



CHILDREN and FAMILY LAW CENTER



2013-2014

The Children and Family Law Center at Washburn University School of Law prepares law students to provide high-quality legal representation for children and to advocate to improve the quality of justice for children and their families.

INTERACTIVE IMMIGRATION WORKSHOP

Kansas City area immigration attorneys Kathleen Harvey and Kathleen Irish presented a two-hour interactive immigration workshop on October 11, 2013. The Children and Family Law Center hosted the workshop, which was co-sponsored by the International Law Society; Black Law Student Association; and Hispanic American Law Student Association.

Students and other guests were introduced to the basics of Immigration Law and had the opportunity to see how this area often intersects with family law by working through hypothetical situations together with the presenters.



Kathleen Harvey and Kathleen Irish

The CFLC was fortunate to have such seasoned and knowledgeable experts present on the topic. Kathleen Harvey specializes in Immigration Law serving employers, families, and undocumented children throughout the country. Kathleen Irish practices Immigration Law almost exclusively. Her sub-specialty is juvenile immigration.

The Immigration Workshop event hosted a reception where students and other attendees mingled with the guest presenters and had an opportunity for one-on-one conversation. This interaction on such a personal level allowed a third-year student to obtain an opportunity to assist Irish with some of her pro bono activities.

Harvey and Irish were excited to share their knowledge and expertise, offering their contact information for attendees interested in learning more or needing help with complicated immigration matters in the future.

DALE LEADS DISCUSSION ON PARENTING PLANS



Jennifer Ouellette, Ashley Green, Danielle Packer, Dr. Bud Dale, Professor Linda Elrod, Michelle Foster, and Victoria Eck

On February 14, 2014, **Dr. Bud Dale, '09**, presented "Attachment: The Debate on Overnights in Parenting Plans" during a Lunch & Learn with Washburn Law students. He discussed parenting plans and the current issues of overnight stays in dealing with parental custody and the effects on children.

Dr. Dale is a licensed psychologist and attorney in Topeka who offers a combination of clinical and forensic services to children, teenagers, and adults. He is a graduate of Washburn Law and his practice emphasizes finding child and family-focused solutions. He co-authored the article, "Attachment in Child Custody: An Additive Factor, Not a Determinative One," 46 *Family Law Quarterly* 1 (2012).





Future homeowner Bora Munganga expressed his gratitude to Washburn Law's student volunteers for their work on his home.



Spring Service Project:

IMMIGRANTS GET ONE STEP CLOSER TO ACHIEVING THE AMERICAN DREAM

Washburn Law students from the Children and Family Law Center partnered with Habitat for Humanity, and more than 20 other organizations, to help build a 2,400 square-foot home for a family who immigrated to Topeka. On April 5, 2014, 25 students gathered at the build site in the Knollwood neighborhood for the Center's spring service project. Volunteers raked leaves, trimmed roots, repaired fencing, and moved dirt to support the house's foundation.

The students received a special surprise when Bora Munganga, the future homeowner, stopped by to thank them personally for their time and efforts. Munganga and his family immigrated from Burundi, Africa, in April 2009 and were naturalized in May 2014.



CENTER EVENTS

- August 15-16, 2013 – 7th Annual Case Management CLE, co-sponsored with the law office of **Bud Dale, '09**.
- September 12, 2013 – Advanced Family Law CLE, at the Kansas City Country Club, co-sponsored with the Kansas Chapter of the American Association of Matrimonial Lawyers.
- September 18, 2013 – Lunch & Learn: CASA, presented by Joanna Penn, Volunteer Recruiter and Trainer at CASA of Shawnee County.
- October 11, 2013 – Lunch & Learn: Immigration, presented by **Gary West, '94**, for the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence.
- November 20, 2013 – Lunch & Learn: Juvenile Offenders, presented by **Mickie Brassel, '99**, of Brassel Law.
- January 29, 2014 – Lunch & Learn: Safe Homes/Safe Streets, presented by the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence.

