Sept. 4th: Labor Day Holiday
No School.

Sept. 11th: ‘Culture of Free Speech’ 12PM Courtroom
The Federalist Society will host a lecture featuring Professor Richard Duncan, Professor of Law, University of Nebraska School of Law. Refreshments provided.

Sept. 12th: Joint Degree Information Session 12PM Room 103
Learn about the excellent opportunities that USD Law provides for joint Master’s programs. Take advantage of this and attend.

Sept. 21st: Children’s Justice Conference 12PM
Sioux Falls Convention Center. Free registration and lunch provided. Please register if interested in attending ASAP through hyperlink above.

Sept. 27th: Combatting Human Trafficking in SD 6PM
Old Main—Farber Hall
All Law School students encouraged to attend.

Oct. 7th: Dakota Days 2017 Homecoming Event
USD v. Youngstown State.
Free tickets with student identification.
Law School Alumni tailgate tents, students encouraged to attend.

Oct 9th: Native American Day Holiday
No School.

If you have a meeting or other event for the calendar or would like to highlight an upcoming or past event or achievement with a story, please email Cody.D.Raterman@coyotes.usd.edu. All submissions welcome.
3Ls Battle in the Courtroom and in the Ring

On February 18, 2017, Iowa State University held an exhibition collegiate boxing competition. The competition took place in the basement of the State Gymnasium, a concrete bunker reminiscent of scenes from the 1990’s film Fight Club. Five universities brought teams to square-off against each other: University of South Dakota, Iowa State University, University of Iowa, Kansas State University, and Briar Cliff University.

Although most teams consisted of undergraduate students, the University of South Dakota team included two law school boxers. These students, Kaleb Paulsen (3L; heavyweight) and Brent Matter (3L; middleweight) had been practicing, sparring, and dieting for months in preparation for their bouts.

The students left Vermillion at 6:30 a.m. to trek the four hours of double-lane highways to make weigh-in before lunch.

Brent Matter weighed in at 164 lbs. and expected to spar in the middleweight division, but unfortunately, his competition forfeited the morning of the fight because of illness.

Kaleb Paulsen, at 230 lbs., was matched against a boxer slightly above 250 lbs. from Kansas State University; boxers were largely matched based on experience. However, the opposing boxer towered over Paulsen with a six inch height difference. Of particular interest, Paulsen and his competition both had previous experience as MMA (Mixed Martial Arts) competitors.

Paulsen’s heavyweight match was the ninth fight of the night, and the Co-Main Event. To prepare for his own fight, Paulsen acted as a corner coach for the other USD undergraduate boxers. These duties included shouting combinations to boxers mid-fight, giving encouragement, strategizing between rounds, and of course, holding the spit bucket. The USD undergraduate boxers (including two females) all competed admirably, and won two of three fights. When asked how he prepared for his fight, Paulsen replied, “stretching, mental visualization, breathing, snapchats, and relying on the time and training already put in.”

Paulsen said that the long drive and being up at such an early hour placed him at a disadvantage, but more importantly, fighting someone with significantly longer reach was at the top of his mind. “My strategy was to use his weight and reach against him. I was going to be on his inside and work over his ribs and chin, and tie-up (hug) with him to exhaust his back, and pick my shots carefully.”

“When the fight started, the room went from roars of cheers to dead silence. The only things I can focus on were my competition and the voice of my coach. It’s total tunnel vision.”

...Continued on Page 3
Paulsen stuck to his plan, he bobbed and weaved under the KSU student’s long reach, staying almost chest-to-chest throughout the first round. Paulsen landed many points (punches) and had his opponent stumble the first round. However, Paulsen’s headgear became loose and caused him to back off to fix it mid-fight instead of following through on opportunities to finish the fight first round.

The boxers were more reserved the second round, attempting to land calculated punches rather than swinging wildly. Paulsen managed to parry the KSU boxer’s numerous overhand straight punches (knockout-punches) and returned numerous light jabs and hooks. The strategy continued into the third round. Paulsen’s strategy of tiring out the goliath boxer by tying-up also worked, as the KSU boxer was visibly fatigued in the third round. By the last thirty seconds of the fight, the KSU student summoned every ounce of strength he had and began throwing haymakers more indicative of a fight outside the Char Bar than a collegiate boxing tournament. Because of this, Paulsen doubled down on his simple punch combinations to rack up as many points (hits) as possible to ensure a solid victory.

