



Albany Law School  
STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION  
Meeting Notes

Date: September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Room: 425, Matthew Bender Classroom

Time: 7:30 PM

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- a. Welcome/Introduction
- b. Roll Call for Quorum: Set at 16
  - i. 23/24 Members Present
    1. Meg Tylenda (Attend)
    2. Max Sevor (Attend)
    3. Ashlyn Henrichs (Attend)
    4. Natalie Turney (Attend)
    5. Jonathan Stein (Attend)
    6. Micheal Wood (Attend)
    7. Julia James (Attend)
    8. Jack Rainey (Attend)
    9. Stephen Giorgianni (Attend)
    10. Alex Hollocher (Attend)
    11. Chloe Kangarlu (Attend)
    12. Frank Pacella (Attend)
    13. Azad Kurd (Attend)
    14. Mitch Whittaker (Attend)
    15. Katie Pedlow (Attend)
    16. Colin Baker (Attend)
    17. Mitch Spaulding (Attend)
    18. Dean Kaknis (Attend)
    19. Taylor Alimari (Attend)
    20. Noah Jacobs (Attend)
    21. Ben Jacobs (Attend)
    22. Olivia Vecchio (Attend)
    23. Madeleine Jones (Attend)
    24. Veronica Esteve (Absent)
- c. Adopt Roberts Rules of Order
  - i. Motion to adopt by Meg Tylenda, seconded by Natalie Turney, **PASSES**  
16 yes, 0 no, 7 abstained.

**II. STUDENT GROUP PRESENTATIONS**

- a. First Generation Law Student Association
  - i. ABSENT, moved to Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting

- b. Student Wellness Society (SWELL)
  - i. Jess Wolfe and Emma Williams presenting: Mental Health centered organization that hopes to encourage healthy ways to cope with high stress law school life. Strong interest provided from tabling at the Fair. Hope to create non-networking social events geared towards community and making friends (apple picking, ice-skating, etc.). Plans to work with the Colby Fellows on events.
- c. The Bell Collective
  - i. Led by Brenda Gonzales: an organization that is committed to building anti-oppressive social movements through critical race theory (CRT). Creating a safe space and inclusivity for students while discussing topics through the lens of CRT.

**III. OPEN FORUM**

- a. Nicholas Discala, concern for parking availability
  - i. Concern for parking due to medical staff parking on our side of the lot and taking the spots away from the law students.
  - ii. Dean Taranto reached out to discuss this- there should be enough space but she will reach out to research this more.

**IV. AGENDA**

- a. Dean Carlarne – Introduction and Strategic Vision for School
  - i. Vision for the law school; she appreciates the support of the school, the legacy of excellence, and student-centered nature of the school and wants to continue this. She wants to build on these blocks and build diversity and inclusion with the thought of the community in mind.
- b. Dean Cruz – Introduction and Vision for DEI Initiatives
  - i. DEI will continue to work towards safe spaces and diversity, especially with the DEI Senator Azad Kurd on a biases response system. Encourages students to “see something say something” to help create a more inclusive and safe space. The DEI office is open and happy to welcome students to have these conversations. Another big goal is community wide and faculty training to become a more anti-racist and LGBTQ inclusive school with year long initiatives.
- c. Dean Taranto – Introduction and Faculty Role
  - i. Believes in a strong sense of community, respect, support, and communication- the goal is to have a meaningful impact on our community. Her office is a safe space and welcomes all students to make the community and students stronger and better to have the best impact.

**V. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. FINANCE COMMITTEE- *nothing to report*
- b. DIVERSITY COMMITTEE- *nothing to report*
- c. ETHICS COMMITTEE- *Noah Jacobs speaking on this: reviewing the role of ethics committee and how ethics reports should be handled. Send complaints to*

*SBA secretary and then will be forwarded to the VP, Ethics Committee will help complainant fill out the form and then it will go to where it needs to be.*

- d. EVENTS COMMITTEE- *nothing to report*
- e. ELECTION COMMITTEE- *nothing to report, CONGRATS 1Ls*
- f. BY-LAWS COMMITTEE- *nothing to report*
- g. TRANSITION COMMITTEE - *nothing to report*
- h. PHILANTHROPY COMMITTEE- *nothing to report*
- i. ALUMNI COMMITTEE- *nothing to report*

