**SBA Meeting 1/12/21 Notes**

Attendance: Luke Meidel, Matthew Nilsen, Leonela Urrutia, Jaime Greenwood, Solita Day, Gabby Gile, Abby Schwarz, Alexz Thompson, Kelly Lotterhos, Edward Bowden

Faculty Attendance: Dean Jessica Boynton, Amber Dannis

Dean Boynton/Amber Dannis Updates

* Nuggets tickets
  + Good mix of Master, Part-Time, and Full-Time JD Students
  + Over 100 requests in 2 minutes
* Janitorial Staff gifts
  + Everyone very grateful again (they were asking about them before even receiving since they loved them so much last year)
  + Amber to work with Matt Nilsen on what SBA accounts to pull funds from
* Grades/Registrar Issues
  + Alexz Thompson/Leo working on having Registrar speak to SBA during 1/19/21 meeting
  + Dean Boynton – Noted that delays in grades is not uncommon and typically happens every semester. Unfortunately, this semester it just happened to be with some of the largest courses.
    - Agrees that Registrar can do a better job communicating that students should NOT expect all their grades on the date that grades are released
    - Noted that this year with COVID and other considerations grades are even more delayed than usual
    - Once faculty turn in grades there is a lot of processing and back-and-forth communication between Registrar’s office and the faculty before grades are actually released to students (this process ensures as few errors as possible)
  + SBA Comments/Concerns
    - Gabby
      * Asked if professors can begin grading exams as soon as students complete them. Dean Boynton confirmed that yes, they can start grading immediately after exams are received.
      * Asked about why the grade release date is set the way it is. Dean Boynton confirmed there is a university rule for the time period between exams being completed and grades being submitted (she thinks it is apx. 3 weeks)
        + The date is then set before the start of the new semester so that students may plan accordingly (ie withdraw from attendance, be dismissed from university for failing, etc.)
    - Jaime
      * Would like to see better communication from Registrar’s office, including an email sent out this semester explaining the grade delay. Dean Boynton agreed to make this suggestion to the Registrar (but it will be Registrar’s responsibility to send, if they so choose)
      * Concerned about exam software and tech issues. Dean Boynton clarified that it is up to faculty on how they choose to administer their exams, and that students must take the practice exams to be sure there are no issues before the exam period begins.
    - Leo
      * Concerned that the Registrar’s email about grade release/etc. was sent out only one day before, whereas in past semesters it was sent out a few weeks prior
    - Alexz
      * Concerned about typos on exams, incorrect citation of rules on exams, confusion about max/min word counts, etc.
      * Dean Boynton clarified that it is solely faculty responsibility to ensure the accuracy and clarity of their respective exams. Recommended that students contact Dean Wiersema if there are concerns about specific faculty members who this was an issue with. Dean Boynton also stressed that hopefully many of these issues would be fixed by in-person exams (the goal for this Spring semester)
    - Edward
      * Would like to see some sort of student initiative to hold faculty accountable for not complying with the grade submittal deadline (ie a “Wall of Shame” in the law school atrium). Dean Boynton welcomed student feedback and suggested students research how other universities handle this issue and put together a recommendation memo.
* In-Person Classes
  + The law school is following the lead of the university at large and will resume in-person classes starting on Tuesday, 1/18/21

Registrar at Next Meeting

* Leo noted that if/when the Registrar comes to the next SBA meeting that all SBA members must be respectful of her time and her efforts to make the testing/grading process as smooth as possible. It is not solely her fault or the fault of her office that grades are delayed. The conversation with her should focus on how students can help make this process easier for her office and how we can hold faculty accountable beyond her efforts.

Scheduling Conflicts

* Leo noted that multiple SBA members (Cerridwyn and Jaime) have scheduling conflicts with the Wednesday 4:30-5:30 meeting time.
* Leo will send out a survey of additional options for moving this meeting time as well as preferences regarding in-person/digital meetings
* Matt noted that multiple students (ie, prospects for recruiting to SBA board) have expressed concern with the evening meeting times and would prefer morning or afternoon meetings.

SBA Elections

* Leo to discuss this with Kelly, as elections will be coming up at end of February/beginning of March

New Business - None

Committee Updates

* Elections Committee (Kelly)
  + No updates. Will start discussing timeline of elections soon.
  + Leo – Requested that all committee chairs write a paragraph explanation about their roles to explain to students who may run for elections (due at next meeting)
* Social Committee (Jaime)
  + Murder Mystery Event - Talia (agreed upon host for murder mystery event that was cancelled last semester) is interested in possibly participating again this semester. Committee will discuss whether this is a good idea to try again given current COVID restrictions.
  + Barrister’s Ball – April 2nd
    - Amber recommended that we plan the event as if it will be happening in person with no restrictions, and then we will just have to adjust if COVID restrictions require us to do otherwise (can’t plan for them at this point)
    - Student Volunteers – Matt received a question from a student about forming a student volunteer team for Barrister’s Ball. Jaime is very supportive and welcomes all student participation.
      * Leo also stressed that students can participate in any SBA events, committees, or meetings if they would like to. Gabby will work on a flyer/email to solicit more student involvement.
* ABA Committee (Abby)
  + No updates
* Health and Wellness Committee (Gabby)
  + Gabby will compile her findings from the wellness survey last semester and her meetings with Dean Wiersema for presentation to SBA next week
  + Gabby will draft an email/flyer to students summarizing the findings/next steps from the wellness survey
  + Student Affairs Wellness Week – March 7th-11th, 2022
* Finance Committee (Matt)
  + Matt submitted reimbursement request from DU Law Film Society (DULFS) for $450 for renting the Mayan Theater for an event last semester.
  + Matt moved “to approve a $450 reimbursement of the DU Law Film Society for their event in November 2021, to come out of their existing account funds.” The motion was approved unanimously.
* Part-Time Committee (Edward)
  + No updates