January 2, 2018 – January 5, 2018

# USLA-Western Regional Conference 24th Annual

## Opening Dinner- January 2, 2018

Awards

* J Raymond Schiflett Office of the Year—Keisha Ware and Iftin Mohamed (University of North Texas)for making a substantial revision in the expunction requests by students faced with TABC charges by creating a fillable expunction form and instituting a one-on-one peer review with a trained law clerk from The University of Texas School of Law. This process substantially: (1) reduced the number of office and court hours; (2) reduced cost; and (3) provided greater accessibility for the students.
* Jim Aldrich Special Project of the Year—Mary Ann Midden, Susan Hessey, and Tomas Betz (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) for “Your Passport to Student Legal Services” Project. The Passport contains information about the office, available services, and legal tips for international students. This project was funded by Tom Betz’s Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Employee. The Passport was handed out to international students during orientation and events. It received a favorable response.
* Longevity Awards:
  + 5 yrs –Kansas State University (Sarah Barr)
  + 5 yrs—Northern Arizona University (Mathew Porrier\*)
  + 10 yrs—Colorado State University (Forrest Oswell, Kathy Harward)
  + 20 yrs—Texas State University (Kama Davis, Shannon FitzPatrick)

\*Received the award on January 4, 2018.

## Business Meeting—January 3, 2018

Treasurer’s Report Update

(Treasurer: Forrest Orswell (Colorado State Univ.) hereinafter “Forrest”)

* Last year, when Forrest took over halfway through, the reserve was $4,612.
* Because there were unexpected expenses at the last conference, the reserve was reduced to ~ $2k.
* We tried to get the reserve back up again so that we would be in a better position to negotiate with hotels, and have sufficient amount needed for the deposit. Have it back up to $5k.
* Issue of accepting credit cards- there’ve been requests to allow participants to pay for the conference with ccs as opposed to checks.
  + - Other reasons: transfer money, paying people back
* The costs involved as a merchant: 2 options (1) put $200 as a setup and 2 1/2% fee per transaction; or (2) without paying for any setup fee, use Paypal but with a 3-4% fee per transaction.
* Open the floor to discuss what the needs are.
* For reference, the National Conference accepts credit card payments.
* Treasurer does not have a preference but posed a question of whether universities would be willing to pay a convenience fee associated with the use of a cc. Or the organization could build the cost into everyone’s expenses
* The 1st option of $200 setup is every year, if this option of selected, it would be built into the cost
* Motion to revisit after exploring the topic of accepting cc for the payments
  + - unanimously passed

New Rule Proposals

1. Monetary Award

* Motion: Shannon FitzPatrick made a motion to apply additional $25 pp in the registration fee. This would amount to ~ $500 and can be used as a cash award to office of the year or the special project of the year award.
* Cons:
  + - Some universities would not allow that
    - (Tom Betz) UIUC, his univ. is not impressed with $500 whereas a simple plaque would be displayed everywhere.
    - Student Legal services may only get a fraction of the award
* Pros:
  + - $ would be more impressive than plaques.
* Sylvia Holmes seconds.
* Motion modified: Any surplus would be used to offset the overages, if the winner refuses to accept or could not accept, it would go back into the budget.
* Sylvia Holmes seconds.
* Vote: 11 for -11 opposed. A tie was broken by president Janis Gallego by voting for.
* one abstention Ron Perry (UCSB)
* Resolved: Motion carried.

2. Award Recipient

* Motion: Carrie Showalter (West Virginia Univ.) proposed a motion to split the cash award between the office of the year and special project
* Vote: 4 abstentions, remaining for.
* Resolved: Motion carried.

2019 Conference

1. Locations

* Austin
* Santa Fe
* New Orleans
* San Diego
* Phoenix (general)
  + - spread out so one will need to rent a vehicle (Janis)
* Salt Lake City
* Scheduled to vote on Friday January 5, 2018

1. Scheduling

* January 1st will be on a Tuesday in 2019.
* Option of shrinking the number of conference days for 2019 (i.e., conference opening dinner on Wed. Jan 2, and all day Thurs. Jan 3, and all day Fri Jan 4)
* Rory O’Sullivan (University of Washington) suggested extending the conference till Sat. am.
* Forrest noted that depending on the location, Friday night hotel cost may be expensive.
* Option 1 is to start Jan 2-Jan 5 (sat).
* Option 2 is start Mon Jan 7.
* To be further discussed on Friday January 5, 2018