## **VI. SENATE REPORTS**

### **a. EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- i. President Max Sevor – *welcoming, invitation to informally get to know each other at Lionheart, and quick talk on communication and working together*
- ii. Vice President Noah Jacobs – *committees have been placed but will be voted on next meeting but finance will be established ASAP due to budget*
- iii. Treasurer Meg Tylenda – *the ad hoc committee met last week and requested amendments from some but overall events seem cool, budget meeting Sunday so please be early, \$80,000 estimate for funds to be spent in the fall, 264 slide budget presentations so make sure to take notes to ask presenters.*
- iv. Secretary Ashlyn Henrichs– *the SBA orientation went really well, please continue to reach out with any questions or concerns to be brought to SBA*

### **b. SENATE REPORTS**

- i. *Third Year President-* Natalie Turney
  - 1. Survey out for class gift, mentorship out, cap and gown survey, and farewell party underway
- ii. *Second Year President-* Jonathan Stein
  - 1. Barristers and Scarrister planning; expect brief email soon introducing the events and polls regarding themes
- iii. *First Year President-* Frank Pacella
  - 1. Wants to work on mental health events, consolidation of events, and intends to hold professional events.
- iv. *ABA Senator-* Mitchell Spaulding
  - 1. Join ABA!
- v. *ACBA Senator-* Colin Baker
  - 1. ACBA Tabling to occur to get word out about benefits of ACBA, student membership is only \$10 a year. Will be attending ACBA events and hopes to bring back and plan events. Join ACBA!
- vi. *Diversity Senator-* Azad Kurd
  - 1. DEI has a good amount of new members joining and wanted to take the moment to ask students to “see something say something” and hopes students with reach out to discuss anything
- vii. *NYSBA Senator-* Mitchell Whittaker
  - 1. Join NYSBA! Hoping to table soon

- viii. *Spring Start Senator*- Olivia Vecchio
  - 1. Working on surveying spring starts and seeing what the spring starts hope to resolve/ what they lack especially regarding administrative problems

c. **FACULTY REPORTS**

i. Dean Taranto

- 1. Acknowledges Olivia and would like to address the administrative problems of spring starts as soon as surveys close and she is ready, points out to Frank to speak to Colby Fellows Ashlyn Henrichs and Susanne Corrigan and SWELL (providing adoption of club), again encourages students to speak about anything and to come forward to her, and commends students for becoming leadership at SBA

**MOTION TO MOVE INTO EXEC, SECONDED, 22 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain**

**VII. \*EXECUTIVE SESSION\***

a. **BY-LAWS, BILLS, AND RESOLUTION VOTES**

i. Student Group Suspensions re: Failure to Complete End-of-Year Report

a. Bill #003: American Constitutional Law

- 2. MOTION TO SUSPEND American Con Law, SECONDED, 19 yes, 1 no, 3 abstained PASSES

a. Bill #004: Albany Law Grammar Club

b. Bill #005: Albany Law Literary Circle

c. Bill #006: Gaelic Society

d. Bill #007: Orthodox Christian Law Society

e. Bill #008: Sports and Entertainment Law Society

- 3. MOTION TO APPROVE ALL ABOVE SUSPENSIONS IN FULL, SECONDED, 18 yes, 0 no, 6 abstained PASSES

ii. Resolution #001: Resolution Regarding Funding

- 1. MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED, 19 yes, 0 no, 5 abstained PASSES

**MOTION TO EXTEND TO 10:15, SECONDED, 21 yes, 0 no, 3 abstained PASSES**

iii. Resolution #002: Strategic Plan Approval

- 1. MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED, 16 yes, 1 no, 7 abstained PASSES

iv. Bill #010: Approve SBA Meeting Time for Fall

- 1. Proposed time: Wednesday @ 7:00 pm in Room 200, unless room unavailable then 7:30pm in Room 200

- 2. MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED, 17 yes, 2 no, 5 abstained PASSES

v. Bill #011: Approve Committees, Budget Committee Only Now

- 1. MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED, 18 yes, 0 no, 6 abstained PASSES

**b. CLUB VOTES**

- i. Bill #012: First Generation Law Students Association
  1. Motion to Table to Next SBA meeting, 17 yes, 3 no, 4 abstain  
PASSES
- ii. Bill # 009: Student Wellness Society (SWELL)
  1. MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED, 20 yes, 0 no, 4 abstained  
PASSES
- iii. Bill #002: The Bell Collective Approve Constitution
  1. MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED, 19 yes, 1 no, 4 abstained  
PASSES

**VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Budget Meeting is scheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup>, starting at 8 am in Room 200.
- b. Next SBA Meeting scheduled for Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in Room 200.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**X. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN, SECONDED, 20 yes, 0 no, 4 abstain**