Dear Students,

Happy New Year!

As we reach the midpoint of the 2010-2011 academic year and begin the spring semester, I wanted to take this opportunity to give you a brief report on the activities of your SBA Executive Board — what we accomplished last semester and what we have in the works for this semester. As I hope you all know by now, the SBA Exec. Board is comprised of 17 day and evening division law students who function together as your student government.

We actually began working during the summer. Of primary concern to us was getting the old furniture in the student lounge replaced. We petitioned the Office of Student Life and the Administration and we were able to get new couches and chairs, which we hope you enjoy while you study or watch TV. Also over the summer, in order to accommodate our need for more space, the SBA Exec. Board moved offices. The SBA office is now located adjacent to the student lounge, in room 108. Finally, the summer ended with the SBA adding a new position to the Exec Board: Director of Communications. Ginny Fuller was selected for the position. Ginny worked hard to develop our new SBA website (http://sba.law.edu) and our SBA Facebook page (CUA Columbus School of Law Student Bar Association) and frequently updates both. “Like” us if you haven’t already!

The fall semester was a particularly active one for the SBA. We began the year supporting 1L Orientation and a few weeks later, holding an election to fill our four vacancies for 1L positions on the Executive Board. We were delighted to welcome Mike Burns, Laura Montes, Jacquelyn Quierolo, and Natalie Ware as our 1L Class Representatives. We were encouraged by the number of 1Ls who not only ran for a position, but also voted (cont. next page)

Spring Semester Preview

The SBA Exec. Board has many exciting events for you to look forward to during this semester. Although there were many social activities last semester, this semester we would like to especially focus on bringing the student body together in social and fun ways. To that end, this semester the SBA intends to host a CUA Law field day/family picnic in the late spring. We also hope to sponsor some outdoor activities such as a hiking trip to Great Falls National Park. Additionally, most every other Friday this semester, the SBA will host a Bar Review, either in the Student Lounge or at a local watering hole. We hope you will find time to attend and to catch up with your fellow students!

Of course, these initiatives do not preclude our usual spring events such as Barristers Ball and Columbus Awards Night. We are happy to announce that this year’s Barristers Ball will be at the W Hotel on Saturday, March 26! The theme is a spin on the red-carpet glitz of Hollywood, called “Starry Nights.”
Fall Semester Recap (cont.)

in the election. The Class of 2013 is promising to be an excellent one in the legacy of CUA Law!

At the very beginning of the school year we also hosted the annual SBA Student Organizations Fair. The Student Orgs Fair provided new 1Ls and other interested students the opportunity to learn more about the law school’s thirty-nine student organizations. Also a barbeque, the Student Orgs Fair provided the returning students and 1Ls their first chance to meet.

Meanwhile, our Community Service Co-Chairs, Tyler Ray and Corey Malmgren, were working tirelessly to organize the SBA’s second annual Race Judicata - a 5K charity run/walk in and around the CUA campus that took place a month later on September 26. Tyler and Corey put several months of effort into organizing the event and we are proud to say that with your help and participation, we raised $5,000 for St. Ann’s Infant and Maternity Home! We hope that you will continue to support Race Judicata in the future.

Soon after Race Judicata, the SBA hosted Crab Fest on October 1. Always a favorite at the law school, this was the first year that SBA organized Crab Fest without the Graduate Student Association. This year’s Crab Fest was enormously successful, with approximately 700 people in attendance. We were happy to have Legal Services Society raise money at Crab Fest in a cornhole tournament. The Law Review also hosted a very fun volleyball tournament.

In all, it was a great night. Many thanks to the SBA Vice President of Student Affairs, Ellen Biltz, for her efforts in organizing this fun event.
Soon after Crab Fest, the SBA hosted a Mentor-Mentee ice cream social. The SBA’s Mentor-Mentee Program, headed by VP of Academic Affairs Stella Lee, is an initiative where we pair interested 1Ls with upperclassmen mentors who help their 1L mentees navigate their way through the sometimes confusing first year of law school.

In mid-October, the SBA and the Evening Law Students Association hosted Aficionado Night, a CUA Law tradition of fine hors-d’oeuvres, fine drinks, and fine cigars. Aficionado Night was our first joint ELSA-SBA event of the year and the turnout was fantastic, as usual. Usually we host Aficionado Night in the Atrium and the Knights of Columbus Courtyard, but because of bad weather, we moved Aficionado Night to the student lounge and café. Nevertheless, a good time was had by all!

October ended with the SBA’s annual Halloween Party at Local 16. Gift certificate prizes for best costumes were awarded to Tony Hernandez (First Place—The Terminator), Aaron Bill (Second Place—Care Bear), and 1L Rep. Natalie Ware (Third Place—Peacock).

