

SBA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
November 15, 2009
MINUTES

- I. Call to order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of minutes
- IV. Committee Reports and specific issues to address:
 - USGA—Brian Tobin:
 - o New financial counseling service for students.
 - o Obscene materials initiative failed in USGA vote.
 - o Various holiday volunteer opportunities for students.
 - o Student fees are being increased because of new student center & gym [fees are being increased from \$411 to \$693 for full-time students; for part-time students, \$248 flat fee to \$77 per credit].
 - o USGA Halloween Party was a success.
 - o Valentine's Day event in planning stages.
 - o Student Appreciation Lunch and massages at the Student Center during finals.
 - o Increased security cameras on campus.
 - o Student Regent candidate advancing to next round of selection: Dan Corbin (2L).
 - ABA—Laila Said:
 - o Attended ABA Fall Student Leadership Summit.
 - o Various informational panels, focusing primarily on negative job market.
 - o All schools complaining about LAW programs; overall push for more practical real-world based learning.
 - o \$500 ABA grant program for first time projects; can be used to support student groups.
 - CDO—Sam Williams:
 - o Met with Dean Morris about last year's CDO survey results.
 - o New CDO project: CDO wants students to keep their own job search folders; proposal to give a pre-packaged folder to students at orientation.
 - o CDO planning response to last year's survey results; possibly in the form of an open letter to students about various services that students did not know about, according to survey.
 - o Starting next semester: committee of students will meet every semester to give feedback to CDO.
 - o Recent CDO presentation videos on Blackboard.
 - Academic Concerns—Anwar Graves:
 - o Planning committee meeting for this week.
 - o Suggestion from Pegah: Meet with Laila about LAW ideas from ABA meeting.
 - Constitution and Rules--Aaron Besser:

- Altered amendment: The Budget Committee may, at its discretion, giving due consideration to any extenuating circumstances, authorize the reversion back to the SBA account, of any fundraising money from any student organization that has been inactive for **four consecutive semesters**.
- Purpose = to deal with money from groups who have been inactive for a long time; reason for two year time limit → time for a new board to come in and revive the organization.
- Bonnie: Motion to amend to 3 semesters instead of 4.
- Vote for 4 semesters: 7 yes; 14 no.
- Vote for 3 semesters: 19 yes; 1 no → 3 semesters passes.
- Honor Code changes: the committee was not able to propose any changes because it did not feel comfortable proposing changes without an Honor Board member present to guide the discussion.
- Student Organizations—Laura Harger
 - Addressed 2 meeting/2 week requirement [to give notice for events].
 - Each committee member assigned to certain student groups as a liaison to the SBA.
 - Noncompliance results in the student group being demoted to LSG [if a group does not comply with 2 meeting/2 week requirement].
- NYLF (National Youth Leadership Foundation)—Rama Taib:
 - Last visit is this Thursday.
 - Over 100 high school students at first visit, taught by Prof. Stearns.
 - Prof. Van Alstine taught second visit and will teach third visit.
- Community Service—Peter Goldsmith:
 - Canned food drive with Beth Gemmell.
 - Contacted organizations who have collection boxes throughout the school—concern was that efforts are too splintered among groups.
 - SBA should come up with one solid event for all groups to do together and get a significant outcome, i.e. Adopt-a-Family, Baltimore Station, etc.
 - For discussion at next committee meeting: have 2 weeks of cans/food/clothes drive instead of splintered efforts. Possibly set up for this year, definitely for next year.
- Thurgood Marshall—Bonnie Muschett:
 - No date yet, probably sometime in March.
 - Met with Professor Iffel (keynote speaker 2 years ago)—suggested AG Thomas Perez (former UMD law school professor).
 - Second suggestion: Eric Holder.
- VITA—Bonnie Muschett:
 - VITA = Income taxpayer assistance for low income people in the Baltimore community.
 - Availability for student volunteers to gain experience in preparing income taxes.

