Monday, Feb. 15  |  WLCs Cupid and Coffee, 8:00-10:00 a.m., Marshall Gallery  
Tuesday, Feb. 16 |  Annual Minority Reception, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Carnivale, Chicago, IL  
Wednesday, Feb. 17 |  Parentage Act of 2015 – What’s New? 12:00-1:00 p.m., Riley Courtroom  
|  Courtroom as Classroom Panel, 12:45-5:00 p.m., Federal Plaza, Chicago, IL  
Thursday, Feb. 18 |  Embracing Diversity Dinner, 7:00 p.m., Holmes Student Center University Suite  
Friday, Feb. 19 |  Last day for 3L Statements of Candidacy submissions  

**THIS WEEK**

*Women’s Law Caucus:* WLC’s Cupid and Coffee! Please join WLC on **Monday, February 15, from 8:00-10:00 a.m.** in the Marshall Gallery for some post-Valentine's coffee and doughnuts. $1 per item.

*Annual Minority Reception:* Interim Dean Mark Cordes and alumni host Vincent F. Cornelius ('89) cordially invite you attend the 13th Annual Minority Reception. Please join us as we present Richard Irvin ('98) and Doressia Hutton ('01) with Excellence in Service and Leadership Awards and honor retired Professor John Walton. The event will be held **Tuesday, February 16, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.** at Carnivale, 702 W. Fulton Street in Chicago. Please rsvp to lawevents@niu.edu or (815) 753-9655.

*ILSA and the Family Law Society:* The NIU Law International Law Students Association and the Family Law Society will jointly host attorney Margaret Bennett and her presentation of the "Parentage Act of 2015 - What's New?" Ms. Bennett is ranked in the top 100 national Super Lawyers. Lunch will be served and all are welcome. The event is scheduled on **Wednesday, February 17 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.** in the Riley Courtroom (Rm. 170).

*Courtroom as Classroom Panel:* The NIU College of Law is pleased to sponsor “Courtroom as Classroom,” a panel discussion intended for law students put on by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. The discussion will be held at the Chicago Federal Plaza on **Wednesday, February 17, from 12:45-5:00 p.m.** A bus to the event will leave the College of Law at 12:45 p.m. Please sign up in Greg Anderson's office (Room 280) for a spot on the bus.
Embracing Diversity Committee: The first Embracing Diversity Dinner will be hosted on Thursday, February 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the Holmes Student Center University Suite. The subject of the dinner discussion will be Stacey Dash's comments on Black History Month and whether that month is necessary. Our speakers will be Dr. LaVerne Gyant, Director, Center for Black Studies and Professor Joseph Flynn, Department of Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations. Please sign up in Greg's office (Room 280). Spaces are limited as we want to have a round table discussion on the issues presented!

PLANNING AHEAD

First-Year Professionalism Program: The NIU College of Law will host a presentation in its first-year student professionalism program on Wednesday, February 24, at 4:00 p.m. The program is intended to integrate professionalism into the law school curriculum, in response to the growing recognition that law students (and lawyers) need more guidance in professionalism to further the highest values of the profession. The series consists of lectures featuring nationally recognized legal practitioners and scholars discussing cutting-edge issues. The presentations are designed for first-year students at the College of Law, but are open to the public. Locations for these presentations will be announced soon.

State's Attorney/Public Defender Panel: Join special guests currently practicing as state's attorneys and public defenders for this panel discussion and Q & A about how best to pursue these rewarding careers after law school. The panel will be held on Wednesday, February 24, at 5:30 p.m. in Room 150.

NIU Leadership Academy Event: The NIU Pucino Leadership Series is sponsoring a program by Michael Allosso entitled “You OnYour Best Day” that presents 35 “secret weapons” for being at your best and most successful every day of the week. The program is open to all junior, senior and graduate students at NIU, including law students. The program will be held on Tuesday, March 1, from 6:00- 8:00 pm in the Barsema Alumni & Visitors Center. Check-in begins at 5:00 p.m. Attendance is free but you must register by Wednesday, February 24, at go.niu.edu/pucino. For more information, call 815-753-5088.

Interview Boot Camp: PAD, Delta and BLSA are hosting an interview boot camp on Thursday, February 25, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Marshall Gallery. Please sign up by Tuesday, February 23, in Greg Anderson's office (Room 280).

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW OPPORTUNITY

Rural Summer Legal Corps Stipends Available: Equal Justice Works has announced a Rural Summer Legal Corps program designed to connect law students interested in public interest law with civil legal aid organizations devoted to addressing legal issues facing rural communities. There are 31 positions available for this summer, focused on building legal skills in areas such as direct legal services, outreach
and education, and capacity building. Applications for the open positions are due by February 29. Participants must complete 300 hours of service by August 31, 2016 to be eligible to receive a $4000 stipend. For more information, see www.rurallegalcorps.org.

FROM THE LAW LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Spring 2016 Announcements: Please let us know if there is anything that we can do to make your studying and research more comfortable in the law library. We always look forward to assisting you with any research requests at the reference desk. You should never hesitate to email us or stop by if you are struggling with a research issue or sources while conducting research this term. Also keep in mind:

- Our “Mindfulness and the Law” display at the entrance of the law library or available virtually (http://niu.beta.libguides.com/lawlibdisplays) -- when you need a break from your studying in January.

- Our virtual reference service. Please email your questions to lawreference@niu.edu, and a reference librarian will promptly reply to your research requests during our regular reference hours.

- The current books alcove, popular reading collection, and new periodicals display as you enter the law library. We offer comfortable seating near the books and journals, so you may peruse recent issues at your leisure. Happy reading!

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND RECORDS

May 2016 Graduates:

- If you have not done so already, please email Julie Mahoney-Krzyzek (jmahoney@niu.edu) ASAP to set up an appointment to complete your Statement of Candidacy. This is your first step in applying for graduation, and must be completed by February 19. The second step of the process will be to apply online. This must be done between February 22 and February 29.

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 members.
• **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](http://weather.admin.niu.edu/contact/subscribe.shtml) 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.

The university also provides detailed (and often entertaining) weather forecasts from university meteorologist, Gilbert Sebenste, on a regular basis during the semester. To see what information is available and subscribe for regular weather updates by e-mail, you should go to [http://weather.admin.niu.edu/contact/subscribe.shtml](http://weather.admin.niu.edu/contact/subscribe.shtml).

*****

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

---

**Presidents’ Day: February 15**