

Drake Law Announcements

February 12, 2025

A Conversation with Malycki Manon-Sosa, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director of the Iowa State Bar Association – Feb. 24

Join us for a Noon Conversation with Malycki Manon-Sosa, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director of the Iowa State Bar Association, sponsored by the Drake Equity and Inclusion Committee and the Student Bar Association. Malycki will share insights into the Iowa State Bar Association's efforts to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion, followed by an open Q&A. **Monday, Feb. 24 at Noon in the Faculty Staff Lounge.** Pizza will be provided. We hope to see you there!

Candygrams available for Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is just around the corner and you can send a full-size Hershey's bar for \$2 to someone you care about with some help from BLSA and the OUTLaws this year. Check out the attached flyer or follow this [link](#) to sign up.

Youth Law Society Panel Discussion – Mon., February 17 @ 5:30 p.m.

Drake Law's Youth Law Society has put together a great panel for a discussion on Mon., February 17 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The panel includes: Chief Justice Susan Christensen, Prof. Nickole Miller, Abigail Sinclair (therapist) and attorneys, Serena Holthe, Katie Kurt, Dawnelle Schlagel and Lora McCollom. Please see the attached flyer. Food will be provided so please RSVP to [Abby Sheffer](#) or [Samantha Ruhland](#).

Need a break? Like basketball? Here's a chance to go to a game with Dean Jones!

Dean Jones will be going to the men's basketball game on Wed., February 19. The game is against the University of Illinois - Chicago and the tip off is at 6:30 p.m. He'll also be attending the women's game against Missouri State on Sat., February 22 that has a 2 p.m. tip off. Admission is free for students with your Drake ID, but you do need to sign up [here](#).

A limited number of free tickets are also available for faculty and staff to attend. Faculty and staff should contact Sara Hughes (<mailto:sara.hughes@drake.edu>) for their free ticket.

Attention 3Ls – You are eligible to apply for the Order of the Barristers

The Order of the Barristers application period will open on Monday, Feb. 10 at 8 a.m. and close on Monday, Feb. 17 at 5 p.m. The National Order of the Barristers is an organization that recognizes students who have made outstanding contributions to the advocacy programs and demonstrated skill in oral advocacy while in law school. Drake Law School has twelve positions, and they are only available to graduating 3Ls (this includes members of the class of 2025 who graduated in December 2024) and are voted on by all members of the Moot Court Board, appellate teams, mock trial teams, and skills teams. The honorees will be announced at the Moot Court Banquet on Wednesday, April 2 at 6 p.m. in Kern commons. **Applications were emailed to all eligible students at 8 a.m. on Monday, Feb.10.**

Get Ready for an Inspiring Fireside Chat with Legal Leaders in Corporate America!

The second session of the *Dean's Speaker Series on Leadership in the Legal Profession* is fast approaching, and you won't want to miss it! Join us on **Thursday, Feb. 27 at 3 p.m.** in Cartwright Hall, Room 213, for a thought-provoking fireside chat with two influential leaders in the corporate world:

Natalie Lamarque, Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary at Principal Financial Group

Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., MA'91, JD'92, President & CEO of SHRM

Dean Jones will facilitate a discussion on the role of lawyers in corporate leadership, navigating challenges, developing key skills for success, and more. Panelists will share valuable insights, strategies, and their personal journeys to the top. The presentation will be followed by a reception in Kern Commons. [Please click here to register to attend.](#)

Have lunch with Dean Jones!

Dean Jones wants to get to know even more of the student body – yes, that means **YOU!** If you didn't have a chance to eat lunch with him during the fall semester, please check your schedule and sign up to have lunch this semester. This is a brownbag lunch so, you'll bring your own lunch and eat with him along with the other deans.

The dates are:

- Monday, March 3 from 12 – 1 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 25 from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Thursday, April 24 from 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Hopefully one will work around your class and work schedule.

Space is limited to ten (10) students for each lunch. Outlook meeting invitations will be sent for each lunch as the schedule fills! Sign up [now!](#)

Fireside Chat/Q&A with Judge Carl Stewart with the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals

Drake Law School is honored to host Judge Carl Stewart of the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals for a fireside chat and Q&A on Thursday, March 20, at 2:30 p.m. in Cartwright Hall. Appointed by President Bill Clinton in 1994, Judge Stewart made history as the first Black Chief Judge of the Fifth Circuit, serving in that role from 2012 to 2019. Judge Stewart is visiting Des Moines for the National Bar Association's Midyear Conference, which coincides with spring break. While the timing may not be ideal, if you're in town, this is a conversation you won't want to miss! Everyone is welcome to attend, but [please register in advance](#) to help us plan accordingly. We look forward to seeing you there!

Have you heard?

There is a new student organization. The new Sports and Entertainment Law Society was approved earlier this semester. They are asking interested students to fill out this [form](#) to learn more about membership. Spencer Warfield, Pamela Sanders-Booker, Kelly Donnellan, Will Terry and Mason Holland are the executive leadership for SPELS and Dean Jones will be the faculty sponsor. See the attached flyer for more information.

