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Student Life E-Newsletter March 18, 2024

Seattle University School of Law Student Life

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STUDENT LIFE

NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Student Life Events

Social Justice Monday: Pathologizing Racism: The Power of Critical Race Theory (CRT) to Show Us the Truth

Monday, March 18 from Noon – 12:50 p.m.

Location: Room C5 or via [Zoom Link](#)

In this intimate dialogue, **Professor Edwin Lindo**, Assistant Dean and Associate Teaching Professor at UW Medicine's Department of Bioethics and Humanities, will walk us through the need for CRT, the reasons it is and has been attacked, and how he and others bring the praxis of CRT to work in academia, community, and policy (in law and medicine). The objective is to interrogate how Racism has shown its cycles, where it aims next, and how the Law, no matter how hard it suggests it's trying, is not protecting society from the pathology of Racism. This conversation will not be a didactic presentation, but rather a critical conversation exploring the topic at hand.

Federalist Society: School Choice

Tuesday, March 19 at Noon

Location: Courtroom or via [Zoom Link](#)

Join us on March 19 at Noon for a discussion on litigating school choice with Braden H. Boucek, Vice President of Litigation at the Southeastern Legal Foundation. Braden will speak on the history of federal and state constitutional challenges to school choice litigation and, in particular, in Washington, and what we can expect beyond following the Supreme Court's decision in *Carson v. Makin* and *Kennedy v. Bremerton School District*.

American Constitution Society & If/When/How: Debunking the Fetal Personhood Legal Theory

Tuesday, March 19 at 1:00 pm

Location: Room C5 or via [Zoom Link](#)

The *Dobbs* decision paved the way for expansion of the "fetal personhood theory," the idea that fetuses (and perhaps embryos and/or zygotes) are persons with fundamental rights under the 5th and 14th Amendments. In the wake of *Dobbs*, courts face ever-more aggressive attempts to instantiate fetal personhood within constitutional law. Proponents of this theory have had some success, and the fetal personhood theory was most recently legitimized by the Alabama Supreme Court.

Seattle U's American Constitution Society and If/When/How are hosting Professors Erin Carr and Sital Kalantry to confront the fetal personhood theory and discuss its wide-ranging implications. Join us to learn about this next frontier of legal attacks on reproductive freedoms.

Family Law Society: The King of the Court Chess Tournament

Tuesday, March 19 at 6:00 pm

Location: Linda's Tavern

We have a very exciting fundraiser planned this year! We've partnered with the Seattle Chess Club to host the King of the Court Chess Tournament at Linda's Tavern! Registration is \$10 and all proceeds go to support the Family Law Society's future events and initiatives. The tournament is open to the public and players of all levels are welcome to come have fun with a community chess night! [Link to Form](#)

Womxn's Law Caucus: Bake Sale Fundraiser

Wednesday, March 20 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Location: Court Level

Our 1L representatives are organizing and hosting a bake sale fundraiser to raise money for SU Womxn's Law Caucus!

Health Law Society & If/When/How: Sex Ed. Trivia

Wednesday, March 20 from 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Location: Room C1

Join If/When/How and Health Law Society for Sex Ed. trivia! Top three winners will receive a gift card and tacos will be provided!

Filipino Law Students Association: Spring General Body Meeting

Thursday, March 21 from Noon – 1:00 pm

Location: Room 110 or via [Zoom Link](#)

Mabuhay! Please come out to FLSA's spring general body meeting, where we will discuss elections and Bylaws amendment, highlight upcoming events and programming, and join together as a community.

FLSA will provide a light lunch (inspired by the Filipino culture).