Minutes Confirmation

* Secretary Christin Liu (UCLA) read the minutes from last year’s meeting.
* Liz Kemper seconds.
* Resolved: Motion carried
* 1 abstention by Ron Perry UCSB

Round the Region

1. Univ. Illinois Urbana Champagne (Tom Betz, Susan Hessey, Mary Ann Midden)

* More than 11000 international students attending.
* Only 3 attorneys in the office and litigate.
* Funding: Positives: Have funding for a 4th attorney but currently don’t have the space. Looking for someone with a tech background & higher education background.
* Recent notable cases/issues/accomplishments:
  + “Passport” project published.
  + Continued collaboration with law school LLM interns, they do much of the work with translation. The counseling center has someone who speaks Chinese.
  + They are also running into a lot of mental health issues. They are often dismissed if they are in convicted of a crime but they are still clients of the SLGS. Attorney-client privilege issues when they are banned from coming to campus, difficult to access client
  + Many of them are 17 hyrs old coming from a different country, they have to stall until they turn18 because under Illinois, they have to be 18 or over to be fully represented
  + L/T situation is similar to Texas, the management builds the building under LLC with investors. They rent a unit with common areas and match roommates up with other people wanting to rent the unit.
  + Issues with material elements missing in lease agreements. Discovered a lot of landlords not assigning a unit in a lease agreement or signing the lease agreement. Landlords fail to tell the students whether or not they need a guarantor
  + Represent misdemeanors, majority involved with shoplifting at the school bookstore- not a huge problem for domestic student but international students have an arrest record and may get their visa revoked. If you must shoplift, don’t it here

2. University of Washington (Rory O’Sullivan)

* Population: 46k students attending
* Office: 6 law students, 2 undergrads, 1 attorney (Rory is the only attorney in the office)

Any student can come in for a 40 min free consultation, $15 for the time the law student spends on cases.

* 3 Current projects
  + Case Management Software- Recently introduced an iCloud case management software. In Washington everyone uses Legal Server so that the law students could get familiar with it when they work at a law office/firm. Process of getting the software approved is time consuming. Legal server has a module where it allows a student to directly schedule an appointment online by showing available blocks of time.
  + Immigration Pro bono Panel- Created a group of immigration attorneys to serve as a pro bono panel for students. Rory does not have a background in immigration law.
  + Hiring Process Diversity- The office does a lot of student hiring (law school & undergrad). During a recent hiring process, Rory talked with the Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity diversifying the applicant pool. Reflect diversity in the SLGS materials. Have a statement “our office supports diversity. . .” or ensure that materials state services that emphasize diversity throughout (e.g., services for name change, represent discrimination cases).
* Rory had questions about how the other offices are handling the immigration issues (e.g., DACA issues)
  + Iftin Mohamed was hired for her experience in DACA at UNT.
  + Some offices do not handle immigration issues and refer them out.

3. West Virginia University (Carrie Showalter & Melissa Stacy)

* Population: Approximately 30k student population
* Office: The office has two students, one secretary. Litigates civil cases. Handles everything except tax & immigration. Provides advice only (no in-court representation) for criminal cases. The office works with several clinics in law school.
* Mediation services provided to student orgs. or in conflicted cases.
* Expungement assistance.
* Landlord/Tenant Issues:
  + Assist students with sorority housing contracts cases. Organizations would do a presentation and then force students pay a certain amount in rent based on the presentation participation when they haven’t yet signed a contract.
  + Cannot assist Univ. leases but there’s been a lot of fair housing law violation issues in cases that the office represents.
    - Cannot assist students with Univ. owned housing.
    - Receive a lot of pushback from landlords who say, “Univ. is not doing this,” why should we?
    - A lot of tensions in town between the office and local landlords.
  + Review lease agreements: some agreements have provisions that state that eviction law would not apply, allow booting of tenants’ vehicles, and/or fining tenants.
* Collaborative work with student orgs. Tiered system by prioritizing by need (e.g., Mountaineer Maniacs- mishandling of the funds with no safeguards in place).
* Univ. is looking to create a campus magistrate office/or hearing officer
* Assist students with filing: There are rules they need to follow when providing limited assistance (must disclose limited assistance)