“Ding, Ding, Ding!” Three ninety-second rounds were over. Both heavyweights were drenched in sweat and breathing so hard you could see their ribs. The judge brought each boxer center stage, faced the crowd, and grabbed their wrists. He vaulted Paulsen’s left hand into the air. The crowd went wild with cheers. All three rounds went to Paulsen.

Paulsen and Matter committed roughly ten hours a week to boxing practice in addition to their law school studies. If any students are interested in joining the boxing club, please contact either Paulsen or Matter for more information.
Marsy’s Law Panel Finds Frightening Flaws

On February 27, 2017, the Criminal Justice Education Project (CJEP) hosted a panel discussion regarding the highly contentious Marsy’s Law. Panelists included Ryan Kolback, Traci Smith, Alexis Tracy, Jon Arneson, and Mark Walker.

“Well, first of all, it’s not really a law. Marsy’s Law is a Constitutional Amendment initiated by citizens and enacted by popular vote in South Dakota,” said Ryan Kolback, president of the South Dakota Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

The Amendment (Amendment S, commonly known as Marsy’s Law) passed on the November 8, 2016, General Election ballot. Voters passed the amendment by roughly 60%. The amendment enumerates nineteen separate rights for victims, beginning at the time of victimization. These are new rights that all South Dakotans have if they are victimized.

Because of the victim notification requirements (Number 7), the state has closed off access to accident records and some local police departments have stopped offering the addresses of where crimes occurred and the names of victims in crime report logs. This, and many sections within Marsy’s Law have caused ripple effects throughout various state and private agencies.

Alexis Tracy, Clay County State’s Attorney, was vocally against the Amendment because of the notification requirements. “Cases have been delayed because victims are unable to be notified. Likewise, large corporations like Wal-Mart are often victims; if there is petty theft at Wal-Mart, the clerk must be notified, the company must be notified, etc. County budgets have exploded from having to keep up with these notification requirements.”

Tracy noted that there have always been statutory rights for victims in South Dakota, but citizens were misled by the raw emotion behind Marsy’s Law, as shown by its proponents. She said, “This list of rights came from a good place, but they have put a significant strain upon the criminal justice system.”

...Continued on Page 5
She concluded that, “I don’t think our offices’ best efforts should be spent keeping the identity of a petty theft victim, like Wal-Mart in Vermillion, secret.”

Jon Arnenson, counsel for The Argus Leader (newspaper), discussed the Attorney General’s (AG) opinion from last December that allows State and local government entities to release motor vehicle crash reports without violating Marsy’s Law. “However, as law students know, the AG’s official opinion carries much respect, but is not comparable to a South Dakota Supreme Court decision. Since Jackley’s opinion doesn’t carry the force of law, we have a bit of chaos here.”

Mark Walker, writer for The Argus Leader, told the audience that contrary to the AG’s opinion, the Sioux Falls City Attorney, David Pfeifle, wrote an opposing opinion directing the Sioux Falls Police to stop providing details like the exact locations of crimes or the names of victimized businesses. “We (the media) used to be able to access the narrative of police reports. Media briefings used to take place every day where we could report where a crime occurred to the public. When Marsy’s Law came into effect, briefings were taken away. The police released the location of crimes only within the police beat (the large area where police patrol). Just recently, due to pressure from the public, Sioux Falls Police now release the nearest road intersections where a crime occurred.”

Walker gave an anecdote about how precise locations of accidents led the State Department of Transportation (DOT) to fix a deadly off-ramp; Walker’s newspaper article that included the number of deaths was the catalyst for DOT’s change. He also questioned the audience, “if there was a rash of break-ins and robberies in your neighborhood, wouldn’t you as a member of the public want to be alerted, so if nothing else, you are more alerted to suspicious behavior and can help law enforcement apprehend the bad guys?

Ryan Kolback, an attorney in Sioux Falls, criticized the Amendment for its vague language and systemic impacts. Kolback described one scenario where an abusive boyfriend made his victim assert their right to privacy (Right 6) and quash the case against the abuser, continuing the cycle of domestic violence. On the flip side, Kolback presented a scenario where a woman claimed that her boyfriend was being abusive, and then asserted her right to privacy just as a way to get him locked up, a vehicle for vengeance. “Constitutional rights to privacy can trump a subpoena. In the world of domestic violence prevention and protection, this Amendment is a travesty.”

