NIU LAW DOCKET

February 23, 2015 Volume 39 Number 222

THIS WEEK

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<td>Monday, February 23</td>
<td>Early Bird Deadline for Agen Applications</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February 24</td>
<td>12th Annual Minority Reception, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Cantina Laredo, Chicago, IL</td>
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<td>2L Over-the-Hump Party, noon-1:00 p.m., Marshall Gallery</td>
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<td>Friday, February 27</td>
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33rd Annual Lenny Mandell Moot Court Competition: The quarterfinals of the 33rd Annual Lenny Mandell Moot Court Competition will be held Saturday, February 21, at 10:00 a.m. The following teams will compete:

- #13 Danielle D’Ambrose /Cole DeBlaey v. #5 Erin George/Gianna Venticinque
- #11 Jason Hauck/Whitney Wilkinson v. #2 Brian Cunningham/Patti Donahue
- #9 Andrea DeVinney/Kaitlin Hargate v. #16 Laura Gaden/Margaret O’Brien
- #8 Maureen Dowling/Cora Moy v. #4 Alejandro Figueroa/Lucas Park

The semi-finals will follow at 2:00 p.m. in the Riley and Chessick courtrooms. Spectators are welcome for the semi-finals. The final round will be held on Saturday, February 28, at 10:30 a.m. in the Riley Courtroom.

12th Annual Minority Reception: Dean Rosato Perea and alumnus Vincent Cornelius (’89) will host the 12th Annual Minority Reception on Wednesday, February 25, at Cantina Laredo (508 N. State Street, Chicago) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. During this year’s reception, the Honorable Thaddeus Wilson (’94) will receive the Excellence in Service and Leadership Award.
**Over-the-Hump Party!** An Over-the-Hump Party will be held for 2Ls on **Wednesday, February 25, from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Marshall Gallery** to celebrate their being **over half way** through with law school. Pizza and beverages will be provided. The party is sponsored by the SBA and Dean Rosato Perea.

**NIU Summer Program in Agen, France:** Applications for the 2015 NIU Summer Program in Agen, France are now available to be completed [online](http://www.niu.edu). The first 16 students to apply prior to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23 will receive a $200 **early bird discount** courtesy of the Rudy DeSeife Fund. The summer program is contingent on a minimum of 12 participants. Your early application will both assist us and earn you the $200 **early bird discount**. If you have any questions, please contact Dean Gaebler at dgaebler@niu.edu, Professor Reynolds at danreynolds@niu.edu or Professor Taylor at dtaylor@niu.edu.

### PLANNING AHEAD

**1L Professionalism Program:** Please save the date for the following sessions in the 1L professionalism program, which are mandatory for all first-year students:

- **Wednesday, March 4, 2015:** Margaret Benson, Executive Director of Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, will be talking about pro bono work. This program will be held in the Riley Courtroom and will be followed by a reception with drinks and appetizers.

- **Thursday April 9, 2015:** Professor Nancy Levit, one of the authors of “The Happy Lawyer: Making a Good Life in the Law”, will be speaking. Please note that this program is on a Thursday instead of a Wednesday in order to accommodate the speaker’s schedule. The program will be followed by a dinner.

- **Wednesday April 15, 2015:** Cherilyn Murer (’78), President and CEO of Murer Consultants, Inc., will be speaking. Cherilyn, along with her husband, Michael Murer, generously fund the 1L professionalism program each year. This program will be held in Altgeld Hall and will be followed by a dinner.

All sessions are scheduled from 4:00 to 5:15 p.m. A fourth session will be announced soon.

**SBA Trivia Night:** Trivia Night will be held on Wednesday March 4, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Marshall Gallery. Everyone is encouraged to participate and to team up with faculty. We will also provide drinks and snacks! The winning team members will receive tickets to Barristers' Ball.
MAKING TRACKS WITH DEAN ROSATO PEREA

This week a theme has been diversity and inclusion. On Wednesday, BLSA hosted a panel discussion that featured students and Professors Arriola, Jones, King, and Walton candidly sharing their experiences. I then co-presented yesterday on implicit bias at John Marshall Law School. And next week the law school celebrates its diverse community at the Diversity Reception in Chicago, hosted by Vince Cornelius (Class of 1989).

