

Hey PLHSers,

Thank you to everyone who came out for our second general body meeting (especially given the rain)! It was great seeing you all and we are excited about this semester picking up with more PLHS events and opportunities. Attached to this email is the Fall 2011 Application -- due by the end of October but we will be collecting applications & dues at every meeting until then so get it in as soon as you can; I will be putting together the point sheet in order to keep track of active membership once applications are turned in.

Meeting Minutes for 9/19:

I. Announcements

- **Advertising:** There will be a tabling opportunity on Tuesday, 10/4 for the next meeting. A sign-up sheet will be sent out for those who are interested as the date approaches (don't forget you can get free points for tabling).
- **Community Service:** Last Adopt-a-Street Cleanup for the month on this upcoming Sunday, 9/25 at 10am. Meet at the Taco Bell on the corner of NW 23rd Blvd and NW 13th Street & look out for the PLHS sign.
- **Fundraising:** Red Mango Fundraiser on Thursday, 9/22 from 7-11pm at the location on University Avenue. Let them know you are with PLHS, bring your friends, and stop by anytime during then! 10 percent of proceeds shall go to our organization. This will count as both a social and fundraising point.
- **Historian:** If you would like to publish an article in our newsletter "The Litigator" please email the article to Dayme (dayme11@ufl.edu) or Ana (anac123@ufl.edu) by Friday, 9/30. You can write about anything law-related such as the LSAT, your internship experience at a court or law firm, the law school application process, etc.
- **Intramurals:** Ultimate Frisbee on Wednesday, 9/21 at 8:20pm (UVS Field 1 located right next to Southwest Rec, on the other side of Bledsoe Drive). Register at <http://www.imleagues.com/Registration.aspx> and wear a dark blue shirt to the game. Email cdorismond@ufl.edu for help registering or if you have any questions regarding intramurals. Be sure to come out and play!
- **Law Related:** Keep updated with free LSAT and other law-related events at www.plhslawrelated.blogspot.com -- also please take the poll at the bottom of the page.
- **Mock Trial:** New Member Meeting tomorrow Tuesday, 9/20 at 8pm in Matherly 018.

II. At the Meeting

- <http://prezi.com/1emiyqlgrdif/pt-deux/>
- How to be an active member: Attend 4 General Body meetings, 2 Law Related events, 2 Community Service opportunities, 2 Fundraisers, 2 Socials -- or substitute with free points
- Discussed the 'softs' portion of 3 Main Parts to a Law School Application: LSAT Score, GPA, Softs.
- Softs include elements of your application such as letters of recommendation, resume, and personal statement (which is arguably the part of your application that you have the most control over and especially important in admissions decisions). In order to become a competitive applicant, be sure to become involved and show commitment/dedication to your extracurriculars - by obtaining officer positions in clubs, having legal intern experience, volunteering and giving back to the community, etc. We discussed possible post bac options such as Teach For America and Peace Corp; how taking time off can be beneficial if it is spent in a meaningful way that makes you a more diverse & dynamic candidate.

- **Speaker:** Attorney Dan Vasquez, Esq. gave a presentation on his experiences prior to attending UF Levin College of Law, such as time spent as a FL Supreme Court Clerk for Justice Labarga. He is now an attorney at Fine, Farkash & Parlapiano - a personal injury firm.
- His "practical [free] advice" includes things college students should know about law school applications: *your past can haunt you*. Be careful about what you do now because it will affect your legal future, certain conduct/mistakes can prevent you from passing the Bar, and reputation matters.
- His two cents: taking time off can make you a more well-rounded law school student with experience, depending how you spend it. Encourages students to like what they do -- seriously assess WHERE you want to practice and WHAT you want to practice before going into law. Also remember that law is about people! You need to be people-oriented and practical experience now will only benefit you later.

III. After the Meeting

- We had a social after the meeting at Gator City -- thanks to those who came!
- We will be hosting a Personal Statement Workshop on Monday, 9/26 at 8pm in Library West room 230. Bring your personal statement for peer review as well as helpful tips and advice!
- Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 4th at 7:00pm in Turlington L005**. The speaker will be Assistant State Attorney Lua Mellman

Future Meeting Dates:

10/17 - Dean Robert H. Jerry (Dean of Florida Law School)

11/01 - Columbia Law School Student Panel

11/14 - The Public Defender for the Eighth Judicial Circuit Court Stacy Scott

11/29 - Professor Shani King (Florida Law Professor, Harvard Law Alum)

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please e-mail us at: ufprelegal@gmail.com

Check out our facebook page for further information: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/UFPReLegal/>

Jennifer Lee
PLHS Secretary