• February 19, 2014 – Lunch & Learn: Mental Health Panel, presented by **Dr. Bud Dale, '09**.

• February 26, 2014 – Habitat for Humanity Training for the April 5th project.

• April 1 and April 3, 2014 – The Empower Gala Training 1 and 2, presented by Becky Price, Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence's Development Coordinator.

June 17-18, 2014 – Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence Advanced Family Law CLE: Best Practices in Complex Family Law Litigation Involving Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, an outside organization event.



Mickie Brassel, '99

THE CFLC CO-SPONSORED THESE EVENTS WITH OTHERS

- September 4, 2013, Child Abuse presented by a panel from the Kansas Department for Children and Families; the Topeka Police Department; and LifeHouse Child Advocacy Center.
- October 2, 2013, Adoption presented by Adjunct Professor Allen Hazlett.
- November 13, 2013, Juvenile Corrections presented by Angela McHardie and Grace Lancaster.
- February 10, 2014, Public Health presented by Marvin Stottlemire, Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center

FAMILY LAW CERTIFICATE

Since Washburn Law started offering the Family Law Certificate in 2003, 83 students have earned certification. Washburn Law has 10 dedicated family law courses, not counting the clinic experience. The family law courses continue to fill up each year.

Fall 2013 Service Project:

TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION HOLIDAY DRIVE

The Children and Family Law Center, in collaboration with the Non-Traditional Student Organization, Black Law Student Association, Washburn Law Democrats, and Hispanic American Law Student Association, assisted the Topeka Rescue Mission with their 2013 Holiday Wish List.

Law students, staff, and faculty donated items from November 12 to December 5. The collected items were delivered to the Topeka Rescue Mission on December 6 for their large holiday distribution.

The Topeka Rescue Mission was greatly appreciative of the generosity of the Washburn Law community.

Some highlights of the items collected include: 22 bottles of baby wash, 15 bottles of baby lotion, more than 30 pairs of children's gloves, 54 pacifiers, 22 hats for adults and children, more than 35 toys, make-up, hair accessories, personal hygiene items, tools, and kitchen gadgets, as well as hoodies, jeans, scarves, and socks for all ages.

STUDENTS SUPPORT KCSDV'S EMPOWER GALA

On April 25, 2014, more than 20 Washburn Law students volunteered with Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence (KCSDV) to help the organization with its Empower Gala event. This was KCSDV's second year hosting the fundraiser event to help survivors stand against sexual and domestic violence.

More than \$65,000 was raised at the Gala with the help of Washburn Law students devoting their time, energy, and support.



Jessica Conrow, Lindsee Acton, Kayla Phillips, Annmarie "Tori" Chundak, and Kayla Bennett

"I was awed and humbled by the turnout of Washburn students that volunteered their time to assure that The Empower Gala went off without a hitch. The 400 guests attending the event were met with smiles and a smooth, flawless check-in thanks to the volunteers. Thanks to their generosity, the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence successfully raised over \$65,000 at the Empower Gala event! KCSDV asked you to stand with us—with your voice, your support, your generosity—and, you delivered! Thank you."

Becky Price, Development Director, KCSDV

LifeHouse Child Advocacy Center

DUELING PIANOS

Students involved in Washburn Law's Children and Family Law Center volunteered for LifeHouse Child Advocacy Center's dueling pianos fundraiser on March 8, 2014. LifeHouse is a local non-profit organization designed to provide and coordinate services to child victims in the Topeka community. CFLC law students helped serve food and sell raffle tickets, and enjoyed listening to the dueling pianos.



"We could not have done this event without our volunteers. Several of them stayed way beyond what we asked them to do. We cannot thank them enough and only hope they will be back again next year!"

