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Caveat, August 29, 1979

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CAVEAT!

3000 guests for
the weekend

August 29, 1979

Volume XV Number 2

GGU women shaping national meeting

If you've ever wanted to get in on the ground floor of something, now's your chance--but start on the mezzanine.

Next February 28-March 2 Golden Gate will host the 11th annual Women and the Law conference, involving more than 3000 people, a national steering committee of women attorneys, blocks of hotel rooms and the rental of San Francisco's Civic Auditorium. Right now, however, its sole concrete existence is in a small office off the mezzanine of the old building of the law school.

Originally formed by and for law school women, the conference has no continuing officers or central location, but is created anew each year by the students of the host school, who give it continuity with previous years by their perception of the continuing problems and interests of women in law and by their choice of a national steering committee including women having prior experience with the conference.

Having selected a steering committee on which to draw for advice the students go on to create the basic structure of the meeting. At Golden Gate the coordinators of this effort are Marilyn Endriss and Judy Bloomberg, with Lori Wider serving as general administrator.

The nuts and bolts work will be parceled out to student committees, who will oversee the creation and scheduling of educational workshops, skills seminars, strategy sessions, speakers, films and entertainment. There will be general meetings once a month to keep everyone in touch and weekly meetings of the nine committees (programming, registration, travel, accommodations, child care, fund raising, entertainment, publicity and publications).

The conference, which has its central existence as an educational forum, has grown to become a nationwide support and assistance network of skilled women in law, and is unique in the country, not only as a national women's event, but in the way in which it depends entirely on the efforts of each new host school's students to give it existence and shape. According to Lori Wider,

"Time, talent, creative energy and support are needed by the conference. Anything you can give, from your appearance at a meeting, to typing labels, to chairing a committee is welcome."

The memo on the cutting-room floor

A home-grown page makeup system and a lapse of attention combined last week to further bewilder anyone who attempted to make it through the Caveat article on last year's Real Property grades. Before being reproduced, these pages are a collection of separate pieces pasted together. Somewhere in the process of readying the first edition for the printer, the last four paragraphs of Roger Bernhardt's memo, and his signature, got lost, which meant that such of the memo as was printed read directly into the following remarks.

Anyone desiring to try again should read the whole of Roger's memo, reprinted here, and then pick up last week's article at the paragraph beginning, "Certainly this public acknowledgment . . ." My apologies to Roger and to Caveat readers.

--Charles Ellis

The memo

DATE: June 19, 1979

Many of you have inquired as to how I factored the mid-term examination score into the final grade. I hope that the following explanation will answer most of your questions.

I graded the final examination on a 5-point scale. Part 3 of the exam (the large essay question) was graded directly on the 5-point scale and that score was used in the computation. Part 2 of the examination (the 4 short questions) had each of the 4 questions

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Teitscheid resigns

Although no announcement has been made to the student body reports from several sources indicate that John Teitscheid has resigned as Golden Gate's Vice President for Finance and Administration. It is reported that the surprise announcement, known in advance only to the trustees, was made to department heads last Friday, August 24. The resignation is said to be effective October 1, and a replacement has been chosen, about whom the Caveat has heard only that it is a woman, and from within the University.

SBA gets moving

Y passes, money, elections

The prevailing sentiment at the year's first SBA meeting was in favor of getting the wheels turning, with several representatives expressing a wish not to get bogged down in elaborate procedural debates.

Y passes

The purchase of a group of passes entitling Golden Gate students to use the facilities at the Embarcadero YMCA is a perennial subject of great student interest, at least from the day division. In the past the program has been troubled by failure of users to return the passes to the SBA office on time and difficulties with the Y in defining just what our privileges are. Steve Atkins proposed the creation of a system in which the numbers of the passes in our hands would be recorded by the Y, and students would get from the SBA office not the pass itself, but some sort of chit referring to that number and entitling the bearer to the privileges of that pass for a certain period of time. Persons present who have dealt with the Y were pessimistic about the likelihood of their being willing to undertake that kind of bookkeeping, but it was decided to allow Steve and President Danny Hernandez to attempt to negotiate. It was also suggested we would do better to make the additional investment required to obtain full passes, rather than limited use passes, if possible.

TWC tutoring

Day Vice President Walter Riley reported that representatives of the SBA and the Third World Coalition had met with the law school administration seeking to create work-study slots for ten tutors to work with third world students, and had a tentative commitment for five or six. This would be an autonomous program, distinct from the administration's tutoring program. It is hoped that creating work-study positions rather than relying on pure volunteers will make for a more consistent, better run program. Potential tutors will need to be work-study eligible.

Book sale

Treasurer Robert Saenz announced the beginning of book returns from the SBA book sale (see times elsewhere in this issue) and said that total sales were about \$6500, of which the SBA gets 10%.