Barrister's Ball - ERAS OF POP CULTURE

Saturday, March 23 at MoPOP from 8:00 – midnight

[RSVP Link](#)

. Tickets are \$75 + EventBrite Fees

Tickets close on March 22. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

With over 220 tickets sold, join us at the largest student-attended event of the year. Come out to this annual event to celebrate the end of another academic year. Each ticket comes with two free alcoholic drink tickets redeemable for any drink at the bar, unlimited non-alcoholic drinks and food will be provided. The menu includes gluten free, vegetarian, and vegan options for your convenience. We recommend eating dinner before the event as food will be mainly appetizers. Tickets also include immersive experiences to several MoPOP galleries. Galleries that's included with admission includes:

- [Hendrix: Wild Blue Angel | MoPOP](#)
- [Guitar Gallery | Museum of Pop Culture \(mopop.org\)](#)
- [Nirvana Museum Exhibit: Taking Punk To The Masses | Seattle WA \(mopop.org\)](#)
- [Indie Game Revolution | MoPOP](#)
- New gallery, [Massive: The Power of Pop Culture \(mopop.org\)](#)
- On the 2nd floor we have [Sound Lab | Museum of Pop Culture \(mopop.org\)](#) and the [Hidden Worlds: The Films of LAIKA \(mopop.org\)](#)

We have a limited number of donated tickets for law students (no plus ones). If you'd like to attend, but cannot afford to attend, please fill out [Link](#). Donated tickets will be on a first-come, first-served basis and students will be notified by the end of business day on March 19.

Senator Manka Dhingra: Breaking Barriers - March 28 Fireside Chat with SeattleU Students

Thursday, March 28 at 12:15 pm

Location: Sullivan Hall, C5

[Zoom Link](#)

[Senator Manka Dhingra](#) will share wisdom from her beginnings as a law student to becoming the **first Sikh state legislator elected in the nation** in 2017 and the current day Deputy Majority Leader of the Washington State Senate. Among her achievements are Chair of the Senate Law & Justice Committee, founding the Senate Behavioral Health

Subcommittee and advancing legislation that reorients the behavioral health system around prevention rather than crisis response; and co-founding Chaya, an organization that assists **South Asian survivors of domestic violence**.

More Details: Buffet lunch provided for those who register (including samosa from Seattle Samosas!) Hosted in conversation with [Middle Eastern/South Asian Law Student Association](#) leaders, excerpts from the SikhLens film *Breaking Barriers for Manka Dhingra* will be screened.

Womxn of Color Coalition: Dinner with our Sistas

Thursday, March 28 from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: Sullivan Hall, 2nd Floor Gallery

Zoom Link

This dinner is to celebrate women of color in the legal field. The guests will enjoy a delicious meal and engaging conversation, sharing stories and insights about their experiences in the field. As the night progresses, the atmosphere will be electric with excitement and inspiration as these powerful women look toward the future and all its possibilities. **Keynote speech from Judge Rampersad.**

Attending students have the chance to win a Barbri \$500 Gift Card!

Moot Court Board

Order of the Barristers Applications are due this **Friday, March 22nd at 5:00pm**. If you have any questions or concerns email Tiana Pereira, Secretary ([Contact Email](#)). For other general questions about the Moot Court Board, please feel free to reach out to Sarah Wood, Chair ([Contact Email](#)) or Justin Gorney, Vice Chair ([Contact Email](#)).

Student Organization/Student Bar Association Announcements

BLSA Executive Board Applications for 2024-2025 are now open!

Those interested in running for an executive position should complete their application materials and return them to [Contact Email](#) by Wednesday, March 27, at 11:59 p.m. Elections will begin Monday, April 1, and will conclude Friday, April 5, at 11:59 p.m. Voting will take place through Connect SU.

King County Bar Association Virtual Speed Networking

Wednesday, March 20 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Location: Online

Join the KCBA New Lawyers Division for a dynamic virtual speed networking event tailored for law students! Connect with lawyers in your community, expand your network, and gain valuable insights into various legal fields. Sign up

here: [Sign-up Form Link](#)

Public Interest Law Foundation Auction

The 31st Annual PILF Auction comes to close after another record-breaking year! With the help of student, staff, faculty, and broader SU Law Community, PILF has fundraised over \$270,000 that will directly support the 2024 Student Summer Grant Program. Thank you to everyone who supported, donated, and attended the PILF Auction: BLOOM. For those who are interested, event photos can be viewed and downloaded here." [PILF Auction 2024 | Flickr](#)

Public Interest Law Foundation Grants

If you're working in a public interest internship this summer, be sure to apply for a Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF) grant. If you have partial funding (such as through the Judicial Intern Opportunity Program), you can apply for a partial grant.

