LAW SCHOOL PREPARATION

This semester, Pre-Law students were busy preparing for summer LSAT exams. The Pre-Law office tried something new: we hosted an LSAT study class for a group of students taking the June or July exams. The class met twice a week, alternating between group study classes and LSAT instruction from Amethyst Matthews, a K-State/KU Law alum who works as an environmental attorney in Manhattan. The class included three proctored practice exams: one at the beginning of the class, a midpoint test, and a final test. The Philosophy Department also offered a one-week logic workshop to all pre-law students. Students in the LSAT study class gained an average of 6.5 points on the LSAT from the beginning to the end of class, and the highest score from the pre-test to the post-test rose from 154 to 167! Students in the class reported that the class was very helpful in setting a study schedule, providing resources, and building community within the cohort of students planning to apply to law school for the fall 2020 term. Good luck to all summer LSAT exam-takers, who will be navigating the transition from the paper to the digital LSAT!

TRIPS

K-State Pre-Law students enjoyed several trips around the state this semester to increase their legal knowledge. We visited both KU and Washburn law schools. Students toured the schools, sat in on law classes, had lunch with admissions personnel, talked with career services officers, and received advice from panels of current students.

In March, a group of students visited Husch Blackwell LLC in Kansas City. Liam Reilly, associate at the firm and K-State Pre-Law alum, hosted us. Liam introduced us to K-State attorneys at the firm: Kris Kappel, Nathan Oleen, Jordan Bergkamp, Christina Pyle, and Reagan Kays. We learned about several private practice areas, toured the firm, and asked many questions. Sam Smith, senior in Philosophy, said, “I find it often hard to fully understand what it looks like to be a part of a law firm or live as a lawyer, and I thought everyone at Husch Blackwell helped me get a better idea of what that life consists of.”

In May, students joined the KU LEAD program to visit the Kansas Supreme Court.

We observed morning arguments—four cases ranging from criminal sentencing issues to child in need of care cases. We had lunch with Chief Justice Nuss and Justices Beier and Stegall, at which students asked questions about the Justices’ education and legal practice, judicial philosophies, and advice to undergraduates.

AMBASSADORS

This Spring, the Pre-Law Ambassadors elected a new Executive Board: Madeline Ames, junior in Philosophy and Political Science, as President; Taylor Snider, sophomore in Communication Studies, as Vice President; Ashley MacDonald, junior in Anthropology, as Treasurer; and Gabrielle Stein, junior in Political Science, as Secretary. The board is moving the Ambassadors forward in exciting new directions: they are planning an alumni event, trips to more law schools, and many new speakers. Many thanks to these exceptional students for their leadership!

LSAT & APPLICATIONS: BY THE NUMBERS

1-on-1 Meetings with KU Law, Washburn Law, and Nebraska Law
2 Law School Visits
3 Practice Proctored LSATs
4-day Philosophy Logic Workshop
6-week LSAT Class
12th Annual Charlie & Julie Hostetter KU Law Dinner with the Dean

Legal Speakers

March 26, 2019
Intellectual Property & Internships
Chris Brandt, KSU Research Foundation; Ken Williams and Sarah Notting, KSU Institute for Commercialization

April 2, 2019
Mock Law Class
KU Law Assistant Dean of Faculty and Professor of Law, Lumen Mulligan

April 11, 2019
Labor & Employment Law
Audrey Mross, Partner, Munck, Wilson & Mandala, Dallas, TX

April 22, 2019
Environmental Litigation
Mikel Stout, Senior Partner, Foulston Siefkin, LLP, Wichita, KS
Introduction to Trial Advocacy is a class in the K-State Communication Studies’ Legal Communications focus. It is a hands-on introduction to basic techniques attorneys use to develop and present a persuasive case. Taught by Adjunct Professor and Fort Riley Prosecutor Amy Bipes, the course brings modern trial technology to the classroom and presents students with many real-world opportunities. This semester, Cade Ciesielki, freshman in Philosophy, was recognized as the top trial presenter in the class. “Taking COMM 260 was a great decision because it allowed me to present a mock trial in an actual courtroom as well as develop strong relationships with my peers and instructors,” Ciesielki said.

Communication Studies also recognized the K-State Mock Trial Team, which advanced to Regionals this year. Elyssa Kohler, senior in Psychology, was awarded Mock Trial Team Witness of the Year, and Tom McClain, sophomore in Economics and Biology, was awarded Mock Trial Team Attorney of the Year.

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

*Audrey Mross and Kali Hague Recognized as Alumni Fellows*

Since 1983, each college at K-State has selected a distinguished alum to be an Alumni Fellow for the year. This year, two pre-law alumni were selected! Audrey Mross, member of the K-State Pre-Law Advisory Council and Labor & Employment attorney in Dallas, is the Fellow for the College of Business Administration and Kali Hague, business and aviation attorney at JetLaw, is the Fellow for the College of Technology and Aviation!

**JOIN WILDCATLINK!**

*WildcatLink is a K-State Resource with the objective of connecting K-State students, faculty & staff, and alumni & friends for career-related support. The Pre-Law Program plans to create a robust Alumni network for our students to promote mentoring and communication. WildcatLink is easy to join:*

1. Create an account using your K-State eID, email, Facebook, or Linkedin
2. Click on the Groups tab
3. Request to join The Office of Pre-Law Advising group
4. Browse the Pre-Law network and resources available through the website

**INVEST IN PRE-LAW AT K-STATE**

This year, 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 prioritize experiential learning for pre-law students, supporting national and local trips to law schools, courts, firms, and offices where students can expand their legal network and knowledge. If you would like to contribute to the Daralyn Gordon Arata Pre-Law Excellence Fund, you can do so online (http://give.evertrue.com/ksu/prelaw) 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.