

**STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION MEETING
MINUTES- February 8, 2009
Taken by Kat Allen, Secretary**

I. Attendance

Name	Position	Present (P)/ Excused (E)/Unexcused (U)	Proxy	Total Unexcused
Derek Steele (DS)	President	P		
Veronica Lopez (VL)	Vice President Day	P		
Nick Mowbray (NM)	Vice President Eve.	P		
Andrew Heap (AH)	Treasurer	P		
Kat Allen (KA)	Secretary	P		
Kristina Kirby (KK)	ABA Rep.	P		
Courtney Smith (CS)	ISBA Rep.	P		1
Jeremy Hagee (JH)	CBA Rep.	P		1
Adam Savin (AS)	3L Day Rep.	P		1
Sulema Medrano (SM)	3L Day Rep.			1
Brian Reidy (BR)	3L Day Rep.	P		
Joe Sirchio (JS)	3L Eve. Rep.	P		
Michael Elliott (ME)	2L Day Rep.	P		1
Chuck Prochaska (CP)	2L Day Rep.	P		
Jennifer Maples (JM)	2L Day Rep.	P		
Melissa Caballero	2L Day Rep.	E	Chuck	

(MC)			Prochaska	
Rachel O’Konis (RO)	2L Eve. Rep.	E		
Prati Khanduri (PK)	2L Eve. Rep.	P		
Lauren Ortega (LO)	1L Day Rep. (A)	P		1
Mark Mazzone (MM)	1L Day Rep. (A)	P		
Raed Abboo (RA)	1L Day Rep. (B)	E	Pericles Abbasi	
Diana Rdzanek (DR)	1L Day Rep. (B)	P		
Jaclyn Hilderbrand(JH)	1L Day Rep. (C)			
Mark Silverman (MS)	1L Day Rep. (C)	E	Diana Rdzanek	
Megan Wagner (MW)	IL Day Rep.	P		
Pericles Abbasi (PA)	IL Day Rep.			

***Note, Walter Tersch, 4L evening representative has resigned since the last meeting.

-26 total members: we need 17 votes to proceed.

-4 proxied votes: MC to CP (present), RA to PA, MS to DR(Present), RO to KA (present)

-we have 19 total votes

- I. Motion to approve November minutes
 - a. Seconded.
 - b. Vote.
 - c. Minutes approved unanimously.
- II. President Report
 - a. First LRAP disbursements made
 - i. 34 people applied and 24 applicants were funded.
 - ii. CP: What are the criteria for granting disbursements?
 - iii. DS: Some people did not get funded because they were over the dollar amount.
 - b. Student Lounge Update

- i. The decision is to keep that area as a study space because more students want study space according to recent survey
 - ii. This does not mean it is stopped, just postponed for this year.
 - iii. We will approach the administration again about using part of the 2nd floor for a relaxation space which may require another survey within the month
 - c. Law Week
 - i. Coming up in April and we have to put together a Bar and Gavel committee
 - ii. 3Ls cannot be on the committee because 3Ls are eligible to receive the award
 - iii. VM: The committee would have to ultimately choose the recipients, nominations are due the 18th, resumes the week after, and must be done the first week in March so we can order plaques.
 - iv. DR, JM, CP, and JH are all interest in being on the committee.
 - v. VM: Ideally you should be familiar with all the students nominated.
- III. Vice President Day Report: Veronica Maldonado
 - a. Law Week
 - i. Starts Monday March 30 2009
 - 1. Dean Krent will address the law school and present awards
 - ii. Tuesday will be the roast of Professor Erickson if he consents; if not we will ask Professor Warner
 - iii. Wednesday is Diversity Day and Judge Katz will be the speaker
 - 1. JH: I externed for her in the domestic relations division of the Cook County Circuit court. She was the first self-identified gay judge in the circuit court. She also went to Kent.
 - 2. VM: start talking up law week to your fellow students.
 - 3. VM: We have already contacted different student organizations to do things for diversity day; we will be hearing back from them shortly.
 - 4. Theme: Strength through Unity.
 - 5. Colors: Red and Black.
 - iv. KJF Auction is Thursday
 - v. Barristers ends law week on the weekend.
- IV. Barrister's Ball Update: Sulema Medrano
 - a. We picked out the tablecloths and flowers which will all match and are purple and gold.
 - b. Voting on tablecloth samples:
 - i. First one: 5 in favor
 - ii. No one for second
 - iii. Majority for the third one

