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Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center

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The Touro Times

JACOB D. FUCHSBERG LAW CENTER

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT

EDITOR: TOBY MARKOWITZ

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 6, 1989

No. 19

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Monday, February 6, 1989

Women's Bar Association General Meeting
1:30 pm in Room 206

Tuesday, February 7, 1989

Women's Bar Association "Brief Writing Workshop"
4:00 pm to 6:00 pm in Room B-5
See details below.

Wednesday, February 8, 1989

Faculty Meeting
3:00 pm in the Faculty Library

FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

An ABA Inspection Team will visit our School the week of February 13th. We have every reason to expect that the Team will be as impressed with the School as were the visiting teams that were here the past two years. Once again, we are seeking full accreditation. Let me remind you of the recent obstacles we have encountered.

In 1987, despite an excellent report by the inspectors who visited our School, the ABA Accreditation Committee withheld our full accreditation principally because of two concerns. First, the Accreditation Committee noted that when the Law School was provisionally accredited in 1983 the College had committed itself to establishing an endowment for the Law School. This had not been done. A second concern of the Accreditation Committee was with our bar passage rate. Prior to 1987, our bar passage rate for first time takers had ranged in the high 30's.

By the time the ABA Inspectors arrived in 1988, the College had established a \$1.7 million dollar endowment for the Law School and our bar passage rate had increased to 53%. Once again, we received an extremely favorable report from the inspectors and once again the Accreditation Committee declined to grant us full accreditation. This time the Accreditation Committee cited the Accreditation Standards only once in expressing concern about the Law School and this concern, again, dealt with our bar passage rate. As I have said so many times, the Accreditation Committee's theory seemed to be that "one robin does not make a spring". What was needed was some evidence that we had cured the problems that had resulted in a low bar passage rate. The medicine must be working, for our bar passage rate this past July went up over 62%. I doubt whether many law schools have made such dramatic progress in such a short period of time.

To be sure, the Accreditation Committee also noted that we are a tuition dependent law school. But that probably is equally true for the vast majority of American law schools. To say that a new law school is tuition dependent is like saying that an infant lacks maturity. Unless a law school is part of an already well established educational institution, it takes a while to build a foundation that will reduce the dependence on tuition. We are doing quite well in establishing our ties with the professional and business world in Long Island and New York City, in becoming an important part of the legal community on Long Island, in building our Alumni Association, and in strengthening our Friends' Association. In fact, as of the end of 1988, membership in our Friends' Association had increased by 37%.

Ironically, while the ABA has cited our tuition dependence as a reason for withholding full accreditation, our status as a provisionally accredited school has, on a number of occasions, prevented us from receiving contributions. Most individuals who would like to make a gift to memorialize their names are somewhat reluctant to do so when a school is "provisionally" accredited. I feel confident that our tuition dependence will be reduced markedly once we achieve full accreditation.

Our ABA Inspection Team will be chaired this year by Professor William Wilks of Dickinson Law School. Professor Wilks is the former Dean of Dickinson Law School and has participated in many ABA Inspections. The other members of the team are Professors Richard Brown of Arizona State University College of Law, Robert Lathrop of West Virginia University School of Law, Stephen Mazurak of the University of Detroit School of Law and Ms. Erica Moeser of the Wisconsin Board of Attorneys Professional Competence. I hope that the accomplishments of Touro, in which we take so much pride, will be readily apparent to our visitors.

If you would like to have an announcement or message included in The Touro Times, please submit the information to TOBY MARKOWITZ on Wednesday of each week before 5:00 p.m. (Room 125)



The ABA Inspectors arrive at the time we are launching an important new activity at the Law School. In mid-January, we announced the establishment of the Touro Law School Institute of Local and Suburban Law. During the 1960's and 1970's our nation focused on the problems existing in our major cities. While those problems are far from solved, the 1980's saw increased attention to problems facing the growing population concentrations outside of our major cities. Few areas are more typical of these problems than Long Island. We all are aware of the environmental, transportation, energy, housing, waste and garbage disposal, and education problems that exist in areas such as Long Island. Solving these problems present many legal challenges. Our Institute of Local and Suburban Law will permit Touro to be at the center of confronting and solving these problems.

