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STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION OF UCLA

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BULLETIN BOARDS NECESSARY

The Pocket Docket is unofficial and is not a substitute for reading the various bulletin boards.

PASS/FAIL PETITIONS DUE

The last day to file petitions to take a course pass/fail is Friday, April 15. Note that the law school requires a special petition; a pass/ not pass notation on your class study list card is not enough.

Section 4 CIVIL PROCEDURE EXAM DEADLINE

First year section 4 students must make their grade election for last quarter's civil procedure exam by 11:45 a.m. Today, Monday, April 11, 1977.

YEAR LONG JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

All students interested in year-long judicial clerkships for 1978-79 should begin to register with Marilyn Friedman in the Placement Office: now. 2nd year people will be assigned to faculty advisors upon receipt of their applications.

EXTERNSHIPS MEETING

A meeting concerning all externships for this Fall including judicial externships will be held on Monday, April 11, 1977 at noon in the Moot Court Room. Persons missing this meeting should pick up the application forms and informational handout from Michi Yamamoto or Marilyn Friedman (of Special Programs and Placement, respectively) this week.

EX-EXTERN EVALUATIONS

To all Ex-externs; please get those evaluations in ... now.

PLACEMENT NOTES - COMING INTERVIEWS

Gendel, Raskoff, Shapiro and Quittner (1st yr)
Wednesday, April 13, 1977.

Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher (1st year L.A. County minority program), Wednesday, April 13, 1977.

Solomon, Ward, Aguirre and Seidenwurm (2nd & 3rd year), Wednesday, April 20, 1977.

Swamer and Fitzgerald (2nd & 3rd Year)
Tuesday, April 26, 1977

Information is available on California State Agency Internships for Summer 1977 in the Summer and 1st year Summer Books.

\$1000 SCHOLARSHIP will go to some 2nd year student. See notice posted near records office. Deadline is April 15 (Friday).

SBA EMERGENCY MEETING

There may be an emergency meeting of the SBA executive board this week concerning the withholding of funds by some Vice Chancellor of something or another. I think that the money that he is holding includes our money - most of which we spent at the last meeting. It is our money and his action is patent nonsense in my opinion but we may have to make an adjustment before we can recover in conversion. CCR

SPEAKERSspeakersSpeakers

ALUMNI PRACTICE SERIES -

REAL ESTATE: CONSTRUCTION & CONTRACTING.

Four alumni, James Acret, Ronald Denitz, David Yaffe, and Lester Ziffren, will speak on the practical aspects of a real estate legal practice., Today, Monday, April 11 at Noon in the Faculty Conference Room.

JOE SORRENTINO

The legal Speakers Forum presents Joe Sorrentino an ex gang leader turned Juvenile Court Judge via Harvard Law School, speaking on Street Gangs on Monday, April 11 at Noon in Room 1359.

APOLOGY FOR TIME CONFLICTS

Some of you might have noticed that the externship meeting is scheduled at the same time as two speakers - all three events at noon today. I've tried to avoid overlaps like that but was not successful this time. I'll keep trying. CCR

National Lawyers Guild Meeting

The NLG will meet on Tuesday, April 12 at Noon on the Architecture Quad Lawn.

COMMENTS ON TUTORIALS SOUGHT

The Student/Faculty Relations committee is still seeking comments on our tutorial policy. See last week's Pocket Docket for details. Submit in writing to Paul Boland.

WOMEN & THE LAW CONFERENCE - needs volunteers to help with the conference this weekend - April 16 & 17. Sign up at table in the lobby. Conference is free to UCLA law students (I think to all UCLA students and faculty).

THE GSA NOISE
editorial by CCR

Several people have asked me what is going on in the Graduate Students Association (GSA). The GSA has seemingly been unable to deal with the so called "misappropriation fraud" in one of its programs. This issue has become so complicated that the GSA has not addressed many serious issues on Campus that should and must be acted upon (ASUCLA prices, health services proposed fee, Wooten Rec Center, drug prices, and others). Recently the GSA became locked in a battle with the administration over issues of autonomy. I will try to explain the situation as I see it.