- c. There are three options for the menu: chicken, fish, and pasta. There is no red meat option but there are red meat appetizers.
 - i. The people at the registration table will have to indicate with the tickets which meal choice each person picked.
 - d. We need to know how much money we have for Barrister's from the finance committee.
 - e. We will be asking for volunteers to sit at the registration table. She may try to take volunteers to register people in exchange for free tickets.
 - i. If you know anyone who might want to do this, have them email SM.
 - f. DS: we are still working on getting the after party together for this.
- V. Social Chair Report: Adam Savin
- a. We just had a social at State.
 - b. The next one is March 5th at Lumin on Fulton. It is a full package deal and we are confirmed and ready to go. That is Dean Sowle's Bash.
 - c. The next one will be Conviser's Bash and we are looking at Lucky Lady.
 - d. AH: Do we always do two Dean Sowle Socials?
 - e. AS: Yes.
 - f. DS: The next social will not conflict with the brief.
- VI. ABA Report: Kristina Kirby
- a. The ABA wants to sponsor something if anyone has something they need money for like a recruitment event for example or maybe something with law week.
 - b. They also have a grant program for any organization that is doing a diversity-inspired event, they will give up to \$500.
 - c. VM: can the SBA apply for that?
 - d. KK: Yes as long as it is a first-time event.
- VII. New Business: Approve New Groups:
- a. Two New Groups applying:
 - i. National Lawyers Guild: They were not active last semester. They have submitted their bylaws and information sheet.
 - 1. Motion to vote.
 - 2. Debate:
 - ii. Art and Law society: Their focus is on tying in art and law like copyright law for example. It also has submitted necessary materials
 - 1. Motion to vote and second.
 - 2. Vote: All 22 in favor, none against or abstentions, approved.
 - a. MV: how many starting it?
 - b. DS: Five so far, they have a whole board established.
 - c. LO: Is there any reason not to have them?
 - d. DS: Not really.
 - 3. Vote: 23 in favor, none against, 1 abstention, approved.

- VIII. New Business: Approve Student Organization Budgets: Andrew Heap
- a. JS: Guidelines: We usually give between 3-500 for cultural events which varies according to people in the group, \$15 for office supplies, \$60 for postage which is looser, \$1000 for a conference, you can get more if you provided a detailed plan for a conference and meetings are generally \$150 depending on the amount of people in your group.
 - b. CP: can we just vote for those with objections?
 - c. AH: Yes.
 - d. Art and Law Society: No objections.
 - e. Hellenic Law Students Association:
 - i. BR: did you get any information about the flag/pole?
 - ii. AH: we assumed they were going to hang out for advertising purposes.
 - iii. NM: What is their Easter event?
 - iv. AH: Tradition Hellenic Easter event, etc.
 - v. No objections.
 - f. Real Estate Law Students Society
 - i. JS: Should he change office supplies to \$15
 - ii. AH: Yes.
 - iii. 23 in favor, none opposed, new budget passed.
 - g. Journal of Intellectual Property:
 - i. LO: why are their office supplies so high?
 - ii. KA: Because it is a journal.
 - iii. No objections.
 - h. Chicago-Kent Parents as law Students: No objections.
 - i. APALSA: No objections.
 - j. National Lawyers Guild
 - i. NM: where is their conference?
 - ii. AH: It is at Yale, called the 15th annual Rebellious Lawyering Conference.
 - iii. BR: \$1000 seems high for a conference for a group that is just starting.
 - iv. AH: We try to stick to the conference guidelines.
 - v. KA: In addition the deans encourage conferences in general.
 - vi. CP: It seems to be a radical, leftist group looking at their website which is something to keep in mind.
 - vii. No objections.
 - k. Student Hurricane Network
 - i. You will notice there was carryover on this group from last year; this is just money they have not spent yet. All of the money collapses into one fund at the end of the year and is then reallocated to the groups the next semester.
 - ii. We approved it last year and do not think it warrants discussion.