Kelly Stephens, Executive Director,
LifeHouse Child Advocacy Center



Monica Morrey, Danielle Packer, and Michelle Foster

2013-2014 CFLC STUDENT DIRECTORS



Jennifer Ouellette, Danielle Packer, and Ashley Green

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS:



Victoria Eck ~ Wichita

“I received my bachelor’s degree in political science from Wichita State University. Throughout high school and undergrad, I worked with non-profits for children and adults with developmental disabilities, as well as children in foster care. As a result, I joined CFLC in hopes of becoming an advocate for the children that

I have become so passionate about. My favorite event so far was the Habitat for Humanity build. It was a wonderful hands-on experience that allowed us to benefit a great family while getting to know other law students in the process. I look forward to planning and being a part of many more CFLC events in the future!”

Michelle Foster ~ Leavenworth, Kan.



“As an undergraduate, I attended Kansas State University where I learned to bleed purple. Ever since my sophomore year of college, I have had an interest in family law and wanted to focus on it as a career. The reason why I joined the Children and Family Law Center was to not only get more involved as a student, but to bring events

dealing with family law issues to students. This would also increase my understanding of family law.

My favorite event this semester was working with Habitat for Humanity. Although it was very taxing work, being able to meet the person who would eventually live in the house and getting to talk to him was a wonderful experience. What I hope to accomplish is to uphold the dignity of CFLC while also doing my part to promote and make students aware of today’s family law issues.”

NOW RESIDING AT WASHBURN LAW: KANSAS APPLESEED ATTORNEY



Washburn Law has answered Kansas Appleseed’s need for additional office space by offering to house their new staff attorney, Rebekah Gaston. She started occupying an office in the Washburn Law Clinic in October 2014.

Kansas Appleseed Center for Law and Justice, Inc., is a nonprofit, nonpartisan justice center dedicated to vulnerable and excluded Kansans. Through collaborations with pro bono attorneys and community partners, they investigate social, economic, and political injustice in Kansas and advocate for systemic solutions.

The Kansas Appleseed board comprises leading Kansas attorneys who volunteer their expertise to improve the fair administration of justice. Professors Jim Concannon and Linda Elrod, and several of our alumni serve on the Board of Directors of Kansas Appleseed. Kansas Appleseed has two professional staff members, Executive Director Benet Magnuson and Staff Attorney Rebekah Gaston.

We anticipate this arrangement will provide opportunities for our students to learn more about access to justice issues, pursue pro bono projects, and explore public interest careers in general.

KANSAS COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

On October 16, 2013, three attorneys and the Development Director from Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence (KCSDV) visited the Children and Family Law Center to discuss their agency's work and present pro bono opportunities available for law students. Sara Zafar, KCSDV staff attorney, and Becky Price, development director, invited students to become involved with KCSDV's Public Policy Team. Pro bono opportunities with the Public Policy Team include attending legislative committee meetings and hearings, collecting and compiling testimony from committee hearings, and reporting back to the KCSDV director of Legal and Policy. Price also asked students for help with KCSDV's Annual Safe Homes Safe Streets Events in spring 2014.



Gary West, '94, (pictured above) senior counsel for Legal Projects, and Stephine Bowman, Protection Order attorney, discussed their legal roles at KCSDV and a Kansas Court of Appeals case in which they participated. This case highlighted the unique needs and barriers survivors of domestic violence face in the justice system. Students asked West and Bowman about their legal experiences

in working with survivors of domestic violence and discussion followed on the complexities of their work and services survivors need.

Prior to his work with KCSDV, West was in private practice for eleven years and worked as a prosecutor for both the City of Wichita and the Shawnee County district attorney. Bowman, who is admitted to practice in Kansas and Missouri, handles protection order litigation, legal writing, and continuing education training for a variety of professionals. She is also a member of the KCSDV SafetyNet Team, a group that is trained by the National Network to End Domestic Violence and specializes in the use of technology, including social media, in regards to sexual and domestic violence.

PROSECUTING JUVENILE OFFENDERS: MICKIE BRASSEL

On Nov. 20, 2013, the Children and Family Law Center welcomed **Mickie Brassel, '99**, to speak about her work with juvenile offenders. Brassel was born and raised in Charlotte, Fla. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of South Florida before graduating with her Juris Doctor in 1999 from Washburn University School of Law.

