Dear Division Members, Leaders, and Fellow Law Students,

My name is Neeharika Thuravil and I am running for the position of Law Student Representative At-Large on the ABA Board of Governors.

I am a first-generation, first-year law student at Seton Hall University School of Law, with a background in astrophysics, computer science, and most paramount, change-making. My passion for transforming status quos and breaking barriers stems from a tenet I have lived by my entire life: *It takes a village to raise a child.* The proverbial child I helped raise throughout my change-making career has ranged from my alma mater to my constituency in Plainsboro, New Jersey, where I stand as an elected committeewoman, to Middlesex County, New Jersey, where I ran for the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Now I hope to help raise yet another- my nationwide cohort of law students, which deserves representation that **truly cares** about it and is willing to **fearlessly advocate** for its needs in a space where other interests may compete.

During my time as a voting leader of my undergraduate institution’s senate, I worked on the successful charge to expand short-course credentialing and digital certificate efforts at the university, which was a part of the push to make higher education more accessible to working professionals seeking to advance themselves academically and professionally. I hope to advance similar goals as your At-Large Student Representative on the Board of Governors in **making a legal education equitably accessible** and, in turn, much more **diverse**.

Among my more focused goals as your potential Representative is proposing solutions to **navigate the COVID-19 vaccination and recovery period** in a **publicly healthy** manner that also provides the **personalized support** every law student needs to **access the opportunities they deserve**. Such solutions include **increased financial support** from law schools for students that may especially be struggling during this trying time. **funding mental health programs**, and advocating for **periodic one-on-one academic check-ins**, accessible both remotely and in person, by every ABA-accredited law school.

As the future of America’s legal system, we all deserve the **right support** to fulfill what it means to be a lawyer in the 21st century. The Representative has **immense power** to make that happen for us, **voting** alongside some of the **most influential decision-makers** on the ABA’s Board of Governors. I am confident that **I will be able to successfully advocate for all of us** across the country in an **effective and productive** manner, **changing the way we academically and professionally develop** our careers.

I would be humbled to have your support and be voted your Representative. Please do not hesitate to reach out either in my inbox (neeharika.thuravil@student.shu.edu) or over the phone (+1 (609) 582-1601). It takes a united community of law students to change things for the better. Together and forward!

Solidarity,

Neeharika Thuravil
EDUCATION

Seton Hall University School of Law, Newark, NJ
Juris Doctor Expected May 2023
Honors: Seton Hall Law Board of Visitors Scholarship
Activities: Cybersecurity and Privacy Society

Seton Hall University School of Diplomacy and International Relations, South Orange, NJ
Master of Arts in Diplomacy and International Relations Expected May 2024
Journal: The Seton Hall Journal of Diplomacy and International Relations, Associate Editor

Rutgers University, Douglass Residential College, New Brunswick, NJ
Bachelor of Science in Astrophysics May 2020
Activities: Rutgers University Student Assembly, SAS Senate Leader; Rutgers University Senate, Instruction, Curriculum, and Advising Committee; RU Progressive/Our Revolution Rutgers, President

EXPERIENCE

Materials Science Lab of Dr. Gabriel Kotliar, Rutgers Department of Physics and Astronomy
Research Assistant January 2020 - October 2020
● Wrote end-of-grant reports to DOE incorporating research projects conducted under specific grants by recording objectives and outcomes of such projects and tying them to funding
● Drove efficiency in end-of-grant report creation by consolidating publications for Department of Energy’s (DOE) COMSCOPE
● Streamlined research paper drafts by rebuilding the structure of and consistently refreshing database of 1000+ citations

Astrophysics Lab of Dr. John Hughes, Rutgers Department of Physics and Astronomy
Research Assistant January 2019 – May 2020
● Automated cluster cross-matching through a library of code (Python) and databased information from multiple sources into an accessible format for the larger science community to query from
● Developed solutions to classify specific clusters whose attributes haven’t yet been recorded
● Coded structures to manage large volumes of FITS events data to analyze cluster images
● Presented research at multiple poster presentations; received $3000 grant for summer research

VOLUNTEER WORK

The Dream Project, New Brunswick, NJ
Cyclist and Fundraiser, December 2017 – June 2018
● Raised close to $15,000 with four other cyclists for Visions and Pathways, a NJ youth crisis shelter
● Bicycled 2000 miles from New Brunswick, NJ to Miami, Florida, in 30 days.
● Volunteered in shelters in 9 major cities en route, raising awareness for the cause.

INTERESTS

Longform obstacle course racing, cake baking and decorating, Indian classical dancing (Bharatanatyam)