

2007-2008 UMKC INNS OF COURT

Frequently Asked Questions

The UMKC Inns were established to introduce new law students to the profession and to professionalism. With your assistance and participation, we know the graduates of the UMKC School of Law will be prepared to become outstanding, active members of the Bar.

- **Why do we need the Inns?**

Experience tells us that students will benefit from consultation with faculty members, members of the judiciary and practicing attorneys about such matters as the meaning of professionalism in the practice of law, exploring career possibilities, selecting courses and coping with the stresses of law school.

- **What is the organizational structure of the Inns?**

This year we will revert back to 14 Inns. The Inns consist of Faculty, Judicial, Practitioner and Coordinating Masters and first, second and third-year students.

- **Who will be coordinating the Inn Meetings?**

The "Masters" of each Inn will decide on the themes of the meetings and suggested speakers or programs; it will be the Coordinating Masters' responsibility to make sure the Masters of each Inn meet in person or via conference call to decide on your program and/or speaker(s). It will also be their responsibility to communicate those decisions to the Law School administration (Jean Klosterman) who will assist with the details of the planning: location, advertising, student contact, etc. It is probably best that one of the Masters contact the speaker(s) as it will certainly have more emphasis and clout; however, if you would like Jean to make such contacts, she is happy to do so.

Each Inn will be encouraged to involve 1 or more students in the planning of the programs to get them vested; however, we will leave it up to each Inn to decide how they may want to do that.

- **When will the Inns Meet?**

2 dates per semester have been identified as Inn meeting dates. All dates are Thursdays. Meeting times will generally begin sometime after 3:30 PM and end sometime before 6:30 PM. One of the dates each semester will serve as an "All-Inn" meeting, meaning all Inns will attend the same program. Those dates for the first semester are Monday, September 17th (All-Inn meeting) and Thursday, November 8th (individual Inn meetings). We suggest Inns meet anytime between 3:30-6:30. The length of your program or event will be left up to you. Some Inns held their individual meetings this past year on dates other than the pre-designated date because of the Masters' schedules or because of speaker availability. For example, instead of meeting on Thursday, they met on Tuesday of that same week or met a week later. That is perfectly fine. We do make every attempt to notify the students of the change. Of course, you may select to

meet at additional times during the semester and we will be happy to coordinate those meetings/gatherings as well.

- **Where will the Inns Meet?**

That is up to you; however, Jean would be happy to assist you with a meeting location. Last year, Inns met at Courthouses, Masters' homes, the law school, law firms, and restaurants.

- **Are there specific topics or agendas which should be covered at the meetings?**

It is expected that Inn meetings will include presentations by the Inn's Masters (or guest speakers) that would advance the program's goals. Modeled largely on the Missouri Rule 15.05(f) CLE professionalism requirement for newly-admitted attorneys, this would include exposure, at least on an introductory level, in such areas as legal or judicial ethics; the duties of attorneys to the judicial system, courts, the public, clients and other attorneys; the concept of a profession; history of the legal profession; comparison of the legal professions in different nations; jurisprudence and philosophy of law; and, principally for second and third year students, bar exam preparation; career counseling; and nuts and bolts regarding the operation of a law practice (such as attorneys fees, client development, law firm administration, law office economics and practice systems). The program could also include networking opportunities.

- **What about the 2 and 3L's in our Inn?**

Of course, once a student is assigned to an Inn, they remain in that Inn for the duration of their 3 years at UMKC. Students at all levels will be invited and encouraged to participate. We feel they will be a tremendous resource to the new students. At times, however, you may wish to host events which would provide opportunities for upper-level students only, and you are free to do so.

- **How do we let students know about Inn events?**

The Inns' program has its own website. All Inn events, including details regarding time/location, etc. are listed on this web page. Also, Invitations are sent out to all Inn members.

<http://www1.law.umkc.edu/career/UMKC%20Inns/inns.htm>

- **Are the Masters able to contact the students in their Inn?**

Yes, all Inn Masters will be provided with their Inn members' school email address (provided the students have given us permission to share this information). Although it is not required, Inn masters are encouraged to send emails to their Inn members for various reasons including sending reminders about an Inn event, wishing them good luck with exams, etc.