



Albany Law School
STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION
Budget Meeting Minutes

Date: February 4th, 2024

Room: 200

Time: 8 am

I. CALL TO ORDER

a. Welcome/Introduction

DISCLAIMER: *notes have been taken to the best of ability as to reflect subject matter being discussed, any dispute should be brought to the attention of the executive board.*

b. Roll Call for Quorum: Set at **19**.

i. **President and Absentees are always abstained and not reflected in the record of vote distribution unless otherwise noted.**

ii. 23/24 Members Present

1. Meg Tylenda
2. Max Sevor
3. Ashlyn Henrichs
4. Natalie Turney
5. Jonathan Stein
6. Michael Wood
7. Julia Vavrinec **ABSENT**
8. Jack Rainey
9. Stephen Giorgianni
10. Alice Hollocher
11. Chloe Kangarlu
12. Azad Kurd **ABSENT**
13. Mitch Whittaker
14. Colin Baker
15. Mitch Spaulding
16. Dean Kaknis
17. Taylor Alimari
18. Noah Jacobs
19. Ben Jacobs
20. Olivia Vecchio
21. Madeleine Jones
22. Veronica Esteves
23. Erin Pepe
24. Matthew Abdelmalek

II. OPEN FORUM

a. None Scheduled.

III. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS BEGIN AT 8 AM

Disclaimer: *first/third person narration and inconsistencies do not represent the note taker's opinions, but rather the presentation of the organization and should be read as such.*

a. **PAD**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Candy Grams, \$49.61: This is an annual PAD fundraising event that is done in support of the American Heart Association in honor of February being American Heart Month
2. PAD Coffee Hour, \$55.76: Coffee events once a month as a break to students/ for students to interact with other students.
3. GIM, \$58.96: GIM event with food and trivia
4. Alumni Outside Albany, \$200: seeking to collab with Events and Philanthropy SBA committees to host a networking event with alumnus outside of the Albany Region

b. **Dems**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. GIM, \$49.97: GIM for the spring
2. How to Run for Office, \$892: hoping to collaborate with GLC or even the career center on this event. Wish to invite politicians and government officials to present on how to run for office after graduation, and how to get involved while still in law school. Would like the event to be followed by a networking reception.
 - a. Amending to \$535 requested for this event during presentations.
3. E-Board Transition Dinner, \$75: -

c. **IALSA**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. GIM, \$65: pasta for the GIM
2. Cannoli Social, \$265: During diversity week, an opportunity to share Italian culture and to be social.
3. Panel Event, \$1,000: annual panel discussion with judges and inviting members of the Italian American Bar Association
 - a. Hoping to have Judge D'Agostino
4. E-Board transition dinner, \$65: -

d. **Health Law Society: *no objections to Finance Committee proposals***

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Workshop Sessions, \$139: A workshop series involving trust and estate, property/wills, and other such health and family law topics this semester.
2. Floral Arranging, \$210: planning on shaping this event around a different topic, focusing instead on physical disability; bringing awareness while also creating floral arrangements.

e. **National Lawyers Guild**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Tabling, \$50: would like to table in the efforts to create conversation and exchange of ideas.
2. ICJ Panel, \$70: Mid-Late April TBD, DAMC, 20 attendees expected, helps provide students perspective on international issues and facilitate discussion.

f. **Women's Law Caucus**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Fundraising/Tabling, \$65.92: This event will be happening throughout DEI week and Gender in the Law Week – which is occurring March 25, 2024 – March 29th, 2024. This year, instead of doing a fundraising event, as we did during Fall 2022 at the Yard, we want to do a tabling in front of the library on a cause. Some ideas we have for the cause are the Legal Project DV Clinic, Unity House, or Urban Grief.
 - a. The organization is voting on the cause that the fundraising would go to; need to make the baskets for the fundraiser.
2. Wing Woman Networking Event, \$235.66: This event will be occurring on March 26, 2024 in the Gymnasium. We have held this event for three years now. It is in association with the Capital District Women's Bar Association. The reason we are requesting this amount of money is so the school looks professional in front of lawyers and Judges in the area.
3. Kate Stoneman Day is funded by the alumni, so they are not requesting any money for the above events and would like to stress they are doing due diligence in getting outside funding for events.

g. **Crim Law Society**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Serial Killer Trivia, \$254: Mid/Late February, in a classroom at the law school, time approx. 5-7. Based on how this event did in prior years, we would be expecting 50 attendees.
2. Science Night, \$254.92: This event will bring in guest speakers to discuss topics including, forensics, dna, cell cite mapping, autopsies, and other topics of the type.

