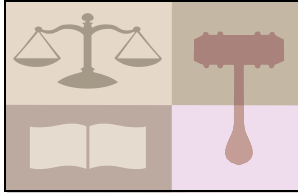


Volume 2, Issue 1

October 2009



HUSSON UNIVERSITY—LEGAL STUDIES

LEANING FORWARD

STAY TUNED ...

In the next edition of *Leaning Forward*

- B.S. in Legal Studies and 3+3 degree (with J.D.)
- Updates on the Husson University Law School
- Criminal Justice and Paralegal Club activities
- Summer and Fall 2010 course offerings
- Career Day
- Simulation in conjunction with the Nursing Department
- ROTC activities

CALLING ALL CRIMINAL JUSTICE, PARALEGAL STUDIES AND PRE-LAW MAJORS...

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THE CJ CLUB OR PL CLUB OR BOTH
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE

CONTACT:

CJ CLUB

CORNEL PLEBANI - 973-1022 or

JOHN MICHAUD - 941-7037

PL CLUB

MARIE HANSEN - 973-1081

LEGAL STUDIES MOVES TO NEW SCHOOL

As of July 2009, Legal Studies, which includes the Criminal Justice, Criminal Justice/Psychology dual degree, Paralegal Studies and ROTC programs officially moved out of the School of Science and Humanities and became a separate Division under the new School of Law and Legal Studies. Over the summer, the website for the Division of Legal Studies was also updated and revamped to include information regarding the programs, courses, internships, clubs, honor societies, careers, and answers to frequently asked questions.

Please visit www.husson.edu and click on Legal Studies to find more information and past issues of *Leaning Forward*.

HUSSON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL PETITIONS THE MAINE SUPREME COURT

The Husson University Law School team is on board, has set forth a plan for oversight and developed a curriculum founded on American Bar Association (ABA) academic standards and the most recent studies on how best to teach the law. Husson is now seeking approval from the Maine Supreme Judicial Court to allow its graduates to sit for the Maine Bar Exam. Husson's goal is to start courses in 2010.

The Law School began accepting applications as of September 1, 2009. All applications are contingent upon Court and NEASC approval. "In order to accept students in the summer and fall 2010, it is necessary for them to take the LSAT not later than February 2010," said Michael Mullane, Dean of the Husson University Law School.

The program will be headquartered and taught on the Husson campus in Bangor. It will be initially delivered in the late afternoon and evenings to accommodate working adult learners. Initial classes are expected to range from 30 to 50 in size with scheduling designed for full time and part time students. Areas of added strength include extensive experiential learning and a curriculum that also prepares graduates for the practice of law," said Mullane.

Husson has reaffirmed its decision to open as a non-ABA school. "We have met with the ABA in Chicago. We are committed to becoming an ABA school on or before 2017. At the same time, the ABA is going through substantive review of its own standards and rarely approved law schools with fewer than 100 students per class. Quantitative and physical standards for library holdings are in transition. We have concluded the best way to meet our mission is to start small with a clear focus on high academic standards and evolve toward the ABA over the next 5 years as they evolve," says Dean Mullane. At present, there are 36 non-ABA accredited law schools nationwide.

CJ 221 RECEIVES A NEW "FACE" AND "SCENE"

Students will see some exciting changes in CJ 221 Criminalistics starting in the 2009 fall term. Over the summer, Legal Studies purchased licenses for both MAPSCENES and FACES 4.0. These are both state of the art computer programs that support law enforcement. FACES 4.0 is an award winning software that allows police investigators to develop accurate, photo-like composites from descriptions provided by witnesses. It is intuitive and easy to use letting investigators create billions of human faces with its database facial features. FACES technology is currently used by police agencies worldwide including local, state, and federal agencies in the United States. MAPSCENES Pro 2008 is the most precise desktop forensic mapping software available. Students can input evidence collected at a crime scene or crash to create detailed and accurate diagrams creating a strong visual case for use in court. By utilizing this program the students can be confident that the evidence they present is precise, compelling and irrefutable.

During the semester students will become familiar with these programs, along with how to effectively use newly purchased digital cameras and a digital printer. The crime scene exercise will include processing the crime scene, photographing and collecting evidence, and producing an incident report including a crime scene drawing. From these efforts, students will identify and interview witnesses and work with students in CJ 409 Criminal Profiling to develop a suspect. Students will then present their case with requests for warrants to a trial lawyer playing the role of District Attorney. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to highlight their skills when they begin to seek employment with law enforcement agencies.

BOOK AWARDS

The Criminal Justice Club and CJ and the Paralegal Studies programs provided book awards for the first time this fall. The CJ Club award winner, **Shanna Allen** (left photo; 4th from left), was voted on by the CJ Club.

