



SBA November Meeting Minutes

Sunday, November 14th, 2021

10:30-12:00 PM via Zoom

Special Guests:

Meeting Called to Order: 10:33 am PST

Meeting Adjourned: 11:50 pm PST

Agenda

Roll Call (Zach)

1. Secretary will take attendance via Zoom

Welcome and Housekeeping (Akriti)

1. **Dates of Importance:**

November

Guru Nanak Jayanti Gurupurab: November 19

Transgender Day of Remembrance: November 20

Thanksgiving: November 25

Hanukkah: November 28-December 6

2. December

Hanukkah: November 28-December 6

World AIDS Day: December 1

Christmas: December 25

Kwanzaa: December 26- January 1 (2022)

3. SBA Spring 2022 - First Meeting: January 16th, 2021

Student Organization Activations/ Reactivations?

Executive Board Updates

1. President - Akriti
 - a. Meetings with Dean Davis and Parry re:

- i. Foundations
 - 1. The work continues! There have been tangible improvements coming from the conversations such as the amount of “busy work” assigned to students.
 - ii. Adjunct Faculty Hiring
 - b. Request for bi-furcation of Director of Academic Resources and Diversity
 - i. We requested that the position be split into 2 roles to better serve the student body. The Deans met about this last week but no response yet (Follow up email from us to them shortly)
 - c. Equity Plan with SBA E&I: Over winter break
 - i. Working on the creation of an outline, and then will start widening the circle to grow the input and plan as needed
 - d. Institutional Renewal Committee (LC-wide)
 - i. Meeting on Thursday to get updates * (Radhika’s edit)
 - ii. Sounds like there are two conversations going on and the two conversations might not be overlapping as much as they should be. It might be time to figure out how to align these conversations so that everyone is on the same page. Lots of meetings coming up, lots of conversations being had. Hit up Akriti, Radhika, and Sonya with questions.
 - e. Program Manager for Office of Equity & Inclusion (LC-wide)
 - i. We have been contacted about participating in the interview process once it gets rolling. (I believe they already had final interviews last week- Radhika’s edit)
 - ii. Email Akriti and Sonya with questions.
 - f. Dean for Office of Equity & Inclusion (LC-wide)
 - i. Ongoing!
- 2. VP of Student Affairs - Nicky
 - a. Nicky will not be present.

- b. Jessica Fauble will present the draft student course evaluation system.
 - i. Separate from the admin one (That is about profs improving courses, ours is more peer to peer, what info do you want to have when selecting your professors? Etc.)
 - ii. Looking for feedback from content to length, etc!
 - iii. The committee is talking about how best to disseminate this to students.
 - iv. If you have any questions, reach out to the committee, they are hoping to get this going for the end of the semester!
- 3. VP of Equity and Inclusion - Sonya
 - a. Foundations Update
 - i. Working with Libby for next year's course
 - ii. Received about 60 responses from the group survey, then Sonya, Matt, Caroline, and Akriti met with Dean Parry and Dean Davis and watched the videos in question. Didn't see any red flags to be addressed at that moment, but worked with them to look at the syllabus and figure out where to eliminate busy work and overall adapt and improve Foundations for future students.
 - iii. Even though nothing was flagged in the video, resources were provided to 1Ls to help them resolve the situation and it was well handled.
 - b. Bias Reporting
 - i. [Reporting a concern](#)
 - ii. Ongoing issue each year with students bringing forward complaints about professor's bias issues on campus.
 - iii. This is currently outsourced to the undergraduate campus and it feels like the separation causes issues. Would like to have this be handled directly on campus, even if still coordinating with the undergraduate campus

- c. Affinity Group Survey
 - i. Mixer in the near future
 - ii. Still need to go through the feedback. Participation rate was low.
Hoping to get questions setup to ask Libby by the end of this week.
- 4. VP of Communications - Frank
 - a. [update on Thursday surveys]
 - b. Short Thursday Surveys are going well, good turnout! Going to keep them going.
 - c. Frank wants shoutouts! If you are proud of something you did, or want to celebrate an achievement in the SBA Frank is here to celebrate you and the SBA!
- 5. Treasurer - Mary
 - a. Mary is not present today. No big updates.
 - b. Andrew Gard did update that the budget is set up, and sent to faculty for faculty review! About 1 more meeting before finalizing the budget. We were able to talk them from a 4% to a 3.5% tuition increase. Not a lot of wiggle room allegedly per admin. We are trying to push for more transparency for some of the line items in the budget, and asking them to renegotiate the things we are paying for/getting from the undergraduate campus which the admin was resistant to as they think we might be getting too good of a deal. The most frustrating part was the tuition increase was paired with professor raises, so students were asked to choose between tuition and professor pay.
 - c. The Board of Trustees may be a good avenue for the above discussion. Lots to discuss here, lots of moving pieces.
 - d. Akriti to connect with Jessie, Andrew, Mary, and Caroline.
- 6. Secretary - Zach
 - a. Rule Committee First Meeting Update
 - i. We had our first meeting and discussed our plans and ideas for the bylaws for next semester along with our duties should the need arise.

- b. SBA Volunteer Hours Update
 - i. Lot of folks completed tabling and volunteer hours for the Halloween Happy Hour, thank you! Remember that if 2 hours for the fall are not completed, 5 hours are due in the Spring.
- 7. Programming - Annamarie
 - a. SBA Halloween HH report
 - b. It went so well! No reports of cases or symptoms resulting from the event - hopeful for future covid-safe events too.

Committee/General Assembly Updates (Akriti, followed by GA members)

- 1. Updates shared at this time
 - a. Caroline Taylor (Board of Trustees)
 - i. Caroline not here today, brief update above.
 - b. Pablo San Emeterio (Faculty Appointments) - Property Faculty!
 - i. We hired a property professor.
 - ii. Also extended an offer for a Lawyering professor, sounds like that is likely to move forward, and will likely be hiring a second new lawyering professor.
 - c. Matt Constantino
 - i. Asked if we have anything in the works to discuss professors using offensive language in class. Sounds like a few students have brought up the content of Prof. Funk's textbook/lectures.
 - ii. Per Akriti, any kind of feedback like this should be officially submitted to the SBA for it to be actionable, we should encourage students to email SBA@lclark.edu or use this [form](#).
 - iii. Curriculum committee work continues, Matt is here for you if you have questions (As is Caroline Lewis!)
 - d. The 1L schedule is partially because parking is awful due to all the construction, and it's about to get worse. See Zoe and Akriti for questions.
- 2. Questions for SBA as we continue charting the new academic year?

Student Concerns? (Open Floor)

- 1. Some questions about open/closed book exams. What those look like, etc.

- a. The only thing the professor agreed on is disagreeing. Sounds like 1L exams are uniform? But the upper division exams are not.

Pandemic Check-In (Open Floor)

1. Akriti - SBA Covid Comms Team is Emily Warchot, Leah Samelson, and Meredith Mathis
 - a. Leah - Went to the student health advisory board with the committee, was pleasantly surprised with how well it went. Working on a 1 page guide to help with all the policies in place.
 - b. Emily - Agreed, they are way open to feedback. There is a disconnect between the policies on undergraduate vs law campus such as undergrad asking people not to come to class if they are contact traced as opposed to law school saying you can still come to class even if you have potentially been exposed.
 - c. It sounds like on paper the process sounds great in most aspects, but in practice it can be alarming with how often students are allowed on law campus.

Robert's Rules of Order

1. Just in case you need the link: [Robert's Rules Cheat Sheet](#)