THIS WEEK

**Black Law Students Association**: BLSA will have its first meeting on **Tuesday, September 15, at noon in Room 150** for anyone who is interested in becoming a BLSA member. Please join us to discuss our plans for this year. Lunch will be provided.

BLSA is also looking for 1L representatives from both sections 1 and 2. If you are interested please submit a paragraph stating your interest by **Friday, September 18, at 5:00 p.m.**

**Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)**: We are reviving the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund organization. Please join us on **Wednesday September 16, at noon in Room 150**, when we will be picking board members and such. Bring your lunch. This will be a great way to get active in the local animal community. Contact Nicole O’Connor if you have any questions. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

**Professionalism and Ethics Society**: PES will be holding an informational meeting regarding the MPRE on **Tuesday, September 15, from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. in Room 188**.

**Constitution Day Panel**: The College of Law will recognize Constitution Day, **Thursday, September 17**, by presenting a panel discussion on recent and upcoming United States Supreme Court cases. Panelists will include NIU College of Law faculty. The entire university community is invited to attend at noon in the Riley Courtroom, at Swen Parson Hall.
ABA Networking Opportunity: The Tax Section of the American Bar Association is holding its 2015 meeting in Chicago on September 17, 18 and 19, 2015, and has invited NIU law students who are members of the section to attend. The meeting will take place at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, 301 East North Water Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601.

ABA membership, section membership and conference registration are all free to current law students, and you are encouraged to participate. More information about joining the ABA and the Tax Section is available on the ABA web site. Registration information and forms are also available online. If you would like copies of the meeting invitation and a description of the benefits of joining the Tax Section, contact Lisa Hoebing in Room 276 (lhoebing@niu.edu).

SBA Welcome Back Bar Crawl: For law students, aged 21 and older only. Join the SBA for a semester-opening party on Friday, September 18. Meet up with your fellow students and enjoy the best night life DeKalb has to offer! Stops on the crawl include:

- Lord Stanley's 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- O'Leary's 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
- Hometown Sports Bar & Grille 10:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
- Molly's 11:00 p.m. – Midnight

Bus transportation will be available to Molly's. For your safety, remember you can contact Molly's Bus Service at (815) 997-3013 or the Huskie Safe Line at http://niu.edu/publicsafety/huskie-safe-line for your trip home.

LOOKING AHEAD:

Bridge to Practice Externship (Chicago and Springfield): An informational meeting will be held on Monday, September 21, from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in Room 258. Lunch will be served. Come learn about these unique opportunities and how you can spend a semester in Chicago or Springfield as a 3L while earning all your credit hours and bridging the gap between school and practice! For questions about this meeting, please contact Prof. Sheila Maloney at smaloney@niu.edu. To learn more about the externships, please see the NIU web site.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS NEEDED:

Research Assistant Opening: Professor Heidi Kuehl is seeking an RA (with full tuition waiver) for the fall and spring terms to assist with law faculty research projects. Please email Professor Kuehl at hkuehl@niu.edu if you are interested. Interviews will be conducted with interested candidates in the next week or two.
Research Assistant Needed: Wendy Vaughn, Clinical Associate Professor, seeks a full-time Research Assistant for 2015-2016. The Research Assistant will receive a full-tuition waiver for academic year 2015-2016. The Research Assistant will not be required to come to the clinic in Rockford. Meetings regarding research assignments will be arranged with Professor Vaughn on Mondays on campus, or at other agreed upon times.

To apply please send the following materials to Professor Vaughn at wvaughn@niu.edu, or fax to 815-962-9984:

- a cover letter,
- resume, and
- an unofficial transcript

In order to expedite the application process and the tuition waiver, please apply as soon as possible. A decision will be made on a rolling basis as applications are received.

Judicial Externship Opportunity: A new judicial externship position is available with Bankruptcy Judge Thomas Lynch of the Federal Bankruptcy Court in Rockford.

- The Externship Program for the Western Division of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois provides participants with the opportunity to work with a federal bankruptcy judge and his staff at the United States Courthouse in Rockford, Illinois for one or two days a week during the 2015-2016 academic year.

- Externs will observe and participate in the work of chamber’s staff by reviewing legal submissions, conducting legal research, and assisting with the preparation of legal documents, such as orders. Program participants may also assist chamber’s staff with various office functions, including proofreading, telephone communications, correspondence and scheduling. Externs will be encouraged to observe trials and other courtroom proceedings and attend pretrial settlement and mediation conferences. This posting closes on September 24, 2015 for the Fall 2015 semester and December 4, 2016 for the Spring 2016 semester. Please see the full posting on the NIU Law website.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND RECORDS:

Attention December 2015 Graduates:

- If you are planning on graduating at the end of the Fall 2015 semester, please contact Julie Mahoney-Krzyzek (SP285) and make an appointment to complete your Statement of Candidacy. Appointments will begin October 1, 2015. This is the first of a two-step process for applying for graduation. You will be given instructions on the second step when you meet with Julie. Both steps must be completed by October 31, 2015.
**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. No locker exchanges will be made without verification of medical necessity.
- If you do not have a locker and would like one, you *must email* 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 removed. 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 found inside the front entrance of the Law Library.
- These mail folders 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.
- *Please check your mailbox regularly and do not let items accumulate.*

**Email:**

- The NIU Z-email address is the official email for all students. You are responsible for all notices and other communications sent to that address regardless of whether or not you opened and read them. Please check your Z-email 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 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.
LAW LIBRARY:

What's new this Fall? Lots!

Space and Collection Changes: Over the Summer the law library staff, assisted by NIU carpenters, painters, carpet-layers, janitorial staff and a host of others, have worked hard to give the library a fresh new look with improved floor plans, collection layouts, collaborative and quiet study areas, service points, and more. Changes include:

- New carpet throughout the library
- New tables & chairs that can be easily moved for collaborations
- New portable whiteboards
- Enlarged study carrels in the South Wing
- New informal seating areas near the entrance and in the North Wing
- New artwork from the NIU Art Museum's collections
- Combined Circulation & Reference desks for "one stop shopping"
- New Browseable Reserves collection: popular study aids and other materials are now out on open shelves instead of kept behind the Circulation Desk
- The top 20 U.S. law reviews & practitioner journals are also out on open shelves for easier browsing
- IICLEs, the Illinois Practice Series, and Nutshells have their own designated areas instead of being scattered throughout the collection
- Foreign, international and comparative law materials are now all in the North Wing
- Most large federal sets are now in the North Wing
- The South Wing is now designated a Quiet Study area
- And last but not least, a new (mobile-friendly!) website

Please stop by the library to check out all the changes! We’ll look forward to seeing everyone throughout the Fall 2015 term.

Changes in Law Library Hours: In response to increasing traffic from students during the morning hours, the law library will now be open at 7:30 a.m. (Monday-Friday). The full listing of revised hours is on the law library’s website.

One-Card Access: Having trouble accessing the law library with your OneCard (after 6:00 p.m.)? Please contact Professor Clarke (tclarke@niu.edu) to report your OneCard issue, and she will work on getting it fixed.

Enjoy the start to your Fall term and just let the law librarians and staff know if there is anything that we might do to make your studying more comfortable or to assist with your research! ~ Professor Kuehl
UNIFORM BAR EXAM PROPOSAL: In a release dated September 10, 2015, the UBE Sub-Committee of the Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar invited comments on a proposal to replace the current Illinois Bar Examination with the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE), a multistate bar exam prepared by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE). Additional information about the UBE is available on the NCBE website.

******

The Docket is published every Monday by Associate Dean Kathleen Coles