

Student Bar Association

SBA DEANS MEETING AGENDA

DATE: 2/12/13

TIME: 11:00AM

ROOM: Snow Dining Room

 *Admissions*

- Last year we had a productive discussion about gender parity and diversity in Admissions.
 -  Where do we stand this cycle? How are we responding to the weaker pool with respect to female and diversity candidates?
 - The class of 2014 was 60-40 in terms of gender parity. This was a serious problem. The class of 2015 is 44% women. This is a significant increase. There was a significant focus on women in almost every aspect of the admissions process. Diversity in admissions continues to be a top priority to the administration.
 -  How can the SBA continue to help in your efforts to recruit the strongest and most diverse class?
 - Admitted students want contact with current students, so this is where the student body can really help out. We have been doing much better than last year so far on student ambassadors, but having events.

 Alumni Interview Program

- Admissions has started to talk about this program. Vanderbilt is one example of a school that has successfully done this.
- You need several hundred volunteers to get this going. Vanderbilt has about 600, and that's a smaller school. We need those volunteers to be located everywhere nationally. Luckily, we're well positioned to do this.
- There are potential issues with this. Would need additional staff to coordinate. A few bad ambassadors could have a very negative impact on admissions.

 *Revisiting Past Agenda Items*

- Is there an update about the proposed streamlined communications strategies we explored last semester?
 -  At this point, the concern is mostly technical. There's a Docket calendar and there is the law school calendar, and the redundancy is something Dean Fama and the administration are working on.

Student Bar Association

- Career Pathways Program: what progress has there been towards implementation?
 - ✚ The students want quality advising. As the program gets rolled out, this is a primary component of what is being designed. The pathways set out by the Chesler report (with the addition of public interest) are going to be the primary focus. The goal is a centralized place on the website where people can go for clear and simple information.
 - ✚ There is going to be an April 17 event specifically targeted toward academic advising with panels of faculty members, so that students can get interpersonal advice.
 - ✚ There is also a component of this related to alumni advising. The goal is ultimately to weave this into the pathways program and to integrate the two.
- Increasing the adjunct credit cap to facilitate the pathways
 - ✚ Currently working through the curriculum and adjunct departments to get faculty approval this semester. This has been ongoing for a while.
 - ✚ As the various pathways and groups figure out what the essential courses are, the administration will try to ensure full-time faculty or visiting faculty to teach these. Note that Taxation of Mergers and Acquisitions is currently co-taught by full-term faculty and a practitioner, which then doesn't count toward the adjunct cap.
 - ✚ The administration noted that it is considering waiving the adjunct credit designation if it were part of one of the professional pathways that a student is pursuing. This is especially helpful because this includes both the IP and corporate areas, which is an area that has been affected heavily by this in the past.
- Progress on resources for pro bono requirement credit for SBA student groups?
 - ✚ So far, there has still not been a lot of guidance from the court as to what will and will not count. There is a meeting scheduled for next week with the schools and the point person from the Court of Appeals to get more information. Until we know how they're going to draw the line on what is adequate supervision, it will be difficult to give concrete guidance on what will and will not count close to the line.
 - ✚ Alternative Spring Breaks will count. DVAP will count, since Sanctuary for Families is so involved in the work. Individual student groups can ensure that they will count toward the time requirement by seeking out similar supervision to DVAP. However, it is possible that a lesser amount of supervision may be sufficient to allow them to count toward the pro bono requirement.
 - ✚ More offline discussion is going to happen about some of the other large groups like SRP.
- Some faculty grades are still not in

Student Bar Association

- ✚ A lot of grades have been posted in the last few days. Professors have been asked to email students if their grades are going to be late. Academic Services has also been following up daily with professors.
- ✚ Remember that this has a big impact on students. Not having that grade in might cause them to lose out on certain job openings. This is something that professors need to remember.

✚ *Career Services*

- Confusion about the restructuring of OCS/PILC; who students go to when they enter the office; growing pains with division of responsibilities
- Systems for securing interviews through OCI and the PILC Fair
 - ✚ Concerns exist about the initial contact with OCS and PILC. There are reports of unhelpful people behind the front desk, and additional help in the initial two seconds would be helpful when walking into the office. As per Irene and Denise, the person who sits at the front desk should be able to answer every question that you have or refer you to somebody who should know. There are going to be better training materials. If there are specific examples of issues that keep cropping up, they will be directed to Irene and Denise.
 - ✚ From an informational standpoint, it is difficult. The Docket is OCS/PILC's primary means of communication about job opportunities. Yet fewer than half of students even open the email, and only about 15% click on any links in the email. We need to get better at carefully reading OCS/PILC emails.

✚ *Facilities*

- A big thank you for the sink and water fountain in Kushner!
- Piano Tuning
- Lights in library spaces consistently out
- Possibility of standing desks
- Clean/Cold Water upstairs in Vanderbilt Hall
- ITS: Updating the software of the common computers

✚ *New Items*

- Decision to conclude the NYU@NUS program with the graduation of the class of 2014
 - ✚ There has been an LLM program in Singapore that allows students to sit for the bar even though the program was outside the US. The class starting in May (beginning of the academic year) has just been admitted, and this will be the final class.



Student Bar Association

- ✚ The ability to sit for the bar is thanks to a New York Court of Appeals waiver, which expires after this year.
- ✚ Funding comes from an agency in Singapore, and that is also running out this year.
- ✚ Finally, with the opening of a full NYU campus in Shanghai and the addition of a 3L semester in Shanghai, it made more sense to consolidate activities in East Asia there rather than to have two separate projects.