While Brassel attended law school, she served as Student Director for Washburn's Law Clinic. After graduation, Brassel mainly focused on Child in Need of Care cases until October 2005, when she joined the

Shawnee County district attorney's office as a juvenile prosecutor, until 2008.

In 2008, Brassel moved into the then newly formed Gangs, Drugs, and Arson Unit as a gang prosecutor. A year later, Washburn Law welcomed Brassel as an Adjunct Professor to teach the Juvenile Offenders course.

During the presentation, Brassel discussed her experience as a former Shawnee County prosecutor, and provided insight into the judicial process of working with and prosecuting juveniles. She pulled in audience members with stories about

juveniles she continued to see in the courtroom for reoccurring juvenile offenses. The presentation was a condensed one-on-one about juvenile offender law from the perspective of a former juvenile and gang prosecutor. Policy arguments that supported and contested why juvenile offenders should be treated differently from adults were also presented to the audience.

Overall, the presentation foreshadowed the policy issues that are involved in juvenile offender law that can be further studied in the Juvenile Offender course offered each spring semester.

Scholar-in-Residence:

PROFESSOR BYRN ADDRESSES SAME-SEX PARENTING ISSUES



Professor Nancy Maxwell, Danielle Packer, Jennifer Ouellette, Professor Mary Pat Byrn, Michelle Foster, Victoria Eck, Ashley Green, and Professor Linda Elrod.

"Thanks to the great work of Professors Elrod and Maxwell and the students in the Children and Family Law Center, the Kansas courts are doing some very interesting things to protect the rights of same-sex couples and their children. It was a privilege to be able to discuss those topics with the Washburn community."

Mary Pat Byrn
Scholar-In-Residence

From April 6 to 8, 2014, the Children and Family Law Center hosted Associate Dean and Professor Mary Patricia Byrn, Scholar-in-Residence, from William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Professor Byrn's research interests are in assisted reproductive technology, family law, constitution law, and sexual orientation. She presented a Lunch & Learn on same-sex parenting, hosted office hours for students, mingled with faculty and staff during a Meet & Greet, and presented on same-sex parenting plans in the Divorce Practice course, which was open to guest students. Byrn also attended several exclusive events for active CFLC law students.

FAMILY LAW QUARTERLY CITATIONS LEAD THE PACK



(Front row) Professor Linda Elrod, Liz Billinger, Hazel Gauthier, Lindsee Acton, and Lisa Williams.
(Back row) Brad Steen, Sara Ehret, Justin Pierson, Jason McIlrath, Ashley Rohleder, and Travis Cook.

Because Professor Linda Elrod continues to edit the *Family Law Quarterly*, now for 22 years, Washburn students form the student staff. Travis Cook was the 2013-14 Student Editor in Chief; Justin Pierson and Hazel Gauthier were the Student Research Executive Editors.



The *Quarterly* provides a valuable resource for judges, lawyers, court services personnel, and the media. It includes an annual survey of cases and a review of the literature, as well as three issues with articles covering all aspects of family law area. In a recent survey of law journals from 2007 to 2012, the *Quarterly* had the most law journal and court citations of any family law publication.

CENTER DIRECTORS' SCHOLARSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

LINDA HENRY ELROD

Center Director



Beyond continental speaking engagements, Children and Family Law Center Director Linda Elrod had multiple noteworthy activities and events both nationally and internationally this year that supported the goals and ideals of the Center.

ARTICLES IN LAW REVIEWS AND OTHER SCHOLARLY JOURNALS

"Japan Joins Hague Abduction Convention: England Returns Child," 48 *Family Law Quarterly* 353 (2014).

"A Review of the Year in Family Law 2012-2013: A Banner Year for Same-Sex Couples," 47 *Family Law Quarterly* 505 (2014) (co-authored with Robert G. Spector).

BOOKS

Child Custody Practice and Procedure. 2014 ed. (Thomson Reuters, 2014).