h. **Environmental Law**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Fireside Chats, \$59.94: provides engagement on topics, relevant to environmental and governmental legal leadership, with experts from diverse perspectives and career paths (including that of alumni) as well as time for networking
2. Young Lawyer Career Panel, \$65.98: provides engagement with alumni and other practicing attorneys on their initial steps in their private and public careers (in particular what an "environmental lawyer" does), as well as time for networking

3. Nature Walk, \$12: provides an opportunity to engage with nature and peers while experiencing the benefits of getting outdoors as part of a mental health practice
4. “Who’s that Bird” Raffle, \$60: Early Feb; a great opportunity to learn about nature, birds, and the mental health benefits of birdwatching via a poster and discussion with club members
5. Alumni Panel with Dean Carlarne on Legal Education in the Climate Era, \$6,250: opportunity for students and alumni to hear from the Dean and an alumni/expert panel on how climate change will affect legal education and practice, the event will be followed by a reception that provides further engagement points for students to connect with alumni
 - a. Encourages funding for this one; hopeful that this can be distinguished from symposium- food cost is 5k (\$5, 417). Asks SBA to fund at least some of this so they can get the ball rolling and ask for further funding from alumni office and other offices. Could pair down a bit on the food-
- ~~6. Club Table Banner, \$125:~~
 - a. Withdrawing this request.

i. **APALSA**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. GIM, \$60: GIM with prof. Johar
2. Lunar New Year Festival, \$800: Last year's Lunar New Year celebration at our law school, held in the campus gym, was a success and we are thrilled to continue this celebration. A key highlight will be the return of the traditional games that were popular last year, providing attendees with a hands-on cultural experience. This event is more than just a celebration; it serves as an enriching educational opportunity, deepening attendees' understanding of Lunar New Year traditions and history. Additionally, an array of Asian cuisines will be available for everyone to enjoy, enhancing the festive atmosphere.
 - a. Would forego this is networking was funded
3. APALSA Networking Event, \$500: The Albany Law APALSA Alumni Networking Event, a key opportunity for current students to engage with the Asian Pacific American alumni community, is scheduled to take place in the law school's foyer. This event is expected to attract a diverse group of attendees, including notable alumni, current students, faculty, and legal professionals, ensuring an enriching and enlightening experience for all involved.
 - a. Really a priority; having judges here.
4. Cherry Blossom Festival, \$900: The Cherry Blossom Festival, part of our Multicultural Week, is a celebration of spring and a nod to East Asian traditions where cherry blossoms are an important symbol. This event offers a relaxing and lively break from studies, helping students enjoy and learn about different cultures.

j. **MLSA**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. GIM, \$60: This meeting highlights the importance of diversity and inclusion as a member of the Muslim community in ALS. The purpose is to highlight the events happening throughout the semester and provide students with a safe space to share ideas and concerns regarding law school.
2. Annual Ramadan Dinner, \$1,000: Annual Ramadan dinner is an annual tradition of MLSA at ALS, where Muslim students and alumni share space to pray and reflect on the importance of Ramadan.
3. Chai Chat, \$100: This event is hosted in collaboration with APALSA, where students usually get together with two professors and in a casual conversation chat about their law school concerns and share ideas.
4. Henna Tabling for Diversity Week, \$40: This would be to contribute to the diversity week. we will be showcasing Islamic art and doing henna.

k. **Cardozo**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Passover Seder, \$493.18: April 22nd, 2024 - cafeteria, expected attendees - 30, religious gathering
2. Purim, \$100: March 22, table set up in foyer.
 - a. Would take \$52 here
3. GIM, \$65: For new and past students interested in learning more about Cardozo legal society

l. **Golf Club**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Route Fore Range Event, \$96: Allows people to come together and engage in a physical activity outside of the law school. Golf promotes mental health and networking, traditionally in the legal profession.
 - a. Cut this event if other two are funded
2. Simulator Event at the Bunker, \$560: Allows people to come together and engage in a physical activity outside of the law school. Golf promotes mental health and networking, traditionally in the legal profession.
 - a. Cut this event if other two are funded
3. Annual Putting Event, \$308: Allows people to come together and engage in a physical activity within the law school. Golf promotes mental health and networking, traditionally in the legal profession.
 - a. Most Valued; event most likely to bring people who don't golf and held in the school; Floor at \$100
4. Golf Outing Event, \$550, increasing to \$750: Working with Rugby to successfully put together Golf Outing together prior to Watty
 - a. Most Valued as well; floor at \$600

m. Men's Rugby

i. Event and Funding Request Breakdown:

