

**Student Affairs Student Advisory Board (SASA-B)**

February 11, 2018

LAW 520, 5:00-6:15pm

**AGENDA**

1. Dinner and Hellos
2. Student Affairs Report back / New Topic
   1. Name Plates
   2. Pinning Ceremony
      1. GOAL: build affinity and identity at BU
      2. Designing process
      3. Planning committee
   3. Mental Health Resources (Online; off-campus)
   4. Student engagement with recruiting/job events
3. Board Member Topics
   1. Update on Diversity Initiatives at BU (Jonathan)
   2. Update on Student Lounge (room 401) (Jonathan)
4. Additional topics

1. Final thoughts…

**“Those who say it can’t be done are usually interrupted by others doing it.”**

—James Baldwin

**MINUTES for December 1, 2017**

Members Present: Katie Sapp, Peter Lubershane, Jessica Lujan, Michael Torruella, Jonathan Allen, Phoebe Dantoin, Timothy Nykamp, Mel Tokatlioglu, Associate Dean Gerry Muir

Guest: Jill Collins

Absent: Rosie Loring

The Board discussed the following topics:

Calendaring Affinity Events: 5K (discussion with Jill Collins)

The annual 5K event has to be rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts. The SASA-B recommended a fall date, with something for the spring. Participation in the St. Patrick’s 5K was suggested. Students noted that faculty participation in highly valued as well as support from PIP volunteers.

Student Participation in the Dean Search

SASA-B expressed a high level of interest in students meeting the candidates and participating in the selection of the Dean. Recommended consultation between the SGA and Provost, and ideally, an open forum for students to connect with candidates.

Professional Name Tags

163 2L/3L students requested and received name tags. This recommendation was created by SASA-B.

Member Topics: Nap Room / Lounge (Tim Nykamp)

Students want more casual lounge space in the School. SGA is working on this initiative. Request to add art to the building shared as well as illustrations of student / faculty success in the law.

Member Topics: Temperature Settings in the School of Law (Tim Nykamp)

Frustration with hot/cold rooms. Suggestions to post reminders of how to file complaints/concerns with [lawfac@bu.edu](mailto:lawfac@bu.edu).

Member Topics: Building Hours (Tim Nykamp)

Students would like the building open till 2am. Dean Muir shared limits due to staffing costs and union agreements. Noted availability of Mugar Library and start of 24 hour study hours.

Member Topics: Critical Conversations (Jessica Lujan)

While all agreed that the Critical Conversations program addresses an important need to foster communication and discourse on social issues affected by the law, some students thought the current format was too much too soon, in that it forced conversations before people knew each other; fostering stereotypes of individuals, rather than knowing the more complete person. Two students expressed high levels of disappointment in the program, feeling that it created an expectation of openness and discussion that was not then followed through on in classes or between peers. Examples of difficulties were given related to conflict in the gender discussion. Suggestion made to reduce the size of the group to 10 at Orientation and then 30-40 at Continuing Orientation. Several people noted learning from the readings and opening their minds to others experiences.

Member Topics: Faculty Engagement with Students (Peter Lubershane)

Discussion on student perception of less faculty engagement with students. Frustrations with follow-up and lack of mentorship in areas of interest. Unclear what is reasonable to expect.

Final Thoughts (open suggestions)

Members recommended bringing in a series for individuals in the School of Law to be highlighted for unique experiences or skills that they could share with others that are outside the law, such as RR’s ASL skills, or BH service in the military.

Wellness Wednesdays well-received.

Concerts that intellectual engagement outside the classroom was limited. Most programs were lectures or panels, not discussions. Students are interested in hearing faculty debate the news of the day or share their research and publications. Can there be small group activities with faculty?