

The University of Akron School of Law Administrative Briefs

April 9, 2002

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Message from the Dean

I assume that everyone already knows that the *National Jurist* has rated The University of Akron School of Law as the number one value in public law schools in the nation. Further, if one looks at the numerical ratings 2.9 on a 3.0 scale, The University of Akron School of Law also outperformed all of the private schools on the 3.0 scale. This determination was based upon a study using tuition, bar pass rates, employment rates, scholarships, clinical slots, and student/faculty ratio. Though like any study, one could reasonably select other criteria or give the criteria different weight, this is an “objective” study in the sense that it is based upon quantifiable data of objective factors. It parallels the “Public Ivys” and “Best Buy” studies that have been done with respect to undergraduate schools. Like the schools featured in those studies, we hope to take full advantage of this recognition to continue the process of continuous quality improvement.

This is, of course, important recognition of the efforts of your classmates who graduated in the last couple of years and the efforts of the faculty who taught those students and worked with them, both in their preparation for the bar and their job search. It is also recognition of the support the University has given to attempt to maintain the most reasonable tuition rates possible. As many of you know, this past January The University of Akron, like many other universities, felt compelled to raise tuition in the face of state budget cuts. Fortunately, by providing factual data to University leaders, they were able to conclude that this tuition increase should **not** apply to the Law School. As a result, law students were the only group of students on our campus who did not have their tuition increase for Spring 2002

Semester. We know that at some of our sister state schools, the law students did have their tuition increase for the Spring Semester.

As we look forward to the upcoming year, we know that the University is considering a tuition increase. We have reason to believe that the increase for law students will be smaller than that for other units of the campus. Again, this is another effort of the University to support the Law School and its students. It will thereby help us maintain a “best value” position, whether there is another rating next year or not.

In that same vein, current students of the Law School have the opportunity to make their degree “appreciate” (or depreciate) by their future efforts, especially on the bar examinations they take. We know that outstanding lawyers – like outstanding athletes – are those who give 110%, who always give great “second-effort”. Every class in which you are enrolled can help to make you not just a better student, but a graduate who is better prepared to be successful on the bar examination and a better lawyer. Students who see each class as an individual hurdle are missing the point. These are all building blocks for achieving your ultimate goals of graduation, successful bar passage rate, and a strong entry into the legal profession. With spring exams approaching, it is a time for everyone to begin preparing for finals and do the very best that you can on those examinations.

With respect to graduating seniors, you obviously need to not only prepare for those exams but also whatever bar exam for which you choose to sit. As I have often said to students, you want to over-prepare for that exam. You want to look back and say “I really didn’t have to work that hard.” You do not want to be in the situation of looking back and

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saying, "I wish I had studied a little harder, I wish if I had done something a little more. . . " It is like buying life insurance, hoping that you don't have to use it.

We sincerely believe that each and everyone of you has the talent and the ability to do well on the bar examination. It is a difficult examination. But we believe that with a good plan and a good bar review course, and an intensive program of study, that all of you can be successful in your goal.

Again, I hope you can feel proud of the recognition that the School has received and congratulate your classmates who helped make that recognition possible.

General News

New Business Legal Clinic (NBLC) to Open Fall 2002

The University of Akron School of Law is embarking upon a new endeavor to provide law students with an in-house legal clinic experience in a business setting. We are presently seeking approval to advertise for an attorney/director for this new clinic. We hope to have that person hired by the beginning of August 2002 with the clinic to begin receiving clients later that month. We would anticipate having up to four students work in this clinic. We would anticipate that the students would either volunteer time or receive credit through Clinical Seminar I or Clinical Seminar II. In addition, we may hire one student to be a regular employee at a set number of hours per week at an hourly wage.

This clinic is designed to serve new businesses, that is businesses in operation for only a few years, with revenues below a set amount. Our purpose is to provide business or corporate strategy advice and not litigation services. Essentially we would advise clients on the appropriate business structure for their endeavor,

advise them about employment matters, and assist with contract issues.

We would especially focus on businesses owned and operated by women and minorities.

If you are interested in exploring this opportunity, please send a cover letter and a resume to Professor J. Dean Carro as soon as possible. Once we hire the person to direct the clinic, we will interview students to work in the clinic for credit, as volunteers, or for pay.