4. Texas Tech University (Jill Stangl Director)

* Univ. is located in Lubbock (population of ~ 250k)
* Student population: Of the student population, ~ 25% Hispanic and Vet friendly (high vet population on campus). 10% international students. On F1 Visa. Inadequate assistance for international graduate & undergraduate students.
* Univ. has several satellite campuses, medical school, law school, etc.
* Students at satellite campuses are treated like online students
* Office: 3 attorneys- Jill (Director) handles criminal defense, Jeff (Hays) handles L/T, Brit (Swanson) handles misc. (primarily family law & uncontested family law). Expanded scope to include consultation with immigration (e.g., DACA enrollment), but they have no immigration attorney in town who was willing to work pro bono.
* The Law school have immigration clinics but the attorneys only serve the indigent and international students generally do not qualify.
* Services offered, they will represent students in court for misdemeanors not occurring on campus, uncontested family law cases, expungements, theft (e.g., Walmart self-checkout paying for some but not all), alcohol related cases
* Recent Cases:
  + Campus has a food pantry—there’s been more frequent cases involving hungry students shoplifting at markets. When an international student is arrested for theft (crime of moral turpitude), the county contacts the embassy of the student’s native country.
  + Bait bike cases- police dept. would use old bicycles (with a tracker) and mark them as abandoned, unsuspecting students would use them to get. A lot of international students are arrested for this.
* Question for the group: They had a student complain about the service rendered by one of the attorneys in the office and the complaint went up to the president of the Univ. The Univ. asked for information involving the advice provided by the attorney. The dilemma of revealing information on the service/advice provided. How did other offices handle these types of cases?
  + When the client files a grievance, they have effectively waived their a-c privilege, the attorney may use the information to defend themselves.
  + Contact the state bar ethics hotline.
* Suggested that ethics and protocol for dealing with client grievance be included in the presentation at the next conference.

5. University of Kansas (Randall McGrath)

* ~28k student population
* 4 1/2 attorneys, 1 admin assistant, 3-4 intern law students
* Advice on MIP. Provide diversion program applications.
* The office is supported by student fees. It has 2 & 3Ls serving as interns.
* The office sends out follow-up letters (password protected) summarizing the conference so that it protects the office and minimize the risk for misinterpretation.
* Overseen by student affairs. The office is currently located in law school.
* Students have authorized the fees for attorneys.

6. UCSD (Jon Senour)

* 2 attorneys (Jon Senour, Mary Anan), 1 assistant.
* Advice only
* Project: Mary & Jon provide educational series of workshops with other attorneys from the community (“Discover the Law”). 660 students signed up last year. They provide certificates if participants finish certain number of workshops. ~100 students completed the workshops.
* Hot topics:
  + Received many questions about DACA, but they have a robust undocumented student services center.
  + Received a lot of questions about the Muslim ban
  + Some students and faculty went home to their native country and never returned to the US
* Issues of free speech
  + Created a freedom of speech issue informational website before it became a hot topic.
  + Last spring, they had a controversial commencement speaker (the Dalai Lama) many Chinese students & parents were upset. There were protests at the commencement and a semi-governmental organization stopped funding and assisting students from attending UCSD.
* Recent cases/issues/accomplishments:
  + Last year, a student in the parking lot declared a number of parking permits lost and had a network of student reselling said permits. Large number of students were arrested.
  + Election night, students were displeased with the election results and took to the fwy at 2 am, and a number of students were arrested. The CA HWY patrol was very upset. A student got hit by a car and broke her leg. She is suing the Univ. for not stopping her from getting on the fwy.
  + Grand theft by a young male student of female students’ undergarments. The police issued a statement, for those seeking their property, the suspect has admitted to wearing the said property.
  + The Univ. is lenient with cases involving property loss, a student last year was arrested for damaging a water fountain artwork, and they were only required to pay back for the damage.