Budget procedures

The mood of the meeting was manifest in the discussion of procedures for budget requests. Representative Chuck Crane recalled that last year's SBA had evolved an elaborate system for budget requests, allowing extremely tight accounting of rather small amounts of money and requiring almost the whole first semester before any disbursements were made to student organizations. There was general agreement about this from those who were there last year, including Robert Haden, whose motion to rescind last year's procedures

in their entirety and appoint a committee of three to create and implement a short-form budget request procedure passed without opposition. The committee is Treasurer Saenz and representatives Chuck Crane and Dana Taylor.

Student committee members

There are three student members to be appointed to each of five faculty-student committees (evaluations, curriculum, academic standards, budget and admissions). Although the sense of the meeting was in favor of expediting interviews and selection, the number of interviews to be carried on made it unlikely that any one group could realistically hope to do it all. Vice President Walter Riley therefore moved the appointment of one or more coordinators to see to the creation of as many separate small interviewing committees as may be required to handle the work in a reasonable amount of time. The motion passed unanimously and Walter was appointed coordinator. A notice as to sign-up for committees appears elsewhere in this issue.

Election vacancies

Resignations (or changes from night to day) and the need to elect first-year reps mean there are openings for three night and three day representatives and a Night Vice President. A committee consisting of representatives Moss Jacobs and Dorothy Dana and Secretary Julie Pearlman was appointed to supervise elections. (A special issue of the Caveat will carry statements of all candidates.)

Caveat staff

It was agreed that President Danny Hernandez and Caveat editor Charles Ellis will begin the process of selecting the balance of the Caveat staff by going through the list of those who interviewed for the editor's position but indicated a willingness to serve on the staff as well. Time and place of interviews will be posted, and announced in the Caveat.

Next meeting

Next week's SBA meeting was announced for next Thursday, August 29, at 5:30 p.m. in the conference room, law library basement.

December grads

If you would like to see a December graduation ceremony come into existence sign up on the list posted on the student message board on the second floor. We want to get an idea of how many December graduates are interested before we follow through with the idea any further.

--Sandra Kirkpatrick

LETTER

To the editor:

While I certainly appreciate Moss Jacobs' comments, he neglected to mention a few points which need clarification:

1) The basic fall schedule was put together May 23, a meeting which Moss Jacobs could not make. Bob Richardson, the only other student active on the Scheduling Committee, was there and was an immense help.

2) Both the Fall and Spring schedules were planned from the Student Scheduling Surveys. Approximately 100 people participated by filling out these surveys.

3) A major change we have made as a result of many discussions I have had with students is that all required and bar courses are to be offered both Fall and Spring semesters. This has not always been the case in the past.

4) Finally, I did the exam schedule on my own and take full responsibility for that.

Marge Holmes
Associate Dean

Child care enrollment

Parent enrollment in the child care center will open Wednesday, September 5 and Thursday, September 6 from noon to 1:30 p.m. in room 310. Enrollment will be available for either full-time or part-time care. Information about the child care center will also be available, and you can meet the persons who will be the full-time staff (half one day, half the other).

While Golden Gate students have priority for available spaces, director Susan Powell points out that if unused spaces are eventually claimed by staff and faculty, those enrolling will probably have their slots at least through this semester. Similarly, if it becomes necessary to accept enrollments from outside the University altogether those spaces could be lost to latecomers for some time. On the other hand, registering for even part-time use now will be advantageous for anyone wanting to increase their enrollment later.

The clear message: act now.

CAVEAT! is published weekly by the Student Bar Association of Golden Gate University School of Law. This year's editor is Charles Ellis, who is the author of material appearing in this issue, except where otherwise indicated.

Was that the phone?

The Caveat for March 1966 (Volume I, No. 3) proclaimed the beginning of the full-time day program in the law school, and went on to add,

"The new program will also afford an opportunity in the near future for the law school to become a member of the Association of American Law Schools, membership [in] which is not available to part-time law schools...."

"Target date for membership in the Association is 1968."

While in the real world...

PUBLIC INTEREST SCHOLARSHIPS

A new program in public interest law has been announced under which interested students can specialize in public interest law, and also become eligible for scholarships. Informational meetings on the Public Interest Law Consortium will be held for all interested students, including first-year, on August 30 at 6 p.m. and on August 31 at noon. Check the deans' offices or look for signs announcing the room. If you can't make the meetings, check with Marge Holmes for information.

U.S. ATTORNEY EXTERNSHIPS

Externships with the U. S. Attorney's office are available for Fall 1979. Externs have an opportunity to try their own federal misdemeanor cases in magistrate's court. (For example, drunk driving in the Presidio, which is federal land, is a federal misdemeanor.)

Persons who picture themselves headed for the defense bar might profit immeasurably from this chance to experience the prosecutorial point of view at first hand.