Child Custody Practice and Procedure. 2013 ed. (Thomson Reuters, 2013). Cited in: *Sumpter v. Sumpter*, 80 A.3d 1045 (Md. Spec. Ct. App. 2013).

Teacher's Manual to Accompany Family Law: Cases, Comments, and Questions. 7th ed. American Casebook Series. (co-authored with Harry D. Krause and J. Thomas Oldham) (Thomson West, 2014).

Family Law: Cases, Comments, and Questions. 7th ed. American Casebook Series. (co-authored with Harry D. Krause and J. Thomas Oldham) (Thomson West, 2013).

Supplements, Volumes 1 and 2 for 16 chapters in Kansas Family Law (2004-2014) (Thomson West 1999).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

"Relocation: Trying to Move on but is it in the Best Interests of the Child?," 4 *Sensible Separation Newsletter* 5 (Greg Kincaid, ed. September 2014).

"Breaking New Ground in Kansas: Same-Sex Parental and Property Rights," *Jurist Forum*, April 2, 2013.

PRESENTATIONS

"Hot Topics in Family Law - Federalization Comes to Family Law," 25th Anniversary of the Kansas Women Attorneys Association Annual Meeting, Lindsborg, Kan., on July 25, 2014.

"Enforcing Domestic Violence Orders Across Country Borders: A Look at the Uniform Enforcement of Canadian Domestic Violence Orders Act," American Bar Association Section of International Law, International Families: Money, Children and Long-Term Planning, Seattle, June 20, 2014.

"Kansas Child Support Guidelines and Shared Residency Issues," Young Williams Child Support Services 10th Annual Continuing Legal Education Seminar, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, June 6, 2014.

History of Child Custody Laws and Hints for Parents," Horizons, Solutions for Change Co-Parenting

Program, Shawnee County Court Services, Topeka, May 22, 2014.

Keynote Address, "Making a Difference," Court Appointed Special Advocates Annual Awards and Volunteer Recognition Dinner, Topeka, April 10, 2014.

"Co-Parenting Your Children: Ways to Avoid Conflict," Horizons, Solutions for Change Co-Parenting Program, Shawnee County Court Services, Topeka, January and May of 2014, and September 2013.

"Defining Parents in the 21st Century: Do I Have Two Mothers [Fathers]?" Appellate Judges Education Institute, San Diego, November 17, 2013.

"Hearing the Voice of the Child - A Voice Not a Choice," Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Regional Training Conference, There's No Place Like Two Homes: The Complexities of Separation, Divorce and Co-Parenting, Westin Crown Center, Kansas City, Mo., November 8, 2013.

"Current Kansas Parentage Issues: Are You Both My Mother?," Kansas Legal Services, Domestic Violence Training, Topeka, September 27, 2013.

"The Past is Prologue: Child Custody and High Conflict Parents," Horizons: Changing the Future, Shawnee County Court Services Program, Topeka, September 12, 2013.

"Lawyers Gone Wild: Sex, Lies and Other Ways to Lose Your License," Advanced Family Law CLE program sponsored by the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, Kansas Chapter, and the Washburn Children



Sisters Betsy Pringle and Linda Elrod enjoy Chihuly Garden and Glass in Seattle, Wash., while attending the ABA Section of International Law conference on International Families, Money, and Children, June 19-21, 2014.

and Family Law Center, Mission Hills, Kan., September 12, 2013.

“Case Management or Parent Coordination: Choosing the Best Option,” Seventh Annual Case Management Workshop, The Children and Family Law Center, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka August 15, 2013 (with Larry Rute).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

American Bar Association Family Law Section

- Editor, *ABA Family Law Quarterly* since 1992 – edit four issues a year and write one article a year for *Law in 50*; Chaired Editorial Board meetings at ABA FLS fall and spring meetings - October 19, 2013, in Deer Valley, Utah, and May 8, 2014, in Hamilton, Bermuda.

- Member, Council, ABA Family Law Section, attended Council meetings on October 17, 2013 in Deer Valley, Utah; in Hamilton, Bermuda, May 9, 2014; participated in the Leadership Institute on May 7, 2014.