PILF Summer Grant applications are available for download on [Form Link](#) page and are due no later than 11 p.m. on Monday, March 25.

SBA Appointed Positions

The following positions will be appointed to the Student Bar Association. Interested students can submit a resume and cover letter to Erin, Speed, [Contact Email](#) by **Monday, March 18, 11:59 pm PST**. Please see the [SBA Bylaws](#) for a description of each position.

Student Activities Representative	Graduate Student Council Representative
Student Services Representative	KCBA New Layers Division Representative
MLS Representative	WSBA Young Lawyers Division Representative
Transfer and Visiting Student Representative	ABA Law Student Division Representative

Dean's Office

Spring Cafecitos with Dean Varona

Dean Varona will be hosting *Cafecitos* this Spring in his office and over zoom. Cuban coffee and cookies will be available for students.

There is no agenda, so please bring any questions you may have for the Dean! Below are the available *Cafecitos* dates, times, and formats.

To register, simply send an email to me at [Contact Email](#) indicating your preference for date/time and identifying one alternate date/time.

- Wednesday, March 27: 12:00-1:00 pm (in-person)
- Saturday, April 13: 10:30-11:30 am (over zoom:
[Zoom Link](#))
- Wednesday, April 24: 12:00-1:00 pm (in-person)

Dean DiBiase, Associate Dean for Student Life, Diversity & Inclusion

Dean DiBiase will be available for Office Hours

Monday, March 18, 2024, from 5:00pm to 6:00pm.

[Zoom Link](#)

[Meeting Details](#)

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 from 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Office Drop-In (Room 210E)

Dean DiBiase is also available to meet with students by appointment: [Link to Book Appointment](#)

Other Announcements/Opportunities

Law Library

The Law Library needs your feedback to help us improve the Law Library's services and resources for all law students! Please take **15 minutes** to complete this optional survey:

[Google Form Link](#)

To show our appreciation for your time and insight, all survey participants will be eligible to enter a prize drawing. Prizes include a pair of [Gift Link](#) (\$350 value), four \$50 [VisaCard Link](#), and SU Law hats and water bottles.

The survey is open until March 31. Thank you for your participation. We look forward to hearing from you!

Ramadan Observance

The Law School will be providing light snacks and food for those that break their fast during Ramadan. Snacks will be laid out on the court level beginning March 19. A reminder that the law school has a meditation/prayer room, please email [Contact Email](#) for the access code.

Asian Bar Association of Washington – 2024 Spring Blossom Scholarship

Apply for the 2024 Asian Bar Association of Washington Student Scholarship Foundation (ABAWSSF) Spring Blossom Fellowship. Each year, ABAWSSF awards one fellowship grant of up to \$5,000 to a JD student who attends a law school in the State of Washington and will be working with a public interest/service organization during Summer of 2024 and whose work advances the rights of women and/or immigrants. Selection is competitive. Applications are due by April 12, 2024 at 5:00 pm PST. Information and details on how to apply can be found at following link: [Link to Form](#).

May 2024 Commencement Speaker Elections Begin Monday, March 18, 2024

It is time to elect your Student Speaker and Outstanding Faculty Award for the May 2024 Commencement Ceremony! Check your SU email Monday for a direct link to the vote. Elections close Friday March 22, 2024 at 11:00pm.

If you have questions, please reach out to the Law School Dean's Office at [Contact No.](#) or email [Contact Email](#).