V. Old Business

- Green initiative update:
 - All “green” plates, cups, and utensils have arrived; located in student organizations room (315).

- No more reimbursement to student groups for those materials because SBA is providing them.
- Report on holiday party; new ad hoc committee for spring:
 - Sheena: event went very well; graveyard tour, cookie decorating, food.
 - Pegah: Ad hoc committee in the spring; first year officers will meet with those who planned holiday event in the past to consolidate knowledge to pass on to next year's 1L class.

VI. New Business:

- Revisiting 2 week/2 meeting rule:
 - Revisiting the 2-meeting rule (not 2-week rule).
 - Has been very successful in the past, but this year there have been complaints that evening students are not attending the evening meetings and student groups are going out of their way to have the second meeting.
 - Alidia: RSVP process for evening meetings would allow student groups to know whether there will be a need for an evening meeting.
 - Group concern: People do not always think to RSVP to student group meetings; sometimes students attend meetings at the last minute.
 - Liz Bayly: No need for 2 meetings later in the semester because everyone is already involved in what they want to be involved in.
 - Pegah: If an organization agrees to have one twilight meeting, they only need to have one meeting? May not work because day students like to leave the school after classes are over.
 - Bonnie: Twilight meetings work for some organizations; leave the evening meeting decision up to the organizations individually. There are other ways to convey information to evening students, i.e. email.
 - Jordan: Should not remove evening meeting requirement because removes opportunities for evening students.
 - Motion for RSVP requirement: 5 yes; everyone else NO → motion denied.
 - Motion for requirement of first meeting in the fall + fall election meeting + election meeting in the spring: 13 yes; 13 no—Pegah's tie-breaking vote = NO → motion denied.
 - Motion to leave the policy as is: 20 yes → motion passed.
 - Evening 1L class officers will begin to read student group meeting announcements before classes on Monday in order to get the word out about meetings.
- Clarification of the Campus Center catering policy and use of Krongard for student events:
 - Pegah: For small events, groups do not need to cater with the Campus Center; for larger events groups must use the Campus Center's catering services.
 - Shashi: There are exemptions to this rule for students--will clarify.
 - Krongard clarification: higher reservation costs are due to keeping staff overtime; keeping the higher standard of Krongard room.
 - Student organizations should consider other locations for student events.

VII. Executive Board and Class Reports

- President: Faculty council updates
 - o Restructuring room 133 for student organizations, starting January 20.
 - o New SBA Office in MPILP office, next door to current SBA office.
- VP: Committee/Meet the Officers Day
 - o Committee day in the atrium with hot chocolate, brownies; informal way for students to meet the committee chairs.
 - o Informal way for students to meet Dean Haddon.
 - o Also, student reps for joint student-faculty committees will be present.
- Treasurer
 1. Wednesday, December 2, 2009, 5:00 pm: GSG Reports due. Please review Section 5(a)(viii) of the Budget Packet for the information which must be included in the GSG Report. Failure to timely submit a GSG Report may result in a change of group status and/or a reduction in funds.
 2. Friday, December 4, 2009, noon: Deadline to submit reimbursement requests and advance checks for the fall semester.
 3. December 5, 2008 - January 11, 2010: SBA Treasury blackout period.
- Secretary
 - o SBA Executive Council Meeting attendance policy reminder.
 - o If a council member will be absent, he/she must appoint a proxy from his/her own class and let Lauren and/or Pegah know.
 - o Three consecutive unexcused absences → removal from office.

-4E: Potluck cook-off was successful.

-3D: Busy with NYLF preparation.

-3E: Planning fundraiser for the Tuesday before Thanksgiving; evening reception in the spring.

-2D: Halloween fundraiser made good profit for Barristers Ball; business card holder sale next semester.

-2E: Baby shower/wine tasting next week.

-1D: Dodge ball tournament next Friday; 1L T-shirt sale was successful; planning 1D promotional item sale (pens).

-1E: Halloween community service event was successful.