

LSU Law

Monthly Highlights – May 2024

Important Dates and Deadlines

See the complete May online calendar [here](#).

- May 6: Exams End
- May 8: Faculty Meeting (tentative)
- May 18: Commencement (4:30 pm)
- May 20: Grade Deadline for all Spring Courses (10 am)
- May 28: Summer Classes in Baton Rouge begin

Welcome Notes

In April, the Law Center welcomed Katie Meek as the Coordinator of International Programs and the Center of Civil Law Studies. Katie previously served in the office of LSU International Programs. She is located in W325 and can be reached at katiemeek@lsu.edu.

The Law Center also welcomes Professor Carlota Toledo on May 1. Professor Toledo will serve as the Director of Academic Success. Her office is in Room W324, and she can be reached at ctoledo@lsu.edu.

Faculty Highlights

Professor John Lovett recently published a new article in the Louisiana Law Review, *Ownership of Submerged Land on the Louisiana Coast: Resolving the Dual-Claimed Land Dilemma*, 84 La. L. Rev. 905 (2024). The article can be found on SSRN [here](#) or on the Louisiana Law Review website [here](#).

Professor Keith Hall spoke on “Carbon Capture and Pore Space Issues” at the University of Texas’ 50th Annual Ernest E. Smith Oil, Gas & Mineral Law Institute in Houston on April 4, 2024.

Professor Hall participated in a panel discussion of Louisiana's Orphan Well Program at the Professional Landmen Association of New Orleans' Annual Executive Night and Symposium in New Orleans on April 10, 2024.

Professor Hall co-presented on the topic "Ethics and Tips for Working with Experts" at the Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law's "Special Institute on Federal and Indian Oil & Gas Royalty Valuation and Management" in Houston.

Professor Nick Davrados is speaking at a [conference](#) co-hosted by Willamette College of Law and the Conflict of Laws Section of the AALS, honoring Dean Emeritus (and former LSU Law Vice-Chancellor) Symeon C. Symeonides (May 8-9). Davrados is also participating in a Conflict of Laws Workshop at Willamette (May 10).

Professor John Church presented a CLE on Wine Labelling at the Baton Rouge Bar Association Bench/Bar Conference.

Professor Tracy Norton presented *AI Literacy for Professionals* at the annual meeting of the Business Technology Association in Orlando, FL on April 5, 2024.

Professor Lisa Avalos was quoted in the San Francisco Chronicle's April 24, 2024, article, "She wanted to press charges for assault at a luxury Sonoma resort — until she spoke to deputies," commenting on sexual assault investigation best practices.

Professor Avalos participated in a panel discussion hosted by the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (SCCADVASA) on April 12. She joined ret. Detective Carlton Hershman and leaders in South Carolina's criminal justice system to discuss the phenomena of cases in which survivors of sexual assault were charged with false reporting. Prior to the panel discussion, there was a screening of the Netflix film "Victim/Suspect," which Avalos and Hershman appear in.

Professor Avalos also joined several experts for a panel discussion and screening of Netflix film "Victim/Suspect" at Loyola University Chicago on April 5. The event was organized by Loyola's Professor Blanche Cook and Professor Avalos. Avalos spoke alongside Cordelia Coppleson, Assistant Illinois Attorney General; Annette Milleville, Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives at the Chicago Children's Advocacy Center; and Lieutenant Colonel Iain Pedden, Marines' Victim Legal Counsel.

Professor Bill Corbett accepted an offer of publication from the University of Miami Law Review for his *article Reverse Discrimination: An Opportunity to Modernize and Improve Employment Discrimination Law*, which will be published fall 2024.

On May 8-10, Professor Nick Bryner will attend the 19th session of the UN Forum on Forests in New York City. Along with the delegation from the Asian Development Bank, he will be speaking with stakeholders at the meeting about the Model Forest Act Initiative. On May 30-31, he will give a presentation at a workshop on the US-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement (USMCA) and Sustainable Development, held at the headquarters of the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation in Montreal, Canada.