7. University of Texas at Austin (Ethan Chou, Sylvia Holmes, Raymond Schiflett)

* A comprehensive internal & external review of the need for another attorney was commissioned by the Univ.— it was determined that another attorney was needed but the Univ. decided to not provide one.
* Ethan was a clerk with the office for two years, when the legal secretary left, he took on the job as a legal secretary. He also works as an attorney in the office.
* Sylvia is campaigning to become a judge in Travis County.
  + The primary is on March 6, 2018, if she wins, she will face a republican opponent.
  + The University wants SLGS to provide advice only & referral service (i.e., no in-court representation, refer cases to outside attorneys).
* The office has continued a good relationship with two local Landlords.
* Landlords would often allow students represented by the office to break the lease even when the student did not have any grounds
* Recent cases/issues/accomplishments:
  + Interesting Employment Case: A student did a summer internship and was overpaid, he wanted to pay back the overpayment but the employer wanted him to pay back the Social Security and FICA.
  + Overbroad employment agreements: The biggest problem’s been where an employer tries to say that anything you create belongs to the company, and any work created by an employee while on their free time outside of work also belongs to the company. The office advices students to dispute the provision and if they won’t agree to remove, find a job elsewhere.
  + Ariana Grande concert assault case.
  + A young man was charged $60 for breaking an amp voltage. The client has a Chevy which required an electricity charge. Cl was responsible for tripping the amp voltage.
  + Cl’s car was towed because she did not have an apartment parking sticker displayed in her car. She claimed that she was never told to display it but she noticed that all other cars had the sticker displayed.
  + To lighten the load, for TABC tickets (MIP, misrepresentation tickets, etc.) when students come in for a consultation, the office will assist in filling out the form and filing.
  + Mold cases from the hurricane. Sent out a dozen letters to landlords.
  + Grad student case: A student was out on Lake Austin while on a kayak and was run over by a longboat. Student’s valuables were damaged. He was claiming that he was never told to sign a waiver but it was on the back of the form they were given. Kayak has to make way for the bigger water vehicles, so it was his responsibility to get out of the way.