1. 35th Annual William Watkins Memorial Tournament, \$8,089: budget is on behalf of both the Men's and Women's Rugby team. Both E-Boards have worked together to plan the event, and we will be hosting the event together. April 20th, 2024 from 9am to 7pm. The tournament will be held on both the pharmacy school field and Dick Green field. We are expecting 300 total attendees between students, alumni, other teams, and spectators. We had approximately 175 people last year and are increasing the team count significantly. This will now be a 14 game tournament between the men's and women's teams playing. The alumni attendance will also be much higher because they are holding the induction for the first Blue Jackets Ceremony. We understand that we are asking for a lot of money, however, the reason we are asking for so much is because of the amount of people expected to attend.
 - a. Amendments to the budget- some are fixed costs but working to cut costs; \$5,519 is the new request

n. Women's Rugby

i. Event and Funding Request Breakdown:

1. GIM, \$60: The GIM will be a great way for students to see what our team is all about and hopefully decide to join us. Rugby is a great way to get exercise and build lasting friendships that will be helpful in both our personal and professional lives
2. Women's Ruby Alumni Networking Night, \$300: This event will be open to the entire school, but we specifically encourage women to come to this event to meet some great female role models. These amazing role models are Albany law alumni who also played rugby while they were students. The intent is to get more students interested in rugby by fostering lasting professional connections without esteemed alumni.
 - a. Proposing to fund this instead of Rugby Tourney Fee, plus \$150 for alcohol
3. Barrack's Rangers Rugby Tournament, \$250: Tournament Entry Fee - \$250, would cut this for the networking events
4. Goal Posts, \$200: intend to build our own goal posts to share with the men's team for use during any game. This will be much cheaper than purchasing goal posts that are suitable for a turf field. Such posts are close to \$1,000.
 - a. The cost is around \$10 a foot; -

BREAK 9:30-9:45 AM

o. **ALGAE**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Weekly Game Nights, \$600: We are asking for \$600 for the 12 events, breaking down to \$50 for each game night. We will be buying snacks and drinks
 - a. Prefer cuts here instead of the end of semester; floor at \$300 in order to keep the events going. Not hosting a GIM.
2. End of Semester Board Game Extravaganza, \$200: We are thinking the week of April 28th, but have not decided on a specific date yet. We will be collaborating with the Fine Arts and Performing Club on this event to increase attendance and help the student body relax with friends before finals begin.
 - a. \$150 would be an amicable amount.

p. **FPAC**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. GIM, \$60: this is a GIM so it introduces students to the club and announces events for the semester
2. Art Relaxation Days, \$15: once-a-month event (not including January); in the cafeteria; 5-10 attendees; this is a stress-relieving event
3. Paint Night, \$146: this is a stress-relieving event for students to relax and socialize
4. E- Board Transition Dinner, \$70: -

q. **SWell**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Guest Speaker on Wellness, \$500: The speaker is volunteering her time for free, but we would like to hold a reception after her talk for people to eat and socialize in order to boost attendance.
 - a. Can look into other catering but prefers Chipotle for dietary accommodations
2. Volunteer Day at RMHC, \$200: A Saturday in March at the Ronald McDonald House in Albany. To make a dinner for residents at RMHC.
3. Monday Mixer, \$200: A Monday in April at 6:00pm at Druthers in Albany. This event contributes to the social lives of students by being an event where they can de-stress and bond with other students in a cool environment. So many mixer type events in law school are focused around networking which while good can be very anxiety-inducing.
 - a. Thinks this would be nice to have but is open to this being cut.

r. **Immigration Law Society**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. GIM, \$60: We are looking to expand membership before spring elections and to recruit first and second year students interested in immigration law.

2. Movie Night, \$25: We will watch an immigration-related film or documentary.
3. Immigration Speaker Event, \$40: ILS will partner with LALSA and ALR to host ALR authors as speakers on campus to discuss their article recently published in ALR related to immigration in South America.

s. **Hockey Club**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Funding for Ice Time, \$400: The hockey club plays several games each semester against fellow local, informal hockey organizations, for which the club members who skate in the games pay out-of-pocket. We are requesting that for each game we play, SBA fund \$100 of the cost to rent the ice and pay the referees. We plan on scheduling at least 4 games, so this will mitigate some of the ice time costs we are going to incur.
2. Floor Hockey Event, \$123- amended to request \$175: This floor hockey event will contribute to the social lives of students because it will allow students to engage in the sport of hockey, on the gym floor rather than on the ice, where an inability to ice skate does not bar one from playing. We attempted to hold this event last semester, but we were unable to secure the gym on a Saturday that would have worked with our schedule.
 - a. Would prefer to move ice time funding to the floor hockey event and would cover ice time out of pocket in order to have people feel welcome and come play hockey; maybe move \$100 out from the ice time
3. GIM, \$60: This event contributes to the intellectual and social lives of our fellow students because it gives students of Albany Law an opportunity to join a student organization of like-minded individuals who love ice hockey and/or are interested in playing hockey.

t. **Federalist Society**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. Careers in the NYS Solicitor General's Office, \$88.50: This event will expose students to a career path that is not often, if at all, discussed throughout law school.

u. **Sports and Entertainment Law**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. GIM, \$60: The general interest meeting will inform members (and all students) about the events for this semester to get those interested in sports and entertainment law engaged in the field. It provides a space where students can engage with individuals with similar interests while advancing their legal career goals.
2. Guest Speaker Panel, \$80: The guest speaker panel is an awesome opportunity for students to network, ask questions, and learn from those practicing in the industry.

networking among non-traditional law school students who have unique challenges, needs, and opportunities that require a different type of conversation, venue, and support system.

