

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION



University of Denver Sturm College of Law STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION: WEEKLY AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021, 4:30 – 5:30 PM @
<https://udenver.zoom.us/j/2939303815>

I. **CALL TO ORDER at 4:34 pm**

1. Attendance

- i. Exec: Tempest Cantrell, Leonela Urrutia, Tatum Perez, Edward Bowden, Dani Churchill
- ii. Part-Time: Abby Schwarz, Jessie Chilson, Z Williams
- iii. LLM: Devon Peavy
- iv. ABA:
- v. 3L: Connor Shantz, Danielle Loth
- vi. 2L: Marisa DeForest, Cerridwyn Nordstrom
- vii. 1L: Gabby Gile, Jaime Greenwood

2. 3/3 Minutes

- i. Motion to approve
 1. Tatum, seconded by Leo
- ii. Passes unanimously

II. **GUEST SPEAKERS**

1. Dean Boynton

- i. Fall schedule up by end of week. Summer up now.
- ii. PT advising office hours this week (sat morning, sun afternoon)
 1. PT persons think it's a good timeline
 2. PT 1L's will be included
 3. Z: we should talk to them about clinics b/c certain things will have to be changed around in order for them to participate
- iii. Maybe we could hire someone from the outside about support for student health
- iv. Consider orientation leadership
- v. We are launching a preorientation for groups underrepresented in legal profession: disability, BIPOC, 1st gen college, LGBTQ
 1. Will be week before regular orientation
 2. ASCENT program
 3. Will be looking for OL's and AAP leaders for this cohort

2. Q's to DB

- i. Tempest: Grad updates?
 1. DB: Nope. Still waiting on approvals. Some HS's have canceled their graduations at DU, so slots may be

freed up for us. We're still planning back-ups, however.

- ii. Danielle: Are we married to 5/22 as grad date? Can we move it to June to incorporate how we might have wide vaccination rates by then?
 - 1. DB: hadn't occurred to me, but I do hesitate pushing it back b/c of bar prep routines. Plus, the rest of the school has their graduations then.
- iii. Danielle: ASCENT program—OL/AAP is that a volunteer as OL and then be hired as AAP?
 - 1. DB: yes, AAP would be paid.
- iv. Tatum: how is class rank calculated for those who graduate early/PT persons graduating not w/ their cohort?
 - 1. DB: You get ranked with everyone who graduates in *that* academic year. (ex: 2020-21)
 - a. Ranks only done 1x a year
- v. Tatum: what is the impact of the optional pass grades on rank?
 - 1. DB: No impact. Don't count towards GPA or Rank.
- vi. Abby: if we didn't get orientation, can we be involved in some events? We missed out on a lot.
 - 1. DB: we can consider it.
 - a. Edward/Dani: or they can plan their own separate events, like meet/greet and social events
- vii. Gabby: it's difficult for law students to be seeing that the greater university is allowed to do some in person things, while we are still on a serious lock down w/ restrictions. There's a craving for us to be able to do *something* in person, at all.
 - 1. DB: Dean Smith is continuing to message that he is more conservative than the Chancellor in taking on risks, we don't want to risk the in-person classes we do have. The rest of campus has a very extensive event review process, it takes weeks.
 - a. DB: "unofficial events" might be a better option. Then you don't need to do the review process.
 - b. DB: I don't see Dean Smith changing that for the last 6 weeks of classes. But, things are very likely to open up for fall.
- viii. Z: since bar has been announced as fully remote, will campus be able to be used for bar takers?
 - 1. DB: Feb takers used building, so I'm assuming we will do the same for July. Restrictions might be looser in July, so coordinators are thinking we will be able to put multiple persons in classrooms at the same time

to take it. Folks can study at the law school, as long as they follow on-campus guidelines (mask, covid testing, etc).

ix. Gabby: when can we expect an announcement on what the fall will look like?

1. DB: it will be basically in person, I think every class.

III. **PREVIOUS BUSINESS**

IV. **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

1. Elections: Marisa DeForest

i. We extended a few positions, all applications due today.

1. Short a treasurer, 3L senators, LLM/PT senators.

2. Most people running uncontested. Congrats! Lol.

ii. Do we still need to put on elections even though everyone is unopposed?

1. TC: No, we didn't last year.

a. Marissa: I will still put bios and things on the website to the students know who is representing them.

