



New York University School of Law

Student Bar Association

SBA MEETING AGENDA

DATE: 11/7/12

TIME: 5:30 pm

ROOM: Golding Lounge West Wing

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED
Lance Polivy, President	X		
Vanish Grover, Vice President	X		
Chase Dalton, Treasurer	X		
Sharon McDonald, Secretary	X		
Ben Steinberg, Social Chair	X		
Joe Tevelowitz, Social Chair	X		
Patrick Totaro, Student Senator	X		
Gabriel Hopkins, 3L Representative			X
Hannah Rodgers, 3L Representative			X
Morgan Miller, 3L Representatives			X
Ali-Puente Douglas, 3L Representative	X		
Charlotte Slaiman, 2L Representative	X		
Stew Gilson, 2L Representative	X		
Adam Saper, 2L Representative	X		
Mat Ahn, 2L Representatives	X		
Reyhan Watson, 1L Representative	X		
Monica Ramirez de Arellano, 1L Representative	X		
John Michael Grant, 1L Representative		X	
Julienne ("Jules") Merkel, 1L Representative	X		
Brooks Emanuel, 1L Representative	X		
David Giroux, Transfer Representative	X		
Daniel Echavarria, LLM Representative	X		
Rebeca Mosquera, LLM Representative			X
Jose Ziebarth, LLM Representative	X		

AGENDA ITEMS

- How to Respond to Hurricane Sandy
- Deans Meeting – 11/13/12, 11 am, Snow Dining Room
- Resolving Last Week's Votes
- Remarks from the Board Regarding Student Concerns

NOTES

Resolving Last Week's Votes

- Veteran's Group: Group Recognized (all present voted to approve, no abstentions)
- Votes on Incentive Funding Guidelines and Alternative Breaks Deferred to next week after Chase's committee can meet post-Sandy

How to Respond to Hurricane Sandy (20 minutes)

- Philanthropy Component
 - SBA will be hosting a canned food drive next week from Monday to Thursday in Golding Lounge. LaLsa may do a drive in conjunction with the SBA drive, but we are not sure.
 - Stew Gilson is still working with BaLSA about a clothing drive. If other groups are interested in partnering with the SBA in starting a clothing drive in the very near future, the SBA would love to work with them.
 - Other groups are doing drives and projects as well. For example, The Review of Law and Social Change is doing a clothing/blanket drive during the week of 11/5 and Outlaw is doing a Bake Sale, the proceeds of which will help a homosexual homeless shelter in Chelsea that was destroyed during the storm.
- Public Service Component
 - We would love to help provide legal services and information regarding disaster relief. However, right now, the biggest concern is the weather getting cold. Seems like people need their basic needs met more than they need legal services. A lot of people need help getting things out of their basements that were flooded.
 - We will continue to search for opportunities to volunteer all over NYC/ New York area. Patrick Totaro, Student Senator, will look to find out if there is way the administration to provide some transportation to students looking to volunteer.
 - We would love to start a long-term pro bono student group that would be prepared throughout the years to respond to crises such as these.

Deans Meeting Agenda Topics

- Permanent pro bono student group, submitted by David Giroux
- Update on the ABA waiver of required hours in light of the Hurricane, submitted by Ali Puente-Douglas
 - It may have been rejected, but we are not sure. We want them to tell us what they asked for and how things went.

- A lot of 1Ls are concerned with the schedule. We would like to know how they evaluated the options for the ABA requirements. Could we ask the professors to go slower through the material and cut things in order to ease the burden on the 1Ls?
- Update on getting more PILC counselors, submitted by Joe Tevelowitz
- Update on how the administration will support the student groups when the pro bono requirements come in, submitted by Lance Polivy
- Need for more academic advisors to provide support for people in regards to the mechanics of graduation (e.g. you need X amount of hours, this is the adjunct cap, etc.), submitted by Ben Steinberg
 - Possible alternative: Making ABRA a tool to track whether you have met the graduation requirements, submitted by Vanish Grover
 - How do we make the academic advising resources we have more accessible to the student body, submitted by Stew Gilson
- Less panels and more one-on-one advising with professors who are willing to mentor 1Ls, submitted by Monica Ramirez
 - We've had a lot of meetings about this. The administration has come up with a solution. They will create 8 different pathways to the legal profession (criminal law, corporate practice, public service, litigation, government work, etc.). This spring there will be a panel of about 3 professors who all teach courses that fit into a particular pathway and they will discuss what course you should take if you want to go into a certain field.
 - The professors will also hold special office hours that students can go to in order to learn what they should take. This will be the new system of academic advising.
- Some classes were not recorded on Monday even though the administration promised that they would. We want to make sure that all the classes were recorded, submitted by Vanish Grover.
- Faculty and Dean interaction. In the past years, there have been good ways to get to know professors (lunches, etc.). People in general want more faculty interaction. Dean Revesz also wants to interact more with students. We need to find a good way to do that. What would students actually show up to? Submitted by Lance Polivy
 - Should we perhaps have another Town Hall? Submitted by Joe T
 - The problem with these is that they work well only when there is a definite topic (e.g., Deb Ellis is leaving). People don't go unless there is a cause.
 - Coffee and Dessert in Dean's office?

- 20 person lunches with the Dean (a “Roundtable”)
- What about him walking around Golding and Wachtell informally or we can set something up with coffee and cookies, etc?
- Can we get the ATM back in Kushner lounge, submitted by Ali Puente- Douglas

Remarks from the Board Representatives

1L Representatives:

- **Section 2:** Coat-check is not following their posted hours. Commuter students value it. They also want a sink to wash their Tupperware around Golding.
- **Section 3:** Not a lot of concerns apart from the revised schedule. It’s hard on 1Ls. They want a water fountain on the first floor. An alumnus is willing to donate one of his water fountain units to Kushner student lounge. Yay!
- **Section 4:** Very happy apart from the revised schedule.
- **Section 5:** Happy apart from the revised schedule. Some of their classes were extraordinarily hot. There is a fix-it system where if there is a problem with the temperature, you can submit a report to maintenance. Ali Puente-Douglas sent the link to fix-it that reps can use should thi problem arise in the future.
- ** 1L Reps are responsible for organizing the gifts given to the professors at the end of the semester. **

2L Representative

- **Adam and Charlotte:** Think we should publishing the entire agenda to the entire student body.
- **Stew:** The schedule is giving everyone a head-ache. We may suggest that the administration push the professors not to try and speed through the material and just slow down so that the reading load is not too heavy.

3L Representative

- **Ali:** Can we get the ATM back in Kushner?
- **Vanish:** More library space!

LLM Representatives

- **Daniel and Jose:**
 - The LLM community is not really linked into the SBA. This is a real problem. Want to think of a way to merge the LLM specializations with the SBA. One way would be to give LLMs access to SBA incentive funding.

- A lot of students think the language the administration uses with the LLM community is too discouraging. They are told that they will not be able to get jobs, etc. This should be changed.
- A lot of students feel that they have too few representatives on the SBA. There are no tax groups. They want more representation to speak for the different LLM specializations.
- The budget is already tied up because of the end of the year of the party. The administration is urging them to have it. They want to do other events however.