SBA officer positions require administration, cooperation skills

The following are job descriptions according to the officers of the 1988-89 school year and some of the pitfalls and highlights of the positions. The duties and requirements of each position should be weighed against the qualifications of each candidate.

**SBA President**

There are at least two ways to view the office of President of the SBA. The first perspective derives from the By-Laws that govern the SBA.

The By-Laws state that the President's duties include: (1) A duty to preside at all council meetings in order to ensure proper proceedings are followed; (2) Convene Election Committees; (3) Make various committee appointments including Speaker's Bureau; (4) Act as a spokesperson for the SBA; and (5) To promote liaison between the SBA and student groups and legal associations outside the University of San Diego.

The second perspective is that of an individual, that being myself, who has served in the position for the last thirty-four (34) weeks.

I personally served in a myriad of committee meetings to attend. I personally phone calls to return, disputes to settle, and a myriad of committee meetings to attend. Personally, I served on various University wide committees including the Constituency Relations Committee, the Social Issues Committee, The Tuition Budget Committee, the Graduate Students Advisory Board, and the Students' Committee to the Board of Trustees. If I were to make a recommendation to a future President, it would be to delegate these committee positions so that they could be more closely monitored.

Additionally, the office includes representation to the Law Student Division of the American Bar Association (LSABA). My initial experience with this governing body was to say, at best, discouraging. While serving as a representative to the annual convention, I sat at a four (4) hour meeting where it was decided 367 to 1 (I being me) to recommend a "Lawyers Creed of Conduct' to the full ABA. The essence of the attendant discussion was that the 'Creed' would impose no liability and was not meant in any way to be a code for conduct. These notions were added to the 'Creed' itself. My association declined after that point. Whether the next President is interested in a more formidable association with the ABA is up to that individual.

As President, you must learn to be patient in dealing with the faculty as well as the administration and staff. While all these bodies are efficient, there is a significant chronological gap between the inception of a change and its actual effect. Two examples I encountered were the mid-term examinations and the new kiosks on the first floor. Economically, it is possible for the Office of President to be one of an administrator. A person who is idea oriented and interested in problem solving is in a perfect place where they will be able to institute much needed changes. Some of these changes include: minority recruitment, retention; student communication; a continuation of the orientation program for incoming first year students; a re-evaluation of the midterm policy; and, a re-allocation of the University budgeting system so the various student organizations can be funded for operating expenses.

The office provides for a 50% tuition cut for the President. Be advised that this scenario may not change. Monetary compensation works out to be about $3,000 per hour for the time it will take to fulfill your duties. Details, head-aches and a plethora of B.S. wait you in addition to the "metronic" monetary compensation. On the other hand, I believe the office of President presents an opportunity to learn how to operate within a bureaucracy. Such skills are undoubtedly crucial in today's world of large law firms and businesses that I have served in much the same manner. All in all, I'm glad I was elected but I'm glad to be finished. To the next President, I extend my wishes for a pleasant experience.

Jack O'Donnell 1988-89 President

**SBA Secretary**

The position of SBA Secretary is very rewarding because it allows involvement in some major decisions such as budget allocations. All officers serve on the Budget Committee and sit in on the budget hearings where they evaluate each organization's budget proposals and decide on the amount to allocate. The Secretary also has the option to serve on a variety of other committees, for example: Student/Faculty Relations, Elections, Graduation Party, Minority Recruitment, Governmental Affairs, and the SBA Scholarship Committee.

The Secretary, as well as the Represen- tative and other officers, has contributed at least one hour per week to SBA office hours. Other duties include taking the minutes and attendance for all SBA Council meetings and delivery of the mail to all SBA organizations.

Debra Weber 1988-89 Secretary

**SBA Day Vice-President**

The Day Vice-President's duties consist of performing, in the President's absence, all of the duties of President; aiding organizations in the recognition process; maintaining and periodically updating the files concerning organizations; serving on the Student-Faculty Committees Appointment Committee, and reporting to the Council the minutes of the student/faculty committee meetings.

Outside of these administrative duties, the job has to be defined by the individual. However, the lack of a clearly defined role is in many ways beneficial, in that it allows the person the time to troubleshoot, work on person projects, and aid other organizations. Occasionally the Vice-President takes a lot of the flack for what doesn't get done, so it requires someone with tough skin and sympathetic ear. But mainly, the job simply calls for a student with good leadership skills and a desire to shake things a little.