- iii. JH: How is it reallocated?
 - iv. AH: based on this meeting.
- l. Journal of International and Comparative Law: No objections.
- m. Chicago-Kent Lambdas
- i. JH: In some of the instances, the groups got less than requested, why is that.
 - ii. AH: We were trying to keep general guidelines.
 - iii. JH: For Black Aids day, what was the thinking?
 - iv. JF: we thought the condoms were essential to the thinking of Black Aids day and it was a sufficient amount.
 - v. JH: I personally do not think that condoms are that political.
 - vi. AH: It was an arbitrary cut-off but this group asked for over \$3k and we needed to cut it down somewhere. Generally when groups ask for line items specifically for alcohol we tended to cut it down.
 - vii. SM: They could also get donations for condoms.
 - viii. JH: moves to increase the condoms to the full amount.
 - 1. 15 in favor, 5 against, 1 abstention, increased to full amount.
- n. Immigration Law Society: No objections.
- o. Intellectual Property Law Society:
- i. NM: Their alumnae reception is expensive.
 - ii. AH: last year they asked for \$2500.
 - iii. ME: What is the breakdown of the costs?
 - iv. SM: They made a big deal about us giving them not enough money last year just to note.
 - v. KK: They basically said they could not do the event if we did not give them the money.
 - vi. DS: they get outside funding as well.
 - vii. JH: They ask for more than the other groups it seems.
 - viii. AH: Last semester they asked for 16k which we funded.
 - ix. DS: A lot of concern has been raised about students interacting with alumni is this is an important event to keep this connection with the IP students and the IP alumni. This event is successful and we should give them support in this area due to that concern.
 - x. ME: We have the \$2500 with no breakdown.
 - xi. AH: They submitted the breakdown but I just do not have it.
 - xii. CP: This is a networking event as opposed to a social event.
 - xiii. AH: Another thing to consider is we can cut them down and they can come back and appeal it or say we need a better breakdown.
 - xiv. KK: one of the factors is how many times the events had been put on in the past.

- xv. NM: Reiterates that we need to put on net-working activities and thinks they should be the full money.
- xvi. BR: What is the general status of our budget?
- xvii. AH: we got petitioned for a lot of money this semester and we needed to make cuts because there are budget concerns.
- xviii. AH: This event was framed as a networking event but the Lambda event was framed differently.
- xix. BR: What is this event?
- xx. JH: It is an awareness event.
- xxi. SM: There are a lot of factors to deciding budgets, not just the details of each event and whether it is well-planned.
- xxii. AH: does anyone want to suggest a specific budget cut? No objections.
- xxiii. JH: Suggests taking it down to \$2k.
- xxiv. DS: Did this event include alcohol?
- xxv. AH: Yes, there is nothing in the code that says we will not pay for alcohol. This is an exception because we are funding alcohol because this event has been around a long time and their information was in order.
- xxvi. ME: We should take into consideration that the “Don’t ask don’t tell event is relevant now.”
- xxvii. AH: JH suggested we cut the IP reception to 2k
 - 1. 1 in favor, 17 against, therefore, no change will be made.
- p. CASCLE: no objections
- q. Women in Law:
 - i. AH: We were trying to limit cultural events between \$300-500. They did not give a reason of why they needed more money, so we tried to split the difference.
 - ii. JH: Thinks we should fully fund the Vagina Monologues because it is well-attended and a good program.
 - iii. AS: Why did they ask for more money?
 - iv. AH: They did not say why specifically they needed more money.
 - v. JH: Proposes to give them the full amount.
 - vi. Vote: 11 for, 6 opposed, 2 abstention: fully funded.
 - vii. LO: what is the Diversity day money for?
 - viii. VM: Diverse student orgs usually participate in law week with skits, etc. We fund these events. I did not contact the student organizations so not all of them have this money in their budget. We therefore allocated \$150 for each group subject to how much they need and spend.
- r. Evening Law Student Society
 - i. AH: By the way, there was an extra event added which is an alumni panel.