Attention Graduates! We need Readers, Eucharist Ministers, and Gift Bearers for the Baccalaureate Mass

The Baccalaureate Mass is a tradition that celebrates and honors the graduating class. All students and their guests, regardless of religious affiliation, are invited to attend the Baccalaureate Mass on **Friday, May 17, 2024, at 4:30pm** in the Chapel of St. Ignatius. Readers must be baptized Christian or Catholic. Eucharist Ministers must be confirmed Catholic. Volunteers will need to be available Friday afternoon before the Mass for a rehearsal of the ceremony.

Graduating students who are interested in participating in the Baccalaureate Mass as Readers, Eucharist Ministers, or Gift Bearers should reach out to SBA President Erin Speed at [Contact Email](#) as soon as possible.

2024 WSBA Trial Advocacy Program - Scholarships Available

The annual WSBA Trial Advocacy Program (TAP) offers a two-day online intensive trial skills training followed by an in-person mock trial. This seminar is appropriate for attorneys working in either the criminal or civil arena with little or no trial experience.

You have the choice to attend the two-day CLE webcast on May 8 & 9 only, or you may attend the two-day CLE webcast and then participate in the mock trial at the WSBA office in downtown Seattle on Saturday, May 18. Attendees can earn up to 17.25 CLE credits for full participation in all three days.

Tuition for this program is deeply discounted for WSBA New Members. Additionally, WSBA New Member Programs will offer two scholarships for new and young lawyers to attend the 2024 program for free.

To learn more about TAP, register to attend, or download the scholarship application, please visit the [New Member Education webpage](#).

Family Defense in Practice

Friday, March 22 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Sullivan Hall, Room 110

[Zoom Link](#)

Join the Washington State Office of Public Defense, the Office of Civil Legal Aid, and various contracted family defense solo practitioners and law firms for a training and panel discussion on three landmark cases that have shaped race, culture, and equity issues in family defense in Washington State – and the attorneys who were at the forefront of litigating those cases.

Students will have the opportunity to personally interact with family defense attorneys, learn insight on what draws them to the work of family defense, the day-to-day challenges of serving as family defense attorneys, and why these attorneys continue to serve in this important role.

Joint Minority Mentorship Program (JMMP)

The mission of the JMMP is to promote the retention, growth, and success of minority* law students and new lawyers as they enter the legal profession, through formalized one-on-one mentorship matches and practical follow-up events throughout the year.

Participants will be formally matched, and pairs will create their own agreement regarding discussion topics, meetings, and follow-up. The formal program will last through the end of 2024. But we hope the relationships will continue beyond. [RSVP Link](#) to attend the **Kick-Off Event on Wednesday, March 27th from 6:00-8:30 pm at Foster Garvey's Seattle law office:** [Location](#).

Privacy in Practice Event

Wednesday, March 27 from 5:30 – 6:45 pm; 6:45 – 7:15 pm (Reception)
Sullivan Hall, Room 327 (and by Zoom)

*A Zoom link will be sent out closer to the event date for the Program / Interactive Q&A. Unfortunately, the Reception will not have a Zoom option.

Professors Chris Koa and Jake Bernstein cordially invite the Seattle University Law School community to attend an open session of their Privacy in Practice course on March 27. Special guest lecturer and past SU Alum of the Year Senator Joe Nguyễn (read his bio [HERE](#)) will share his experience advocating for privacy legislation in Washington.

Vietnamese American Bar Association of Washington Mentorship Mixer

Thursday, April 4 at 5:30 pm
Ryan, Swanson & Cleveland, PLLC (401 Union St. Suite 1500)

Calling all Mentees and Mentors—bring friends and colleagues. Open to all law students and legal professionals. Join VABAW for our Annual Spring Mentorship Mixer, sponsored by Ryan Swanson Law Firm. Food and drinks will be provided by our gracious hosts. We will pair off with mentors and mentees during the event at around 6:00pm. Feel free to bring business cards to exchange.

AT THE HEART OF LAW

Address