

Minutes
Graduate Program Committee
Zoom Meeting, August 8, 2023

Members: Hon. Margret Robb, Senior Judge, Chair; Hon. Darrin Dolehanty, Wayne Superior Court; Hon. Gretchen Lund, Elkhart Superior Court⁴; and Hon. Marc Rothenberg, Marion Superior Court.

Staff: Vicki Davis, Deputy Director Education Division, Indiana Office of Court Services; and Jenny Kidwell, Logistics Coordinator, Indiana Office of Court Services.

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

Judge Robb reviewed the basics of graduate program operation with the newly formed committee members.

1. Students must make a commitment to absent themselves from their courts throughout each week of the program and obtain senior judge coverage for their court; assistance in arranging senior judge coverage is provided through the Office of Judicial Administration, if necessary.
2. The program continues to start on Sunday with a welcome dinner. The mini class on team building and collaboration with an exercise on Monday afternoon of year one. The mini class on international law with team role-playing exercise is on Monday or Tuesday afternoon in year two.
3. The three primary speakers (professors) make 90-minute presentations Monday through Thursday instead of 75-minute presentations Monday-Friday.
4. The tradition of a 20-minute lunch speaker continues Monday-Thursday. Most presentations have a tangential relationship to the law or are a general interest topic.
5. The Friday evening dinner and class skit was eliminated in 2022.
6. Thursday evening study break has been converted to a dinner event.
 - a. In the first year, Thursday dinner includes an engagement activity.
 - i. In 2022, class members submitted a baby/childhood photo and or a story about themselves.
 - ii. Students then guessed who was pictured or who submitted the story.
 - iii. Low dollar prizes like candy or Starbucks gift card were awarded.
 - b. In year two, the dinner event included an engagement activity and a guest speaker.
 - i. In 2023, students were asked to introduce the person to their left or right and tell the class what fun or interesting things they now know about their classmate.
 - ii. In 2023, Dr. Will Miller was the guest speaker focusing on judicial wellness.
7. One-hour exams are given on Friday from 8:30 a.m. to noon, and the program adjourns at noon with grab-and-go box lunches.
8. Class shirts are distributed during year two and a class photo is taken with available faculty.
9. The networking suite is generally available Sunday through Thursday; committee members facilitate/staff the networking/hospitality suite.
10. Morning wellness walk/run facilitated by committee members.
11. Class officers facilitate group dinner events on free evenings.

The committee discussed the ways the trial judge members participate in the programming.

1. The initial term of service for the trial judge members have been staggered to allow for the appointment of a new committee member each year during the committee appointment/service period.
 - a. Judge Dolehanty's term ends June 30, 2024.
 - b. Judge Lund serves a two-year term ending June 30, 2025, and
 - c. Judge Rothenberg's 3-year term ends June 30, 2026.
2. Trial judges will help/assist with the following:
 - a. Identify and submit names for lunch speaker consideration.
 - i. Each trial judge member will identify and submit the names of two lunch speakers for both the first and second-year program.
 - ii. The committee will discuss and determine from the options submitted who will be slated before any lunch speakers are contacted and confirmed.
 - iii. Lunch speakers are in-state speakers/faculty.
 - iv. IOCS will reimburse mileage and provide a hotel overnight if necessary.Examples of prior lunch speakers:
 1. Judge Bradford
 2. Former Justice Frank Sullivan
 3. Jon Laramore – legal services
 4. IU athletic director
 5. Richard Shevitz, Holocaust Class Action Lawsuits
 6. Robin Winston, Indiana's Underground Railroad house
 - b. Committee members attend the actual program if their schedule permits, including the team building and international law class but are not obligated to stay for the final exams unless they would like to assist as an exam proctor.
 - c. Facilitate and foster a sense of class community, collegiality, and cohesiveness.
 - d. Attend, facilitate, and oversee the after-hours networking suite.
 - e. Facilitate group dinners on free evenings.
 - f. Organize and serve as the master of ceremony for the first year Thursday dinner engagement activity—photo/story contest or another fun engagement activity.
 - g. Facilitate extracurricular wellness walk/run activity.
 - h. In the second year, serve as the master of ceremony for the around the room “introduce the person to your right or left and relay an interesting fun fact about that person.”
3. The committee reviews Graduate Program applications and selects 30 students and three or four alternates. The program is open to appellate level judicial officers, trial judges, magistrates, and Marion County Small Claims Court judges. The goal is to have students who are neither entirely brand new nor contemplating retirement soon. Ultimately, the committee is looking at the person's entire work experience and what he/she brings to the table in terms of attendance at the Graduate Program.
 - a. Application period is a standard 30-day period unless extended.
 - b. Applications will be distributed through the Wednesday Weekly message the last week of September.
 - c. The Committee will meet, review applications, and select 30 students and several alternates in late fall.

- d. The class should have representatives from large, medium, small counties, judicial officers from across the state and all jurisdictions.

Judge Robb reviewed the status of securing faculty for the 2024/25 program.

1. Professor Geyh will be doing a class on outsider perspectives on judges and judging in 2024.
2. Professor Cate will present a course on living in the digital world, privacy, and security in 2025.
3. Vicki will check with Pat Clark and MaryJo Heiny, Contemporary Consulting, on their availability to do a team building presentation in June 2024.
4. Professor Noah Weisbord, McGill, has agreed to do an international law seminar/exercise in year 2.
5. Other topics being researched include all things family and the changing family dynamic, neuroscience and the law, constitutional law, law and economics, law and the environment. We may also include an afternoon speaker on family annihilation incidents. Indiana has a high incidence of family related murder-suicide cases.

Program dates for 2024/25 program

1. June 16-21, 2024, French Lick Springs Resort
2. June 8-13, 2025, French Lick Springs Resort

Future meeting dates.

1. November 8, 2023, at noon.
2. January 9, 2024, at noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Davis, Deputy Director Education Division

Minutes
Graduate Program Committee
Zoom Meeting, November 8, 2023

Members: Hon. Margret Robb, Senior Judge, Chair; Hon. Darrin Dolehanty, Wayne Superior Court; Hon. Gretchen Lund, Elkhart Superior Court⁴; and Hon. Marc Rothenberg, Marion Superior Court.

Staff: Vicki Davis, Deputy Director Education Division, Indiana Office of Court Services.

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

1. Committee reviewed the fifty-three (53) applications submitted for the 2024/25 Graduate Judges Program. Thirty students and four alternates were selected. A student roster will be distributed to the committee members after the meeting. Appropriate notification emails will be sent out to everyone who applied.
2. Judge Robb updated the committee on status of securing primary faculty for the 2024 and 2025 program.
 - a. 2024 Program
 - i. Professor Charlie Geyh, IU Maurer, is confirmed.
 - ii. Professor Timothy Davis, Wake Forest University, on sport law confirmed.
 - iii. Judge Robb reported she is working on the third topic considering a faculty member with a tie into constitutional law.
 - b. 2025 Program
 - i. Professor Fred Cate, IU Maurer, is confirmed.
 - ii. Judge Robb reported she continues to work on faculty for a family law course and the third primary course which may have a constitutional tie.
 - iii. Professor Noah Weisbord, McGill University, is confirmed for the mini course on International Law.
 - iv. Judge Robb reported she is pursuing a speaker for the Thursday dinner event who can focus on broadly on wellness.
3. The committee reviewed lunch speakers identified for the 2024 program: Richard Shevitz, Michael Leppert, James Voyles, and John Trimble.

The next meeting will be early 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Davis, Deputy Director Education Division