.Mini Committee on E&I Component of faculty Evaluations across 3 schools

1. Comprised of folks from undergrad, grad school, and Dean Davis

2. As of now there is no component on faculty evals for equity or racism

. This is a gross oversight

3. Grad school has incorporated some of these components and Akriti wants to bring them to our law school!

. Where would we be with Akriti?

iv.Ethan Snyder

1. Excited to welcome him!

2. Encourage yall to bring any concerns about anything and happy to take them forward to him

e. **Mary Stites** - Treasurer

.Budget Allocation is right after General Assembly!

1. Please come if you are on IBC, we need 5 members to vote

i.IBC email management

1. The electronic reimbursements are actually really challenging

2. If anyone is passionate about email organization and get the email more organized from past semester and check and organize every few days that would be great

. Email or chat Mary to help out

f. **Natalie Hollabaugh** - Secretary

.I think I have replied to everyone's emails re: service....

g. **Amanda Pham Haines**- President

.Issues with exams and locking computers

1. Students have expressed concern that last semester and this semester some profs have had the policy of locking computers for exams or saying students can't use the device they're taking the exam on for any notes or outlines but can use other devices

2. Students are complaining that it's not fair because not all students have more than one screen/device and as the profs have no way to monitor who is using outside resources on remote exams it's

not fair to those who do abide by the rules and not use other screens/materials

3. Please reach out to Amanda through the SBA account to share your concerns about this issue

i. Art for Social Change - still wants student reps

1. Reach out to Amanda to join that committee

ii. The sanctity of the RSVP

1. Might include a little prompt about this in the newsletter

iii. 3L appreciation "presentation"/event

1. This came up in a commencement meeting
2. Virtual presentation where students can submit pictures, stories, videos whatever to celebrate 3L's
3. Will be discussed in greater detail at February meeting

Action Items

Outlined as "Follow Ups" above

Next Meeting Agenda Items

Honor Board Revision Update

Update from Exec. Board Dean Meeting

Committee Updates using the form: <https://forms.gle/cPHPWW6qCCDx6AhU7>

3L Appreciation Update

Emergency Provision Update

Bylaws Voting

Looking Forward

1. Elections will take place in late March for transition April 10th