



Law Students,

On behalf of the Student Bar Association (“SBA”), I want to welcome you to Drake University Law School! This year certainly will not be how you planned on starting your legal education and it is definitely not how I envisioned ending mine, but I can ensure you the faculty and staff are doing everything they can to maintain the education we’ve all become accustomed to.

The SBA is the student government of Drake Law School. We are committed to representing student interests, fostering community, and providing students with opportunities to grow both within the law school and the greater legal community. As the primary voice of the student body to the administration and the legal community, the SBA works with faculty and staff to promote the learning and wellbeing of students. As the governing body of Drake Law, the SBA serves as the umbrella under which all other student organizations operate. The SBA is responsible for assisting student organizations through the allocation of student funds and logistical support. This process aims to provide meaningful campus events and opportunities to students. But even more so, it is the job of the SBA to represent the student’s interests and ensure we all get the quality of education we chose Drake for. As a first-year law student, there are many ways you can get involved in SBA and a variety of student organizations.

As a student, you are automatically a member of the SBA. However, students can petition for formal office beyond this standard membership. Each class elects four voting members to represent the class and its interests. We encourage students of all backgrounds to submit a petition and step up as a leader. Petitions for incoming 1L students will be available early this fall with elections following shortly thereafter. If elected, you’ll have the opportunity to help the school in hiring new faculty, voting on policies affecting every student in the school, and be able to start building relationships with your professors. Even if you choose not to run, our meetings are open for every student to attend and contribute at.

We encourage you to take this opportunity to make the most of your time at Drake, in whatever form that may take. However, also remember to take care of yourself. This year more than ever, it is important to listen to what your body is telling you and take the time you may need for yourself. You will find greater success not only when you take on new challenges, but when you treat yourself with the respect you deserve. From everyone at the SBA, we want to help you find that success.

I look forward to getting to know each of you during the year ahead. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at clarissa.davison@drake.edu. For many of you, as it was for me, law school is a whole different challenge than anything you’ve experienced before. The SBA, faculty, and all your fellow students want to help you succeed in any way we can. Again, welcome to Drake Law. We wish you the best throughout the upcoming school year and look forward to helping you achieve your law school goals.

Sincerely,

Claire Davison, 2020-2021 SBA President