



Law School Committee

I. Purpose and Goals

- A. The purposes of the Committee are to inform law school students about the practice of environmental and natural resources law and to manage the selection and grant process of scholarships and internships.
- B. The goals of the Committee are to provide outreach to a reasonable number of law students each calendar year and to effectively manage, promote, and maintain scholarship and internship programs.
- C. Current Co-Chairs are Walt Shelton and Kristen Fancher

II. Buck Wynne Scholarships

- A. Process (also see timeline, below)
 - 1. Jon Bull currently manages the program.
 - 2. Jon Bull sends an email to the schools at least once a semester outlining program parameters.
 - 3. Schools respond with the names of the recipients after the relevant semester ends.
 - 4. Each school is eligible for two annual awards for certain environmental/natural resources law courses approved by the Council (last discussed and approved by Council at the 2018 3rd Quarter Council Meeting).
- B. Criteria
 - 1. Highest grade in a survey course from the following (and similar) courses up to two per school per year: environmental, natural resources, water law, and perhaps administrative law (unless conflicts with Administrative law section).
 - 2. Have historically allowed a professor to split the award for a particular class among two students if there is a tie for highest grade.
 - 3. Selected students recognized at the Annual ENRLS Section meeting in August of each year.



III. Internships

A. Types

1. Approved internships can include, but are not limited to:
 - a. TCEQ
 - b. EPA Region 6
 - c. RRC
 - d. GLO
 - e. TWPD
 - f. HCDA – Environmental Crimes Division
 - g. Texas Water Development Board
 - h. Texas AG’s office – Environmental and Admin Law Division

B. Process (also see timeline below)

1. Kimberly Kelley currently manages the program.
2. In approximately August of each year, send memo and application packet to each of the law school (deadline end of October/early November)
3. Send binder to all agency liaisons in December for selection in January
4. Conference call each year in January with agency liaisons to make the decisions – try to select the top 8 candidates, and then work it out with the agencies where they will go based on candidate preference.

C. Criteria

D. Elements

1. Liaison at each agency to manage interns.
2. Required follow up or meetings?
3. Consider invitation to Superconference potentially in exchange for volunteer work at Superconference.
4. Recognized at Annual ENRLS Section meeting in August each year.
 - a. If an intern wants to attend the entire 2-day conference, they need to pay student rate. That’s fair – it’s a ton of networking for minimal cost.
 - b. If an intern wants to come on Friday to be recognized during the Section meeting and stay for some/all of the Friday conference, they can come for free just for Friday. **This is limited to four (4) of the interns.**
 - c. Committee would let all interns know of the opportunity to attend and be recognized on Friday. Once Committee has up to 4 names, provide interns’ contact information to Chair or Education



Committee, who would then pass it on to SC Planning Committee so that they could be registered for Friday.

IV. Law School Programs

A. Scope

1. Programs at each school typically include a panel of 4 to 6 attorneys with an environmental career focus and/or a substantive content.
2. We target one program per year for each school. Sometimes we combine programs, such as a Houston area program for the 3 Houston accredited law schools.
3. We have funding for expenses, such as lunches for Noon programs and receptions following afternoon programs. In many cases, we reimburse the schools for costs after the programs because it is easier for the schools to order and handle the food and other refreshments locally.

B. Annual Fall Program and ENRLS Quarterly Meeting

1. We combine our fourth quarter Council meeting with a law school program. The plan is to rotate among Texas law schools for this combination each fall. The intent in part is to enhance our profile and relationships with each of the ten (10) law schools.
2. The combination law school program/quarterly meeting may be changed to coincide with any Council quarterly meeting upon affirmative vote of the Council.
3. The fourth quarter meeting/law school program should be discussed at the third quarter meeting (in Austin, preceding Superconference).

C. Promotion and Coordination of Programs

1. We work with environmental professors, Environmental Law Societies, and administrative contacts (such as career development offices) to plan and promote our programs.
2. During programs, we thank and emphasize our law firm financial and other sponsors, including often projecting an image of all of our sponsors' law firm logos.

D. Liaisons

1. We have ENRLS liaisons for each school. They establish contacts at each school and help with promoting and often participating in the programs.
2. In 2019, active liaisons included:
 - a. Mike Gershon (St. Mary's)



- b. Chris Smith (UT)
 - c. Nathan Block and Kristen Fancher (Texas Tech)
 - d. Jon Bull (SMU)
 - e. Scott McDonald (A&M)
 - f. Howard Gilberg (UNT Dallas)
 - g. Jason Hill and Walt Shelton (Baylor)
3. For Houston area schools, Professors Tracy Hester (U of H), Fran Ortiz (South Texas), and Mary Kelly (Texas Southern/Thurgood Marshall) essentially act as both law schools contacts and liaisons.

E. Law School Projects

- 1. In addition to our programs, we typically have some funding available through our budget for discretionary partial funding of law school projects. In recent years, the amount has been \$5000.
- 2. Special projects can include assisting with some expenses for the Pace or similar environmental moot court competitions or students attending a CLE program.

Revision History

Rev. #	Date	Nature of Rev	Author
1	June 11, 2019	Original version	W. Shelton, L. Fancher, S. McMillen