



Case Western Reserve University
School of Law
Student Bar Association
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Agenda

Student Bar Association

Sunday, July 30, 2023

7:00 PM

1. **Call to Order** (J. Mendez Valdez)
2. Overview of finances by Maggie S. and Jose
 - Tough work, responsibility, processes, changes, importance of teamwork
3. **Attendance Roll Call** (M. O'Connor)
 - See [spreadsheet](#)
4. **Overview of Budget from 2022/2023**
 - Powerpoint made by Jose and Maggie S. Link [HERE](#).
 - Enrollment fees: Should be getting around 48,000, but will not be finalized for the fall (generally, get slightly less money in the Spring).
 - Total spending last year:
 - Barristers Ball from 2022 cost
 - Food at meetings: 6500 for SBA meetings.
 - Fall Ball
 - Run at a deficit, \$100/ticket
 - 3L week for 2023
 - Typically runs at a loss
 - Link to SBA budget spreadsheet [HERE](#)
5. **Budget Approval** (M. Schaller)
 - a. See [HERE](#) for voting outcomes.
6. **Animal Legal Defense Fund**
 - Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
 - Akua: Question about applying the same guidelines to everyone.
 - Maggie S.: Yes.
 - Virginia: Did the 600 budget include \$15/person merchandise?
 - Maggie S.: No

Alexandra: Motion to approve as recommended, seconded by Hakmat

- **Approved for 600**

7. Black Law Student Association

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Kenny motion to approve, second by Virginia
- **Approved for 8000**

8. Delta Theta Phi

- Rationale: Funds that did not fall into funding guidelines and misreporting. See [spreadsheet](#)
- Brendan Romano:
 - Finance committee does not respect or find DTP to be necessary at the school. Major reasoning for DTP's proposed budget is to support professional development and networking. DTP finds it import to philanthropy outside of the law school community.
 - Former SBA treasurer and budget committee refused to meet with DTP.
 - Sips for Sarcoma is open to all. Insulting law students to give DTP a low amount of money.
 - The treasurer last year was a CPA and complied with guidelines.
- Maya: Asking if the SBA committee gave notice of lack of compliance.
 - Maggie S.; No, many groups don't report correctly. Issue is that the budget guidelines are clear, but it's getting lost in actually implementing it.
 - JC Stiassni: In support of ramping up compliance training and enhanced monitoring.
 - Alex: Wants to raise concerns of funding DTP as an organization at all. DTP alienates and excludes students and may be violating Ohio's Collin's Law.
 - Romano: DTP is open to all gender identities. Dues go to nationals only, not alcohol; social dues are optional.
 - DTP couldn't do extra events because of social-chair's health.
 - DTP does not require members to drink, and the SBA budget committee is stereotyping. Not just for partying.
- Akua:
 - What other funding does DTP get?
 - Romano: DTP does not have a robust alumni network to source from.
- Hakmat:
 - Why is there a discrepancy between the student body and DTP members?
 - Misperceptions are from other schools and undergraduates. Professional fraternities are different.
- Maya:
 - Has there been any efforts to network with alumni

- Romano: No efforts to network thus far.
- Maggie O.
 - Have you had any networking events?
 - Brendan: No
 - Maggie O.: Do you have any plans?
 - Brendan: No, waiting for the budget, never met with the SBA committee.
- Maggie S.
 - Walked through the entire budget proposal. Most relevant to the discussion at hand was that their proposal, DTP estimated two networking events.
 - Requested 1500 for those events.
 - 750/semester
- Alexandra:
 - Reiterate above concerns.
 - SBA funds for philanthropy. DTP raises money to help outside people who are not related to education or law. SBA money should be for student and student activities.
 - No networking events even though they've been around for 3 years.
- Maggie S. Funding guidelines require that funding is for students.
 - Brendan Romano: The money is not being directly given to outside organizations. The money is being used to fundraise funds to give to external organizations.
- Marleni: DTP roughly collects well over 3000 in social dues. Can that be repurposed to other events that are important to the club. What about outside funding?
 - Brendan: Want to keep social dues separate from philanthropy.
- Written Motion by Chloe: Reconsider for 4500
- Alexandra: Motion to approve current budget, Heavenly and Hakmat second.
- **Approved for 600.**

