THIS WEEK:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>Monday, September 1</td>
<td>LABOR DAY HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>Tuesday, September 2</td>
<td>The Federalist Society – Informational Meeting, 12:00 p.m. – Room 188</td>
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<td>Wednesday, September 3</td>
<td>NIU Law Student Reception – 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. -- Eduardo's in DeKalb</td>
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<td>Thursday, September 4</td>
<td>Deadline for 1L SBA Election Paragraphs – 3:00 p.m.</td>
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Student Bar Association 1L Representative Elections Are Approaching! To all 1Ls — Are you interested in joining SBA this year? The Student Bar Association is the umbrella student organization at NIU. In addition to hosting a number of events for the Student Body (Casino Night, Palsgraf, Barristers), we also aim to execute many charity events throughout the academic year. In September, we are electing four 1L representatives, two from each section. If you are interested in running, please submit a paragraph describing your candidacy to our e-mail at sba.niu@gmail.com by Friday, September 5 at 3:00 p.m. These paragraphs will be posted to SBA's TWEN page, and voting will take place next Thursday (September 11). You can learn more about SBA by visiting our TWEN site and reviewing our Constitution and Bylaws or by finding an SBA member and asking questions.

NIU Law Student Reception!! The Kane County Bar Association is hosting a reception for Northern Illinois University Law Students. Free food and drinks!! Mexican appetizer buffet and cold beverages will be provided. Come join us on Thursday, September 4, 2014, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., at Eduardo’s in DeKalb (214 E. Lincoln Highway).
**The Federalist Society.** Have lunch on us! You are invited to an informational meeting for the Federalist Society on **Wednesday, September 3, at 12:00 p.m. in Room 188.** Also save the date for our first debate (topic TBA) on Tuesday, September 16th at 12:00 p.m.

**Sports and Entertainment Law Society.** Attention all 1L and 2L students, the Sports and Entertainment Law Society (SELS) is looking for 1L and 2L representatives to help serve on the SELS board. SELS is a newer, active organization that tries to connect the student body with areas of law that coincide with both the sports and the entertainment industries. Please submit a paragraph expressing your interest and availability to SELS President, Nik Lofgren, or e-mail him at Niklas.lofgren22@gmail.com by September 22nd.

**PLANNING AHEAD:**

**Mock Trial Competition.** Attention all 2L Students! Are you interested in competing in the annual 2L Mock Trial Competition this fall? There will be an informational meeting on **Monday, September 8, at Noon, in the Riley Courtroom.** The Mock Trial Competition is a great opportunity to hone your trial skills while competing against your peers. No prior experience is required. Important announcements about dates and competition rules will be revealed at the meeting so make sure you are there. We will field all questions and concerns. If you cannot make the meeting but are still interested in the Mock Trial Competition, please contact either Alexis Aranda at alexisvaranda@gmail.com or Nik Lofgren at Niklas.lofgren22@gmail.com. *We look forward to seeing all 2Ls on September 8!*

**2L and 3L Volunteers Needed.** On **Tuesday, September 16, 2014,** the Winnebago County Bar Association (WCBA) will staff a booth at Academy Expo at the BMO Harris Center in Rockford, Illinois. The purpose of the Expo is to expose Rockford and Belvidere 9th grade students to a wide variety of career possibilities. Law student volunteers are needed to share their path to law school and answer questions from the students that visit the WCBA booth.

*Time Slots for Volunteers:* 9:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.; 10:45 a.m. to 12:06 p.m.; 12:06 pm. to 1:54 p.m.; and 1:54 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you are able to volunteer, please call the Office of Admissions at 815-753-8595 or e-mail Terea Turner at tturner@niu.edu.

**Public Interest Law Society.** The Public Interest Law Society (PILS) will be holding an informational meeting for all students interested in joining **on Wednesday, September 10th, at noon in Room 188. Lunch will be provided!** This meeting will be in conjunction with Delta Theta Phi which will also be presenting information. We look forward to seeing you there! For more information, contact Rikkilee Moser.
“MAKING TRACKS” WITH DEAN JENNIFER ROSATO PEREA:

- Had a great time talking to students and welcoming our community at the Dean’s Picnic!

- Met with Externship Coordinator Sheila Maloney about improving the externship application process, getting more information to students earlier, and expanding opportunities.

