1982

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From the SBA

A Flurry of Activity

The University of Baltimore Student Bar Association has planned and begun to effect a schedule of wide-ranging events that can probably best be described as "frenetic". Taking full advantage of the facilities and opportunities that the new Law Center offers, the SBA will sponsor and produce many activities to entertain, educate and enlighten the law school community.

Typical of these functions was the Orientation of 1982 held August 17-19, in which more than three hundred first-year day and evening students participated in a tightly-organized program of introductory legal skills classes, tours of the facilities and discussion sessions with volunteer student counselors. The SBA selected Day Chairman Phil Kilby and Evening Chairman Renee Menasche and more than thirty upperclassmen to work closely with the faculty and administration to make sure the entering class received a meaningful introduction to their legal studies. New to this year's program was an evening "Spouse Orientation" to introduce the new students' housemates to some of the rigors and traumas that may affect their relationships during the next few years. This idea proved so successful that this spouse group plans to hold later meetings to discuss other concerns that may arise during the year.

One of the most favored SBA traditions is the fall Student-Faculty Picnic. This annual event gives students a chance to meet with their colleagues and professors outside the academic environment. This event was very successful as more than 150 students, faculty and administrators turned out on a warm late-summer's day to enjoy good food, drink, games and company.

The opening of the Law Center was a historic event for the law school. To properly commemorate this occasion, the SBA was instrumental in organizing two separate ceremonies. As sort of an informal warm-up, the SBA sponsored a "Pre-Dedication Happy Hour" on September 23 which culminated in a group picture of several hundred students, faculty and administrators who gathered on the front lobby steps of the Law Center to celebrate their new "home-away-from-home." An enlargement of this picture will hang in the SBA office as a permanent addition to UofB law school memorabilia. At the formal dedication, the SBA provided several student volunteers to hand out programs and maps to lead tours of the new building.

Upcoming social events are: The Second Annual Libel and Slander Show, February (exact time and place will be announced); and a Spring Cruise, April 15, 1983, Port of Baltimore (exact time TBA).

In addition to the above activities, the SBA sponsors several ongoing functions that include: Honor Court, which investigates and adjudicates honor code violations; The Student-Faculty Committee, in which students participate on faculty committees; and The Speaker Series, in which local legal professionals discuss the practice of law. The SBA also encourages a number of advocacy competitions, publications and specialized organizations with funding and publicity.

The General Council of the Student Bar Association, including those elected in the recent Fall elections, consists of: President, Scott Nevin; Evening Vice-President, Chris Gattuso; Day Vice-President, Scott Stephens; Treasurer, Bill Morrow; Recording Secretary, Barbara Gathright; Corresponding Secretary, Suzette White; ABA/LSD Representative, Jackie Moore; ABA/LSD Alternate, Bob Sperling; Class Representatives: Fourth Year Evening, Jeff Nesson, Pat O'Donnell; Third Year Day, Dave Ginsberg, Marcie Sherry; Evening, Sue Spence, Tali Rider; Second Year Day, Kim Armstrong, Victoria Robinson; Evening, Dale McCloud, Anne Emory; First Year Day, Denny Murphy, Terry Dolan; Evening, Susan Harris, Thomas Barham.

ABA/LSD Leads and Grows

Student Bar Association President Scott Nevin, ABA Law Student Division Representative Jacqueline Moore, and Student Bar Representative Jeffrey Nesson represented the University of Baltimore at the 1982 ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. In addition to attending the Law Student Division Assembly, UofB's representatives were able to attend several of the workshops offered by the ABA throughout the conference including a series of lectures by Irving Younger. The Assembly of the Law Student Division operates like any legislature, including the use of filibuster. While this year's Assembly unfortunately fell victim to this type of schism, several noteworthy resolutions were adopted, including Number 107 which was proposed by the University of Baltimore. This resolution, originally drafted by ABA/LSD Alternate Bob Sperling, allows Circuit Governors to be elected even though the previous Circuit Governor was a student from the same school. Adoption of this resolution repeals a previous rule, which was passed in 1978, designed to prevent any single school from forming a "dynasty".

Other proposed resolutions of interest were: Number 113, a recommendation to the ABA that it encourage all ABA accredited schools to develop elective clinical courses in law office management (passed); Number 114, another academic proposal to authorize non-graded academic credit for students who satisfy the requirements of participation in Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) programs (defeated); Number 117, a proposal that the ABA/LSD support state bar associations that have adopted voluntary programs of legal specialization (passed); and Number 118, that all ABA ac-
credited schools be encouraged to prominently post the result of student faculty evaluations (passed). The Assembly also voted unanimously to continue support for passage of the ERA.

A disturbing note: The ABA/LSD broke with the regular ABA over the passage of ABA/LSD Resolution 124, which opposed support of the proposed Federal legislation that would excise private clubs from the non-discrimination tenets of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. The ABA later voted to support this legislation over the objection of the Law Student Division and in direct opposition to its position at earlier meetings.

The University of Baltimore has enthusiastically supported the ABA/LSD for several years. It has had elected more than its share of Circuit Governors and Lt. Governors who firmly believe that such participation is of value to the school. UofB Law School has excelled in ABA/LSD-sponsored competitions like Client Counseling and National Appellate Advocacy. UofB has won the Best SBA Award and is striving to win again this year. This high level of participation has allowed the school and its students to increase their visibility and reputation in the eyes of the regular ABA. All students may become actively involved in the Law Student Division, which offers benefits like health insurance, or they may simply join topical sections to receive their journals and other publications.
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