Uniform Law Commission

- Reporter for a Family Law Arbitration Act starting in summer 2013. Participated in the drafting committee meetings on October 24-27, 2013, in Chicago, Illinois; February 20-23, 2014, in Washington, D.C.; and annual meeting first reading July 12, 2014.

- Member of Joint Editorial Board on Uniform Family Laws, 1998 – December, 2013.

- Observer for Protection of Children - Amendments to the Uniform Child

Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act, 2010 to 2013.

United States Department of State’s Legal Adviser’s Advisory Committee on Private International Law (ACPIL), reappointed in 2014. First appointed in 2009. Attend annual meetings each fall in Washington D.C.

Kansas Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Child Support Guidelines, reappointed spring 2014, been a member since 1987.

Kansas Appleseed Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors, member since 2006; meet several times a year.

Brief of Amici Curiae of the Family and Child Welfare Law Professors addressing the merits and in support of the Respondents in *United States v. Windsor*, 133 S. Ct. 2675 (2013). Also a signer on amicus briefs of Family and Child Welfare Law Professors in the following cases challenging same-sex marriage bans: *Bostic v. Schaefer* (4th Cir.); *DeLeon v. Perry*, *Robincheaux v. Calwell* (5th Cir.); *DeBoer v. Snyder*; *Bourke v. Beshear*, *Tanco v. Haslam*, *Henry v. Himes* (6th Cir.); *Baskin v. Zoeller*, *Wolf v. Walker* (7th Circuit); *Latta v. Otter* (9th Cir.); *Kitchen v. Herbert*, *Bishop v. Smith* (10th Cir.).

Joined with law professors, sociologists, psychologists, and lawyers with expertise in social welfare in writing a letter to Sen. Harry Reid and Rep. John Boehner urging them to take into account the youth and vulnerability of the unaccompanied immigrant children in developing policy. The letter urges child-focused screening and interview practices, July 21, 2014.

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SCHOLARSHIP *(continued from page 9)*

NANCY G. MAXWELL

Professor of Law



MISCELLANEOUS SCHOLARLY JOURNALS

Brief of *Amici Curiae* of the Family and Child Welfare Law Professors Addressing the Merits and in Support of the Respondents in *United States v. Windsor*, 133 S. Ct. 2675 (2013).

CLE OUTLINES

“Recent Developments in Same-Gender Relationships and Parentage,” 2014 Selected Topics and Miscellany CLE, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, June 26, 2014.

LYNETTE F. PETTY

*Assistant Dean for Accommodation
Associate Professor of Law*



The Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic is a new initiative of the Washburn Law Clinic to serve veterans and other service members living in our community. Our first event took place on October 11, 2014, and focused on providing wills, durable powers of attorney and health care directives to



FALL IN FOR OUR TROOPS WLC's Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic Wills • Living Wills • Durable Powers of Attorney

veterans and other service connected individuals.

First-year law students screened clients to make sure they have previously or are currently serving in the military and to verify they meet the income guidelines set for this project. Second-year students interviewed the potential clients regarding their legal needs for estate planning. Certified legal interns drafted and executed the legal documents of the clients who were accepted for representation.

Washburn Law's Immigration Clinic serves undocumented individuals who are victims of crime and cooperate with law enforcement (U Visas), victims of domestic abuse who are married to U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents (VAWA self-petitions), foster children who have been abandoned or neglected by at least one parent (Special Immigrant Juvenile Status visas), and victims of labor or sex trafficking (T Visas). Students interview the victims, complete immigration forms, gather evidence, draft supporting court documents, and coordinate with multiple medical and other service providers in order to submit the

appropriate paperwork to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Students experience first-hand how our immigration laws and policies affect families in crisis.

SHAWN LEISINGER

*Executive Director
Centers for Excellence*



PRESENTATIONS

“Ethical Collaborative Negotiation for the Solo and Small Firm Practitioner” at the Kansas Bar Association Solo and Small Firm conference in Manhattan, Kan., May 2, 2014.