Professor Moréteau was Professor Dan Stigall's Zoom guest in his Comparative Law class at George Washington University in Washington DC, where he presented some tools to better study Mixed Jurisdictions worldwide.

Librarians Ajaye Bloomstone and Melanie Sims were honored at the 2024 Faculty & Staff Recognition Jazz Brunch on Monday, April 29, 2024. Ajaye was recognized for 40 years of service, and Melanie was recognized for 30 years of service.

CCLS & International Programs

On April 23, Dean Alena Allen signed an MOU between the Law Center and the French National Institute for the Training of Notaries (INFN) that will help attract top candidates to our growing LLM Program and create additional opportunities for academic activities. In France and civil law jurisdictions, notaries are a separate branch of the legal profession. Dean Allen signed the agreement with Professor Mustapha Mekki (Pantheon-Sorbonne University), Director General of the INFN in the presence of Jacques Baran, the Cultural Attaché (Consulate General of France in Louisiana).

After the signature, four French law professors presented at a well-attended conference discussing how French tort law faces environmental challenges. Papers will be published in the Journal of Civil Law Studies.

Career Services Office

The CSO is winding down from a very busy and successful spring semester. In addition to the traditional practice area Lunch-n-Learns, the department offered numerous educational programs with a focus on government and JD Advantage opportunities. Students had the opportunity to learn about Franchise Law while feasting on pie from Elsie's Plate & Pie in honor of National Pi Day, March 14, thanks to alumnus William Sentell of Akerman LLP, Houston, TX. The US Attorney for the Middle District of Louisiana, Ronald Gathe, Jr. graced us with his presence sharing with students the value of working with the Department of Justice and opportunities in his office. The office concluded the semester programming with our most important program, "Professionalism in Your Summer Work Experiences." A panel of attorneys and students shared tips, guidance, and advice on being your most prepared and professional selves in their upcoming summer work experiences.

A new addition this semester was the opportunity for students to participate in practice Mock Interviews. The office extends special thanks to the LADC Young Lawyers' Committee and the Young Lawyers Division of the New Orleans FBA Board of Directors for giving their time to conduct the interviews. The feedback from students was extremely positive as they were given immediate feedback, guidance, and most important of all – the chance to establish a mentoring relationship with an attorney. We look forward to hosting more next year. All Mock Interviews were made possible by very supportive LSU Law alumni.

This spring, the CSO hosted the largest ever number of spring OCI employers desiring to recruit LSU Law students. Interview opportunities were offered to all students including our LLM students. Job bank opportunities have expanded tremendously for our local small to mid-size

employers and State judges are continuing to reach out to collect resumes from our 3Ls for State Term Clerkships.

As an additional highlight, the Class of 2023 had a 94% employment rate 10 months after graduation, with 92% employed in positions where bar passage was required and 7% in JD Advantage positions. This reflects the efforts of CSO counseling, outreach & recruitment in ensuring our students are prepared and have as many opportunities as possible.

Finally, CSO Director, Gwendolyn Ferrell, recently completed her two-year term as Vice President of Member Services and Education for the National Association of Law Placement (NALP), an association of over 3000 legal career professionals. In this position, she led the 22-person Regional Leadership Council as they welcomed new members, provided professional leadership development training, and served as Board liaison to the 2023 & 2024 Annual Education Conference Planning team. The 2024 Annual Education Conference was the largest of all NALP conferences welcoming over 1800 members to Boston, MA. Congratulations! Now, on to the Class of 2024 and preparation for our incoming 1Ls this fall.

Coming in June

June 17: Juneteenth Holiday (no classes; Law Center offices open)

Helpful Resources

- LSU Law Monthly Highlights on the web: [LINK](#)
- Law Center Building and Library Hours: [LINK](#)
- Law Center Academic Calendar: [LINK](#)
- Course Schedules and Classroom Assignments: [LINK](#)
- The official University Holiday Schedule (PM-5): [LINK](#)
- LSU Law News -- [LINK](#)

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