

Georgetown University Law Center Student Bar Association House of Delegates Meeting

March 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes

- General Meeting etiquette:
 - o Mute microphones
- Reflection on the year
 - O Comradery throughout the year (General Body retreat, Tower Green Halloween, general feeling of the delegates representing the student body)
 - o Melody thanks everyone for their hard work!
 - o Even for the body transitioning out, please still try to communicate to peers if they have questions/concerns during this time

COVID-19 Q&A

- Olivia and Melody are student representatives on committee that Dean Ohm convened to make a decision on grading
 - They are trying to get a decision out by late this week or early next week
 - Weighing pros and cons of the options
 - Committee is aware of the grading policies that our peer schools have adopted
 - All versions of Pass/Fail are on the table
 - General policy line → trying to make students feel like they have control, when it's a situation where people feel like they have very little control
 - Committee had about 40 pages of student opinions
 - All relevant offices (OPICS, OCS, Registrar, Dean of Students, Registrar, etc.) were involved in the call
 - Career wrote a really thoughtful letter, thinking about the effects of a P/F policy on every year of law students
 - They have really thought about this, and believe that students will be okay even with P/F
 - o Also a lot of other peer institutions have already gone to P/F
 - Likely will be language/decision about 3L papers
 - Fall semester grades becoming P/F is likely not on the table
- o If people have questions, generally they should look at the FAQs Melody and Olivia sent out
- o If anyone gets sick, contact Dr. WinklerPrins (main campus/health side of things) and Dean Bailin (law center side of things)

- o Right now SBA is not forming a COVID-19 committee, but the new SBA e-board can consider it, right now everything is day by day
- The question about whether we will get tuition money back has not been raised yet, but Olivia plans to raise it
 - Georgetown Law students do not pay an activities fee, so any money back would not be for that
- o Right now no one knows when commencement will be rescheduled for
- O Dean Bailin is thinking about whether leftover money from committees/student groups can be used for care packages or other help for COVID-19
 - Dean Bailin will be speaking to a few other administrators about this
- o Money student groups weren't able to use this year will not affect how much money they will receive next year
- o CAPS is doing remote appointments
 - They have some restrictions based on jurisdiction, CAPS has that list and a secure portal they are using for privacy
- O All Beaudry tryouts going forward are virtual, although they had a few in-person tryouts over the last two days
- o If students have an academic issue (internet connections, study spaces, etc.) they should contact Maura DeMouy
- o Follow-up of all policies is a necessary component of this work!
- No decision on exams has been made yet, but they will likely be considering timezone issues
- o For seniors graduating, there are graduating stoles in the SBA office

• Transition

We had a great year!! Best Barristers, Fall event, great wine downs, LLM reps, 1L reps, etc.

Executive Board Updates

- o President
 - SBA has felt more relevant to the student body than ever before, we want to keep this up in the coming year!
 - E-Board has two members who are non-voting members
 - Attorney General: Master of procedure and rules, guide us through debate and resolutions, beautification amendments for the constitution
 - Chief of Staff: Flexible position, established to help with special events, recently has taken on working with student-faculty committees
 - Brief application will be released tonight, apply if interested! Contact Olivia if you want to have a conversation about it
 - Moderate committee restructuring at the next SBA meeting
 - Stand-alone service committee
 - Combine campus services and campus environment committee
 - o Get rid of umbrella structure

- Remove or limit non-SBA delegates from the SBA committees
- Students will have more notice for applying to student-faculty committees, and we will try to distinguish student-faculty v. SBA committees
- Upcoming dates:
 - April 1, April 15 SBA meetings
 - Chief of Staff/Attorney General application due March 24 at 8pm
 - Committee Preferences due April 10
- Olivia plans to have office hours before SBA meetings in the fall, in the meantime just let her know if you want to talk anytime!
- o Secretary
 - Voting via Zoom will use the yes/no button
- Vice President
 - Sign-ups for 1-on-1s with Jade going out, that's a time to talk about committee preferences
- Evening Vice President
 - An emergency fund exists for students going through financial hardship
 - Message will be going out to alumni to update them on the current situation, and encourage them to support the emergency fund
 - If anyone needs financial assistance right now, they should reach out to Dean Bailin, Mary Novak, Maura Grant-Hayes, Dr. Perez-Caro
- New Body Intros