

PACE UNIVERSITY

Elisabeth Haub School of Law

Alumni Association Board of Directors

MEETING MINUTES

January 23, 2024

6:00 p.m. Closed Board Meeting, 7:00 Open Board Meeting
Via Zoom

Present: Amanda Brody, Esq. '19; Michael Calandra, Jr., Esq. '05; Victoria Coleman, Esq. '07; Rafael Corbalan, Esq. '15; Liz Cuccinello, Esq. '99; Aharon Diaz, Jr., Esq. '12; Danielle Federico, Esq. '15; Danielle Federico, Esq. '13; Stephen Forte, Esq. '08; Rebecca Gigliotti, Esq. '18; Michael Gilberg, Esq. '07; Lisa Gladwell, Esq. '10; Michael Goldstein, Esq. '06; Jennifer Gray, Esq. '06; Jasmine L. Hosein, Esq. '12; Ashley Kersting, Esq. '16; Michael Kremen, Esq., '08; James Lenihan, Esq. '91; Hon. Carole Levy '83 (Dir. Em.); Benjamin Lowenthal, Esq. '14; Andrea Madrid, Esq. '12; Joseph Mazel, Esq. '97; Mark Meeker, Esq. '09; Gail Mulligan, Esq. '09; Jacqueline Parker, Esq. '95; Diana Neeves, Esq. '16; Raymond Perez, Esq. '00; Thomas Persico, Esq. '18; Delonie Plummer, Esq. '18; Cassia Schaeffer, Esq. '15; Andrew Teodorescu, Esq. '13; Leanne M. Shofi, Esq. '94; Judson Siebert, Esq. '85; Nicole Varisco, Esq. '10

Excused: Patricia Bisesto, Esq. '92; Michael Frankel, Esq. '03; James Garvey III, Esq. '80 (Dir. Em.); George Haddad, Esq. '15; Joseph Martin, Esq. '91 (Dir. Em.)

Unexcused: Patrick J. Paul, Esq. '16; Christopher Psihoules, Esq. '12

Added attendees: Samantha Gordon, Executive Director, Alumni Relations and Association; Brian Kearney, Senior Director of Development; Abigail Sprague, Senior Development Officer; Daniel Von Staats, SBA President

OPEN MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:08 p.m.

MEETING QUORUM: Quorum met with 32 Directors at 7:08 p.m.

- I. Welcome and Approval of November 15, 2023 Minutes.** Jacqueline Parker/Lisa Gladwell
- Discussion of November 15, 2023 Minutes
 - Members can still be added to committees if they let Jacqueline know
 - Michael Goldstein moved to approve November 15, 2023 Minutes, seconded by Mark Meeker, and *Motion Passed* by unanimous vote

II. Alumni Board and Committee Reports

1. President

Jacqueline Parker

- Law Leadership Dinner is *March 14, 2024* at Westchester Country Club, \$250 per person is the cost to the University, which has graciously offered for Board Members to attend at the

cost of \$250 per person – Discussion of Board purchasing a table, expression of interest of at least 10 Members by show of hands

- Leanne Shofi moved to approve \$2,500 to purchase a Board Table for 10 at the 2024 Law Leadership Dinner, seconded by Michael Goldstein, and [Motion Passed](#) by unanimous vote
- LinkedIn Alumni Engagement – please join – Jacqueline is considering a Letter to Alumni to let them know about the new page and to resolve any confusion regarding its distinction from PLAN’s LinkedIn page
- Discussion of Spring Bowling Event to meet with 3Ls and welcome them to the organization Motion for Spring Bowling Event with 3Ls on Monday, April 1, 2024 was made, seconded, and [Motion Passed](#) by unanimous vote
- Activities and Budget Requests – Let Jacqueline and Gail know if you have any big budget requests, so far, the Referral Network is a big one – Sam Gordon indicated that budgets are submitted in late February and approved by Finance, so proposals should be made to Sam, Gordon this week
- Discussion of recent Board expenditures including snacks and treats for students during Finals Week and donations in honor of Adele Lerner Janow
- Because school is revising web page, Board Members please provide new updated photos to the University, send hi-res headshots to Sam Gordon [ASAP](#)
- Reunion – free professional photo booth planned for reunion on [May 30, 2024](#) at Hathaway Hall – students also had opportunities for professional shots at the School
- Discussion of whether Board should subsidize or sponsor tickets for those who need financial assistance to attend the Reunion on Thursday May 30, 2024, requesting from Sam Gordon; Lisa Gladwell moved for sponsoring up to 5 tickets for those in need, seconded by Gail Mulligan, and [Motion Passed](#) by unanimous vote
- Still planning a joint event with Lubin, discussion tabled due to time constraints

2. Treasury/Fundraising/Budget Committee

Gail Mulligan

- Fund balance is currently \$13,925
- Sent email to Members to contribute to the Fund, many have not, please do
- Send Gail email to confirm once contribution is made, due to tracking issues

3. By-laws Committee

Mark Meeker

- Deadline to submit proposed changes is [February 1, 2024](#), please email to Mark
- After February 1, Committee will have a Zoom meeting to discuss
- Will present proposed changes at March meeting, included with a Ballot to the broader Alumni at Large at the Annual Meeting, for online voting to approve proposed changes

