NIU LAW
DOCKET

February 22, 2016 Volume 22 Number 21

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<th>Monday, Feb. 22</th>
<th>3Ls begin to submit online Applications for Graduation</th>
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<td>Tuesday, Feb. 23</td>
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| Wednesday, Feb. 24 | Russell Slifer Patent Law presentation, Noon, Riley Courtroom  
                     Law Review Informational Meeting, Noon, Room 188  
                     1L Professionalism Program, 4:00-5:15 p.m., Holmes Student Center Regency Room  
                     State’s Attorney/Public Defender Panel, 5:30 p.m., Room 150  
                     Deadline to sign-up for the NIU Leadership Academy Event |
| Thursday, Feb. 25 | Interview Boot Camp, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Marshall Gallery  
                    The Realities of Human Trafficking, 12:00-1:00 p.m., Room 188 |
| Friday, Feb. 26  |                                                        |

**THIS WEEK**

**Student Bar Association:** On Wednesday, February 24, from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in the Riley Courtroom, the College of Law and the NIU Law Student Bar Association welcome NIU Law alumnus Russell Slifer (’94), deputy director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Mr. Slifer will discuss his career as a patent attorney, his rise to the top of the U.S. PTO, and the inner-workings of the office. All are welcome, and lunch will be provided.

**Law Review Informational Meeting:** On Wednesday, February 24, from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in Room 188, come find out how to join law review. Learn how to complete the first step of the law review write-on process, ask any questions you may have and enjoy free lunch. For more information, email Scott Hall, Managing Editor, at Shall2@niu.edu.

**First-Year Professionalism Program:** Reminder: The Introduction to the Legal Profession class meets next Wednesday, February 24, from 4:00-5:15 p.m. The Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism will be facilitating a program on the Multi-Generational Workplace. **The program will be located in the Regency Room in the Holmes Student Center.** All first-year students are required to attend.
**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 On Your 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.

**Lawyers Opposing Violence Everywhere:** LOVE is hosting Human Trafficking Awareness Week from Monday, February 22 through Thursday, February 25. In bins in the Marshall Gallery, we will be collecting bags/purses and filling them with donated items such as toilet paper, office supplies, hygiene/feminine products, shampoo/conditioner/toothbrush/toothpaste, cleaning supplies, baby wipes and diapers, etc. All donated items will be given to the Chicago Dream Center. On **Thursday, February 25, from noon to 1:00 p.m. in Room 188,** the Chicago Dream Center presents “The Realities of Human Trafficking.” Lunch will be provided!

**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).

**PLANNING AHEAD**

**Research Assistant Wanted:** Professor Widman is looking for a research assistant for next year. Applicants should be able to do some work over the summer (with hours during the academic semester accordingly reduced). This position is especially suited to students who have some experience and/or interest in public law and legislation. Professor Widman’s main research focus over the next year is a large empirical study examining state attorneys general enforcement of consumer protection laws. Experience with Excel and/or working with large datasets is a plus. Please submit a current resume (including your year, current GPA, and class rank, if known), an unofficial law school transcript, and a brief letter of interest to Professor Widman **by noon on Thursday, March 3.** Applications must be submitted in hard copy, not electronically.
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](http://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 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:**

- Important reminder to all 3Ls! **Your online Application for Graduation must be submitted this month 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

**Lawyer’s Assistance Program:** The Lawyers’ Assistance Program (LAP) is a non-profit organization founded to help Illinois lawyers, judges, law students and their families cope with substance abuse or mental health problems (broadly defined to include stress, anxiety and depression). LAP’s services are provided at no cost to those who contact them and include education, counseling, referral, peer assistance and intervention. Many counseling and support services are provided by current or former attorneys who have shared the experiences and pressures of being a law student. Law students can call LAP for assistance for themselves and for their classmates and can also ask LAP for help with questions about how to deal with character and fitness issues. All client interactions with LAP are held in strict confidence under Illinois Supreme Court Rule 1.6. For more information about LAP and its services, call 800.LAP.1233 or 312.726.6614 or email them at gethelp@illinoislap.org. Information is also available on LAP’s website (www.illinoislap.org) or from Associate Dean Coles (Room 276).

**Rescheduling Exams:** In general, mid-term 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.

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The Docket is published every Monday by Associate Dean Kathleen Coles