Hein-On-Line: The Law Library's Modern Link to Legal History

The Law Library recently added an electronic subscription to Hein-On-Line. Hein-On-Line is a constantly growing comprehensive collection of legal periodicals. The database currently offers full-text articles from over 100 different legal journals and contains over 225,000 complete articles. Unlike Lexis and Westlaw that primarily cover periodical articles from post-1980 law review volumes, Hein-On-Line provides most journals from the first issue to the most current volume and also provides the exact page images of legal journals, meaning that you can view the page as it originally appeared in hardcopy. You can search Hein-On-Line by keyword or citation, or browse by author, article title or journal issue.

The Hein-On-Line database can be accessed from the Law Library's Electronic Journals and Web Subscription page at http://www2.uakron.edu/law/library/electronic_journals_and_web_subscription.htm. Access to Hein-On-Line is based upon IP recognition so there are no passwords to remember, you can access it as long as you are using a computer connected to the University's network.

Please contact a librarian if you have any questions about using Hein-On-Line.

National Library Week: Celebrate at the Law Library!

The week of April 14th is National Library Week. The American Library Association (<http://www.ala.org/>) and libraries sponsor this national observance each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use. This year we plan to celebrate National Library Week by having a trivia contest, raffling off prizes, and offering you a chance to win a jar of candy if you guess the correct amount of candy in the jar. More information about the celebration will be posted on the students' UA Law listserv as well as in Bulletin Board #1 located next to the Law Library entrance stairs on the 1st floor. Please mark your calendar to celebrate at the Law Library.

Akron Bar FOUNDATION Scholarships

The Akron Bar Association FOUNDATION will now accept applications for their 2002-2003 scholarship program. (NOTE: These FOUNDATION scholarships are different from the Akron Bar Auxiliary Scholarships reserved for day students.)

Day and evening students may apply. Preference will be given to Summit County, Ohio residents.

APPLICATIONS are on the information table next to the receptionist's desk.

REQUEST your dean's letter of good standing (as noted in the application packet) by contacting Student Services Counselor Jill Painter at jill6@uakron.edu.

DEADLINE: April 30th.

QUESTIONS? Please contact the Akron Bar Association at 330-253-5007.

2002 Lake County Scholarship

ATTN: Lake County, Ohio Residents

The Lake County Bar Foundation is pleased to announce that the Foundation will award up to three \$1,000 scholarships on Law Day 2002. Law Students who are residents of Lake County, Ohio are eligible and are invited to apply.

APPLICATIONS will be placed on the information table next to the receptionist's desk .

DEADLINE: April 15th.

QUESTIONS? Please contact Lake County Bar Foundation President Colleen Falkowski at 440-350-2218.

Giles Sutherland Rich Scholarship

A \$10,000 award, in memory of U.S. Court of Appeals Circuit Judge Giles S. rich, will be given to a law student based on need and demonstrated academic promise either in undergraduate studies or in law school.

Selection for the award will be based on a written submission of no more than one page setting out the applicant's need, any interest in particular areas of the law, and any qualifications for the award considered relevant by the applicant.

The submission should include all of the applicant's college transcripts, but prior academic performance will not be primary criteria for selection.

These documents should be mailed to:

The Federal Circuit Bar Association
1300 I Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3315

Attn: President Munford Page Hall, II

DEADLINE: May 1, 2002

QUESTIONS? Contact President Munford Page Hall, II at 202-408-4205.

Ethel Louise Armstrong Foundation Scholarship for Female Graduate Students with Disabilities

Application Deadline: 6/25/2002

Information and application forms available at:
http://www.ela.org/ada/frame_ada.html.

Click on Scholarship Info.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The Ethel Louise Armstrong Foundation (ELA), Inc. was founded in 1994 by Margaret Staton. Having been disabled by a spinal cord tumor at the age of two years old, Margaret has first hand knowledge of the needs and opportunities that are available to a woman with a disability. The mission of ELA is to "Change the Face of Disability on the Planet." ELA accomplishes this mission by promoting health in communities through arts, education and advocacy for the total inclusion of people with disabilities. As such, ELA is committed to expanding opportunities for female graduate students with disabilities as well as developing future leadership in the disability community.

The ELA Foundation will award one or two scholarships per academic year depending on merit. Each scholarship awards are up to \$2,000 and will be awarded in August, 2002. The purpose of the scholarship is to supplement financial assistance received by female graduate students. Only the winners will be notified. The scholarship money is contingent upon the winner's acceptance to or continuation in an

accredited college or university graduate program. The scholarship will be made payable to the educational institution for tuition.

