

BUSINESS LAW SECTION OF THE FLORIDA BAR

INCLUSION MENTORING FELLOWSHIPS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES BUSINESS LAW SECTION JUNE MEETING (Joint Meeting with Membership)

Wednesday, June 22, 2022, 1:00-2:00 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introduction

- a. Welcome and introduction of attendants
- b. Introduction of current and incoming Leadership Team
 - i. Chair: Christina Y. Taylor
 - ii. Vice Chair (Incoming Chair): Valeria Angelucci
 - iii. Second Vice Chair (incoming Vice Chair): Kelly Roberts
 - iv. Incoming Second Vice Chair: Katherine Van de Bogart
 - v. Judiciary chairs

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 26, 2022 Winter Meeting

- a. Valeria Angelucci moved to approve the Minutes, and Mariane Doris seconded.
- b. No comments, motion passed.

3. Introduction of 2022-2024 BLS Fellows:

- a. Jacob Isenberg
- b. Tyler Stall
- c. Nader Amer
- d. Marisol Cruz
- e. Kayla Heckman
- f. Tabitha Taylor
- g. Adam Gilbert
- h. Zachary Needell

4. Chair Report

- a. IMF Website/Page
 - i. Discussion regarding updating the IMF page.
 - ii. Seeking volunteers to update the website.
- b. IMF Sub-Committee Updates
 - i. Networking Committee
 1. Co-Chairs: Christina Taylor and Michelle Suarez
 2. Working on a fun activity to be planned for Friday at the Labor Retreat, seeking to involve current and former fellows. More information to come.

- ii. CLE Committee
 - 1. Co-Chairs: Dana Robbins and Utibe Ikbe
 - 2. No CLE scheduled, but open to suggestions on CLE programs.
- iii. IMF Mentor/Mentee Program
 - 1. Co-Chairs: Nicole McLemore and Michelle Suarez
 - 2. Program was launched and matches have been made. Some matches that did not work out are being revised/worked on.
 - 3. Nicole McLemore is a contact for any issues.
 - 4. Working with Tracy Eller on the website application for the mentor/mentee.
 - 5. Applications and matches are being done each year from June to June, Michelle Suarez encouraged to apply in advance.
 - 6. Call for volunteers to revise the Mentor/Mentee handbook.
- c. Substantive Committee Liaisons
 - i. Encouraged to remind all substantive committees to appoint a liaison for IMF.

5. Diversity Committee Strategic Plan Study Group Update

- a. Plan to get together at the labor retreat to push this forward.
- b. The Plan was initially designed about ten years and we are expecting to evaluate goals achieved and work on new objectives.

6. BLS Leadership introduction

- a. Leadership joined to introduce the BLS Leadership team and brief discussion regarding the revised CLE Diversity Policy to be presented at the Executive Council.
- b. Welcome to fellows.

7. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion CLE Policy

- a. Mariane Doris briefly discussed the history of the CLE policy that was prepared by IMF, approved by EC and later had to be revised because of action by the Florida Supreme Court.
- b. Mariane Doris mentioned the policy is similar to the ABA Diversity Policy, was approved by IMF, and will be presented at the Executive Council.
- c. Advised a subcommittee to be formed within IMF will enforce the policy, and members from other committees are welcome and encouraged to participate to ensure the BLS CLE programs are diverse.

8. Fellows

- a. Reminder to register for the Labor Day Retreat.
 - i. Fellows should register as soon as possible before rooms sell out. The e-mail will go out tomorrow after Executive Council but hotel reservations may not be available yet.

- ii. Fellows will get a code so they do not have to pay for the registration fee.
- iii. Fellows should try to be there by 4pm on Friday for the Retreat.

b. Fellows are encouraged to reach out to Leadership for any issues.

9. Announcements:

- a. Pro-bono pledge: Carlos Sardi encouraged to sign up and make a Pro-Bono pledge.
- b. Financial literacy task force:
 - i. Carlos Sardi discussed a partnership with the American Bankruptcy Institute to enhance the program and make it a national program through the ABA. The success of the BLS program is a testament to the work of the Section.
 - ii. About 84-85 volunteers have signed up, and looking for more volunteers for the program and the nation wide program which will provide assistance to veterans. This is for anybody who wishes to help.
 - iii. The ABA is looking at our project for its nationwide initiative.
 - iv. Carlos Sardi is also reaching out to Bankruptcy Associations.