

News Update at USD School of Law – September 2011

USD CONSTITUTION DAY: LAW SCHOOL GUNDERSON LECTURE

Remarks for the 2011 USD Constitution Day: The Law School Gunderson Lecture are entitled: **“There Ain’t No One in Washington Coming to Solve the Problem So Let’s Quit Burning the Woodwork to Heat the House: Envisioning a Traditionally Rooted Due Process Based Solution for Indian Country.”** USD Constitution Day featuring the Gunderson Lecture will be presented at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, September 14, 2011, by the Hon. Ralph R. Erickson, chief judge, U.S District Court of North Dakota in the courtroom of the School of Law. The event is free and open to the public. All students, professors, and teachers are encouraged to attend.

EIGHTH CIRCUIT U.S. COURT OF APPEALS PANEL SELECTED FOR USD SCHOOL ORAL ARGUMENTS

Three judges from the **U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit** have been selected to hear oral arguments **Oct. 26 in the courtroom of the University of South Dakota School of Law** in Vermillion. The panel will consist of the Hon. William Jay Riley, chief judge, of Omaha, Nebr., Hon. Roger L. Wollman, judge of Sioux Falls, S.D., and Hon. C. Arlen Beam, senior judge, Lincoln, Nebr. According to Michael Gans, Clerk of Court, the judges will soon select the specific cases to be heard. Specific times of the court session will be determined and announced later, but a late morning to early afternoon time period is expected.

NEW SD BAR PRESIDENT TO WELCOME USD LAW FIRST-YEAR CLASS SEPT. 23

The newly-elected president of the State Bar of South Dakota, Patrick Goetzinger, will speak with the new first-year class at USD School of Law at 10 am on Friday, Sept. 23, in the Law School courtroom. Other students and professors are welcome to attend. Mr. Goetzinger is a partner at the *Gunderson, Palmer, Nelson & Ashmore* law firm in Rapid City and is the 115th president of the State Bar of South Dakota.

USD LAW SCHOOL RECOGNIZED AS 2011 ‘BEST VALUE’ BY NATIONAL MAGAZINE

USD School of Law is one of 60 law schools in the nation named to The National Jurist list of “Best Value” law schools of 2011. The magazine’s ranking takes into account in-state tuition, debt and the percent of graduates employed nine months after graduation, in addition to bar passage. The list, which was released in August, is dominated by public schools and it’s the fifth time since 2004 that the magazine has honored law schools for providing a good value. Criteria used to identify the "Best Value" law schools, according to the magazine, were based on a two year average for both bar pass rate and percent of students employed, and it did not automatically exclude schools that did not meet the bar pass standard or a tuition or employment standard. The complete list of “Best Value” law schools and additional information about the rankings can be found at www.nationaljurist.com/content/best-value-law-schools-2011-dominated-public-schools.