4. Judicial, Career/CLE & Support Services Committee

Victoria Coleman

- Working on first CLE for Spring, has taken a while to get going, tentatively set for [April 16, 2024](#), geared toward compliance (SEC speaker discussing new private fund rules)
- Would like to work with Sam Gordon and use this first event as guide, with global calendar
- Spoke with Delonie Plummer about a Panel CLE, goal to plan for next year

5. Diversity Committee

Post-Meeting Submission

- Diversity Networking Reception - [March 21, 2024](#) @ 6:30-8:30pm in the Tudor Room
RSVP: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScyiYsxNG-Gj130rFqKh-Im9Iblh-8yxA24-NheVlzn9NUGjw/viewform>

- 6. Alumni Benefits, Social Media & Referral Network** Nicole Varsico
- If anyone is not a member of the new LinkedIn group, please join/encourage other alumni
 - If you have any postings, please send to Nicole Varsico
 - Jacqueline Palmer is helping with compilation of a Law Alumni Referral Network
 - Will work on Flyer for Bowling Event [April 1, 2024](#) to get new grads active with the Board

- 7. Pro Bono Community Service Group** Liz Cuccinello
- Brand new Committee, so just getting started
 - Will get initiatives kicked off soon for students to get involved

- 8. Social/Reunion Committee** Delonie Plummer
- Jackson Lewis April 11, 2024 tentative event in Westchester, waiting to confirm
 - Spring Bowling Event already discussed, on [April 1, 2024](#) for 3Ls and Alumni
 - Compliance CLE being planned
 - Need locations for late spring/early summer fundraising event
 - Looking into making the successful Fall Brunch an annual event
 - Considering a series of holiday events

- 9. Nominating Committee** Mike Kremen o/b/o Mike Frankel
- 3 Members are Mike Kremen, Mike Frankel, Leanne Shofi
 - By 4th meeting we need to present a slate of prospective and returning Board members
 - The following 13 Members' 3-year terms are expiring and should let Mike Frankel know if they are interested in renewing their 3-year term (some already have): *Michael Calandra; Aharon Diaz; Michael Frankel; Michael Gilberg; Lisa Gladwell; Michael Goldstein; Jennifer Gray; Jasmine Hosein; Andrea Madrid; Mark Meeker; Patrick Paul; Raymond Perez; and Leanne Shofi*
 - Members interested in renewing their terms will be re-nominated if they have been/will be active members based on financial contribution, attendance, committee work and/or interviews
 - 3 new individuals have expressed interest in joining next year's Board, Mike Frankel will request their resumes or LinkedIn bios
 - We have asked for a note in the alumni newsletter next month to see if any alumni are interested in joining the Board, and will post on new LinkedIn page too
 - After we present the slate of nominees to the Board at the fourth meeting the alumni at large vote on the slate at the annual meeting (usually a PLAN event, with voting online)
 - Bylaws require at least 20 days' notice of the annual meeting and the opportunity to vote on nominees - Mike Frankel will coordinate
 - Reach out to your network to find more great people to join our vibrant Board!

- III. PLAN Update** Mark Meeker
- January 17, 2024 Event in NYC during NYSBA annual meeting had slim turnout due to cold and location far from the NYSBA meeting
 - PLAN looks forward to a bigger event in White Plains in late May/early June

- IV. SBA President Update** Daniel Von Staats
- Since last meeting, professional portraits were offered at the School, very successful
 - Pizza party for finals held in November, very successful

- Toy drive, 150 toys for Angels of Light
- Remember that January admitted students just started, about 30 of them
- Barrister’s Ball is Friday March 8, 2024 at Abigail Kirsch
- 3L week: photos again for people who missed the last one, will double as yearbook photos
- Planning theme days, sports jerseys, trivia night, etc.
- Suicide Prevention Walk, working on doing it again in an April on a Saturday, but not set yet
- Co-sponsoring Wellness Lunch on January 31, 2024 with Pace Alum who is a Buddhist Priest
- Daniel heard that they appreciated the snacks at Finals, Lisa asked if we’d like to do again
 - Gail asked about coffee and donuts for Finals, but students prefer outside coffee, any issue with alumni showing up to bring, Sam will get Facilities to set up a table and bring cleanup – Facilities can do dry setup – Dan tell Board what day works well
 - Gail Mulligan moved for up to \$300 for Finals coffee and donuts during Finals Week, Cassia Schaeffer seconded, and *Motion Passed* unanimously
 - First day of exams is Tuesday *May 7, 2024* starting at 10 am), so coffee/donuts set up around 9:00 would be good
- Yearbook
 - SBA could use Board’s help with finding sponsors for yearbook
 - Finalizing contract with publisher, ads can be submitted \$125 for a quarter page, \$220 for a half page, and approximately \$400 for a full-page, will help subsidize the yearbook
 - If there are any events the Board wants to partner on, for example 3L week or table for Out of Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk, let Daniel know (events listed on website)
 - If Board wants a page dedicated to the Board with a picture in the yearbook, that could be included but please reach out to Daniel regarding deadlines
 - Leanne Shofi moved for a half-page ad to be purchased by the Board, seconded by Lisa Gladwell, and *Motion Passed* unanimously

V. Adjournment

Alumni Board

- Motion: Jacqueline Parker
- Second: Leanne Shofi
- Time: 8:13 p.m.