Gary Fielder 1988-89 Day Vice-President

**SBA Treasurer**

The treasurer of the SBA is responsible for the fiscal management of the organization. Of primary importance is the budgeting process. At the beginning of each semester, the Treasurer convenes the Budget Committee. After each organization submits a budget request, the Budget Committee meets to allocate the available funds. The budget is then voted on by the entire SBA Council. Once the budget is set, future requests for unallocated funds are approved by the SBA Council.

The Treasurer is also responsible for distributing funds, balancing the checkbook and filing taxes. In addition, there are plenty of opportunities to serve on various law school committees.

Susan McCarthy 1988-89 Treasurer

Candidates' Forum held Tues., Apr. 11

The Student Bar Association will sponsor two open forums for Bar Association members and students on Tuesday, April 10 at Noon and 5 p.m. in Fletcher Reception Rooms. These are the student chances to ask questions regarding the platforms and viewpoints of any of the candidates. All are welcome.

**Unofficial Ballot**

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
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<td>President</td>
<td>Gary Fielder</td>
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<td>Loren Kleier</td>
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<td>Starr Lee</td>
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<td>Fourth-Year Night Rep.</td>
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Second-Year Night Rep. (2)

Third-Year Night Rep. (2)

As no candidates were nominated for right representatives, these positions will be appointed in the fall. Interested persons should contact the SBA president.
Gary Fielder  
President  

By way of my perspective as this year’s Vice President, the SBA President plays three major roles.  

1. Problem Solver: The USD Law School is entering a period of major transition.  
Next year’s President will face not only the same heap of old weeds that seem to crop up every year, but the added burdens of an increased number of students which will undoubtedly appear.  

2. Petition: to this end, the couches must be moved, the painting of the room must be done, the T.V. must be angled, the student in the fall, 1989, and after spending as a representative for my class this year, I believe I have the ability and experience necessary to make next year the best spent at USD!  

3. Petition: The second-year President is responsible for promoting and encouraging the success of the first-year students.  

I am running for SBA President because I feel I can accomplish a great deal of change which will be beneficial to the law school.  Also, I believe it would prove to be an invaluable learning experience for the future.  

During my two years at USD, I have worked closely with the last two SBA Presidents.  Although I spent a great deal of time in various capacities, I realize that the office of SBA President requires an enormous time commitment and a great deal of enthusiasm.  I am ready to make those commitments and I believe my record shows that I have the dedication and enthusiasm which will result in a successful and enjoyable year for all of us.  

QUALIFICATIONS  

I am the Faculty-Student advisor, along with Professor Bratton and Kathleen Roger, the SBA representative, I have been on various committees including the Budget Committee, the SBA By-Laws Revision Committee; the University Social Issues Committee, and Jack O’Donnell’s representative to both the Board of Visitors and the Dean Search Committee.  

AGENDA  

I don’t make a lot of campaign promises.  However, I do promise to focus on a few issues of relatively greater importance to us as students.  

1. MINORITY RECRUITMENT: I will carry on Jack O’Donnell’s pressure on the administration to increase the number of minority students and their retention at USD.  If I feel aggressive recruitment and a comprehensive school-funded tutorial program will be a first step in this area.  

2. MIDTERMS: I have been working with Jack O’Donnell, Brent Neck and Professor Cole, based on student input, to determine student opinion concerning midterms and their modification to increase their value and fairness.  I believe that restricting the possible value of midterms to 15-20% of the student’s final grade will decrease the external variance between instructors and increase fairness.  Also, I advocate essay tests for first year students.  If the true purpose of midterms is to increase test taking abilities, first year students should be exposed to essay-type exams if their grades are going to be affected by the tests.  Finally, I would push for a mandatory allotment of class time to fully review the exam with sample answers to facilitate the educational benefit of midterms.  

3. PARKING: I will appoint an aggressive student to represent our needs on the University Parking Committee.  I am opposed to the proposed increase in parking fees to pay for “card-gates” on reserved employee parking lots.  Also, I would appoint a student to represent us on the University Judicial Council which hears student appeals concerning parking tickets to assure that our rights are protected.  

I would be deeply honored and ecstatic to serve as your SBA President next year.  I believe I have the ability and experience necessary to make next year the best spent at USD!  

Carrie Blum  
Day Vice President  

Can law school really be a positive experience? As your eyes strain nightly over microscopic print, and your back aches from the load of 30 pounds of case law that you carry daily up three flights of stairs, you have probably asked yourself whether the physical and mental strain are worth it.  

I’m certain that on more than one occasion you have probably wanted to chuck it all and head for the beach.  