- Planning to focus more student recruiting efforts in Chicago, visiting space, and designing ad campaign featuring recent alums who practice in Chicago.

- Working to set goals with Greg Anderson for Office of Career Opportunities and Professional Development, including outreach to students and recent grads, 1L resume review, mentoring program, new professional development programs, and more job and internship opportunities.

- Training for Race Judicata in Chicago – September 4, 2014!

P.S. We are working on updating the cases in the Marshall Gallery – look for new items in a few weeks!

CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT AND COURSE OVERLOAD POLICIES:

Over the past few months, there have been some important changes in College of Law policy that increase the freedom of law students to make decisions with respect to outside employment and course selection. These changes have the accompanying (and presumably welcome) effect of reducing the paperwork required to be submitted by College of Law students.

The most important development is the abolition of the 20-hour-per-week employment restriction. As explained in an e-mail to all students on August 25, 2014, the faculty voted to rescind the 20-hour rule following an August 11 vote by the American Bar Association House of Delegates to remove the restriction from the ABA accreditation standards. Law students will therefore no longer be required to file employment certification forms each semester. As noted in the e-mail, however, the faculty strongly recommends that all students place primary emphasis on their law school classes and studies to maximize their academic success in law school and on the bar exam (particularly in view of plans to increase the Illinois bar cut score by eight points beginning July 2015). First-year students in particular are urged to treat the study of law as a full-time job, keeping all outside distractions such as employment and participation in student organizations and other outside activities to the minimum necessary to maintain financial viability and social and emotional health and balance.

Last winter, the faculty also voted to approve a change in the requirements for upper-level students taking more than 16 credit hours during a semester. Under the new policy, only students whose
cumulative grade point average is below 2.4 will be required to submit a petition to Associate Dean Coles for approval to take more than 16 hours. All students will, however, continue to be subject to the rule prohibiting registration for more than 18 hours a semester, for which no exceptions will be made. Any questions regarding the above changes should be directed to Dean Coles.

CLINICAL LAW PROGRAM STILL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS:

It’s not too late to sign up for a clinic. Please do not hesitate to contact a member of the clinical faculty if you would like additional information.

- Anita Maddali, Assistant Professor of Law and Director of Clinics, amaddali@niu.edu
- Paul Cain, Clinical Associate Professor, Juvenile Justice Clinic, pcain@niu.edu
- Wendy Vaughn, Clinical Assistant Professor, Civil Justice Clinic, wvaughn@niu.edu
- Colleen Boraca, Clinical Assistant Professor, Health Advocacy Clinic, cboraca@niu.edu
- Alan Boudreau, Visiting Clinical Assistant Professor Foreclosure Mediation Clinic, aboudreau@niu.edu

LAW LIBRARY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

Attention 2Ls and 3Ls. Beginning at the end of September, evening access to the law library will be by NIU OneCard in order to provide a law student, faculty and staff-only environment in the evenings. The door on the right as you enter the law library has been modified to provide this access. The door to the left will be locked at 6:00 p.m. each night; thus you will need your NIU OneCard to enter.

All students with the old NIU OneCard will need to get a new prox card. As long as you have your current working NIU OneCard there should be no charge associated with upgrading to a new prox card. If you do not have your NIU OneCard, the OneCard office will charge you a $25 lost card fee. Over the next couple of weeks, bring your current NIU OneCard to the OneCard office in the Holmes Student Center, identify yourself as a law student and ask for the prox card. The office is aware of this upgrade and has a list of all students. If you have a card that provides access to the student space on the north end of the building, you do not need to get a new card. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Professor Clarke at tclarke@niu.edu.