Most significantly, we have as the Director of the Institute a person whose qualifications for the job are unmatched. Judge Leon Lazer has given up a partnership in the New York City firm of Shea and Gould to join Touro as the Director of the Institute. Judge Lazer had a long and distinguished career on the New York State Supreme Court, serving many years as an outstanding judge in the Appellate Division. He has been the Town Attorney in Huntington and is recognized as one of the area's leading authorities on municipal government and land use planning issues. Under his leadership, the Institute is bound to become one of the most significant elements of our Law Center. In the months ahead, I am sure you all will be hearing much more about the Institute and its projected activities.

ABA INSPECTION TEAM MEETING WITH STUDENT BODY

The ABA Inspection Team will meet with Day Division students on Monday, February 13, 1989 at 3:00 pm in the Auditorium. They will also meet with Evening Division students at 7:30 pm in the Auditorium.

WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION NEWS

1. A "Brief Writing Skills Workshop" will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 7, 1989 at 4:00 pm in Room B-5. This workshop is being held in conjunction with the Moot Court. It will concentrate on how to organize, structure and write an appellate brief for Legal Methods Moot Court. The workshop will be led by Marsha Freeman, Editor-in-Chief of the Moot Court Board, and a board member of the W.B.A.
2. An "Oral Argument Skills Workshop" will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 1989 at 4:00 pm in Room B-5. This workshop is also being held in conjunction with the Moot Court. It will concentrate on how to prepare, practice and argue effectively, especially for Legal Methods Moot Court. This workshop will also be led by Marsha Freeman.

THE JOURNAL OF THE SUFFOLK ACADEMY OF LAW

1. The Journal is currently in the final stages of completing its next issue (Volume 5 Number 1) and is expected to go to press by the second week in February. The issue, when completed, will be placed in student and faculty mailboxes. Any professor who wishes to submit an article for publication in our next issue (Volume 5 Number 2) should contact the Journal office.
2. The Journal will be conducting a writing competition for all eligible 2nd, 3rd and 4th year students beginning Monday, February 20, 1989. All interested students should contact the Journal office.
3. The Journal is pleased to announce two additions to its Editorial Board. They are Keith Sernick, Managing Editor, and Bryan Kishner, Articles Editor. Congratulations!

FACULTY RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

1. An upper-class student is needed to be a Research Assistant for Judge Lazer. The work will involve review of local government materials for the Institute of Local and Suburban Law and review of cases for Pattern Jury Instructions. Please contact Judge Lazer or Dean Cohen for more information.
2. All upper class students who would be interested in working with Professor Davis on a companion piece to his article on private criminal prosecution should contact Professor Davis or Dean Cohen. The article will relate to the crime victim's right to present his/her case to the Grand Jury -- over the public prosecutor's objection -- in order to initiate a criminal prosecution.
3. All upper-class students interested in being a faculty research assistant for the Spring 1989 semester should complete a research assistant form in Dean Cohen's office. For more information, please contact Dean Cohen.

WRITING CONSULTANTS SCHEDULE FOR SPRING, 1989 SEMESTER

Starting on January 24, 1989, the writing consultants from Stony Brook will again be available to students who require additional attention to writing skills development. Sign up sheets are in the Reception area. The consultants will be available on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday. Check the sign up sheets for exact times. If you are unable to make a scheduled appointment, please call Valerie at the Reception area to cancel your appointment. A no-show prevents another student from receiving this service. This program is open to all Touro students.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANTS (V.I.T.A.)

1. If you would like to volunteer one or two hours a week to assist needy individuals in preparing their tax returns, please contact Avi Mosden at 516-351-8592 or Doug Gallo at 516-421-2244.
2. If you are in need of assistance in preparing your tax returns, help will be available from January 23 to April 15, 1989 in Room 220 during the following days and hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm and Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 11:00 am.