But it wasn’t all fun and parties for SBA during the fall semester. We spent a lot of time helping to promote academic, career, and service programs on behalf of the faculty, administration, and student organizations. For example, on Nov. 3 the SBA co-sponsored a panel of upperclassmen led by 3L Jack Raffetto who helped guide 1Ls through the process of getting an internship. The SBA, the Military and National Security Law Students Association, and the Office of Student Life led a Veterans Days Observance by passing out “Support Our Troops” wrist bands and sponsoring free lunches for our many CUA Law community veterans. Throughout November the SBA also hosted its annual Thanksgiving Food Drive Class Competition. Thanks to the always generous spirit of the faculty, staff, and students, we collected 1,017 food items and $140 and donated them to the Capital Area Food Bank. Topping the donations, the 3L class won a study break during the last week of classes for their generosity.

One of our major goals this year is to improve the SBA Exec. Board’s communication with the student body. We attempt to accomplish that goal using vehicles such as weekly email updates to each class from our class representatives (sign up for your class page on TWEN), our new SBA Facebook page, and our new SBA website (http://sba.law.edu). We also introduced the “What Can SBA Do For You?” or Red Shirt Day campaign. On the first Monday of each month, all SBA Executive Board members wear our red SBA polos to school. While we welcome feedback from you at any time, Red Shirt Day is a day when we actively seek your comments, questions, or suggestions. Please look for us on these days, take some candy, and tell us your thoughts. There is also a giant red box in the student lounge where anonymous comments can be placed. We can only serve you if we know what you want and need!

Visit the SBA website: http://sba.law.edu
About the Columbus School of Law Student Bar Association Executive Board

The SBA Executive Board is comprised of a group of student leaders who are committed to improving our fellow law students’ experience as we take on the challenge of a legal education. Our motto is “Leadership. Service. Community.” As the principal student organization at the law school, the SBA Executive Board manages a budget of several tens of thousands of dollars and allocates money to the subsidiary student organizations. Our dedicated student representatives advocate on behalf of student interests before the faculty and administration of the law school. We also plan numerous social events throughout the year, such as the annual fall favorite Crab Fest and our spring tradition of Barristers Ball. Finally, the SBA Executive Board strives to promote CUA Law’s tradition of service to the community. This is exemplified in our annual community service events such as Race Judicata, a 5K run/walk benefiting St. Ann’s Infant and Maternity Home, and the Thanksgiving Food Drive, where all proceeds are donated to the Capital Area Food Bank. Additionally, the SBA Executive Board encourages all student organizations to sponsor at least one (many usually sponsor more than one!) community service event each year.

Our job on the Executive Board is to ensure that your experience here is rich, fun, and rewarding. We take that responsibility seriously. For more information, please visit our website: http://sba.law.edu.

Spring Semester Preview (cont.)

We will have another Mentor-Mentee Mixer in early March. And throughout the semester, our class representatives are planning individual class events, such as study breaks and happy hours.

On April 2, the SBA Exec. Board will sponsor a service project at St. Ann’s. We will do some painting there.

Toward the end of the semester, we will hold SBA Executive Board Elections. Candidate applications will be due on Tuesday, March 29. Campaigning will begin on Wednesday, March 30 and will end on Friday, April 8. Members of the SBA Board will be tabling down in the student lounge from Wednesday, April 6 through Friday, April 8 to accept paper ballot votes from students. The winners of the SBA Elections will be formally announced following Friday at Columbus Awards Night.

Friday, April 15 is Columbus Awards Night and the final SBA event of the year. Get excited! There is an inter-class competition for BEST SKIT (the reigning champion is the Class of 2012 – this year’s 2L class) between the classes, faculty, and the administration. The evening will begin with hors-d’oeuvres and drinks in the Atrium and Knights of Columbus Courtyard followed by the program in the auditorium. Awards recognizing student, faculty, and staff achievement will be presented, in addition to the SBA President’s Cup for Softball and Best Student Organization award, intermixed with the class skit competition. The week prior, Columbus Awards Week, will be full of activities to leading up to the big night. We hope you will attend!

These are just a few of the events we are planning for the spring semester. We hope you have a wonderful semester!

Mark your calendars for the following spring events!

- Bar Reviews most every other Friday
- SPIL Auction: Friday, Feb. 18
- Mentor-Mentee Mixer: Early March
- Barristers Ball: March 26
- Service Project at St. Ann’s: April 2
- Columbus Awards Week: April 11–15.
- Columbus Awards Night (including CLASS SKIT competition): April 15
- Graduation: May 27