3. Meet and Mingle Private Sector, \$500: This event is a late semester conclusion event and will include informal networking with attorneys actively working within the private sector. It will enhance networking among non-traditional law school students who have unique challenges, needs, and opportunities that require a different type of conversation, venue, and support system.
 - a. Asks to fund both but in half instead of one or the other
4. Professional Panel of Attorneys and Networking, \$1,980: The NTLSA "flagship" panel event comprised of law graduates of ALS and other institutions who were non-traditional during their time in law school. Panelists will include individuals in private and public sector roles, not limited to practicing attorneys. The panel will focus on addressing the unique challenges faced by non-traditional students, the employment application process, and allow for network building within the non traditional Albany Law School community. Panelists will predominately be located in the capital region.

bb. Basketball Club

i. Event and Funding Request Breakdown:

1. Western New England Law School Basketball Tournament, \$1,265: Tournament has a networking mixer event that allows students to meet and network with their peers from other law schools in the area.
 - a. Only event for the whole year, have enough people for the two teams. Okay not getting funding for pennies and basketballs but would love the tournament fee. Would appreciate even half the funding for the second team. \$450 per team to cover the cost and networking event.

cc. BLSA

i. Event and Funding Request Breakdown:

1. GIM, \$120.76, amended to \$53.50: Contributes to DEI initiatives by recruiting and fostering an inclusive environment for marginalized communities.
2. Silent Auction, \$98, amended to \$83.07: Contributes to raising revenue for James Campbell Matthews (JCM) Gala
 - a. Filed receipts for reimbursement.
3. JCM Gala, \$19,000: Commemoration of leaders in the legal field from marginalized communities in support of DEI initiatives. Event is a mixture of students, faculty, and legal professionals in the community, which inherently fosters networking with external organizations and their members.
 - a. Changes since budget was filed, changed the venue with approx. price at 10k. Lost the nonrefundable deposit on the

old venue. In talks with a DJ and looking at \$400. Decorations and such still working on. Wants to fund an outside photographer to promote black professionalism. Happening April 6th. Tickets usually run around \$60 for students and faculty and outside it was \$100 (around \$6k in tickets and around 2k in donations from last year)

- i. Venue: 10k
- ii. DJ: \$380
- iii. Entertainment \$200
- iv. Decorations \$500
- v. Photographer \$400

- 1. **\$11,500 is the new ask**
- 2. **Floor is around \$5,500**

- 4. 1L Study Hall, \$133.06: Contributes to intellectual lives of students by facilitating a space for 1Ls to ask last minute questions or explanations outside of regular office hours.
- 5. Mock Bar Exam, \$37: Contributes to intellectual lives of students by facilitating a space to practice for the bar exam. Goal is to improve overall bar exam success rate by allocating specialized practice time under test conditions.
 - a. Okay with getting rid of this.

dd. **OUTLaw**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

- 1. Love is Love Tabling, \$90.77: Valentines Day (2/14) from 12-5pm at a table in front of the library. Expect at least 30 people to stop by the table. This event will promote the inclusion of LGBTQ+ love during Valentine's day and create an inclusive space.
- 2. The Matrix as a Trans Allegory, \$161.07: This event will allow for a discussion of a queer analysis of the movie The Matrix with, potentially, Professor Ayers (if you didn't know it was directed by two trans sisters). This event will promote community and intellectual discussion of media.
 - a. \$254.84 is the new request- no GIM this semester

ee. **Disabled Lawyers Coalition**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

- 1. Study for Success, \$29.67: This event will go over neurodivergent friendly study techniques in time for mid-terms and finals

BREAK 11:45-12:00 PM

ff. **Class Senates**

i. **Event and Funding Request Breakdown:**

1. ***3L Senate:***

- a. Farewell Party, \$20,000: This money will pay the remaining balance on the vendor, pay the tip for the DJ and photographer, and pay for decorations at the event.

