



The William A. Ingram American Inn of Court

Matching is Foundational

Matching students with attorney and judicial Inn members who share professional and personal interests is the foundation for cultivating professional excellence and ethical conduct. The Ingram Inn of Court Mentoring Program accomplishes this goal through a variety of activities

Activities

Team Leaders

The Ingram Inn is divided into at least five pupillage groups. One Master and one judge are assigned to each group to act as Team Leaders. Team Leaders are mentors for the entire group. They organize small group dinners and/or lunches with students assigned to their group throughout the year.

Individual Mentors

The Mentoring Chair reviews each student survey to determine each student's interests. The Mentoring Chair then contacts an attorney or judicial officer who shares an interest with that student and asks that they seek out the student at the second Inn meeting of the year. The attorney/judge thereafter meets with that student at each Inn meeting to offer mentoring advice, check on their progress and participate in other mentoring activities.

Day in Court

Once a year, the Superior Court judges and Court of Appeal justices organize a visit to their courts. Students watch proceedings at the Superior Court in the morning and the Court of Appeal in the afternoon. Thereafter, the students meet with the judges and justices to discuss legal and ethical issues observed during the proceedings and the attorneys' performances during oral arguments.

Life of a Lawyer

When students express an interest in attending a deposition, mediation, arbitration or other proceeding, an email is sent to members of the Inn to determine if they could invite a student to the desired proceeding. In addition, whenever a member is involved in an interesting trial, they send students an invitation to attend the proceeding.

Evaluation

Throughout the year, the Mentoring Chair seeks feedback from the students as to whether or not their mentoring needs are being met. At the last meeting of the year, all Inn members are required to complete a questionnaire which evaluates overall Inn programming including the mentoring program; they are also asked to suggest ideas on how the mentoring program can be improved.

Feedback from these two sources is analyzed by the Mentoring Chair, and useful information is incorporated into the administration of the program. To keep things fresh and new, the Mentoring Chair position is periodically opened to a new individual.