NIU COLLEGE OF LAW
MENTORING PROGRAM

MISSION OF THE NIU LAW MENTORING PROGRAM
The mission of the NIU Law School Mentoring Program is to promote professional relationships between students and alumni on an individual basis. Mentors will be asked to introduce first-year students to the legal profession in several ways, including: (1) realistic advice about the practice of law, (2) meaningful career advice, (3) exposure to the courts and law offices, (4) socialization and networking with the legal community, and (5) demonstrating professional values and ethics.

WHAT DOES A MENTOR HAVE TO DO?
We recognize that mentors are busy professionals. While we encourage additional contact between mentors and mentees, mentors commit each semester to coordinate a minimum of one “in person” professional activity (suggestions below) and one additional conference (in person or by telephone) with their mentee. For the most part, when a mentor believes the mentee could learn from any part of the mentor’s work day, the mentor is simply asked to invite the mentee along. Here are some suggested activities to consider planning with your mentee:

- a court hearing, trial, or public meeting that you attend in the course of your practice;
- a Continuing Legal Education event (if it is of little or no cost);
- a professional society, committee, or bar association meeting in which you are involved;
- a morning, afternoon, or even a day, where the mentee can "shadow" your activities and experience a typical work experience;
- a tour of your office, to see what type of facilities and resources your practice requires; or
- a session to discuss course work or teachers, or possibly to suggest the best class selection for your area of law.

HOW DO I VOLUNTEER TO BE A MENTOR?
Simply fill out a Mentor Application form. Feel free to contact Greg Anderson, Director of Career Opportunities and Development at ganderson@niu.edu or (815) 753-9604 with any questions.
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MENTOR APPLICATION

NAME: ____________________________________________________________

BUSINESS/FIRM NAME AND ADDRESS:

______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

BUSINESS PHONE: _______________________________________________

BUSINESS E-MAIL: _______________________________________________

PRACTICE AREAS: _______________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

BAR/GROUP MEMBERSHIPS: _______________________________________

______________________________________________________________

IF POSSIBLE, WE MAY BE ABLE TO MATCH YOU WITH A STUDENT
Who has indicated a special interest in working with a
mentor who has identified him/her as a member of a
special group (e.g. second-career students; married
students; students with children; students of color;
lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender students; women.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SUCH A MATCH, PLEASE TELL US
WHICH GROUP(S): _____________________________________________

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:

GREG C. ANDERSON - CAREER OPPORTUNITIES & DEVELOPMENT
NIU COLLEGE OF LAW

FAX: (815) 753-4501 OR E-MAIL: GANDERSON@NIU.EDU

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND COMMITMENT TO OUR
STUDENTS!