One question that each speaker dwelt upon, but could not answer conclusively, is whether or not Marsy’s Law rights need to be asserted—like rights under Miranda—or, if the right is inherent.

As the legislature can’t overturn or re-write the measure until 2018, the panel concluded the only hope of repeal is if the courts find the law unconstitutional.
NALSA: Water Protectors Provide Unity and Education

On February 22, 2017, the USD School of Law Native American Law Students Association (NALSA) and the Environmental Law Society (ELS) hosted a panel discussion on water rights of indigenous peoples.

The event focused mainly on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in North Dakota, where tribes from across the nation have been standing in protest against development of a 1,172 mile oil pipeline the past year. The Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) is designed to cross hundreds of waterways, including the Missouri River—which flows just a few miles from Vermillion, SD. Water protectors, as the protestors call themselves, want to bring attention to DAPL and highlight the threat of water security and the threat of potential for catastrophic contamination.

As guests entered the courtroom, a powerful song was playing in the background from Proflic The Rapper, which included a call to action for all peoples:

“If you are a human being you belong to this Earth. Stand up for your mother with Standing Rock.”

Welcoming the crowd, Gene Think Elk, USD Native American Student Services Director, gave a short Lakota prayer, and four undergraduate students performed a traditional song.

The first panelist, Myanna Dellinger, Associate Professor of Law and Fulbright Scholar recipient, described the current national state of affairs regarding air and water pollution. Focusing on fossil fuels, she noted that US climate change goals under President Obama were to reduce emissions 26-28% by 2025—as compared to 2005 figures—and to limit CO₂ emission from power plants by 30% by 2030.

Dellinger highlighted national trends moving away from oil and gas products into renewable power production. For example, Texas has increased renewable power production from 2 to 16% in the past 15 years, and has become the second largest employer in the renewable energy job sector.

...Continued on Page 7
Focusing on South Dakota, Dellinger explained South Dakota has more electricity generated from hydroelectric power than from any other source (e.g., coal, nuclear), accounting for 73% of total net electricity generation. Further, 94% South Dakota’s land area is suitable for wind resource development.

Dellinger ended the presentation with a Cree Indian Proverb: “Only when the last tree has died and the last river has been poisoned and the last fish caught will we realize we cannot eat money.”

The next panelist was Dion Killsback, who is Senior Attorney at Rosette, LLP, is partner at an Indian Law Firm in Phoenix, AZ. Killsback was the former General Counsel to the Jicarilla Apache Nation, and is an enrolled member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe. Killsback discussed legal issues with DAPL, and ways in which litigation is an important avenue to maintain sovereignty. His overview of Indian water rights included discussion on economic and energy development, fee-to-trust issues, natural resource and cultural rights protection, and sacred sites protection.

Frank Pommersheim, Professor of Law, discussed the historical relationship between the United States and Indian tribes through the use of treaties. Pommersheim emphasized, “It is important to remember that the predicate to any treaty is sovereignty... and if it would have been true that the US agreed to use the vehicle of a treaty as a primary way of interacting with Native peoples throughout history, we probably wouldn’t be in the situation we are today.”

Next, Sean Kammer, Associate Professor of Law, provided information regarding the environmental impact of oil spills to waterways in the US.

Willie Bearshield, Tribal Council Member for the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, concluded with a discussion on tribal leadership and responsibilities. He also shared that he was present at all the hearings for DAPL and has provided support for the Standing Rock Tribe and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe’s lawsuits.

Jessica FourBear, President of the Native American Law Students Association said, “I am proud of the University of South Dakota School of Law faculty and students for been involved with this subject since the its inception; before DAPL became an international issue, our school was on the forefront of disseminating information and raising awareness. This event was about education and unity. Based on the size of group that gathered, we achieved both.”
Staff Spotlight:  
Professor Nikki McCain

The USD School of Law welcomed Nikki McCain as Director of the Low-Income Tax Clinic on February 1, 2017. Originally from Nashville, Tennessee, the directorship enticed her to relocate to Vermillion.

Professor McCain received her undergraduate degree at Middle Tennessee State, majoring in Political Science. Immediately afterwards she enrolled in law school at Florida Costal School of Law in Jacksonville, Florida. After completing a JD, McCain extended her education by attending Sturm College of Law at the University of Denver, obtaining an LLM in Taxation.

