

**Law Center Association (LCA)
Spring 2019 Business Meeting
Friday, May 17, 2019**

**Chesterfield Smith Classroom (180 HOL)
Levin College of Law**

Attendees

In Person: Carter Andersen, David Bowers, Brian Burgoon, Dennis Calfee, Richard Comiter, James Cunningham, Barry Davidson, Fabienne Fahnestock, Lee Gunn, Scott Hawkins, Courtney Grimm, Thomas Julin, Judge Nelly Khouzam, Bill McCollum, Michael Minton, Tracy Nichols, Louis Nostro, Rahul Patel, Robert Pierce, Gary Printy, Oscar Sanchez, Judge Morris Silberman, Jo Thacker, Renee Thompson, Robert Thornburg, Tad Yates

Attendees

By Phone: Rebecca Brock, Jeffrey Feldman (others unrecorded)

Faculty

Present: Dean Laura Rosenbury, Provost Joseph Glover, Associate Dean Rachel Inman, Associate Dean Liz Lear, Associate Dean Darren Hutchinson

Staff

Present: Rob Birrenkott, Mike Farley, Andrea Fourman, Dan Hoffman, Debbie Menoher, Branden Nicholson, Kelli Murray, Whitney Smith

1:26 p.m. LCA Chairman Scott Hawkins welcomed members and called the meeting to order. He reviewed the agenda and acknowledged UF Law's rise in ranking to #31 overall and #12 among public law schools. He applauded Dean Rosenbury for her efforts.

The February 2018 meeting minutes were moved, seconded, and approved without dissent. Hawkins turned the meeting over to Dean Rosenbury and Associate Dean Elizabeth Lear.

1:41 p.m. *Celebrating "31" and Continuing Our Momentum* – Dean Rosenbury welcomed and thanked the LCA members. She commented on the Law School's data-driven strategy and described how it influenced the rankings process. Dean Lear presented slides titled *Becoming a Top 10 Public Law School* which indicated the ranking factors and statistics such as jobs, bar passage, student acceptance rate, reputation and monetary resources. The Dean pointed out that we are lagging behind in funding, but shared that it has improved for scholarships. UF Law's average spent

per student is comparatively lower than other aspirational peers. The Board of Trustees and the Provost are supporting the Law School's effort to reach the top 10 ranking. The school has received an infusion of funds from the UF general fund and transformational support from Mori Hosseini, High Culverhouse, Fred Levin, and others. The Dean reported on how monies are spent and how we are improving the student experience with the renovation of Bruton-Geer and other enhanced support programs.

2:02 p.m.

Reimagination of UF Law Student Affairs – Associate Dean Rachel Inman spoke about our student-centered focus and how we can make it better by fostering positive behaviors and qualities. She reviewed the life cycle of student engagement leading to student career success. Improvements to the Bruton-Geer student hub, enhancements to advising and consulting, student life programming and education, and business process analysis of the Law School's systems are current initiatives contributing to the student experience.

Assistant Dean Michelle Smith introduced herself and her new role as an opportunity to change our culture and promote inclusiveness. Bill McCollum asked about student exercise and wellness programs. Dean Inman responded that many campus resources are available and publicized with students.

2:27 p.m.

Michael Minton announced a gift of \$25,000 for the Friends of Sam Ullman Scholarship Fund from the Florida Bar Tax Section along with the previous \$5,000 pledge payment for a total of \$30,000. Mike Farley accepted the presentation check on behalf of the LCA.

2:30 p.m.

Recognition of Direct Support Organizations - Scott Hawkins thanked special guests Provost Joe Glover and UF Trustee Rahul Patel for their support of UF Law. Patel shared that the Board of Trustees had endorsed Dean Rosenbury's strategy for UF Law. He explained that the Board of Trustees had reviewed all remaining academic DSOs on campus and determined that most, including the LCA, were no longer needed in their current state. Moving forward, the LCA's assets will be managed by the UF Foundation, removing the need for a financial officer and expensive annual audits. An audit for 2019 will be carried out as planned. The Finance & Investment Committees can be dissolved, but other committees will remain intact as needed. The Provost thanked the LCA for its actions and continued support. He explained that the use of funds would not be affected. UFF will provide capable oversight and stewardship of all previous donations to existing funds. Oversight of LCA bylaws will no longer require Board of Trustees approval. LCA members questioned procedures for the transfer of +/- \$6M in current LCA assets,

and the need to honor previous agreements and donor intent. Patel and Glover reassured the LCA members present that details would be worked out together and handled appropriately. Members also questioned the need for the LCA to remain a 501C3 and discussion followed regarding student organizations use of the LCA/DSO for their funds. The Board of Trustees will ask UF Student Affairs for more direction on the matter.

Jo Thacker made a motion for the LCA to support the DSO change. The motion was amended by Lee Gunn and David Bowers to further research the transfer of assets to ensure full compliance and proper discharge of fiduciary responsibilities. The motion was seconded and approved by a vote of the body without dissent.

3:10 p.m. *Recent Successes Recruiting New Faculty* – Associate Dean Darren Hutchinson presented a slide deck introducing the Law School’s new faculty members and their credentials. He thanked the LCA for contributions that helped hire the new faculty and described how it will affect our future ranking.

3:25 p.m. Hawkins called on LCA leaders to provide Committee Reports.

FATAC and Audit Committee – David Bowers reported on the current audit through June 30, 2019. The same firm will be retained at a cost of \$20,000. FATAC met at UF for the first time this year. He commended FATAC for awarding scholarships for students interested in Tax and funds to attend the FL Tax Institute. He also commented on the number of UF alumni teaching tax and encouraged the Law School to engage them.

Heritage of Leadership Awards – Gary Printy commented on the success of the Thursday evening program and described the Past, Present and Future Award winners. He asked members to submit new names to be considered for induction next year.

Nominating Committee – Oscar Sanchez recognized the nominating committee members and presented the slate of nominees. The slate was moved, seconded, and approved by a vote of the body without dissent. The 2019-2020 officers were presented: Chair Jo Thacker, Chair-Elect James Cunningham, Vice Chair Carter Andersen, Secretary Greg Weiss, and Treasurer Dennis Calfee. The slate was moved, seconded, and approved by a vote of the body without dissent.

3:40 p.m. Brian Burgoon reported on UF’s National Giving Day, the schoolwide giving event “Stand Up & Holler” with a goal of raising \$5M with 5,000 gifts. The goal

was surpassed and raised \$12.69M with 11,535 gifts. The Law School came in fourth among academic units with \$310,000 in gifts. He also acknowledged the six UF Law graduates who were honored at this year's 40 Under 40 Awards.

3:41 p.m. Hawkins brought attention to Mike Farley's Campaign Dashboard handout. The Law School is approaching 95% of goal.

3:42 p.m. Mike Farley thanked the Dean and the LCA for a successful Commencement Ceremony earlier that morning and the Past, Present and Future Awards Program the previous night. He announced that LCA members moving from Active to Emeritus status would be recognized at the September 2019 meeting. He announced that Oscar Sanchez would be rolling off from the Executive Committee this Summer and presented him with a UF Law gift. He also announced Scott Hawkins' transition from Chair to Immediate Past Chair and presented him with an honorary gavel for his service.

3:44 p.m. Meeting adjourned.