

BUSINESS LAW SECTION OF THE FLORIDA BAR
INCLUSION MENTORING FELLOWSHIPS COMMITTEE
LABOR DAY RETREAT MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 1, 2023,
3:00-4:00 P.M
NAPLES, FLORIDA

1. **Meeting called to order:** Chair Kelly Roberts at 3:29 PM on September 1, 2023.
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** Chair invited a motion to approve the prior meeting minutes, which were circulated with the Agenda. Christina Taylor made the motion, April Martindale seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.
3. **Chair Report**
 - a. **Introduction of Chair Kelly Roberts, Vice Chair Katherine Van de Bogart and Second Vice Chair Nicole McElemore**
 - b. **Introduction of 2023-2025 BLS Scholars:** All in attendance.
 - i. Aubrey Mys
 - ii. D’errica Jackson
 - iii. Michelle Rodriguez
 - iv. Daniel Villa
 - v. Sabine Aragones
 - vi. Yechiel Michel Korff
 - vii. Steve Keoni
 - viii. Maxwell Holleman
 - ix. Ariana Beingolea
 - x. Mallory Fernandes
 - xi. Bryan Maroto
 - xii. Gabriella Cerasoli
 - xiii. A. Maresa Semper
 - xiv. Brian E. Tyms
 - xv. Thomas F. Kelly IV
 - c. 10th Anniversary of Fellowship Program: Chair Roberts discussed the upcoming Celebration at the Labor Day Retreat Reception and Awards Ceremony.
 - d. A discussion was held regarding the differences between BLS Fellows and Scholars.
 - e. Chair Roberts discussed the drafting of an IMF playbook or manual to assist future leaders of IMF in their roles.
 - f. The 2011 Diversity Policy was discussed and the need to revamp and revise.
 - g. Chair Roberts requested each IMF liaison to a substantive committee provide a report.
 - h. article. Fellow Marisol Cruz offered to assist.

- i. Chair Roberts and Zach Hyman discussed the scholars retention task force.
- j. Chair Roberts discussed the difference between the IMF handbook and the 2011 Diversity Policy. The handbook is meant to be logistical and the policy is meant to be substantive with long term goals.
- k. Accomplished current Fellows spotlight articles and social media spotlights as a part of the lead-up to applications.
- l. Revamp and revision of the IMF Sub-Committees accomplished.
 - ix. Revisited existing Sub-Committees, requested current fellows or other IMF members to be actively involved and volunteer for leadership
 - x. Subcommittees will be structured with similar leadership structure as leadership positions in the Section (with current chairs being replaced by vice chairs after June 2024
 - xi. Requested to meet at least once in between Section meetings, and provide Chair minutes/updates to leadership.
 - xii. New Fellows were encouraged to join a Sub-Committee or one would be assigned to them.
 - xiii. Information needs to be updated online.

4. IMF Sub-Committee Reports

- a. Communication & Marketing Committee

- i. Co-Chairs: Lauren Stricker, Tyler Brand Stall
 - ii. Vice Chairs: Matthew Akiba and Valeria David
 - iii. The chairs discussed the BLS website and the need for fellows to help write articles and blog posts.
- b. Networking Committee Report from Adam Gilbert.
 - i. Co-Chair Gilbert discussed the plans for the Sunday dinner on the town and requested anyone who did not confirm and wants to attend to talk to him.
- c. CLE Committee Report from Katherine Van de Bogart
 - i. Co-Chair Van de Bogart discussed the goals of the CLE Committee and how to implement them in the future.
- d. CLE Diversity Policy/Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee Report from Katherine Van de Bogart.
 - i. Committee needs to meet to update the Plan, which has not been updated or revised since 2011.
- e. IMF Mentor/Mentee Program Report from April Martindale.
 - i. April Martindale and Marisol Cruz, co chairs of the IMF Mentor/Mentee program discussed ways to connect mentors and mentees in the most efficient way.
- b. Reports from Substantive Committee Liaisons
 - i. Business Litigation: Katherine Van de Bogart/ Alejandra Iglesia- *Nothing to Report.*
 - ii. Bankruptcy/UCC: Adam Gilbert- *Nothing to Report.*
 - iii. Computer and Technology: Alejandra Iglesia- *Nothing to Report.*
 - iv. Corporations/Securities and Financial Services: Chemere Ellis- *Nothing to Report.*
 - v. Intellectual Property: Joseph Coleman/ April Martindale - *Nothing to Report.*
 - vi. Blockchain: Michael Dunn-*Nothing to Report.*
 - vii. News/opportunities from substantive committees.
- 5. **Other Matters for Discussion/Good Order/New or Unfinished Business-** Bias Elimination CLE Ruling (Mariane Dorris): Florida Supreme Court, on its own motion, amended the current CLE rule to remove ‘bias elimination’ from that previous rule requiring “[a]t least 5 of the 33 credit hours must be in approved legal ethics, professionalism, bias elimination, substance abuse, or mental health and wellness programs”.
- 6. **Financial Skills CLE for Young Professionals (Tara Trevorrow):** November 8, 2023, 3:30 to 7:00 PM at Top Golf in Doral (Joint CPE/CLE sponsored by the FICPA and the BLS followed by cocktail hour and Top Golf fun). **Tara Trevorrow also requested help from a fellow to write a pro bono**
- 7. **Closing from Chair:**
 - i. Committee and discuss blog posts submission.
 - ii. Questions/Issues/Suggestions: None
- 8. **Adjourned by Chair at: 3:57 P.M.**