- b.** Mentorship Program Mixer, \$500: We had this event last semester and it was a great success! We had 40 attendees, mentors and mentees, and the amount of funding that we received (\$400) was sufficient to pay for dinner (no leftovers of Cardonnas catering). This semester, the 3L Senate is partnering with the 1L Senate and the Spring Start Senator to increase participation and to welcome the new spring starts to the program.
 - i.** Totally okay with the \$400 proposed by the finance committee
- c.** 3L Tabling for class gift, commencement, and bar prep, \$500: The 3L Senate is planning to hold a tabling event in February to hand out brochures that list the necessary requirements for admission to the bar in NYS and ice cream (the ice cream makes sense when you see the flyer).
 - i.** Not just for class gift, but new initiative having a bar ambassador (Feb 12th on how to be admitted to NY Bar)

2. 2L Senate:

- a.** Dog Therapy Day, \$245.29: This event is one that many people have come to each semester. We see this as a community building opportunity, and a way for students to de-stress a little so that they can better focus on final examinations.
- b.** Barristers' Ball, \$10,000: This amount will cover a variety of expenses, from paying for the venue, to decorations, photographer, and will be combined with the money recouped from ticket sales.
 - i.** Amending to 8.5k after making cuts. Encourages the 2k to be reallocated to affinity groups.

3. 1L Senate:

- a.** 1L End of Year BBQ, \$8,500: This event will allow students and staff to get a solid meal, while either sticking around or grab & go, right before finals start. It will build on the community aspect by bringing students together, especially those in different sections or those who have opposite schedules. Students and staff will have the opportunity to meet each other and network.
 - i.** \$1,150 is the new request for a grilled cheese event

gg. SBA Entity

i. Event and Funding Request Breakdown:

- 1.** Spring Finance Budget Meeting, \$27.48: This contributes to the life of the law school because this ensures that the committee members volunteering their time to assist SBA with the budget process are adequately fed for their time.

2. SBA Budget Meeting, \$528.25, amended to \$514.25: Expecting 26 Senator attendees and nearly 40 student organizations to attend. This contributes to the life of the law school because it ensures that the students who are volunteering to assist with allocating student activity fee funds are adequately fed throughout the day.
3. Gift Cards, \$75: This is a required expenditure pursuant to the SBA Bylaws. SBA is required to host a survey to assess the engagement of the student body each semester among other things. Therefore, this boosts the participation in our survey with an incentive for better data.
4. Flash drive, \$23.99: This contributes to Albany Law School in the long run because, over the last 10 years, we have lost much documentation and institutional knowledge from subsequent Executive Boards. This flash drive will be passed down between Executive Boards and contain all necessary files for their success.
5. Toner Replacement Cartridge, \$39.99: SBA owns a printer in the SBA Office. To ensure free printing services are available for student events and activities, we will need to ensure there is available toner replacements.

hh. SBA Committees

i. Event and Funding Request Breakdown:

1. Diversity Committee:
 - a. The 16th Annual Multicultural Cabaret, \$2,321.69: The Multicultural Cabaret is an annual event at ALS that brings together various cultures and traditions. The event creates a social and fun atmosphere where students and faculty enjoy food, music, performances and drinks.
2. Alumni Committee:
 - a. Unknown, \$400: The funding we are requesting is designed to be used in congress with the Alumni Office. The funds we are requesting would be used to support the Alumni Office or student organizations whose events would be involving alumni.
3. Events Committee:
 - a. Unknown, \$400: We will be using this funding to support student organizations, as well as to create our own events - likely a sister event of some kind to the Grilled Cheese Event that we did last semester with great success.
4. Philanthropy Committee:
 - a. Philanthropic Endeavors, \$300: Generally the Philanthropy committee will look to support other organizations in their philanthropic endeavors. We will also look into possibly conducting a food drive or toys for tots donations.

END STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

IV. STATE OF THE BUDGET

a. The money that we have:

- i. Currently in account (not including money earmarked from Fall 2023 for Barristers' and Farewell): ~\$96,326.45
- ii. Money we need to keep for future use (cannot spend): \$20,000.00
- iii. Money being allocated for emergency funding & appeals and new student orgs for GIMs per SBA Resolution #4: \$1,800.00
- iv. Money we have available to allocate for this semester's events and items: ~\$75,000.00
- v. However, full allocation, if everything is spent, would mean the Senate would only have ~\$45,000 to spend next fall. Allocating \$60.5k would mean the Senate would have \$60.5k to allocate next semester. Additionally, even though we allocated about \$71,000 last semester, organizations spent a little over \$61,000 per the Fall 2023 Financial Report. As such, it is **strongly recommended to allocate only ~\$60,500.00.**

b. The money being requested:

- i. Clubs and organizations are requesting a total of \$46,453.12
- ii. SBA as an entity, the committees, class senates, and at-large senators are requesting a total of \$34,997.69
- iii. Total being requested for Spring 2024: **\$81,450.81**
- iv. Total being proposed for Spring 2024: **\$59,465.50**

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Budget Discussion and Voting;

DISCLAIMER: Voting Numbers will reflect members present at the time of voting, not absent votes. The first number is yes, second no, and third is an abstention: *yes-no-abstention*. "As requested" indicates what the club requested or amended in terms of funds and "as proposed" indicates what the Finance Committee proposed for the budget allocation.

