

Alumni Association Board of Directors

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

6:15 p.m. networking, 6:30 p.m. meeting start

Zoom video conference

Present: Jeremy Farrington, Esq. '11; Hon. Sandra Forster '79; Stephen Forte, Esq. '08; Michael Frankel, Esq. '03; James Garvey III, Esq. '80; Michael Gilberg, Esq. '07; Lisa Gladwell, Esq. '10; Michael Goldstein, Esq. '06; George Haddad, Esq. '15; Adele Lerman Janow, Esq. '90; Sameera Ansari Kaira, Esq. '09; Michael Kremen, Esq. '08; James Lenihan, Esq. '91; Carole Levy, Esq. '83 (Dir. Em.); Joseph Mazel, Esq. '97; Mark Meeker, Esq. '09; Joseph Moravec, Esq. '17; Joseph Martin, Esq. '91 (Dir. Em.); Gail Mulligan, Esq. '09; John Mulligan, Esq. '88; Susan Mulliken, Esq. '11; Diana Neeves, Esq. '16; Raymond Perez, Esq. '00; Thomas Persico, Esq. '18; Christopher Psihoules, Esq. '12; Leanne Shofi, Esq. '94; Judson Siebert, Esq. '85; Andrew Teodorescu, Esq. '13

Excused: Patricia Bisesto, Esq. '92; Michael Calandra Jr., Esq. '05; Rebecca Gigliotti, Esq.; '18 Jennifer Gray, Esq. '06; Caesar Lopez, Esq. '12; Benjamin Lowenthal, Esq. '14; Jacqueline Parker, Esq. '95; Nicholas Pasalides, Esq. '11

Unexcused: None

Added attendees: Cathy Alexander, Assistant Dean of Admissions; Arianne Andrusco, Director of Development and Alumni Relations; Aharon Diaz, Esq. '12; Jasmine Hosein, Esq. '12; Lori Kanner, Development Officer; Robert Rosenberg, SBA President

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:31 p.m.

MEETING QUORUM: Quorum met by 6:31 p.m. with 26 Directors in attendance (Zoom/Telephonic)

I. Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Mark Meeker

- Welcome to guests Jasmine Hosein and Aharon Diaz
- Excel spreadsheet distributed to Board Members includes pages for:
 - 2020-21 Academic Year Board Member Attendance
 - Board Member Contact info
 - Board Committees
 - Members' contribution tracker

II. Board Membership

Lisa Gladwell

- Reminder of the Board's attendance policy:
 - 2 unexcused absences in a school year triggers a conditional suspension letter, then
 - Attend the next meeting and plead your case to get voted back on

III. September 15, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Leanne Shofi

- Approved via email on September 27, 2020 by 18 Directors
- Posted to the PLS web site: <http://www.law.pace.edu/pace-law-alumni-association>

IV. Dean for Students

Lori Kanner (for Angie D'Agostino)

- PLEAS fund has done well, raised \$56,000 to date since March, money has helped students with a wide range of needs including rent and medication
- Thank you for supporting the students, especially recently with emails and gifts to the students in Dannat Hall!

V. Admissions

Cathy Alexander

- Spring and Fall applications are trending up from last year with a 26% increase in total applications, in line with national applications
- Spring class applications were up 29%, Fall applications up 16%-20% as well
- A lot of changes due to virtual recruiting events, thank you to Michael Kremen for assisting
- Still looking to improve the quality of the pool of applicants to the Flex program
- The average LSAT of admitted students is 152, the average GPA of admitted students is 3.33, and we are always looking to raise those medians
- The law school will not consider making the LSAT optional for admission consideration, although it does accept the GRE as a substitute for the LSAT for admission consideration

VI. Dean Anderson's Update

Mark Meeker (for Dean Anderson)

- Thank you to the Board for its warm embrace and support of the virtual reunion
- Thank you to the Board for the kind and caring support of students in Dannat Hall
- The law school has pivoted very well during the successful Fall semester
- The Spring semester calendar will, like the Fall, have little to no breaks for the safety and health of our community (school will end earlier due to the removal of winter and spring breaks)

VII. Career Development

Mark Meeker (for Jill Backer)

