THIS WEEK

Bridge to Practice Externship (Chicago and Springfield): An informational meeting will be held on Monday, September 21, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. in Room 258. Pizza 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 Professor Sheila Maloney at smaloney@niu.edu. To learn more about the externships, please see the NIU web site under Academics – Experiential Learning.

Professionalism and Ethics Society: PES will hold a "1L ask-advise meeting" on Tuesday, September 22, at noon in Room 188. Please come with your professionalism and ethics questions and get them answered by experienced law students.

NIU Law Public Interest Panel: All NIU Law students are invited to attend a panel discussion on Wednesday, September 23, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. in the Riley Courtroom (Room 170). Come learn about public interest law, the many facets of this area, and how to get involved with particular organizations such as Prairie State Legal Services, World Relief, Administer Justice, and Illinois Legal Aid Online. Food will be provided.

Women's Law Caucus: The WLC will hold an informational meeting on Thursday, September 24, from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. in Room 188. Come find out who your mentor/mentee is for the WLC Breakfast Mixer (which is next Thursday, October 1st). Learn more about WLC, meet our board, and find out about our available 1L Rep positions!
LOOKING AHEAD:

Women's Law Caucus Mentor/Mentee Breakfast Mixer: Please join us for the Women's Law Caucus Breakfast Mentor/Mentee Mixer on Thursday, October 1, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Thurgood Marshall Gallery. Meet your mentor and get started on your plan for getting through law school. Enjoy complimentary juice, coffee, donuts, and pastries!

Elder Law Networking Opportunity. The Illinois Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (Naela) invites law students to attend their Unprogram, a twice-annual, one-day informal and very informative program on topics in elder law. Included will be discussions of retirement and other benefits, Medicaid, special needs planning, nursing home contract review, estate planning, guardianships, and legislative developments. The Unprogram will be held on Friday, October 2, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the DePaul O’Hare campus, 8770 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Chicago, IL 60631. The student fee for attendance is a special rate of $50, which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Additional program information and registration materials are available at http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eb4zd07q13c4bf58&llr=c9shxbabon

Invitation to Mass and Reception: NIU Law students have been invited by the Catholic Lawyer’s Guild to attend this year’s Red Mass in Chicago, followed by a reception honoring Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart for his work in helping the mentally ill, encouraging restorative justice and helping eradicate human trafficking. The mass will be held on Tuesday, October 6, at 5:15 p.m. at Holy Name Cathedral, 735 North State Street, and the reception will follow at Loyola University, 111 East Pearson, 16th floor, both in Chicago. For further information or to RSVP to attend, follow the prompts at www.chicagoredmass.org or contact Patti Zimmerman (zimmerman.patricia@gmail.com).

EMPLOYMENT AND EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Law Library Circulation Desk Assistant: The law library is currently looking for a law student to work at the circulation desk Saturdays and some weekday hours depending upon schedules and the library’s needs. Interested students should contact Pam Sampson (psampson@niu.edu or 815-753-0507) at the Circulation Desk in the Law Library. Review of applications will begin September 25, 2015. If you have any questions regarding the position, please see Pam or Professor Clarke.

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.

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
*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 “UNPUBLISHED”:** The UBE Sub-Committee of the Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar has rescinded its September 10 invitation for comments on a proposal to replace the current Illinois Bar Examination with the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE). No reasons were given for the decision.

*****

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

---

Clip art courtesy of Bing.com