2. Social: Tatum Perez

i. Looks like we won't be promoting candidates anymore b/c everyone is unopposed.

ii. We will be putting together a video tribute campaign for graduation

iii. Edward and I will be planning something to offer PT students and student orgs

3. Health & Wellness: Z Williams

i. Shirts

1. Final shirt/mask design in Group Me. LMK if you have feedback. We will have hoodies, shirts, masks, etc.

2. Need to figure out a preorder system.

3. Idea: sales will become a stipend for bar support, small \$100 stipends as needed.

ii. How should we get student input on stress levels?

1. Direct quotes in the past have been very effective

2. Don't want to overburden people

a. Feedback:

i. Tatum: DB advice was to do a walk out or lobby professors to allow a class cancellation or asynchronous classes that week.

ii. Leo: flyer to let SBA know, they can send us an email.

iii. Marissa: social media question boxes on SBA and personal accounts

iv. Abby: SBA office hours

v. Gabby: social media a good idea

- vi. Tatum: does TWEN have a good participation rate when we use it?
 - 1. Tempest: it's on the way out... last year they ended up getting heated. We didn't even use it.
 - b. Z: would folks be willing to reach out and gather feedback in whatever way they can? Our goal is to advocate for better policy and circumstances.
 - i. Danielle: yes, let's make consistent messaging.
 - c. Z: this could be advocated by both SBA and all students who are feeling motivated to make some sort of spring break happen. Are we comfortable with trying to make this happen?
 - i. Tatum: some professors aren't new to this idea, let's do it.
 - ii. Tempest: we could do what we did with Election Day off. We could BCC the student body so they know the students know we're trying to do this.
 - d. Z: are there concerns from SBA folks about advocating in this way?
 - i. Danielle: we should definitely let professors know. Some professors are ahead already, most might be willing to figure something out about making up class time.
 - ii. Jaime: we should still get student testimonial. It could be cathartic for the students.
 - 1. Z: so maybe we send a student wide email to inform that we're collecting feedback.
 - iii. We had planned to do a self-care challenge, where you sign up for it. But, we decided that we don't want to make people do anything. So, we will be opening a link for people to claim things for free w/o participating in a challenge.
4. Community Outreach: Jamie Greenwood
 - i. We had our event on Friday w/ good turnout.
5. Finance: Edward Bowden
 - i. Remind people to apply for book scholarship and that we will have a good amount of funds for different uses.
6. Diversity: Leonela Urrutia
 - i. Motion to double the amount (15k) in the bar fund to enable 41 partial scholarships.

1. Seconded by Z.
 - a. Discussion:
 - i. Danielle: 245 students graduating and sitting for the bar. 41 is better than 20 scholarships.
 - ii. Leo: Would toward bar application/bar fees. Z's T-shirt campaign is for other bar related expenses.
 - iii. Edward:
 1. Procedural comment—funds don't get allocated to committee until mid-april, which is after bar applications open up.
 2. Some reservations about giving half of our funds going to 1/3 of student body. Perhaps we should make it more proportional.
 - b. Vote:
 - i. Passes unanimously.
 - ii. Keep in mind this committee is switching to advocating to disabled students on campus. We are drafting a petition to get more accommodations on campus.
 - iii. Townhall Q's haven't been responded to by deans.
Recording is available.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Bar Exam Funding
2. T-Shirt Proposal

VI. **STUDENT CONCERNS**

1. Z: folks are getting denied from AccessLex fund after Dean told everyone they can apply twice. Sometimes their apps aren't even getting to committee, Jennifer Quinn is denying them. Dean told us there are a lot of funds that no one is using, so why can't we access them?
 - i. Tempest: DS has confirmed we can apply twice on recording.
2. Danielle: Remote bar exam issues. We should make a concerted effort to consolidate information about options and resources for bar access.

VII. **CALENDAR**

1. March 15th @ 8am - March 16th @ 12pm: Voting (Get-Out-To-Vote Campaigning Only)
2. March 16th @ 4:30PM: Winners Announced

VIII. **REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

1. Tatum: Shout out to Jaimie for picking up community outreach chair and doing a great job at the event last week.
2. Connor: Shout out to Danielle, better than senator than me.

3. Z: Appreciation to Cerridwyn for taking on emotional labor in advocating and educating us on disability concerns.

IX. **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

1. Motion by Leo, seconded by Marissa.
 - i. Adjourn 5:29pm