

John Weber

Law Student Division Delegate of Communications, Publications and Outreach University of Louisville, Brandeis School of Law

My name is John Weber and I am running for the position of Law Student Division (LSD) Delegate of Communications, Publications and Outreach. I currently serve as a LSD Delegate, and would appreciate your support to serve for the upcoming year. As the LSD undergoes transition in its Board structure, and the House of Delegates considers important policies, it is especially important to have continuity and experience on the LSD Board. I know firsthand how valuable that experience is, because I have benefitted from law students with tremendous experience during my time in division leadership. The role of Delegate is multifaceted and requires both a focus on the LSD and the greater ABA. Throughout the past year, I have been exposed to numerous policy arguments, internal ABA workings and priorities voiced by law students and our leadership. Additionally, I have developed relationships with law student leaders both nationally and at individual campuses, broader ABA leadership in the House of Delegates and various committees, and ABA staff. I am proud to have worked to make the ABA more accessible and responsive to law students and to give campus leadership more of a voice in selecting who will represent them.

Campus leadership is vital. I started serving in my school's Student Bar Association the first chance that I had. As my section representative I worked with our ABA representative and SBA President to get our school more fully integrated in the ABA. When they approached me to discuss running for office within the ABA I was happy to consider it, but only if I felt that I could meaningfully contribute. My first experience in the ABA came after I was elected to serve the Sixth District as Circuit Governor. It has been a position that fit my strengths and experience. In college, I served as the Kentucky College Democrats President, and later as the Southern Regional Director for the College Democrats of America. Through those positions, I gained valuable experience with several of the Circuit Governor's job responsibilities. I have enjoyed regional oversight of campus chapters, managing an executive board, and encouraging participation of members. I have planned outreach, and various initiatives and programs on a regional level before and did so effectively again through the ABA. Now, I'd like to continue serving as an ABA Law Student Division Delegate. This position combines my interests of policy and advocacy, and allows me to use my strengths and experience to best advocate for law students across the country.

Allow me to introduce myself to you, outside of law school. I have long known that my post-graduate future would involve studying law. While a student in high school I developed an interest in the social sciences; government, politics, psychology and history concepts united to form the basis of my career goals. As a McConnell Scholar at the University of Louisville, I was introduced to high level political thought through small group discussions with leading statesmen such as Bill Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Joe Biden, Mitch McConnell, John McCain, John Roberts and others. Instead of immediately enrolling in law school upon completing undergraduate studies, however, I was given an opportunity to learn about governmental policy and the importance of advocacy at the most fundamental level.

My acceptance to Teach For America delayed my Law School application, but proved to be a worthwhile adventure. I learned and grew along with my students. I was able to have the

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sort of “micro” impact on individual students that I had hoped for when applying to the Teach For America program. I taught students that worked to complete Advanced Placement coursework, and some earned college credit in my Government class. Others went on to become the first in their families to attend college with the goal of becoming the first to graduate, as well! I’m proud that I can continue to influence my students by assisting them as they navigate the college process. My experience in the classroom, both as a graduate student and a teacher will be especially helpful for my work in the ABA. I developed skills of time-management, public speaking, long-term planning, problem solving, and leadership. But, more importantly, I know how to play a role in a national organization while still making a difference to individuals. I have the ability to balance listening to the needs of constituents and relating that to the national organization, as I will routinely have to do if I am fortunate enough to continue my service as a Division Delegate.

Some of my students had just immigrated to the United States and had very limited English comprehension. We worked on both basic language skills and government concepts to empower them and others in their family to pass the U.S. citizenship test. Still other students had been in jail and faced significant challenges to retake control of their futures. I believe that as their teacher, I played an important role by demonstrating genuine care both inside and outside of the classroom, which helped ease their transition back into school. I held my students to rigorous academic standards and worked with them to achieve their goals, whether it was college or career. Of course, the success stories are not universal and there is still significant work to be done in the Cane Ridge community and beyond. This reality helped me learn the life lesson that no matter how intense my efforts, I may not always succeed. At the same time, I have developed both the courage to continue in the face of adversity, and a willingness to learn new skills to address inequity in this country.

Teach For America convinced me that I could have a positive impact on changing life trajectories for my students and their families. Now, my ambition is to pursue the study of law so that I can represent the underrepresented in our communities. I would appreciate the opportunity to give back to my school, circuit, division and the ABA. I look forward to working alongside other law students, sharing in our various experiences, and learning from one another. Thank you for your support throughout the year and your consideration in the upcoming election.

John Weber

Education: University of Louisville, Brandeis School of Law Louisville, KY
Juris Doctor candidate, 3.2 GPA *Expected May 2018*

- American Bar Association Law Student Division Delegate
- American Bar Association Law Student Division 6th Circuit Governor
- Law Review
- Journal of Law and Education Editorial Board
- Student Bar Association 1L Section 2 Representative
- Volunteer in Disability Resource Center and various mentoring programs

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Lipscomb University Nashville, TN
Master of Education August 2013
Major: Instructional Practice, 3.71 GPA

University of Louisville Louisville, KY
Bachelor of Arts May 2012
Major: Political Science, Cum Laude

Experience: Louisville Gas & Electric – Kentucky Utilities Louisville, KY
Corporate Law Clerk January 2017-present

- Advise the company on government regulations, as well as proposed and pending legislation
- Apply legal requirements to business actions and policy
- Conduct legal research regarding numerous types of law
- Draft and edit transactional documents

Hillary for America Louisville, KY
Senior Fellow August 2016 to November 2016

- Managed campaign fellows, volunteers, field operation and events
- Coordinated with the national campaign HQ to implement campaign priorities in KY/OH

Travis and Herbert Attorneys Louisville, KY
Law Clerk May 2016-August 2016

- Conducted legal research; Wrote memoranda, motions, etc.

St. Matthews Baptist Church Louisville, KY
Interim Youth & College Student Minister August 2014-August 2015

- Coordinate all programming and activities for approximately 60 middle and high school youth and twenty college students
- Develop and implement a budget of approximately \$30,000
- Plan and execute major out of state trips three to four times a year
- Enforce church's policies and procedures to ensure safety and compliance

Cane Ridge High School Nashville, TN
Teacher (Teach for America) June 2012-June 2014

- Selected from 35,000 applicants nationwide to join a national teacher corps made up of recent college graduates who commit two years to teach in under resourced public schools
- Taught and tutored for 12th grade Government classes in Metro Nashville Public School system, including one Advanced Placement section
- Coached Boys and Girls Tennis and Bowling, won 2 District championships