McCain initially wanted to be a prosecutor prior to attending law school. However, she ended up taking a tax class and fell in love.

“The subject [tax] itself is interesting as the law is fairly definite, plus I am self-professed math person.”

The purpose of the Clinic at USD Law is to provide pro bono representation to individuals with possible tax liability. “Generally, we are advocates for those without the means to help themselves.”

McCain’s goals for the Tax Clinic include increasing case load, continuing to format the existing program, garner interest amongst students, and community engagement.

Although the population and amenities that Vermillion offers are radically different than Denver, Jacksonville, and Nashville, McCain finds the community here to be exceptional. “Vermillion has a feeling of home that I have never experienced before, the community is so nice and accepting. Also, it is nice to get around within five minutes and have available parking.”

McCain is a first-generation lawyer, and formed her own tax practice in Nashville.

“When I was on a plane coming to South Dakota for my interview, an older man talked my ear off about pheasant hunting. I’m excited to give it a try.”

If students are interested in taxation or getting involved in the Tax Clinic, McCain’s door is always open.
Two Attend NALSA Moot Court Tournament at UCLA

The National Native American Law Student Association (NALSA), in partnership with the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law (UCLA) and the UCLA Chapter of NALSA, hosted the 25th Annual NNALSA Moot Court Competition on March 8th. The Moot Court Competition featured 64 teams from 30 schools from across the country. Jessica FourBear (JD ’17) and Moreau FourBear (3L) represented the University of South Dakota School of Law as two of the 128 brilliant up-and-coming legal minds in Indian law.

At the tournament, prestigious Indian law attorneys, judges, and professors from around the nation volunteered to critique participants' briefs and oral advocacy skills. These Moot Court participants traveled from every corner of the nation to compete.

The Moot Court problem related to the Indian Reorganization Act and involved how the Secretary of the Interior inappropriately applied the act in placing Indian lands into trust. Moreau noted that the issue was multifaceted as it had an administrative law issue in tandem to the overarching Indian law issues.

"We had to argue whether the Secretary had proper authority to place land in trust, and whether the decision was arbitrary and capricious."

The USD team received high marks for their off-brief, and notable comments from judges on their professionalism and mastery of the case law. Although they did not make it into the final rounds, Jessica FourBear said, "We utilized every skill in advocacy taught by professors—like Horton, Hutton, Pommersheim, Hess, and McKey—and the judges were impressed. Unfortunately, our brief score was a bit lower than we needed to break the top 16."

In order to prepare, the USD team spent a substantial amount of time researching their Moot Court problem, and practicing their oral advocacy with USD professors. Dean & Professor of Law Emeritus Barry Vickrey acted as the team's coach and provided guidance to the team. However, as Vickrey was in California, the team had to give practice oral arguments to Vickrey over Skype. Professors of Law Hutton and Pommersheim also helped provided assistance by critiquing the team's oral advocacy in the USD Law School’s Courtroom.

Both Jessica and Moreau believed preparation for the tournament itself was an almost overwhelming amount of work, but it was worthwhile to receive high praise from their judges and compete against the best in the nation. They highly recommend the tournament to any students that have intellectual curiosity in Indian Law, and are willing to work hard.
Alaska Tax Clinic, 2017

University of South Dakota School of Law students, traveled to Hooper Bay, AK, this past February, to act as volunteer tax return preparers for indigent persons. The students were part of USD Law’s Alaska Tax Practicum class headed by Experiential Learning Director, Ramon Ortiz. The practicum is sponsored by the Alaska Business Development Center (ABDC), a nonprofit corporation that has provided business and tax related services to rural communities in Alaska for the last forty years.

The students, Mallory Schulte (JD ‘17), Mike Teigum (JD ‘17), Stephania Greenwood (3L), and their team leader, took several airplanes to reach the frozen coastal village of Hooper Bay. Another group of students, Amanda Schmuck (3L), Alafia Wright (JD ‘17), and James Jund (JD ‘17) traveled to other locations, including Arctic Village and Ft. Yukon, AK.

For Stephania Greenwood, returning to Alaska was a trip down memory lane as she spent a majority of her childhood in Alaska. “I was prepared for the cold and the culture, but not for the emotional impact that the trip would leave with me.”