Meeting Adjourned

## Business Meeting—January 4, 2018

**Roundtable Discussion On Setting Up SLGS**

* 1. Background
* UNLV is exploring the possibility of opening a SLGS
* Receiving assistance from UC Davis
* The Univ. lacks details and information
* Questions:
  + Source of the funding?
  + Data that help justify the expenses (e.g., survey data showing how it helps the students with respect to retention, etc.)
  + What assessment is done at the end of the service?
* UT Austin (Sylvia Holmes)
  + Survey questions: 1. would the legal problem you’re having interfered with you being in school? ; 2. Did the resolving the issue help?
* WVU (Carrie Showalter)
  + Have a survey asking about funding, size of the program, etc.
* UIUC (Tom Betz)
  + History: Second oldest SLGS in the US. The program was founded by the students because of the Vietnam War. The office provided representation with drafting issues. The office has now transitioned to representing students against landlords. There are 3 attorneys and there is a huge demand, requiring prioritization of cases
  + The original attorneys worked for free or with minor salaries.
  + Funding: Student registration resource fee + donation. Univ. eventually took over the program through dean of students’ office with a charter.
* Majority of the universities are a part of student affairs (office of dean of students) except for UCSB
* The services are provided at a very affordable cost.
* Most of the funding is through student services fee.
* UCLA (Liz Kemper)
  + History: The program started in 69, student affairs took over the office in the 70s
  + Scope of service: there are 3 part time attorneys for ~ 40k students. Unable to provide representation in court (advice only).
  + Resource: Partnered with law school to get Lexis & Westlaw
  + Scheduling: Used to do walk-ins but switched to appointments but allow walk-ins for emergency cases (e.g., rape cases, eviction, etc.). The office uses an intake management system.
  + Advice: Need to decide on the scope of representation
* U of A (Janis Gellego)
  + Scope of service: provide advice & consultation only. Notary public service is a huge benefit (favorable response from staff & students) \*\*Note: CA and other states may be different: Cal. state bar does not view favorably on dual roles of an attorney (i.e., attorney & notary public).
  + Resource: free Westlaw & Lexis access.
  + Staffing: Only hire work study students (predominantly minority and/or lower income students), this has had a favorable response because it helped build skills that allowed them to be hired quickly after graduation.
  + Importance of confidentiality: had to terminate one of the student workers for violating the confidentiality policy. Also trained all of the professional staff that share the office space with SLGS.
  + Work with other programs/divisions (Partnership): partner with other divisions of the university (e.g., frat & sorority, law school, family programs), use relationship power on campus, cross-reference
  + Scheduling: Appointments & Walk-in hr
  + The Univ. there is a clear guideline that Campus Counsel and SLGS are the only ones who are allowed to provide legal advice
  + Referral Program
    - bar screens the attorneys for malpractice insurance
    - attorneys have to meet certain requirements
    - lawyers have to agree to provide a discount
  + Assessment helps with requesting the Univ. for more funding.
  + Sample survey questions:
    - What was your stress level before the consultation and stress level after?
    - Would you refer our services to your friends/classmates?
* UW (Rory O’Sullivan)
  + 46k students
  + Staffing: ability to use students helpful, U of W allows the use of 3L students
    - During the interview process, they give hypotheticals about confidentiality to screen qualified candidates.
  + Scope of service: provides rep. in court. Cannot take cases involving student v. student. Handle criminal defense (e.g., MIP, DUI), and landlord/tenant (e.g., eviction).
  + Advice: When partnering, think about the types of service that would be most impactful for each program. (e.g., talking to the veterans group to assist with estate planning, working with Greek community on risk management, immigration services for international students, etc.)
* Texas Tech Univ. (Jill Stangl)
  + 93% of the budget goes to personnel. There’s been merit raises without the budget increasing.
  + Advice: Ask for considerably more than what you expect, this will allow for absorption of budget cuts.
* UNT (Keisha Ware)
  + Staffing: The office had one attorney for a long period of time. There are 3 clerks during the summer but need a professional staff
  + Advice:
    - Make sure that the office is staffed the way you want from the beginning- make sure that you have a professional who will be a gatekeeper, student to student (peer) gatekeeping may not work well.
    - Legal research, forms database, case management system will be needed. Partner with law school to get lexis
    - Ask what type of services students would be interested in (e.g., litigation, criminal, etc.)
  + Resource: The office was allowed to partner with the library to cut costs related to legal research related expenses.
  + Through the national organizations, they setup best practices and how SLGS help support retention of students (this will be shared with the speaker)
* SHSU (Gene Roberts)
  + Confidentiality issues using student workers
    - have student workers sign confidentiality forms
    - in case of breach, they are terminated immediately
    - training as to the importance of confidentiality (e.g., the attorney may lose the license to practice)
  + Advice:
    - Never refer to clients as clients but students
    - Provide training that is align with university mission
    - Do a search on who has a JD on campus and when they are faced with people with questions or seeking advice, to direct them to the office.
  + Mediation services (conflict resolution training)
    - Between students, and student groups
    - Univ. sends non-sexual assault cases to mediate
* UCSB (Ron Perry)
  + Staffing: The office has two contract attorneys and student interns.
* CSU (Forrest Orswell)
  + Part-time admins can be helpful with confidentiality concerns
* UIUC (Tom Betz)
  + Aligning the office with the Univ:
    - Sell the program as a form of education.
    - The mission is education & consultation with a goal of retention.
    - They hold classes on campuses with student groups and orgs. They host talks about sexual assaults, new marijuana laws, MIP, etc.
    - Univ. encourages prevention education.
    - Univ. is not as enthusiastic about litigation, you may be suing a large landlord who may have ties to the Univ.
  + Partnership: Work with others in the community, use the information they have and avoid duplicating services provided by the community.
* UT Austin (Raymond Schiflett)
  + Scheduling:
    - set by appointment schedule (by 1hr or 1/2 hr)
    - used to be walk-ins- but it was disorganized
    - Don’t generally allow same day appointments because most of the students can be highly emotional. The case may be resolved in a day or two unless they are emergency cases (e.g., they are being sued, domestic violence, sexual assault, eviction)
    - Appointments allow the office to notify the students to bring in all documents relating to their case.
    - Relatively low percentage of no-shows (5-10 a month)
  + Philosophy of the office is that students never leave empty handed, even if they are cases you cannot help (provide referral, give materials, etc.)
* Some offices have a policy where if there is a no-show, they cannot make an appointment for two weeks or two no-shows a year, you are referred to a community resource
* TXU (Kama Davis)
  + Training: Provided 150 training throughout campus
    - Reach out to give legal advice to the broad student population
* Connect Prof. M. Kagan with National Conference
* Expand the scope of service and do not pigeonhole
  + employment law (tied to student’s income, pitch to business school)
  + immigration law