Even though the life of a law student may seem tedious, there are moments of intellectual and personal enrichment.  I believe that you will find your experiences provide the potential for such growth.  Sometimes the stress of papers, exams, and interviews overwhelm your ability to focus on the landscape of a law career.  

Although most of us hope for bar passage and an attractive employment position right out of law school, there are immediate goals which can be met during our years of education.  I would like to encourage the student body to become more involved in law school affairs.  I believe that the students of the SBA should have the opportunity to communicate with the faculty.  

First of all, I would like to encourage more student involvement with the law school.  Instead of seeing our education at USD merely as a trade school where we attend to learn career skills, I would like to hold more informal law school gatherings, perhaps in coordination with other graduate schools at USD, UCSD, and SDSU.  

Secondly, I believe that while USD’s emphasis on acquiring a position in a law firm is well-placed, USD does not offer much in the way of information on careers in which law can be used, but in which law is not an end in itself.  Such opportunities include diplomacy, foreign service, business administration and journalism to name a few.  I would like to bring in people who have information and who are willing to share.  

Thirdly, I would like to see more of an effort made to aid first year students make the transition into law school, through the increased availability of advisors, information meetings on how to study, and overall, a more supportive atmosphere for those who are struggling with the overwhelming demands of law school.  

Fourth, I want to encourage more faculty-student communication.  Although I believe the faculty is usually receptive to students, I would like to encourage faculty/students in which we can approach the faculty outside of the classroom.  

Fifth, I want to promote more integration with the legal community and the lay community as well.  The Career Placement Office is going to conduct seminars that will prepare us with better interviewing skills, and finally, I would like to modify the midterm policy.  I want to get a general consensus from the student body on their sentiments about the midterms, and either modify the weight given to the exams so that all exams in each class are given the same percentage or do away with the exams altogether.  

I look forward to serving on the SBA next year, if you choose to elect me, and I will work hard to see that your concerns are met.  I know that next year will be a positive one, and I thank you for your support.  

Carrie Blum  
Darryl Exum  
Day Vice President  

My name is Darryl Exum and I am running for Vice-President of the Student Bar Association.  I believe that the position of the Vice-President is dictated to a large degree by the students.  The Vice-President must have a good rapport with the Student Body.  

He or she is responsible for promoting activities among student organizations, and communicating the activities with them, I came to realize that to see a lot more involvement between the alumni, faculty, and students.  If you’ve read this far, allow me to ask you to please vote for me on April 12.

Day Vice-President candidates
...and the SBA presidential candidates are...

Starr Lee  
President

Damon Mosler  
President

I am running for the office of SBA President because I feel that I can serve the needs of the law students of USD. I am a second year law student working on a JD/MBA. Over this past year, I have helped first year students through serving as a legal research specialist and as a tutor for Civil Procedure. Though I have Bar Association work in the SBA, I feel that my ideas and energy will make up for any learning I have to do on the job.

As SBA President, I will seek to improve relations between the students and the faculty. Though there are mechanisms in place to facilitate such interaction, we need to do more to ensure that we have a dialogue and input in decisions that affect us. Additionally, I feel that the SBA and the law school in general, should get more involved in the community to improve our relation with the City of San Diego. Having a strong positive image in the city can only help improve the view of us as a school. Finally, because it is important, I would like to try to improve the parking situation.

Realistically, if elected I will work hard and do my best to protect and further the interests of the students. Thank you for your support.

Exum, continued from page 9

If elected as Vice-President, my chief duty will be to act as a liaison between the students and faculty on issues such as midterms.

It was difficult at best to fully present myself in just a few paragraphs. I hope that students will stop me here, library, or wherever, they see me to ask any questions they might have. The election is set for April 12, 13, and on the 10th there will be open forum to meet the candidates that will be an appropriate time to express my views.

The Day Vice-President's duties consist of performing, in the President's absence, all of the duties of President; and attending meetings of any organization in the recognition process, maintaining and periodically updating the files concerning students and groups on the Student/Faculty Committees Appointment Committee, and reporting to the Council the minutes of the Student/Faculty Committees.

Outside of those administrative duties, the job has to be defined by the individual. However, the lack of a clearly defined role is in many ways beneficial, in that it allows the person the time to work, let alone actually work on work. The job is an opportunity to learn and grow in different aspects of the organization. Other student bodies have a lot of rules to govern who can do what to others. The SBA takes a lot of the flack for what doesn't get done, so it requires someone with tough skin and sympathetic ear. But mainly, the job simply calls for a student with good leadership skills and a desire to shake things a little.