Many of the indigent persons whom the USD Law students assisted had recently suffered catastrophic losses to their family, as the cold winter had taken many lives. Greenwood said, “I took care of the couple who the night before had flown into the village with their deceased one-month-old baby. The weather was very windy so they hadn’t been sure that they would have even been able to make it in for the funeral as planned and would have had to reschedule it.”

Despite the sadness, Greenwood was touched by the closeness of the community and tremendous support given to the family.

“While I was preparing the tax return, people popped their heads in to wish the couple strength through this tough time or they came over and hugged the couple. That same afternoon, the
village held the funeral for the baby.”

USD Law students had the opportunity to dine on local cuisine and partake in delicacies not found in South Dakota. For example, students were introduced to “Eskimo Salad,” a combination of leftover fish and meat from the previous fishing and hunting seasons (e.g., beluga, halibut, deer, etc.) mixed with spice and any available vegetables or starches. This combination of foods is culturally important to the Yup’ik people. When stored supplies become spares, the community brings together what they have to make sure every member of their community is fed.

Law students also saw the Yup’ik tribal courthouse and local the local K-12 school. Of interest, students in elementary school have language immersion in both English and Yup’ik.

In reflection, Greenwood said, “this experience is vital to expanding students’ understanding outside of the classroom. In our profession, we help people through our human interactions. The Alaska Trip is an excellent opportunity to combine hands-on experience with meaningful interactions that have a tangible benefit. I hope future classes will take part in this learning opportunity.” Greenwood added, “I also received quite a few giant bear hugs and heard, ‘Quyana Tukniq’ - which translates to ‘Thank you...’

ADR Makes Semi-Finals in National Competition

The ADR Board sent two teams to Charlotte, North Carolina on February 11, 2017, to compete in an ABA Client Counseling Regional Tournament. Competitors included Kody Kyriss (JD ’17) and 3Ls Cliff Kephart, Tanner Fitz, and Rachelle Norberg. Tanner and Cliff advanced to the semifinal round, competing well against teams from Duke University School of Law, the University of North Carolina School of Law, and the University of South Carolina School of Law.

The ADR Board also sent two teams to Buffalo, New York in March to compete in an ABA Mediation Regional Tournament. Competitors included Ryker Tieszen (JD ’17) and Aaron Lougheed (JD ’17) and 3Ls Mariah Bloom and Ashley Hemphill. Both teams competed well against teams from Brooklyn Law School, Fordham University School of Law, and William and Mary Law School.
Emeritus Professor Speaks at KU Law Symposium

John Davidson, Professor of Law Emeritus, retired in 2007 after teaching for 35 years at the University of South Dakota School of Law. Since then, Davidson has pursed bro bono work for agricultural and environmental organizations, and invested his time in writing and lecturing about protecting grassland ecosystems.

Most recently, Davidson lectured at the University of Kansas School of Law’s Kansas Journal of Law & Public Policy Symposium, “Grasslands: Balancing Preservation and Agriculture in the World’s Most Imperiled Ecosystem.” As a panelist, Davidson spoke largely on grassland preservation with reference to his academic article, Securing North America’s Great Carbon Ocean By Preserving Ranching (2017).

“As 3.2 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide were emitted due to grasslands being plowed between 2009-2015, not to mention the trillions of gallons of water filtered through the plains, this issue of grassland protection is important.”

Davidson’s call to action is to begin with amending the Farm Bill. “There is an incentive for ranchers to plow their grassland and sow in soybeans or corn because ethanol is economic protection. The 2018 Farm Bill is being written as we speak. The logical place to have incentives and protections for ranchers. Just like we asked Brazil to manage their tropical rainforests from destruction, we need to invest in protecting our grasslands.”

Other ideas include voluntary initiatives on a state level. Land trusts and easements create perpetual conservation, and mentorship programs pass down conservationist techniques from one generation to the next.

Davidson has long been interested in conservation and environmentalism. “I taught at George Washington University Law School in the early 70s when the Clean Water Act was passed.” He jokes, “I was an environmentalist before word became popular.”