“Ethical Concepts in Negotiation” as part of the annual Selected Topics and Miscellany CLE at Washburn Law, June 26, 2014.

FAMILY LAW CERTIFICATE

CERTIFICATE OF CONCENTRATION

The Family Law Certificate is available for students who have a serious interest in the area of family law. The Certificate is an acknowledgment by the Faculty that the student has successfully completed a focused course of study addressing family law issues.

Writing Requirement

Complete a pre-approved upper level writing requirement (or equivalent writing project) on a Family Law topic. The upper level writing requirement may be satisfied by the Family Law Seminar, Directed Research, or an alternative writing opportunity approved in advance by the student's certificate advisor. The student must receive a grade of "B" or better on any graded paper.

Service Requirement

Complete 12 hours of pro bono activities for children and family, either as a CASA, Horizon's Program, guardian ad litem, volunteer at Legal Services, the Battered Women's Task Force, or in some other capacity serving children and families. Participate regularly in activities of the Children and Family Law Student Society.

Lawyering Experience Requirement

Students earning a Family Law Certificate must complete a lawyering experience consisting of either the Clinic Internship (Family Law, Juvenile Law) or an externship that

involves a lawyering experience in a family law or juvenile law placement. Family Law Certificate administrators, working together with the externship coordinator, will determine whether an externship meets the necessary criteria.

General Requirements

Any student interested in pursuing a Certificate in Family Law must first meet with a faculty member administering the program (Professor Linda Elrod or Professor Nancy Maxwell) to declare their interest and plan their course of study prior to completing 40 hours. The faculty member and student will complete the "Meeting Summary." This faculty member will also serve as the student's Certificate advisor and will approve any waivers or alternative courses allowed or required by the program.

The student must complete 90 hours of total law school credit and achieve a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in courses used to satisfy the Certificate requirements. Students who obtain a minimum grade point average of 3.5 for courses used to satisfy the Certificate requirements will be awarded the Certificate in Family Law (with distinction).

EXTERNSHIP PARTNERS

Most State Agencies, Entities, and Boards
 Banking Entities and Corporations
 Chevron U.S.A.
 Children and Family Guidance Center
 Disability Rights Center
 Environmental Protection Agency
 Immigration and Customs Enforcement
 Internal Revenue Service
 Kansas Association of Counties
 Kansas Association of School Boards
 Kansas Attorney General's Office
 Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence
 Kansas Corporation Commission
 Oil and Gas Conservation Division
 Kansas Court of Tax Appeals
 Kansas Department for Children and Families
 Kansas Department of Agriculture
 Kansas Department of Commerce
 Kansas Department of Health and Environment
 Kansas Department of Revenue
 Kansas Department of Revenue - Alcoholic Beverage Control
 Kansas Insurance Department
 Kansas League of Municipalities
 Kansas Legal Services
 Kansas Soybean Association
 Kansas State Bankers Association
 Local Corporations
 Midwest Innocence Project
 Non-profit Organizations
 Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner
 Payless ShoeSource
 Prairie Band Potawatomi Court System
 Regional Federal Agencies
 Shawnee County Sheriff's Office
 State and Federal Courts
 Statewide and Nationwide Courts and Prosecutors/Defenders Offices
 Statewide Board of Indigents' Defense Services
 Topeka Metropolitan Transit Authority
 YWCA Center for Safety and Empowerment

And many others
 Placement opportunities vary annually

CFLC 2013-14 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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About Us

Washburn University School of Law's Children and Family Law Center prepares law students to provide high-quality legal representation for children and to advocate to improve the quality of justice for children and their families.

Students partner with faculty members, practicing lawyers, judges, social workers, and mental health professionals in an educational program designed to provide them with the knowledge and tools they will need to represent both child and adult clients successfully. In addition to the traditional classes, the Center offers students training in crucial skills such as counseling, negotiation, mediation, interdisciplinary research, and advocacy.

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