The Law Library will be open Monday, August 18, through Tuesday, November 25, 2014 as follows:

- Monday - Thursday - 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.*
- Friday - 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday - 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday - 12:00 noon - 11:30 p.m.
**Patron Conduct Policy.** The Law Library is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for its patrons and staff that is conducive to teaching, learning, study and research. Towards that end, we have revised and reorganized our patron conduct policy. For the full text of the policy, please see [http://law.niu.edu/law/library/policies_patron_conduct.shtml](http://law.niu.edu/law/library/policies_patron_conduct.shtml)

**Library Resources:**

- Online Research Center: [http://www.niu.edu/law/library/onlineresearchcenter.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/law/library/onlineresearchcenter.shtml)

Students should not hesitate to ask the law librarians or staff when they have a research question or any general questions while getting acclimated to law school. Thanks! ~ Heidi

**PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES:**

*Looking for Pro Bono Opportunities in Illinois?* If you are looking for pro bono opportunities, please visit [www.LawStudents.IllinoisProBono.org](http://www.LawStudents.IllinoisProBono.org). On that site, students can download a free app that offers three tools: (1) legal resources on Illinois law, (2) volunteer postings search, and (3) upcoming legal events, including MCLE training. The app is available for Apple and Android devices and bolsters volunteer work by offering a statewide search for volunteer opportunities, comprehensive manuals, articles, and a calendar of training sessions and events to support those opportunities. Download to your device today!

**EXTERNSHIPS:** The specialized Juvenile Court Externship will be available to students this fall and spring in DeKalb and Kane Counties. If you are interested in family or child law and wish to enroll in this experiential course, please contact Professor Lawrence Schlam at [lschlam@niu.edu](mailto:lschlam@niu.edu).
OFFICE OF BUDGET AND RECORDS:

Office Locations:
- Christina L. Raguse, Director, Office Budget & Records
  Room: SP281A2 (in Student Affairs Suite)
  E-mail: craguse@niu.edu
  Phone: 815-753-6580
- Julie Mahoney-Krzyzek, Office Manager
  Room: SP285 (across hall from elevator)
  E-mail: jmahoney@niu.edu
  Phone: 815-753-1620

Lockers:
- If you currently have a locker, that locker will be yours the entire time you are enrolled as a student here in the College of Law.
- If you do not have a locker and would like one, you must e-mail your request to Julie Mahoney-Krzyzek jmahoney@niu.edu. A locker will be assigned to you.
- If a locker that is not registered with our office is found to have a lock on it, the lock will be cut off and contents emptied out. Replacing any locks that have to be cut off for this purpose will be your responsibility.

Mailboxes:
- New mailboxes have been created for all students.
- These are for correspondence only. Do not put books, DVDs, clothing, etc. in them. There simply is not enough room for extra items, and it is very hard on the hanging files.
- If you had books, etc. in them over the summer, you can pick the items up in SP285.
- Please check your mailbox regularly and do not let items accumulate.

E-Mail:
- The NIU Z-E-mail address is the official e-mail for all students. Please check it frequently to ensure receipt of all official notices, especially if you have forwarded the Z-email to another address. Communications do not always forward as expected and can be lost, dumped into trash or blocked.

Reimbursement Process:
Purchases: For purchases on behalf of NIU College of Law events: Expenses must be approved by 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 must have 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 the appropriate required documentation.

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID:

Information Regarding Scholarships and Writing Competitions. Each year, there are a number of opportunities for students to obtain additional financial assistance to help pay for the costs of attending law school. In particular, many scholarships and writing competition prizes are available, and the number of students applying for many of them is often low (increasing the chances of success for individual applicants). For a list of these scholarship and writing competitions, see the file that is being e-mailed along-side this week’s edition of the Docket and is made available in separate copies on tables on the first and second floor of the law school. Do not miss the many opportunities available this Fall, as indicated in those listings. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid at 815-753-8595 or lawadm@niu.edu or stop by Room 151.

1L STUDENTS:

Do you need something to make your resume “stand out” at an interview? Impress NIU alums you meet at law firms? Not sure yet that you will enjoy the practice of law and would like a “back-up” plan? Need something to relieve stress for an hour or two each week while on campus? Then audition for the SCHLAM-TONES, the premiere a cappella vocal group at NIUCOL. If playing an instrument or singing in any context has left you with a good sense of pitch, rhythm, harmony – and the ability to “carry a tune” – contact Professor Schlam at lschlam@niu.edu for an informal audition. Due to present openings, preference will be given to basses, baritones and second tenors, but all potential singers, male or female, with these skills should audition.

The Docket is published every Monday by Associate Dean Kathleen Coles. Announcements for publication must be submitted to Lisa Hoebing in Room 276 or by e-mail to lhoebing@niu.edu no later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursdays.

HAPPY LABOR DAY!