PRE-LAW WELCOMES TRACEY LEE

This semester, the Office of Pre-Law Advising welcomed a new coordinator, Tracey Lee, J.D. Tracey graduated summa cum laude from K-State in 2008 with a B.S. in Philosophy. She earned her law degree from the University of Texas in 2011, where she graduated with honors, served on the editorial board of the Texas Law Review, and participated in pro bono work on the Gulf Coast and in the Rio Grande Valley. Tracey practiced complex commercial litigation in Houston, Texas before returning to Manhattan, Kansas in 2014. Tracey worked in private practice in Manhattan and served as chambers counsel to the Honorable Melissa Standridge on the Kansas Court of Appeals before accepting the position to coordinate the Office of Pre-Law Advising in August 2018. Tracey loves working with students to make sure they have all the tools they need to prepare for a successful legal career!

Please contact Tracey (traceylee@ksu.edu) if you are interested in engaging with the Pre-Law program as a legal speaker, mentor, donor, or in any other way!

WELCOME NEW AMBASSADORS

Pre-law Ambassadors welcomed twelve new members this year: Thayne Benoit, freshman in mass communications; Ryan Berry, sophomore in business administration; Hannah Bretz, sophomore in philosophy; Cadence Ciesielski, freshman in philosophy, Spanish minor; Paul Feighner, junior in economics and business administration, political science minor; Lexi Finley, sophomore in political science; Leah Gaines, junior in architectural engineering; Taylor Snider, sophomore in communication studies; Gabby Stein, junior in political science; Makaela Stevens, freshman in English; Madeleine Stobbs, junior in marketing; and Ashley Werth, sophomore in communication studies. Pre-Law Ambassadors host legal speakers, panels, and events on campus and represent the program to current and prospective pre-law students.

2018 LAW FAIR

In September, we hosted 55 law schools from across the nation in the K-State Alumni Center ballroom. Over 100 pre-law students attended the event and met with law school representatives. We are looking forward to seeing where our graduating seniors attend law school next year!
In early September, we kicked off the fall semester with a successful meeting of the Pre-Law Advisory Council. The Council is a prestigious group of alumni, judges, law school deans, practitioners, and philanthropists who are interested in supporting and strengthening the Pre-Law program. We welcomed two new members to the Council this year: Mr. Rene Tatro, partner at Tatro Tekosky Sadwick, LLP in Los Angeles, California, and Dean Carla Pratt at Washburn Law School. Returning members are: Amy Bipes, Esq.; Hon. Henry W. Green; Ms. Julie Hostetler; Kelsey Moran, Esq.; Audrey Mross, Esq.; Hon. Maritza Segarra; Scott Smalley, Esq.; Hon. Meryl D. Wilson; and Dean Stephen Mazza. Thank you to Elizabeth Kronk Warner, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs at KU Law School, for joining this year’s meeting as well.

The Advisory Council provided ideas, energy, guidance, and resources to help the Pre-Law office continue to grow. We are excited to see what the next year brings!

PRE-LAW STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Miranda Moore, a senior in Communication Studies and Political Science, serves as the President of Pre-Law Ambassadors and helps teach our Law & Society class. Miranda is a leader in K-State’s student government, honors program, Alpha Delta Pi sorority, and serves in Blue Key Honor Society. In 2016, Miranda attended the Fulbright Summer Institute where she studied at Kings College London. She has interned for U.S. Senator Jerry Moran in Washington D.C., and Kansas Senator Anthony Hensley in Topeka, Kansas. Miranda was a finalist for the prestigious Mitchell Scholarship this year. She plans to pursue a legal career in public policy and aspires to attend law school on the east coast. “Being connected to the pre-law program gave me people I trust to guide me through my undergraduate experience, making decisions that make the most sense for the legal career I want to pursue, instead of being overwhelmed by the vast amounts of conflicting advice you can get from friends, the internet, or even people you barely know. Within the K-State pre-law program, you can find a community of students that identify with whatever stage of pre-law you are going through, while also providing opportunities to network with attorneys that want to help you from across the nation.”

KS SUPREME COURT VISITS MANHATTAN

In September, the Kansas Supreme Court held a special session at Manhattan High School as part of its ongoing outreach to familiarize Kansans with the high court, its work, and the overall role of the Kansas judiciary. Over 400 community members attended the hearings! The Pre-Law office hosted Supreme Court Justice Marla Luckert and Chief Judge Kim Cudney of the 12th Judicial District to guest lecture in a Constitutional Law class before the hearings. We also partnered with the Kansas Women Attorneys Association to host Justice Luckert and Carol Beier at a reception following the hearings. Students enjoyed meeting the Justices and seeing our judicial branch in action!

GRADUATING SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Olivia Haney will graduate in December 2018 with a B.S. in Chemistry and Natural Resources and Environment Science. Olivia will begin her career as an environmental scientist at Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City in March 2019. She is eager to get on-the-job experience with environmental regulatory issues before pursuing a law degree. Olivia hopes to practice in environmental law and human rights. Olivia’s best memory in the pre-law program is the support she received from her advisers and peers. “I took a relatively non-traditional route through the program, but was met with nothing but encouragement and advice from everyone I had the opportunity to work with!” Olivia has served as the Student Worker in the Pre-Law office and as the Social Chair for Pre-Law Ambassadors.

INVEST IN PRE-LAW AT K-STATE

This semester, we launched the Daralyn Gordon Arata Pre-Law Excellence Fund in honor of the woman who built this program to what it is today. The DGA Fund will provide ongoing support for the programs to which Daralyn devoted her career at K-State. The DGA Fund will prioritize experiential learning, a cornerstone of the program will be a Pre-Law visit to Washington, D.C., where students can meet with alumni attorneys, learn about legal practice areas in both the private and public sectors, and tour law schools. In addition, the DGA Fund will support local trips that emphasize legal opportunities across Kansas—in both rural and urban areas—another significant contribution Daralyn made to the program.

If you would like to contribute to the Daralyn Gordon Arata Pre-Law Excellence Fund, you can do so online (give.evertrue.com/ksu/pre-law) or by sending a check to the Kansas State University Foundation, 1800 Kimball Ave., Suite 200, Manhattan, KS 66502-3373 – be sure to include #C17050.