Brent Neck  
Day Vice-President

My name is Brent Neck and I am running for Vice-President of the Student Bar Association. USD School of Law is certainly an up and coming law school. The recent law school rankings, the substantial increase in applications; and the ever increasing number of firms recruiting on campus are all exemplifying this fact.

Accordingly, the upcoming year is a critical juncture in our Law School's journey to become one of the nation's top rated law schools. Improving our journey to improve our journey to this point is important. Our journey to improving our journey to this point is important. Important issues face our law school's administration during the upcoming year, and it is crucial that the law students have a voice in the law school's affairs. Therefore, I am asking you to allow me to be that voice.

You are probably reading this and saying, "Brent Neck? Who is he? He's about as funny a name as I've ever heard!" I graduated from Louisiana State University with a B.S. degree in Business Administration. After graduation, I moved to Denver, Colorado where I practiced as a C.P.A. for four years with the firm of Moore and Co. As President of the LSU Accounting Society, which was the largest student run organization on the LSU campus serving over 300 members. Additionally, I was elected to be the representative of my first year section here at USD; therefore, I am very familiar with the inter-workings of the Student Bar Association. During the current year, I have been active in the SBA and current members of the SBA will attest to my willingness to voice the concerns of the students. Important issues facing the SBA and the administration at the present time. The Mid-Term Examination Policy instituted during the past year. The Mid-Term policy is as proudly intended to be reviewed, perhaps abolished. Last semester, I and other concerned students, gave a presentation to the USD Board of Visitors in which we voiced our concerns about student approval/dissent. Student hearings should be held before the SBA takes a stand.

Another issue I would like to address if elected is the lack of adequate computer resources available to the law school on this campus. During any given week during the semester, the undergraduate computer centers are jammed with first and second year law students working on lawyering skills projects, second and third year law school students working on Moot Court briefs, and 3000 undergraduates and students seeking out donations from various law firms and other businesses in the San Diego area in order to establish such a facility.

The above are only a few of the tasks I want to accomplish if elected Vice-President. We, as the current members of the student body are directly affected by the perception our law school has in the eyes of the legal community. A qualified and energetic Student Bar Association is paramount to the continued success and reputation of our law school and student body. With this in mind, I ask you to vote for me, Brent Neck for Vice-President.

Pricilla A. Thorne  
Evening Vice-President

Pricilla A. Thorne  
Evening Vice-President

I would like to serve as Evening Vice-President to help evening students become aware of the opportunities available to us as law students on this campus. A problem facing evening students is the fact that after working all day and rushing to get to class on time, there is neither the time nor the desire to seek out the various resources that can benefit the students. I have worked on campus this last year, which has allowed me the chance to come in contact with many groups that have a lot to offer. These groups include Amnesty International, the Journal for Contemporary Legal Issues, the Women's Law Caucus, as well as the legal fraternities. I had the opportunity to represent the evening students as a part of the student advis- ory committee meeting.

Currently, I am involved with the More Hall Public Interest Law Foundation. We hope to obtain a loan forgiveness program at this law school for those students who choose to work in the public interest field. Because I intend to continue working on campus next year, I can serve as a liaison between day and evening students as well as address any concerns you may have.

Damon Mosler  
President

Priscilla A. Thorne  
Evening Vice-President

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Treasurer

R.J. Kobylak
Treasurer

I am well qualified to be Treasurer of the Student Bar Association for 1989-90. In the past, I served as treasurer of the following organizations:

- Student Activities Management Society, Broome Technical Community College, Binghamton, New York
- Delta Sigma Pi (International Business Fraternity) Zeta Pi Chapter, State University of New York at Albany
- Cal Poly MBA Association, Cal Poly Pomona

My administrative skills and ability to deal with financial matters have been involved in the past, as I have received awards for "outstanding service and contribution" and "outstanding service to college" from the above organizations and schools.

The virtue of SERVICE has not been unknown to me since I began attending college. As a member of various campus and I feel that my experience in this area will greatly enhance my ability as Treasurer.

In the last two years, I have seen many on-campus organizations come and go. As recently as last Fall, the Environmental Law Club, the Law of the Sea Organization, and the Women's Law Caucus were virtually non-existent on this campus. The Women's Law Caucus, however, has made a turnaround. With the coincidence of its members and the aid of the SBA, groups such as the WLC can again become active. As Treasurer, my primary agenda would be to plan, I personally raised over $27,000 (not counting any matching grants from employers) for USD.

I presently work as a research assistant for Professor Friedman and perform college work for the law library. I have worked as a law student in a small law firm and am presently pursuing the joint JD/Masters in Business Administration degrees at USD. I am also a member of the International Law Society.