MOTION TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION, SECONDED, 21-1-0, PASSES.

1. PAD

- a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal except as requested for the GIM. **18-0-0, PASSES.**

2. Dems

- a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **17-2-0 PASSES.**

3. IALSA

- a. Justification: accepting the finance committee's proposal, **18-0-0 PASSES.**

- 4. Health Law Society**
 - a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **17-2-0 PASSES.**
- 5. National Lawyers Guild**
 - a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **19-0-2 PASSES.**
- 6. Women's Law Caucus**
 - a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **17-2-0 PASSES.**
- 7. Crim Law Society**
 - a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **17-2-0 PASSES.**
- 8. Environmental Law**
 - a. Justification: motion to fund all as proposed except to remove the table banner. Notes that appeals are available to organizations after a discussion to partially fund the panel, worried too similar to ALR and there will not be attendees. They also have 4 other events going on and they will be active with or without the panel. **16-2-2, PASSES.**
 - b. **Reconsider the budget:** motion to allocate **\$500 for panel, 12-7-0 PASSES.**
- 9. APALSA**
 - a. Justification: motion to amend to fund cherry blossom in full as requested, as requested for networking, and lunar at zero. It was noted in the presentation that they would be willing to let go of the lunar new year event. **19-0-0, PASSES.**
- 10. MLSA**
 - a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, except to fund Ramadan Dinner to \$900. **18-3-0, PASSES.**
 - b. **Motion to reconsider:** motion to fund Ramadan Dinner in full and remove the funding for the henna, **15-3-1, PASSES.**
- 11. Cardozo**
 - a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **17-2-0 PASSES.**
- 12. Golf Club**
 - a. Justification: no range or simulator, fund the outing \$750 and putting outing at \$75. **13-1-1, PASSES (quorum set at 15).**
- 13. Men's Rugby**
 - a. Justification: accepting the new proposed amendment. **13-1-1, PASSES (quorum set at 15).**
- 14. Women's Rugby**
 - a. Justification: increase tournament to \$200 because of split of ALS students versus non-ALS students. Increase networking alumni event to \$250 to

allow for some alcohol purchases because of the professional nature of the event. **18-0-0, PASSES.**

15. ALGAE

- a. Justification: definitely should get money for snacks and such, in efforts to fund the extravaganza. Motion to fund as proposed by the finance committee, **18-1-0, PASSES.**

16. FPAC

- a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **20-0-0 PASSES.**

17. SWell

- a. Justification: accepting the finance committee's proposal, but guest speaker at \$400. **19-0-0, PASSES.**

18. Immigration Law Society

- a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **19-0-2 PASSES.**

19. Hockey Club

- a. Justification: same money as proposed: \$150 for ice time, \$125 for floor hockey, and GIM at \$60. **16-0-0 PASSES.**
- b. Revisiting, moving to fund ice time to \$400. **16-1-0, PASSES.**

20. Federalist Society

- a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **19-0-2 PASSES.**

21. Sports and Entertainment Law

- a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **19-0-2 PASSES.**

22. International Law

- a. Justification: motion to fund GIM in full and \$150 for each of the two panels, **18-0-0 PASSES.**

23. Bell Collective

- a. Justification: accepting the finance committee's proposal, **18-0-0, PASSES.**

24. LALSA

- a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal but increase Heritage dinner from proposal to fully funding the request with the stipulation that no 60-person cap is allowed in regard to attendance.
- b. **19-1-1, PASSES**

25. IP Law

- a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **17-2-0 PASSES.**

26. First Gen Law Students

- a. Justification: accepting the finance committee's proposal, **18-0-0 PASSES.**
- b. **Reconsidering the budget:** the registration event would be with the school and the school usually cover the event, but they would appreciate

an allocation of \$100 to event. Motion to amend to allocate \$100 from panel to the registration event (237.15 for panel and 100 for registration); **QUASHED MOTION, 17-0-1.**

27. NLSA

- a. Justification: split as \$250 for each meet and mingle and fund the panel at \$800. **14-6-0 PASSES.**
- b. **Motion to reconsider: 4-15-0, the motion FAILS.**