**Round the Region**

8. (NAU) Matt Poirier

* part-time attorney
* Issues:
  + Shortage of student housing.
  + Animosity towards the Univ. from the town regarding traffic and parking issues.
* Recent notable cases/issues/accomplishments:
  + Community tension with students: One of the students got shot in the face by a guy who was sick of the parking issue. The student tried to film the situation with his phone. The student survived and the shooter committed suicide after getting out on bail. He has some properties and the student is now suing the shooter’s estate.
  + Provided Victim assistance (victim’s rights)
    - Counseled the student (in the shooting case) to phrase the statement to foreclose any wiggle room for the defendant to assert self-defense.
    - Advice on what to email on the prosecutor to hopefully have impact on the defendant’s release conditions
  + Office conducted a training for students who will be living off campus to be better neighbors.
  + Shortage of housing leading to roommate problems.
    - basis for breaking the lease that is non domestic violence
    - injunction against harassment
    - Roommate problems being escalated by
      * Lack of social skills, interpersonal skills
      * Rise in mental illness

9. UCLA (Liz Kemper, Kathy Koch-Weser, Christin Liu)

* Student population: ~ 44k
* Staffing: 3 temp attorneys = (2.2 FTE), and 3 part-time law clerks
* charge a fee (mandated to do so in 1998)
  + $10 for initial intake
  + $20 for additional service
  + $50 for outside representation
  + attorneys can waive fees
* Service
  + Assist with everything except for tax.
  + Do not litigate.
  + Assist in Univ. related matters.
    - Can develop good relations with other departments
    - Assist with conduct cases
  + pro bono immigration lawyers provide service
    - High demand.
    - When presented of this to the student fee advisory committee, they were interested in providing funding for additional attorney time.
    - Currently in the process of requesting for a 25% immigration attorney
* Scheduling/Case management system
  + Able to obtain demographic data (e.g., ethnicity, country of origin, etc.).
  + Serve large proportions of grad students
* Funded by student fees (fees generated is only 4% of the budget). Student fee advisory committee is very supportive.
* DACA: 750 known DACA students. There is an immigrant legal services center (assist undocumented students and their family but service is limited to the immigration issues. SLGS till assist with employment issues.
* Programs: Alcohol and Diversion program in conjunction with the UCPD.UCPD can provide a student with the option of citation or attending the diversion program. Student loses a license for a year for MIP. Fine is very expensive = base fine + 270%. There are three educational trainings and a student can choose from one of three to attend.
* Notable issues/cases:
  + A rise in mental illness among the student population.
  + Management companies who rent units and in turn rent out individual beds. Affecting many international students.
  + Landlords aren’t suing in small claims court and instead sending the matter over to the collections agencies.
  + Internet fraud cases involving rent & employment
  + An option for victims who used Western Union to wire money to scammers
    - WU entered into a settlement with CA Attorney General’s Office.
    - There is a funding for $586 M
    - Deadline Feb. 12, 2018 to file a claim.
    - Don’t need to have previously filed a complaint.
    - Eligible if you were scammed from 1/1 2004- 1/19 2017

10. UCSB (Ron Perry)

* Student Population: ~ 25k
* Robin Unander brought on Ron Perry (UCSB grad and lived in Isla Vista, a student community).
* Recent notable cases/issues:
  + Bad/abusive landlords.
  + Security issues (there were two mass killings in Isla Vista). The office has moved off campus to Isla Vista and they are acutely aware of the security issues. Set up cameras but there also the issue of confidentiality. There is a panic button under the desk.
  + Housing shortage: high tension, dense population, and high rent ($1750/month for a studio apt.).
  + There is an office of judicial affairs dealing with student crimes. The office is trying to find a way to advise those clients regarding criminal implications of those conducts.
    - What should the student say?
    - Burden of proof is by preponderance of evidence.
    - Whether students should cooperate
  + Also trying to formulate on what/how to advise the office of judicial affairs regarding weighing evidence, due process issues, etc.
* Advice from the group: Refer them to criminal defense attorneys.
  + Tell the student to remain silent because the prosecutors could get a subpoena and access the statements made by the school.
* The office cannot advise students on matters where the Univ. is the adversary
* Ron has legal aid foundation contact to refer students involving landlord tenant cases

