The Center for Excellence in Advocacy unites students, judges, law faculty, and practicing lawyers who share interests in a broad range of advocacy-related fields of law.

**Director's Message**

**Spotlight on Center Activities**

**Center Director Kaye’s 2012-13 Activities:**

- Speaker: Notorious Criminals: Does Forgiveness have a Place in the Justice System? First Baptist Church, Topeka, March 2013
- Organized and conducted mediation group: students meet weekly with graduate students of the Washburn University Psychology Department and practice mindfulness exercises and meditate
- Guest Instructor: Restorative Justice, taught two adult classes. Trinity Presbyterian Church, April, 2013
- Member of the Death Penalty Advisory Committee (Judicial Council) revising survey on costs of the death penalty in Kansas and selected a law student to assist the committee
- Worked closely with staff counsel for the Judicial Counsel and Professor Steve Cann of the Washburn University Political Science Department in preparing a survey on costs of the death penalty cases in Kansas
- Chair, Topeka Police Department Grievance Review Board
- Chaired hearings in which officers appeal from discipline orders imposed on them
- Organized Restorative Justice and Mediation program for Washburn Law that was held November 3, 2013.

This week-long program involved practitioners and scholars, and was for students, faculty, and lawyers, on mediation, restorative justice, and alternative dispute resolution training

- Panelist: KSU: The Trayvon Martin/Zimmerman trial, sponsored by the Black Student Organization of Kansas State. September 24, 2012
- Working on a paper about trial advocacy and mindfulness
- Involved in co-authoring an interdisciplinary article with a professor in the psychology department on the effect mindfulness training has in teaching trial skills. This past summer, a pilot study was conducted with our Intensive Trial Advocacy Program in which half the students received mindfulness training. The study will continue next summer.
- Member of the Dorothy L. Thompson Civil Liberties Lecture Committee at KSU; solicited two Washburn Law School faculty to lecture on constitutional law and civil rights
- Intensive Trial Advocacy Program (ITAP) - This is our flagship
advocacy training program. It is a total immersion experience in trial advocacy over seven days, culminating in a simulated jury trial. Enrollment is limited to 45 students. There are 22 highly experienced practitioners teaching in the program. They are also highly experienced advocacy instructors who have been teaching in the program for a number of years. The program is extremely popular.

- Coordinated the trial advocacy competition teams who attended the Texas Young Lawyers Trial Competition, the ABA Employment Law Competition, and the American Association for Justice Attorneys Associated for Justice Competition
- Developed new trial advocacy courses, most recently the Advanced Trial Advocacy Course; Kaye chose two new instructors and worked with them as they developed the trial advocacy course

**LUNCH & LEARNs**

- 9/17/2012: The Rule of Law at Home and Abroad: Why It Makes a Difference to All Parts of Society, presented by James R. Silkenat, incoming president of the American Bar Association
- 10/5/12: Limited Representation in Kansas, presented by Dispute Resolution Coordinator, Art Thompson
- 10/10/12: JAG Panel
- 11/8/12: Litigating High Profile Cases, presented by Reese Hays, ’06
- 11/30-12/1/12: Colorado Training Method for attorneys
- 1/19/13: IL Opening and Closing Competition
- 2/21/13: Advanced Advocacy in International Courts, presented by Jason Alarid
- 2/26/13: Ways to Reduce Law School Anxiety - Mindfulness May Be the Answer, presented by Michael Kaye and Nancy Maxwell
- 3/13/13: e-Discovery, presented by Tessa Jacobs
- 4/12/13: Jon Gray
- 4/15/13: Washburn Police Courtroom Training

### 2012-13 CENTER EVENTS

- 2/8-9/13: ABA Regional Client Counseling Competition
- 2/8/13: Viewing of Watergate II: The Cancer on the Presidency Ethics CLE
- 2/15-17/13: Undergrad Mock Trials
- 3/5/13: Law Enforcement Week, hosted by VLA W, sponsored by the Center for Law and Government and the Center for Excellence in Advocacy
- 4/10/13: Center for Excellence in Advocacy Annual Awards Ceremony, guest speaker Judge Thomas Marten

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**About Us**

Center mentorships, court observation opportunities, seminars, lectures, skills training courses, live-client clinics, and externship placements provide diverse opportunities for students to acquire strong advocacy skills. Participation in the Center also offers law students a guided path to future careers in advocacy-centered law practice.

Washburn Law has years of experience in advocacy skills training. Many noted trial lawyers and judges received their legal training at Washburn and many have returned to help train the newest generation of advocates. Talented practitioners teach a variety of specialized elective advocacy skills courses and spend time mentoring law students. Center mentorships, court observation opportunities, seminars, lectures, skills training courses, live-client clinics and externship placements provide diverse opportunities for students to acquire strong advocacy skills.

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