As was raised in the panel discussion earlier this week, diversity and inclusion benefits all of us as we open ourselves up to the perspectives of others and empathize with their experiences. One of the ways that researchers have seen that we can change our views (explicit and implicit) is by contact with people who are not like us -- not in our "in-group" -- and also by putting people in positions where they are taking on "counter-stereotypical" roles.

There are also many other ways to create a diverse and inclusive community. Next week one of our NIU Law family, Melody Mitchell, will be honored for her service and leadership. She is an amazing role model for all of us in creating the community we aspire to be - she is generous, kind, accepting, respectful, empathetic, and tireless working to build bridges among us.

Let's continue the conversation of diversity and inclusion at the upcoming student summit, faculty meetings, and informally in our conversations inside and outside the law school.

Have a great week,
Dean Rosato Perea

FROM THE LAW LIBRARY

Changes in Location. Please note that the shelves in the hallway to the library’s North Wing no longer contain books for the taking. That area now contains a collection of books intended for use in the library only. If you have taken books from those shelves, please return them. There should be a “Self-Help Collection” label above the call number label.

Books for the taking are now on shelves to the right of the public computer in the library’s entrance area.

Law Library Noise Policy. To provide an environment conducive to study, library users are requested to keep all conversations very low in volume. The center of the library is not to be loud, but by its nature will have more activity and conversation. The North and South wings should be used for quiet study.

Library staff will ask those violating this policy to reduce the sound level; a second violation will result in being asked to leave the library. Multiple violations will be directed to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs for further action.
Ringers on cell phones are to be silenced (i.e., set on vibrate). When a call is received or a patron makes a call, the patron needs to leave the library to conduct the call. *Thank you all for your compliance with this policy.*

**Computer Lab Hours:** The computer lab will be unavailable at the following times this week while the Basic Legal Research workshops are in session:

- February 24: 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.
- February 25: 9:00 - 9:50 a.m.
- February 26: 1:00 - 1:50 p.m.

**OFFICE OF BUDGET AND RECORDS**

**May 2015 Graduates:**

Under NIU Law’s standard procedures, a Dean’s Certificate is prepared for all graduates by the Office of Budget & Records (Christina and Julie). After review, the certificate is then signed by Dean Rosato Perea and is sent directly to the Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar (IBAB). For students applying to the Illinois bar, this process will be completed in June, after the law school has verified that graduates have fulfilled *all* requirements for graduation and do not have a hold on their university accounts. If you are applying to take the bar exam in a state other than Illinois and that state requires a form similar to the Illinois Dean's Certificate, then you will need to provide a copy of that form to the Office of Budget & Records in ample time so that it can be completed and sent in accordance with whatever deadlines are set by the state in question.

**Reimbursement Process:**

- **Purchases:** For purchases on behalf of NIU College of Law events: *Expenses must be approved by the Office of Budget & Records before purchase is made.* NIU Accounting reimbursement procedures change occasionally, so to ensure your reimbursement will be able to be processed, please contact us even if you have prior permission of faculty or staff member.

- **Travel:** For reimbursement for travel on behalf of NIU College of Law, you will *need the approval of the Dean before the travel* occurs. You must also see Julie (SP285) or Christina (SP280A2) *before* travel occurs to ensure that your reimbursement will be processed with appropriate required documentation.

**OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Winter Weather Alerts:** Winter closing information is available on the university web site and is updated as weather conditions change. The university urges all students, faculty and staff to use caution and personal judgment in their travels to and from campus during winter months and to dress appropriately for protection from cold temperatures and wind chills.
**Student Lounge:** For technical reasons, the repairs to the student lounge have to be made by an outside contractor, which is causing an unforeseen delay. We are making arrangements to find an alternative space for the lounge in the interim and hope to have further details early in the week. In the meantime, the deans apologize for the inconvenience this has caused.

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The *Docket* is published every Monday by Associate Dean Kathleen Coles