11. Texas State Univ. (Shannon Fitzpatrick & Kama Davis)

* Budget of $25,000
* Efforts to keep a high profile.
* The office conducted 150 presentations this fall.
  + The evaluations go to the Dean and VP
  + Most of the presentations are during the day
  + Helped transgender students with gender marker changes, black women united, student government, etc.
* Efforts to be highly aware of Univ. politics. Cash rewards would be huge symbolically
* Efforts to keep the office safe during the budget crunches
* Recent notable cases/issues:
  + A student came in terrified of being charged with sex charges, he got onto a dating website for 18 or older. He was texting with a young woman, she texted a nude photo of herself to him and asked him to do the same. He texted her with his nude photo. He gets a call from her “irate dad,” asking for $500 on numerous occasions. By the time he came into the office, he had already given $7k. An expensive lesson learned. A very sophisticated operation.
  + A lot of problems with rent by the bed apartments
    - Tenants individually liable for what happens in their rooms and jointly and severally liable for common areas.
    - Generally, landlords would have general liability insurance
    - Placing the insurance obligation on tenants.
      * A toilet was leaking for a long time and went through a portal request for a repair, in Texas the request must be in writing (snail mail). The management, instead of making the repairs, only re-caulked the toilet. The sewage ended up spewing out and the student and her parents (who are guarantors) had to file for bankruptcy. Under the lease agreement, the tenants were required to get a general liability insurance, personal liability insurance, etc. under the heading of the renter’s insurance.

12. Colorado State Univ. (Forrest Orswell)

* Student population: ~25k students
* Staffing: 2 full time attorneys and 2 half-time attorneys.
* Funding: Student fee funded and under student affairs
* Scope of Service:
  + Don’t do a lot of representation in court
  + Continues to assist in cases involving student v. student but may reassess because it has become very difficult (e.g., Title IX cases)
  + Immigration Consultations
    - Teamed with 2 immigration attorneys coming in monthly
    - Favorable response by the Univ.
    - Will be asking the University for a permanent funding.
    - Currently paid out of the office funds.
  + Conflict Resolutions (Conduct Office) Restorative Justice Program
    - Taking the Restorative Justice people into courts have had a huge impact in influencing the courts to refer students to the RJ programs
* Partnerships:
  + The office has great relationship with the police. Get referrals. Collaborations.
  + Collaboration with Business school for students with formation of business. A local business attorney comes in once a month to assist students with corporate contracts. The lawyer charges $50/hr (paid out of the office funds).
* Title IX
  + Conditions have been horrible.
  + There was a student who committed suicide 5 yrs ago after discovering that they were accused.
  + A student communicated to the office recently that the office had literally saved his life.
  + Borderline cases: There was a case involving situations where a student accuses another student for looking at her butt, a full investigation is done and uniformed officer is dispatched. These cases are being handled the same way as rape cases.
  + Considering in putting out an CLE in the office with a panel of criminal defense attorneys

Vote on Conference

1. Venue

* + - Eliminated
      * + Santa Fe (crossed out- difficult access)
        + San Diego (held the conference 2017)
    - Keep
      * + Phoenix
        + Austin
        + New Orleans
        + Salt Lake City
    - Austin (downtown) Chosen by a majority

2. Scheduling

* + - Wed Jan 2 - Sat Jan 5 chosen by a majority

**Austin (downtown) Wed Jan 2- Sat Jan 5 (morning)**

**Round the Region**

13. University of North Texas (Keisha Ware & Iftin Mohamed)

* Population: 38k students. At max capacity on campus
* Location: 35 miles north of Dallas
* Satellite campuses in Dallas, Fort Worth, and Frisco.
* Currently serving satellite campus students in Frisco. Approx. 7-8 students to stop by
* Staffing: 1 full time attorney, 1 part-time attorney. Funding for a second attorney was granted. Iftin started on Oct. 9,2 017. Iftin provides immigration consultation in the office. Attorneys from the community provided immigration consultations prior to iftin.
* Services:
  + Have seen a huge interest in immigration.
  + Landlord /tenant.
  + Criminal (MIP, Marijuana, drug paraphernalia)
  + Expungements and non-disclosures.
  + Sexual assault cases (apartments were broken into by a janitor). Students were able to get out of the lease through the assault statute. Landlords demanding for proof (e.g., rape kit report). The other roommate became liable for the entire rent amount- but SLGS was able to negotiate the landlord to get the other roommate out of the lease.
  + Moved away from litigation but advocated to be able to do it in dire situations and if it will benefit the community.
* Recent notable cases:
  + Bait and switch water pump case where the small claims judge physically inspected the pump and determined that it was previously used.
  + Emotional support animal issues. People don’t understand the difference between the service animals and emotional support animals. SLGS have been able to give their input on Univ. housing policy on this issue. Issues with one roommate being accommodated and while others are not.
  + Immigration issues: They have students who are legal permanent residents, who may want to adjust their status, every case is on a case by case basis.

