

**MITCHELL HAMLIN SCHOOL OF LAW  
NOVEMBER 2023 SBA MEETING MINUTES  
START TIME: 7:04                      END TIME: 8:20**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

	<b>Representative</b>	
<b>President</b>	Nicoli Johnson	P
<b>Vice President</b>	Elliot Culp	P
<b>Treasurer</b>	Rachel Bakke	P
<b>Secretary</b>	Sophia Mazullo	ex
<b>At-Large</b>	Braxton Wheeler Thomas	P
<b>ABA</b>	Rhonda Bryant	ex
<b>1L BAM Sec. 1</b>	Sigrid Jewett	P
<b>1L BAM Sec. 2</b>	Aaron Roessler	P
<b>1L BAM Sec. 3</b>	Alexander Moe	P
<b>1L Blended Sec. 1</b>	Wendy Jeter	P
<b>1L Blended Sec. 2</b>	Hannah Allhands	P
<b>1L Blended Sec. 3</b>	Day Woods	P
<b>2L BAM Rep</b>	Madeline Hertaus	P
<b>2L Blended Sec. 1</b>	Laurence O'Donnell	P
<b>2L Blended Sec. 2</b>	Erika Weisdorfer	P
<b>2L Blended Sec. 3</b>	Craig Alderton	P
<b>3L Day Rep</b>	Raya Esmaeili	P
<b>3L Blended Sec. 1</b>	Kirsten Gorman Buscher	P
<b>3L Blended Sec. 2</b>	Carinne Murphy	P
<b>3L Blended Sec. 3</b>	Evbu Osawaru	P
<b>4L BAM Rep</b>		
<b>4L Blended Rep</b>	Tori Collins	P
<b>Judicial Council</b>	Amber Miller	
	Jaycee Hass	
	Joseph Catron	

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

- a. Alex Moe Moved/Raya Seconds, motion carried, agenda approved

#### 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- a. Carinne Moved/ Wendy Seconds, motion carried, minutes approved

#### 5. OFFICER REPORTS

- President
  - The new Staff Liaison
    - Dan Nimlos, has been hired and will start on the 27th of November.  
Nikki, Dan, and Elliot will meet in December to discuss steps to further our goals of transparency and successfully managing the SBA.
  - Committees
    - Nikki encouraged Reps to get involved in a staff and/or SBA committee and initiative (an email about initiatives is forthcoming).  
She also asked that SBA members respond to emails within a respectable timeframe, 48 hours to a week.
- Vice President
  - Bylaws Committee
    - We are working on streamlining, clarifying, and generally improving the SBA bylaws to support future administrations. Elliot encouraged those interested in being a part of the bylaws committee to email him directly.
- Treasurer
  - As of today, we have spent \$37,018.62. We have \$82,981.39 remaining.
  - The Audit of student organizations will be completed by December 15<sup>th</sup> and will determine spring budgets.

- Secretary
  - The Communications committee approved the proposal for a “one-time, academic forgiveness policy” that was presented to the Dean of Students. She recommended that the faculty committee may not approve and accepted Nikki’s suggestion to do more research and resubmit the proposal.
- At-Large Representative
  - Braxton attended the Alumni board meeting. The meeting was mostly about admissions and marketing. We plan to use our presence on this committee to influence the creation of an alumni directory that students and other student interests.
- ABA Representative
  - Nothing to report.

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Bylaws Committee report above by VP, Elliot Culp
- Ways and Means
  - Rachel shared meeting timelines:
    - On Dec 14th a Doodle poll will be sent out to decide when we will meet
      - We will find time to meet before 17th to discuss spring budgets
    - On Dec 15th, the Audit of student organizations will be complete and we’ll have a better idea of what moneys we have available for the budget.
    - Between Dec 18th -21 we will meet and vote spring budgets.

- By Dec 22 we will get the budgets to the student orgs, so that they can prep for spring.
  - Culture and Diversity
    - Nikki shared a report from the named Ad hoc groups:
      - The working group will 1) propose and review draft policies and processes and 2) plan and conduct forums and other activities to educate and help build and restore connections across different perspectives. The members of the working group are listed below.
      - The DEI Office is working with local community organizations and experts on two training sessions for staff and faculty in December, one on Antisemitism and one on anti-Islamic and anti-Palestinian bias. The working group is planning additional workshops, including sessions for students. More details to come.
      - Student book swap page has been approved by administration and will be implemented Fall 2024.
  - Health and Wellness
    - Rhonda attended the Health and Wellness staff committee meeting.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. REP REPORTS (2 MINS)**

