This year’s Annual Fall Raffle was held on November 6th. The grand prizes were a $600 Cash Prize and an iPad Mini. These items were accompanied by a number of other donated prizes, including bar preparation course vouchers from Barbri, Kaplan, and Themis, as well as “Lexis Points” donated by LexisNexis.

This student-run event raised over $2,700 for the Outreach Assistantship Fund, which provides financial assistance to students who participate in unpaid public interest internships during the summer.

Lauren Van Diggelen, 2L
I would not have been able to work consistently this summer for eleven weeks, four days a week, unpaid at [the Kane County Public Defender’s Office], had it not been for the PILS assistantship that I was awarded...I am truly grateful for my experience this summer, and I know that it would not have been possible had I not taken advantage of the amazing opportunity that PILS provides.”

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Kelli Schmidt, 3L
“As a result of the Outreach Assistantship, I was able to work at the Kane County State’s Attorney’s Office. This opportunity provided valuable experience, making me a more versatile candidate when my job search commences after graduation.”

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Rikkilee Moser, 2L
“I knew I wanted to do an internship with a non-profit organization, and the assistantship allowed me to do so without having to take out more loans. I was able to work for World Relief in the immigrant legal services department—which was an excellent learning experience for me, as well as a much needed help to the organization!”

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John Abendroth, 2L
“I wanted to intern over the summer with the Illinois Attorney General’s Office in downtown Chicago. The PILS assistantship covered my daily travel expenses during the summer and lessened the impact of working for no pay. This allowed me to take on an internship opportunity that provided me with valuable experience working in a public interest area of law.”
I continue to be motivated and encouraged by the dedication that PILS members have when it comes to serving the community through public interest law. So far this year we have raised over $3,000 for our Outreach Assistantship Fund, which provides financial assistance for students who choose to take unpaid summer positions in the field of public interest law. In the past we have had students intern with, among many others, Prairie State Legal Services, Illinois Innocence Project, World Relief, and both the Public Defender’s Office as well as the State’s Attorney’s Office in various counties throughout Illinois.

Looking ahead to next semester, Public Interest Law Society’s main fundraiser—the Annual PILS Auction—will be held on Friday March 27, 2014. The Auction will be held in the Thurgood Marshall Gallery following the Francis X. Riley Lecture on Professionalism. We are very excited for this occasion as it is the largest student-organized event put on at the college of law. Last year we raised approximately 75% of our Assistantship funds at this event and had over 150 students, faculty, alumni, and local practitioners in attendance. I encourage you to donate to and attend this year’s event, and guarantee that you will not regret it. Your support will make it possible for NIU law students to go into the world and make a difference.

To find out more about the Auction, past prizes, or for ways to donate, please visit [http://www.niu.edu/law/calendar/events/PILS_auction.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/law/calendar/events/PILS_auction.shtml), or send an e-mail to niupilsauction@gmail.com. We hope to see you on March 27th!

Rikkilee Moser
President, Public Interest Law Society

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**Save the Date!**

**20th Annual PILS Auction!**

**March 27, 2015**

5:00 PM—9:00 PM
in the Marshall Gallery
at Swen Parson Hall

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**Exec-Board Spotlight!**

**James Buikema**

*Year: 2L*

*PILS Position:* Vice-President  
*Undergrad & Major:* Northern Illinois University; Political Science  
*Favorite 1L Class:* Criminal Law  
*Favorite Ice Cream Flavor:* Chocolate Moose Tracks  
*Hobbies:* Fantasy football and scuba diving  
*Plans after law school:* I plan to work in the Chicago area as a criminal attorney.

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**Abbey Buckels**

*Year: 3L*

*PILS Position:* Auction Chair  
*Undergrad & Major:* University of Iowa; English  
*Favorite 1L Class:* Legal Writing  
*Favorite Ice Cream Flavor:* Chunky Monkey  
*Hobbies:* Going to concerts, baking, and reading Harry Potter  
*Plans after law school:* I hope to work as a prosecutor in Illinois.