

Appendix B : Student Life & Organizations

Student Organizations

American Constitution Society

The American Constitution Society is a national organization of law students, law professors, practicing lawyers, and others. We seek to revitalize and transform the legal debate, from our classrooms to our courtrooms. We seek to counter the dominant vision of American law today, a narrow conservative vision that lacks appropriate regard for the ways in which the law affects people's lives. We seek to restore the fundamental principles of human dignity, individual rights and liberties, genuine equality, and access to justice to their rightful—and traditionally central—place in American law.

Appalachian School of Law Recycling Program

Appalachian School of Law Recycling Team was established to further the preservation of the greater Grundy area and the larger global environment by recycling. Each week over 1,500 aluminum cans and around five hundred pounds of paper are collected and recycled by law school students. The team collects electronic recyclables, such as laptops and cell phones, each spring. In 2006, the team also began recycling printer cartridges. All funds collected by the program benefit the L. Anthony Sutin Endowment Fund, which helps to defray the cost of tuition for area students interested in public service law. The ASL Recycling Program saw student involvement in recycling increase over ten times between the Fall of 2004 and the Spring of 2006. Currently, the ASL Recycling Program is comprised of approximately fifty law students. Membership in the ASL Recycling Program also helps students secure community service hours required for graduation from ASL.

Association of Women in Law

Association of Women in Law (“Where there’s A.W.I.L., there’s a way”) is an egalitarian, consensus-based organization concerned with issues facing women in law. The group, which welcomes all students, participates in community service projects, networks with women lawyers in the Appalachian School of Law region, and hosts discussions of gender-related topics.

ASL Memorial 5K Run/Walk

The ASL Memorial 5K Run/Walk, held annually the first Saturday morning in April with a pasta dinner provided the Friday prior to the race, is a community service project designed to foster and promote the memory of Tony Sutin, Tom Blackwell, and Angela Dales. The organized event endeavors to build stronger ties with the local community while offering community service opportunities to ASL staff and volunteers. Proceeds of the race benefit the Anthony Sutin and Thomas Blackwell Endowment Scholarship Funds, which benefit future ASL students in memory of those who died on January 16, 2002.

Black Law Students Association

The purpose of the Black Law Students’ Association is to represent the diverse views of the black community through the black law students and associates who represent them at Appalachian School of Law; to promote the welfare of its members through educational, professional, cultural, and social programs; and to provide a forum for the discussion of local and national issues affecting both the black law student community and ASL community as a whole.

Christian Legal Society

The Christian Legal Society (“CLS”) is a non-denominational membership organization of lawyers, judges, law professors, and law students, working in association with others, to follow the command of Jesus “to do justice with the love of God.” (Luke 11:42, Matthew 23:23). CLS is international in scope, with more than 90

attorney chapters and 165 law student chapters located in more than 1100 cities, in all 50 states and in 10 foreign countries. The mission of CLS is to identify, equip, and mobilize “a national grassroots network of lawyers and law students committed to proclaiming, loving and serving Jesus Christ, through all that we do in the practice of law, and by advocating biblical conflict reconciliation, public justice, religious freedom and the sanctity of human life.” The ASL chapter of CLS meets regularly throughout the school year to share prayer, Bible study, and fellowship. The chapter also works on projects of service to ASL and the community. All are welcome to attend.

Criminal Law Society

The Criminal Law Society of Appalachian School of Law is dedicated to keeping students informed of developments in the criminal law area, as well as increasing students’ exposure to networking and career opportunities. Toward this end, the Society will sponsor discussion groups, invite outside speakers, and promote curricular and co-curricular activities in the criminal law field. The Society is apolitical; however, the Society will facilitate student membership in political groups representing defense attorneys or prosecutors.

Democratic Law Society

The Democratic Society at Appalachian School of Law exists to facilitate and encourage the full participation of all ASL students in choosing their elected officials and controlling their political destiny. It is dedicated to the preservation of all of the rights enumerated in Article I of the Constitution. The Democratic Society of ASL exercises full equality with Democratic organizations in other law schools in controlling the activities and establishing the principles of the national Democratic Party. Our Society endorses the principles contained in the Charter of the Democratic Party of the United States, bound always by the United States Constitution.

Federalist Society

The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies is a group of conservatives and libertarians interested in the current state of the legal order. It is founded on the principles that the state exists to preserve freedom, that the separation of governmental powers is central to our Constitution, and that it is emphatically the province and duty of the judiciary to say what the law is, not what it should be. The Society seeks both to promote an awareness of these principles and to further their application through its activities.

Outlaw

The Outlaw is a student organization affiliate of the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association (NLGLA), a national association of lawyers, judges, and other legal professionals. Its mission includes keeping its members and the ASL community informed of the effects of current law on people based on their sexual orientation. The Alliance has sponsored film nights and discussion groups in the past. In the future, the Alliance also plans to host outside speakers on LGBT topics. Membership is open to all members of the ASL community.

Phi Alpha Delta

The L. Anthony Sutin Chapter of the Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity was chartered in 2002. Phi Alpha Delta is the world’s largest legal fraternity. The purpose of the fraternity is to form a strong bond uniting students and teachers of the law with members of the Bench and Bar in a fraternal fellowship designed to advance the ideals of liberty and equal justice under law; to stimulate excellence in scholarship; to inspire the virtues of compassion and courage; to foster integrity and professional competence; to promote the welfare of its members; and to encourage their moral, intellectual, and cultural advancement; so that each member may enjoy a lifetime of honorable professional and public service.

Phi Delta Phi

The Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity, established in the year 1869 to promote a higher standard of professional ethics, is among the oldest legal organizations in North America. It holds a unique position in the

history of the North American bench, bar, and ASLs. Phi Delta Phi is the world's largest legal fraternity whose membership is restricted to students and practitioners of the law. Phi Delta Phi holds monthly meetings for fellowship and planning. Yearly events include: "GrundyPalooza," an Initiation Ceremony and cocktail party in the Fall Semester and "Ethics Week" in the Spring semester

Republican Law Students Association

The RLSA is a local Republican student organization formed at Appalachian School of Law to foster and promote the mission and goals of the Republican Party. All ASL students, faculty, and staff are welcome to join. The RLSA holds bi-monthly meetings during the academic semester and hosts the annual All-American Ball during the Fall semester.

Sutin Public Interest Association

Sutin Public Interest Association is ASL's chapter of Equal Justice Works, formerly the National Association of Public Interest Law. The objective of this association is to promote awareness, educate, and empower public service-minded law students in upholding Dean Sutin's strong beliefs in serving the public. The founders of this organization were dedicated to surmounting barriers to equal justice that affect millions of low-income individuals and families. Today, the association leads the country in organizing, training, and supporting public service-minded law students, and in creating summer and postgraduate public interest jobs.

Student Bar Association

The Student Bar Association of Appalachian School of Law is governed by four officers, nine Senators, and four Honor Court Justices. Every ASL student is a member of the Student Bar Association by virtue of enrollment. The SBA serves the ASL student body in the formation of law school policy and student governance. In addition, the SBA organizes social events and community service events and facilitates the formation of new student organizations. The SBA plays an important role in serving as a liaison between the students and the faculty and administration. The SBA organizes the ASL Speaker Series, which brings attorneys, judges, and other persons to ASL to speak on topics related to the study of law and the legal profession. These events help broaden students' awareness of current events and better prepare them for entry into the legal profession.