<b>1L BAM Sec. 1</b>	Sigrid Jewett Successful section movie night on Nov. 8. Watched My Cousin Vinny.
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	Competitions committee: 2 competitions this semester, want to improve participation
<b>1L BAM Sec. 2</b>	Aaron Roessler - nothing to report.
<b>1L BAM Sec. 3</b>	Alexander Moe Held informal meeting last Thursday, pizza. Working to find out what issues folks have Would administration allow us to just park in the lot? Nikki responds, will contact Dean LeMoine with request.
<b>1L Blended Sec. 1</b>	Wendy Jeter Hosted a section get together and bought desert. Treasurer to reimburse. Have been doing a newsletter, idea is to feature a student in each. Nikki: Working adding you to the Facebook page I initiated a toy drive. Working on proposal for MLK day/Black history celebration.
<b>1L Blended Sec. 2</b>	Hannah Allhands Nothing to report
<b>1L Blended Sec. 3</b>	Day Woods - nothing to report
<b>2L BAM Rep</b>	Madeline Hertaus Complaints mostly from part time students, specifically student groups. Students feel like they can't join any groups and feel that student groups don't want to make it work.
<b>2L Blended Sec. 1</b>	Laurence O'Donnell Fantastic capstone. We went to an NBA game
<b>2L Blended Sec. 2</b>	Erika Weisdorfer No major updates. Smooth capstone. Hosted events, gathering, catering with budget.
<b>2L Blended Sec. 3</b>	Craig Alderton Female students suggest more soap dispensers in restrooms.

	<p>Trash piles up during weekend capstone. Microwaves in the breakroom need work. Reported on the student affairs committee.</p>
<b>3L Day Rep</b>	<p>Raya Esmaeili Classes finally done. Bar Prep Courses feedback What happens to evaluations? FOLLOW UP on this^^^</p>
<b>3L Blended Sec. 1</b>	<p>Kirsten Buscher Echo the Evaluations. Not charmed by the school. Quality of professors. adjustments? Concerns with how people are hired. Feels like it is getting worse. ***** Leanne Fueth was a rockstar. Palestinian, Israel Conflict still looms large. Clinic committee How to make more available to blended students. How to present that information. Clinic space concerns. Need a process.</p>
<b>3L Blended Sec. 2</b>	<p>Carinne Murphy Capstone was a stressful week but went well. Concerns: budgetary concerns, students in orgs and committees. Going to send a poll out to see who is going to. Concerns with the microwaves.</p>
<b>3L Blended Sec. 3</b>	<p>Evbu Osawaru Mostly positive feedback from section. Not knowing who of the section is all there. Frustration with registration, not being able to or getting kicked out. Some were able to keep classes other weren't</p>
<b>4L BAM Rep</b>	
<b>4L Blended Rep</b>	<p>Tori Collins Been quiet. no feedback= good thing</p>

## **8. OPEN FORUM (2 MINUTES PER COMMENT)**

- a. Carinne Murphy asked for clarifications on the budget, i.e. What is the cycle of the budget, when budgets are approved, etc. Per Rachel, the annual budget is for the academic year (excluding summer). The incoming SBA can access the previous general budget until June 28th. The new budget is approved after students enroll in the new school year. There are no activities in the summer hence no summer budgets.  
  
2024 Spring budgets are due on Dec 22. The goal of the ways and means committee is to have org budgets approved by January.
- b. Sigrid Jewett and Craig Alderton talked about the need for fridge maintenance. Nikki will follow-up with facilities along with craig for on-site maintenance as a part of the health and wellness committee. Raya also suggests that the tiny market be re-stocked more often during capstone and prep-week.
- c. Craig Alderton recently attended the student affairs and academic committee meeting. A candidate for Dean has been identified. This person as well as others wish to fill the position remotely.
- d. Kirsten Buscher spoke on a hostility between BAM and Blended and reminded us to encourage students to be cordial with one another and suggests academic affairs provided courses that work for everyone (potentially making in-person courses hybrid with a zoom option).
- e. Wendy Jeter asked questions about the options for the school to provide headshots and for the library to remain open for longer, especially during capstone. Nikki

will find out about school provided headshots In the past the school has paid for photographer hours for one section at a time and students have a \$10 charge. She will also review the budget to determine is sessions can be sponsored by the SBA. Nikki and Elliot had begun conversations with the administration about library hours. For now, staff are needed to work and there has been limited foot traffic. Foot traffic will be monitored. The amount of time for this study and the needed results are yet to be determined. Raya suggested the library be opened until 10pm at least one weekend instead of the current 4pm closing time.

- f. Raya Esmaeili spoke further on the need for “interesting” classes for evening students. Restock the tiny market during capstone and prep-week.
- g. Madi Hertaus spoke on the need for training for evening/blended/adjunct professors. Nikki has advocated for students to be a part of the interview process and encourages Reps to notify students of the ability to file anonymous complaint forms against professors where there are issues. Tori Collins agreed that we continue to voice these concerns with the Deans, and Carinne suggested inviting administration representatives to the SBA general meetings. Keep in their ear. Kirsten specifically named the Vice Dean of Academic Affairs, the Interim President and Dean, the Dean of Students, and the Chief Maintenance Officer.

## **9. SWEARING IN NEW MEMBERS**

- a. Day Martin and Aaron Roessler officially sworn in.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. Rachel Moved/ Aaron Seconds, motion carried, Meeting Adjourned.