Donovan Scholarship for Female Law & Graduate Students

ATTN: Female Law Students

Applications are now being accepted for the 2002-2003 Robert E. Donovan Memorial Scholarship. Robert Donovan died in a plane crash over Bosnia on April 3, 1996. The plane crashed killed the U.S. Commerce Secretary and 33 other leaders who were on a trade mission to help rebuild the war-ravaged country once called Yugoslavia. Robert's daughter, Kara Donovan, was a senior at The University of Akron School of Law at the time of her father's death.

Academic merit and financial need will be considered by the Donovan Scholarship Committee. Applications are on the information table next to the receptionist's desk.

DEADLINE: April 30, 2002.

Attorney-CPA Scholarships

The Attorney-CPA Foundation will award ten scholarships for the 2002-2003 academic year. Applicants must currently be enrolled in the second year of law school. Commitment to the profession of accounting as evidenced by a CPA certificate, outstanding academic performance, academic merit, and leadership will be considered.

Applications are available at:
<http://www.attorney-cpa.com/fondation.html>
or by calling 800-272-2889.

DEADLINE: April 30, 2002

QUESTIONS? Please contact Mr. Allen Webster at awebster@lisman.com

Career Planning News

The following is a list of upcoming events and opportunities. Should you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Career Planning and Placement Office at 330-972-5321.

Federal Bureau of Investigation Seminar

Special Agent Robert Fiatal of the FBI will speak on career opportunities in the Federal Bureau of Investigation on Wednesday, April 10th at 12:05-1:00p.m. (Room 165) and 5:30-6:30p.m. (Room 165). BLSA and ALLSA are sponsoring this seminar. We hope you will bring your lunch/dinner and join us for either of these informative session.

Employment Opportunity

The Ninth District Court of Appeals of Ohio will be accepting applications until July 15, 2002 for attorney-law clerk positions from law students (entering their final year of studies in the fall of 2002) and graduates. These are two-year clerkships, which will begin in August 2003. Starting salary is approximately \$50,000. Job Duties: Conduct legal research, draft opinions and journal entries, review cases for jurisdiction, and perform such other tasks as directed by the Court, a Judge thereof, or the Court Administrator. Applicants must have earned their J.D. prior to July 2003; must have strong legal research and writing skills; knowledge of Lexis, Microsoft Word and Excel are preferred. Submit a cover letter, resume, law school transcript and writing sample. The following information must be included in the resume or cover letter: Law School G.P.A. (including second year) and class rank, Law Review/journal experience, L.S.A.T. score, undergraduate degree, university attended and G.P.A., date of admission to the Ohio State Bar or intention to take the 2003 Ohio State Bar examination (appointments are conditioned upon passing the Ohio State Bar examination), names and phone numbers of three professional references, extracurricular activities,

membership in civic, fraternal or social organizations (optional). Send to: Ninth District Court of Appeals, Attention: Cathy Viall, Ocasek Government Office Building, 161 South High Street, Suite 504, Akron, Ohio 44308. Deadline: July 15, 2002.

Writing Competitions

Food and Drug Law Institute 2001-2003

Writing Competition

The Food and Drug Law Institute sponsors the Writing Competition to encourage law students interested in the areas of law that affect food, drugs, devices, cosmetics, and biologics. Papers should provide an in-depth analysis of a current issue relevant to the food and drug field (e.g., a review of relevant case law, legislative history, and other legal authorities involving the Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Federal Trade Commission, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the National Institutes of Health, the Codex Alimentarius Commission, or the Environmental Protection Agency.

Cash Prizes: 1st - \$1,500
2nd - \$1,000
3rd - \$500.00

Deadline: May 17, 2002

ABA Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Journal Student Writing Contest

The Contest is designed to encourage and reward law student writings on real property, probate and trust law subjects of general and current interest. To enter, submit an essay on a current topic dealing with real property, probate or trust law. "Real property probate and trust law" is a broad category containing numerous practice disciplines. Without attempting to define the area precisely, the subject is intended to include matters within law school curricula in courses entitled: Property; Estate and Gift Tax; Wills and Decedents' Estates; Real Estate Development; Environmental Law; Land Use Planning; Employee Benefit Plans; Planning, Drafting and Negotiating Commercial Transactions; Taxation and Regulation of Non-Profit Organizations;

Business Succession Planning; Life Insurance and Other Insurance Products; Trusts and Trust Law; Wealth Management; Fiduciary Income Taxation; Estate Planning; and Probate and Estate Administration.