28. Basketball Club

- a. Justification: fund the basketball club tournament in full. The difference between \$400 proposal and today's request for \$450 was discussed (reason because during today's presentation the tournament increased in size and needed to find a new venue which increased price per team to \$450). The tournament also involves 15 other schools, which provides opportunities for networking with other law students. Approval now at \$900 and reconsideration later when more information obtained by Senator Jacobs.
 - i. Status: **17-2-0, PASSES** with potential for reconsideration pending information from basketball club
 - ii. Motion to reconsider approved. Motion to approve at \$850 because if club signs up by next week only \$425. **15-1-0, PASSES.**

29. BLSA

- a. Motion to fund: Gala at \$5,000 and then GIM and Auction as requested and everything else as proposed by the finance committee.
 - i. Status: **15-7-0, PASSES**
 - ii. Justification against \$5,500 is what they said they could work with, and that should be respected and approved.
 - iii. Justification for: \$5,000 is the floor and most likely reasonable considering the ticket sales and the two forms of entertainment when there could be one.
- b. **Revisiting the Budget-** motion to amend to fund \$5,500 in the gala. **8-11-0, MOTION FAILS.**

30. SBA Committees

- a. Diversity: same as finance proposal except:
 - 1. LALSA- \$560.71
 - 2. IALSA- \$250
 - 3. Justification in cutting homemade sangria to storebought and eliminating some repeated foods to help cut costs on the budget.
 - a. **16-2-0, PASSES**
 - ii. **Motion to reconsider:** motion to reconsider **5-12-0, FAILS.**
- b. Alumni:
 - i. Justification: Accepting the finance committee's proposal, **18-0-1 PASSES.**

- c. Events:
 - i. Justification: Accepting the finance committee’s proposal, **18-0-1 PASSES.**
- d. Philanthropy:
 - i. Justification: Accepting the finance committee’s proposal, **18-0-1 PASSES.**
- 31. OUTLaw**
 - a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee’s proposal, **19-0-2 PASSES.**
- 32. Disabled Lawyers Coalition**
 - a. Justification: Accepting the finance committee’s proposal, **19-0-2 PASSES.**
- 33. SBA Entity**
 - a. Justification: Accepting the budget as proposed but the budget meeting line item as requested, **17-0-3 PASSES**
- 34. Class Senates**
 - a. 1L
 - i. Justification: Accepting the request of the amendment provided by the 1L senate, **15-1-0 PASSES**
 - b. 2L
 - i. Justification: Accepting the amendment of 8.5k, **17-0-0 PASSES**
 - c. 3L
 - i. Justification: Accepting the finance committee’s proposal, **16-1-0 PASSES**

MOTION TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION, SECONDED, 19-0-0 PASSES.

MOTION TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION, SECONDED, 17-2-0, PASSES.

VI. RESOLUTIONS

- a. Resolution #005, Student Activity Fee
 - i. This resolution, if passed, shall serve as a formal **recommendation** to the Albany Law School Board of Trustees to adjust the student activity fee to \$100.00 per semester—a \$25.00 increase—by at least the Fall 2024 semester.
 - ii. The Board of Trustees has need to urgently consider the state of the student activity fee and has requested this to be brought to the attention of the SBA.
 - iii. Motion to approve, seconded, **14-4-2, PASSES.**

MOTION TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION, SECONDED, 19-0-0, PASSES.

I. RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution #005, Student Activity Fee Notes, responses to executive session discussions on the matter in open forum caucus.

- i. **Meg T.:** Leadership is not always about being well perceived or well-liked, it is what is needed. Support for financial stability. I recognize that I'm a 3L, but I am the only person on this senate for the 3rd year and have seen the impact of having enough money to spend versus having to make large cuts. Short notice yes, but outside our control and bylaws only require 24-hour notice, and we do take student feedback seriously and welcome their feedback.
- ii. **Michael W.:** I object strongly to passing of this resolution. Beneficial but improper in terms of procedure, recognizes senate's arguments and the need for the resolution but objects on the grounds of notice and procedure and the fact that many students do not want this increase.
- iii. **Max S.:** Any allegation that we have not followed the bylaws is erroneous, we are to give 24-hour notice, which was provided here. Additionally, we have considered bills and new business in this way before. This bill is of critical importance and would like to echo sentiments made by the treasurer, Meg; references to the vast majority of those who use this fee and understand the inadequacy of the cuts we've made. It is a difficulty decision, but it must be made.

II. FINAL BUDGET BILL VOTE

a. Bill No. 045 – Spring 2024 Budget Bill, Unanimous Approval.

- i. Motion to approve the budget, seconded: **21-0-0, PASSES.**

ROLL CALL & STATEMENTS; *optional explanations capped at 30 seconds; notes taken to best of ability as to reflect subject matter being discussed.*

1. Max Sevor:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: **no vote**
- b. **Justification:** - *chair must abstain*

2. Meg Tylenda:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: **YES**
- b. **Justification:** thanks student leaders for taking the time in putting requests together and coming in. Thinks we did the best we could with the funds and encourages increasing fee. Thanks to the new senators for their help in this first meeting and for showing up and doing the work.