- Jobs and internships for the class of 2020 are slow, but CD is continuing outreach
- Any support the Alumni Board can lend to students looking for a job or internship would be greatly appreciated

VIII. Alumni & Development Update

Lori Kanner / Arianne Andrusco

- Alumni Relations:
 - Monthly free CLEs for alumni (engaging 50-200 attendees each) have been incredibly successful; please reach out to Lori and/or Arianne if you would like to offer a CLE or assist with a panel/CLE on Diversity & Inclusion
 - Meet the Judges – Thank you to Mike Kremen, the event was a huge success
 - All Class Virtual Reunion (with activities that appealed to all— engaged 100s of alumni) – reached more alumni than in a regular reunion year
 - Looking ahead: Law Leadership Event – planned for the Spring
 - 1:1 match for PLEAS and the Pace Environmental Litigation clinic offered by the Sun Hill Foundation
 - Thank you for the gift cards for the Dannat Hall students-it was so incredibly thoughtful!
- Development:
 - Giving Tuesday
 - Dean Anderson has identified the Annual Fund and Scholarship to be the law school's targeted needs
 - The PLEAS fund (Pace Law Emergency Assistance to Students) has helped over 25 students with emergency needs, however Dean D'Agostino still has outstanding

applications because as soon as the money is raised it is distributed to students who applied and are in need at the law school

- The Bar Pass Initiative raised \$15,000 and was able to help 9 students this fall (efforts are ongoing and bar results are expected in December)
- Thrilled that 3x as many donors as last year

IX. Committee Reports

1. Nominating Committee

Mike Frankel

- Update and timeline for nominees for the 2021-22 school year – still accepting applications, has received applications from 8 individuals interested in joining next year's Board
- By April 14, 2021 meeting we will have to present a slate, so we have time to consider additional candidates, please reach out to Mike if you have a suggestion or know anyone who might be interested
- Mike will send an email to the committee; a proposed slate by early January 2021 is ideal
- We can have up to 45 Board Members, so there is room for more

2. Social Committee

Jeremy Farrington

- P.L.A.N. event #38
 - Scheduled for Nov. 18, Zoom around 6:15, Matt Donovan will perform again

3. Judicial Committee

Mike Kremen

- "Meet the Judges" virtual event
 - Held 10/19 & 10/20 in sessions 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. & 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. each day
 - Great success with over 150 people attending, and a few students received internships from interacting directly with judges at the event
 - Some technical hiccups on the first day, but moved to Zoom and people got to see each other and interact with judges, and all went (generally) well
 - Several Judicial Committee members moderated a variety of rooms
 - Perhaps next year we will be better able to tout our involvement
- "What Judges Expect" – a planned Spring event
 - Aiming for a date in mid-to-late March, likely March 23, 2021
 - This will be a bit different than Meet the Judges in that judges will be educating attendees on what they expect from practitioners who appear before them
 - Hoping to provide CLE credit, record, and raise money for the school
 - Hoping to find sponsors and monitors
 - Still being planned - if you're interested in being involved in running the event, or want to help get a sponsor, please let me know at kremen@gmail.com

4. Fundraising Committee

Gail Mulligan

- Board member contributions – Members received a spreadsheet reflecting donations to the Alumni Board Fund (not other giving) – to date, \$1,475 received from Board Members this year, with \$360 allocated to quarantine gifts – total fund including rollover from 2019-2020 contributions is \$6,715
- Fundraising Letter for the Pass the Bar Initiative, to go out to Alumni, Friends, and Colleagues, has been drafted by Gail who received feedback from the Finance Committee – the letter should be finalized for distribution soon
- If you know a third party willing to sponsor an event, please let Gail know

5. By-laws Committee

Andrew Teodorescu

- Organizing a committee meeting to discuss any new improvements to the by-laws
- If any Board Member notices a change to be made to the by-laws or would like to suggest an addition or revision to the by-laws, please contact Andrew to let him know

X. New Business

- Alumni database (Jim Lenihan) – Jim will follow-up with Dean Anderson per discussion at the previous Board Meeting
- Board's next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2021

XI. Adjournment

Executive Committee

- Motion: Mike Kremen
- Second: Michael Goldstein
- Time: 7:07 pm