See Marc Stickgold or Marge Holmes for details.

IMMIGRATION LAW AND POLICY

One to three units of independent study units are available under the supervision of Professor Hing in the area of immigration legislation and policy analysis. Professor Hing is acting as a consultant to the Congressional Select Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy and is presently in the process of preparing proposals for new legislation and policy statements for Congress.

If you are interested in assisting on this project, please contact Bill Hing immediately in the Faculty Law Center room 731 (ext. 7628).

Grades

--From page one--

graded separately on a 5-point scale; the 4 individual scores were added together and then divided by four in order to arrive at an overall number for that part, which number was also used in the computations. Part 1 of the examination (the multiple choice questions) was first graded on the basis of how many answers were wrongly marked; those numbers were then spread out on a chart and converted over to a 5-point scale; that number was then used in the computations. These three numbers were then added together, meaning that a student could receive a total grade on the final from anywhere between 15 and 3 points.

I elected to count the mid-term in at approximately 30% weight. In order to do this, I preserved the 7-point scale on the mid-term and added that score to the total final score. (Consequently, a seven on the mid-term would amount to slightly less than 1/2 of the final, or about 30% of the overall grade.)

What I did wrong when I turned in my grades was that I forgot that I had promised that the mid-term would help but not hurt and instead counted the mid-term in every case. When this was called to my attention I had all of the papers re-computed so as to change the scores of those papers where the mid-term was lower than the final average (i.e. where the number on the mid-term exam was less than the result of the 3 final scores being added together and then divided by three). In most cases this had no effect on a grade (because the mid-term number, being on a seven-point scale, was higher than the final average); in some other cases the elimination of a lower mid-term score raised the overall numerical score but did not raise that number sufficiently to elevate it into a higher grade category; and in 11 instances the removal of the midterm score raised the overall average enough to elevate the grade. The registrar was notified to change those grades and has done so, although they may not appear on the grade sheet posted on the wall.

I am sorry for the anxiety my error may have caused you. If you have more uncertainties (or complaints) about the grades please feel free to see me in my office or phone me at school or at home.

Hoping this leaves you with the possibility of a tolerable summer.

Roger Bernhardt

If BART walks

As this edition of the Caveat is readied for printing, it is unclear whether there will be a BART strike. If there is, it will have a considerable effect on night students coming from the East Bay.

In that event, car pooling may be a workable solution for many. David Hillis has suggested a night students' car pool from southern Alameda County (San Leandro south), and anyone interested can reach him at 487-0944 (9 a.m. to 12 noon) or 821-2827 (2:30 to 4:30 p.m.).

Students whose problems are in other areas and times would be well advised to communicate through the students' message board on the second floor, or through the Caveat.

Briefcase, please...

If you've walked out of the library carrying a briefcase or book bag lately, you know that there is now a policy of checking all containers that might harbor a book--or even pocket parts. No one likes it, least of all the people who work the desk in the library, but it has been compelled by loss of materials. You might take some comfort from reflecting that your chance of finding what you need in the library is improved. At any rate, it could be worse. The following is from "Reports," the publication of the State Bar of California, for June, 1979:

"Lawyers have been banned from the courthouse library in Vancouver, B. C. The room, which is commonly used for research, is missing a great many books, 'enough to make it a real problem,' according to a library spokesman. The public notice barring barristers has given more than a few lawyers red faces while amusing prisoners and others waiting nearby for court appearances."

SBA announcements

COMMITTEE APPLICANTS

Any student (including first-year) interested in serving on one of the five faculty-student committees listed here may sign up to be interviewed on sheets posted at the SBA office, room B-8 (law library basement). The committees are: academic standards, budget, evaluations, admissions and curriculum. A description of the work of each committee is attached to the sign-up sheets and is also given in the Law School Handbook. Applicants will hear from Day Vice President Walter Riley or another SBA member concerning the interview, which will be within two to three weeks. Applicants should prepare a brief statement of their reasons for wishing to serve on a particular committee, and their qualifications. Deadline for sign-up is Thursday afternoon, August 30, at 4 p.m.

UNSOLD BOOKS

Books unsold in the SBA book sale will be returned on Wednesday, August 29, at 11-1 p.m., 3-4:30 p.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m., and on Thursday, August 30 at 1-3 p.m. Books may be reclaimed on the fifth floor in the room adjacent to that in which the sale was held.

PICNIC

The Law School picnic has been set for Saturday, September 22. It takes place all day in Golden Gate Park (directions will be published), and features free food, free beer and a chance to vent a whole year's worth of aggressions in the faculty-student softball game. There are also volleyball and other games, and shade trees under which to wonder how different history might have been if the judge had told Penoyer and Neff to go out and throw a frisbee around instead of sitting around arguing.