

UK College of Law Diversity Initiatives

2020-2021 Academic Year

(Programming Significantly Impacted by COVID-19)

College of Law Events

- University of Kentucky Board of Trustees approved and named Mary J. Davis as the first woman to serve as permanent dean of the College of Law.
- Dean Davis, in the wake of the deaths of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd, formed a DEI Student Advisory Board consisting of representation from each law school class, senior administrators and the faculty chair for the College's Diversity Committee. The DEI Student Advisory Board is in addition to the relationships with affinity student organizations and acts in advisory role to the dean regarding various College initiatives, including admissions efforts, faculty recruitment, curriculum, student programming and support, and additional liaisons for students regarding issues around diversity.
- College of Law launched a new diversity initiative, "Bridging the Gap To Success, to enhance diversity and inclusion in the legal profession and opportunities for success for lawyers of color.
- College of Law hosted a virtual program under the initiative "Bridging the Gap to Success," featuring members of Humana, Inc.'s national legal team in discussions with members of the Black Law Students Association and Latino Law Students Association.
- College of Law hosted a virtual program under the "Bridging the Gap to Success" initiative with the first assistants from the Fayette Commonwealth Attorney's Office and Fayette County Attorney's Office.
- College of Law Diversity Committee hosted a panel on "Addressing Anti-Asian Racism."
- College of Law Diversity Committee hosted a panel on "Voting Rights & Election Law."
- College of Law served as a display site for this U.S. region for the "ABA Traveling Exhibit: 100th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19th Amendment" and hosted speaker programming, including:
 - a panel discussion featuring two women alumni, local state district Judge Melissa Moore Murphy and Cincinnati attorney, Roula Allouch, and a university professor
 - a speaker discussion with Emeritus Professor Carolyn Bratt
- College of Law serves as a co-host with the College of Education a national symposium on "Education and Civil Rights for the New Decade," including hosting a panel discussion featuring College of Law Professor Scott Bauries, alumni Rebecca DiLoreto and Hasan Davis, both prominently active in juvenile law issues, and University of Louisville professor Dr. Judi Vanderhaar.

- College of Law, under the leadership of Associate Dean Doug Michael, held its annual Volunteer Income Tax Clinic on site, a clinic in which students from the College of Law and College of Business work together to prepare tax returns for foreign and low-income individuals.
- College of Law Diversity Committee hosted a panel discussion on the topic “Chokehold: Policing Black Men” by author Paul Butler.
- College of Law Diversity Committee hosted a panel discussion on “Bail Reform” featuring a northern Kentucky state district court judge, a University of Virginia Law Professor, and Kentucky public defender, and Louisville community activist.
- College of Law co-hosted a speaker event with Gatton College of Business, “Telling Their Stories” in celebration of Women’s History Month featuring a two Kentucky state district court judges, a circuit court judge, and a Kentucky Court of Appeals judge.
- College of Law hosted a virtual speaker event “Law, Justice and the Holocaust.”
- College of Law, in partnership with University of Kentucky Libraries, hosted panel discussion on “The History of Strong Women on the University Campus.”
- Professor Blanche Cook, with lead help by UK Rosenberg Law students, hosted a day-long symposium, “Say Her Name: Breonna Taylor.”

Student Events

- Black Law Students Association hosted a “Movie Night” event.
- Women’s Law Caucus collected monetary donations to buy diapers and items for The Nest – Center for Women, Children and Family, in Lexington.
- Women’s Law Caucus hosted a “Movie Night” event.
- Women’s Law Caucus hosted a Virtual Trivia Night with admissions proceeds supporting the Nest – Center for Women, Children and Family, in Lexington.
- Latino Law Student Association hosted an Immigration Panel discussion.
- Women’s Law Caucus hosted its annual Spring Luncheon to honor women who have impacted the legal profession, with this year’s honorees being Fayette District Court Judge Melissa Murphy and Prof. Blanche Cook.
- Latino Law Student Association hosted a Coat Drive collecting gently used coats.
- Black Law Students Association hosted a community service initiative to collect PPE & non-perishable food items to support The Hope Center in Lexington.
- Black Law Students Association hosted its annual Spring Banquet featuring keynote speakers: Judge Marilyn Zayas, Ohio Court of Appeals, and Judge Pamela Goodwine, Kentucky Court of Appeals.