I am eager to continue serving all USD law students on the SBA Council for 1989-90. Please elect me your SBA Treasurer.

Treasurer

Elaine Podney
Secretary

The SBA secretarial position involves taking minutes, distributing them, and recording resolutions and motions. I am well qualified for this position because I have taken excellent notes and have a sense of responsibility that is appropriate for this position. In my senior year at UCSB, I served as Commissioner of Publicity on the Associated Student Government. In this position, I spent an extraordinary amount of time organizing and publicizing various campus events. This involved a lot of correspondence with the local community in arranging to have advertisements placed, and staging and setting up the event. This job proven to be a valuable learning experience as I taught me the value of organization.

In qualifying me for this secretarial position is my past note taking experience. At UCSB I worked as a notetaker for a division called Special Services. This division provided disabled and dyslexic students with notes for their classes. Through my work with this organization, I became a meticulous note taker.

Second-Year Reps

Vicky Biedebach
Third-Year Representative

My name is Vicky Biedebach and I am running for the Third-Year Class Representative. I am interested in being involved in the Student Bar Association because it will provide me with the opportunity to have input in decisions affecting all law students. It is important that students have a voice which is heard, and as Third-Year Representative, it will provide me with the opportunity to have input in decisions which impact us.

In the past year I have been a very active and vocal student; Civil Rights March - spearheaded the publicity for the March. As a class representative, I hope to keep the section informed of future events and activities, and to keep an open line of communication between the students and administration.

Ralph Godsey
Second-Year Representative

I recently attended an SBA meeting to encourage the students to participate in the Budget Committee hearings for Spring semester 1989 budget requests. I attended all meetings, met representatives from all organizations within the law school and actively participated in the budgetary process.

Last semester, I worked for the USD Development Office and actively participated in the fundraising drive for the USD Annual Fund and for the Legal Research Center. While working with the SBA, I was able to implement the budgetary process.

As a SBA Secretary, I made the meetings more efficient by implementing policies and proposals to the board of directors to attain the funding.

I have had to learn some power that exists when concerned and informed students come together. I can be counted on to continue to challenge myself and my classmates to present proposals and get involved not only by getting on some committee that looks good on a resume but because there is an awesome power that exists when concerned and informed students combine their skills and talents to achieve positive ends.

SERVICE: First Year Representative re- presented a first year section (approximately 90 students) at weekly SBA meetings; planned and implemented activities for first year students.

ACTIVITIES: Budget Committee - served on the committee which reviews fund requests and makes allocations; First-Year Barbecue - planned and steered the two parties thrown to help first year deals with school and get to know each other; Salvation Army Dinner - designed the menu and implemented an opportunity for students to serve others on Thanksgiving Day; First-Year Ski Trip - setup a day of doing for first year students; Civil Rights March - spearheaded the publicity for the USD march for civil rights on February 16; Prom Night - helped plan USD's participation in the nationwide law student strike day; Other Activities - Amnesty International, More Hall P.I.E., Interns

John McConnin
Second-Year Representative

It was frustrating sitting on the sidelines therefore I want to become involved.

Debra Weber
Honorary Secretary

I would like to serve on the Honor Court because I want to ensure that all students are treated fairly and fairly.

Susan McCarthy
Honorary Court

Third-year student

Honor Court

Loretta West
Third-Year Representative

I would like to be a Third-Year Rep to encourage more student participation in the Student Bar Association.

Motions Election Issue

Produced by

Steve Smith
Honorary Secretary

This year at USD, I served on the Faculty Appointment Committee. The purpose of this committee was to meet with potential incoming professors and give them an idea of what the student body was like as well as evaluating them. We were primarily looking for professors who had open minds and an enthusiastic teaching approach. By serving on this committee, I was able to improve my communications and interviewing techniques.

The SBA is an organization I feel that I have contributed to. I feel that I would be an asset to the SBA because I am an honest, personal person who applies common sense to difficult situations in life.

Rhonda Miller
Rhonda Miller
Third-Year Representative

As a Vice-Justice of the Honor Court, I was able to improve my communications skills, and have a better understanding of the Honor Court system.

Stephen L. Smith
Second-Year Representative

As a first year representative, I gained extensive experience in the many aspects of student government at USD, including the budgeting process, activity planning, and the interaction of students and administration.

As an incoming representative in SBA I will try my best to help the SBA by attending meetings, participating in activities, and working with the Honor Court. I feel that I will be an asset to the SBA because I am an honest, personal person who applies common sense to difficult situations in life.