Mock MPRE Sponsored by Helix Bar Review – Friday, March 7

Taking the March MPRE? Want to get a test run in before the real deal? Join Helix Bar Review for a Mock MPRE on **Friday, March 7, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in Cartwright 201**. Even if you don't feel like you're ready for it, completing a simulated exam before attempting the actual MPRE is a great way to get in the right mindset for the test and help you know what to expect so you can feel confident walking into the testing center. The feedback you receive from your simulated MPRE will give you a snapshot of your current areas of strength - and weakness - so you know where to focus your efforts between now and exam day. Register by March 5 by completing the form [here](#). If you have any questions, please reach out to Director of Academic Success Ashley Madsen at ashley.r.madsen@drake.edu.

Drake Law School Announces New Sease Awards for Students Interested in Intellectual Property Law

Per the February 11 email from Prof. Sayoko Blodgett-Ford, Drake Law School is pleased to introduce the *Sease Awards*, a new program honoring Adjunct Professor Edmund J. Sease ([learn more about his contributions here](#)). Sease Awards will support Drake Law School students interested in practicing Intellectual Property (IP) law (patent, trademark, copyright, right of publicity, trade secret, etc.).

Who Can Apply? All Drake Law School students interested in IP law are encouraged to apply.

How to Apply: Students should submit their proposals by email to Associate Professor and Sease Faculty Research Scholar [Sayoko Blodgett-Ford](#) (sayoko.blodgettford@drake.edu).

The application deadline for 2025 Sease Awards: April 2, 2025 (8 p.m. Central)

Press Release from Drake Law

Throughout the year we will be sharing the press releases about Drake Law. We want to be sure you know what is happening here and how proud we are of the efforts of our students, faculty and staff.

Sayoko Blodgett-Ford to Speak at Yale Law School

Professor Sayoko Blodgett-Ford will be featured as a panelist at the “AI: The Magic, Some Realities, and the Future” event at Yale Law School on February 27. Learn more about it [here](#).

Drake Public Safety carries Naloxone (Narcan)

Naloxone (Narcan) can potentially save someone’s life by reversing the effects of an Opioid emergency, such as Fentanyl. Drake Public Safety (DPS) carry Narcan when patrolling campus, and their typical response time is 2-3 minutes. In addition, Narcan dispensary kits are now available in all residence halls and at Olmstead Center Student Services. DPS can be contacted 24/7 by calling 515-271-2222.

ADA accommodation renewal

Remember that accommodations must be renewed annually! To establish or renew accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), contact the [Office of Access and Success](#) for an appointment. Drake provides reasonable accommodations, as required by federal law, so that students’ success is not hindered by disabilities.

2024-2025 Student Organization Event Registration Survey

Reminder that before a student organization hosts an event on or off campus, the primary contact of the event must fill out this [survey](#). This should be done at least three (3) business days before the event and/or prior to entering into a rental contract. If food is served, you will also need to get your order to Sodexo at least one week prior to the event to avoid late fees.

Law School Outlook Calendar

Events at the Law School are added to the [Law School Outlook calendar](#) so that students, faculty and staff can see what is happening at a glance. Please use the attached directions to access and bookmark the calendar. Entries are categorized by Academics, Admissions, Career Development Office, Faculty, Law School Events, Library and Student Organizations. If you want to add an event to the calendar, please contact [Sara Hughes](#).

ITS Support - In Person and Walk-in

The lower level of Carnegie is open for support: classroom emergencies, student walk-in support, faculty & staff scheduled support will be given preference over faculty and staff walk-in support. ITS may ask you to wait while they help multiple customers at once. ITS recommends using the IT service portal at service.drake.edu/its or calling 515-271-3001.

Religious Observance Accommodations

If an academic deadline or exam conflicts with your religious observance, please contact Dean Battles before the conflict to arrange reasonable accommodations.

Contagious Illness Protocols

Students are to follow CDC protocols applicable to any instance in which a student is contagious with a viral or bacterial infection, such as influenza, strep, mononucleosis, or COVID-19. Although reporting is no longer required, infectious students cannot attend in-person classes and must contact their instructors to coordinate making up any missed material. Faculty may use their own discretion for how to treat absences due to illness.

[CDC Guidance for illness with fever, including influenza.](#)

Please visit Drake's [Contagious Illness Protocols](#) website to review this information. If a student, faculty, or staff member is interested in using a mask to reduce the spread of illness, masks can be found in the Gorsche Student Services Suite. For additional questions, contact Dean Battles.

Broadlawns Community Clinic at Drake

If a student is ill, they may receive care at the [Broadlawns Clinic at Drake](#). Broadlawns will work with insured and uninsured students needing care.

Drake Law Women Emergency Fund

Drake Law Women has an emergency fund for students in need through the course of the school year. Consideration for an award is based upon demonstrated financial need and the emergency. The emergency fund is open to all students. The application can be found under the "Emergency Fund" tab on the Drake Law Women TWEN page and the award process is completely anonymous. Questions? Email emily.barrett@drake.edu