DETAILS REGARDING SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ANTONIN SCALIA VISIT TO ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY

In last week’s newsletter, we announced that United States Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia will be visiting St. Thomas University on November 15, 2011. Now, we are providing details regarding Justice Scalia’s visit. Classes on Tuesday will be cancelled from 10:15 a.m. until 3:15 p.m.; class will resume at 3:30 p.m. This event will begin promptly at 10:30 a.m. in the Fernandez Family Center for Leadership and Wellness. Because we are expecting a large crowd for the Academic Convocation, please try to arrive in time to be seated by 10:30 a.m. Justice Scalia will discuss The Role of a Catholic Law School. Everyone is invited to attend.

From 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m., we will have a law school only event, “A Conversation with Justice Scalia,” again in the Fernandez Family Center for Leadership and Wellness. This segment is for law students, and full time and adjunct law faculty only. Please arrive early so we can begin on time without interruption.

For the Conversation portion of the program, we would like to ask Justice Scalia questions from our students. If you have a question you would like him to answer, please e-mail it to Keyanna Hartley, khartley@stu.edu, by Thursday, November 10, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. General questions, rather than questions tied to particular cases or pending matters, will be best.

Students should fill out an attendance verification form for each session (morning and afternoon) and turn it in before exiting the Fernandez Family Center on Thursday.

MOOT COURT TEAM WINS BEST BRIEF IN CRIMINAL PROCEDURE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT IN SAN DIEGO

Two St. Thomas Law Moot Court teams completed at the 2011 National Criminal Procedure Tournament in San Diego. The student competitors were Shannon Healy, Christina Camacho, Nicole Kwapisz, and AnnaMarie Mitchell, and the student coaches were Michelle Narganes and Kyle Teal.

Forty-four teams from law schools around the country competed in this tournament. Shannon Healy and Christina Camacho won the award for Best Brief of Respondent in the competition, making it the second years in a row that our school has won a best brief award at this national competition. This is a rare achievement for which everyone in the St. Thomas law community should be extremely proud. In addition, Shannon and Christina advanced to the quarterfinal round of 16 teams. All four of our competitors did very well in their oral argument rounds and received many favorable comments from the judges.

The St. Thomas Law Moot Court team has had the benefit of Adjunct Professor Howard Blumberg serving as faculty advisor. Assistant Professor Gary Kravitz assisted in preparing the competitors for the oral argument rounds. Alumna Aileen Penate and alumnus Michael Vera also help coached the team.
FACULTY ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to announce that Visiting Assistant Professor Keith Rizzardi has been selected to chair the U.S. Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee. The U.S. Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee advises the Secretary of Commerce on all matters concerning living marine resources. Among other things, the Committee is working on National Ocean Policy and the Gulf Coast Restoration (post-BP). He will serve as chair the Committee from December 2011 to December 2013. He was initially appointed to the Committee in 2009 by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

CONSIDER SUMMER-IN-SPAIN PROGRAM

This summer, St. Thomas Law, in association with Barry Law School, co-sponsor the Summer-in-Spain program. Students at both schools (and other A.B.A. accredited schools) spend one month studying in El Escorial, Spain. El Escorial is beautiful little town, located about 45 minutes north of Madrid. Students take two 3-credit classes. The classes offered this year are Comparative Law, Global Perspectives on Tort Recovery, Comparative Constitutional Law, and Selected Topics in International Law. The Director of the program is Monsignor Andrew Anderson. The program is one of the most cost effective study abroad programs offered by any A.B.A. accredited law school. The entire cost for the 6 credits, room, and board (double occupancy room and two meals per day) is $5,975.00. Students can elect a single occupancy room for an additional $900.00. Airfare and ground transportation is the student’s responsibility.

This year, in addition to the classes in Spain, students have the option of electing to add an additional 1-credit class, Comparative Water Law, which is taught the week before the Spain program in Delft, Netherlands. The additional one credit course and room and board for that component is $1,000.00.

There will be an informational session on the Summer-in-Spain program on Thursday, November 10, 2011, from noon to 1:00 p.m. in Room A112. Pizza and sodas will be served. For more information, students also can visit the St. Thomas Law Website and click on the Summer-in-Spain link.

VETERAN’S RECOGNITION RECEPTION AT ST. THOMAS LAW

Veteran’s Day is this Friday, and St. Thomas Law will host a law school reception on Thursday evening, November 10, 2011, to honor those in the law school community who have provided national service. We welcome those in the student body, on the staff, and on the full time or adjunct faculty who are veterans, are on active duty, or have children, parents, spouses, partners, brothers or sisters on active duty in the service or who serve in the Reserves or the National Guard, or are a veteran of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, or Coast Guard, or are a former member of AmeriCorps, the Public Health Service, the Merchant Marine, or the Peace Corps, or a former Teach for America teacher, or have done similar national service.

The reception will be held in the Atrium on Thursday, November 10, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. To help us order appropriate refreshments, please e-mail Ms. Keyanna Hartley at khartley@stu.edu if you will be able to attend.

LOAN REPAYMENT OPTIONS

December 2011 graduates are invited to join Andy Marrero, our Student Affairs and Financial Aid Advisor, for a discussion on what you need to know before you start paying back your loans.

This event will take place on Thursday, November 10, 2011, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m., in Room 219. Please RSVP to Andy Marrero at amarrero@stu.edu by Wednesday, November 9, 2011. Lunch will be provided.