**NIU LAW DOCKET**

April 20, 2015  
Volume 46  
Number 29

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**THIS WEEK**

**In Remembrance:** A reception to celebrate the life of Larry Schlam, with music, memories, and laughter will be held on **Monday, April 20, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Buddy Guy’s Legends** located at 700 S. Wabash Avenue. All members of the NIU Law community are invited to come and join in this special evening for some tributes, open mic remarks, and music featuring Chicago Jazz musician Skinny Williams. A bus will be leaving DeKalb at 3:30 p.m. and returning after the reception. Please let Melody Mitchell (mmitchell@niu.edu) know if you plan to attend and also if you need transportation.

**Law Review Write-On Informational Meeting:** Any 1L or part-time student who will have completed a minimum of 30 credits by the end of this semester and is interested in joining the Law Review should attend an informational meeting on **Wednesday, April 22, at noon in the Riley Courtroom.** We will be explaining the write-on process in depth and providing crucial directions for completing the process. Lunch will be provided. If you cannot make the meeting but would like to write on, you **must** contact either Maureen Dowling (mdowling713@gmail.com) or Rikkilee Moser (rmoser117@gmail.com) to obtain the necessary information.

**Latino/a Law Student Association and Black Law Student Association:** On **Wednesday, April 22, LLSA and BLSA will be having their annual banquet at 5:30 p.m. in the Marshall Gallery**, please join
us in celebrating all of our accomplishments.

**Criminal Law Movie Night:** Everyone is invited to the final Criminal Law Movie Night of the year on **Wednesday, April 22, at 6:00 p.m. in the Riley Courtroom.** This month's movie will be *Gideon's Army*, a 2013 documentary about three African-American public defenders working in the Deep South. It's an inspiring film you won't want to miss. Pizza and beer will be provided in limited quantities. If you're considering attending, please RSVP to Professor Falkoff (mfalkoff@niu.edu).

**Faculty Symposium:** All are invited to the Faculty Symposium on *Cross-Border Migration of Unaccompanied Minors: Prospects for Legislative and Policy Reform* on **Friday, April 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Altgeld Hall.** The symposium will feature three 90-minute panels and a one-hour presentation by featured speaker Joshua Hoyt, Executive Director of the National Partnership for New Americans. Topics will include the core reasons for migration across the border by unaccompanied minors; detention and representation issues; and legislation and policy considerations. The event, including lunch, is free for students. Please register for the event at the College of Law website, or email Melody Mitchell (mmitchell@niu.edu) for assistance.

**Environmental Law Society Recycling Program:** The ELS is continuing to collect used ink cartridges, old batteries, and pop tabs to make sure that these items are properly recycled, or as in the case of the pop tabs, donated. Please deposit any such items in the ELS-labeled coffee cans in the student lounge, the library, and under the TV near the Normal Road entrance. Thank you for your assistance with our goal of promoting recycling within Swen Parson.

**PLANNING AHEAD**

**Student Bar Association:** Please reserve space on your calendar for the **End-of-the-Year Class Party** to be held on **Monday, April 27, from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.** Everyone — please join us for pizza, beverages, and announcements of the 3L Class Speaker and Class Agent and Professor of the Year. *All 3Ls — your hat toss photo will be at 12:30 p.m.*

**MAKING TRACKS WITH DEAN ROSATO PEREA**

Yesterday at the faculty meeting I thanked the entire faculty for being a "point of pride" for the law school, especially in their dedication to our students and their success. You all know that faculty work hard preparing and teaching their classes, working on their scholarship, and presenting on issues in their areas of expertise all across the country. What you may not know is the important service that they do for the law school and the University. For example,

- Faculty have been responsible for hiring new faculty, which is a very careful and time-intensive process. We are still completing that process, but can announce one hire so far: Dan McConkie
will be joining us next academic year to teach courses in the areas of criminal law and professional responsibility. He is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor at Brigham Young University Law School and has extensive experience as a state and federal prosecutor.

• Faculty have been driving curricular reform in a number of significant ways. Last month, the faculty approved changes to the first-year program, including foundational courses in legal methods and legal skills, a first-year doctrinal course of about 25 students, and more extensive feedback in the small section course as well as other courses. This month, the faculty approved a "bridge to practice" externship in Chicago beginning in Spring 2016 (adding to our "bridge to practice" government and public policy externship), as well as a requirement that students complete six credits of experiential learning before graduation, including lawyering skills and either a clinic or externship.

You have a very hard-working faculty (and associate deans) -- please let one of them know you appreciate them in the coming week!

I hope to see some of you at the Celebration of Professor Schlam's life on Monday evening at Buddy Guy's in Chicago, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.: a night full of music and stories, as Professor Schlam would have loved!

All my best,
Dean Rosato Perea

FROM THE LAW LIBRARY

Recognitions: I would like to personally thank the absolutely terrific librarians and staff that we have at the David C. Shapiro Memorial Law Library who are dedicated to providing exemplary service each day: Professor Therese Clark Arado, Professor Annie Mentkowski, Professor Sharon Nelson, Professor Karl Pettitt, Professor Clanitra Stewart Nejdl, Pam Sampson, Kate Hartman, and Cheryl Korth. They are a wonderful team and are here to support your research needs throughout the year (so don’t hesitate to ask for help!).

Renovations: Our law library renovations have begun and will continue until the end of June. The North Wing of the law library is the first section to be closed off for the carpeting project. While the North Wing is being renovated, the South Wing will be the primary location for quiet study during the final exam period, and we will have clear signs to direct you to areas for quiet study and inform everyone regarding the enforcement of the noise policy (http://www.niu.edu/law/library/policies.shtml#noise).

Consultations: The law library survey about summer hours recently went out to all students. Please fill out the survey with your preferences--we need your input! After hearing back from all of you, we will decide on our weekend hours during the summer. Just let us know if you have any questions. Thanks!
May 2015 Graduates: Caps and gowns will be available for pick up in SP280 on Monday, April 27, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The hat toss photo is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. on April 27, 2015, followed by the unveiling of the Class of 2015 Composite.

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.

OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Rescheduling Exams: Upper-level students who have three examinations scheduled on three consecutive calendar days or who have two examinations scheduled on the same day may petition to reschedule one of the examinations. All such petitions must be filed with Dean Coles by no later than noon on Thursday, April 30. Generally, the requested date for a rescheduled exam should be after, not before, the regularly scheduled exam. Please also indicate whether you request to take the exam in the morning or the afternoon. Rescheduled exams will normally begin at either 9:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. After April 30, exams will only be rescheduled upon the filing of a petition demonstrating “extraordinary circumstances”, with supporting documentation. Petition forms are available on the NIU Law web site under “Current Students – Forms” or from Lisa Hoebing in Room 276.

Summer is Coming!