

News Briefs

New President Inaugurated



JuliAnn Mazachek leaves the stage after being inaugurated as Washburn University's 15th president. Photo by Jeremy Wangler

For the first time in 25 years, Washburn University held a presidential inauguration. JuliAnn Mazachek became the 15th president on Feb. 1, 2023, and the first female to hold the presidential role in university history. State leaders, local officials, and members of the Washburn community gathered on campus on Oct. 27, 2023, for the distinguished event. Mazachek was announced as president in January and was welcomed back to campus after serving as president of Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas. She had previously spent 30 years at Washburn in various leadership roles. During her short time as president, she has already launched several initiatives focused on the betterment of students and continuing to build relations between the university and the Topeka community. If you were unable to attend the inauguration and are interested in watching the event, a recording is available on the Washburn University YouTube channel – youtube.com/washburnuniversity.

Washburn Law Launches New Center for Excellence

Washburn Law has announced the establishment of its newest Center for Excellence, the Intellectual Property and Technology Law Center. The center officially launched on Nov. 15, 2023, marking a significant milestone in the evolution of the law school's academic offerings and engagement in the legal community.

The Intellectual Property and Technology Law Center's establishment serves as a testament to Washburn's commitment to innovation and academic excellence. Positioned at the forefront of legal education, this center will serve as a hub for intellectual property law, technological advancements, and collaborative engagement within and beyond the Washburn legal community.

"We are thrilled to unveil the Intellectual Property and Technology Law Center, an initiative that will not only enrich the educational experiences of our students but also foster a

robust platform for collaboration, innovation, and engagement within the legal landscape," said Patricia Judd, professor of Law and director of the Intellectual Property and Technology Law Center.

The strategic importance of this center is underscored by its multifaceted objectives aimed at fostering alumni engagement, attracting donors, enhancing student opportunities, and amplifying collaboration with practitioners and institutions. The center is poised to make significant contributions to the legal profession and broader community.

"The launch of the Intellectual Property and Technology Law Center represents a pivotal moment for Washburn Law. This initiative signifies our dedication to providing students with a cutting-edge educational experience and empowering them to excel in an ever-evolving legal environment," said Jeff Jackson, interim dean.