

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Oregon State Board of Bar Examiners
Alternative to Exam Task Force – Curriculum Alternative Subcommittee
March 5, 2021
Zoom Meeting
Open Session Agenda**

Friday, March 5, 2021, 11:30 a.m.

Attendees:

Members: Kristin Asai, Elizabeth Davis, Kyle Sessions, Kevin Gleim, Lisa Udland, Kelly Harpster

Participants: Jason Specht, Joanna Perini-Abbott, Troy Wood

Liaison: Sarah Haugstad

1. Call to Order/Finalization of Agenda

11:31 AM call to order. The agenda is finalized.

2. Nomination of Officers

Kristin Asai volunteered to be Chair.

No one volunteered to be Secretary. Troy Wood volunteered to take minutes for this meeting.

3. Discussion of Materials and Wisconsin Model

- Libby Davis suggested that the Wisconsin model was the most turn-key of all the programs considered by the task force. It is well established in Wisconsin, so the policies and procedures would not need to be reinvented from an admission perspective and none of Oregon's law schools would need to make drastic changes to adopt the system.
- Kyle Sessions stated that Willamette's degree requirements are the same or substantially similar to those of Wisconsin. He stated that some students may worry about a curriculum that is too strict and does not allow them to learn about specialties in the law.
- Kristin said she worried about the law schools playing the gate keeper function for admission to the bar, because the schools have other interests in accepting and passing students.
- Troy Wood raised a concern about selling the membership on the idea of a Wisconsin model. Libby Davis offered a response to common concerns mentioned by people who take a position against the model. Joanna Perini-Abbott suggested a poll could be taken of the membership. Troy Wood pointed out that polls cost a lot of resources for the Bar, and this might present an obstacle to getting feedback from the membership.

4. Member Assignments

- Libby Davis volunteered to reach out to the Wisconsin faculty and school administrators to find out more about the program.

- Kelly Harpster offered to help Libby Davis with this assignment.
- Kevin Gleim volunteered to reach out to recent graduates and new admittees to find out their views of diploma privilege.
- Kyle Sessions volunteered to speak with current law students to find out attitudes about diploma privilege.
- Lisa Udland volunteered to talk to government lawyers about their view on these programs.
- Kristin Asai offered to speak with employers about their perspectives on diploma privilege.

5. Discussion of Work Product

- Troy Wood explained that other subcommittees wanted to focus on the pros and cons of the model they were studying from the views of their assignment, and report back to the subcommittee on those pros and cons. Eventually, the subcommittees plan to present a report to the larger task force that outlines these pros and cons and suggests modifications to the models study, if any are needed. Kristin Asai said this sounded like a reasonable approach.
- Troy Wood reminded the subcommittee that the deadline for the task force to present a report to the court is June 30, 2021. In order to do this, we need the subcommittees to meet two or three times between now and the middle of May when they will present a report to the task force. This will give the task force about six-weeks to prepare a report to the Court.

6. Next Meeting

- Kristin Asai said she would have her assistant send out a Doodle Poll to set the next meeting.

7. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 PM