

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION



University of Denver Sturm College of Law STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION: Minutes

Date: Wednesday, February 2, 2021, 4:30 – 5:30 PM @
<https://udenver.zoom.us/j/2939303815>

I. CALL TO ORDER (4:34pm)

1. Attendance
 - i. Exec: Tempest Cantrell, Leonela Urrutia, Tatum Perez, Edward Bowden, Meralee Hoffelt
 - ii. Part-Time: Abby Schwarz, Jessie Chilson, Z Williams
 - iii. LLM: Unfilled position
 - iv. ABA: Dani Churchill (absent)
 - v. 3L: Connor Shantz
 - vi. 2L: Marisa DeForest (late), Cerridwyn Nordstrom
 - vii. 1L: Gabby Gile, Jaime Greenwood
2. 1/20 Minutes
 - i. Leo moves, and Connor seconds: passes unanimously.

II. GUEST SPEAKERS

1. Dean Smith
 - i. Opening Remarks: Thanks for including Dean. Practice to make self available pre-pandemic. These are important. Open to other questions. Deans focused on doing better by students.
 - ii. Replacement Scholarships
 1. When Dean Smith came to DU in 2016, had to learn about institutions traditions. One thing was the phenomenon called “replacement scholarships.”
 2. Unfamiliar with in prior Deanship in IL.
 3. Puzzled with how to explain current state and how to move forward.
 4. Shared chart of current status of financial packages that do not allow for named-endowed scholarships for 1L students. Initial year is based on discount law school makes to price of tuition. Current status decreases administrative issues with named scholarships being rejected for another law school choice. Proposed changes will allow for named scholarships to be awarded to 1L students. Reduces amount of tuition discount and exchanges with endowed scholarships.
 5. Says the aid package is stable. Agreements that can change should be changed.

iii. Camera Policy:

1. Even though there is no “new” policy, students are hearing from some faculty that they are required to have cameras on.
2. Unsure of source of faculty challenge on this issue. ABA has said that law schools need to have some way of ensuring students are attending class. Some faculty are using a required cameras-on policy and this is not a position that they need to take.
3. Law school deans communicating that law students are not engaged and are using the camera-off policy not for authentically real crises.
4. Adjuncts not involved in these conversations. Dean Smith says this point can be made.
5. Leo: Suggested Professor Leong’s accountability piece for engagement as being a good source of alternative ideas.
6. Says best-practices of most-inclusive teachers need to be developed.

iv. Faculty Grading Timeline:

1. Dean Smith knew this was going to be important.
2. Primary focus was with faculty-emphasized early that turn-around on grades needed to be complaint and tight.
3. Aware of 2 faculty members who submitted grades later than Monday, January 11th. Maybe Covid-related.
4. Great majority of faculty felt like we did better, but not sure we did better with communicating with students.
5. Manage messaging with firms in appropriate cases.
6. Should have elevated faster: email the Dean.
7. Not sure what lesson-learned analysis should be, but feel free to elevate to top-level.
8. Try to problem-solve on the communication front.
9. Go to Dean Smith for questions about faculty grades, exam schedules, and questions that extend outside of the registrar’s office.

2. The University of Denver Law Film Society (“DULFS”)

- i. Sam Parker, Karl Brevik, Lindsay Webb faculty advisor.
- ii. Goal to bring a more creative group to campus.
 1. Covid-law library provides platform.
 2. Next year, hopefully will have in-person movie viewing and meetings.
- iii. Other law schools are developing this. In COVID, community and bringing people together has gotten strange.

- iv. Purpose: bring movie narrative and story-telling into our legal advocacy.
- v. What people need is “the excuse to hang-out” but also wants to give students skills to thrive in practice moving forward.
- vi. Looking to late-February event. Collaborate with other student orgs.

III. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- 1. Elections: Marisa DeForest NONE
- 2. ABA: Dani Churchill (absent) NONE
- 3. Social: Tatum Perez
 - i. Second round of Derby Days late Feb.
- 4. Health & Wellness: Zoë Williams NONE
- 5. Community Outreach: Meralee Hoffelt NONE
- 6. Finance: Edward Bowden: Vote will have to wait on constitution changes, but there is a vote for funding required. Question about funding request for registration fee for sports and entertainment society. 3 people attending. \$100 per person. Recommend approval for anything we can. \$200
 - i. Leo moves to approve travel fund. Connor seconds: passes unanimously.
- 7. Scholarship application is up.
- 8. Diversity: Leonela Urrutia NONE

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. DULFS
 - a. Leo moves to approve DULFS as an organization. Jaime seconds: passes unanimously.
- 2. Town Hall
 - a. Date TBD in February.
 - b. 4 Deans involved.
- 3. Second Derby Days
 - a. Social is working on this for February 20th before spring elections.

V. STUDENT CONCERNS

- 1. COVID Testing for Part-Time Students: working on this right now. Problems with slots filling up.

VI. REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- 1. Danielle and Devon on call today as possible replacement senators. Hello to them.

VII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

- 1. Leo moves to adjourn. Connor seconds.

Adjournment at 5:43pm.