Jim Adams, former Dean of the USD Law School, scouted Davidson and brought him to the prairies of South Dakota in late 1972. Davidson fell in love with the area and made Vermillion his home.
On February 25, 2017, the ADR Board hosted its annual 1L Intraschool Client Counseling Competition. 13 teams competed in the competition with Paige Petersen and Erica Ramstad placing 3rd, Samantha Hasbell and Olivia Siglin placing 2nd, and Erin Willadsen and Hannah Purtell winning the tournament.

The ADR Board would like to thank the volunteer clients and judges for their dedication to this program. Without the help of these committed volunteers, events like this would never blossom into fruition. The ADR Board would also like to thank the students who participated, and hope each walked away having improved their skills in client counseling.

For more information about ADR, please stop by their office located in the west hallway of the Law School.
A Long Way From Home

In addition to the commitment to South Dakota students, the School of Law believes that out-of-state students bring a diversity of experiences that add an important dimension to the educational community here at the Law School. The purpose of this section is to highlight three out-of-state students and discuss why they chose USD Law.

A Place to Raise My Family

For many, the transition into law school as a non-traditional student is a challenge. After serving in the U.S. Army for ten years on active duty immediately prior to law school, Branden Nethken (3L) is not the type of person deterred from an obstacle.

Originally from Falcon, Colorado (Pop. Est. 10,000), which is 15 miles northeast of Colorado Springs and home to the second longest golf course in the nation, Nethken sought a law school nestled in a small community. As a father and husband, Nethken also was interested in a community that held great employment opportunities for his wife and an outstanding elementary school for their daughter. Being active duty, attending law school at a military friendly university was also valued in making a final decision. Having applied and been accepted to six different law schools, Nethken decided on USD School of Law due to the affordability of tuition, cost of living in Vermillion, and general closeness to Colorado.

Nethken had never been to South Dakota prior to enrolling, and canvassed friends and colleagues for advice. It was his father-in-law’s friend—who grew up in Yankton, South Dakota—that solidified their choice: he said, “Vermillion is a great place to raise a family: It’s small; you can leave your car and house unlocked; and, everything is within walking distance from your home.”

Nethken is currently the President of Moot Court and Vice President of the Veteran’s Legal Education Group.

His advice for non-traditional students: “Your grades reflect the amount of work you put into it. Time management and staying organized are the keys for success in law school. Get involved in boards, and don’t be afraid to get to know your classmates and professors.”

Hannah and Branden Nethken (3L)
Rip-Roarin’ Roper Roams to USD Law

Clay Crozier hails from the small town of Roosevelt (Pop. Est. 7,000) in the rolling country side of northeastern Utah. A calf roper and bronc rider, Crozier originally wanted to study equine science or veterinary medicine. However, a random experience in public speaking set him on a path into politics and the law.

While attending Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah, Crozier hurt his back doing rodeo.

“When you fall off the horse, you have to get back on or the animal believes itself to be your superior. The problem was, this one horse just kept kicking me off and after a full day of getting bucked to the ground, I was injured.”

Due to his injury, Crozier explored other interests that involve taming wild animals: politics. Crozier interned and paged for state and national representatives, and fell in love with criminal justice. He also teamed up with a buddy for a mock trial competition at their university, and ended up winning. Crozier noticed all of the politicians he worked for had a law degree and experience in the courtroom. Naturally, he chose to follow in their footsteps.

“I ran into Nick McInerne (former USD School of Law Admissions Director) at a Utah Law School Fair. Of the 100 or so booths, USD’s stood out to me. He explained the different programs the school provides, the affordable tuition, and small community. I was sold.”

Crozier enrolled without ever stepping foot in South Dakota. His first visit to Vermillion was the day prior to orientation.

“I was really stunned at how beautiful the city of Vermillion and the USD campus were. The Vermillion City website does not do the town justice. And USD’s website fails to show how big and beautiful the architecture is in comparison to the rest of the town.”

Crozier was also surprised that the Chief Justice of the South Dakota Supreme Court was part of the orientation week at USD Law. Expecting a non-eventful and boring orientation where students were shown the ropes, Crozier said, “It was a huge surprise to have the opportunity to hear from Chief Justice Gilbertson and meet him personally on the first day; that would not have happened in Utah.”

The only thing Crozier was not prepared for in coming to South Dakota was the humidity during the fall. “The Missouri is a few miles away; it gets sticky around here during the summer.”
Less Than Two Hours Away

As Ida Grove, Iowa, (Pop. Est. 2,200) is just shy of 100 miles from the USD campus, it is hard to call the trip long journey. However, home is where the heart is, and Ryan Gaskins’ heart is in Ida Grove.

