

**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2019, at 6:00 P.M.**

**Present:** Patricia Bisesto, Esq. ’92, Michael Calandra Jr., Esq. ’05, Adam Ciffone, Esq. ’11, Hon. Sandra Forster ’79, Michael Frankel, Esq. ’03, James Garvey III, Esq. ’80, Michael Gilberg, Esq. ’07, Lisa Gladwell, Esq. ’10, Michael Goldstein, Esq. ’06, Jennifer Gray, Esq. ’06, Adele Lerman Janow, Esq. ’90, James Lenihan, Esq. ’91, Hon. Carole Levy ’83, Caesar Lopez, Esq. ’12, Joseph Martin, Esq. ’91,

Joseph Mazel, Esq. ’97, Mark Meeker, Esq. ’10, Joe Moravec, Esq. ’17,

Raymond Perez, Esq. ’00, Christopher Psihoules, Esq. ’12, Leanne Murray Shofi, Esq. ’94, Judson Siebert, Esq. ’85, Andrew Teodorescu, Esq. ’13

**Excused:** Jonathan Engel, Esq ’09, Joseph Ruhl, Esq. `90

**Not excused**:

**Added attendees:** Dean Horace Anderson**,** Arianne Andrusco, Larry Curran

**meeting called to order:** 6:34 p.m.

**Meeting quorum:** Quorum met by 6:32 p.m.: 23 Directors in attendance (including 2 Directors emeritus), 2 excused, 0 not excused.

1. **Approval of MEETING minutes**

* The January 31st meeting minutes were approved via email on February 19, 2019, by 17 voting Directors and have been posted on the PLS website for public viewing at <http://www.law.pace.edu/pace-law-alumni-association>.

1. **BOARD MEMBERSHIP**
   * Mark provided a reminder of the Board’s attendance policy and reported that there were zero unexcused attendances in either of the previous two regular Board meetings.
2. **DEAN HORACE ANDERSON’S WELCOME & UPDATE**
   * Dean Anderson thanked the Board for its efforts in encouraging alumni to reconnect to the law school. The Directors support through their time and resources is important.
   * The Dean spoke of the hard work of the law school community that led to the Environmental Law Program being ranked #1 by *US News and World Report*. He said that one of the benefits of the ranking is it will help the school attract a more geographically diverse student body because more students will be looking to attend EHSOL. Dean Anderson said that the Environmental Law Program ranking should also be beneficial to related programs like the Land Use and Real Estate Program and help improve employment statistics. He also reported that the Environmental Law Program is the first Pace University program to be ranked #1.
   * Dean Anderson then answered questions from the Board:
   * Asked if the news about the Environmental Law Program ranking can help the LLM program recruit international students, Dean Anderson indicated that it could. Because international environmental law students will be sponsored by governments, acquiring a visa might be easier.
   * The Dean was asked what LLM programs currently are offered by EHSOL. They are in Environmental Law and Continuing Legal Studies. There are internal discussions regarding increasing the offerings for health law including bringing back a health law certificate. For the future, the challenge is to figure out the emerging fields outside of the profession. Dean Anderson mentioned healthcare and bioscience.

1. **CAREER DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

* Nothing to release at this time.

1. **D EVELOPMENT UPDATE**
   * + Arianne Andrusco reported that the Law Leadership Dinner was a successful event that was attended by 200 people. $163,000 was raised and $120,000 was netted.
     + The Gavel Gala will be held on Friday, April 12th. More than 130 are scheduled to attend. More than $20,000 has been raised for the Advocacy Program.
     + Larry Curran will follow up with Board members about their contributions to the Board Activity Fund and general giving. 100% participation is the goal.
     + Arianne announced four upcoming alumni events:
   * April 12 – The Gavel Gala.
   * May 7 – The Women in Law Networking event at Bleakley Platt.
   * May 16 – P.L.A.N. event #32 at Patrick’s Pub in White Plains.
   * June 4 – EHSOL Graduates Networking Event at Jackson Lewis.
2. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
3. **Nominating Committee**:

* Mike Frankel and the committee compiled and distributed profiles of 7 candidates, 4 men and 3 women, for Board membership. The 7 candidates were unanimously accepted by the Board to go forward in the nominating process. These candidates will be submitted via email ballot to the general alumni body by Friday, April 26th. The voting period will end on May 16th, at the P.L.A.N. event, which will serve as the Board’s annual meeting.
* The addition of the new members will increase the overall number of Directors. Mike F. reported that the bylaws state, “The number of Directors shall be at least fifteen (15) but no greater than forty-five (45).” The committee agreed that new members will bring a new perspective, and that having attendance rules and financial contribution guidelines made known to the new members in advance is helpful to their participation.
* The email ballot also will include 12 current Directors whose terms are expiring, and Mike F. is in the process of contacting each one to confirm their interest in continuing to serve on the Board. If they are interested, we will need bios and head-shots from them for inclusion on the ballot.
* Mark Meeker was offered the opportunity to continue as Board President, and he accepted.
* It was announced at the January meeting that Mary Clare Haskins stepped down from the Board. Likewise, Joe Ruhl will be leaving the Board due to other obligations. The Board thanks both for their service and contributions.
* The terms of the Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Committee Chairs are expiring at the end of the current school year. The Nominating Committee will search for Directors to fill these positions.

1. **Social Committee**:
   * Jennifer Gray encouraged members to participate in continuing the tradition of providing coffee, doughnuts and a word of encouragement to our law students during exams week. There are two dates for start of exams as the January students have their first day of exams on April 19th and the rest of the school has their first day of exams on May 2nd. Directors are asked to be at the school between 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.
   * A happy hour at Jackson Lewis has been arranged for June 4th by Joe Martin. EHSOL alumni in White Plains will be invited.
2. **Judicial Committee**:
   * Lisa Gladwell reported that she, again, talked to Fern Richter about EHSOL continuing its involvement with the Westchester County Bar Association. A few members mentioned that EHSOL alumna Judge Linda Jamieson ’79 is the new President of the WCBA. Lisa will follow up to plan future events.
3. **Fundraising Committee**:
   * Arianne Andrusco reported that the Activity Fund now has $2,225. $750 from Black, Marjieh & Sanford, LLP, is included with money already donated by Board members. There is another $750 expected from Fullerton & Beck, LLP, as well as a few more 2018-19 school year contributions from Board members.
4. **Bylaws Committee**:
   * Michael Calandra reported that the committee has finished their bylaws revision and that the document should be included with the email ballot going to the general alumni body.
5. **NEW BUSINESS**
   * PLS web site – The alumni website redesign is now being handled by the Pace University IT Department. The Board hopes that this will finally result in an alumni tab on the site, as we have been requesting during each meeting for the last year.
   * Jim Lenihan stressed the need for the new site to be user friendly. Easier navigation will make it easier for alumni to network and a true EHSOL Alumni Referral Service can begin. Dean Anderson asked Larry Curran to solicit ideas from the Board of Directors for their ideas on good additions to the site. Jim will be the point of contact for the website redesign as it relates to an alumni database.
   * Dean Anderson announced that NYPD First Deputy Commissioner Ben Tucker will be the 2019 Commencement Speaker.
   * The Alumni Feedback Committee had their first meeting.
   * Jim Garvey inquired into the possibility of reinstating the practice of offering free CLEs to Board members, and Dean Anderson was receptive to the idea. Mark Meeker will follow up with Dean Anderson.
6. **ADJOURNMENT**

* Motion to adjourn: Hon. Carole Levy
* 2nd: Michael Goldstein
* Motion: passed unanimously
* Adjournment: **7**:29 p.m.