9. Disability Law Society

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Alexandra in capacity as DLS representative: Small amount that DLS is asking for. There are 2 procedural issues: (1) Did not receive notice about round one funding; (2) 98 left in account is not reflective of actual funds– issues with campus groups/financial staffing issue.
- DLS is entirely open to the student body, no merch, no general body meetings, cuts across all groups, not many people feel safe about coming out about their disabilities, DLS has a big role in making that more comfortable. Asking for 2000.
- Maya Knee: Increase to 2000, heavenly seconds.
- **Approved for 2000**

10. Federal Bar Association

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Recommendation is 600.
- Alexandra to approve, seconded by Maya Knee
- **600 for FBA**

11. International Law Society

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Hakmat: Is 500 the minimum that groups get or can it be less?
 - Maggie S.: Not really. Part of guidelines, but not consistently applied.
- Akua: Can they request more money?
 - Maggie S.: Yes, the plan was to give more wiggle room for groups, but it depends on what groups get now.
 - Jose: GSC funding is also possible.
- Alexandra: Motion to approve, seconded by Akua, Hakmat, Heavenly.
- **Approved for 500**

12. Jewish Law Student Association

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
 - Issue with confirming new e-board, turned in information late without notice to Maggie S.
- JC Stiassni
 - Left a 500 reserve per semester.
 - Did not receive training or guidance on campus groups. Tried to reach out to Keith Dye, but had trouble doing it. JC wants more training and made a good effort to follow the rules and make sure JLSA was not exceeding what they could do.
- Anna Friedman:
 - Want to work with other groups this year, have more fun events.
 - JLSA wants a fresh start to have great events, that while religious, is also a campus group that has events for everyone. Have not been using funds for merch. Intentions are for collaborative events.
 - Eboard wants to be more involved— community based approach. Want to ensure better communication overall.
- Hakmat:
 - There was required training
- Maggie O.
 - Training is awful and confusing
- Heavenly:
 - Training communication was bad, other people have expressed that.
- Maggie S.
 - Emphasis on revamping training and monitoring.
- JC:

- Had reserve features built in to ensure that they'd have enough, in case events come up that JLISA needs to respond to and have a space for students.
- Hakmat motion to approve, Kenny seconded.
- **Approved for 2000**

13. Latinx Law Student Association

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Maya Knee, Motion to approve seconded by Virginia
- **Approved for 4,600**

14. Law for the environment, animals, and food

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Akua motion to approve; Hakmat Second

15. Muslim Law Student Association

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Virginia: motion to approve, Maya Second

16. Refugee Outreach Collective

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Maggie S./ Jose
 - SBA will work with ROC to help them get funding, just not what SBA can afford, work with immigration clinic, not the best use of student fees.
- Alexandra: Receiving less than last year, but got what they requested in round 1.
- Corey: Consideration was based on what SBA funds, doesn't fund, and guidelines. SBA should provide more concrete wording on what is fundable and what is not.
- Alexandra: Can we table or revisit it?
 - Corey: That would essentially be through the rolling funds.
 - Maggie S.: Can do that and come back.
- Alexandra: Do students get any kind of credit from this?
 - Maggie O./ Maya: Can get 1L experiential credits.
- Kenny: Better to table, lots of sources to fund. Should not make a decision today.
- Alexandra: Still have 2050. Motion to table. Maya second.
- **Approved to table until SBA has discussed options with ROC.**

17. South Asian Law Student Association

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Heavenly: Motion for 1500
 - Clear vision for what they want to do and the impact they want to have on the law school. Benefit of the doubt, but seeing what Maya does, money will be put to good use.
- Hakmat: Motion to approve for 1000.
 - Base it on the fact that there is no actual data on how the group. Can always get rolling funding.