Cash Prizes: 1st - \$2,000
2nd - \$500
3rd - \$250

DEADLINE: June 15, 2002

New Career Planning Library Resources

Green Law – 2002 Public Interest Environmental Internships
The Mid-Sized Firm Hiring Directory
Public Interest Job Search Guide – 2001-2002.

Summer Programs Abroad

We receive information on numerous study abroad programs as well as various LLM programs. Below is a sampling of recent programs received:

Temple University – Athens, Greece, Rome, Italy, Tel Aviv, Israel, Tokyo, Japan.

Suggestions Wanted

If you have any suggestions as to how we can improve our services, please let us know. We welcome your thoughts and opinions!

Student Organization News

L.A.W. News

L.A.W. is proud to announce the following newly-elected officers: President – Megan Pavlik; Vice-President – Rachel Kallas; Treasurer – Carrie Leed; and Secretary – Betsy Bare. Congratulations to all! L.A.W.'s last meeting of the year will be held on Tuesday, April 23rd at 12:00p.m. in Room 151. The new officers will run this "member appreciation" meeting where pizza will be served to all who attend!

BALANCING A SUCCESSFUL LEGAL CAREER WITH LIFE: L.A.W.'S SPRING SYMPOSIUM

Are you interested in life beyond law-school? Are you curious as to how you will be able to attain all of your personal life-goals while continuing the pursuit of a successful legal career? L.A.W. is pleased to sponsor an event that may provide some guidance.

L.A.W.'s Spring Symposium, *Balancing a Successful Legal Career with Life*, will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2002. This event will be in Room 151 from 6:00-9:30p.m.

Justice Deborah Cook will be the keynote speaker. She will discuss how to become a leader in the legal community as well as how to develop and practice leadership skills. Other speakers including the following:

- Judge Elinore Stormer, Akron Municipal Court (*Topic: How Community Involvement and Pro-Bono Work Opportunities can Enhance a Legal Career*);
- Professor Kathleen Tusaie, University of Akron College of Nursing (*Topic: Stress Management and Identification Techniques*);
- Mrs. Susan Gerber, University of Akron Alumnus and Associate, Jones, Day, Reavis and Pogue (*Topic: Networking and Communication Skills, Keeping the Lines of Communication Open in Developing a Legal Career*);
- Professor Tracy Thomas, University of Akron School of Law (*Topic: Maternity Leave: Legal Issues and Personal Experiences*);

- Professor E. Stewart Moritz, University of Akron School of Law (*Topic: Personal Experiences with Balancing a Legal Career and Family*).

An intermission will be held at 7:30 p.m. when a sandwich dinner and desert will be served. The symposium is free of cost to all who wish to attend. We look forward to seeing all who are interested at this insightful event.

Questions? Contact Kerry Renker at Kerry4@uakron.edu.

Lexis Summer Access

To obtain summer access to Lexis, please go to the Lexis home page: <http://lawschool.lexis.com> and click on Summer Access to see if you are eligible.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Starr at lisastarr42@hotmail.com.

Final Thought!

There is no easy methods of learning difficult things; the method is to close your door, give out that you are not at home, and work.

- Joseph De Maistre

ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS:

All students are invited to attend group sessions presented by Dr. Amy Jarmon, Director of the Academic Success Program. Each session will be presented twice. The dates and topics for the sessions are:

[Note for all sessions: If you are an evening student who has to arrive late, you are still welcome to attend a session.]

Outlining Strategies and Preparing for Examinations

April 10, 2002 (Wed.) 5:00-6:15p.m. Room L-167
April 11, 2002 (Thurs.) 3:00-4:15p.m. Room L-151

Issue Spotting Strategies and Writing Examination Answers

April 17, 2002 (Wed.) 5:00-6:25p.m. Room L-165
April 18, 2002 (Thurs.) 3:00-4:30p.m. Room L-151

Time and Stress Management Techniques for Exam Periods

April 22, 2002 (Mon.) 5:15-6:16p.m. Room L-152
April 23, 2002 (Tues.) 3:15-4:15p.m. Room L-152

Students are encouraged to make individual appointments with Dr. Jarmon if she may assist you with study issues. The office telephone extension is 8065. The Academic Success Program office (Room 317 in the library) will be open Monday through Friday 9a.m.-noon and 2-6p.m.