14. Kansas State Univ. (Sarah Barr)

* Population: ~22k students (down 4%) a big concern on campus but does not impact SLGS too much because it is funded by privilege fee. The budget also carries over every year.
* Provided materials on off campus housing support group
* Kansas Association of Criminal Defense attorneys gave a link for [www.immi.org](http://www.immi.org) (assistance to immigrants regarding US immigration laws).
* Recent notable issues/cases:
  + There was a noose found hanging from a tree
  + Jewish holiday about harvest, there was a temporary structure built and torn out of the ground and wrapped around a car. Everyone suspected anti-Semitism but there was an 80 mph wind weather the night before.
  + There was a car covered in horrible racial comments. Every window was written on. Back window had “go home,” “date your own,” etc. The victim then announced that he wanted to now leave the Univ. but was found that he never actually attended the Univ. Brought in FBI investigation and later discovered that the victim wanted to just stir the pot.
  + Greek Life was dissolved. They still have sorority & fraternity but treated the same as other student organizations.
  + Bad landlords: Gary Seymore (landlord) moved and now filing cases against students in a county with non-attorney sitting as judges and winning cases against his tenants.
  + Tailgate: Police not following the policy and stating that only one alcoholic case per person is allowed. Fraternity members went around asking people walking in to carry in a case for them.
* The office is located the Office of Student Life. It has been working out, they cross refer students.

15. University of Arizona (Janis Gallego)

* Population: ~ 43k students
* medical school in Tucson and Phoenix, consultations by teleconference
* Staffing: Front desk student workers (change made a little over a year ago), 2 law school students, and 1 attorney.
* Recent notable issues/cases and accomplishments:
  + Continued partnerships with intellectual property clinic: Cross refer students. Clients needing corporate formation assistance are referred to SLGS and those who have IP questions are referred to the IP clinic. Janis gives lectures to students. SLGS is listed the IP clinic’s website
  + Immigrant Student Center: Received guidance from Liz- UCLA. Started providing immigration consultations.
  + After a 1 1/2yr push, they were able to get change the job title changed from legal student services advisor to student legal services counsel.
  + Funding: Received a permanent funding (5 yrs or more)
  + Partnership with Campus Health and Resident Life regarding drug and alcohol posters.
  + Fade ID: Students arrested with fake ids no longer can work for banks (crime of dishonesty).
  + Illegal trespass: Students arrest don’t understand that they cannot break into the athletic facilities (also soccer stadium, football stadium, etc.) that have silent alarms. They get arrested and also a safety issue while being intoxicated. Looking for creative ways to train the students.
  + Child porn: An international student came in for a consultation and stated that he currently had a police in his house conducting a search warrant, he had child porn materials on his devices.
  + Sexual Assault: A female grad student decided to come forward and report an assault that happened to her when she was an undergrad student by another undergrad student. The police refused to provide a copy of the police report. The school made her go through hoops. She has an fb message from the other student admitting to sexually assaulting her while she was unconscious but the prosecutor refused to pursue the case.
    - * + Possession of firearm: International student get the resident hunting license and purchase firearms. They take photos with firearms and post on social media. The police arrest the students and are deported. They needed to get the non-resident hunting license.
        + Lawsuit: Janis is currently being sued. Conflict with a non-degree seeking law student. Criminal charges filed against this law student. He recently lost his job as a victim advocate for women. Notice of claim stated that she colluded with other students to “get” him. He filed a pending lawsuit against the Univ. naming her and others.

Treasurer

* Motion: Forrest proposed a motion to allow members to pay with cc for a year since we will be having overages with the $25 additional fee.
* All in favor.
* Resolution: Motion carried

Meeting adjourned

## Business Meeting—January 5, 2018

Miss Lake Mexia Award

Sarah Barr (last year’s award recipient) presented the award to Shannon Fitzpatrick.

Venue

* The Board will make a good faith effort to hold the conference in Austin.
* There is a legislature meeting scheduled a week after the Western Conference in Austin and may affect the availability of hotel rooms.
* The Board will first do the research and let the members know.

Listserv

* Currently, there is no listserv for the Western Conference.
* Discussion of setting up one.

Meeting Adjourned