CLS Student Senate Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

1. Roll Call

2. Officer Reports
   
   1. President
      
      1. Student issues committee is in touch with Barbri and will be bringing Professor Schecter in on October 18th 6pm JG104 for “How to Succeed on Law School Exams”

      2. Planning another program with Glannon for October

      3. November 6th – blood drive – Jason Lear is in charge, if you want to help contact him

      4. Student Activities Council met last Friday and reviewed communications and coordination issues. Also discussed event dates for student organizations hoping to create less scheduling conflict

      5. Student Health Advisory Council is a university-wide council. If you’re interested in serving please let Tope know

      6. Google groups – not everyone has signed up. If you have not, please do so ASAP so we can convert from yahoo to google.

      7. E-board received an e-mail from a senator mentioning the hate incident at SIPA. Also, TC incident was brought to our attention late this afternoon. Senate response? Incorporate into Ahmedinejad-response forum.

         1. Biggest issue is the lack of information by university…many people this is the first they are hearing about both incidents.

            SIPA occurred last week of September and TC was earlier this morning. University should send this information out and it
should not be left to different student groups or the Spectator to announce

2. If Senate is compelled to see something, it may be a good idea to draft a statement expressing Senate’s position against hate on campus and promoting solidarity with victims. Statement should also clarify what happened in each incident.

3. University administration should be the body to clarify and publicize incidents – it is not Senate’s job or position.

4. Security concerns – hard to believe that we are carded to enter each building, and yet people are able to hang nooses up on professor’s doors.

5. Concern that student statement may lead to perpetrator satisfaction. Best message we can send is a unified one to the administration urging vigilance.

6. What about publicizing hate crime policy if we have one

2. VP

1. Next Wednesday there will be a Scrabble© tournament – if you have a board, please contact Dan Shin to lend it to this event

2. Halloween party will be held on October 31st at Public House in midtown, with all of the other Manhattan law schools! Pre-party will be held on campus at 6:30 P.M. with food, drinks, and a costume contest.

   Possibility of coordinating with BLSA

3. Early November – Iron-Chef-style cooking competition

4. Thanksgiving dinner – please promote via word of mouth

3. Treasurer

1. Thanks to everyone for passing the budget at the last meeting! We had no appeals on the budget, but we do have several ad hoc requests come in.
4. Secretary
   1. Web site – met with Ben Brickner to discuss changes and working with IT to gain access and make changes
   2. Free speech panel – hoping to confirm more professors and incorporate recent hate incidents
   3. Clothing/food drives – working with organizations right now, will finalize by next week

5. Parliamentarian
   1. Putting outlines up on g-drive – we are looking for a Senator to assist with the posting of outlines. This Senator would chair a committee to solicit and post outlines. Elliott Ash agrees to chair.

3. Committee Reports
   1. Graduation – we received info from committee members that will help inform the planning and execution of graduation. Max should expect the budget shortly
   2. Housing – met with last year’s chair and also emailed Elizabeth Grainger for a meeting to discuss what to do.
   3. IT – meeting with Franz is in the works. On the agenda: getting law.columbia.edu e-mail addresses; streamlining the various passwords for law portals; making the law school website more user-friendly.
      1. Would people be interested in getting a permanent law.columbia.edu address, which would survive graduation? Straw poll: Yes

4. University Senate – John is at a meeting tonight regarding the TC incident and will report back

5. Faculty Committees
   1. Tope spoke with chair of Student Services committee, who asked that Senate come up with a prioritized to-do list. Ideas:
      1. Bring the folders back. Last year, each student had individual file folders; this year, they are grouped by last name.
2. Lenfest
   1. Extending the hours
   2. More power outlets
   3. Microwave – apparently it is back
   4. Refrigerator in Lenfest or elsewhere in the school
3. Making sure that all outlets in the school are operational.
   Permanent power strips would be beneficial as well.
4. Funding for student travel and pro bono work
5. University gym
6. Responses to hate and other incidents
7. Room reservations for individual students and student study groups
8. Information about the MPRE and bar exams for 3L’s
9. More cookies at 2 P.M.!

4. ABA Rep. Election
   1. One person submitted his name – Adam M. Sparks. Congrats, Adam!

5. Recognition. The following are recommended for recognition by the committee, and unanimously approved by the Senate:
   1. Racquetball Society
   2. MESA

6. Announcements
   1. We will be meeting next week as a full Senate. Dean Schizer and Dean Greenberg-Kobrin will be visiting, so please arrive on time and do not use your laptop during that portion of the meeting. They will answer questions about the school
   2. Radio Show – Tope was invited by General Studies Student Council to speak regarding recent campus happenings. Tope will represent her own views and not those of the Senate, but will discuss what transpired at past senate meetings.
3. Academic Committee is meeting next week at 8:30 P.M. Please e-mail Tope with any conflicts. Please have updates on outstanding assignments prepared.

4. Deadline for submitting resolutions for the next meeting is tomorrow (Wednesday) at 5:00 P.M.

7. Adjourn – 9:56 P.M.