The CJ program and PL program award winners, **Samantha Rivers** (left photo; 3rd from left) and **Lizbeth Fontaine** (right photo; 3rd from left) respectively, were chosen by the Division of Legal Studies based upon grades, service to the University and beyond.



CONSTITUTION DAY - SEPTEMBER 17, 2009

To celebrate Constitution Day, the Constitutional Law class was opened to all students and faculty at Husson University. A discussion was held stressing the importance of the Constitution and how it continues to strongly influence the lives of all Americans today. Actions and writing leading up to the actual drafting of the Constitution were reviewed including the Mayflower Compact, which acknowledged the agreement for self-government, and the Declaration of Independence, in which the colonists delineated their grievance against the crown. The possible consequences of their actions were recognized by signers of the Constitution. Interestingly, the United States Constitution consists of only 4,400 words which makes it the oldest and shortest written Constitution of any major government in the world.

MY EXPERIENCE WITH ICE - BY TRAVIS STEWART

Monday, 9:00 A.M....sitting down with an ICE Special Agent to discuss the next move on a multi-million dollar money laundering case.

Tuesday, 3:00 P.M....on a surveillance attempting to locate foreign nationals who are a national security threat to the United States.

Wednesday, 11:00 A.M....sitting in court at an initial appearance of an individual charged with smuggling distribution quantities of narcotics into Maine

Thursday, 10:30 A.M....doing an interview with an ICE Special Agent in regards to illegal aliens present and working illegally.

Friday, 8:30 A.M....on a surveillance photographing a potential child exploitation offender.

Friday, 5:00 P.M....heading home after another successful week of irreplaceable knowledge gained.

The past eight months of interning with U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, Office of Investigations has been an incredible experience. When I first heard the name, "ICE", its meaning then was just another acronym. Now, it is a special meaning that I will forever be grateful for, having the ability to give my time in exchange for one of the greatest experiences of my life. A common misperception of ICE is that the agency deals with mostly Immigration work. The reality is the agency's diversity in the Customs division is substantial.

Over the last 8 months, I have been given the opportunity to interact with agents from numerous federal agencies including, FBI, DEA, ATF, Bangor Police, Maine State Police, and US Attorney's Office. Through these contact, I have had the opportunity to explore the various roles of each of these agencies in the federal government. I have come to appreciate the important role that ICE plays, protection of our nation's security. I have also been exposed to the important relationship between various federal agencies in accomplishing various task associated with inter-agency investigations.

During my time with ICE, I have received hands on experience, interacting with Special Agents, analyzing data, booking prisoners, and was exposed to a variety of investigative techniques including obtaining search warrants, subpoenas, and various intelligence databases. During this time my desire to be part of ICE as a Special Agent grew. Because of my internship, I was notified of a position opening for Special Agent, which I am presently in the process for.

SPRING 2010 ELECTIVES

- Comparative CJ
- Motor Vehicle Law
- Federal Careers
- Advanced Critical Skills
- Mythology of Crime
- Forensic Computer Science
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Interviewing & Investigation

UPCOMING PLANS - PL AND CJ CLUBS

The Paralegal Club, with President Lizbeth Fontaine, VP Stephanie Bushmich, Treasurer Alexandra Huffman and Advisor Marie Hansen, has begun its fundraising efforts already this fall by participating in the Race for the Cure to support Breast Cancer research. Additionally, the PL Club plans to raise funds to support local legal assistance programs throughout the year and for the new book award. The club is preparing for guest speakers including local attorneys and paralegals to hear about career options. Beginning with a training session on September 25, 2009, the club members will take part in providing legal assistance to low income persons in the area through the Penobscot County Legal Aid Clinic which operates through the Volunteers Lawyers Project. Students will volunteer time on Saturday mornings to provide assistance to attorneys, who will also be helping clients pro bono. The PL Club also plans to tour and assist the Clerk's Office with the move to the new Penobscot Courthouse which is set to open on November 23, 2009.

The Criminal Justice Club has begun a new year of fundraising and community service as the group reforms under the leadership of President Shanna Allen and co-advisors Cornel Plebani and John Michaud. Some of the fall initiatives include collecting cell phones and chargers for donation to local law enforcement and social service agencies in support of battered women in Penobscot County as well as raising money for the new yearly book awards. Additionally, club members are launching the 2nd Annual clothing drive for children and families in the area. The CJ Club is also in the beginning stages of securing New York Times best-selling author Tess Gerritsen for a spring 2010 speaking engagement and book signing that will hopefully be held in the Gracie Theater.

Finally, both the CJ and PL Clubs will lend a hand at the upcoming fall Open House and again in the spring.