



The State Bar of California

The Committee of State Bar Accredited and Registered Schools Teleconference

Open Session Minutes
Wednesday, January 29, 2025
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Time Meeting Commenced: The Committee on State Bar Accredited and Registered Schools meeting commenced in open session at 1:00 p.m.

Time Meeting Adjourned: 2:10 p.m.

Chair: Jay Frykberg

Committee Coordinator: Natalie Leonard

Members Present: Jason Amezcua, Jay Frykberg, William Hunt, Paul Kramer, Kevin Marshall

Members Absent: James Bolton, Filomena Yeroshek

Staff Present: Anik Banerjee, Audrey Ching, Cody Hounanian, Natalie Leonard, Theresa Solenski

OPEN SESSION

1. Call to Order
The CSBARS was called to order by chair Jay Frykberg
2. Roll Call
Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.
3. Call for Public Comment
Chair Frykberg called for public comment, inquiring as to whether there were person(s) who wished to comment on any agenda item. Five written public comments were received and distributed prior to the meeting. A sixth written public comment was received after the meeting and was subsequently distributed.

One member of the public, Todd Hill, requested to speak and asked CSBARS to take on the task of clarifying how educational eligibility for the bar exam is established when qualifying based on four years of study, and to review transfer policies between law schools, as well as the records that law schools must retain.

4. Chair's Report

Chair Frykberg thanked the State Bar for its support of schools and law students impacted by the January 2025 wildfires in Los Angeles. He highlighted that the Lawyer Assistance Program offers two free one-hour counseling sessions to lawyers, applicants and attorneys.

Chair Frykberg also reminded the audience that First-year Law Student Exam results from October had been distributed to law school deans via email and that the next CBE meeting would take place on Friday, January 31, 2025.

5. Director's Report

Cody Hounanian encouraged all members to follow State Bar social media for updates of all types, via LinkedIn, X, and Facebook.

6. Staff Reports

Proposed Revisions to Unaccredited Law Schools – Timing: Cody Hounanian provided an oral report on the timeline for the committee review of revisions to Unaccredited Law School Rules and Guidelines. Prior to creating proposed revisions, CSBARS was encouraged to submit suggestions during meetings in winter and spring 2023 and 2024. The proposed rules revision was introduced at the August 2024 CBE meeting, with copies posted for the public at that time and courtesy copies sent to CSBARS shortly thereafter. CSBARS divided the rules and had teams of two review each section during September and October. Then the proposals were discussed at CSBARS meetings in October and December, and this information was also summarized to the CBE by the Chair of the CSBARS. The CBE also gathered feedback from the Council on Access and Fairness and public comment. The rules proposal is scheduled for discussion and possible recommendation to the Board of Trustees for discussion at the CBE's March 14, 2025, meeting.

February 2025 Bar Exam: Cody Hounanian shared updates regarding the February 2025 bar exam, confirming that the most current information will be posted on the exam FAQ, and that key updates, reminders and deadlines would continue to be sent out during the Friday e-blast. Deans and other law school administrators receive a copy of this blast, and other administrators may request to be added by sending an email to lawschoolregulation@calbar.ca.gov.

7. Approval of Minutes

7.1 Approval of Open Session Minutes: December 11, 2024

Moved by Amezcua, seconded by Marshall

Ayes – (5) Amezcua, Hunt, Kramer, Marshall, Frykberg

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (2) Bolton, Yeroshek

Motion carries.

8. Consent Calendar
None

9. Business

Update on CBE Discussions Related to Artificial Intelligence: Cody Hounanian and Natalie Leonard summarized a discussion from the CBE that involved reviewing the State Bar Exam Chapter 6 matrix in light of developments in artificial intelligence, and conveyed the committee's intent to create practical guidance for law schools and law students for discussion at a future CSBARS meeting. Deans Frykberg and Marshall expressed an interest in being contacts for staff as this discussion item is prepared.

Members highlighted concerns about the use of AI during remote exams, such as the risk of students using AI during remote examinations, although the Guardian browsers students are currently required to use for the bar exam block access to outside webpages or other applications. Live remote proctoring will also be used for the exam.

One member asked if any AI tool has been provided with a current or past bar exam to assess the tool's performance, but this has not taken place.

Schedule Planning for the Remainers of the Year: Natalie Leonard presented the proposed 2025 schedule for tasks delegated from the Committee of Bar Examiners to CSBARS. Chair Frykberg and member Kevin Marshall volunteered to help guide the March 2025 CSBARS topic of practical guidance for use of AI at law schools, and a survey will be sent to members as to other topics.

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