A USD undergrad, Gaskins fell in love with the campus and wanted to continue his legal education here in South Dakota. Although he was accepted to Creighton School of Law (IA) and Roger Williams University School of Law (RI), his mentor and favorite professor, Michael (Mike) Roche, JD, LLM, S.J.D., encouraged Gaskins to attend to USD Law.

As a former undergraduate, Gaskins was also largely familiar with the cultural environment of USD Law, having visited the school numerous times. In tandem to knowing the school, Gaskins also had friends and fraternity brothers that matriculated from the Criminal Justice undergraduate program into the law school.

“After the first day of orientation, I knew that I had made the right choice.”

Although Gaskins was familiar with the environment and had friends that attended, he had not prepared himself academically for the challenges ahead.

“The amount of work, time, and energy, is way more than I was prepared for by friends. It took me a while to solidify good study habits and to adjust to the lifestyle of a first year law student.”

The welcoming atmosphere was another reason Gaskins was thankful for his decision to attend USD Law. “My favorite memories so far have been the social events hosted by the 2Ls. The community building and mentorship programs help students transition into their professional academic lives.”

ADR Announcements:

The ADR Board recently held their elections for the 2017-18 school year and would like to congratulate the following board members on their new positions:

President – Rachelle Norberg
Vice President – Clif Kephart
1L Negotiation Competition Coordinator – Mariah Bloom
1L Client Counseling Competition Coordinator – Tanner Fitz
Regional Mediation Competition Coordinators – Bert Bucher & Drake Hagen
Jacquelyn Wilson Wins 2017 Sam Masten Tournament

The annual USD School of Law Sam Masten Moot Court Tournament concluded on March 27, 2017, with the final round held in the USD School of Law courtroom. Named after Samuel W. Masten (USD Law ’46), a beloved litigator in South Dakota, the tournament consisted of thirty-two participating first-year law students presenting oral arguments in a hypothetical case, where each student had researched and prepared an appellate brief. Each first-year student then presented their arguments before volunteer judges, including members of the Moot Court Board, alumni of USD School of Law, attorneys, judges and faculty.

Jacquelyn Wilson of Lemmon, South Dakota, became this year’s Sam Masten champion, narrowly defeating Kate Vietor, from Lennox, South Dakota. The final round was argued in the Law School Courtroom before members of the South Dakota Supreme Court, United States Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit, and state Circuit Court Judges.

“The Sam Masten tournament allows the first-year students to take what they have learned in the Fundamental Legal Skills course and apply it in a real-world setting,” said Branden Nethken, President of the Moot Court Board. “There are very few law schools in the nation in which first-year students get to present oral arguments before practicing lawyers, judges, and justices.”

The Sioux Falls law firm of Woods, Fuller, Shultz & Smith P.C., hosted a reception, open to all students, faculty, staff and others who helped or participated, immediately following the final round.

Best Brief Awards were given to Hannah Purtell (2L) and Tracy Miller (2L)
# Student Organization Directory

The Student Organization Directory is located on [TWEN](#). If any information is incorrect, please update the information with Connie in the Dean’s Suite.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Primary Contact</th>
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<tr>
<td>First Year Class</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Year Class</td>
<td>Jacquelyn Wilson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Jacquelyn.Wilson@coyotes.usd.edu">Jacquelyn.Wilson@coyotes.usd.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Year Class</td>
<td>Kaleb Paulsen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Kaleb.Paulsen@coyotes.usd.edu">Kaleb.Paulsen@coyotes.usd.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative Dispute Resolution</td>
<td>Rachelle Norberg</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Rachelle.Norberg@coyotes.usd.edu">Rachelle.Norberg@coyotes.usd.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Law Student Association</td>
<td>Isaac Wheelock-Bouwman</td>
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<td>China Honorary Ambassadors Law Students Assn.</td>
<td>Prof. Tom Simmons</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Tom.Simmons@usd.edu">Tom.Simmons@usd.edu</a></td>
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<td>Criminal Justice Education Project</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:Cody.d.raterman@coyotes.usd.edu">Cody.d.raterman@coyotes.usd.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Delta Theta Phi</td>
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