3. Noah Jacobs:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: **-YES**
- b. **Justification:** - thank you to everyone involved.

4. Ashlyn Henrichs:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**

- b. **Justification:** thanks to the finance committee for their hard work and for everyone who presented and helped out in the budget process.
- 5. Alice Hollocher:**
- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
 - b. **Justification:** - thank you to all the student leaders for being understanding and providing details promptly. Hopes this more streamlined budget can be an example for future years.
- 6. Olivia Vecchio:**
- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
 - b. **Justification:** - thanks finance for much smoother budget process compared to last semester; thanks people for sticking it out and advocating for groups that you care about.
- 7. Stephen Giorgianni:**
- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
 - b. **Justification:** - no comments.
- 8. Chloe Kangarlu:**
- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
 - b. **Justification:** - thank you to the finance committee!
- 9. Taylor Alimari:**
- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
 - b. **Justification:** - thank you to the finance committee- really proud of everyone for speaking their voices, whether SBA representatives or those students who came to present. Thinks everyone worked really well today.
- 10. Jonathan Stein:**
- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
 - b. **Justification:** - believes we have done a thorough job in considering the requests and working towards equitable results. Thanks finance committee for the complete 180 due to their hard work. Suggests to all student orgs that if they are unhappy, they should appeal through the appeals process that we have in place.
- 11. Jack Rainey:**
- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
 - b. **Justification:** - thank you to Meg and the finance committee for all the hard work; thank you to the SBA for sitting through this long, but not as long as last semester, meeting. If anyone has any problems, please appeal. The budget was tight and shows that we do need an increase in the student activity fee.
- 12. Veronica Esteves:**
- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**

- b. **Justification:** - thanks everyone for being great and working through it, please remember to look at affinity groups and would love to see more emphasis on these groups; encourages everyone to remain professional and not embarrass anyone on the record.

13. Mitch Spaulding:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
- b. **Justification:** - thanks the finance committee and Meg on working with him, bylaws committee, and to everyone for working within the constraints the budget had.

14. Ben Jacobs:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
- b. **Justification:** - thank you to Meg and the finance; thanks to Max and Noah and shoutout to Ashlyn for taking all the notes. Thanks student leaders and thanks fellow SBA members for a job well done.

15. Colin Baker:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
- b. **Justification:** - no comment.

16. Natalie Turney:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
- b. **Justification:** - thank you to the finance committee, Meg, and SBA for making the changes to the Budget Process. Unlike last semester, she is voting for approval of this budget because she believes that the funds were more equitably distributed, the Senate worked professionally to discuss the necessary budget cuts, and we protected the health & well-being of this organization for future semesters. Also wants to thank every single senator who stayed until the end of the meeting to create a more equitable budget. She looks forward to meeting and working with the new Diversity Senator.

17. Mitch Whittaker:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
- b. **Justification:** - thank you to the student leaders in taking the time to make thoughtful budget requests.

18. Micheal Wood:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
- b. **Justification:** - voting yes on the basis of three reasons; attribute success to finance committee and the reform that was made, very much supports the budget as it is being much more equitable, minor point that the diversity multicultural cabaret should have been funded more- but overall satisfied with the budget.

19. Julia Vavrinec:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **ABSENT**

~~b. **Justification:** ABSENT~~

20. Madeleine Jones:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
- b. **Justification:** - thanks bylaws, exec, and finance committee; proud of the efficiency and promotes student activity fee because it would mitigate many of the issues that were had.

21. Dean Kaknis:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
- b. **Justification:** huge thanks to meg and finance; thanks to student leaders for organized and clear-cut proposals.

~~**22. Azad Kurd:**~~

~~a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: **ABSENT FOR FINAL VOTE**~~

~~b. **Justification:** ABSENT~~

23. Matthew Abdelmalek :

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
- b. **Justification:** - thanks the finance committee and Meg for doing such a great job of handling not an easy hand to be dealt and appreciates clubs advocating for their orgs. Feels welcome by SBA senate and this is the first and last time doing the budget- enjoyed seeing the level of care that was handled in this on behalf of the student body.

24. Erin Pepe:

- a. Official Vote on Overall Budget: - **YES**
- b. **Justification:** - thank you to the finance committee for being very helpful- thank you to student leaders as it is easier to see a person advocating for club instead of numbers on the request forms. Thanks SBA body for welcoming her in and looks forward to working together.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Please check the SBA website.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- a. None.

V. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- a. The next regular SBA meeting is scheduled for February 14th, 2024, at 7:30 PM in Room 200.

VI. ADJOURNEMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN, SECONDED, 21-0-0, PASSES