GW | LAW

Regional Networking Grassroots Initiative

Introduction

As GW alumni, we are fortunate to be a part of a rich family that not only learned the nuances of law in our nation's capital, but had fun doing so. Between Barristers and Bar Reviews, touring the Capitol or standing in line for the Supreme Court, we cannot forget that we came out of GW Law with so much more than just a degree; **we became a part of a family**. The Regional Networking Grassroots Initiative seeks to reinvigorate this experience by hosting a diverse range of accessible monthly social interactions independent of fundraising. While fundraising is a crucial part of any academic institution, it is the sense of the Regional Networking Committee that **reestablishing a sense of camaraderie and maintaining the GW Law family should be this initiative's top priority**.

Chapter Structure

Initially each chapter will have **two appointed "Captains" serving for alternating two-year terms**. By having two Captains, we seek to reduce the workload and increase redundancy in case of emergencies or unforeseen circumstances. Six months after a chapter is established, the possibility of expanding the number of captains to four should be reviewed by the Committee in consultation with the existing captains, examining among other things: workload; captain bandwidth; feasibility of two-year commitments, etc. Regardless of the size of the team, the members should still be selected to fulfill alternating terms to increase stability, longevity, and legacy. This will not only encourage consistency, but prevent the need to "reinvent the wheel" at the beginning of each term. Finally, it is preferred that the **Captains come from different circles and graduation years** to maximize the outreach potential of each chapter.

Mission

Each chapter is tasked with hosting at least one **casual social interaction each month independent of fundraising.** First and foremost, the event should be communally-focused. These can range from getting together for a happy hour to attending a show or festival. We recommend supplementing "Alumni Bar Reviews" with alternative events when possible to provide for more options both financially and experientially. As there is unfortunately no budget, these should be planned as community gatherings much like a "Bar Review" or college football viewing party. Given the varying cultural norms of each city, this is just a recommendation. What works in Boston is different than what works in L.A. and the Committee trusts that the Captains know what will work best.

Getting Started

Once the Captains have been nominated, interviewed, and selected, the Regional Networking Committee Chairs and an Alumni Office representative will meet with the Captains to review the expectations of the role and set a tentative timeline to get the ball rolling. **The first event should be held within two months of on-boarding**. Once a series of events have been selected, **the Alumni Office can provide outreach resources**, including the ability to email a local mailing list and managing event RSVPs. In consultation with the alumni office, a chapter should also consider creating a social media presence for outreach and RSVPs.

Feedback

It is advised the Captains **update a central database of potential events** and opportunities. This database will be implemented via an Excel Google doc listing: Event Name, Type, Cost, Location, Contact Info, Date Last Attended, etc. Each city will have its own tab and access to other cities' event listings so as to promote the sharing of ideas. Access to this list will also be given to the appointed Alumni Office representative as well as the Committee Chairs.

Finally, each event should also have a sign-in sheet or equivalent and **attendance should be tracked**.

The record should then be submitted to the Alumni Office and the Committee Chairs with a brief description of the event. Photos of the event are also helpful for future communications but are optional. These records will allow for the Alumni Office to maintain up-to-date records and for the Committee to track metrics and adjust the initiative's mission.