- ii. No objections.
- s. South Asian Law Student Association
 - i. SM: Why did they get \$1300 instead of \$1000?
 - ii. AH: We will give more money if they detail exactly what the extra money is for which this group did.
 - iii. MM: We should zero out the diversity day.
 - iv. AH: Noted.
- t. Hispanic Latino Law Students Association
 - i. MM: Zero out diversity day.
 - ii. AH: Noted.
 - iii. No objections.
- u. Christian Legal Society: No objections.
- v. UNA-USA:
 - i. AH: the line-item for the vagina monologues is for international women's rights; that is the connection.
- w. American Constitution Society
 - i. JH: Did they explain the \$25 for Professor Rosen?
 - ii. AH: No, it could be for advertising.
 - iii. VM: Suggest striking the \$25 for both professor Rosen and Hayman until they give reason for the \$25.
 - 1. 12 for, 7 opposed, stricken.
- x. International Law Society: No objections.
- y. Phi Alpha Delta
 - i. AH: We made a big cut on this because we did not have a lot of information.
 - ii. Suggestion to completely remove the funding for game night pending explanation.
 - 1. 10 for, 6 against, 2 abstentions, it will be zeroed out.
- z. Health Law Society: No objections.
- aa. Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
 - i. AH: Movie night considers whether animals should have the same rights as humans. We asked them for an explanation and they gave us one.
 - ii. No objections.
- bb. Decalogue Society: No objections.
- cc. Kent Justice Foundation:
 - i. AH: They were very specific about what they wanted extra postage for.
 - ii. AH: They wanted food for the envelope stuffing suggestion. There had been a suggestion not to fund the \$30 for the envelope stuffing session.
 - iii. 12 for, 4 opposed, 2 abstentions, we will not fund the \$30 for food.
- dd. Federalist Society: No objections.

- ee. Labor and Employment Law Society:
 - i. AH: Their first program is on what the Obama presidency means for this society.
 - ii. JH: Moves to give them the full amount, \$1300k for the Program #1.
 - iii. CP: Says we should give deference to the finance committee.
 - iv. ME: Suggests the budget committee gives standards for the future.
 - v. VM: Also it would be helpful to provide the factors.
 - vi. SM: Wants to point out the groups sometimes ask for money knowing we are going to cut down some of their numbers.
 - vii. AH: Suggestion to raise the total from the \$1000 to \$1300
 - 1. 9 in favor, 12 opposed, 1 abstention, it will stay at \$1k.
- ff. Black Law Student Association
 - i. MM: we should zero out diversity day.
 - ii. No objections.
- gg. The Commentator
 - i. AH: We discussed taking down the stock photo supply because we did not know what that was. They have consistently asked for \$400 for the last few years.
 - ii. No objections.
- hh. Environmental Law Society
 - i. CP: What is with the extra money for the conference?
 - ii. AH: Again, they provided extra details for what the money was going to be used for.
 - iii. JH: Votes to increase the earth day amount to the full amount.
 - iv. In favor 5, 9 against, 2 abstentions, no change will be made.
- ii. Corporate Law Society: No objections.
- jj. Education School Law Society: No objections.
- kk. Student Bar Association
 - i. AH: We talked about taking out one of the socials in favor of a non-alcoholic. We feel this is something we could do this semester. Adam, we were not sure if you have made a commitment yet. We thought all of our socials are aimed at day students and focused on alcohol and we have had a lot of complaints.
 - ii. AS: The last social is the Dean Conviser social which he pays for half of and the deans are already planning on them occurring. In addition these events bring in money and alumni show up. Adam also suggests that Alumni be encouraged to attend and they can pay the guest rate.
 - iii. SM: Anything with alums had to go through Terry. In addition, there are student groups that are sponsoring non-alcoholic events.