It is unfortunate that the issues are very messy. I make not the slightest pretense to knowing all the motives of the various parties, and I am sure that every person involved will give a story different at least in some detail. Rumors abound in GSA politics. I believe that most of the rumors are false; they are reported here because people are acting on them or have acted on them and the situation is not understandable without taking them into effect.

The law school SBA executive board doubles as the "law council" for GSA purposes. The SBA members who sit in the GSA senate are traditionally the class year presidents; with John Tate on quarter Away, currently Darryl Gaines, Mario Gonzalez, and Carl Robinson are seated. Note that the law representatives have responsibilities and an existence independent from the GSA - if the GSA did not exist, the SBA would still have its primary functions intact. Unfortunately, most of the representatives to the GSA Senate exist only for GSA. They represent GSA councils made up of several graduate departments (for size reasons); these councils meet only for GSA matters - since there are separate student governing bodies in the individual graduate departments. These GSA councils select the persons who sit in the GSA Senate.

This structure explains several major GSA problems. The first is its excessive money orientation. Most departmental student legislative bodies who deal with the day to day school problems, do so within their own departments. The SBA is no exception. Most issues affecting law students can be or are decided within the law school. Rarely does the SBA seek outside help. But nearly all student funding comes through GSA. Thus those councils that meet only for GSA business deal overwhelmingly with money matters and tend to see GSA only in money terms.

Secondly, the excessive money orientation of many senators tends to induce the councils to become competitive for funds, creating disharmony and mutual suspicion.

Thirdly, the structure explains why many GSA senators have a seemingly uncontrollable urge to expound at extended length on every issue that reaches the floor. They exist only for the GSA which meets maybe once a month, and they act as representatives of a council that exists only for GSA; thus

they apparently feel the need to justify their existence. It also explains why there is so much infighting in GSA; most senators have no substantive tasks associated with their "office".

The GSA Senate Officers are elected by the graduate students in a general election. Few people vote, mainly because GSA acts through the departmental councils, and the GSA itself is seen as remote. The officer positions are generously stipended (in theory to make the office available to a student who otherwise might have to work). Additionally the president can appoint a number of commissioners who are also generously stipended. A commissioner is roughly equivalent to a member of a law school committee. To my knowledge, commissioners are appointed without review by anyone (not even the GSA Senate). This has routinely led to rumors of abuse, to whispers of bought elections, of bribes and payoffs. GSA election turnout may be 10% or less. This probably induced the "calculator scandal" where members of the engineering school offered raffle prizes to induce engineering students to vote in a GSA election and presumably to vote for the candidates from the engineering school.

The GSA is an autonomous body. Along with the undergraduate SLC, they (we) own ASUCLA. ASUCLA is a 16 million dollar corporation, wholly student owned. We own the bookstore (whose prices are scandalous in my opinion), almost all food service facilities on campus, the vending machine concessions, and who knows what else. Students could set prices & policies for our entities for our benefit if we ever got ourselves together. We have hired professional staff (because of student turnover) who attempt to run the corporation in their(his) own image. There are also university administrators who wonder how the students and ASUCLA gained autonomy, and will lie and cheat to gain control of the corporation. Note that both the professional staff and the university administrators have an interest in preventing a cohesive, effective student government.

The GSA has in the past spent enormous time and energy defending against real & imaginary attacks on its sovereignty. ASUCLA has been autonomous since 1911. The University made a blatant attempt to take over the corporation in 1972. This led to a legal battle resulting in a Statement of Understanding signed in 1974 by the Chancellor and ASUCLA, but the University has rarely attempted in good faith to comply with the agreement. Rumors consistently allege that some member of student government or another has been bought or otherwise coopted by the administration. It is probable that not all the rumors are false.

(TO BE CONTINUED - either in a special edition this week, or on next monday, depending on how much time I have).