



General Meeting

Thursday, December 1, 2016

6:30pm, Student Lounge

Attendance: 21

Next General Meeting: **Spring 2017**

Meeting Agenda:

- Sign thank-you letters for various people that have helped ELS over the semester (guest speakers; auction donors).
- Guest presentations for VLS Spring 2017 Solutions Conference
- Earth Week Event Proposals
- Discuss requests to sign onto letters for Congress/Obama
- Outdoor auction recap
- Tabling signup for Silent Auction \$ collection
- Last minute ideas for spring events

1) Guest Presentations for Spring 2017 Solutions Conference:

- **Sam Vivirito & Mike Melchiorre:** *GMOs*. Email Sam at SalvatoreVivirito@vermontlaw.edu if you have more questions. Conference focuses on GMOs and their effects on human and environmental health as well as the current and future regulations of GMOs. The panel will consist of professors & professionals from both sides of the debate to discuss the science, law, and societal impact of GMOs. If this topic wins, they are looking for anyone interested to help prepare for the conference.
- **Dariana Mattei Ramos:** *Hypocrisy to Democracy: Examining Modern Day Colonialism and Anti-Democratic Governance in US Territories*. Conference focuses on educating on the relationship between the U.S. and its territories, and discussing ways that territories can address human rights injustice under the current system and obtain true democratic participation. Email Dariana at DarianaMatteiRamos@vermontlaw.edu if you have more questions.

**Fill out the survey your SBA senator sent you, asking you to vote for a Solutions Conference topic (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CKXN8Q8>)! Voting is open until Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 12:45 pm. Note that there are two other topic proposals (see SBA email).

2) Earth Week Event Proposals: (presentation by Mia Schiappi)

- **Monday:** clothing swap
- **Tuesday:** DIY workshop to make environmentally-friendly products. Last year we made face wash, deodorant, and house cleaning products
- **Wednesday:** movie night (maybe Planet Earth, if it's out by then) & potluck
- **Thursday:** environmentally themed trivia night at Crossroads
- **Friday:** our annual play by Sharon Elementary School, *The Lorax*
- **Saturday:** SoRo cleanup, with elementary kids. We want to do a t-shirt tie dying earlier in the week so that we can wear our shirts during the cleanup. Idea for shirts to say "VLS 2017 Earth Week"
- **Sunday:** Hike (hopefully) with a botanist
- Other event somewhere during the week: native plant sale (not succulents!).

- 3) **Letters to Congress/President:** pushing the Obama administration to make last-minute pro environmental efforts. Groups at other law schools have sent us letters they intend to send, asking for us to sign on (by Dec. 4). Bri will talk to Melissa Scalin to see if there are any negative implications to VLS if we sign them.
- 4) **Events for Next Semester:** Note that tomorrow is the last day to submit ideas.
 - Panel on Environmental Activism during the Trump Administration. Hoping to get funding from the Environmental Law Center.
 - Getting a CBD representative to come talk to VLS about work at CBD.
 - Set up a table to encourage new members to join. Possible informational session or ELS party.
- 5) **Next Meeting:** will be in January. A Doodle Poll will be sent out at the beginning of next semester to determine a set date & time for all our meetings for next semester.
- 6) **Upcoming Environmental Conference at Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies: *New Directions in Environmental Law*.** Conference is Feb. 24 & 25, 2017. Sign up is free. ELS can arrange a carpool. Event website: <http://envirocenter.yale.edu/event/new-directions-environmental-law-conference-register-now>.
- 7) **Outdoor Auction recap:** we raised \$4,446.75!! Amazing!!

Thanks guys for such an amazing semester! You were all super active and totally wonderful!

Questions, comments, ideas? Email cmikatstevens@vermontlaw.edu!