- Maya: 1000 is respectable, but should get a comparable amount as other student organizations. Want to make sure that they have the resources to do what they want to do. Second Heavenly.
- Alexandra: Are there any other new organizations?
 - Maggie S.: No
- **Approved for 1500.**

18. Sports & Entertainment Law Society

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Jose: Wanted to go to all sport games, super expensive and would not be fair for only a few people to go to the game. Money should be used for more students.
- Maggie S.: Keeping it the same felt appropriate.
- Maya: When we approve, deny, etc. is there a mechanism for them to be told why?
 - Maggie S.: No, groups have had to ask for rationales.
 - Maya: Should make that more clear. Waste of time to apply for things that will not be covered. Should have a written form of communication for people to understand why funding is not approved.
 - Maggie S.: Groups need to know how they can improve, but need to figure out the best way to notify them.
- Akua: Motion to approve, heavenly second
- **Approved for 2,000**

19. Street Law

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Heavenly motion for 1800, Akua second
- **Approved for 2000**

20. Student Health Law Association

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Andrew McGirty: Wants approval to strengthen presence at law school, have gotten speakers and gala event is a law school social event to network with other SHLA groups. CWRU no longer holds its position as a top 10 school for health law in the country, getting pressure from the administration.
 - Maggie S. Aren't we in the top 11?
 - Andrew: Yes, but significant drop.
- Alexandra: Why was there so much left over funding
 - Corey: Extra money was a mistake, did not realize it was going to roll over, was supposed to go to the "gala" event.
- Kenny: Motion for requested increase of 3500,
- Alexandra: Motion for half that– Heavenly seconds for 2950
- **Approved for 2950**

21. Student Intellectual Property Law Association

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)

- Maggie S.: The Budget committee recommended \$800, but she errored and told the group the amount was \$1200.
- SIPLA President statement read by Akua, who recused herself: Want more social and networking events. Goal is to increase the presence of SIPLA at CWRU. Decrease of funding will make it hard to reach goals.
- Last year treasurers did not submit receipts, and are more organized this year. Planning on increasing an event with AI, biggest goal of the year.
- Maya: Major shift in leadership, large part of the reasoning as to why it was not the same way. Wants to give room to grow for organizations, motion to increase to 1200.
- Maggie S.: Want to sponsor travel for 500, not in guidelines. South by Southwest: Will only cover conference fees– directly against the guidelines.
- Maya: Motion to increase to 1200 and tell them what was against the guidelines. Heavenly seconds motion
- **Approved for 1200**

22. Student Legislative Initiative of Cleveland

- Maggie S. Recuses.
- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Committee decided to cut merchandise, but keep the rest of the proposal the same.
- Senator asked if any club went over the 15/person limit on merchandise, would the budget committee fully remove the merchandise fee, or would it just remove the portion of merchandise that was over the guideline limit?
 - Maggie S., commenting on standard for all groups: Cutting requests that are above completely, but can make more clear in guidelines.
- Corey: Group had 12 meals in their budget, so the committee considered how many meetings would require food compared to other groups. Further, SBA does not have the same roll over in terms of money that we had last year, so the committee wanted to ease the transition between this year and last.
- Alexandra: The group meets every week, asking for half of the lunches to be covered.
 - Corey: Still a higher lunch group, just one of the considerations that the committee addressed.
- Heavenly: How many people are usually at the meetings?
 - Alexandra: 8-10 people, but getting more people involved.
- Akua: motion for 1800, Heavenly second
- **Approved for 1800**

23. Women's Law Association

- Rationale: see [spreadsheet](#)
- Heavenly: The group was not able to do as much last year, but WLA deserves a chance to do more this year.
- Motion to increase to 1500 by Maya, seconded.
- **Approved for 1500**

24. SBA Committee Chair Nominations (J. Mendez Valdez)

- a. **Commencement Committee**
 - Hakmat Manaa nominated
- b. **Curriculum Committee**
 - Corey Whetzel
- c. **Fall Ball Committee**
 - Marleni Chavana
- d. **Faculty/Student Advisory Committee**
 - Kenny Wallace
- e. **Social Committee**
 - Obasi Ndukwe
- **Still have open committees, reach out to Jose!!!!**
 - Heavenly nominates Eliza Roberts for Health and Wellness.
 - Google form vote coming.

Maggie S. Wrap Ups: Class ranking situation has to be discussed.

- Next steps: CDEP Cards, may only get half in CDEP for groups.

25. Adjournment (J. Mendez Valdez)