- iv. AH: We have to remember that we have a huge evening population here at Kent. For the future, it is worth considering changing one of the existing socials to show that we are aware that evening law students have specific needs.
- v. DS: It is not as much of Friday issue as a parents/alcohol issue where there are adult and family activities possibly on a Saturday.
- vi. AS: The problem with that is that it would be much more expensive on a Weekend.
- vii. DS: Keep in mind we have to have two socials a semester for each Dean and the third one can be subject to change in the future.
- viii. AH: There has been a suggestion to bump up the amount for the thirds social from \$4500 to \$9000.

1. 19 for, 1 abstention, it will be increased to \$9000.

II. Law Week Budget: Veronica Maldonado No objections.

mm. Barristers: Sulema Medrano

- i. What is our budget?
- ii. MM: We have about \$80,000 to give for Barristers.
- iii. SM: Flowers were a little expensive with our budget. Could we have a \$5000 budget? I think the flowers could make a really big difference. I am asking for \$5000.
- iv. JH: What are we projecting for attending?
- v. SM: Maxed out with 500 people.
- vi. JH: Can we raise the flowers without raising ticket prices?
- vii. AH: Yes. We have at least \$10,000 and we can afford this.
- viii. SM: We can also vote on the ticket prices but we need to finalize it now.
 - 1. LO: Move to vote for \$5000 given for flowers: Unanimous
 - 2. Keeping tickets at 60: Unanimous

IX. New Business: Derek Steele

a. Student Fees

- i. Currently our fees are \$65 for student fees and \$12.50 for the LRAP
- ii. This year is the first time for the LRAP and we are expecting that will increase. This gives assistance to students who need it for individuals going into public interest law. Individuals that have solely federal loans are given less than those with private loans.
- iii. Derek proposes to raise the LRAP to \$15 and to decrease the student fees.
- iv. LO: Would be in favor of the increase in LRAP due to the economy.
- v. AH: Suggests increased the LRAP and decreasing the student activity fee. Other law schools pay much less in student fees. It probably does not have to be quite so far. I am in favor of increasing the LRAP and decreasing the student activity fees.

- vi. DS: Take note that if we cut the student activity fees, next year we will have to make major cuts in student organization budgets.
- vii. JS: One of the benefits of Kent is all the student organizations which have a lot of job potential so cutting our Student Fees may hurt us in the future.
- viii. MM: Would vote against decreasing student activity fee because all students benefit from the money that comes in from that fee.
- ix. ME: I would rather cut out a social than the money we give to student organizations.
- x. CP: Given the country and state of the economy right now, we should have some sense of responsibility. We are in a time where we should make cuts to the student organizations and cut down the student activity fee. I would also support increasing the LRAP fee.
- xi. DS: The LRAP is very appreciative of student support because we do not have the alumni support right now.
- xii. AS: I'd be in favor of raising both because alumni funding is low and giving money to the student activity fee will bring in more alumni support.
- xiii. BR: We could also keep the student activity fee at \$65 where it is now since it is increased historically from year to year.
- xiv. AH: John Marshall has a student fee of \$1 per student.
- xv. AS: Maybe instead of cutting a social we could structure it to appeal to everyone including alumni.
- xvi. VM: I suggest for 3Ls abstaining because it does not affect us.
- xvii. DS: The LRAP fees will benefit 3Ls.

1. Student Activity Fees

- a. Those in favor of increasing student fees by \$5 to 70: 7
- b. Those in favor of keep in the same: 8
- c. Those in favor of decreasing to \$60: 7
- d. Therefore they will stay at \$65

2. LRAP

- a. Those in favor of increasing the LRAP to \$15: 18
- b. Those in favor of keeping it the same: 5
- c. Those in favor of elimination LRAP: 1
- d. Student fees will increase to \$15

- X. Everything else will be tabled to the March 1st meeting. We will be discussing constitutional issues that will need to be voted on and require 2/3 of the SBA present.
- XI. Meeting adjourned 7:40 p.m.