1988-1989 STUDENT HANDBOOK/CODE OF CONDUCT

The Student Handbook/Code of Conduct has been heavily revised for the 1988-89 Academic year. Day students may obtain their copy in Dean Cohen's office. Evening students may obtain their copy from the Receptionist. All students are required to pick up and sign for their copy. You are expected to read both documents with care. Special attention should be given to the Academic Standards section of the Student Handbook beginning on Page 11. Students should also note with particularity the Code of Conduct Article III (Prohibited Conduct): Section A (Academic Misconduct) and Section B (Non-Academic Misconduct). The definition of plagiarism is located in Article III, Section A (1) on page 2 of the Code of Conduct. If you have any questions, please contact Dean Cohen. Please note that the Referral Section of the Student Handbook (pages 31-35) will clarify for students which administrators handle various issues on a day-to-day basis.

COMPETITIONS AND CONTESTS

All competitions and contests are now posted on the Office of the Dean's bulletin board and on the bulletin board in the Cafeteria. Please see Dean Cohen for any additional information regarding these competitions.

REMINDER: NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION LEGAL ETHICS AWARD

The New York State Bar Association's Third Student Legal Ethics Award competition is designed to encourage activities in connection with the lawyer's role as representative of clients, officer of the legal system and public citizen having special responsibility for the quality of justice. The Award, with a \$500 cash payment, will be presented during our June, 1989 Commencement Exercises. Please see the main bulletin board for more information. If you have any questions, please see Dean Cohen. Independent Research papers, papers submitted for courses, Law Review articles or papers prepared specifically to meet the writing requirement are acceptable for consideration.

Deadline: April 14, 1989.

REMINDER: NATHAN BURKAN MEMORIAL WRITING COMPETITION

The Nathan Burkan Memorial Writing competition, sponsored by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, aims to increase the interest of students in the Law of Copyright and to improve legal writing. A \$500 and a \$200 prize will be awarded to Touro Law Center students who prepare the best two papers on any phase of Copyright Law. Papers prepared for other purposes are acceptable for consideration. For more information, see the main bulletin board or contact Dean Cohen.

Deadline: April 17, 1989.

REMINDER: INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEFENSE COUNSEL LEGAL WRITING CONTEST

The I.A.D.C. will sponsor a legal writing contest to all law students. Articles may concern any subject of the author's choice in the fields of tort law, insurance law, civil procedure, evidence or any other area of the law of concern to lawyers engaged in management and defense of civil litigation. Deadline: April 17, 1989.

A TOURO GRADUATE IN THE WHITE HOUSE

Dean Abner H. Groff has just been informed that The Honorable William James Canary, Jr., Class of '88, has been commissioned by President George Bush as Special Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs. Congratulations to William Canary, Jr. and to Touro Law Center!

TOURO BASKETBALL TEAM UPDATE

The Touro Basketball Team raised its record to 6-1 by defeating The Agents 61-51. Touro was led by Mike Krutman and Jim Jackson who scored 13 points each. Jordan Katz chipped in with 12 points, Pete Marinis scored 5 points, and Chris Lopiano scored 7 points at crucial times during the game. David Abatemarco graced the team with his presence for the third straight game and chipped in with 11 points! Mike Krutman was selected to represent Touro in the Huntington League All Star Game which will be played on February 6th at Oldfields Middle School. See Mike for details.

MAILBOXES FOR SPRING, 1989 MID-YEAR STUDENTS

Mailboxes for Spring, 1989 Mid-Year students are now in place. They are located immediately following the "Z" names, adjacent to the Legal Methods offices.

1988-1989 LAW CENTER STUDENT DIRECTORY

If you have not already picked up your copy of the 1988-89 Student Directory, please do so in Dean Cohen's office, Room 121.

"ROMANCE DANCE" ON FEBRUARY 16, 1989

Phi Alpha Delta and the Women's Bar Association are sponsoring a "Romance Dance" on Thursday, February, 16, 1989 in the Cafeteria. The time will be announced. All are welcome. Don't miss the fun!

SUMMER POSITIONS IN ENGLAND

All students interested in working at a British law firm in London this summer should contact Dean Cohen immediately. Two positions are available.

